## MEDIA KIT

ONE MILLION LAUGHS FOR FREEDOM: FERNANDO ROCHA'S RELEASED LAUGH HITS SFATTI F

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# FROM DETENTION TO STAGE: FERNANDO ROCHA'S RELEASED LAUGH TURNS PAIN INTO PUNCHLINES

Seattle, WA — October 2025 — Seattle-based comedian Fernando Rocha is transforming his most harrowing life experience into laughter with the debut of Released Laugh, a new stand-up special where immigration policy meets punchlines. This heartfelt and hilarious show is the first in Rocha's ambitious Nervous Laughter Released series — an ongoing project to raise one million laughs (and one million dollars) toward securing his EB-5 investor visa.

"For me, this isn't just stand-up — it's stand-up for survival," Rocha says. "After seven years in asylum limbo, an ICE arrest, and two weeks in detention, I realized if I can't find love to get a green card, I'll raise the funds myself — one laugh at a time."



## COMEDY THAT TURNS TRAUMA INTO TRIUMPH — ONE LAUGH AT A TIME.

#### PURPOSE & IMPACT

All proceeds from Released Laugh — including ticket sales, book purchases, and event merchandise — will directly support Rocha's legal visa application and startup launch in the U.S., a project designed to create 10 new jobs for Americans through his upcoming entertainment venture, Nomadika Arts.

"This is about more than my case," Rocha explains. "It's about proving that art, laughter, and community can rewrite even the toughest immigration stories. Freedom may be expensive, but comedy is priceless."





### ABOUT THE ARTIST

Fernando Rocha is a Brazilian-born, Seattle-based comedian, theater manager, and storyteller whose work fuses humor with social commentary. His comedy transforms real-life challenges into universal laughter, blending stand-up, storytelling, and multilingual improvisation. Rocha has been featured across Seattle's thriving comedy and theater scene and continues to advocate for immigrant artists building new lives through art.

## ABOUT THE SHOW

Released Laugh chronicles Rocha's rollercoaster through the U.S. immigration system — from being abducted by ICE on his way to work to rediscovering joy through comedy. In this deeply personal performance, Rocha shares real experiences and reflections from his journey until the present day, offering the audience both laughter and insight.

Rocha's story isn't just about surviving injustice it's about transforming it. "They can take your freedom," he says, "but they can't deport your joy"

With acts titled Abduction, Detained, Released, and Is Laughing Still Legal?, Rocha takes audiences from despair to catharsis. It's a hero's journey told through humor, vulnerability, and the power of storytelling — featuring telenovela reenactments, immigration absurdities, and the unbreakable spirit of a man who found freedom through laughter in the face of the absurdity of his path as an immigrant in the U.S.





### **EVENT** DETAILS

Comedy Club Seattle

Fernan Rock

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