

## Marc Jennings: *If & When*



**An exciting, clever set that showcases the absolute best of Scottish comedy to the world.**

What do Nicola Sturgeon, air fried Mars Bars and the Tartan Army have in common, besides their country of residence? Each forms a quintessential part of possibly the best comedy set available this Fringe Festival. Marc Jennings, a comedian who can pack out a comedy club with ease, in bringing his new set *If & When* to Monkey Barrel has quickly become a talent that goes beyond simple one-liners & witty banter, and in so doing, making him one to watch.

Bringing his Glaswegian sensibilities to everything from AI sunglasses to the need for more left-wing taxi drivers, Jennings has the audience hooked on his every word, laying a carefully seeded trail throughout the show that people are all too eager to eat up. This pays dividends as we progress through the show, will callbacks aplenty rewarding those who have been locked in, in a masterful stroke of brilliance that war tacticians would find artful.

Whilst audience work isn't his style (much to my appreciation), he does elicit roars of laughter and applause at his every quip from the awaiting crowd, with layered gags and brilliant comedic timing being the perfect combination upon which the set is constructed. Jennings himself brings a calm energy to the show too; whilst he's not bounding around, jumping on tables or doing tricks, he is careful to keep the momentum going, not coming up for air (or even a drink for that matter!) at any point, a testament to his stamina on stage.

It is Jennings's effortless delivery that really sells his set, though. His laid back approach makes every word appear to be a stream of consciousness, a window into his mind that gives you a real connection to him & his personality. I found myself not only laughing along with the show but actually agreeing with many of the more serious points he was making. If the Scottish Trade Delegation ever needs a new man, sign Jennings up (you'll still have to pay business class rates though – if you know, you know).

Stand-up comedy is notoriously my least favourite part of the Fringe, and yet Jennings has broken through the noise to craft what might possibly be my favourite show of this year's festival. Witty, well-developed and with just a healthy enough dose of self-depreciation, *If & When* is a showcase of Scotland that soars well above any other comedy I have witnessed in my past three years at the Fringe. Don't miss your chance to be in the room for this truly exceptional comedic delight (& from the sounds if it, he could use the money).