

**EDITION #16:  
SUN 18 AUG 2013**

## CHILDREN'S SHOWS

### **The Red Tree (Featherweight)**

Torches, a wonderful soundscape and handwritten words create a vivid and magical atmosphere in this ensemble piece cleverly wrought by three brilliant theatre makers. The trio play with images from Shaun Tan's illustrated children's book of the same name, and whilst there is no fixed narrative we follow the emotions and imagination of a young girl. The stage is littered with handmade props ingeniously imprinted with lines from the book; we are caught by surprise each time a line is suddenly lit up or unfurled. It is not effortless, but their exertion and the intricacies of their design make it ever more exciting. Not a word is spoken but I found myself leaning forward, smiling, absorbed in Featherweight's fantastical world.

Zoo, until 26 Aug, 1.45pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Jade Wilson]

## COMEDY

### **Thunderbards (Thunderbards Comedy)**

With a name like Thunderbards I was expecting something forceful, emphatic, poetic, even; this seemed likely as we were told straight away the show would be performed in iambic pentameter. Sadly, this was the first - but not the last - unfunny joke peppering a disappointingly average sketch show. There were some good gags and a lot of very clever word-play: things that would sound great when being written and discussed, but that fell flat when performed. I suspect this duo would do better writing for others, or working as part of a bigger ensemble. Stand out sketches included the genuinely excellent bible-themed TV ad and Sound of Music sketch, but the snatches of quality were few and far between.

Gilded Balloon Teviot, until 26 Aug, 1.30pm. tw rating 2/5 [Andrew Leask]

### **Best Of The Fest Daytime (Assembly)**

'Best Of The Fest Daytime' is a fantastically entertaining way to spend an afternoon - I challenge you

to find anything you don't enjoy in the five act line up. The performers differ depending on what day of the week you see the show, but what I saw was a perfect blend of family entertainment, comedy and music. Carl Donnelly was a brilliant host and a hilarious entertainer, who engaged everyone in the audience - a challenge with such a wide age range. The highlight was 'The Soil' - an African music, beat-boxing trio. They were genuinely uplifting and had the entire audience dancing in their seats. An all round crowd pleaser - it really is the best of the fest!

Assembly George Square, until 25 Aug (not 12, 19), 1.20pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Alix White]

### **Rory O'Hanlon: Don't Drink Don't Smoke (Rooster productions / PBH's Free Fringe)**

Ever woken up in a bed you don't recognise? Do bare feet and a 4am bag of chips sound familiar to you? For one particular comedian, these drunken rituals had become all too much. In this truthful and entertaining comedy show, he talks about life without those two infamous instruments of mayhem - cigarettes and alcohol. Making no attempt to shake off his self-confessed, stereotypically Irish appearance, Rory O'Hanlon provides a universally entertaining show with his likeable charisma and modern day social references. The show wasn't constant knee-slapping hilarity, but there were certainly a decent amount of laughs to be had, as O'Hanlon served up a generous slice of Ireland to the Edinburgh Fringe.

The Cabaret Voltaire - Downstairs 2, until 24 Aug (not 7,12) 7.35pm.

tw rating 3/5 | [Kayleigh Head]

### **Martin Croser - Funny Bone China (Martin Croser / PBH's Free Fringe)**

Martin Croser entertains with a varied set of storytelling, complaining and, sometimes, bellowing. He approaches his stand-up from an observational perspective, but aims to transform it into something more creative and original. One moment takes a pun based on a headline from 'The Sun' and twists it into an extended discussion, with illustrations, on deviant shapes. Croser also introduces a touch of theatrical surrealism, with character monologues sprinkled throughout. His performance could sometimes do with a little more polish, with

lines mumbled or misremembered. But 'Funny Bone China' is at its heart a very funny show, easily deserving of an audience larger than the four people I watched it with.

The Dram House Upstairs, until 24 Aug (not 13), 1.15pm.

tw rating 4/5 | [Tom Bateman]

### **Patrick Turpin: Just a Girl, Standing in Front of a Boy, Asking Him to Love Her (Berk's Nest / PBH's Free Fringe)**

Turpin's show is centred on a slideshow of family photos - some sentimental, some graphic, but mostly amusing. Carrying the performance was his commentary, delivered in a voice so expressive it seemed to simply invite laughter. The moments of brilliance came when he wasn't trying to impress. For example, when jokes didn't receive a reaction he filled the otherwise awkward silence with a subtle, quick-witted comment on his own shortcoming; turning our silence into laughter. What strikes me most about Turpin's show is that its comedy resembles humour in real life. No string of quips building slowly but surely up to a disproportionate finale; just natural and consistently funny throughout. Up-and-coming, you should keep an eye on this one.

