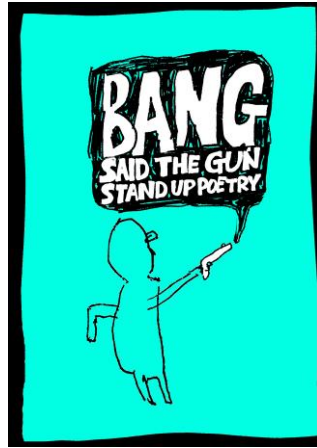


# BANG SAID THE GUN TO BE JOINED BY HOST OF ACCLAIMED SPOKEN WORD ACTS ON TOUR



## POETRY FOR PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE POETRY.

After taking London by storm with a sell-out residency at the Bloomsbury Theatre and raucous performances at the Udderbelly Festival and Leicester Square Theatre last year, the best poetry night in the UK (voted by the Times), Bang Said The Gun is set to tour theatres nationwide from 12<sup>th</sup> March to 28<sup>th</sup> July. Each show will enjoy special guests including JORDAN STEPHENS (one half of platinum selling hip-hop duo, RIZZLE KICKS), SALENA GODDEN (*"the doyenne of the spoken word scene"*, Ian McMillan) and DEANNA RODGER (youngest UK Poetry Slam Champion).

Starting as an antidote to dreary poetry and even drearier poetry nights, co-founders DAN COCKRILL and MARTIN GALTON established the spoken word club in a pub in Soho before it transferred to a pub in Bermondsey. The rich mix of new talent performing alongside some of the most established names in poetry including ROGER MCGOUGH CBE (BBC Radio 4's Poetry Please presenter), KATE TEMPEST (*Ted Hughes award* winner), HOLLIE MCNISH (around 4 million hits on YouTube) and SIR ANDREW MOTION (ex Poet Laureate), trademark makeshift maracas and anarchic spirit quickly gained a cult following and was soon being played to packed audiences on a weekly basis. Since January 2016, the raw, fast-moving and highly-energised night has continued its rise with a completely sold out monthly residency at the Bloomsbury Theatre and various one-off shows including an Edinburgh Festival Fringe performance.

COCKRILL says: *"we have dragged poetry kicking and screaming into the 21st Century"*

GALTON says: *"the night is a rollercoaster of emotion...It's loud and raucous, as political as it's trivial as serious as its funny."*

Bang Said The Gun has had 15 films broadcast on Channel 4 and an anthology, Mud Wrestling With Words published with Burning Eye Books. The show has also played to audiences in the North-West with Bang Said The Gun: Manchester and across the Atlantic with Bang Said The Gun: New York.

Additional Bang members include ROB AUTON (shortlisted for *Arts Foundation Spoken Word Award* and former Glastonbury poet in residence) and LAURIE BOLGER (shortlisted for *Young Poet Laureate for London* and former Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park poet in residence).

### What has been said about BSTG:

*A raucous combination of poetry and comedy* **The Telegraph**

*Grabs poetry by its shoulders and shakes it until dirty, funny words fall out* **Londonist**

*Like all the best things in life, BSTG is done with belief and passion* **Phill Jupitus**

*There has never been a show quite like this before. It's time is now* **Murray Lachlan Young**

*It's like mud wrestling with words* **Kate Tempest**

*BSTG is a vortex of energy and enthusiasm* **Andrew Motion**

With thanks to Nationwide Building Society for supporting Bang Said The Gun's first national tour

Tickets are available to buy here [www.bangsaidthegun.com](http://www.bangsaidthegun.com)

**For more information and press tickets, please contact:** Victoria Wedderburn: [victoriaw@avalonuk.com](mailto:victoriaw@avalonuk.com) / 0207 598 722

## BANG SAID THE GUN DATES TOUR DATES:

Date	Venue
12-Mar-17	Stafford Gatehouse Met <b>JONNY FLUFFYPUNK</b> ( <i>acute social observation, intricate humour, surreal fantasy, sharp irony and wit</i> , The Independent) <b>JO BELL</b> (former National Poetry Day director)
26-Mar-17	Sheffield City Hall, Memorial Hall <b>KRISS FOSTER</b> ( <i>dead good</i> , NME)
01-Apr-17	Leeds City Varieties <b>EMMA JONES</b> ( <i>her exuberant delivery had the audience in stitches following every word</i> , Sabotage Reviews)
21-Apr-17	Colchester Arts Centre <b>MOLLY NAYLOR</b> ( <i>After Hours</i> , Sky 1)
05-May-17	Fareham, Ashcroft Arts Centre <b>ELVIS MCGONAGALL</b> (world Slam Champion) <b>ROSY CARRICK</b> ( <i>Clever, funny, quarrelsome, querulous, astonishing!</i> , Sabotage Reviews)
12-May-17	Durham Gala Theatre <b>KATE FOX</b> ( <i>The Price of Happiness</i> , Radio 4) <b>SCOTT TYRRELL</b> (multiple Slam winner)
13-May-17	Salford Lowry, The Studio <b>JACKIE HAGAN</b> ( <i>Pimped Up Limbs</i> , Ch 4)
20-May-17	Brighton Festival, The Spire <b>JORDAN STEPHENS</b> (one half of platinum selling hip-hop duo, Rizzle Kicks) <b>SALLY JENKINSON</b> ( <i>Bristol Poetry Festival's Poet of the Year</i> award)
30-Jun-17	Canterbury Marlowe Theatre Studio <b>SALENA GODDEN</b> ( <i>the doyenne of the spoken word scene</i> , Ian McMillan, <i>The Verb</i> , BBC Radio 3)
08-Jul-17	Aldershot West End Centre <b>VANESSA KISUULE</b> (multiple Slam winner) <b>DEANNA RODGER</b> (youngest <i>UK Poetry Slam Champion</i> )
09-Jul-17	Exeter Phoenix <b>MATT HARVEY</b> ( <i>Wondermentalist Cabaret</i> , BBC Radio 4)
28-Jul-17	Hull Truck Theatre

## BLOOMSBURY THEATRE RESIDENCY DATES:

Date	Venue
24-Nov-16	Bloomsbury Theatre
15-Dec-16	Bloomsbury Theatre
26-Jan-17	Bloomsbury Theatre
23-Feb-17	Bloomsbury Theatre
30-Mar-17	Bloomsbury Theatre
27-Apr-17	Bloomsbury Theatre
25-May-17	Bloomsbury Theatre