

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2004
James Seabright for Festival Highlights presents

CARL-EINAR HÄCKNER

HEART

**MAGICAL MUSICAL COMEDY CLOWN
(AND SEXIEST MAN IN SWEDEN)
MAKES UK DEBUT AT FRINGE**

A canine Houdini, a violin from Ikea and an idiot's guide to being a great magician - **Carl-Einar Häckner's *Heart*** combines physical comedy, magic, clowning and music into a spectacularly silly and distinctly original show.

In *Heart* we see Carl-Einar trying to win the admiration of the audience with a series of illusions and musical numbers, which frequently go quite terribly wrong. Music also plays a big part in the show, with Carl-Einar's innovative way of playing a harmonica being the most memorable of the musical features.

Häckner has previously been described as a mixture of Tommy Cooper and Alice Cooper, combining the persona of the bumbling magician with the magnetic stage presence of a rock star. He is one of Sweden's leading entertainers, and also regularly tours central Europe.

His humour is gentle and subtle at first, then builds up into a brute punchline, to finally turn jet black...Truly extraordinary – Berliner Zeitung

Carl-Einar Häckner is a breathtakingly original performer and a household name in his native Sweden, where he has been voted both funniest performer and sexiest man. Born in 1969, he has been working as a comic magician since 1991. He is also a published poet, stage and screen actor, and songwriter. He won the Poppe-prize in 1999 and the Clown award in 2000. He was invited to the T A O M Convention in Austin, Texas in 1999 where his act was met with a standing ovation from the audience of 1200 magicians.

The famous magician Harry Anderson invited Hackner to Los Angeles where he performed at the Comedy and Magic Club. The highlight of his performing year is the production of a spectacular variety show for outdoor performance in Berlin. The ongoing success of this event, attended annually by thousands of people, shows his unique talent of being able to engage an audience regardless of their age, nationality or the size of the space in which he is performing.

An electrifying magic show – Svenska Dagbladet

Read more about Carl-Einar Häckner at his official site, www.hackner.to

LISTINGS

CARL-EINAR HÄCKNER - HEART

At Pleasance Above (Venue 33) 5-30 August 2004 (except Tuesdays 10 & 17) at 6.40pm (1h)

Tickets £5-£10.50

Box Office: 0131 556 6550

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