



# **AVALON'S EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE LINE-UP 2009**

Avalon is to launch a bill of award-winning comics, including three *Perrier Award* winners and three *if.comedy/Perrier Award* nominees, as it returns for its 21<sup>st</sup> Festival Fringe this August.

The full line-up features:

**DAN ANTOPOLSKI – Silent but Deadly**  
**DAN ATKINSON – Death By A Thousand Pricks**  
**GREG BEHRENDT – Greg Behrendt**  
**SIMON BRODKIN – Still Not Himself**  
**ANDREW COLLINS & RICHARD HERRING - Collings and Herrin Podcast Live!**  
**FERGUS CRAIG – Still Watches Neighbours**  
**TOM DEACON – Indecisive**  
**RICHARD HERRING – Hitler Moustache**  
**COLIN HOULT – Colin Hoult's Carnival of Monsters**  
**RUSSELL KANE – Human Dressage**  
**RUSSELL KANE – Russell Kane's Fakespeare 'The Tragickal Saveings of King Nigel'**  
**JIMMY MCGHIE – Jimmy McGhie's Northern Meeting**  
**AL MURRAY, THE PUB LANDLORD – Al Murray, The Pub Landlord**  
**FRANK SKINNER – Frank Skinner's Credit Crunch Cabaret**  
**KRISTEN SCHAAL & KURT BRAUNOHLER - Double Down Hearts**  
**LAURA SOLON – Rabbit Faced Story Soup**  
**THE UMBRELLA BIRDS – Sketches in a Shop Changing Room**  
**DANIELLE WARD – Lies**  
**ROSIE WILKINSON & HELEN O'BRIEN – Domestic Goddi 2: How to Cope**  
**JEN BRISTER, ED GAMBLE, CHRIS RAMSEY & GARETH RICHARDS – The Comedy Zone**

A preview festival showcasing these shows as works-in-progress will be hosted at Kings Place, Kings Cross between 20<sup>th</sup> July and 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Visit [www.avalonuk.com](http://www.avalonuk.com) for tickets.

*ends.*

For further details on each show please see overleaf.

Alternatively for further information, interview requests or pictures please contact: Jo Cross, Ben Nolan, Jenny Stewart or Dan Lloyd at Avalon. Tel: + 44 (0) 207 598 7222 E-mail: [joc@avalonuk.com](mailto:joc@avalonuk.com), [benn@avalonuk.com](mailto:benn@avalonuk.com), [jenny.stewart@avalonuk.com](mailto:jenny.stewart@avalonuk.com) or [danl@avalonuk.com](mailto:danl@avalonuk.com)

**[www.avalonuk.com](http://www.avalonuk.com)**



### **DAN ANTOPOLSKI – Silent but Deadly**

The triple *Perrier Nominee* and star of BBC2's Hyperdrive, Hollywood's The Da Vinci Code, Radio 2's Out To Lunch returns. A consummate standup show from a smart, stupid, rapping martial artist who can tell you exactly how likely you are to laugh your tits off.

“Innovative, truth-seeking weirdly magical stuff.”  
**Claire Sawers, The List**

### **DAN ATKINSON – Death By A Thousand Pricks**

2008 total sell-out returns with brand new hour of inventive, intelligent comedy. There will also be jokes about body parts along the way.

“A fine comic mind...a brilliant eye for a gag and imagination to burn.”  
**Kit MacDonald, Metro**

### **GREG BEHRENDT – Greg Behrendt**

US stand-up star, Sex and The City consultant and writer of the *New York Times* bestselling book He's Just Not That Into You – which inspired the box-office hit film of the same name – makes his UK debut.

“Outstanding, impeccable and one for the ages.”  
**Montreal Gazette**

### **SIMON BRODKIN – Still Not Himself**

Character comedy from the star of ITV1's Al Murray's Multiple Personality Disorder. Still Not Himself presents four inspired creations from one of the country's most exciting comedians.

“A beautifully balanced act, fresh and exciting, tense and unpredictable but always very, very funny.”  
**Corry Shaw, Chortle**

### **ANDREW COLLINS & RICHARD HERRING – Collings and Herrin Podcast Live!**

Unscripted, unrehearsed, unabashed. RICHARD HERRING and ANDREW COLLINS with intellectual, puerile, needlessly offensive, improvised banter. Five shows only. Different every day. Yet strangely the same. Downloadable from iTunes.

