

THE FRUITCAKE TRILOGY



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**
LOTTERY FUNDED

THREE SHOWS EXPLORING THE THE MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM

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ROB GEE - WRITER AND PERFORMER

Rob worked for twelve years as a registered nurse in mental health units around the UK and Australia. Working mainly in adult mental health, he has also worked in child and adolescent units, drug and alcohol services, elderly settings, eating disorder inpatient units, early psychosis intervention services and psychiatric intensive care.

Now a stand-up poet, Rob has performed at over a hundred international fringe festivals and shared stages with Harold Pinter, Sue Townsend, Jo Brand, Jimmy Carr, Sarah Millican and John Cooper Clarke. Poetry slam victories include The Edinburgh Slam, The Arts Council's Lit Up Slam, BBC Two's Why Poetry Matters Slam and the Orlando Poetry Smackdown. He's won over twenty awards for his solo shows.

ARTS AND HEALTH

Rob has been commissioned to write healthcare-based comedy about subjects as diverse as a singalong about how singing can help with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, to a comedy quiz show about early symptoms of breast, lung and bowel cancer. He's delivered health-based sketch comedy projects in schools and regularly leads writing, poetry and comedy workshops in inpatient mental health settings. He was recently writer in residence at the Children's Hospital School at the Leicester Royal Infirmary. Rob is lead artist for the Comedy Asylum: comedy created and performed by people receiving mental health treatment, and his show *Forget Me Not: the Alzheimer's Whodunnit* has been used by several NHS trusts to train healthcare staff on compassionate delivery and reporting concerns. He also leads workshops for artists interested in mental health.

AUDIENCE PROFILE

Suitable for first time and general audience.

Professionals in health and social care, including training, clinical and development staff.
People with an interest in mental health, including service users, charities and advocacy groups.

Nursing, medical, psychology and social work students.

People interested in performance poetry, comedy, theatre, storytelling and creative writing.

Fans of murder mysteries and crime fiction. (Forget Me Not)

Carers' groups, people interested in issues around ageing. (Forget Me Not)

Shows contain strong language and adult themes. Recommended age 16+

All shows last an hour, plus optional interval.

Tech requirements are flexible. See show pages [here](#) for more details.



FRUITCAKE

TEN COMMANDMENTS FROM THE PSYCH WARD



A user-friendly guide to losing the plot.

Fruitcake charts a night shift on an adult mental health ward, seen through the eyes of a jaded nurse who hears the voice of God – a kindly Jamaican woman – who gives him ten benevolent commandments to help him through the shift; and life. Featuring the voice of Jean “Binta” Breeze as God.



"A one-man thespian army." **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation** ★★★★★

"Smart, funny and frequently very moving... a first rate show." **Calgary Herald** ★★★★★

"His genuine genuine empathy for the patients lifts this show into the ranks of superior entertainment... a tour de force." **Victoria Times** ★★★★★

"An unforeseen highlight, a convulsively funny and surprisingly moving tribute to humanity's collective psychosis." **Minnesota Examiner**

"Terrifically well written... the kind of performer you pray you'll discover." **Orlando Sentinel**

"Gee has pitched it perfectly... this hour showcases his strong talents as a witty, skilful storyteller." **Chortle, UK**

"In situations where he could have easily gone for the crazy person joke, he spun the humour on its ear... and he is hilarious." **Edmonton Sun, Alberta**



FORGET ME NOT

THE ALZHEIMER'S WHODUNNIT

The one-man murder mystery now being used to train healthcare staff.

Jim's wife, a patient on a dementia ward, has died from what appears to be natural causes. Jim is a retired police detective and he smells a rat. He's determined to solve one last murder. The problem is he also has dementia. It's a case worthy of the greatest detective mind. But his will have to do.



"Smart, witty, and razor-sharp. But what's most impressive is the way Gee has used the whodunnit trope as a way to expose the real-life indignities of living with late stage dementia. Part social commentary, part black comedy, part Cluedo... funny and heartbreaking as hell." **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation ★★★★★**

"At least ten colourful characters, three different side plots, hilarious comedy and thought-provoking drama... remarkable." **Edmonton Sun, Alberta ★★★★★**

"Hilarious and heartbreaking... gentle and sympathetic... a brilliant plot... Gee slips between characters somewhat seamlessly." **Victoria Times ★★★★★**

"An intelligent and gutsy comedy... a subversive journey into the dark side of institutional care... a disturbing masterpiece." **Gig City, Alberta**

"A comedy, meditation on human dignity, and at its heart, a love story... remarkable." **Orlando Sentinel**

To see a trailer for Forget Me Not click [here](#)



KEVIN KING OF EGYPT



The story of an unlikely friendship between an escaped mental health patient and a lost six-year old.

Kevin is not pleased about his diagnosis, even less pleased about being on a section of the Mental Health Act and distinctly upset about being told he is not the reincarnation of the pharaoh Ramses II. On his way to Egypt, via the Tesco Express, he stumbles across the nemesis to all his plans: Millie - a six-year old girl misled by her father. Together they embark on a journey that will change both their lives forever.



"A great experience... anybody with experience in the mental health system will be able to relate to this." **The Clothesline, Adelaide**

"Obsessively-compulsively watchable... crammed with Gee's trademark mixture of killer wit and medical commentary." **Orlando Weekly**

"Hilarious... and uproarious journey." **London Pub Theatres ★★★★★**

"A mind-roasting bipolar joyride... a moving, funny, deeply human show, not to be missed." **Victoria Times ★★★★★**

"Hilarious... bound to simultaneously break hearts and lift spirits." **Vue Weekly, Alberta ★★★★★**

"A master storyteller... moving, funny and engrossing." **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation ★★★★★**

"Delightful... Gee finds heart among the humanity." **Orlando Sentinel**

To see a trailer for Kevin click [here](#)