

HEAT

1

6.00pm

The Sitcom Trials

Tenth Anniversary Season - Heat 1

The stage and TV show where brand new sitcoms compete head to head, the audience vote for the best and only see the ending of the favourite. A panel of judges from the TV and comedy industry also vote, their vote combining with the audience's to decide which sitcoms will go on to the semi finals. The Grand Final takes place on December 1st.

Tonight's judges are David (TV Burp) Quantick, David (I'm Alan Partridge) Schneider, Katie (The Now Show) Tyrell and Steve (Eastenders) Keyworth. Running order may vary from this listing. Producer JAMES PARKER Executive Producer

KEV F SUTHERLAND

...and 8.30pm

Voting & Pitch Fest

The Future Of Sitcom In Your Hands

Each audience member has a voting slip. After you've seen all competing sitcoms, punch a hole beside your favourite and your votes will be counted. Pitch Fest is your chance to pitch a sitcom. Write a title and description in less than 140 characters, the funniest read out wins a prize.

6.01

Life as a Modern Language

Written by John Barron and Olly Allsopp Directed by Raymond-Kym Suttle

In the staff room of an English language school, where almost anything could happen and yet almost nothing ever actually does, four teachers try to keep themselves sane and each other insane. Veteran teachers Keith and Phil have been having more or less the conversation for several years. New recruits Joanne and Dennis arrive and almost immediately wish they could un-arrive. Secrets from the past, not so much dark as disgusting, are brought out into the open then hurriedly locked away again. Contains mild grammatical inaccuracy.

Phil RICHARD INGS Keith DAVID GRENFELL Joanne ALEX BOTHWELL Dennis DANIEL DRESNER

6.02

Long Term Sick

Written by Mark Brotherhood Directed by Lydia Parker

James Strang is a man who finds life a little more complicated than most. When an apparent nervous breakdown leaves him on paid long term sick leave rest and relaxation are the order of the day - but with a hopeless therapist, a disruptive best friend and a less than empathetic wife he might well find that something of a struggle. Especially when he begins to question his own sense of reality...

James DANIEL CARTER HOPE Doctor DAN MARCH Paul DAVID McCUSKER Kelly TRACEY WOOD

6.03

Prodigies

Written by Alex Kirk and Simon Messingham Directed by Chris Lince

THREE TEENAGERS WITH A REAL PROBLEM: INTELLIGENCE! Darwin, Austin and Lee are different. They are smart, very smart. They have spent their young lives immersed in really hard maths. They have been hot housed and wrapped in the cotton wool of academe. They have passed every exam it is possible to take and rocketed through degrees and PhDs. Now it's time for the biggest challenge of all - Living in the real world.

Darwin ORLANDO BROOKE Lee SOPHIE BROOKE Austin JAMES LAMONT Character ALEX KIRK

6.04

The Not Gots

Written by Malcolm Duffy Directed by Nick Ewans

Tom and Micky are the 'Not Gots'. They've not got kids, and they don't want them. Unfortunately, all of their friends have become 'Gots.' They've jumped on the breeding bandwagon and got themselves a load of ankle biters. This has ruined Tom and Micky's lives. No more late nights, wild parties, mad goings-on. But they're not going to let a few babies stand in their way. Tom and Micky are determined to get their friends back into the old routine. They're going to get their social life back.

Tom FRASER MILLWARD Micky RACHEL KIRKLAND Nick ANDREW SCOTT BUTLER Sarah FELICITY RUSSELL

6.05

Alan Pob - Writing Wrongs

Written by Saul Wordsworth Directed by Chris Fitchew & Simon Wertz

Alan Pob, a hapless half-Jew with a foxy flatmate, has quit his job to write a novel. Only he's not getting very far. At all. Instead his days are spent meeting his old boss, visiting his Russian grandmother, dating inappropriate women and being short-changed at his local shop. Is Alan a commitment-phobe or does he harbour feeling for his flatmate, despite her narcolepsy, problematic bowel and ongoing relationship with Negative Graham? Just as importantly, if you eat a packet of Rennies too quickly does that give you indigestion?

Alan CHRIS FITCHEW Laura WENDY WASON Tom TOM FLYNN Eve JEN BRISTER

10.30pm

sitcomtrials.co.uk

See results, casts, writers, reviews, news and videos online at sitcomtrials.co.uk. There are Sitcom Trials videos on YouTube, a MySpace page, Facebook fan club, and you can send your Pitch Fest entries via Twitter. The Sitcom Trials was created by Kev F Sutherland and first staged in Bristol and London in October 1999. It has enjoyed three sellout years at the Edinburgh Fringe, national and international tours including Hollywood, and an 8 week series live on ITV1.

