

# Civil Disobedience

at the Fringe



# A very **civil!**

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**'We need in every bay and community  
a group of angelic troublemakers.'** Bayard Rustin

# Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural season of **Civil Disobedience at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.**

We've always loved this festival and we're delighted to be presenting 14 world-class shows across six venues in 2017, by artists at the top of their game – each using their unique voice to tell stories about the human condition.

Civil Disobedience was formed in 2016, with a mandate to offer an international platform to artists of reputation creating work for the betterment of society. In our 16-month history we've forged partnerships with hundreds of creative geni, and collaborated with just as many, to bring this debut season of exemplary work to the largest arts festival in the world.

Joe's NYC Bar will always hold a special place in our hearts. It's the show we set the company up around last year, and has since taken Edinburgh, Orlando, and New York by storm. We're incredibly excited to be partnering with Assembly this year to bring this immersive theatre happening back to Edinburgh, with two daily performances.

Americana is reflected further in our programme with Faith No More's Roddy Bottum presenting Sasquatch, The Opera; Grammy-nominated artist Michelle Shocked bringing Truth vs Reality; and Modern Robot offering a masterfully intense live score to Night of the Living Dead. And in keeping with the tradition of excellent New York solo performers, Peter Michael Marino, Mindy Raf, and Romy Nordlinger are all presenting new work on this year's Fringe stage.

From Australia we bring back Carla Lippis, Michael Griffiths, and Tomás Ford, while introducing Danny Condon, Hans, and Drag Race superstar Courtney Act to Edinburgh Fringe audiences for the first time ever.

We hope you get the chance to experience the excellent shows in our programme – and if you like what you see, please let us know! [#wearecivil](https://twitter.com/wearecivil)

Barry, Joe, and Louise x



# Carla Lippis

Cast A Dark Shadow



Quoted from >

Rolling Stone, Germany

## 'Divine'

### Venue

The Boards,  
Edinburgh Playhouse

Dates 2–26 August

Times 14:30 / 16:00 / 18:30

Cost From £10

Tickets at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Lou Reed and Nancy Sinatra hand in hand on a desert death trip; Suicide and The Ventures jamming long into the night in a rickety old house; the angelic tones of Connie Francis drifting through the fevered dreams of David Lynch.**

Incorporating originals and re-contextualised classics, Carla deconstructs rock'n'roll into a haunting cabaret format. With Geoff Crowther and EastEnd Cabaret's Vicky Falconer providing an esoteric accompaniment, including guitar, keyboards, theremin, and vintage drum machines, expect cabaret at its most deliciously unorthodox.

### About Carla

Originally from Australia but based in London, Carla's career as a singer has covered everything from alt-country (The Martial Hearts) to indie rock (The Rules). Following a string of appearances at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival, Carla toured Italy with Sacri Cuori, alongside Tom Wait's guitarist Marc Ribot. A new addition to London's West End, Carla has appeared as part of The Black Cat Cabaret and featured with Joey Arias in her recent residency at Crazy Coqs.

*Cast A Dark Shadow is supported by Made in Adelaide.*

# Courtney Act

The Girl from Oz



Quoted from >

ManhattanDigest.com

**'Coy, funny, sexy, classy, and thoroughly upbeat... Courtney is something fresh and inspiring.'**

### Venue

Underbelly's Circus  
Hub on the Meadows

Dates 13–26 August

Time 18:00

Cost From £7

Tickets at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

### Bonus show

Additional late night performance on 22 August, 23:45 at Udderbelly George Square; full details at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Australian drag superstar Courtney Act (RuPaul's Drag Race, Australian Idol) takes you over the rainbow and down under in her new show. Chock full of hits and high notes, you will leave this show realising there's no place like home!**

### About Courtney Act

Courtney started her ascent to stardom in 2003, as the world's first openly queer and gender diverse contestant on a talent reality show. When Sydney boy Shane Jenek auditioned for the first season of Australian Idol and failed to get through to the live shows, he didn't give up. He decided to bend the rules, and his gender, returning the next day as Courtney Act,

only to make it all the way to the semi-finals. Courtney was subsequently signed to Sony/BMG, and went on a national arena tour with her fellow Idols. Having grown up in Australia, Courtney now lives in Los Angeles and has spent the last few years touring North America, Europe, Brazil, Australia, and Asia, after shante-ing her way into the top three on season six of RuPaul's Drag Race.



