

# COMEDIAN ANNIE MCGRATH MAKES SOHO THEATRE DEBUT WITH HIT EDINBURGH FRINGE SHOW *SHEPHERD*

17 & 18 FEBRUARY 2020

★★★★★ Feminist Fringe ★★★★★1/2 ShortCom ★★★★★ One4Review ★★★★★ Three Weeks

Deadpan comic **Annie McGrath** makes her Soho Theatre debut this 17th & 18th February (9pm) with her critically acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe stand-up show, *Shepherd*, directed by Steve Hall (*We Are Klang*, *The Russell Howard Hour*).

Dark and charmingly offbeat, Annie tackles issues of male toxicity, consent and sheep herding. Expect dry jokes, silly anecdotes and some potentially serious underlying themes from a young(ish) comedian, cynical beyond her years. The show is "*Packed with gags - as relatable as it is funny*" Chortle.

Annie is renowned for straddling the worlds of art and comedy, and *Shepherd* features an original painting of hers. Host of successful new podcast, *Secret Artists*, Annie also curated a recent exhibition of art by comedians, *Art is the Best Medicine*, which raised over £3,500 for Mental Health UK and was featured in various national newspapers including The Guardian, Financial Times, i news and London Evening Standard. Annie's artwork sold and was on offer alongside the likes of **Vic Reeves**, **Harry Hill**, **Josie Long**, **Jenny Eclair**, **Jessica Hynes**, **Joe Lycett**, **Alex Horne** and **Tim Key**.

Annie was selected to be part of a line-up of alternative stand-up and character comedians on Channel 4's recent *Sparks* series. She has also appeared in a number of comedy sketches for the *Sparks* strand, as well as co-writing and starring in Channel 4's *Girls Go Trolling*. Annie makes regular online content with independent producers Turtle Canyon Comedy; her web-series *Baby Shower* led her to become a finalist in the most recent *Funny Women Awards*. She is an avid football fan and has acted in sketches for Sky Sports' *Soccer AM* and BBC3.

Aside from comedy, Annie is a talented actor and appeared alongside **Gemma Whelan** in *The Blue Door*, an award-winning horror film which was nominated for a BAFTA for Best British Short Film (2019).

Annie has performed at clubs and theatres nationwide, as well as festivals including Latitude, Green Man, Cornbury, Machynlleth and Aberystwyth Comedy Festival. Her stand-up has featured on Audible, BBC Radio Wales and BBC Radio 4 Extra and her writing has featured on BBC Radio 4's *Newsjack*.

Her comedy career began at university where she was part of sketch comedy group, *The Leeds Tealights* (alumni include Edinburgh Comedy Award nominees, *Goodbear*). She went on to form one double-act *Twins* with Jack Barry ("*Two razor-sharp comedy minds*" EdFringe Review), who performed sell out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe and were part of ITV2's show *@elevenish*.

**More praise for Annie McGrath**

*"Hilarious"*

★★★★★ **The Feminist Fringe**

*"Solid, well-crafted, story-telling comedy, with flights of whimsy, ribaldry, and sharp politicism, delivered by a consummate performer"*

★★★★★ **One4Review**

*"Intelligent and sharp-witted"*

★★★★★1/2 **ShortCom**

*"The audience is at her mercy with every line she speaks... Safe, hilarious hands"*

★★★★★ **EdFringe Review**

*"Spot on comic timing... delightfully dark"*

★★★★★ **Three Weeks**

*"McGrath's dry sense of humour together with cool deliveries works a treat... Ridiculously funny"*

★★★★★ **The Edinburgh Reporter**

*"Stole the show... Beautiful timing and spot-on delivery"*

★★★★★ **The Tab**

*"A unique & exciting prospect...genuinely brilliant"*

★★★★★ **What's On London**

*"Smart and smutty"* **London Evening Standard**

*"A real master of deadpan... delightfully dry"* **The Skinny**

*"Unfeasibly good fun"* **Fest Magazine**

**ENDS**

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**Annie's website:** [www.anniemcgrath.com](http://www.anniemcgrath.com)

**Annie's Twitter:** @AnnieMcTweet

**Dates:** Monday 17th & Tuesday 18th February 2020

**Time:** 9pm (1 hour)

**Venue:** Soho Theatre, 21 Dean Street, London W1D 3NE

**Ticket link:** <https://sohotheatre.com/shows/annie-mcgrath-shepherd/>

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