

Interview: Comedian John Hodgman brings 'Vacationland' to the Englert Theatre

By **Melissa Zimdars** - Sep 22, 2015

Comedian John Hodgman

Englert Theatre — Friday, Sept. 25 at 8 p.m.



Illustration by Cheryl Graham

The characters of “John Hodgman” include resident expert, deranged millionaire, and stockpiler of mayonnaise and urine for the impending apocalypse. He has appeared on *The Daily Show*, *Bored to Death*, *Parks and Rec*, *Community*, *Married* and a slew of other awesome television shows, all while writing a trilogy of (completely fabricated) trivia books and adjudicating matters on his podcast, *Judge John Hodgman*. I chatted with Hodgman recently about presidential politics, the Iowa City police log, finding one’s place in the world, and his upcoming one-man show, *Vacationland*, which features a much closer-to-real John Hodgman than many of the costumed-personas of John Hodgman currently populating our popular culture.

We started with politics because of the intensifying presidential races, especially in Iowa, and the fact that Hodgman famously grilled President Obama on his nerd credentials back in 2009, noting the increasing nerdmanship of the political left (Hodgman began earning his own nerd credentials—and exposure to liberal culture—at a young age by watching far too much Massachusetts public television).

JUST BECAUSE CIVILIZATION DIDN'T COLLAPSE DOESN'T