“You can clearly hear echoes of Pete and Dud's devils in the podcasts by Richard Herring and Andrew Collins. If the bile count is lower, their extreme take on the news feels similarly unrestrained.”  
**Bruce Dessau, The Guardian**



### **FERGUS CRAIG – Still Watches Neighbours**

*Hackney Empire New Act of the Year*, star of Star Stories (C4) and Northumberland under 13s badminton champion 1992, FERGUS CRAIG still watches *Neighbours*. He'll explain why by showing you clips from the show and some home movies from his childhood. If nothing else Jim Robinson's death will be a hoot.

"With killer lines, great delivery and a delightful dollop of surprises, Craig was class."

**Tony Cooke, The Stage**

### **TOM DEACON – Indecisive**

Star of The Comedy Zone 2008, *Chortle Student Comedian of the Year* and BBC Switch regular embarks on his first solo show.

"Looks, confidence, charm and great material. Expect other comics to lynch him."

**Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times**

### **RICHARD HERRING – Hitler Moustache**

Reclaiming Chaplin's moustache for comedy, the star of The Headmaster's Son and '90s double act Lee and Herring muses on iconography, whether racists are closer than Liberals to believing that all people are the same and why an innocent square inch of facial hair has taken the blame for Nazism.

"Always a Fringe must-see."

**Steve Bennett, Chortle.**

### **COLIN HOULT – Colin Hoult's Carnival of Monsters**

*Writers' Guild Award* winner COLIN HOULT (Zimbani, Colin and Fergus, ITV1's Al Murray's Multiple Personality Disorder) invites you to a truly original tragi-comic character show that will shock, tickle and appal. Playing with environment, atmosphere and storytelling, the Carnival is an experience unlike any other you'll find at the fringe.

"Sheer comic gold."

**Eddie Harrison, Metro**

### **RUSSELL KANE – Human Dressage**

Preening, posing, prancing. Why do we? How do we? Join double *if.comedy Award* nominee RUSSELL KANE for an hour of fast-paced, tub-thumping merriment.

"One of the finest young performers around."

**Tim Arthur, Time Out**



### **RUSSELL KANE – Russell Kane’s Fakespeare ‘The Tragickal Savings of King Nigel’**

Last year: a sellout Pleasance run, then the RSC’s main stage in Stratford. This year KANE presents a brand new blank verse play: Nigellio is an Essex banker, thus utterly finished. Starring RUSSELL KANE and SADIE HASLER.

“The rising star surpasses himself... Clever and funny.”  
**Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times**

### **JIMMY MCGHIE – Jimmy McGhie’s Northern Meeting**

A few years ago JIMMY went to a disastrous party in the Highlands. It wrecked his relationship and his confidence. Now, hoping it will help, he has decided to share the whole shameful but hilarious story. An hour of very confessional, character-filled, stand-up from this exciting newcomer.

“Charming, bright-eyed and relaxed...he melds rhythm and timing with a polished and honest delivery. His material is well-tailored. He’s a pleasure to watch.”  
**Ciaran Healy, Fest Magazine**

### **AL MURRAY, THE PUB LANDLORD – Al Murray, The Pub Landlord**

All hail to the ale! A lunchtime lock-in with THE GUV’NOR as he returns to his spiritual home, performing his *Perrier Award* nominated and winning shows from 1996-99, on four consecutive days. All for a fiver.

“One national treasure to cherish.”  
**Dominic Cavendish, Daily Telegraph**

### **FRANK SKINNER – Frank Skinner’s Credit Crunch Cabaret**

...Laughing all the way to the bank closure.

Straight from a sell-out run in London’s West End, FRANK SKINNER brings his doom-and-gloom busting Credit Crunch Cabaret to Edinburgh. Introducing little-known, breakthrough artists alongside award-winning comics and high-profile musicians, FRANK unites acts handpicked from all corners of the Edinburgh Festivals. Expect a nightly bill jam-packed with top class entertainment from the hottest talents the city has to offer - for just £10 a ticket.