# Danny Condon

Songs from the Black Sheep



# Hans

Mein Camp



**Condon's story lifts the lid on some hilarious family dynamics.**

**Venue**  
The Boards,  
Edinburgh Playhouse

**Dates** 2–26 August  
**Times** 13:00 / 14:30  
/ 20:00 / 22:00 / 23:00  
**Cost** From £10  
**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Australian artist Danny Condon makes his Edinburgh Festival Fringe debut with solo show Songs from the Black Sheep.**

A gay performer from a family of doctors, bankers, and engineers, Condon's story lifts the lid on some hilarious family dynamics. Featuring original music, a bit of Chopin, and a show tune or two, Songs from the Black Sheep embraces the oddball in every family.

**What Danny says**

"There comes a time in every boy's life when he has to choose between carving up the dance floor, or carving up cadavers. Amiright? Tickling the ivories, or tinkering with internal organs. Following in your father's footsteps, or following your dream. Surely all families are like this?! Oh, just me then? As an aspiring musician with a bunch of overachieving professionals for siblings, I often felt like the 'odd one out' growing up. Songs from the Black Sheep is all about finding the comedy in those experiences and combining it with my passion for music."

**Winner >**

**Venue**  
Underbelly Med Quad

**Dates** 3–28 August  
**Time** 22:15  
**Cost** From £6.50  
**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Best Cabaret, Adelaide Fringe Weekly Awards 2016 and 2017**

**In a world of political and social turmoil, only Berlin wunderkind Hans can lead the revolution in this all-singing, all-tap dancing, accordion-pumping extravaganza.**

Boozier than Oktoberfest, more drive than a Volkswagen, and with more sausage than a bratwurst convention the hilarious Hans comes armed with his squeezebox, hotpants, and razor-sharp wit to save the day (expect Madonna, Julie Andrews, Kurt Weill, Wham, and more). Complete with a live band, it's a Kylie Minogue-style spectacular on a Danniil Minogue budget; Mein Camp will have you partying like it's 1939!

**What Hans says**

"Honey, everyone knows the Edinburgh Fringe is the Olympics of arts festivals and I'm planning to be this year's Flo-Jo...but with a better manicurist and less narcotics. Join me in my bid for global domination, darlings, because taking over the world has never been this fabulous."

**About Hans**

Hans is the creation of Adelaide-based performer and journalist Matt Gilbertson. Matt originally conceived Hans as part of the show Berlin Cabaret, at faux-German venue The Weimar Room, in 2003.

*Hans: Mein Camp is supported by Made in Adelaide.*

European  
Premiere

Winner



# Joe's NYC Bar



**Quoted from >**  
The List

**'Political, moral and, ultimately, seductive.'**

**Venue**  
Assembly George Square  
Underground

**Dates** 2–28 August  
**Times** Two daily shows  
at 18:00 and 20:30  
**Cost** From £8  
**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**You're in a bar, you've got yourself a drink, you're ready for some fun, and you have absolutely no idea what's going to happen next – but you know something's going down.**

That's the starting point for Joe's NYC Bar, an interactive, immersive, and improvised theatre happening set in a New York City dive bar, where the audience is invited to pitch in. No one show is the same, as actors mingle with the audience, riffing on different themes and topics each time. There's also a guest star house band in every show, adding a wild mix of top notch live music to the repertoire.

**A bit more about the show**  
Joe's NYC Bar was created by Christian Kelty and debuted at the 2001 Orlando International Fringe Festival. After multiple sell-out runs and performances in Orlando, the success of Joe's NYC Bar paved the way for a full run at the 2016 Edinburgh Festival Fringe. It became an instant hit, earning rave reviews and beating off stiff competition to make it into The List's top 100 Fringe shows.

# Michael! Griffiths

**Sweet Dreams** (Songs by Annie Lennox)



**Winner >**

**Winner >**

**Venue**  
The Boards,  
Edinburgh Playhouse

**Dates** 9–11 August  
**Time** 21:30  
**Cost** From £12  
**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Helpmann Award, Best Cabaret Performer 2016**  
**Best Cabaret, Adelaide Fringe 2014**

**In Sweet Dreams, Michael is Annie Lennox. From the gender-bending early days as half of 1980s new wave sensation Eurythmics, through to her stunning solo career, Annie's bittersweet lyrics share stories of her triumphs and her heartbreak.**

Michael charms audiences with his playful wit and reworked piano arrangements of unforgettable classics, including Why, Thorn In My Side, Walking On Broken Glass, and There Must Be An Angel (Playing With My Heart) – all woven together beautifully by his tender and often humorous narrative.

