

# DOUBLE EDINBURGH COMEDY AWARD NOMINEE AHIR SHAH RETURNS TO THE FRINGE WITH BRAND NEW SHOW 'DOTS'

*"intricately crafted, profoundly moving, howlingly funny... he's a blazing talent firing on all cylinders" ★★★★★*

**Tristram Fane Saunders, The Telegraph**

*"Duffer is a powerful account of his nan's deportation to India in the Nineties, intersected with his own mental-health struggles. It's a highly personal howl in the dark from this sharpest of operators. Impassioned, probing and unexpectedly moving." ★★★★★* **Mark Wareham, The Mail On Sunday**

Double Edinburgh Comedy Award Nominee 2017 and 2018, Ahir Shah returns to the Fringe with brand new hour of stand-up *Dots* from 1<sup>st</sup> August to 25<sup>th</sup> August at 1.45pm at Monkey Barrel 3.

Ahir's latest show explores love, sadness, belief, Mexico, cigarettes, dead German sociologists, pragmatism, idealism, giving up, and not giving up. This follows on from last year's critically acclaimed show, *Duffer*, which was performed to packed houses at the 2018 Fringe and earned him a second consecutive *Best Show* nomination at the coveted *Edinburgh Comedy Awards*. This was followed by a hugely successful UK tour, a sold out run in London's West End, and a run at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2019.

On TV and radio, Ahir's recent appearances have included *Live at the Apollo* (BBC Two), *Have I Got News For You* (BBC One), *Frankie Boyle's New World Order* (BBC2), *The Mash Report* (BBC Two), *Stand Up Central with Rob Delaney* (Comedy Central), *The Big Asian Stand-Up* (BBC2), and *The Now Show* (Radio 4), written and starred in *Ahir Shah's Summer* (Sky Arts), and has appeared in *Brotherhood* (Channel 4), *The Midnight Beast* (E4), *Live at the Electric* (BBC Three), *Campus* (Channel 4), and *The Seven Ages of Love* (Channel 4). As a writer he is developing a sitcom for Channel 4, and has also written for *The Mash Report* (BBC 2), *Skins* (Channel 4), *The News Quiz* (BBC Radio 4), and *Newsjack* (BBC Radio 4 Extra).

*Duffer* was Ahir's seventh critically acclaimed sell-out Edinburgh Festival Fringe show, succeeding *Edinburgh Comedy Award* nominated *Control* (2017), *Machines* (2016), *Distant* (2015), *Texture* (2014), *Anatomy* (2013), and *Astrology* (2011). As well as touring nationwide, Ahir has also been making a name for himself internationally, performing at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, the Adelaide Fringe, and the Just for Laughs comedy festival in Montreal.

## Other Things The Press Has Said About Duffer

*"A magnificent hour about politics, family and a 1970s classic hit" ★★★★★* **Brian Donaldson, The List**

*"this is an outstanding show; politically necessary, personally eviscerating, and heavy on the laughs. To cover such range and depth without even a hint of cliché is an enormous achievement. Duffer has really come good." ★★★★★½*  
**Paul Fleckney, Chortle**

*"He blends stories of growing up with brief bursts of fury at a callous system and struggles to find meaning or faith... but with laughs." ★★★★★* **Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times**

★★★★ **Gayle Anderson, The Herald**

*"Shah's set, a terrifically smart examination of family, religion and depression, is by turns furiously nihilistic and desperately warm and loving, and it wasn't just the running gag about Bohemian Rhapsody that had me in tears at the end"* **Rebecca Nicholson, The Observer**

*"No young British comic has greater promise...electrifying...Shah's breadth of vision is peerless"* **Dominic Maxwell, The Times**

*"A phenomenal hour from Ahir Shah"* ★★★★★ **Polly Glynn, The Skinny**

*"If this isn't award-winning material, I don't know what is"* ★★★★★ **Richard Cobb, Edinburgh Festivals Magazine**

*"Duffer's the most versatile we've seen Shah yet. The most willing to drop a big question without having any big answers to go with it. The most moving, hands-down. And against the odds, it's also the funniest".* ★★★★★ **Lydia Manch, Londonist**

*"What elevates this show from merely excellent to very special is Shah's ability to tackle existential questions in a way that's at once brain-bending and brilliantly funny"* **Nooruddean Choudry, Joe**

*"Shah delivers a blistering polemic which tackles race, identity, religion, immigration, class, death and life itself...Duffer is cerebral but not condescending; simultaneously heart-breaking and hilarious"* ★★★★★ **Cath Renton, The Wee Review**

## **EDINBURGH FRINGE LISTINGS INFORMATION**

### **Ahir Shah - Dots**

Venue: Monkey Barrel 3

Date & Time: 1<sup>st</sup> August to 25<sup>th</sup> August at 13:45

Duration: 60 min

Web: [www.ahirshah.com](http://www.ahirshah.com)

**For more information and press tickets, please contact:** Lily Marriott at [lmariott@avalonuk.com](mailto:lmariott@avalonuk.com) or [edinburghpress@avalonuk.com](mailto:edinburghpress@avalonuk.com) / 0207 598 7222