“Skinner deserves a financier-sized bonus for his efforts...one would have to be clinically depressed not to enjoy an evening like this.”  
**Bruce Dessau, Evening Standard**

### **KRISTEN SCHAAL & KURT BRAUNOHLER – Double Down Hearts**

KRISTEN SCHAAL and KURT BRAUNOHLER had an amazing time in Edinburgh last year. They had so much fun they couldn’t wait to come back. But, they forgot to write new material. In the spirit of American Vaudeville, which repeated the same shit until the movies came, KURT and KRISTEN are returning with an encore performance of last year’s Double Down Hearts. If you missed it, then it will be brand new! If you saw it last year then feel free to sing along.

“This is the kind of show the Fringe was made for. Divine madness.”  
**Tim Arthur, Time Out**

# AVALON<sup>®</sup>

## LAURA SOLON – Rabbit Faced Story Soup

*Perrier Award* winner LAURA SOLON (BBC ONE's Ruddy Hell! It's Harry and Paul, ITV1's Al Murray's Multiple Personality Disorder, Radio 4's Talking and Not Talking) returns with brand new character comedy.

“Seemingly poised for stardom for creating instantly memorable and grotesque comic characters, one might dub Laura Solon the next Catherine Tate. What makes her different is that she specialises in brilliantly written verbal comedy... Almost every sketch is a showcase for ultra-deft characterisation and surprising gags.”

**James Kettle, The Guardian**

## THE UMBRELLA BIRDS – Sketches in a Shop Changing Room

Stars of BBC Radio 4's The Ladies return with a brand new hour of comedy. After their cult 2007 hit WC, staged in a real Portaloo, and 2008's Gym, performed on cross-trainers, the acclaimed sketch team explore the dark side of female relationships in a show with a self-explanatory title.

“Tight writing, strong characterisation and snappy delivery - these sketches are laugh-out-loud funny.”

**Claire Smith, The Scotsman**

## DANIELLE WARD – Lies

Dead chickens, fake suicide, roller-blades and Angelica Houston are just some of the words that might be appearing in the new stand-up show from the award-winning writer and star of cult hits *Take-a-Break Tales* and *Psister Psycho*.

“Like a Nick Cave album recited by a cheerful would be Dorothy Parker.”

**Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times**

## ROSIE WILKINSON & HELEN O'BRIEN – Domestic Goddi 2: How to Cope

After 2008's sellout show, *The Herald Pick of the Fringe* ROSIE WILKINSON and *BBC Comedy Award* winner HELEN O'BRIEN return with uniquely-formulated, volume-boosting sketches, giving microbiotically natural characters 300% more moisture for longer-lasting laughs.

Get the look... Get the Domestic Goddi look.

“Funnier than Ainsley Harriott's head in a blender.”

**Velimir Ilic, Metro**

## THE COMEDY ZONE

**(JEN BRISTER, ED GAMBLE, CHRIS RAMSEY & GARETH RICHARDS)**

The longest running and most prestigious stand-up showcase returns with the hottest new talent on the circuit: JEN BRISTER (BBC 6 Music), ED GAMBLE (The Ray Peacock Podcast), CHRIS RAMSEY (*Leicester Mercury Comedian of the Year 2009* Nominee) and GARETH RICHARDS (Frank Skinner's Absolute Radio Show; 4 Stands-Up, BBC Radio 4).

“The fringe's leading stand-up showcase.”

