



EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE 2009 - COMEDY

Festival Highlights presents

REBUS McTAGGART

Written and performed by Richard Thomson
Co-written and directed by Mathew Baynton

Gilded Balloon Teviot: 7 - 16 August, 7 pm - 8 pm

The 2006 hit returns for one week only. The original McTaggart show is back in town with his unique brand of award-winning one-man character comedy.

Richard Thomson presents Ecclefechan's top cop Inspector Rebus McTaggart. His guided tour of policing reveals the hectic schedule of McTaggart's crime-fighting mission, and how he deploys his crack techniques on the mean streets of his sleepy Borders village. This brilliantly observed character is particularly proud of his recent promotion to the dizzy heights of Joint Deputy Temporary Head Community Support Liaison Officer. It's an important job.

"The character's bravado is pitched perfectly throughout... it's easy to see why McTaggart continues to pull them in off the streets." Edinburgh Evening News

The show reveals Thomson's impressive range as a character comedian, from stand-up style audience interaction as Rebus and a song-and-dance routine in the bearded guise of Evangelos, to brilliant physical comedy as the police hound on a drugs raid.

"Thomson's talent for sharp, deadpan and largely female-orientated audience participation is brought to the fore alongside a wealth of simple, crowd-winning gags." The List

Richard Thomson was born in Glasgow and first appeared in Edinburgh in 1998 and 1999 as part of two Footlights tours directed by Cirque de Soleil's Cal McCrystal. At 2002's festival he created and performed in *The Big Briefcase*, playing to sell-out crowds. In 2006 he premiered *Rebus McTaggart* and in 2007 and 2008 he returned to play sell-out shows with both *Rebus McTaggart* and the follow-up show, *Rebus McTaggart: CrimeWarrior*. Both shows met with critical and commercial success and BBC Radio Scotland commissioned Baynton & Thomson to write a pilot based on the McTaggart character for radio. They are now in development with BBC Scotland on a *Rebus* TV pilot. Other Edinburgh credits include *Office Party* (Underbelly 2008). TV credits include *Garth Marengi's Darkplace* (C4), *Quite Ugly One Morning* (itv), *Comedy Cuts* (itv) and *Batteries Not Included* (Dave). Richard can also be seen this Fringe in the Pleasance's 25th Anniversary show *School For Scandal*.

LISTINGS INFORMATION: Rebus McTaggart

Gilded Balloon Teviot: Fringe Venue 14, Sub-venue: Nightclub

7 - 16 August 7.00pm - 8.00pm Tickets £5 preview 7 August. Otherwise £10 - £11 (concessions £1 off)

Box Office 0131 622 6552/ www.gildedballoon.co.uk

Fringe Box Office 0131 226 0000/ www.edfringe.com

For all press enquiries and ticket requests, please contact Festival Highlights:
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For more details and images please visit www.FestivalHighlights.com