**About Michael**  
A veteran performer, Michael has appeared in hit musicals including Jersey Boys and We Will Rock You. More recently, he's made a name for himself on the international Fringe scene with hit solo shows In Vogue: Songs by Madonna, Sweet Dreams, and Cole (for which he won the prestigious Helpmann Award).

*Sweet Dreams is supported by Made in Adelaide.*

**Winner**

# Michelle Shocked

## Truth vs Reality



### Quoted from >

Sunday Herald

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### Venue

The Boards,  
Edinburgh Playhouse

**Dates** 2–16 August

**Times** 14:00 / 20:00

**Cost** From £12

**Tickets** at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**'If you liked her best known song, Anchorage, and fancy hearing it as if Shocked is sharing it with you in your kitchen, then get along before the word gets out.'**

**This August, Grammy-nominated singer/songwriter Michelle Shocked hits the Fringe to celebrate 30 years since the release of her infamous Mercury Trilogy albums.**

She's marking the anniversary of Short Sharp Shocked, Captain Swing, and Arkansas Traveler with a series of intimate shows at The Boards, Edinburgh Playhouse.

Truth vs Reality will see Shocked perform the albums in rotation, wrapped up in an exploration of her controversial career.

Having found fame through the unauthorised release of her debut album The Campfire Tapes, Shocked has always had a complicated relationship with her audience. In Truth vs Reality, Michelle reflects on how as an enduring artist, she's usually drawn to the path of most resistance.

# Mindy Raf

## Keeping My Kidneys



### Quoted from >

Time Out, New York

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### Venue

Gilded Balloon at Rose Theatre

**Dates** 2–28 August

**Time** 19:15

**Cost** From £6

**Tickets** at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

### 'LGBT Best Bet'

**Weed lube, throuple therapy, and one life-altering text message. With an open mind, heart, and vagina, Mindy deconstructs the romantic comedy and the roles we play in it.**

As she examines love, loss and sexuality, Mindy engages her vulnerable, razor-sharp storytelling style to face the complexities of modern romance and leave us asking '*could I ever do that?*'

Keeping My Kidneys weaves a fresh, hilarious, tightly knit narrative around love and relationships, covering subjects like identity, sex, anxiety, the loss of a parent, coming out, polyamory, and bi/pan visibility in queer culture.

### About Mindy

Mindy is a comedian, actress, writer, musician, and published author based in Brooklyn, New York. She's contributed to numerous TV productions, including shows on MTV, TNT, VH1, and The Daily Comedy Network, and already has many critically acclaimed performances of Keeping My Kidneys under her belt.



# Modern Robot

Alive: Music for Night of the Living Dead



It's an experience that truly gets under your skin.

Venue  
ZOO

Dates 4–28 August

Time 22:00

Cost From £7

Tickets at [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

Film buffs and music fans rejoice as **Alive: Music for Night of the Living Dead stalks the Edinburgh Fringe this August.**

Merging the tradition of silent movies and the aesthetic of contemporary film scoring, Modern Robot's Ben Singer has created a mesmerising, intense soundtrack to the 1968 B-movie classic, performed live at each screening.

Romero's film, which launched the zombie genre on a shoestring almost 50 years ago, is stark, personal, and resonates politically today; in *Alive* it's an experience that truly gets under your skin.

**What Ben says**

"This is the first live cinema I've done with much of the dialogue intact, which means many times, dialogue without music. As a musician creating a musical experience, it's not comfortable to trust silence, but my intent here is to treat the music as a film score, judging it as a film editor and viewer."

# Peter Michael Marino

Show Up



**Quoted from >**

Time Out, New York

**'Hilarious'**

**Venue**

Laughing Horse at  
The Counting House

**Dates** 3–27 August

**Time** 15:30

**Cost** Free (unticketed)

**Peter Michael Marino has been writing one-man shows for a very long time. He wanted to see what would happen if he showed up at a theatre and created a solo show on the spot.**

The result is *Show Up*; a semi-improvised, socially anxious comedy that's all about you, the audience, featuring an arsenal of Post-it® Notes as well as an impromptu party.

