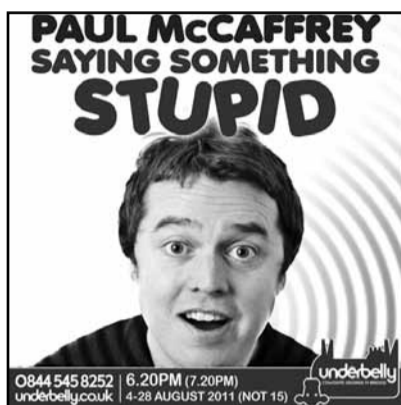


# ThreeWeeks IN EDINBURGH

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**PAUL McCAFFREY SAYING SOMETHING STUPID**

0844 545 8252 | 6.20PM (7.20PM)  
underbelly.co.uk | 4-28 AUGUST 2011 (NOT 15)



**Jason John Whitehead letters from mindy**

0844 545 8252 | 22.25PM (23.25PM)  
underbelly.co.uk | 3-28 August 2011 (not 16)



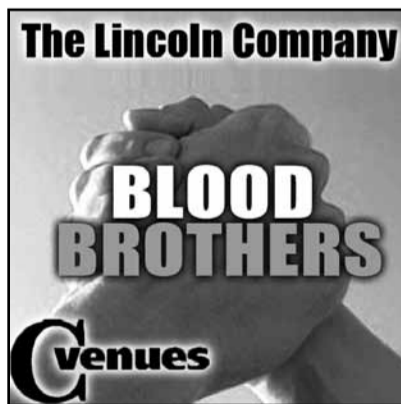
**AIRY DELIGHTS 2011**

**GULDA** Cello Concerto  
**MAHLER** Song of the Earth  
**LISZT** Hungarian Rhapsody

1st Performance of the Gulda Cello Concerto in Scotland

St Clements Wind Ensemble

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**The Lincoln Company**

**BLOOD BROTHERS**

Venues

## CHILDREN'S SHOWS

### The Incredible Book Eating Boy

Bootworks Theatre

With the development of CGI, complex animation and 3D films, it is easy to think that more traditional forms of expression will struggle to have an impact on today's younger generation. But it is impossible to forget the unique sense of joy that this premier production from Bootworks Theatre brings: having watched the puppets and projection and enjoyed the quirky original soundtrack, I left with a permanent grin on my face. The attention to detail and quick-paced performance will leave you begging to watch it again - I and many others (judging by the contents of their comment book) eagerly await their next venture. Enchanting and adorable, this masterclass in addressing children, and the children at heart, will leave you absolutely mesmerised.

Pleasance Courtyard, 3 - 29 Aug (not 16), times vary, £3.00 - £4.00, fpp22, fw rating 5/5 [ck]

### Baba Yaga (And The Girl With The Kind Heart)

Theatre Alba

Deep in Duddingston, a fabulous fairytale unfolds as we follow Anya on her quest to defeat the evil Baba Yaga. Promenading around the magical Manse Garden, this show uses its location brilliantly, with twisting paths, towering trees and Duddingston Loch all playing parts of the forest. Warm, funny animals befriend and aid our heroine as she confronts the delightfully scary and boo-able Baba Yaga. Helen Cunin, Annabel Logan and Frank Skelly also put in great performances in the supporting roles. Although slow to start and occasionally prone to losing audience members in the forest (one scene is almost over by the time the last of the audience arrives), this is an enchanting show. Well worth the trek to Duddingston.

Duddingston Kirk Manse Garden, 1 - 14 Aug, times vary, £5.00, fpp19, fw rating 4/5 [ab]

### Baby Loves Disco

Baby Loves Disco UK Ltd.

A disappointed group of four are turned away at the heaving door of a boutique Edinburgh nightclub. It's not Saturday night on George Street, it's Sunday afternoon at cool indie club Electric Circus, and the group consists of mummy, toddler and daddy with baby on his shoulders. 'Baby Loves Disco' has sold out the previous two years; so, if you fancy dancing, book early. For the lucky ones, inside it's disco delight, pumping 70s funk and pop into the main room, with feeds in the chill-out zone. On rotation, there are baby-type businesses occupying the back rooms. Be prepared: it gets hot, so bring plenty of water and snacks. And, of course, be prepared to dance with your baby!

Electric Circus, 7, 14, 21, 28 Aug, 11.00am (1.00pm) and 2.00pm (4.00pm), £8.00, fpp19, fw rating 4/5 [lc]

## COMEDY

### Ivor's Other Show

Ivor Dembina/Laughing Horse Free Festival

"Unplanned, unscripted and probably different every day" is the synopsis for this hour-long show, led by Ivor Dembina. The day I attended centred around how humour can differ across the globe, with two international comics joining Dembina on stage. At this very light-hearted and easy-going show, the audience were actively encouraged to express their own opinions on humour and ask the comedians questions. As interesting as many of the subjects were, Dembina was far too serious at times and some parts came across as too regimented, however, when left to follow its own natural flow, the show was very funny and thought-provoking. As the Free Fringe continues, this show will hopefully find its stride, and generate even more laughs.

