fringe

UR FREE EEKLY GUIDE TO THE BEST SHOWS AT THE EDINBURGH FRINGE WEEK 1 | W/C 4[™] AUGUST

CRAIG

WAIT 'TIL YOU SEE MY ENTRANCE!

'I'VE NOT HEARD A ROOM LAUGH SO LONG AND HARD

'LAUGH-OUT-LOUD... ABSOLUTELY HILARIOUS!'

'HE BLEW THE ROOF OFF'

'A DIVINE COMIC GIFT

'A SHOW YOU WISH WOULD LAST FOREVER

WICKEDLY SUBVERSIVE... SIDE-SPLITTING!'

'HE IS THAT RARE THING, A NATURALLY FUNNY COMEDIAN'

Glorious, CAMP, COMEDY MAGIC...PRICELESS!

7.20PM 31 JULY - 24 AUG
not Mon 11/18 & Tue 12/19 BSL interpreted 14 + 23 Aug
140 The Pleasance, EH3 9RR justihetonic.com ediringe.com
ON TOUR Craightill com

② © craightilcomedian ① ③ @receightill

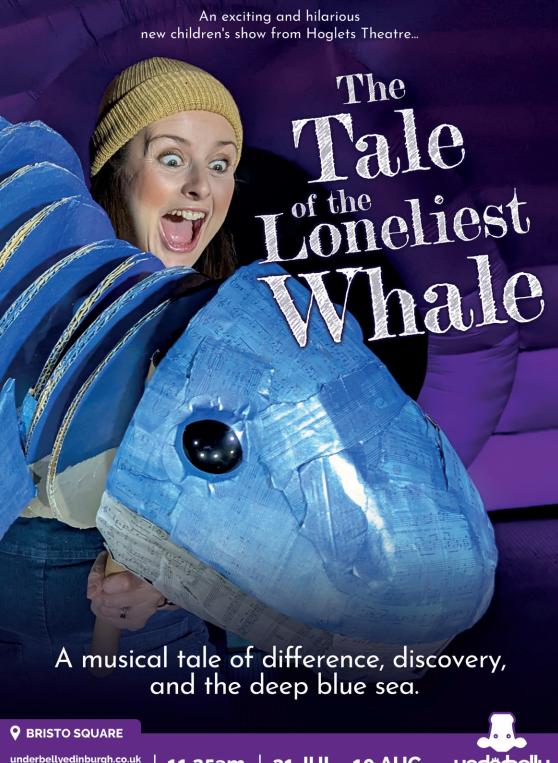


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nic.com edfringe.com

@ @mersighin



Welcome to **24/7 Fringe!**





Your pocket-sized guide to the wild, weird, and wonderful world of Fringe.

It's week one and the city is officially bursting at the seams with glitter, talent, and more questionable costume choices than a Eurovision afterparty. Whether you're chasing latenight laughs, jaw-dropping circus, or just here for the free street chaos, 24/7 Fringe is your new best friend.

Inside you'll find hot show picks, cheeky editorials, and a truckload of posters from the brilliant weirdos who make this festival what it is.

We're Out of Hand, the folks behind all the big, bright, bold outdoor advertising you've been spotting around town, and now we're bringing the buzz straight to your hands.

It's the first week. Pace yourself (or don't). Fringe hard, sleep later.

Let's go.





If you want to get your show in our next issues, email us at fringe@outofhand.co.uk or call us on 0117 953 6363





OUR RECOMMENDED

TOP 10 SHOWS

THIS WEEK

fringe

OUR RECOMMENDED TOP 10 SHOWS

THIS WEEK

Bea P Deigh

Studio @ The Space Triplex

The Brain, Inc. takes vou inside the human mind on Bea P Deigh's first day at work. With humor and heart, it challenges mental



health stigma, blending absurdity and emotional depth. A must-see, thought-provoking experience that lingers long after the show ends.

Guv Williams: If You Mildly Criticise Me I'll Say It's Cancel **Culture And** Turn To The Alt Riaht



Studio Five @ Assembly George Square Studios

Taskmaster disaster and NZ Today host Guy Williams is back with a riotous, rapid-fire rant against the madness of 2025. Trapped between political extremes, he delivers punchlines by the second in this sharp, chaotic, and cathartic hour of comedy from one of New Zealand's most unfiltered voices.