Bannermans, until 24 Aug (not 12), 12.30pm. tw rating 4/5 | [Ankur Anil Shah]

### **Full Of It: True Or False Game Show - The Two Fat F\*cks On Holiday Tour 2013 (Jamie McCarney & David Tulk / Free Festival)**

Jamie McCarney and David Tulk bounce perfectly off each other, leaving their audience helpless with laughter! I felt quite positive as I joined an unusually full audience - now I understand why. Their crass Australian attitude appeals brilliantly to the British sense of humour. McCarney's impression of a pidgeon had me holding on to my seat for fear of giggling myself onto the floor! The game show trivia format allows for the audience to get involved and contribute to the hilarity of the show. The show then goes live to their very successful podcast following - get involved. These guys also have another show at The Free Sisters, which is now firmly at the top of my 'Must See' list.

Laughing Horse @ The Counting House, until 25 Aug (not 14, 21), 2.30 pm.

tw rating 5 / 5 | [Alix White]

### **The Real MacGuffins Come Again (Real MacGuffins)**

The Real MacGuffins are a fast-paced, three-man sketch show. 'Come Again' is self-referential and clever, yet very, very silly. Expect some audience participation, razor-sharp wit and puns, puns, puns galore. Combining absurd physical comedy with bizarre costumes, they create more weird and wonderful characters than you thought possible. Dan, Jim and Matt's comedic style of self-deprecating jokes and squabbling with each other keeps the sketches interesting and stops them from getting too cheesy. Highlights included the Victorian schoolroom sketch - which mixed silly humour with a tirade of Oscar Wilde quotes - and the video game sketch which is absolutely full of amazingly witty wordplay. 'Come Again' is energetic, light-hearted and hilariously funny.

Underbelly, Cowgate until 25 Aug (not 12), 5.00pm. tw rating 4 / 5 | [Elizabeth Jewell]

### **Steve Bugeja Tries Hard (Steve Bugeja / Free Festival)**

I'm afraid I'm going have to discredit the title of the performance. Reciting some weak material to the audience for a grand total of 35 minutes is just not trying hard enough. He certainly has some comic ability, but it was hidden behind the tired, conventional topics of light entertainment: shopping, sexual dysfunction etc. etc. He did manage to deal well with some drunken older audience members in the front row (who seem to have grown to endemic levels this year), but they were making a point- you have to try harder if you want to keep people's attention. If he were to attempt some bolder comedy, then he could certainly move up a few rungs on the ladder of showbiz.

Laughing Horse @ The Free Sisters, until 25 Aug, 6.55pm.

tw rating 2/5 | [Robert McGowan Stuart]

### **Joz Norris Has Gone Missing**

Joz Norris may have gone missing but his comic ability is still evidently present. An eclectic mixture of styles were employed as he alternated between his three comic creations: first was Mr Gumbo, a rather poor superhero; next he played a dorky spider and the third character resulted in his wielding two pairs of sunglasses in an attempt to be a Lothario. They all showcased his manic energy and his pronounced ability to induce awkwardness in certain audience members, though at times it was a little long between any satisfying

jokes. The show has potential - it lacked any real tale with which to grip the audience, but Norris' charm meant it held sufficient attention.

Laughing Horse @ The Blind Poet, until 25 Aug (not 13 Aug), 2.45 pm.

tw rating | 3/5 [Ian Freeman]

### **How to Make A Killing In Bollywood (NLP Theatre Co)**

I think it's vital to acknowledge that calling this performance a comedy is a bit of stretch, though perhaps it could just about be considered a black comedy. This isn't because of a lack of talent or weak material, but because the production quickly escalates from a light-hearted comedy drama about dreams of Bollywood to something much darker. Nevertheless, in terms of dramatic license, this production really delivers. Crude, crass and comical, at least to begin with, the portrayal of Indian, Pakistani and Scottish stereotypes is done in a manner that is enlightening yet entertaining. The cast showcases immense talent in comedy, drama and dance - this is a promising insight into the future of Scottish theatre.

