
Subject: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sat, 30 Aug 2008 22:28:53 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Michael

Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this, okay?

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Kate Halleron](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 05:41:18 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Aug 30, 3:28 pm, Michael <michael...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

This is generally considered a trollish question, so be warned.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [nebusj-](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 07:21:51 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Michael <michaelr96@gmail.com> writes:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

Well, why not give it a try?

There's much about the Joel approach which appeals to me more than the Mike approach. That's not so much in the riffing as, I think, the effort to make the host sketches closer to the monster movie host rather than, particularly in the Sci-Fi Channel episodes, something with a canonical universe behind it.

The only two episodes I've seen that I can't really get into are both Mike episodes, although that is with the special note that the KTMA/Season Zero year is pretty much excluded. That may be fair as that was the season they largely figured out how to do the show, but it does also mean eighteen (or twenty-one) Joel episodes that I mostly find as a way to marvel over how good a comic voice J Elvis Weinstein

had at such a young age.

In writing MiSTings I feel like I write Joel sketches better than I write Mike sketches. However, my riffing has gone to either host with equal ease, so I suspect there's not so much difference between How I Would Write The Show and how either host had the show presented.

So overall I suppose that I'd say I like Joel a touch better than Mike, but bear in mind this is a small difference, and with big standard deviations for comparing the episodes. That is to say, it's quite possibly a difference which would vanish if I actually listed all the episodes I'd seen and ranked how much I like them.

--

Joseph Nebus

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 10:40:22 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Derek Janssen

Joseph Nebus wrote:

> Michael <michaelr96@gmail.com> writes:

>

>

>> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
>> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
>> okay?

>

>

> Well, why not give it a try?

(Well, apart from the fact that Michael really IS as much of a foreigner-noob as he sounds, for the general sake of discussion:)

> So overall I suppose that I'd say I like Joel a touch better
> than Mike, but bear in mind this is a small difference, and with big
> standard deviations for comparing the episodes. That is to say, it's
> quite possibly a difference which would vanish if I actually listed
> all the episodes I'd seen and ranked how much I like them.

For the open-minded and uncommitted, the proof of the test is in the host-segments:

Joel-era segments noticed the movie enough to make scene-specific fun of

it..

While, on those rare occasions the Mike-era segments *didn't* have the camera jammed up their own subplot/backstory-obsessed hinders, they either A) exploited random pop-culture-stuff-that-bugs-me anecdotes, or B) fourth-walled sketches about how lame and overused their sketch concepts were.

Derek Janssen (remember, in college, they don't grade you on the questions, they grade you on the *essays*...)

ejanss1@verizon.net

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Chris \"Sampo\&q](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 13:04:26 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Yes. :-)

Michael, may I direct you to the FAQ?

<http://www.mst3kinfo.com/mstfaq/index.html>

Sampo (think about it, won't we?)

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 18:32:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Michael

On Aug 31, 6:40 am, Derek Janssen <ejan...@nospam.verizon.net> wrote:

> Joseph Nebus wrote:

>> Michael <michael...@gmail.com> writes:

>

>>> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who

>>> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,

>>> okay?

>

>> Well, why not give it a try?

>

> (Well, aprt from the fact that Michael really IS as much of a

> foreigner-noob as he sounds, for the general sake of discussion:)

>

>> So overall I suppose that I'd say I like Joel a touch better

>> than Mike, but bear in mind this is a small difference, and with big

>> standard deviations for comparing the episodes. That is to say, it's

>> quite possibly a difference which would vanish if I actually listed
>> all the episodes I'd seen and ranked how much I like them.
>
> For the open-minded and uncommitted, the proof of the test is in the
> host-segments:
> Joel-era segments noticed the movie enough to make scene-specific fun of
> it..
> While, on those rare occasions the Mike-era segments *didn't* have the
> camera jammed up their own subplot/backstory-obsessed hinders, they
> either A) exploited random pop-culture-stuff-that-bugs-me anecdotes, or
> B) fourth-walled sketches about how lame and overused their sketch
> concepts were.
>
> Derek Janssen (remember, in college, they don't grade you on the
> questions, they grade you on the *essays*...)
> ejan...@verizon.net

I thought this might happen. Well, the only reason I posted that is because I'm naturally curious and was what people like Joseph Nebus really thought about this subject. (I am not a foreigner-noob, I was just, wondering. I'm not a new person when it comes to mst3k.)

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 18:49:20 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Mattu

On Aug 30, 3:28 pm, Michael <michael...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

Picard.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 20:23:51 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Kyronea

Overall, I'd have to say Joel, generally because Joel's host segments were better, made more sense, and Joel himself was just a nicer guy. There was also something nicer and a bit more intellectual about Joel's humor. I don't know if this was because it was Joel himself

doing it, or simply because he was no longer writing once he left the show(Mike had been there practically the whole time as a writer, of course) but there was definitely that feel about it.