Hypnotist Matt Hale -Funbelievable! 90s Rewind

Bia Yin @ Gilded Balloon **Patter House**



Get ready to laugh, dance, and be dazzled! Comedy hypnotist Matt Hale returns with his 90s-themed hypnoshow, packed with spectacular silliness and feel-good fun. With sold-out runs, viral fame, and rave reviews, this all-ages party is part hypnosis, part throwback, and all-out hilarious Fringe entertainment.

James Phelan - The Man Who **Was Magic** McEwan Hall @ Underbelly, Bristo



Star of The Dreamer, James Phelan returns

Square

with a spellbinding new magic show full of jawdropping illusions and laugh-out-loud moments. Heartwarming, uplifting, and unlike anything you've seen before, this five-star sensation promises to leave you dazzled; but act fast, tickets are vanishing quickly!

LOLA: **A Flamenco Love Story** @ EICC



LOLA is a powerful new dance musical blending

flamenco fire with Latin pop and jazz. Set in 1960s London, it follows a Spanish mother's journey of resilience, heartbreak, and hope. A moving tale told through breathtaking dance, LOLA is a stirring celebration of love, loss, and the strength to begin again.

Doktor Kaboom: **Under Pressure!** Beyond @ Pleasance Courtyard





science, comedy, and empowerment! Using the physics of pressure to explore life's real stresses, this Kennedy Centre commissioned show is a hilarious, inspiring, and an unmissable hour of family fun and mind-blowing experiments.

Derek Mitchell: Goblin

Former Gents Locker Room @ Summerhall

Set in 2007, Goblin is a darkly comic, nostalgia-soaked tale of emo teen Eliot and his imaginary

goblin. As love, fame, and fitness collide, Eliot's transformation into a spin studio co-owner is as hilarious as it is horrifying. A twisted coming-of-age hit, and one of The i Paper's top Fringe picks.



Fountain Lakes in Lockdown: A Drag Parody **Play** Orchard

@ Gilded Balloon

What happens when Australia's

foxiest morons take on a global pandemic? In Fountain Lakes in Lockdown, Kath's drowning in sourdough, Kim's chasing viral fame, and poor Sharon's battling a full-body sanitiser meltdown. This hilarious drag parody stars Art Simone and Maxi Shield from RuPaul's Drag Race Down Under, plus Thomas Jaspers and Scott Brennan. Straight from sold-out seasons in Melbourne, Brisbane, and the Sydney Opera House—it's packed with camp tunes, quick wit, and iconic Aussie chaos. Don't miss this lockdown lol-fest!

Amy Mason: Behold! **Baby Grand**

@ Pleasance Courtyard

When comedian Amy Mason was hacked, she lost access to her phone

number, bank account, and social media, only to find herself receiving unexpected—and often questionable—gifts from the perpetrators. This surprisingly raunchy exploration of connection, intimacy, and the risks of weak passwords (like her late cat's name) unfolds in a hilariously deadpan performance. Directed by Jessica Fostekew, Mason's show has been hailed as "a wonderful example of begrudging self-acceptance", earning critical praise for its sharp wit and insightful commentary.

