

**Question: What happens when a global fashion giant threatens a stand-up comedian for trademark infringement? Answer: A legal battle that will cost the losing party millions.**



## Dave Griffiths: C U In Court

Laughing Horse @ The Free Sisters - The Free Festival, Edinburgh 2014  
August 9 - 16 @ 17:00

C U In Court is the award-winning story of how comedian Dave Griffiths took on global fashion giant French Connection for the right to wear and trade King Cnut Clothing – and won.

*"This true David & Goliath story is remarkable in its foolhardiness."* Time Out

**Dave Griffiths** was establishing himself on the stand-up circuit, whilst building his newly founded fashion label, when French Connection threatened him with legal action. His offence? Wearing a T-shirt displaying an acronym that could be interpreted as a salacious word, alongside the words 'French Correction'. The company demanded he cease wearing the T-shirt with immediate effect and pay to them any profits gained from selling the offending item. Dave stood his ground. Some would call him foolhardy (see above), his actions ill conceived, but for Dave it was a matter of principle. No one had the right to tell him, or anyone else for that matter, what not to wear, and since when did French Connection own 'Correction'? **C U In Court** is the incredible story of what happened next.

*"Love your story, and huge congrats my friend."* Mark Thomas

Truth is stranger than fiction, and in the case of King Cnut v FCUK it's funnier too! With the foresight to record every conversation and keep every written document, Dave Griffiths - the artful dodger of trademark law - re-presents his case to the audience. It's a story of David vs Goliath proportions that begins with a letter of intimidation from one of the most reputable law firms in the world, and ends with the withdrawal of thousands of clothing lines from French Connection's stores worldwide, at a cost of millions to the company.

*"Fucking Brilliant."* Hal Cruttenden, BBC2's Mock The Week

Dave took his first steps as a stand-up comedian performing at open mic nights. After winning ITV's **Take The Mike** he gave up the day job to focus on his comedy career. Regular performances at the UK's top comedy clubs followed, and between 1998 – 2000 he was part of the award-winning writing team on Channel 4's **The 11 O'Clock Show**, writing jokes for Sacha Baron Cohen, Ricky Gervais and Mackenzie Crook. In addition to writing and performing, Dave is

regularly invited to lecture on trademark law. He is also the proud recipient of a Thames Valley Bravery Award for apprehending a robber who was making off with £22,000. Oh, and he has climbed the Matterhorn.

**More praise for the show:**

***“Dave Griffiths dances on the edge of law and fashion and his show, as well as being extremely funny, tells us something very important about corporate power and freedom of expression.”*** Guy Osborn, Professor of Law, University of Westminster

***“There’s lots of things I’d like to say, but I don’t think I should say any of them.”***  
Spokesperson for French Connection (as quoted in The Times)

***“King Cnut may not have been able to turn back the tide in 1016, but he does make exceedingly good T-shirts.”*** Judge Richard Arnold, QC (as quoted in court)

**Full Listing:**

**Title:** C U In Court

**Festival:** Free Festival - [www.freefestival.co.uk](http://www.freefestival.co.uk)

**Venue:** Laughing Horse @ The Free Sisters, 139 Cowgate, Edinburgh EH1 1JS

**Tel:** [0131 622 6801](tel:01316226801)

**Dates:** August 9 – 16

**Time:** 17:00

**Age:** 14+

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Entry:** Free [Donations]

**Press contact:** Julian Hall at Textual Healing PR  
07810 486658 / [textualhealingpr@gmail.com](mailto:textualhealingpr@gmail.com) / @TextualHealing2

**Please call / email ahead to reserve a seat.**

**Images downloadable from here:** <http://tinyurl.com/ncwq35d>

**Website & Social Media:**

[www.kingcnut.com](http://www.kingcnut.com)

[www.twitter.com/kingcnut](http://www.twitter.com/kingcnut)

[www.facebook.com/kingcnutclothing](http://www.facebook.com/kingcnutclothing)