That's not to say that Mike era episodes are bad. They're not, and when they're funny, they can be really funny. But Joel was certainly the better host.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [George Johnson](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 21:00:33 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Michael" <michaelr96@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:9bb083ab-71a4-4076-a7e6-5c920e2647be@r66g2000hsg.googlegroups.com...
> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

I like them both.

Cover them in pancake syrup and bring them to my bedroom.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [George Johnson](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 21:02:56 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

"Kyronea" <PlcaRDMPC@gmail.com> wrote in message
news:d5b94597-3363-416b-aa43-8b9757d91ce6@m45g2000hsb.googlegroups.com...
> Overall, I'd have to say Joel, generally because Joel's host segments
> were better, made more sense, and Joel himself was just a nicer guy.
> There was also something nicer and a bit more intellectual about
> Joel's humor. I don't know if this was because it was Joel himself
> doing it, or simply because he was no longer writing once he left the
> show(Mike had been there practically the whole time as a writer, of
> course) but there was definitely that feel about it.
>
> That's not to say that Mike era episodes are bad. They're not, and
> when they're funny, they can be really funny. But Joel was certainly
> the better host.

I would figure that Joel is a slow awkward seducer in the bedroom with lots of foreplay and snuggling afterward.

Mike would be full of passionate angry sex with a bit of jumbled emotions and heavy sleeping afterward.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Sun, 31 Aug 2008 23:08:04 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Fish Eye no Miko

On Aug 31, 3:40 am, Derek Janssen <ejan...@nospam.verizon.net> wrote:

- > For the open-minded and uncommitted, the proof of the test is in
- > the host-segments:
- > Joel-era segments noticed the movie enough to make scene-specific
- > fun of it..
- > While, on those rare occasions the Mike-era segments *didn't* have
- > the camera jammed up their own subplot/backstory-obsessed hinders

At least some of which was imposed on them when they moved to SFC, for the record

- > they either A) exploited random pop-culture-stuff-that-bugs-me
- > anecdotes, or B) fourth-walled sketches about how lame and
- > overused their sketch concepts were.

Yes, and...?

Catherine Johnson.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Mon, 01 Sep 2008 03:17:38 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Nathan Seese

- > Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who favors
- > who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this, okay?

I pretty much agree with what's been said so far, and I'd like to add a few things I've noticed or imagined so far: that Joel movies tend to be older and black and white (I don't have any examples on hand, though) and that Joel riffs tend to be one extremely funny joke every few minutes, where Mike's jokes are steady chuckles (This is completely unprovable and heuristic).

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Mon, 01 Sep 2008 06:36:49 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: dgates

On Sat, 30 Aug 2008 15:28:53 -0700 (PDT), Michael
<michaelr96@gmail.com> wrote:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

For me, it's not "Mike or Joel," but rather "How much does the show
suffer each time a cast member leaves?"

At first, I thought that losing Joel was the end of the world,
especially since I found Mike pretty stiff in at least his first
episode. But Danger Death Ray is one of my favorite episodes, and I
liked it more than at least 95% of the Joel episodes.

Mike might still be a little stiffer than Joel, but the show easily
survived that small drop-off.

Frank leaving, and being replaced by Pearl Forrester, was also a big
blow. But at least that only affected the host segments. And I did
enjoy some of the season 7 episodes -- Melting Man and Laserblast come
to mind.

Then Dr. F leaving, and taking the original Crow with him, was a
bigger blow.

I don't think that any single one of these losses hurt the show all
that much. And, even collectively, they didn't kill it. The final
episode ever was one of the best.

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Doug Elrod](#) on Tue, 02 Sep 2008 20:48:34 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Aug 30, 6:28 pm, Michael <michael...@gmail.com> wrote:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

As you've seen, this rapidly degenerates into all too much "touchy"
regarding Joel, Mike, Shelli the Nanite, that extra who was in that
one episode, etc. Not to mention the pancake syrup! :-)

-Doug Elrod (dre1@cornell.edu)
A sticky situation indeed!

Subject: Re: Mike or Joel?

Posted by [Anonymous](#) on Fri, 05 Sep 2008 06:04:36 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Originally posted by: Rick Thorne

Michael wrote:

> Now I know this is a touchy subject, but I just want to know who
> favors who. Me? Well, I'm undecided. Don't kill me for posting this,
> okay?

If this is a touchy wuestion with me, it's only 'cuz the person asking presumes the ggod verses bad in the show is all about these two guys. Personally, I say it's irrelevant. My favorite shows have nothing to do with Joel or Mike. The best shows all seem to be from shows with the best choices in movies, which comes from the Frank Coniff era. I think Frank was instrumental in picking movies, and to me that's the difference.

Rick