Takashi Wakasugi: Comedy Samurai

Studio Five @ Assembly George Square

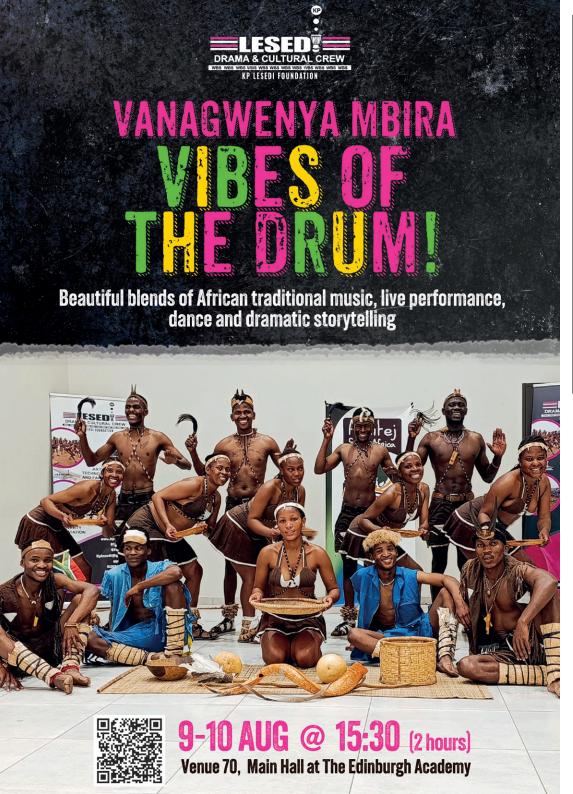
Japanese comedian

Takashi returns to Edinburgh with a unique stand-up act, blending comedy with the spirit of the samurai. Believing that great comedy, like swordsmanship, requires total unity between performer and craft, he pours his heart and soul into every joke. Known for his passionate delivery and sharp wit, Takashi offers an unforgettable experience full of humor and intensity. As seen on Taskmaster Australia, his show has earned rave reviews for its originality and boldness.



To advertise or get your show featured in this weekly guide, contact us at fringe@outofhand.co.uk or 0117 953 6363









Escape the Noise

In a world that's more 'connected' than ever, Escape the Noise explores the quiet, often invisible danger of isolation.

This "Zip to Script" program was brought to life by Laura Attanasio (she/her) founder of Shoreline Theatre Academy and co-director. Which was born from the need to help youth process post-pandemic disconnection. This original work speaks directly to the challenges of growing up in a digital age.

The show follows a group of American teens as they head out on an outdoor educational trip, with little hope for a good time without their phones... but they find themselves searching for real connections in a world of filters, scrolls, and silence.

While the performers were deeply involved in shaping the content and direction of the piece, drawing from their own experiences, emotions, and conversations, it was NYC-based playwright Joey Brenneman (she/her) who masterfully wove their ideas into one cohesive, powerful script. The music and lyrics were developed solely by Xan Marsella (they/them), adding another deeply personal and resonant layer to the show.

At its heart, Escape the Noise is about seeing and being seen. It's about the human need to be heard in the chaos, and the healing power of knowing we're not alone. Co-directed by Shoreline's founder Laura Attanasio (she/her) and playwright Joey Brenneman, with music and lyrics by Xan Marsella, stage management by Ciro T. Falanga (he/him), and technical direction by Sam Reed (he/him), the show is a bold act of arts activism and a testament to what happens when young people are given the tools to speak.

Audiences may not leave with answers, but with open eyes and hearts to the quiet struggles around them, and the deep importance of connection in all its forms.

Escape the Noise August 1st to 6th August (Excl. 3rd and 5th), 18:00 - 19:15

Duration: 1 hour 15 mins Tickets: https://www.edfringe.com/tickets/whatson/escape-the-noise

CUNNING FRINGE SHOW MARKETING...

Malcolm Hardee was an anarchic, outrageous comedian, promoter and agent who died in January 2005, aged only 55. That August, the Malcolm Hardee Awards were initiated at the Edinburgh Fringe to celebrate his life and shine a spotlight on original, inventive and rulebreaking comedy.

The awards are back for their 21st anniversary this year, with winners set to be revealed at the end of the month. One of the categories is the Cunning Stunt prize, awarded for out-of-thebox marketing. Here is a look at five of the title holders:

Gill Smith

Smith was the reason the Cunning Stunt prize was created. In 2008, she emailed the awards' thenproducer John Fleming to nominate herself for



the Malcolm Hardee Award, on the grounds that the act of putting herself forward allowed her to legitimately display the words "Malcolm Hardee Award Nominee" on her posters and flyers. She argued that Hardee would approve of such an action. Fleming agreed and the "Cunning Stunt" title was born.

Christian Talbot

Christian Talbot won the 2014 prize after engaging the flyering services of his 12-vear-old daughter Kate. With her father lurking out of sight but keeping an eye



on things, Kate would go up to complete strangers on Cowgate, look sad, and ask them: "Have you seen my daddy?" When the concerned members of the public said they hadn't, she would then issue a flver for his show and tell them that they should see him.

I Barry Ferns

In 2013, Barry Ferns (who is back at this year's festival with a show in which he talks about spending seven years with Lionel Ritchie as his legal name) printed 2,000 fake copies of the review



paper Broadway Baby, including a 6-out-of-5 star rating of his own show. Distributed around the city. his own review declared: "This is without doubt the best comedy show I have ever seen, or am likely to see in the rest of my life... A phenomenal show. Better than life itself."

Matt Roper

The man behind the grotesque romantic singer Wilfredo won the 2015 Cunning Stunt prize with a high-tech scheme. To secure the title, Roper hacked into



the Facebook account of one of the awards' judges, Scotsman reviewer Kate Copstick. He then posted fake messages that promoted himself as if they were written by her, such as: "Those who haven't seen Matt at work are highly recommended to do so. A huge comic talent."

