

STEVE BUGEJA RETURNS TO EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE WITH 'ALMOST'

"Bugeja has an eye for original comic detail that's all his own"
James Kettle, *The Guardian*

"drum-tight, as if polished by a sitcom writers' room to cram as many jokes in as humanly possible"

★★★★

Steve Bennett, *Chortle*

"blends the intelligence of a well crafted hour with some touching emotional honesty"

★★★★

Jay Richardson, *The Scotsman*

Steve Bugeja will return to this year's Edinburgh Festival Fringe with his 4th solo show *Almost*. He'll perform his brand new stand up hour at Just the Tonic at the Caves from 2nd to 26th August at 3:30pm.

After reading a fridge magnet stating "you regret the things you didn't do in life more than the things you did" Steve became deeply troubled because he hadn't actually done anything (aside from having a top score on the computer game *Train Simulator*, but you can't tell your grandkids that). Determined not to go through life with nothing to show for it, he attempts to become a more interesting, erudite, all round exceptional person. No longer content with wasting his life away on computer games, the *BBC New Comedy Award* winner tackles the imperious pharmaceutical companies for putting a price tag on the value of life, in a show that will see Steve finally stick it to the man and become the person he never thought he could be.

On TV and radio, Steve has appeared on *Love Island: Aftersun* (ITV2), *Russell Howard's Stand Up Central* (Comedy Central), *Top Tens* (BBC Three), *The Dog Ate My Homework* (CBBC), *Pop Sludge* (4Music), and *Fresh from the Fringe* (BBC Radio 4). Making a name for himself internationally, Steve has been invited to perform at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival for the past two years, appearing on ABC TV's *Opening Night Comedy Allstars Supershow* and twice on *Comedy up Late*.

Also a prolific writer, Steve was a key member of the writing team for *The Russell Howard Hour* (Sky One), and has contributed material to *Mock the Week* (BBC Two), *8 out of 10 Cats* (Channel 4), *Russell Howard's Good News* (BBC Two), *CelebAbility* (ITV2), *The Now Show* (BBC Radio 4), and *The News Quiz* (BBC Radio 4).

Almost is Steve's fourth solo show, following his previous critically acclaimed shows *Summer Camp* (2017), *Unpronounceable* (2016) and *Day Release* (2015), which were performed to sold-out crowds at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. *Unpronounceable* and *Summer Camp* went on to tour nationwide; selling out increasingly large venues year on year.

What the press has said about Steve Bugeja:

"fascinating...The detail is delicious and the laughs warm steadily while Bugeja shares his story with unabashed honesty"

★★★★

Vicky Nangle, *Fest*

"full of hilarious anecdotes...the audience's glee was endless"

Miriam Larrainzar, *Ed Fest Magazine*

For more information and press tickets, please contact: Florrie Sheehan at fsheehan@avalon-entertainment.com or edinburghpress@avalon-entertainment.com / 0207 598 7222