



**I will tell you this one little experiment I did recently. I wrote a duet with the Internet.**

## Rives

□ *Uniquely intelligent and creative entertainment.* □

Spoken word performance poet, multimedia artist. Designs interactive narratives for grown-ups—clever, funny, intellectually alive. The “first 2.0 poet”: uses images, video, text and audience input. Extraordinary stage presence. 2004 National Poetry Slam champion and four seasons on HBO’s *Def Poetry Jam*. Excellent moderator/MC.

*The “first 2.0 poet”.*



# Ahead of the Curve

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Spokesperson for *Orange/France Telecom*.

## Highlights

Rives (rhymes with 'weaves') designs interactive narratives for grown-ups. Part poet, part storyteller, Rives offers audiences uniquely **intelligent and creative entertainment**—impossible to categorize for a print medium like this bio. For Rives more than for most of our speakers, we recommend viewing the video clips on our website.

He's extraordinarily deft with words, extremely **clever**, creative, and intellectually alive. His work bursts in multiple directions, makes surprising connections, and leaves you gasping and laughing. . .

He is **funny**.

For his avid **use of technology**, he's been called "the first 2.0 poet," incorporating images, video, and text, often involving audience members.

Rives is known for memorizing snippets of the preceding speakers' presentations and incorporating them into his own performance, to **startling** and often **comedic** effect. This ability, combined with his extraordinary stage presence, make him a very effective moderator and **Master of Ceremonies**.

He is a very dynamic and spontaneous performer capable of **brilliant** improvisation, with an easy, relaxed presence on stage, made possible by impeccable preparation. He enjoys and encourages audience participation.

Rives co-hosted of Bravo channel's new show *Ironic Iconic America*, a unique and whimsical tour of contemporary American culture debuting October 3, 2008. He also is the spokesperson for Orange, the key brand of France Telecom, doing ads as "the first poet 2.0".

He is a regular at the annual TED Conference, where he earns **standing ovations**. He's appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and on the last four seasons of HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*. He was the 2004 National Poetry Slam champion.

**It's a lot to think about.  
And I thank you.**

**Leigh  
Bureau**<sup>sm</sup>  
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## *Ironic Iconic America*

Rives co-hosted with supermodel Bar Refaeli of a new show airing on Bravo channel beginning in October 2008. *Ironic Iconic America* connects the wilder and more whimsical elements of American pop culture in unexpected and unforgettable ways. We follow the hosts on a road trip across the country, from Buffalo to Catalina Island, and across the pop culture landscape, from Andy Warhol to Barbie. Produced in association with fashion icon Tommy Hilfiger, they explore beauty, love, design, food and much more.

## • Credentials

- Spokesperson, *Orange/French Telecom*
- Co-hosted, Bravo's *Ironic Iconic America*
- National Poetry Slam champion
- TED Conference regular
- Appeared on four seasons of HBO's *Def Poetry Jam*
- Appeared at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival
- Developed and teaches a course on blogging and social networks at the International Center of Photography, New York.
- Blogs at [www.shopliftwindchimes.com](http://www.shopliftwindchimes.com)
- Political commentator for McClatchy News website.
- Paper engineer and author of pop-up books.
- Holds U.S. patent for paper engineering.

## • Rives's clients

Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Hallmark, Business Objects, Wieden+Kennedy, Northwestern University, the House of Blues, and Orange/France Telecom.