West End Producer

The 2019 festival saw a rubber-masked musical character performing, with a mystery surrounding their true identity (actor and writer Christian Edwards



eventually unmasked himself in 2023). He won the Cunning Stunt prize for his inventive use of poster quotes: his marketing featured flattering reviews from M Billington, L Gardner, S Clapp, C Mack and A Webber. While these appeared to be the names of highly respected reviewers and producers, the quotes actually came from ordinary members of the public who shared their name. For example, the latter wasn't musical maestro Andrew Llovd Webber, but an Andy Webber of Bognor Regis!

MAKING IT BIG AT THE FRINGE

As the shows featured through this publication attest, the Edinburgh Fringe is packed with creativity and unique new ideas. The festival affords comedians the time and space to experiment with new concepts and, in the process, some creators go on to generate bold genre-defying (and defining) work that breaks out into the wider world. Television latches on to some of these hits, bringing laughter to millions at home. Here are five hit TV series that can be traced back to this city in August of years past.

Fleabag

Fleabag, the internationally acclaimed BBC Three comedy, began as a onewoman show written and performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge at the 2013 Fringe. Its raw, confessional storytelling

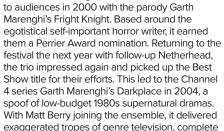


Photo by Steve Schofield

and use of fourth wall smashing devices captivated audiences and critics alike, winning a Fringe First award. Waller-Bridge's portrayal of the protagonist navigating grief, guilt and toxic relationships with unflinching honesty, resonated deeply. The 2016 TV version – also starring Waller-Bridge - retained the stage play's intimacy while expanding its scope. It became a cultural phenomenon and earned multiple BAFTA and Emmy awards.

Garth Marenghi's Darkplace

Matthew Holness, Richard Ayoade and Alice Lowe introduced fictional horror writer Garth Marenghi



with purposefully poor acting and ludicrous plots. Though short-lived, it became a cult favourite that is still talked about today. Holness has recently written a series of top-selling books and performed sell-out tour shows as the character.

The League Of Gentlemen

Reece Shearsmith. Steve Pemberton, Mark Gatiss and Jeremy Dyson made audiences recoil in disgust



and hilarity alike when they first showcased their twisted characters in a hot Pleasance Courtvard room in 1996. They returned in 1997 and won Best Show, scoring both radio and TV commissions soon after. It was the BBC Two series, first aired in 1999, which brought them to the attention of the nation at large. Their oddball characters - including shopkeepers Tubbs and Edward, incompetent vet Dr Chinnery and job restart officer Pauline - were put into various awkward and horrific situations for our amusement. The four have all gone on to create and star in other big TV hits, but they found time to reunite in 2017 to deliver three 20th anniversary specials.

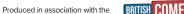
Not Going Out

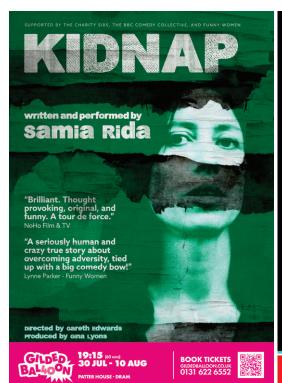
One of the longest-running sitcoms in British TV history, the 14th series of Not Going Out concluded in July and a 15th is already confirmed for 2026. The gag-packed show is built around Lee Mack and

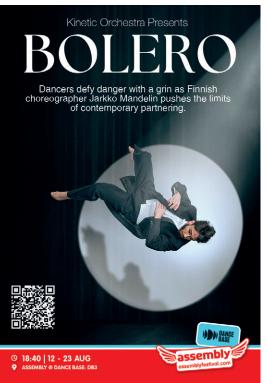


has featured Sally Bretton since the second series, but not many realise it was born of the 1999 Fringe show Lee Mack's Bits, a sketch show co-starring Catherine Tate and Dan Antopolski. One sketch, which featured Mack peering through a telescope, may have begun as a disconnected idea ("what the hell was I looking at?") but it sparked inspiration, and Mack expanded it with a few more interlinked gags, laying the groundwork for what would become the Not Going Out pilot. This trial episode, which has never been shown on TV, featured Tate in the role of his original landlady, Kate.

www.comedv.co.uk







All These Pretty Things

Sometimes the most powerful stories come quietly. All These Pretty Things is one of those shows. A solo performance that sneaks up on you and leaves you reeling in the best way.

