

EDINBURGH COMEDY AWARDS BEST NEWCOMER NOMINEE BILAL ZAFAR ANNOUNCES HIS FIRST NATIONWIDE TOUR WITH ‘CAKES’ INCLUDING A SIX NIGHT RUN AT LONDON’S SOHO THEATRE

“witty and absorbing...highly entertaining. I look forward to whatever Zafar cooks up next”

Dominic Maxwell, The Times

“fascinating and hilarious in equal measure”

Ian Jones, i-D

“delivers some big laughs”

Brian Logan, The Guardian

Following a critically acclaimed, sold out run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe – which saw him nominated for the *Edinburgh Comedy Awards Best Newcomer* award – BILAL ZAFAR will begin his first ever nationwide tour with his debut show Cakes, including a six night run at London’s Soho Theatre from 23rd January.

Cakes tells the story of how BILAL’s Twitter handle, @zafarcakes, became a focal point for the misguided rage of the global far right when it was mistaken for the account of a ‘Muslim-only bakery’. Having provoked the outrage of such defenders of Britishness as Katie Hopkins, EDL supporters and the Daily Star, Cakes shows how BILAL used humour to respond to the prejudice and abuse increasingly faced by British Muslims today.

BILAL joined the company of previous winners including JOE WILKINSON, ARDAL O’HANLON, STEWART LEE and LINDA SMITH when he came top of the bill at this year’s *New Act of the Year Awards*. In 2015 he was the runner up at the *Leicester Square Theatre New Comedian of the Year* competition. BILAL has appeared on BBC Three, BBC Radio 4, BBC Radio 5 Live, BBC Asian Network, and Sky News, and has previously written about his faith for The Independent.

For more information contact: Nathan Dean at Avalon on 0207 598 7222 or nathand@avalonuk.com

Bilal Zafar – Cakes

Date	Venue
23 rd January 2017	Soho Theatre
24 th January 2017	Soho Theatre
25 th January 2017	Soho Theatre
26 th January 2017	Soho Theatre
27 th January 2017	Soho Theatre
28 th January 2017	Soho Theatre
11 th February 2017	Leicester, The Cookie
16 th February 2017	Maidenhead, Norden Farm
17 th February 2017	Birmingham Glee Club
18 th January 2017	Camberley Theatre
3 rd March 2017	Luton, The Hat Factory
4 th March 2017	Exeter, The Bike Shed
24 th March 2017	Fareham, Ashcroft Arts Centre
27 th March 2017	Milton Keynes, The Stables
30 th March 2017	Newbury, New Greenham Arts
7 th April 2017	Reading South Street Arts Centre
14 th April 2017	Stafford Gatehouse Theatre
23 rd April 2017	Brighton Komedia
28 th May 2017	Salford Quays, The Lowry Studio