Laughing Horse @ The Counting House, 4-28 Aug (not 9, 16, 23), 3.30pm (4.30pm), free, fpp93, fw rating 3/ [lam]

### James Loveridge... And Other Losers!

James Loveridge/Sam Hastings/Darius Davies/Luke Capasso

James Loveridge has just moved to London. He mentions this fact six or seven times in twenty minutes - which is a shame, because his tales of provincial misadventure are by far the funniest parts of his set, delivered with witty self-deprecation and perfect timing. The role of the eponymous 'Other Loser' is tonight taken by Sam Hastings, whose routine on the essential differences between Americans and Brits is well-observed and smart. Unfortunately, he spends far too long condescendingly explaining London-centric jokes to the predominantly Scottish audience, meaning it's hard to have much sympathy when his set is derailed by Scottish hecklers. A good show overall, but they'd do well to remember that life does exist outside the M25.

Laughing Horse @ Jekyll & Hyde, 5 - 27 Aug (not 7, 14, 21), 5.35pm (6.35pm), free, fpp95, fw rating 3/5 [eb]

### Baker And Thompson: Never Made It To The RSC

Baker And Thompson

As the arts stare down the barrel of the gun at further cuts, the Fringe is perhaps the best place to offer satire on the state of acting in the UK. Comic duo Baker and Thompson regale us with tales of their dreams and failures, notably to work for the RSC, packaged tightly together with little Shakespearean parodies. As the pair jump from 'Romeo and Juliet' to 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', offhand quips, one-liners and comebacks pepper the often sharp and wisecrack exchanges. Yet while the piece harbours some interesting potential, its lack of fluidity between gags becomes a little over familiar, and instead of building on some great material, they leave us with much ado about nothing.

Laughing Horse @ The Three Sisters, 4-17 Aug (Not 15), 5.00pm (6.00pm), Free, fpp42, fw rating 3/5 [ajj]



**SNAP OF THE DAY:** Will you look at that? The cast of 'The Dark Philosophers', at the Traverse Theatre. Photo: Paul Collins

### Jackson Voorhaar Can't Play Guitar - Free

Jackson Voorhaar / Laughing Horse Free Festival

The bastard offspring of Eddie Izzard and Noel Fielding, Jackson Voorhaar is a charismatic and likeable comic. His set flits from music, which suffers from needing the jokes explained to non-metal fans, to well-crafted observational humour, and then back again to music - via Satanism. Although his anecdotes sometimes meander for too long with too little pay-off, he keeps the audience laughing most of the time. Even when jokes fall flat, Voorhaar recovers gracefully and keeps going, often getting a secondary laugh for his troubles. Unfortunately, his take on musical comedy, although a novel idea, is rather forced and disrupts the rhythm of the show. Overall, however, it is a solid performance by an entertaining young comic.

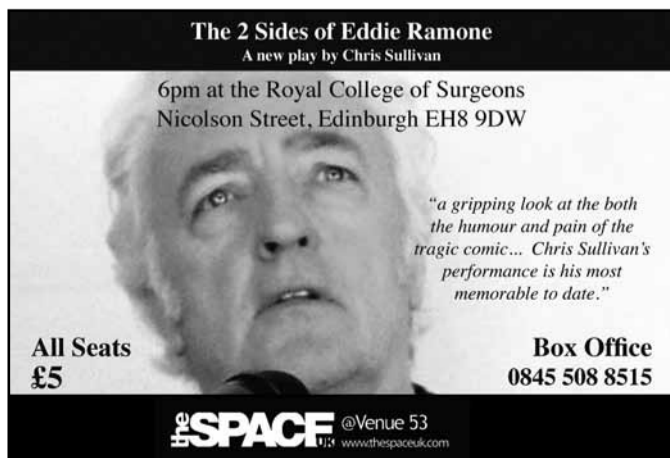
The Counting House, 4 - 28 Aug, 2.15pm (3.15pm), free, fpp94, fw rating 3/5 [ab]

### James Sherwood - I Fed My Best Friend Her Favourite Cow

Best Medicine Management

As a show that convincingly argues that the terms 'good' and 'bad' are obsolete, Sherwood sneakily avoids such categorisation himself. He begins with muscle-clenching awkwardness to an unresponsive crowd on his exploration into the meaning of these terms. Shifting awkwardly from stand-up to scripted digressions, Sherwood seemed nervous. That said, he was performing to a wee crowd in the Wee Room, and once on the keyboard, both he and the audience relaxed. He utilises music to ingenious ends, and it's sometimes unexpectedly witty and funny, as well as skilfully played and sung. His surprisingly spectacular finale, gloriously mixing good and bad musically, exhibits Sherwood's talent as a musician and comedian. But is it good or bad...?

Gilded Balloon Teviot, 3 - 28 Aug (not 16, 23), 3.15pm (4.15pm), £7.00 - £8.00, fpp95, fw rating 3/5 [nm]



**The 2 Sides of Eddie Ramone**  
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