Written and performed by Tracey Yarad, an Australianborn artist now living in New York, this is a true story of divorce, grief, and the quiet devastation of betrayal. But at its core, it's about rebuilding. Piece by piece. Little thing by little thing.

What begins as a recounting of a painful personal chapter unfolds into something far bigger: a meditation on love, resilience, and the long shadow of emotional abuse. Touching on gaslighting, double betrayal, and the overlooked complexities of care and consent, the show doesn't flinch from the hard stuff, but it never tips into despair.

With warmth, dry humour, and a deeply grounded presence, Tracey Yarad brings us along on a journey from brokenness to rebirth - one that spans continents, relationships, and inner reckonings.

All These Pretty Things isn't just catharsis; it's a reminder that starting over is always an option, at any age, from any point. It's for anyone who's ever questioned their reality, lost themselves in someone



else's version of love, or stood at the edge of a new beginning, wondering, what now?

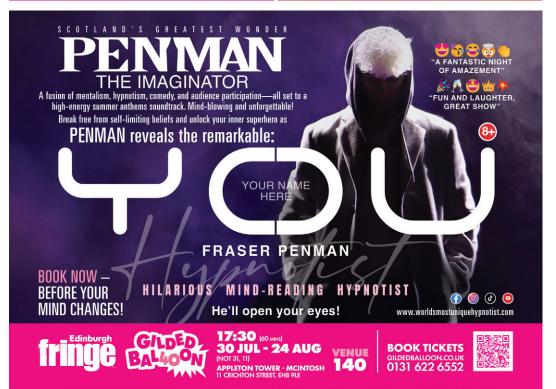
The message is clear: healing isn't fast, but it's possible and forgiveness is the bravest thing you can carry.

ALL THESE PRETTY THINGS

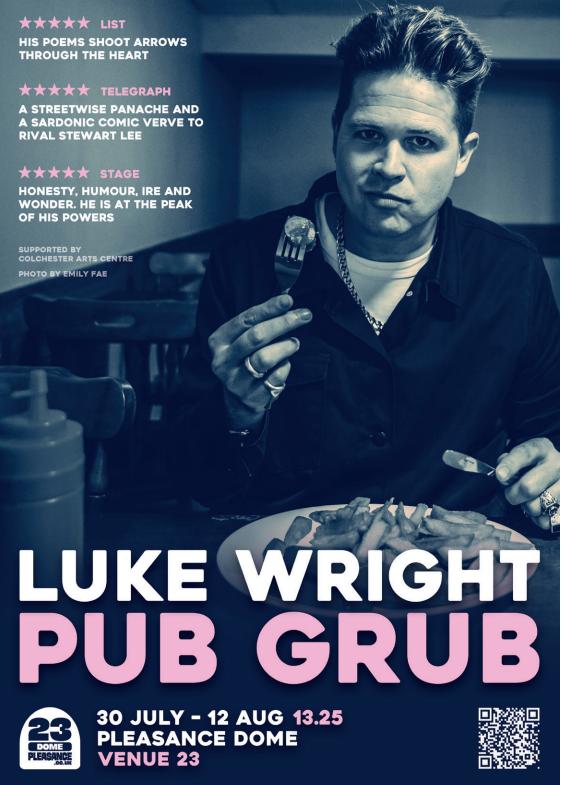
August 2nd - 15th August, 16:20-17:20

Duration: 1 hour

Tickets: https://www.edfringe.com/tickets/whatson/all-these-pretty-things







Doom & Glitter: A Tribute to Tom Waits

There's a certain kind of magic at the Edinburgh Fringe, where a cryptic title or the sound of a saxophone in a church corridor leads you into something totally unexpected. Doom & Glitter, the latest creation from drag king Mr Brake Down and his band, is exactly that kind of surprise.

Set in the intimate Snug at Paradise in Augustines, this genre-bending cabaret pays homage to the world of Tom Waits, but this is no simple tribute. With a full band, live instrumentation, and theatrical flair, Doom & Glitter is an experimental, heartfelt ode to strangeness, storytelling, and sound.

Mr Brake Down has built a Fringe following over the past three years. Now joined by a permanent creative team, their vision expands with wild, wonderful energy. Part confessional, part concert, part pub-gig fever dream, the show blends bluesy grit and sharp humour.

