


Charting Tiffany Haddish's breakout year ahead of her performance in Peoria on Friday

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PEORIA — A breakout year for most entertainers might include a well-reviewed movie performance and a few memorable appearances on the late-night talk shows. And then there was Tiffany Haddish's breakout year in 2017.

The 38-year-old actress and stand-up comedian was propelled into stardom this year off the back of her riotous performance in the movie "Girls Trip," and she seems to be appearing everywhere since then. That includes a stop in Peoria at the Civic Center this Friday as one of the headliners of the Funny and Famous Comedy Jam hosted by DeRay Davis, where there are plenty of tickets still available.

Ahead of her performance in central Illinois, here are some of the highlights of Haddish's big year.

'Girls Trip'

One of the biggest box office hits of the year, "Girls Trip" exploded onto the scene this summer off of excellent reviews and widespread word of mouth and praise. Haddish was consistently considered one of the highlights of the movie, with the New York Times describing her character as "the crazy snake in the can, the whoopee in the cushion and the movie's biggest, rowdiest laugh generator." The movie earned more than \$115 million at the box office and discussion on a sequel is already under way.

Hosting 'SNL'

On Nov. 11, Haddish became the first black female stand-up comedian to host "Saturday Night Live" after being on the air for 43 seasons. She excelled in many of the skits on that episode, including in a role as a fictional "Mortal Kombat" character Boo Boo Jeffries, who employs attack moves named Beyonce and Rihanna.

Stand-up special

Quick Guide

If you go

What: Funny and Famous Comedy Jam with Tiffany Haddish and DeRay Davis.

When: 8:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 29.

Where: Peoria Civic Center Theater.

Cost: \$36 to \$66. To purchase tickets, visit the Civic Center box office, ticketmaster.com or call 1-800-745-3000.

In August, Haddish also debuted a new comedy special titled “Tiffany Haddish: She Ready! From the Hood to Hollywood.” Recorded at the Nate Holden Performing Arts Center in her hometown of Los Angeles, Haddish spends the hourlong special addressing subjects ranging from her early days in foster care and being bullied on the playground, to getting her revenge on ex-boyfriends and introducing Will and Jada Pinkett Smith to Groupon.

Her first book

As if she hasn’t accomplished enough in 2017, Haddish also released her debut book, “The Last Black Unicorn,” on Dec. 5. The collection of unflinching personal essays continued to mine her stand-up themes of her childhood as well as handling her newfound fame and has been described as 288 pages of equal parts hilarity, filthiness and brutal honesty.

And now 2018

Bolstered by her breakout success, Haddish has been announced as an actress in several movies slated for release in 2018, but her biggest role next year might be in television. Haddish will be co-starring next to Tracy Morgan in a TBS sitcom called “The Last O.G.” The Jordan Peele-created show will premiere in the spring for 10 episodes and has already been renewed for a second season.

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