In *Show Up*, Pete sets the scene with humorous anecdotes, before asking the audience to volunteer some of their own experiences. Using keywords from his punters' offerings, he creates a plot off the top

of his head, weaving a laugh-out-loud narrative with expert comedic timing, and tying it all up in a neat conclusion. No one show is the same, but they're all a hoot!

**About Pete**

Peter Michael Marino is an award-winning solo show teacher, director, producer, and performer. He's the creator and co-producer of *SOLOCOM*, which has launched over 400 world-premiere, international solo comedies at The People's Improv Theater. Pete is also an adjunct professor in sketch comedy at Pace University.

European  
Premiere



# Roddy Bottum

Sasquatch, The Opera



Roddy Bottum brings the world premiere of *Sasquatch, The Opera* to Scotland.

**Venue**  
Summerhall (Main Hall)

**Dates** 2–27 August

**Time** 21:15

**Cost** From £12

**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**This August, Roddy Bottum (of Faith No More/Imperial Teen fame) is bringing his unique take on the mythical Bigfoot to Scotland, with the world premiere of his show *Sasquatch, The Opera* at the Edinburgh Fringe.**

Roddy's modern, unearthly opera is about a small-town redneck family that runs 'Bigfoot tours' for tourists, and the fallout when the daughter meets and elopes with the real Sasquatch.

Part folklore, part love story, the opera follows the demise of the family and a taboo love affair.

With a company drawn from New York City's progressive underground arts scene, the show promises to be like no other you've seen.

#### What Roddy says

"The impetus for my opera is a theme I'm particularly fond of; that of the gentle giant, the misunderstood monster, the impaired genius with the sensitivity of a child. I reference Joseph Merrick aka the Elephant Man, Frankenstein, King Kong, and a 100-pound four-year-old I once saw on Jerry Springer as characters of inspiration."

# Romy Nordlinger

Places



Long before Madonna, the world was Gaga for Nazimova!

**Venue**  
New Town Theatre

**Dates** 3–27 August

**Time** 17:00

**Cost** From £10

**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**Places takes a racy, multimedia look at Alla Nazimova, arguably one of the most daring, artistic voices and talents of the 20th century.**

A 1920s silent movie femme fatale and pioneering scissor sister, she's probably the most famous Hollywood actor you've never heard of.

From Tsarist Russia to Broadway, Nazimova went on to become the highest paid silent movie star in Tinseltown, and the first female director/producer in Hollywood, epitomising the rags to riches fairy tale. Unapologetic about her bisexual decadence,

ambition, and lust for life, Nazimova defied the moral codes and gender roles of her time that eventually forced her into obscurity.

#### A bit more about the show

*Places* is a new theatre piece, written and performed by New York-based actor, playwright, and voice-over artist, Romy Nordlinger. It's co-produced by Civil Disobedience, Yonder Window, and Parity Productions and will have its European premiere at the 2017 Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

World  
Premiere

European  
Premiere



# Tomás Ford

## Crap Music Rave Party and Craptacular



### Quoted from >

The Scotsman

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**'It'll leave you grinning from ear to ear.'**

### Crap Music Rave Party

#### Venue

Gilded Balloon Teviot

**Dates** 3–27 August

**Time** 00:00 (3 hours)

**Cost** From £6

**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

**It's fair to say that Tomás Ford floods our basement real good. Once you've surrendered to his sexy mix of powerful synth sounds, flashing lights, video projections, outlandish vocals, and crazy party spirit, there's no turning back.**

To us he embodies laugh-out-loud cabaret at its wildest, and his shows definitely make for a night to remember.

Tomás' performance style has come together over a decade of trying bad ideas against audiences in Australia's roughest music pubs and

warehouse parties. He threw himself at the world of Fringe festivals in 2013 and found that he stuck. A trail of sold-out shows, all manner of awards, and a downpour of shit-hot reviews followed.

We've known Tomás for a few years now and needless to say we're thrilled to be producing both of his Edinburgh Fringe shows, Crap Music Rave Party and Craptacular, this August.