Gilded Balloon Teviot, until 26 Aug (not 10, 11), 3.00pm. tw rating 3/5 | [Mairi McNicol]

## DANCE & PHYSICAL THEATRE

### **Cambuyon (Enlace S.C.)**

Imagine bodies hiding in the shadows, hands dancing under the spotlight, leading to an impassioned body percussion orchestra. The talented members of the Cambuyon cast are the rhythm and the beat. Nestor Busquets and Jonatan Rodriguez drum on items ranging from giant wooden crates to a tiny match box. Clara and Berta Pons move their bodies at rapid speed in unbelievable ways. Ruben Sanchez comically challenges Jep Melendez through tap. And leading the sound track is the beautiful sound of Raul Cabrera's flamenco-esque beat boxing. There's an enormous (and successful) fusion of dance styles on display here; and their skills are choreographed to provide a humorous and impressive spectacle. A true sensation of sight and sound.

Assembly Roxy, until 26 Aug (not 13), 6.00pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Samantha Strachan]

### **Fright or Flight (3 is a Crowd & Cara Hume)**

Absurdist, absolutely barmy and extremely good, 'Fright or Flight'



**SNAP OF THE DAY:** Common Wealth's latest site specific show 'Our Glass House'. Photo: Tom Bateman

is a spectacle. The odd setting makes you wonder if you've walked straight onto another planet, but once you get used to the strange happenings on-stage, the entire piece becomes rather beautiful. The three actresses contort themselves into amazing shapes, and their pure strength and physicality is mind-blowing. A series of random scenes rather than an overarching story, the animalistic choreography is one of the only constants throughout the piece. At times hilarious and at times so touching, emotion is expressed only through movement. Completely mad and fully engrossing, you're guaranteed not to see anything else like it.

Assembly Roxy, until 26 Aug (not 7, 19), 7.30pm. tw rating 4/5 | [Helena Wadia]

### **Out Of His Skin (2Faced Dance Company)**

One man climbs to the top of the tower. The lights blink, as we sense desperation. Suddenly, with arms outstretched, he lets himself fall. From this incredible stunt, we are immersed into a choreographed

Orwellian world. Dressed in blue overalls and white shirts, six men begin a series of identical and monotonous movements, reminiscent of ordinary day-to-day jobs. Suddenly one dancer breaks the repetition; then another one, and finally all of them. 'Out of His Skin' combines the fragility of contemporary ballet, rough hip hop, break-dancing and breathtaking acrobatic stunts. The synchrony of the dancers was not always as complete as the mood required, but proceedings became increasingly dramatic and engaging throughout, with hugely rewarding results.

Zoo Southside, until 26 Aug (not 7, 14, 21), 3.15pm.

tw rating 4 / 5 | [Natalia Equihua]

**1/5 Bad  
2/5 Mediocre  
3/5 Good  
4/5 Very Good  
5/5 Excellent**

## THEATRE

### Below The Belt (Ham-on-Why)

Take two misanthropic, ego-crazy, power-hunters in a miserable industrial plant and drop in one happy-go-lucky new recruit who can perform no end of kindness and there you have the inevitable storyline of ridiculous hilarity that 'Below the Belt' pursues. Dry, deadpan and downright dark, this is a show that offers a pretty specific kind of humour that will undoubtedly leave a certain breed of gigglers deliriously happy: most likely those who are already big followers of one of the show's star, Mike Wozniak. For others like myself, the show provides a fairly engrossing story and some meticulously polished staging, about as slick and well-groomed as Wozniak's moustache, but on the humour side feels too cold, cruel and bizarre.

Pleasance Courtyard, until 26 Aug, 3.25pm.

tw rating 3/5 | [Katharine Wootton]

### Stuart - A Life Backwards (HighTide / Sheffield Theatres / Watford Palace Theatre / Underbelly / Escalator East Edinburgh)

How can you explain a life in three words? You can't, of course, especially when the life is that of the fascinatingly paradoxical Stuart Shorter. This play is an adaptation of Alexander Masters' biography of his friend, the titular Stuart. Shorter was many things: homeless, a criminal, an activist, a sufferer of multiple sclerosis, a victim of child abuse, unstable, endearing, chaotic... What this gripping, insightful play makes clear is that he was all of these things, but he was much more than that. The entire cast were outstanding, playing many parts - at one point, even forming the scenery - but it's Stuart, magnificently brought to life by Fraser Ayres, who will stay with you long after the play is over.

