



A WEEK OF LAUGHTER

The complete line-up is announced for the biggest celebration of comedy the capital has ever seen.

Mega-star comedian **SEAN HUGHES**, rising star **ARNAB CHANDA** and the hugely impressive **SHAPPI KHORSANDI** complete the line-up for **PIMM'S SUMMERFEST** inaugural celebration of global comedy. They join some of the biggest names in comedy such as **JO BRAND**, **JEFF GREEN**, **RICHARD HERRING**, **JENNY ECLAIR**, **JEREMY HARDY**, **RHONA CAMERON** and **LUCY PORTER**

From August 27th to 31st an international, star-studded line-up of comedy performers will take over the canopied 1000 seat open-sided Theatre at Holland Park for five nights of hilarity, picnics and conviviality. This is *the* comedy event of London 2008 not to be missed.

Produced by Festival Republic, **Pimm's Summerfest – A Week of Laughter** boasts a cracking line-up that, also features taboo-shattering US stand-up **DOUG STANHOPE** red-neck jailbird **OTIS LEE CRENSHAW** (AKA Perrier winner Rich Hall), "*The funniest Man since Groucho*" **MARK STEEL**, *Thick of It* star **CHRIS ADDISON**, arch-improviser **RUSSELL HOWARD**, the prolific **ROBIN INCE**, 'The Actor' **KEVIN ELDON**, Radio 2's **RUSSELL KANE**, the provocative **REGINALD D. HUNTER**, US singing comedy sensation **STEPHEN LYNCH**, global Aussie phenomenon **PUPPETRY OF THE PENIS**, "*the rich man's Simon Pegg*" **RUFUS HOUND**, the award-winning **JON RICHARDSON** and this year's **IF.COMEDY AWARD WINNER/NOMINEE**

All in all twenty-five acts will perform (5 per night) in the heart of one of the most beautiful parks in the capital – a perfect excuse to enjoy a picnic with a glass of Pimms prior to an evening of the very best of "weather-proof" international comedy. And at only £22.50 per night it's excellent value too!

The first act will start at 7:30 prompt. The bars, BBQ and picnic hampers will be open and available from 5:30pm.

LINE-UP:

Wed 27 Aug

Doug Stanhope
Richard Herring
If.com winner
Jason Byrne
Russell Kane MC

Thurs 28 Aug

Puppetry of the Penis
Stephen Lynch
Russell Howard
Kevin Eldon
Lucy Porter MC

Fri 29 Aug

Jeremy Hardy
Jenny Éclair
Jon Richardson
Rufus Hound MC
Sean Hughes

Sat 30 Aug

Jo Brand
Jeff Green
Chris Addison
Reginald D. Hunter
Robin Ince MC

Sunday 31 Aug

Otis Lee Crenshaw
Mark Steel
Rhona Cameron
Arnab Chanda
Shappi Khorsandi

LISTINGS INFORMATION

PIMM'S SUMMERFEST – A WEEK OF LAUGHTER

The Theatre

Holland Park

Kensington High Street

London W8 6LU

Tickets £22.50 plus booking fees.

Performance times: 7:30 prompt

C/Card line 0871 231 0821

Or online at www.festivalrepublic.com, www.seetickets.com

NOTES TO EDITORS

Festival Republic, formerly known as Mean Fiddler, was acquired in 2005 by LN Gaiety Holdings which Live Nation controls through its 50.1% ownership interest. Festival Republic's Managing Director **Melvin Benn** took control of the **Reading Festival** in 1989. Today it is the greatest rock festival in the world and has grown into the sell out 80,000 capacity event it is today. In 1999 Melvin added a sister festival; **The Leeds Festival** (capacity 70,000) to the Reading weekend, with a combined footfall of over 200,000 people.

In 2006 Melvin Benn and the Festival Republic team created the award winning and sell out **Latitude Festival**: a 30,000 capacity Arts and Music festival embracing all of the best from music, film, theatre, literature and poetry in the beautiful Henham Park in Suffolk – one of the major highlights of which is surely the Comedy Arena, programmed by the wonderfully creative, Tania Harrison, who has also programmed 'Pimm's Summerfest: A Week Of Laughter'.

Melvin also took on the producing, licensing and organisation side of **Glastonbury Festival** as well as part ownership in 2002. Due to the smooth running of the festival since, Festival Republic were granted a rise in capacity to 177,500 making it the worlds largest Performing Arts Festival. In addition, Festival Republic runs **Rise: London United**, an anti-racist festival in London's Finsbury Park and the annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Trafalgar Square.

Info about Pimm's

Diageo Great Britain is the sales and marketing division of Diageo in Great Britain. Diageo is the world's leading premium drinks business, owning such brands as SMIRNOFF®, GUINNESS®, GORDON'S®, BELL'S ® and BAILEYS®. Visit www.diageo.com for more information on the company and brands.

Innovation is pivotal to Diageo Great Britain's growth and we are constantly monitoring the marketplace and talking to both consumers and commercial partners to help identify new opportunities and trends in the drinks industry. Visit www.drinkaware.co.uk for information and guidance on responsible drinking.

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