### Quoted from >

West Australian

\*\*\*\*

**'A thrilling performance... not to be missed!'**

### Craptacular

#### Venue

Gilded Balloon Teviot

**Dates** 2–28 August

**Time** 17:00

**Cost** £6

**Tickets at** [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)

### About Crap Music Rave Party

Grab your mates and hit the dance floor with hyperactive Australian party machine Tomás Ford, for the Fringe's most ridiculous party. Request a crap song like Take That, Mel & Kim, 5ive, line dancing techno, forgotten Christmas hits, 80s movie themes, or 2 Unlimited... if it's bad enough, he'll drop it like it's hot.

Crap Music Rave Party is a full-on spectacle, including DIY rave video projections, balloons, hardware store disco lights, and glowsticks.

### About Craptacular

In Craptacular, international cabaret sex god Tomás Ford reaches for global stardom with his biggest, dumbest pop extravaganza yet. Hear the trashiest pop songs of all time in ways you never asked to hear them. Think Kylie, Madonna, and Bieber in a unique mix of stadium spectacular and hostage situation.

# Meet Team Civil!

## What we do

Civil Disobedience is all about art. We love managing great shows and helping talented performers reach new audiences.

In addition to producing theatre, stand up, music, cabaret, and performance art, we can help you stage events with a creative twist.

We'll happily discuss tailored service packages, covering anything from light production support and basic marketing/PR, to in-depth production management and project delivery.

## Who we are

We're made up of creamy smooth Fringe icon, Barry Church-Woods; half Swedish, half Kiwi marketing playbunny, Joe Church-Woods; and flame-haired arts industry dominatrix, Louise Oliver.

Together we're queer-loving feminists, pop culture groupies, fizz-guzzling charm on legs, and hard-working bastards who adore a good laugh.



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**Louise Oliver**  
Associate producer

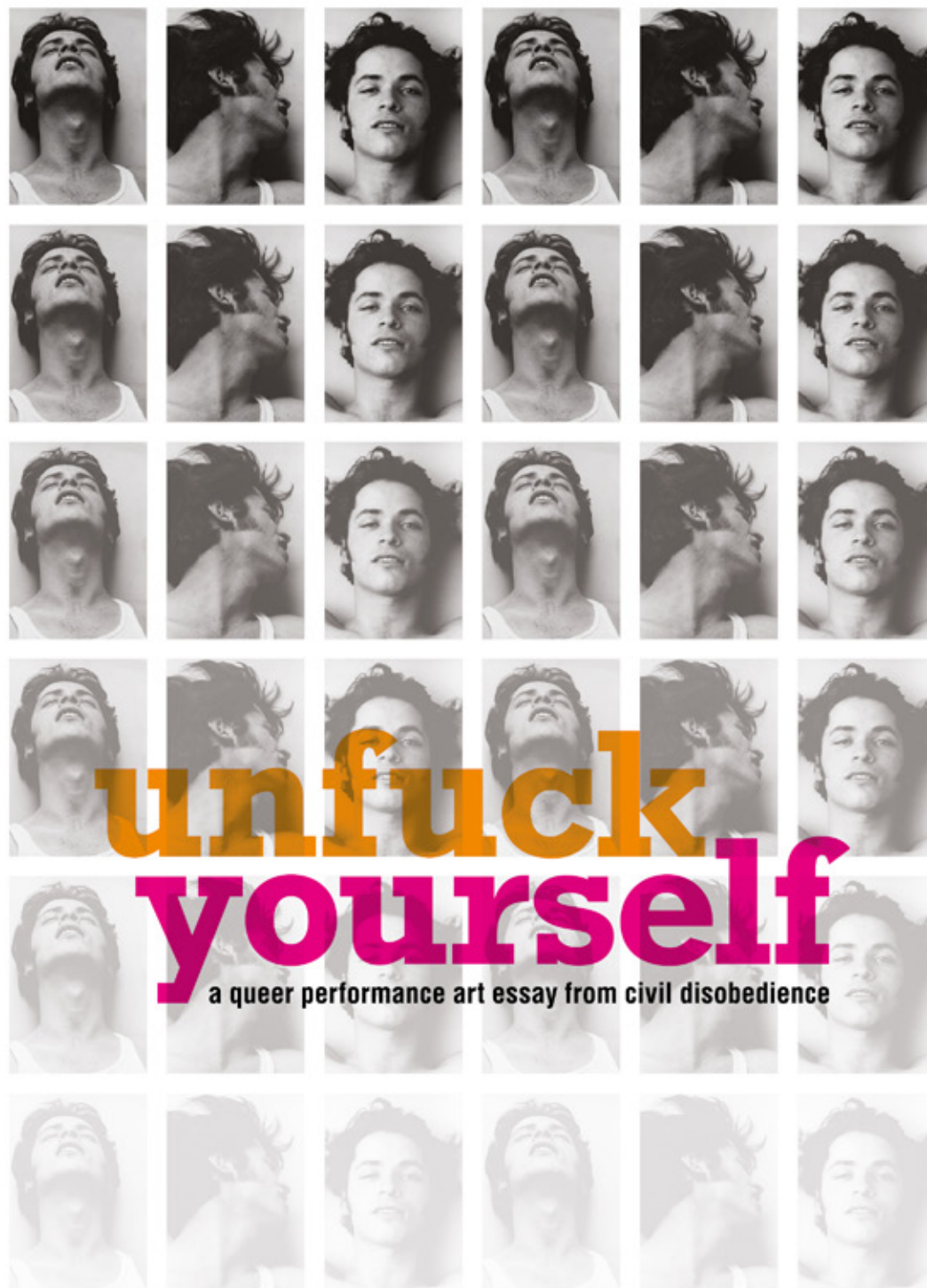
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British Theatre Guide



