

AVALON ANNOUNCE

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE LINE-UP FOR 2016

Friday 22nd April 2016

Avalon announce the full line-up for their 28th year at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, with the chance to see runs from established and award-winning comics including: ALISTAIR MCGOWAN, AL MURRAY and RUSSELL HOWARD, the return of Australia's DOUG ANTHONY ALL STARS, a first solo UK appearance by US comic JOE DEROSA and a host of other musical, political comedy and theatrical shows for a fully-charged 28th anniversary at the Fringe.

During the last 28 years, Avalon has promoted more *Edinburgh Comedy Award* winners and nominees than any other company including: CHRIS ADDISON, GREG DAVIES, DAVE GORMAN, HARRY HILL, RUSSELL HOWARD, THE MIGHTY BOOSH, FRANK SKINNER, AL MURRAY, RUSSELL KANE, ALEX HORNE, ROISIN CONATY, CARL DONNELLY, KRISTEN SCHAAL & KURT BRAUNOHLER and GARTH MARENGHI and two of only four female winners of the prestigious *Edinburgh Comedy Award*; JENNY ECLAIR and LAURA SOLON.

Avalon's line-up for 2016 includes:

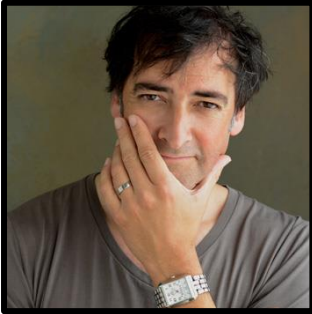
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN - 12th Impressions
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN - Erik Satie's-Faction:His Words, His Music, Your Ears
AL MURRAY - Let's Go Backwards Together (Work-in-Progress)
BILAL ZAFAR - Cakes
CARL DONNELLY - Bad Man Tings
CASTING CALL WOE - Tiff Stevenson & Blog Creator @Proresting
DOUG ANTHONY ALL STARS - Reunion Rebirth
IAIN STIRLING - Onwards!
JOE DEROSA - Zero Forward Progress
MATT FORDE - It's My Political Party (And I'll Cry If I Want To)
MATT FORDE - Political Party Podcast
RUSSELL HOWARD & STEVE WILLIAMS - Work-in-Progress

Follow @livecomedy for news and ticket info. For further information, interview requests or images please contact the Edinburgh press team at edinburghpress@avalonuk.com or phone Lottie Robertshaw or Victoria Wedderburn on 0207 598 7222

» AVALON «

STAND-UP

ALISTAIR MCGOWAN - 12th Impressions



One of Britain's most celebrated impressionists (The Big Impression, Live At The Apollo, Tonight at the Palladium) returns to Edinburgh for a twelfth year, with an hour of unfeasibly accurate impersonations. ALISTAIR MCGOWAN will cover some of the biggest names and most recognisable voices in sport, entertainment and politics including Wimbledon champion and new dad ANDY MURRAY, comedian JOHN BISHOP and football's man of the moment HARRY KANE, as well as delivering brand-new comedy in his own voice.

Warning: May contain puns.

AL MURRAY- Let's Go Backwards Together (Work-in-Progress)

*'A supremely polished performer' ******
Mail on Sunday



Publican. Politician. Other things beginning with P. Philosopher, yeah, that. The nation's critically acclaimed bar-based Braveheart, AL MURRAY – THE PUB LANDLORD embarks on a common sense campaign to re-Great Britain in his brand new show. We live in troubling times. Europe. The NHS. Whatever the hell is going on in the Middle East. Who knows where it will end? Watch the one man who will answer the call of destiny even though it's an unlisted number.

BILAL ZAFAR – Cakes

"Relaxed, knowing, skilful"
Chortle



Cakes is the highly anticipated debut show from BILAL ZAFAR, the Hackney Empire New Comedian of the Year 2016 (NATYS) and Leicester Square Theatre New Comedian of the Year runner up. Join BILAL as he takes you on a fascinating journey of how he was mistaken for a 'Muslim Only cake shop' and became a prime target for the furious far right around the world.