Underbelly, Bristo Square, until 26 Aug (not 12), 3.30pm.

tw rating 5/5 [Andrew Leask]

### Nehru: His Inner Story (Beaten Gold)

Telling the story of free India's first Prime minister, 'Nehru: His Inner Story' is a varied insight into Nehru's life. Dilip Shankar imbues the difficult, show defining role of Nehru with doubt and vulnerability and it is here the show is strongest. Narhu's grief at his wife's death and his enduring conflict over the messy realpolitik of partition

are touchingly human. However, the show is less skilful at showing Nehru's motivations and desires - we never truly get a sense of why he was willing to suffer such pains for his cause, particularly in his youth - and this leaves us with an incomplete picture of the man. Although interesting and affecting, this show is ultimately a little unsatisfying.

Paradise In The Vault, until 25 (not 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20, 22, 24), 7.15pm.

tw rating 3/5! [Andrew Bell]

### Impromptu Shakespeare (KPS Productions)

This outrageous troupe of comedy actors really put Shakespeare on the spot. Two audience members start things off by picking regular Bardic themes out of a hat and describing what the chosen ideas make them think of. From this point on, an impressive display of improv follows, in what turns out to be funnily similar to a real Shakespearean production. It takes something special to be able to create scenarios such as these in the moment and still attempt to speak in iambic pentameter. A witty mix of classical and contemporary references along with the fast-pace of this ensemble's act keeps the storyline unravelling and the crowd laughing.

Underbelly Cowgate, until 25 Aug (not 14), 2.10pm. tw rating 4/5 | [Alice Harrold]

### Don't Wake Me: The Ballad Of Nihal Armstrong With Jaye Griffiths (The Nihal Theatre Company With Louise Chantal - Festival Highlights)

This is a powerful piece, giving a mother's account of raising a child with cerebral palsy. Jaye Griffiths puts in a moving performance as Nihal's mother - hurt, angry, and above all loving. The script is beautifully written, telling an emotional story that left many in tears as the curtain fell. Words and communication are at the heart of this tale and the text does an excellent job of conveying hard-to-express feelings, with speech written as poetry. A heartbreaking monologue that is superbly executed and exceptionally poignant. The memory of the experience will stay long after you leave the theatre.

Gilded Balloon Teviot, until Aug 25 (not 13, 20), 12.10pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Elsbeth Rudd]

### Sock Puppet (Ditto Productions by arrangement with DAA Management)

'Sock Puppet' is horror comedy

done right, in that it manages to successfully join both genres. In the vein of Roger Corman B-Movies (Little Shop of Horrors, Bucket of Blood), the story is a twisted and enthralling retelling of the 'Faustian myth', only the hero sells his soul to a malignant haunted sock. John-Luke Roberts holds the show alone, transporting the audience away from the Pleasance cellar to murky houses and awkward house parties. His characterisation with the sock is so brilliant it's less a gimmick and more a stripped down, back to basics ventriloquism act. Though occasionally a little too silly, 'Sock Puppet' is highly entertaining, managing to be both thoroughly creepy and thoroughly tongue in cheek. Think 'Evil Dead 2'.

Pleasance Courtyard, until 26 Aug (not 13), 2.10pm. tw rating 4/5 [Julian Joseph]

### Economy Of Thought (Odd Rituals)

'Economy of Thought' has an intriguing premise, exploring the moral responsibilities of four bankers when they cause an financial catastrophe, and allowing things to spiral wildly out of control with unexpected consequences. The play featured good performances from the cast, but failed to be consistently engaging. The tension of the plot was disrupted by the sometimes dense financial jargon. It managed to expertly set the tone of the environment but hindered the dialogue, making the whole thing less compelling. The frequently moved set which transformed offices into kitchens was an interesting idea, but often resulted in long scene changes which again slowed the momentum. A brave attempt at an interesting idea, which occasionally failed to succeed.

Assembly George Square, until 26 Aug (not 12, 19), 2.40pm.

tw rating 3/5 | [Elsbeth Rudd]

### The Hawke Papers (Produced Moon)

Dr Marcus Hawke has been murdered and you, as the best detectives in town, are urgently needed to discover the events that occurred, exonerate the accused, and arrest the true culprit. A macabre, interactive Victorian murder mystery that will have you ducking under tables for clues, reading testimonials and interrogating all the characters. A tentative audience morphed into vocal, argumentative interrogators and a set of fantastic actors managed to stay utterly in character, even when the detective limelight was not shone on them. Intrigued? I won't give away any

clues, save one pointer: get there early, to save a highly sought seat.

