**MATT FORDE ADDS JASON WILLIAMSON, HARRIET HARMAN AND RORY STEWART TO UPCOMING WEST END POLITICAL PARTY RESIDENCY GUEST LINE-UP**

“Matt Forde’s podcast is like Top of the Pops for Westminster…phenomenally popular fortnightly show…refreshingly positive”

**Patricia Nicol,** **The Sunday Times**

“leading political comedian and impressionist…His even-handedness, combined with his comic skillset, have made Forde the darling of politicians as well as punters, even if the parliamentarians are in the firing line of his barbs.”

**Dominic Cavendish, The Telegraph**

“Forde’s Political Party podcasts have become essential listening for both comedy fans and Westminster wonks”

**Bruce Dessau, The Evening Standard**

“Forde is a master at the long- form interview and turns sometimes robotic politicians into human beings. This is without doubt the most entertaining and insightful political interview podcast of them all”

**Iain Dale’s Top 50 Political Podcasts, Mace Magazine**

**X September** – Back from a month long run at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and with a general election looming ever-closer, **Matt Forde** adds **Jason Williamson**, **Harriet Harman** and **Rory Stewart** to the upcoming guest line-up in his thrice extended *Political Party* West End residency at the Duchess Theatre.

On the **2nd October,** Matt will speak to the iconic frontman of the Sleaford Mods, Jason Williamson. A whirlwind of passion, fury and satire, Jason has channelled his politics into his music. This is a rare evening in the company of one of Britain’s most exciting musical talents.

On the **30th October**, Matt will be joined on stage by Labour’s longest serving female MP and mother of the House, Harriet Harman. As she prepares to stand down at the next election after pioneering the fight for women for the last four decades, Harman will share stories and insight from one of the most illustrious careers in British politics, including the tempestuous experience of chairing the investigation into Boris Johnson.

On the **6th November,** Matt will interview former Conservative MP Rory Stewart. Famous not only for his politics, but also for being a podcaster, an author, a diplomatic, a solider, running an Iraqi province and walking across Afghanistan, this promises to be a hilarious and fascinating evening

**Political Party tickets are available to buy now at** [**mattforde.com**](http://mattforde.com/live/)

After 70 sold out Political Party shows at Westminster’s The Other Palace, **Matt**moved to the West End’s Duchess Theatre for a fortnightly residency in September 2021, which has subsequently been extended three times and is set to run through December 2023. Since 2013, Forde has interviewed political figures including **Keir Starmer, Nicola Sturgeon, Tony Blair, Jacob Rees-Mogg, Angela Rayner, Michael Heseltine, Anthony Scaramucci, Alastair Campbell, Gordon Brown and Gary Neville.**

The UK’s leading political podcast has over 9 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.

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. *Idiots Assemble: Spitting Image The Musical* written by **Al Murray**, Matt Forde and **Sean Foley** recently made its West End premiere at the Pheonix Theatre. Described by The Daily Telegraph as a five star*‘Lavish extravaganza’* and *‘dazzling* … a stunning technical achievement’by The Times,  the musical introduced by Master of Ceremonies **Sir Ian McKellen**, featured a stellar line-up of over 100 puppets of the great and the not so good.

Matt cohosts the 2022 ‘Spotlight Award’ *British Podcast Award* (recognising a podcast reaching the masses) winning *British Scandal* with **Alice Levine**, an 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.

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](mailto:VWedderburn@avalonuk.com) / 07557160139**or Tara Dein at** [Tdein@avalonuk.com](mailto:Tdein@avalonuk.com) **/ 07584105921**

**What the Press Have Said About Matt Forde’s Previous Stand-Up Shows**

“Possibly the best political comedy show on the Fringe”**★★★★★ Dominic Cavendish, The Telegraph**

“tremendous performance, encapsulating the politics of modern day Britain”

**★★★★★ Lewis McKenzie, The Herald**

“Forde is as gratifyingly sane as comedians come… smart, funny ideas”★★★★ **Dominic Maxwell, The Times**

“our foremost satirical stand-up...Whatever your politics, you’ll find excellence here”★★★★ **Stephen Armstrong, The Sunday Times**

“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**