EdFringe Review



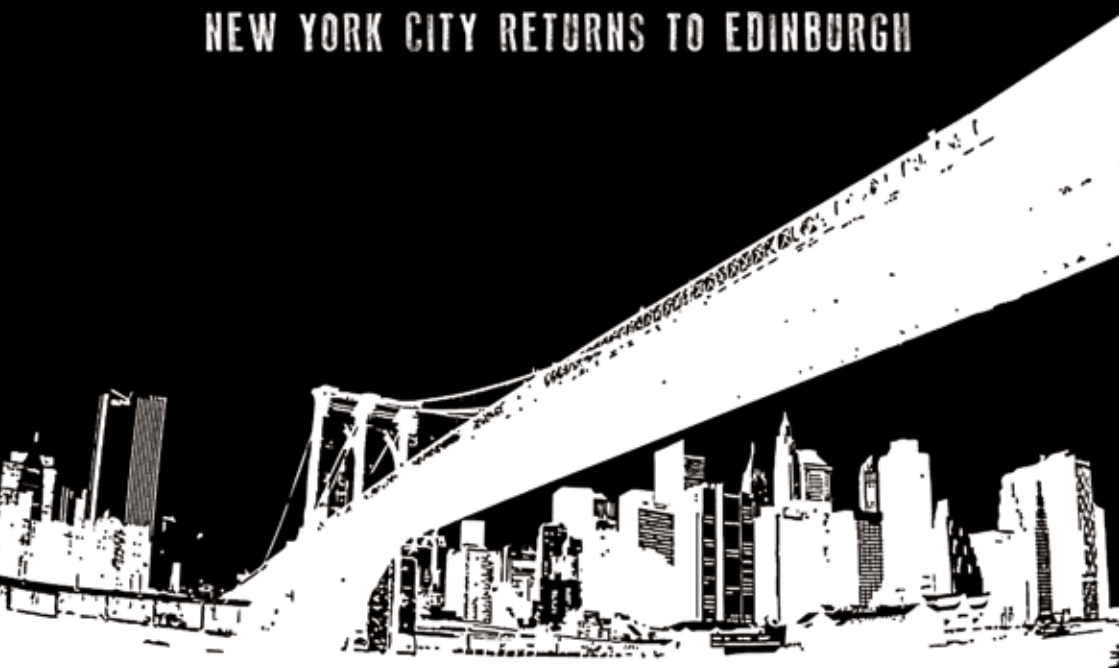
Broadway Baby



the wee REVIEW

# Joe's NYC BAR

NEW YORK CITY RETURNS TO EDINBURGH



An interactive, immersive, improvisational experience.



Venue 17 | £11 – £13 | [edfringe.com](http://edfringe.com)  
[joesnycbar.com](http://joesnycbar.com) | [#joesnycbar](https://twitter.com/joesnycbar)

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18:00 & 20:30  
2 - 28 AUG (NOT 14)

**assembly**

GEORGE SQUARE  
UNDERGROUND