Laughing Horse @ The Blind Poet, until 25 Aug, 11.00am. tw rating 4/5 | [Alice Taylor]

### The Circus Of Terror (Young Actors Company / Engineerium)

Circuses are generally visual spectacles, so it is rather unusual for the audience to be blindfolded. But it is a wonderful ploy by 'The Circus of Terror', which unleashes a wild, energetic assault on the audience's remaining senses to create a compelling, tickling interactive experience. The journey through the dark recesses of the circus's grotesque past, led by an unsettlingly suave ringmaster, is not always coherent; a few sketches grow too frenetic and are lost in the noise, leaving the unseeing audience unable to discern the story. Nevertheless, it is surprisingly liberating to be blindfolded, and the 'Circus' fills the silence with an exciting, refreshing ride that keeps the audience on the edge of the seat.

Greenside, until 24 Aug (not 11, 18), 5.10pm. tw rating 3/5 | [Elaine Teng]

### XY (Papercut Theatre)

XY features some ambitious new ideas, aiming to eradicate gendered characters from theatre. The frequently clever writing works best when it's comic, less well when dark or abstract, which may be due to the fifteen-minute time constraints of each piece. Of the acts I saw, some were unable to fully shake off gender labelling. Others did, but only by becoming so abstract and confusing that the characters may as well not have been human. However, the talented actors did their best with material that varied in style and quality. A daily rotation of plays means that it's hard to say what XY may hold for the future of the Fringe, except that it will certainly be interesting and intriguing.

Pleasance Courtyard, until 25 Aug (not 12), 12.45pm. tw rating 3/5 | [Isobel Steer]

### Circa: Wunderkammer (Underbelly Productions)

The term "wunderkammer", or "cabinet of wonder" is not an exaggeration. This showcase of the human body is Olympic and balletic, eliciting gasps from the audience during seemingly death-defying stunts. The show combines dance with traditional circus techniques, such as hooping, trapeze and the work of contortionists. The result was movement so fluid that it was like watching a dream or an illusion. The compositions range from sensuously slow to furiously

fast, and the style has a clear nod to burlesque and silent film. The seven performers not only appeared superhuman, but were also natural comedians, frequently raising the roof. This freaky, funny and sexy show has to be seen to be believed, which is exactly what I recommend doing.

Underbelly, Bristo Square, until Aug 26 (not 13, 20, 22), 1.00pm or 5.00pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Isobel Steer]

### The Sex Lives Of Others (Typer Productions in association with Louise Chantal Productions)

It's hard to add spice to a familiar set-up. Here two couples, one young and hung-over, the other taking advantage of a weekend without the kids, pass time playing Boggle, fretting about the garden fence, and discussing their sexual frustrations. Despite a strong, committed cast and impressive direction which makes the most of a miniscule space, this never heats up like it should. Though the intentionally banal dialogue may be truthful, it often misses opportunities for wit, mischief or subversive insight. Instead there's protracted chat about oral sex and 'Fifty Shades Of Grey'; and predictable if pleasingly ridiculous 'loud sex one-upmanship.' Wryly amusing but ultimately dissatisfying, this strangely-sexless sex comedy is neither naughty nor particularly funny.

Pleasance Courtyard, until 26 Aug (not 12, 19), 2.15pm

tw rating 2/5 | [Dave Fargno]

### The Radicalisation of Bradley Manning (National Theatre Wales)

If you only have time to see one show at the Fringe, it most definitely should be this one. Documenting the last ten years of the Wikileaks whistleblower soldier Bradley Manning, the National Theatre of Wales delivers an unrelenting and uncompromising account of Manning's journey to incarceration. The highly energetic, committed and gifted cast seamlessly change from character to character at various points of Manning's life, with the actor in the lead role being interchangeable depending on the time period. The company have used the space they are in wonderfully and the entire staging of the piece really creates a truly cinematic experience. Thankfully, intimacy is not sacrificed despite the scale and the whole piece is incredibly emotive.