The Sitcom Trials takes place Mondays at the Leicester Square Theatre, 6 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX, with performances at 6pm and 8.30. Book online or at 0844 847 2475

Writers & directors

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Mark Brotherhood is a diminutive 33 year old who writes across both comedy and drama. In 2007 he was a finalist in the Channel 4 'Pilot' scheme, in 2008 he was selected to take part the BBC's NE Voices initiative and 2009 was shortlisted for the Writers Academy. He has recently been involved in a CBBC scheme and is currently shadow writing on series 7 of Shameless

Lydia Parker has worked in theatre as an actor, director, producer and writer in New York, Puerto Rico and London. She has directed many comedy sketch shows as well as the live sitcom she co-wrote with Maureen Oakeley, All I Need is a F**k Buddy at the Canal Café Theatre. Their sitcom was also in last year's Sitcom Trials and is now with Big Bear Television. Lydia also writes comedy for Radio 4 and is currently working with Maureen on the latest series of Recorded for Training Purposes.

John Barron and Olly Allsopp have known each other since the age of thirteen and if anything their sense of humour has decreased in maturity. Why have they only just got around to writing a sitcom together? This is known as 'comic timing' in some circles and 'being a bit dozy' in others.

Raymond-Kym Suttle was an actor, writer, director and choreographer for the Loft Repertory Company, has an MA in Choreography from the Laban centre he ran his own Dance Theatre company "A Few Feet Akymbo" and produced/directed/choreographed for both his own productions and companies including the BBC. This is his second foray into directing for the Sitcom Trials. He was the choreographer and co-creator of the hugely successful Bearlesque show "We Ate All the Pies" at the Tristan Bates Theatre, is the winner of the Male Tournament of Tease 2008, and teaches acting/directing skills at the Actors Centre.

Kirk and Messingham got together to perform their own sketch show, going on to write Tales Of Uplift And Moral Improvement for the BBC starring Rik Mayall and The Dave Saint Show starring John Thomson. They wrote a feature film for the UK

Film Council, Goth Holiday and have written and produced many short films. As individuals they have published novels, short stories, poetry and articles and acted in all sorts of nice things.

Chris Lince directed Brett Goldstein's "Success Story" (Edinburgh and London 2009), Emily Juniper's "Restitution" (Edinburgh and touring 2008). Chris is also a writer, whose show "The Bricks" toured Summer 2005, and whose comedy "Nudge" played on the Edinburgh Fringe in 2004. He has also written for live shows, "Ealing Live!", "The StickMen", and the Cockpit Theatre's "Theatre in the Pound". and "It's That Jo Caulfield Agian" for BBC Radio 4. Chris is also a designer of posters, props, and things. www.chrislince.co.uk

Saul Wordsworth is a writer, journalist, pilot and liar. Like Alan Pob, he left his job to write a novel. Unlike Pob, he's made some progress. He has written for publications as diverse as the Guardian, the Metro and Railway Interiors International. His influences include Alan Partridge, Seinfeld and being lonely as a child. "Alan Pob: Writing Wrongs" is his first sitcom.

Chris Fitchew Since graduating from The Arts Educational School of Acting, Chris has enjoyed many rolls on the stage and screen. From a nineties raver in the acclaimed Lost theatre production of Disco King to a the lead in the short film The Last Goodbye, he has received top reviews from all mediums of press "Chris Fitchew's blissed out e head stands out" - The Guardian. He is one half of comedy duo Lick & Chew which has performed sell out shows at The Soho Theatre, The Union Theatre, The Pleasance Edinburgh and Too2much in Soho.

Malcolm Duffy is a copywriter from Kew. He was brought up by wolves in Newcastle. He once wrote a bra ad that still holds the record for the most number of complaints. He has two small children and greatly misses binge drinking. 'The Not Gots' is an attempt to relive his sordid past.

Nick Ewans directed two scripts that reached the final of the 2007 Sitcom Trials. Other work includes "Colin's Fish" at the Hampstead Theatre and "Lysistrata" at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He also acts, improvises, and does stand-up.

MONDAY Oct 19 2009

Leicester Square Theatre
London