**The Times**

## SHOW DETAILS

<b>DAN ANTOPOLSKI</b>	Silent but Deadly		Pleasance Ace Dome	21:20
<b>DAN ATKINSON</b>	Death By A Thousand Pricks		Pleasance Baby Grand	21:30
<b>GREG BEHRENDT</b> <i>[Not 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> Aug]</i>	Love, Sex, Pudding, Death		Assembly George Street – Supper Room	19:40
<b>SIMON BRODKIN</b>	Still Not Himself		Pleasance Above	17:00
<b>ANDREW COLLINS &amp; RICHARD HERRING</b> <i>[19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug]</i>	Collings and Herrin Podcast Live!		Underbelly Belly Laugh	12:20
<b>FERGUS CRAIG</b> [*]	Still Watches Neighbours		Pleasance Baby Grand	16:30
<b>TOM DEACON</b>	Indecisive		Pleasance Cellar	20:30
<b>RICHARD HERRING</b>	Hitler Moustache		Underbelly White Belly	20:40
<b>COLIN HOULT</b>	Colin Hoult's Carnival of Monsters		Pleasance Hut	15:30
<b>RUSSELL KANE</b> [*]	Human Dressage		Pleasance Cabaret Bar	21:20
<b>RUSSELL KANE</b> [*]	Russell Kane's Fakespeare 'The Tragickal Saveings of King Nigel'		Pleasance Cellar	14:10
<b>JIMMY McGHIE</b> [*]	Jimmy McGhie's Northern Meeting		Gilded Balloon – Wee Room	21:30
<b>AL MURRAY, THE PUB LANDLORD</b> <i>[26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Aug only]</i>	Al Murray, The Pub Landlord		Pleasance Over The Road 1	13:00
<b>KRISTEN SCHAAL &amp; KURT BRAUNOHLER</b> <i>[21<sup>st</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> Aug only]</i>	Double Down Hearts		Assembly Hall On The Mound – Rainy Hall	22:05
<b>FRANK SKINNER</b> [*] <i>[14<sup>th</sup> – 30 Aug, and late shows 27<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> Aug]</i>	Frank Skinner's Credit Crunch Cabaret		Assembly Rooms – Music Room	18:50
<b>LAURA SOLON</b> <i>[Not 31<sup>st</sup> Aug]</i>	Rabbit Faced Story Soup		Assembly Rooms – Wildman Room	17:05
<b>THE UMBRELLA BIRDS</b> [*]	Sketches in a Shop Changing Room		Assembly Rooms – Wildman Room	18:20
<b>DANIELLE WARD</b> <i>[Not 18<sup>th</sup> &amp; 31<sup>st</sup> Aug]</i>	Lies		Pleasance Hut	21:45
<b>ROSIE WILKINSON &amp; HELEN O'BRIEN</b>	Domestic Goddi 2: How to Cope		Pleasance Beside	13:30
<b>THE COMEDY ZONE</b>	JEN BRISTER, ED GAMBLE, CHRIS RAMSEY & GARETH RICHARDS		Pleasance Cabaret Bar	22:45

Please note, shows marked with [\*] will not be performed on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August.



## **AVALON PROMOTIONS**

Avalon Promotions Limited is one of the leading promoters of live comedy in the UK. Productions include: NEWMAN & BADDIEL in the first comedy show ever to be staged at Wembley Arena; FRANK SKINNER's record-breaking performance to an audience of 6,000 at the Battersea Power Station; Jerry Springer – The Opera at the National Theatre, at the Cambridge Theatre in London's West End, on national tour and at New York's Carnegie Hall; HARRY HILL at the Palace and Dominion Theatres in London; and Dave Gorman's Googlewhack Adventure at the Sydney Opera House, at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, on national tour and at the Village Theatre, New York (nominated for *Drama Desk Award 2004*).

The last 12 months has seen Avalon Promotions: present multi-award winning comics JENNY ECLAIR, RICHARD HERRING, RUSSELL HOWARD and FRANK SKINNER on sell-out runs; produce AL MURRAY, THE PUB LANDLORD live at the O2 and RUSSELL HOWARD at Wembley Stadium; introduce some of the fastest-rising stars in comedy such as RUSSELL KANE, KRISTEN SCHAAL & KURT BRAUNOHLER and ISY SUTTIE; produce stage shows, such as Frank Skinner's Credit Crunch Cabaret and Grumpy Old Women Live, which has toured the UK three times and performed a highly successful run in Australia; and present 23 acts at the Edinburgh Festival, where it has promoted a total of five *Perrier Award* winners and 17 *Perrier Award/if.comedy Award* nominees in just 20 years.

## **ALSO PERFORMING AT THE FESTIVAL FRINGE**

**ANNA CRILLY & KATY WIX** – 'Anna and Katy' (18:40, Pleasance Over The Road 3)

**ALUN COCHRANE** – 'Alun Cochrane is a Daydreamer (at Night)' (22:50, Stand 3)

**DIANE MORGAN & JOE WILKINSON** – 'Two Episodes of Mash' (17:45, Over The Road 1)

**TOMMY AND THE WEEKS** (17:10, Pleasance Beside)

**STAN STANLEY** is in – 'Sketch Comedy for Kids' (13:40 – Underbelly Belly Laugh)