

MATT FORDE ADDS ANDREW MARR, WES STREETING AND DAVID DAVIS TO WEST END POLITICAL PARTY GUEST LINE-UP

PREVIOUSLY ANNOUNCED UPCOMING GUESTS INCLUDE GARY NEVILLE AND LISA NANDY

"our foremost satirical stand-up...Whatever your politics, you'll find excellence here"

★★★★ Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times

"Possibly the best political comedy show on the Fringe"

★★★★★ Dominic Cavendish, The Telegraph

"Forde is as gratifyingly sane as comedians come... smart, funny ideas"

★★★★ Dominic Maxwell, The Times

It was announced today, 20th April, that **Matt Forde** (*Spitting Image*, *Have I Got News For You*, *The Last Leg*) has added **Andrew Marr**, **Wes Streeting** and **David Davis** to the upcoming guest line-up of his West End *Political Party* fortnightly residency at The Duchess Theatre.

On the **2nd May**, Matt is joined by veteran journalist **Andrew Marr** who, after two decades of working at the BBC, has left for a variety of roles including hosting his own LBC show and becoming the New Statesman's chief political commentator. It promises to be a night of candid analysis examining the relationship between politicians and the media.

On the **16th May**, Matt talks to the previously announced 2020 Labour Party Leadership contender **Lisa Nandy**. A true Labour star, Nandy rose quickly and was made a Shadow Minister after just 2 years as an MP. She has continued to rise since and served as Shadow Foreign Secretary under Keir Starmer before being made Shadow Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in the most recent reshuffle.

On the **30th May**, Matt interviews rising figure on the centre right of the Labour Party, Shadow Health Secretary **Wes Streeting**. The Ilford North MP was one of the Labour Party's most vocal critics about the party's approach to the antisemitism issue under Jeremy Corbyn, backing Keir Starmer in the 2020 leadership contest.

On the **13th June**, Matt is joined by previously announced Manchester United and England legend **Gary Neville**, who recently joined The Labour Party. A passionate political campaigner, he has been a vocal opponent of cutting Universal Credit. 'Red Nev' is often seen on Good Morning Britain criticising Boris Johnson and its rumoured he'd like to succeed Andy Burnham as Mayor of Greater Manchester.

On the **27th June**, Matt talks to former Conservative Cabinet Minister for Exiting the European Union, David Davis. Following a series of disagreements with Teresa May in 2018, Davies resigned from his long political career with other former roles including Minister of Europe and Shadow Home Secretary.

After 70 sold out *Political Party* shows at Westminster's The Other Palace, **Matt Forde** moved to the West End's Duchess Theatre for a fortnightly residency in September 2021. Since 2013, Forde has interviewed political figures including **Keir Starmer, Nicola Sturgeon, Sadiq Khan, Julia Gillard, Tony Blair, Nigel Farage, Tessa Jowell, Alan Johnson, Alastair Campbell, William Hague** and **George Osborne**.

The UK's leading political podcast has over 7 million downloads and is regularly included in iTunes' Top 10 comedy podcasts. The *British Podcast Award* nominated show was recently listed by Mace Magazine as the Number 1 Political Podcast and by The i newspaper as one of the 50 Greatest Podcasts, adding to top podcast picks in the press from titles including The Observer, The Telegraph, The Guardian, Radio Times and ShortList.

Alongside *The Political Party*, Matt is currently on his biggest tour to date with brand-new stand-up show *Clowns To The Left Of Me, Jokers To The Right*. Over forty-three dates Matt is satirising the right, left and centre at theatres nationwide including the Bloomsbury Theatre on the **23rd April** and a rescheduled (due to coronavirus) five-night run at the Soho Theatre from **14th-18th June** in London.

Political Party and Clowns To The Left Of Me, Jokers To The Right tickets are available to buy now at mattforde.com

Matt has voiced and written for two series of the *Spitting Image*. Since returning in 2020 the show has delivered record subscribers for BritBox UK, the BBC and ITV created streaming platform, as well as picking up huge critical acclaim. Across official social media channels, series content has been hugely popular with over 200 million views globally, three No. 1 trending videos on YouTube and achieved praise across political the political divide.

Matt is currently co-hosting *British Scandal* with **Alice Levine**, a new audio series exploring the gripping stories, fascinating characters and critical questions arising on a journey through some of the biggest UK

scandals and available on all major UK podcast platforms. The debut episode shot straight to the *No 1* slot in the Apple podcast chart.

Matt's first book *Politically Homeless* was listed by The Sunday Times as one the Best Political Books of 2020. The paperback was released in paperback by Quercus in May.

Matt has hosted four series of *Unspun with Matt Forde* on Dave, receiving several nominations at the Broadcast Digital Awards, and has numerous other broadcast credits including: *Spitting Image* (BritBox/ITV), *Have I Got News For You* (BBC One), *The Royal Variety Performance* (ITV), *The Last Leg* (Channel 4), *Mock The Week* (BBC Two), *8 out of 10 Cats* (Channel 4), *Hypothetical (Dave)* *Rory Bremner's Coalition Report* and *Rory Bremner's Election Report* (BBC Two), *Question Time* (BBC One), *This Week* (BBC One), *Newsnight* (BBC Two) and *Daily Politics* (BBC Two). Matt currently presents Absolute Radio's weekly *Rock n Roll Football Show*.

For more information and press tickets, please contact: Victoria Wedderburn at
VWedderburn@avalonuk.com / 07557160139

What the Press Have Said About Matt Forde

"Is there a better political comic than Matt Forde currently working in the UK? I can't think of another to touch him"

★★★★½ Jay Richardson, Chortle

"Matt Forde never fails with his state-of-the-nation address, a mix of bang-on-the-money political takedowns and spot-on impressions"

★★★★ Mark Wareham, Mail On Sunday

"Matt Forde is the consummate political comedian"

★★★★ Tim Cornwell, The Scotsman