

***Super Exclusive Interview with drag king Breakin' Whitey Confee Duncé
Conducted by Breakin' Whitey Confee Duncé (BWCD)***

BWCD as exceptional interviewer: Can you tell me a little bit about Breakin' Whitey Confee Duncé?

BWCD as awesomer interviewee: Well, Breakin' Whitey Confee Duncé grew up in the age of mainstream old school hip-hop, dabbling here and there, picking up a move or two from his black friends. He's always known he's cool, that he can get down, that he can do anything he wants, that he's all that - he can tell from the reactions he gets! He's not just into hip-hop, but it's what really moves him. He also knows he's a pretty smart cat, which he likes to show off on occasion, especially when explaining the sophisticated origins of his last name, and the accent he's added to convey its historical and respectable roots. He is often spotted donning a cone-shaped hat to allude to the genealogy of his surname and also to mark his cleverness. One thing that really irritates him is all those haters that say he just doesn't "get it." But he knows he's special and pre-ordained for his own "corner office," presaged by all the time he spent in the corner during his youth – a place where people put him, which he knows was to highlight his exceptionalness. If you're in the vicinity of him, be it interpersonally or at a show, get ready to be graced by Breakin' Whitey!

BWCD Ir: Wow! Now that's such a long drag name, and I understand all the symbolic work it does, but it is a mouthful. What do people call you? Or do you prefer a shortened version of your name?

BWCD lee: I don't have any preferences, at least I don't think I do. Some of my fellow drag performers call me Whitey. I do kinda like Confee Duncé as a shorthand, too, because it highlights how I carry myself and how sharp I am.

BWCD Ir: Well, yeah, that makes a lot of sense. What's your understanding of what people think about you or say about you?

BWCD lee: I mean, I'm pretty sure most people dig me. How could ya not, really? People say I'm a nice guy, friendly, punny, caring, compassionate. I've heard some people say I'm a bit clueless and make mistakes. But I think they're probably the ones that are mistaken, actually.

BWCD Ir: In a recent, self-conducted, as yet unpublished, but really important, informative, and particularly insightful, one question, self-promoting interview, you offered explanation of your last name and seemingly ever-present cone-shaped head accessory. Can you share that with us?

BWCD lee: People used to laugh at my last name, which is one reason why I added the accent. That's a French accent, you know. It's sophisticated. I'm reclaiming my family's history and heritage by wearing this hat. You know, this hat is a sign of respected learning. It harkens back to my Scottish ancestor John Duns Scotus. It's pronounced "Scott-us." He was born in a town

called Duns. Just like John, I'm a renaissance kind of guy – I'm about revival and renewal of good stuff. Anyway, John was a Franciscan priest, became one in France, that's what Franciscan means. That's one reason why I added the French accent. (Franciscan). John also taught at the University of Paris, which is also in France. There was this thing with the King of France and the Catholic Church, and John thought the pope was right, and France kicked him out for a while. He ended up at a Franciscan school in Cologne – that's the place where he also invented smell-good sauce, that lots of men use now to attract the ladies. I don't need any of that, by the way.

Anyway, John, as I'm sure you know, was like me, super talented – he studied languages, theology, metaphysics, philosophy. People even called him "The Subtle Doctor" and his teachings are called "Scotism" (pronounced Scott-ism) and his followers were called "Dunsmen."

Now John also was a big fan of pointy hats, and he's the reason why wizards wear the hats they do. Now, this hat doesn't just look good and show people you're smart, but metaphysically, all the knowledge floating around out there comes in through the tip and funnels into your brain. A while after John died and because people were so jealous of his smartness and that of his followers, those people changed the meaning of the hat, and people have forgotten what it really meant. That's why I'm reviving its real meaning by wearing pointy hats and why I added the French accent on my name Dunce, Duncé. Even the pope in 1993 recognized how beautiful John was when he beautified him. Let me just say I'm grateful to Eric Grundhauser who told the *real story* in Atlas Obscura in an article on October 13, 2015.

BWCD Ir: That's absolutely fascinating!

BWCD lee: Yeah, I know, right?!

BWCD Ir: So, I recently had a conversation with Professor Scott Schönfeldt-Aultman, who teaches a class on drag and with whom you've worked, I believe. I'd like to share with you what he said about you. I'm gonna quote him. He said,

Oh, yeah, . . . Whitey. Frankly, he's been a nightmare to work with. This performance is going to be his first one ever, and believe me, it shows. And he's only doing it because his drag colleague and roommate, Mysterious J, kinda forced him into it. Funny enough, it's to the song "If you were gay" from *Avenue Q*. Mysterious J seems pretty convinced that Whitey is gay. Whitey ain't too sure about that. He thinks he's straight and he seems pretty resistant to the idea of any other sexuality. I suspect he could get to questioning at some point, but we'll have to see. In that number, you hear Mysterious J and Whitey using nicknames for each other. J calls Whitey "Rod," short for and kinda in jest for Whitey's self-claimed nickname, "Hot Rod," because, of course, in his mind, Whitey's all that.

I don't want to totally slam the dude. I mean he honestly has some good traits. He might, for instance, be on the verge of being pro-feminist, but he isn't quite there yet. And he makes some efforts to participate in cross-racial dialogue but he often thinks it went better than did. I'm just not sure if he knows who he is yet or how to appropriately navigate some social situations.

I guess you could say, as might be suggested in part of his name, that he is paying a fee for con-ning himself. You could probably even say "Confee" could be heard as "Confit." In that sense, I'd say that Whitey is submerged/surrounded by his own whiteness/heteromascularity/environment and is preserved, keeping out anything that might spoil him. That is, he attempts to protect himself, make himself impenetrable, to things that might break up his whiteness, heteromascularity or confidence. Not surprisingly, he manifests white fragility and white defensiveness at times. Sometimes he's clued up and sometimes he's dismally oblivious.

So, what do ya think about what he says here?

BWCD Ir: That guy is such a poser! I don't know what he's talking about! I don't know how he could have become a professor! This interview is over!