Pleasance at St Thomas of Aquin's High School, until 25 Aug (except 11, 14, 21), 2.30pm/7.30pm.

tw rating 5/5 | [Rory Morgan]

## WORDS AND EVENTS

### Phil Jupitus is Porky the Poet in Zeitgeist Limbo (Off The Kerb/PBH's Free Fringe)

Phil Jupitus brings his comedic poetry readings to the Fringe in a run of free shows, much to the delight of Edinburgh goers. His poetry is short, sharp and extremely funny, on a range of topics from pop culture to his famous hatred of Jeremy Clarkson. He is charmingly self-deprecating, down-to-earth and goes off on brilliant tangents (most notably about gay fishing). Midway through his performance, Jupitus brought on Clare Ferguson-Walker and Mab Jones, and though both were brilliant, but their poems were more serious and didn't quite fit in with the tone of the evening. Jupitus hilariously finished on a "10-line Fringe" poem, taking 10 show titles and collecting them into a poem. Charming, witty and very silly.

The Jam House, until 24 Aug (not 12), 5.00pm.

tw rating 4/5 | [Helena Wadia]

### Moralety (Richard Purnell And Gary From Leeds)

Poetry + a slightly warped sense of morality = Moralety. This Victorian steampunk attired duo take the audience through their views on our culture's moral history (from the highs of William Blake to the lows of James Blunt), using rhyme and line graphs. The graphs were more entertaining, as the rhymes tended to be deliberately provocative in places, losing some of the comic touch. Particularly interesting was the debate involving a tinselled "morali-tree", which considered the language of 'good' and 'bad' figures, from pop-stars to despots. Although perhaps it is not quite as consistently funny as it is intended to be, this is still a witty and thought-provoking performance worth seeing.

The Banshee Labyrinth, until 24 Aug (not 12, 13), 1.40pm.

tw rating 3/5 | [Isobel Steer]

### Around Miss Julie (Hopegrown Productions)

Based on the famous work by August Stringberg 'Around Miss Julie' takes an interesting and amusing take on the classic text. Focusing on the actors putting on a version of the play, this show is a must watch for any performer or director. Creating comedic moments from the perils of early rehearsal and 'how they were going to 'do' the bird,' 'Around Miss Julie' really finds its mark with hilarity and moments of poignance.

Cleverly interlaced scenes leave audiences wondering where literature becomes reality and what happens when a the cast have a collective 'intimate' movement. Rip roaringly funny and performed with consummate professionalism, this show would be a brilliant addition to anyone's Fringe schedule.

C nova, until 26 Aug, 5.30pm.

tw rating 4/5 | [Christie Rolley]

## VISUAL ART

### Pot of Dreams - Look At Me (dancedancedance)

Girls stripping. Men watching. Provocative music and loads of sex. That's what you usually think when you imagine walking into a striptease club. However, as you stroll through the dimly lit rooms of Club Rouge, you might find yourself feeling uncomfortable, yet at the same time surprisingly attracted to the whole setting. Not long until you realise that this is far from what you expected. "Anyone can be in this exhibition," they advertise. The owner of the club tells me that their aim is to change preconceived ideas about pole dancing and female dancers in such establishments. A word of advice: take a long look at the works by Jannica Honey, a very talented photographer.

Club Rouge: Cabaret and Show Bar, until 26 Aug, 12.00pm.

tw rating 3/5 | [Iris Ordean]

### Scottish Modern Quilt Exhibition (Avery Homestore)

There's a cynical trend during August for businesses to throw together slapdash collections of their products and call it an exhibition to attract potential customers. Thankfully Avery Homestore does better, with an artful and diverse display of quilts demonstrating a genuine love of the craft. Here cheerful, comforting traditional designs hang beside strikingly modern ones featuring chunky geometric patterns and high contrast spot colours. With a long history as a communal pastime, quilting seems to be undergoing a second awakening thanks to the internet, with blogs, modern sewing groups and 'quilt swaps' providing many of the works shown here. Viewed as art these have only niche appeal, but they're pleasant, skilfully made textiles with an appropriately warm and cosy feel.

Avery Homestore, until 25 Aug, 10.00am tw rating 3/5 | [Dave Fargnoli]

## MORE ONLINE>

“Last year I told one of the machete comics what I was planning to write my show about, and he gave me a pitying look and a condescending ‘good luck trying to make that funny’. I decided there and then that ‘Muffragette’ would have to be written ”

It's Mary Bourke on her show at The Stand "about feminism without all the boring preachy bits". Read the full column at [www.ThreeWeeks.co.uk/2013MB](http://www.ThreeWeeks.co.uk/2013MB)



## PODCASTS>

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