Backing Brake are Sophie Siobhán, Siân Peters and Steve Lincoln. Sophie brings sax, keys, AND guitar; and Siân, an electronic musician and AV technician crafts the show's lush soundscapes and arrangements. Lastly, Steve finishes this all star team adding seasoned technical and musical skill.



It's cabaret, yes, but also a character study, a musical experiment, and a séance with the soul of Tom Waits. Surprising, emotional, and with a different burlesque quest every night it's not one to miss.

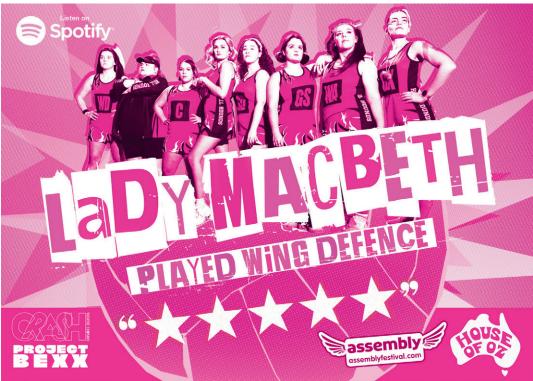
DOOM & GLITTER: A TRIBUTE TO TOM WAITS August 2nd August - 24th August (except 10th & 17th Aug), 17:15-18:15pm Duration: 1 hour

Tickets: https://www.edfringe.com/tickets/whatson/doom-and-glitter-a-tribute-to-tom-waits

Strong language, audience participation, and occasional nudity. 16+ only.











PATTER HOUSE BIG YIN



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15:30 (60 MINS) 30 JUL - 25 AUG (NOT 12)



BROADWAY

-Humza Yousaf,

Former First Minster of

FOOD RECOMMENDATIONS

We're sure we don't need to mention that fringe is a busy period, so when you take the time to grab some food, it's gotta be good.

At 247 Fringe we're well versed in the single day off pick me up - often revolving around some good food. So, with that, here are a few of the team's recommendations for any occasion, whether it's a hangover cure or a family day out, we've got you covered.





Ikigai Ramen

If you're looking for some delicious ramen, a couple of Asahi's and a chill vibe, then this is for you.

They have a small menu and everything is amazing, so you know you can't choose wrong. It's a small place, so it is often busy, but they'll usually get you seated pretty quickly.

"I've been dying to go since getting back to Edinburgh. Next day off, I'm there."

Flsa

OOH marketing executive and street team supervisor

Location: 29-30 South Bridge, Edinburgh EH1 1LL Photo: @ikigairamenuk

Snax Cafe

The perfect greasy spoon for any occasion. It's a bright and always busy cafe so it doesn't bring you shame when hungover and is the perfect spot for a relaxed breakfast with friends.

Full Scottish breakfasts. Coffee. Smoothies. Haggis and hash brown rolls (a personal favourite). If you wake up feeling like you need a hearty breakfast, Snax is for you.

Location: 118 Buccleuch St, Edinburgh EH8 9NQ Photo: @snaxcafeedinburgh



The Pitt Granton (Especially on a sunny day)

Our warehouse team have become well versed with The Pitt in Granton. It's a little out from the city centre but a short bus ride away, and you're at the shoreline.

Perfect on a sunny day, you can stroll along the shoreline path, grab a coffee or cocktail and some food.

It's a great dog and family-friendly food market with indoor and outdoor seating, not to mention their outdoor saunas and hot tubs.

We also highly recommend the Social Bite container for a smoothie and to help a good cause, ending homelessness.

"Their collagen smoothies have been working overtime for me this Fringe"

Gayle

OOH Customer Service Supervisor

Location: 20 W Shore Rd, Granton, Edinburgh EH5 1QD Photo: @thepittmarket



The Artisan Pasta Maker / Bacco Wine Bar

A wine bar and pasta restaurant next door to each other, allowing you to experience both at once. The Artisan Pasta Maker serves up impeccable fresh pasta, and with their changing menu, you'll just have to keep returning. Bacco Bar is a cosy and intimate wine bar with a wide selection and some expert knowledge behind the bar.

And the best part? You can sit in the wine bar and order pasta next door (or vice versa).

We recommend the tagliolini nduja and buratta with a glass of their Primativo and some tiramisu to finish off, but honestly, everything is a winner.

