

## Common Interview Questions & Answers - TQC

Q: How many band members are there?

A: 6.

Q: What's the deal with the name?

A: All the band members live in Queens, New York. I added the apostrophe to make the name more illustrative, like, hey maybe we work for the Queen! Don't read into it too much.

Q: What's your role in the group, Joel?

A: I am the Artistic Director, meaning that I write/arrange the music, find the animations, and direct the stage production. But the other members of the band are very committed to the project and all contribute in amazing ways.

Q: Where did the idea for The Queen's Cartoonists come from?

A: I was looking for a way to expose audiences to jazz and classical music, without alienating the more traditional, older concert going audience. One day I noticed that there was some overlap between the Golden Age of Jazz and the Golden Age of Animation, and bam!

Q: Is the music original?

A: Some of the music is original. Every piece we perform has a different set of problems and solutions. For example, sometimes we want to re-create a film score note-for-note - in that case I'm not composing at all, just adapting the music for this ensemble. Sometimes, however, I decide to completely re-write the music from scratch. Often, it's somewhere in-between!

Q: Who is this concert for?

A: EVERYONE! The concert is presented for adults, but children enjoy it as well. Older generations grew up with the films and characters that we highlight, and are generally more amenable to jazz and classical music. Younger generations might not think they like jazz or classical music, but the combination of the animations and synchronicity of the experience are enjoyed by everyone.

Q: Will you guys be playing, like, crazy jazz that no one wants to listen to?

A: NO! The music in our concerts is arranged to be palatable for even the frumpiest of jazz haters! We also highlight a lot of classical composers like Rossini, Wagner, Strauss (Richard & Johann!), Kabalevsky, Beethoven, and Mozart. There's a lot of music in our concerts and it changes genres rapidly.

Q: How do you keep in sync with the films?

A: The pieces we play are highly synchronized to the films, and we achieve this with a click track that only the drummer and I can hear. You will notice that we have ear pieces. The other members follow our lead.

Q: Do you write the jokes you tell on stage?

A: I do, and if you don't like them please complain to the drummer.