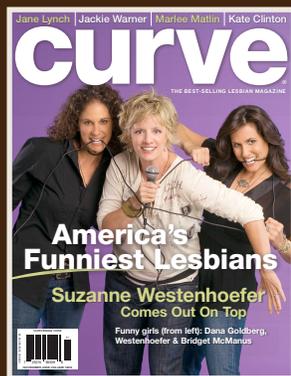


# AMAZING WOMEN IN SHOWBIZ



Suzanne Westenhofer, awarded one of 2008 POWER UP's 10 Amazing Women in Showbiz.

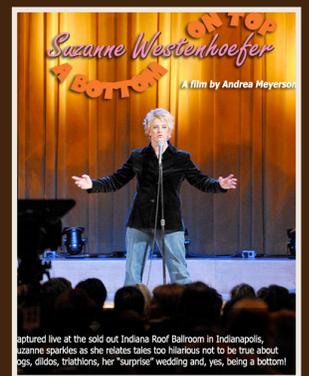
## PRINT



## ONLINE



## VIDEO



# SUZANNE NEW

Before  
Ellen and  
before Cho, there  
was Suzanne  
Westenhofer.



## FEARLESS, BOLD, UNAPOLOGETIC, AND FREAKING HILARIOUS

**best describes comedian Suzanne Westenhofer. She's made a career out of telling the truth. And, the truth is, life is funny and no one is off limits. From her mom's Last Will and Testament to her dog's embarrassing discovery, Suzanne shares stories that leave audiences in stitches.**

The first openly gay comedian in the United States, Suzanne has delivered gay material to straight audiences in mainstream comedy clubs beginning in NYC since the early '90s. After accepting a dare, she entered the world of comedy by accident and her life has never been the same since. Suzanne soon became the first lesbian comedian to garner an HBO Comedy Special, earning her a Cable Ace Award nomination. Additionally, a performance on "Late Night with David Letterman" marked the first by an openly lesbian comedian.

Suzanne works mostly unscripted, so when she hits the stage it's an unpredictable, original

night of comedy magic. On land or at sea, Suzanne delights audiences with over 100 performances a year at theatres, clubs, colleges, fundraisers and cruise and resort vacations (Olivia, Sweet and RSVP Vacations). Having toured with the Indigo Girls and Ani DiFranco while on Olivia Cruises, Suzanne wishes she'd been born a rockstar.

Her comedy special and documentary, "A Bottom on Top," aired on LOGO Television in fall 2007 (and will be available on DVD on March 18, 2008). In the summer of 2006, Suzanne starred nightly on the GSN's remake of the classic game show, "I've Got a Secret." HBO, Bravo and LOGO TV specials dot her resume.



# ONLINE PRESS

### Outfest 2008: Interview with Suzanne Westenhofer



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## ELECTION 2008

### Letters to President-elect Obama: Suzanne Westenhofer

Open letters from 26 gay men and lesbians.  
From *The Advocate* December 16, 2008

Dear President Obama,

Now that you are officially the first black president, I hope you will find a way to empower all minorities to work as one. I am just that hopeful!

A few other suggestions:

1. If it looks like you can't pull all the troops out of Iraq right away, then just cut out



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## Entertainment

### QSAT: Suzanne Westenhofer

Get to know your favorite queer and queer-friendly celebs by reading their responses to the QSAT -- the aptitude test that would have gotten you into Harvard.

Suzanne Westenhofer's career took off after a 1991 appearance on an episode of "Sally Jesse Raphael" entitled "Breaking the Lesbian Stereotype: Lesbians Who Don't Look Like Lesbians." Soon, she was cracking jokes on Comedy Central, "Evening at the Improv," "Celebrity

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## Suzanne Westenhofer - An Interview with Suzanne Westenhofer

A Bottom on Top  
By Kathy Belge, About.com

Feb 20 2008  
Suzanne Westenhofer has been making her living as an out lesbian stand-up comedian since 1992. At the time, there were a few other out gay comedians, but none were performing for straight audiences. (When Suzanne decided to go on, she decided she was on to be or to have her own.

as she talks moolah: There's a money-back guarantee you'll be smirking by the end of this interview.

1. Is there truth to the saying, "Do what you love and the money will follow" myth?

### Business

## Queercents: 10 money questions for Suz Westenhofer

Page 1 of 2

Nina Smith, Queercents.com  
Comedian Suzanne Westenhofer claims financial benefits being a bottom -- a 1 topic since her come special and document "A Bottom on Top," a soon to be available on DVD. Of course, you can preorder now! (Suz made the sale that. A, even comedians, to make a buck - Rai

1. Is there truth to the saying, "Do what you love and the money will follow" myth?

2. As a bottom, how do you know when you've found the right person?

3. What are the most common "nerd" jobs you've ever had to subsidize your business?

4. What was the most considerable "nerd" job you ever did to subsidize your business?

5. What are the most considerable "nerd" jobs you've ever had to subsidize your business?

6. What was the most considerable "nerd" job you ever did to subsidize your business?

7. What's the best money lesson learned from a romantic encounter?

### AFTER ELLEN

NEWS, REVIEWS & COMMENTARY ON LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WORKS IN ENTERTAINMENT AND THE MEDIA

## Interview with Suzanne Westenhofer (March 2003)

By Sarah Kern, Editor in Chief  
March 21, 2003

Comedian and actress Suzanne Westenhofer talks about the challenges of being an out lesbian comedian, her recent appearance on *The Late Show with David Letterman*, her role in the new lesbian movie *A Family Affair*, and her new CD.

