



## **5 QUESTIONS WITH 5 SEASONS**

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### **CONRAD KOCH**

March 2012

We talk to internationally acclaimed comedy ventriloquist, [Conrad Koch](#).



**qA1: You seem to have a great time on stage with your characters Chester, Hilary and Ronnie. Who inspired the persona behind each character?**

I do have an awesome time. Chester is the voice of my conscience, and my critical self. Hilary is the voice of my mother's people, wealthy, but slightly ignorant types from Houghton. Ronnie is my ID, the dark side of my mind in a loveable form.

**qA2: Approximately how long did it take to develop each character before introducing them to the public platform?**

It has taken many years, but the most recent focus has been over the last 3 and a half years working with Heinrich Reisenhofer, an multiple award winning theatre director from Cape Town.

**qA3: Have you ever used any of your characters to get yourself out of trouble?**

It's normally the other way round. The puppets get me into trouble, and I have to make it right. To be honest they are an amazing conduit for speaking social truths without anyone being offended. Chester Missing has been used in many culture change interventions at companies to this effect – he says the unsayable.

**qA4: What advice would you offer up-and-coming ventriloquists in SA?**

Work hard and be relevant.

**qA5: Any special projects planned for 2012?**

We are touring my show Puppet Asylum around the country, and have three new seasons of the satirical TV show Late Nite News with Loyiso Gola on which Chester is a regular, in the pipeline. Busy, busy, busy!

Read more about Conrad Koch on his [profile page!](#)

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