"Hilarious" BBC.co.uk *"delicious"* Londonist.

CARL DONNELLY - Bad Man Tings

"Observational genius"
The Guardian



Join twice Edinburgh Comedy Award nominated CARL DONNELLY for an all new hour of funnies as he takes us through his thoughts on reaching the ripe old age of 34, the age that is statistically the happiest of your life. Following the mess that was his late twenties and early thirties (involving divorce, depression, hallucinogens and worse) CARL has now seemingly found peace in being a vegetable planting, self-hating liberal with a wide array of useless kitchen utensils and is trying to work out which life he prefers.

IAIN STIRLING – Onwards!

"One of Scotland's hottest newcomers"
The Scotsman



Edinburgh's very own Scottish BAFTA award winning and triple BAFTA nominated comedian IAIN STIRLING returns to the festival following 4 consecutive sell-out runs. Looking at the generational pressures we face today, IAIN will shed an "intriguing twentysomething perspective on the current state of his nation" (Guardian Guide) in his fifth stand-up show Onwards! As seen/heard on Drunk History (Comedy Central), Love Island (ITV2), The Dog Ate My Homework (CBBC), Russell Howard's Good News (BBC3), Russell Howard's Stand Up Central (Comedy Central), The Now Show and Dilemma (Radio 4).

A very bright, peppy prospect. The Independent.

JOE DEROSA - Zero Forward Progress



US writer, actor and stand-up JOE DEROSA makes his highly anticipated UK debut. As seen on a host of hit shows including Better Call Saul, Louie, Inside Amy Schumer, & Chelsea Lately. Don't miss this chance to catch JOE'S trademark brand of brutal honesty and frustration at the workings of the world.

MATT FORDE – It's My Political Party (And I'll Cry If I Want To)

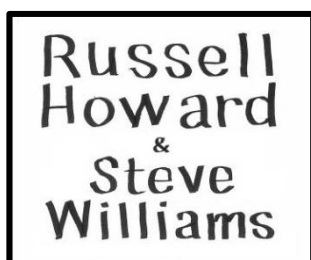
'A first class comic'
Guardian



Following the UK's most important referendum until the next one, MATT FORDE celebrates why it's great/awful that we're in/out of the EU/UK/NATO and whatever the hell happens next. As seen on The Royal Variety Performance 2015 (ITV), Have I Got News For You (BBC One), Mock the Week (BBC Two) and Question Time (BBC One).

'Highly engaging, inherently funny... an ability to ad-lib laughs out of thin air'
Chortle.

RUSSELL HOWARD & STEVE WILLIAMS - Work-in-Progress



RUSSELL HOWARD & STEVE WILLIAMS return to Edinburgh to perform half an hour of work in progress each. New ideas, new routines, anything could happen!
Who's in?

MUSICAL, THEATRE & PODCAST PRODUCTIONS

ALISTAIR MCGOWAN - Erik Satie's-Faction: His Words, His Music, Your Ears



The French composer of the beautiful 'Gymnopedies' described himself as, 'a pretentious cretin whose music makes people laugh and shrug their shoulders.' See if you agree as BAFTA-winning impressionist and Olivier-award nominated actor, ALISTAIR MCGOWAN plays several of SATIE'S well-known, ground-breaking piano pieces and delivers his own new translations of many of 'Esoterik' SATIE'S never before performed, often surreal articles and poems. A new, unique, warm, witty, intelligent and moving show

CASTING CALL WOE - Tiff Stevenson & Blog Creator @Proresting

"Casting Call Woe exposes the different standards of expectation when it comes to male and female acting roles"
Telegraph



"Actress with good sized boobs wanted to play sexy nun"
"She is passed her prime aged 23-30"

Actors are asked to do ridiculous things in the name of their craft. Sexist, racist, homophobic, ageist - you name it; there has been a casting breakdown for it. On stage for the first time the actors' casting process is laid bare by amazing guests from the worlds of acting and comedy. Hosted by Tiff Stevenson & blog creator @proresting..

