

AWARD WINNING COMEDIAN AND POET ROB AUTON SET TO EMBARK ON BIGGEST NATIONWIDE TOUR TO DATE WITH EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE CRITICAL HIT, THE TALK SHOW

"Funny, poetic, observant and wholly original. Auton's brilliant use of language and perfect comic timing throws up laugh after laugh after laugh after laugh" ★★★★★ Claire Smith, Beyond the Joke

"Thought-provoking, heart-warming and heart-breaking" ★★★★★ Daisy Malt, Three Weeks

It was announced today, 16th October, that **Rob Auton** is set to embark on his biggest nationwide tour yet with the second best reviewed show out of over 1800 Edinburgh Festival Fringe comedy productions (as declared by the British Comedy Guide), *The Talk Show*. From 8th February 2019, Rob will play 32 dates at venues spanning England, Scotland and Wales, culminating with a run at the Soho Theatre (downstairs) from the 21st-25th May. Putting his own familiarity of isolation as a touring comedian under the microscope, experiences including encounters with Jehovah's witnesses, the post office and hours at his kitchen table are documented as Rob explores how time on his own has changed the way he talks.

Tickets are on-sale now and available at www.robauton.co.uk

Through his command for words and offbeat humour, Rob has built a cult Fringe following for shows exploring seemingly mundane subjects: hair, sleep, water, faces, the sky and the colour yellow. Last year at Edinburgh Festival, Rob played *The Hair Show* to packed rooms, enjoyed critical acclaim including picking up Three Weeks' *Editor's Choice Award* and performed part of his hour at the BBC curated *Best Of Edinburgh 2017*.

Rob will appear on Comedy Central's *Stand-Up Central With Rob Delaney* in November 2018, adding to broadcast credits including performing on Sky One's *The Russell Howard Hour*, Sky Arts' *Festival No. 6* and Channel 4's *Random Acts*. In 2017, Rob released his third collection of writing and drawing, *Take Hair* with Burning Eye Books, adding to *Petrol Honey* and *In Heaven The Onions Make You Laugh*. In 2016, he released spoken word album *At Home With Rob* on Scroobius Pip's record label *Speech Development Records*. Rob's unique worldview has also been acknowledged through the Arts Foundation shortlisting him for the prestigious *Spoken Word Award* and Glastonbury Festival electing him the official 'Poet in Residence'.

In 2013, Rob won the *Dave Funniest Joke of The Fringe* award with a gag about Chinese Wispas. On the day the news broke, he spoke to Vanessa Feltz on BBC Radio 2; the conversation resulted in her saying, *"that's just sad"* a quote that will stick with him forever.

Other Things the Press Said About Rob

'A genuine original. Poetical, philosophical, humane, completely charming and funny to boot.' Paul Fleckney, **The Guardian**

'Charming, eccentric and uplifting, Auton is a talent to watch.' Alice Jones, **The Independent**

'It's both touching and bizarre. A warm and frequently funny hour.' ★★★★★ **The List**

'Inspiring and uplifting. Well worth seeing.' **British Comedy Guide**

'A remarkably moving emotional journey. A thoroughly enjoyable, engaging and entertaining hour.'

★★★★★ Angela Johnson, **Entertainment Focus**

'Auton cleverly controls the mood to a minute degree. It feels like a new kind of poetry.' ★★★★★ Emily Pritchard, **The Peg Review**

★★★★★ Cara McNamara, **The Skinny**

'He uses words like a potter uses their wheel.' ★★★★★ Kirstyn Smith, **Marbles magazine**

'An experience not to be missed.' ★★★★★ Susie Daniels, **The Student Rag**

'He is entirely compelling to watch...I'm not entirely sure what it is but it's great and it wallops you in the belly' Daniel Kitson

'We need him' Kate Copstick, **The Scotsman**

For more information and press tickets, please contact: Victoria Wedderburn at vwedderburn@avalon-entertainment.com or / 0207 598 7222