

An Interview with Ruslan Beliy:

- Good Evening, Ruslan. Very pleased to have you here today.
- Good evening. Thank you for inviting me.
- My first question for you today will be about Stand Up comedy, of course, as you are a very famous Stand up comedian, the father of Stand up comedy in Russia, so how did you find about such type of comedy? Where did you acquainted with it?
 - Oh, I learned about Stand up through Eddie Murphy
 - Wow, you saw him in person?
 - Hah, of course not, I saw his videos on the Internet and I liked them, I got interested in them. And, also, I watched the show “Roast”, which is also a comic show, but in the United States, where a celebrity is being “roasted”, which means is being laughed at, a very interesting way of developing comedy
 - Which episode have you seen? Who was the star?
 - The Roast of Charlie Sheen
 - Oh, yes, a very nice one, I agree. All right, you yourself have been roasted recently, haven’t you? In a Russian analogue of such a show “Prozharka”. What were your feelings?
 - I liked it. A very unusual experience. But, you know, for a comedian, it is very useful sometimes to change places with the audience and to become the figure of fun
 - Was there any joke which touched you to the heart? Which was a really tough one?
 - Actually, no. I didn’t take it all seriously. I mean, come on, it’s a comedy show.
 - Do you know that there has been another analogue of such a show, on the first channel some time ago. The most famous singers and actors of Russia took part in it.
 - Yes, I have watched the episode with Nagiev.
 - Good, but it was closed. Why do you think such a show didn’t succeed in our country?
 - Hmm, first of all, I think that the wrong people were chosen to take part in, people who roasted Nagiev had no connection with humor, and couldn’t make nice jokes, and also not every celebrity in Russia would agree to come to such a show.
 - Why not? What’s the difference between our celebrities and the one’s abroad?
 - Foreign stars have a more serious approach to their job. They find interviews and other tv show as a part of their job, however our famous people, let’s take singers, consider only singing as their job, and other routine things, like interviews and tv shows are only a way to boast and to enjoy all the love of their fans. Russian superstars are very conceited.
 - Interesting, but you are a superstar as well, do you consider yourself to be such a person?

- Yeah, maybe I am, I cannot deny it. This is just how things really are in our country.

- Thank you for being honest, all right, next question is about your performances? Your main theme is army. Why did you choose this exactly topic?

- Oh, that's simple. My father is an officer. And since early childhood I got used to such way of living, I myself was supposed to become an officer, but after I finished my service in the army, and it lasted for 10 years, not just one as we have now, I understood that it is not what I would like to do for the rest of my life, I liked humor and I played in different teams in "KVN" and I took my own path

- How did your father react to this choice of yours?

- Oh, his reaction was terrible. But I could expect such a reaction, as my father is used to seeing people obey him and I didn't. But now both my father and my mother accept my job and what I do, and even support me.

- Nice.

- Well, actually, the only thing they dislike is that I swear a lot.

- Yes, I've noticed this as well. Why do you do that or do swear words come out involuntarily?

- Some times they do come out automatically, but sometimes it is done on purpose to have more affect on people, when the audience is silent and unwilling to express their emotions it is a very good way to make them more relaxed.

- Wow, didn't know that. And finally the last question that all the girls and women have been waiting for is whether you have a girlfriend at the moment or no?

- Haha, no, I am totally single at the moment, I am very busy with the new show I am planning to make very soon.

- Really? Can we have some more details about it?

- No, not today, this information is secret for now.

- Fine. Anyways, thank you for sharing this evening with us. It was nice to talk to you. Wish you luck in all of your upcoming events.

- Thank you. It was nice to be here today.