DOUG ANTHONY ALL STARS - Reunion Rebirth



PAUL MCDERMOTT and TIM FERGUSON have teamed up with mentor PAUL "FLACCO" LIVINGSTON for a sublime night of songs, sex, violence, feminism (and sex) that revolutionised the world of comedy in the 80's and 90's and made DAAS the world's first and most feared, loathed and adored comedy rock stars. Blown away after seeing the group perform at Edinburgh Festival in '88, AL MURRAY will present Australia's most controversial export as they invite you to come running and screaming down memory lane. Following a 2015 sell-out

international run, meet the men who built the legend. Age has only made them angrier.

MATT FORDE – Political Party Podcast

“Best Comedy Podcasts” pick
Telegraph



Following 3 years of sell-out London shows MATT FORDE'S Political Party returns to Edinburgh for a one off special! Previous guests include: TONY BLAIR, NIGEL FARAGE, MICHAEL PORTILLO, LIZ KENDALL, ALASTAIR CAMPBELL and ANGUS ROBERTSON. The Political Party Podcast has had over 400,000 downloads and was named one of the Telegraph's '*Best Comedy Podcasts*' and The Times '*Podcast Of The Week*'. The guest for the Edinburgh show will be announced shortly.

SHOW DETAILS

ACT	SHOW	VENUE	TIME
AL MURRAY <i>4th - 14th Aug</i>	Let's Go Backwards Together (Work in Progress)	Spiegeltent Colombino	6.45pm
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN <i>16th - 28th Aug</i>	12th Impressions	Gilded Balloon Debating Hall	6.00pm
ALISTAIR MCGOWAN <i>3rd - 28th Aug</i>	'Erik Satie's-Faction:His Words, His Music, Your Ears	Pleasance Forth	12.50pm
BILAL ZAFAR <i>4th-28th Aug</i>	Cakes	Just The Tonic Mash House – Attic Room	3.40pm
CARL DONNELLY <i>3rd - 28th Aug</i>	Bad Man Tings	Pleasance Upstairs	8.30pm
CASTING CALL WOE <i>15th - 28th Aug</i>	Tiff Stevenson & Blog Creator @Proresting	Gilded Balloon The Museum	4.30pm
DOUG ANTHONY ALL STARS <i>3-7th and 10-14th Aug</i>	Reunion Rebirth	Pleasance Forth	10.00pm
IAIN STIRLING <i>3rd - 26th Aug</i>	Onwards!	Pleasance Above	7.40pm
JOE DEROSA <i>4th - 28th Aug</i>	Zero Forward Progress	Underbelly Belly Laugh	9.00pm
MATT FORDE <i>3rd - 28th Aug</i>	It's My Political Party (And I'll Cry If I Want To)	Pleasance Cabaret Bar	3.50pm

<p>MATT FORDE <i>17th Aug</i></p>	<p>Political Party Podcast</p>	<p>Pleasance Cabaret Bar</p>	<p>5.10pm</p>
<p>RUSSELL HOWARD & STEVE WILLIAMS <i>3rd - 21st Aug</i></p>	<p>Work-In-Progress</p>	<p>Assembly Studio 3</p>	<p>6.40pm</p>

Notes to the Editor:

Avalon Edinburgh Comedy Award winners include:

1991 – FRANK SKINNER

1995 – JENNY ECLAIR

1999 – AL MURRAY

2001 – GARTH MARENGHI (MATTHEW HOLNESS, RICHARD AYOADE)

2005 – LAURA SOLON

2010 – RUSSELL KANE

Avalon Edinburgh Comedy Award – Best Newcomer winners include:

1992 – HARRY HILL

1998 – THE MIGHTY BOOSH

2010 – ROISIN CONATY