

Edinburgh Fringe 2024: Comedy

Alex Kealy: The Fear



The Hive @ Monkey Barrel

29 July - 25 August (not 13) @ 4.15pm

‘Sharply witty, almost sexily cerebral...Kealy is going places.’

★★★★ Daily Telegraph

After tackling Big Tech in his breakthrough/acclaimed 2022 show, **Alex Kealy** (*The Now Show*, *Gig Pigs* with Ivo Graham) presents a new show about fear.

This might be the best year of Alex’s life. He’s getting married and is, bluntly, happy. But if you’re an anxious overthinker and it’s going well, you just start thinking about when it’ll all end. You get “the fear”.

But what’s at the root of these personal anxieties? If Alex cannot win the war with the voices in his head, can’t he at least achieve a plausible UN-administered power-sharing agreement with them? Is it possible to achieve a positive transformation of your psychological make-up if you’re not cool enough to take Ayahuasca?

And, politically, is fear a dangerous evolutionary hangover that always leads to the toxic politics of division? Or are our fears a shared imagination that draws us together to create durable societies and structures that enable our flourishing? And can you say boo to a goose?

Don’t be too afraid, though, there’ll also be loads of great jokes fashioned out of his over-examination of coffee machines, the book of Ephesians, duty free shopping, monarchy, how love is like totalitarianism, beach holidays, death, losing your voice, organised religion and Toblerone.

‘Breakneck pace with surprising turns in eloquent comic’s wonderful new hour.’

★★★★ The List

'A storming show.'
Sunday Times

Alex Kealy is a stand-up comedian who mixes smart political material with self-deprecation and relatable observations. In his first year of performing, he reached the final of the prestigious **So You Think You're Funny** competition. He has since taken five hours of stand-up to the Edinburgh Fringe, including 2022's 'Winner Takes All' which made *The Times's Top Jokes of the Fringe* and received a host of 4-star reviews, before a sell-out run at the Soho Theatre and subsequent national tour.

Meanwhile, on the live circuit, he can be seen performing full weekends at the biggest comedy clubs in the country, including **The Comedy Store, The Glee Clubs, Brighton Komedia** and **Monkey Barrel**. He's also supported **Ivo Graham, Shaparak Khorsandi, Tatty Macleod, Tom Rosenthal** and **Pierre Novellie** on their national tours.

In radio work, Alex has twice appeared on **The Now Show** on BBC Radio 4, as well as on the pilot episode of Rhys James' Radio 4 show **What Are You Talking About?**. He is also the co-host of the **Gig Pigs** podcast, along with Ivo Graham, where comedian guests (including James Acaster, Nish Kumar, Lou Sanders and Rose Matafeo) are taken to a live music gig and then give their verdict afterwards. It's quickly established a loyal following of music and comedy fans, and the first 2 seasons regularly saw it reach the top of the UK music podcast charts.

An in-demand joke writer, Alex regularly writes for shows including **Mock The Week** (BBC Two), **The News Quiz** and **The Now Show** (both BBC Radio 4), as well as Turtle Canyon Comedy's **Grave New World** ('a fresh perspective, stylised writing and high gag rate' - *Beyond The Joke*). His comedy has been listed in the top Jokes of the Edinburgh Fringe by *The Guardian, The Telegraph, The Mirror, The Evening Standard, The Independent, iNews, The Scotsman* and *The Huffington Post*.

'Excellent...dynamite, Interstellar routine which I wish I had written!'
Mark Kermod

'Five comedians to see if you like James Acaster.'
Edinburgh Evening News

'Internal damage from laughing so much.'
★★★★ Short Com

'One of the most intellectually stimulating comedy sets on the Fringe.'
★★★★ Broadway Baby

'Fresh, insightful and original'
★★★★ FringeGuru

'Didn't miss a single joke...every one getting a good laugh from the audience'
★★★★ Deadline News

‘Rapid but charming delivery...well-informed and well-researched material, as explanatory as it is enjoyable’

★★★★ LondonTheatre1

‘Ferociously quick-witted...flawless script’

★★★★ EdFringeReview

‘Well thought-out and insightful...a very enjoyable hour of comedy’

★★★★ Theatre Weekly

‘Whip-smart wit...extremely funny’

★★★★ Binge Fringe

A smart, funny writer...a powerhouse, knocking out those perfectly expressed gags...Rationale cements his reputation as a most useful writer of political gags.’ Chortle

‘His gags are perfectly formed. In his best jokes, there’s rarely a word wasted, and his craft and skill is obvious.’

The Wee Review

‘His jokes, as individual units, have such structural panache...a great, scorched earth joke that leaves no one untouched.’

Fest

Social media links: @alexkealy at X and Insta

Website: <https://www.alexkealy.com>

Linktree: <https://linktr.ee/alexkealy>

Clips available [here](#)

Full Listing:

Title: Alex Kealy: The Fear

Venue: Monkey Barrel Comedy (The Hive) Hive 1

Ticket link: <https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/alex-kealy-the-fear>

Fringe Venue Number: 313

Dates & time: 29 July - 25 August (not 13) @ 4.15pm

Press from: July 30th

Age: 16+

Duration: 1 hour

Entry: From £7

High resolution press images available [HERE](#)

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