*AfterEllen.com: The Late Show with David Letterman has never had an out lesbian comedian doing lesbian-themed stand-up comedy on the show; why do you think you were asked to appear now? Were you nervous about being the first?*

Suzanne Westenhofer: Of the major late night hosts (Conan, Letterman, Conan, Kilborn and Arsenio) it goes like this... Kate (Clinton) and Lea (DeLaria) did a spot each on Arsenio. Bob Smith (open gay comic) did one spot on Conan right after he and I did our HBO Specials (1994). Kate DID do Rose (as did Lea) but they were not open (not allowed, I am sure). I also got a spot on *The Jon Stewart Show* (I think it was in 1996). That has been it.

I was the first for Letterman and yes I was very nervous -- not just the being open thing, but I would be lying if I didn't say that I felt the need to do REALLY well because I was speaking (and hopefully opening doors) for lots of gay folks. I was also scared because I am female lesbian TV -- not too many chicks getting the opportunity to do stand up either!

I think when it came down to it, I was picked because I was funny and successful (making a living etc.) BUT (also) because the man who has booked the comics on Letterman for the last two years knew me, knew my work, and had been trying for about the last two years by the way to get me on. He believed in me and championed me. When it comes right down to it, just like they always say, "It's who you know. Remember this: Ray Romano, Kevin James, Bonnie Hunt... they all have shows because of Letterman. This is how it works.

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Suzanne Westenhofer: A Bottom on Top  
Suzanne Westenhofer breaks all barriers performing her gay stand-up routine to mostly straight crowds.

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### Suzanne Westenhofer: A Bottom on Top

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# FAN INTERACTION

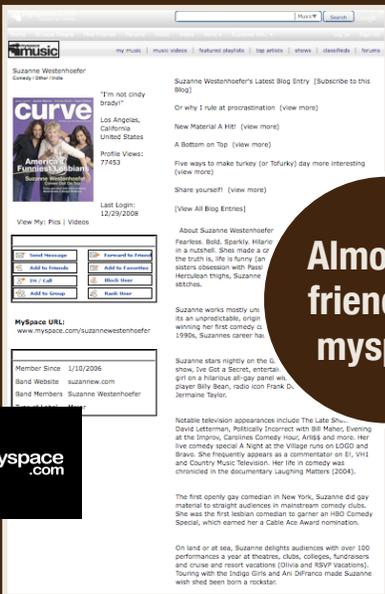


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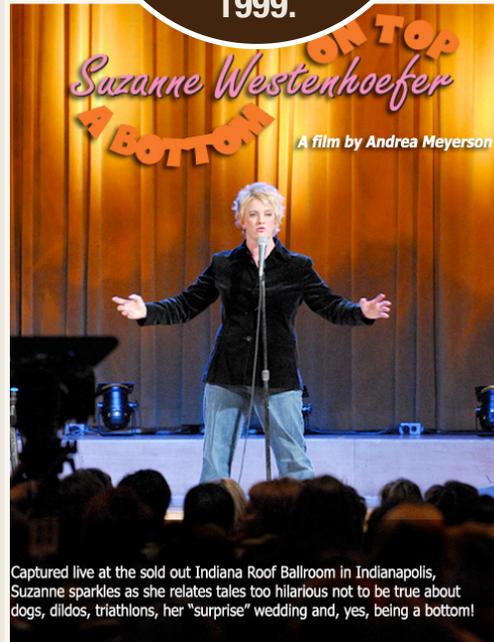
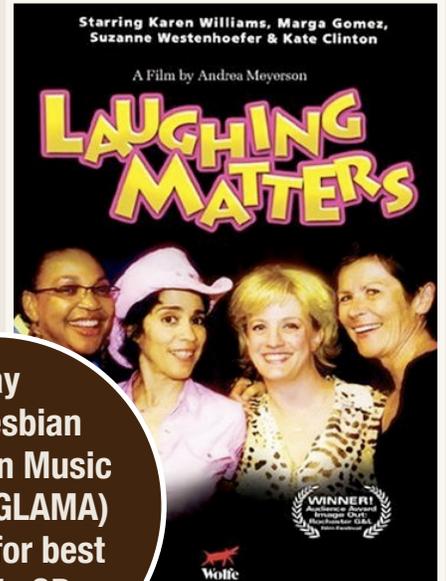
# COMEDY CDS / DVD



## SUZANNE WESTENHOEFER LIVE FROM THE VILLAGE



Gay  
and Lesbian  
American Music  
Award (GLAMA)  
winner for best  
comedy CD,  
1999.



## AWARDS

(1994): Nominated for a Cable Ace Award "Nothing in my Closet but my Clothes"

(1999): Gay and Lesbian American Music Award (GLAMA) winner for best comedy CD "I'm Not Cindy Brady"

(2000): GLAMA winner for best comedy CD "Guaranteed Fresh" (2003) : GLAMA winner for best comedy CD

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