Location: 138/136 Dundas St, Edinburgh EH3 5DQ Photo: @theartisanpastamaker



Bramble

Small, cosy and disguised under a laundrette, it's a find you might want to gate-keep (but we're just nice like that).

They are a walk-in only bar, so if you're a little last minute, don't worry, as you can still get a table if you time it right. It is small and gets busy, but having a walk-in recommendation is always handy.

The bartenders are expert mixologists, always happy to give suggestions and talk you through their menu.

P.S. You can also find their signature cocktail "Affinity" bottled and ready to take home just down the road at Lucky Liquor, another really nice bar, and it makes the perfect gift or souvenir.

Location: 16a Queen Street, Edinburgh EH2 1JE Photo: @bramble_bar



SoBe Burger

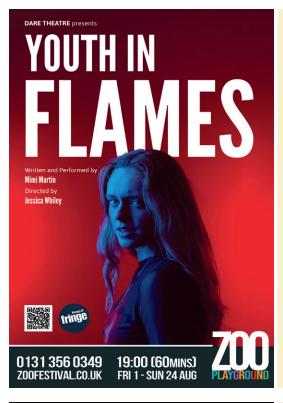
Need a late-night burger fix? Look no further. Sobe Burger has become a bit of a go-to for the team when working late, as they are open late every night. Smash burger, sides and a chill vibe, you can't knock it.

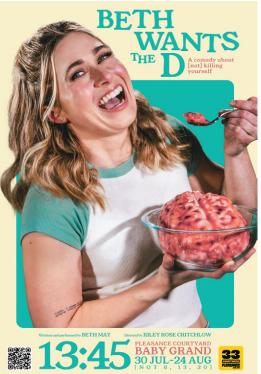
This one is a chain restaurant, but we're not against it, especially when it tastes so good and you can eat it at two in the morning.

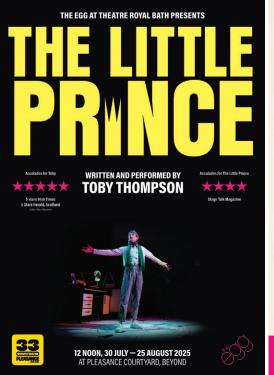
Thank you SoBe Burgers, for keeping our team fed. Yours sincerely, Out of Hand.

Location: 75 Lothian Rd, Edinburgh EH3 9AW Photo: @sobeburger

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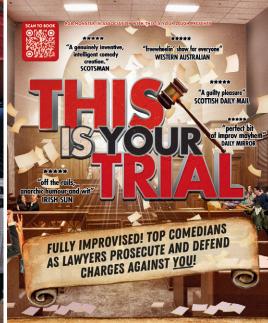












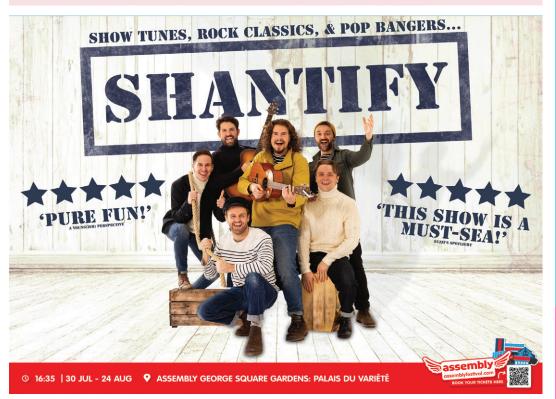
COMEDY

O HOOTS O THE APEX



15.10, 30 JUL - 25 AUG Pleasance Two, Pleasance Courtyard, EH8 9TJ Pleasance.co.uk









KAYLEIGH JONES

A WILD TRUE STORY



"I can honestly say this was one of the best comedy shows I've ever seen'



Best Show

Late Stage Comed Producer Awards

"A commanding performance"

"It was absolutely a comedy show, but it was also so much more"



"A talented storyteller... one you won't want to miss" The Reviews Hub





19:00 (60 MINS) 30 JUL - 25 AUG **PATTER HOUSE - BLETHER**

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'Encapsulating the spirit of the fringe' The Royal Society of Edinburgh 22-26 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 2PQ

LIME STUDIO A MAD, MAD WONDERLAND! (Jason Woods) 1ST - 23RD August NOT 10th or 17th

15:00-15:40 (40m) £10 (Full) £9 (Family)

