

# FRUITCAKE REVIEWS

"Rob Gee is the real deal, the kind of performer you pray you'll discover at every festival. Terrifically well-written and confidently delivered, each chapter more outrageous, hilarious and – often – oddly touching than the last. This kind of high-wire act is what the Fringe is all about."

**Orlando Sentinel**

"Gee is a one man thespian army... this play has everything. Every character he presents us with teaches us not to be judgmental, not only because these are real people, but because we could all lose our marbles at any point in time."

**Canadian Broadcasting Corporation ★★★★★**

"Do whatever it takes to see Fruitcake... funny, touching, painful, witty, a joy... I loved it!"

**Mooney on Theatre, Toronto**

"A compelling storyteller... hysterical and the heartfelt... an unforeseen highlight, a convulsively funny and surprisingly moving tribute to humanity's collective psychosis." **Minnesota Examiner**

"The missing link between theatre and rock-and-roll... his genuine empathy for the patients lifts this show into the ranks of superior entertainment... a tour de force." **Victoria Times ★★★★★½**

"Smart, funny and frequently very moving... a first rate show." **Calgary Herald ★★★★★½**

"It's Gee's command of the quirky, fine-grained detail that gives each anecdote its kick. Running under it all is the idea that we're all just a few unreliable brain chemicals away from the loony bin ourselves." **Winnipeg Free Press ★★★★★½**

"Startlingly humorous and fascinating... beautifully written... even the desperately sad and terrible stories are told in a way that focuses on the positives, so they never really feel hopeless. As a result, the whole show is an incredibly happy and enjoyable one. **Voice Magazine, UK ★★★★★★**

"Essential cheerfulness in the midst of insanity... should be required viewing."

**Edmonton Journal, Alberta ★★★★★**

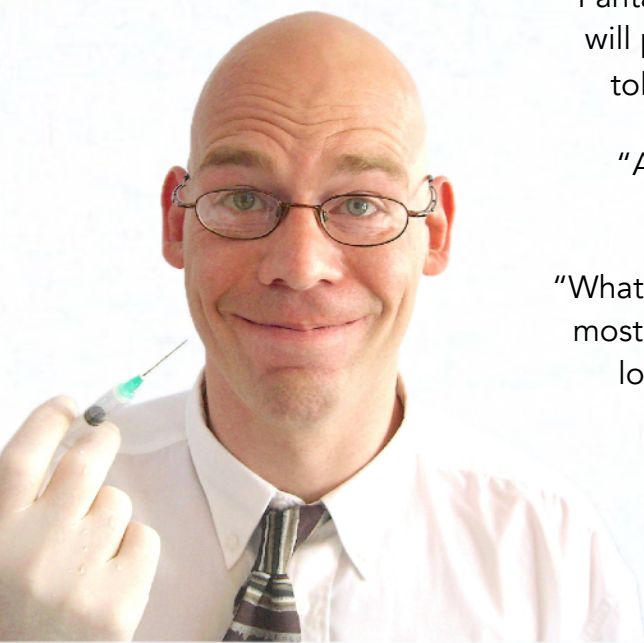
"Fantastic... thoroughly entertaining... hilarious, often touching... will probably leave you with tears in your eyes... great stories, told by a master!" **The Panic Manual, Toronto ★★★★★½**

"A witty, skilful storyteller... Gee has pitched it perfectly."

**Chortle, UK**

"What makes this show so good? Simply put, Rob Gee, one of the most amiable performers you'll ever have the chance of seeing, loves to tell stories, and the stories he tells are hilarious... seldom have I seen a performer who seems to be so thoroughly enjoying himself on stage."

**Plank Magazine, British Columbia**



"Informative, absorbing, sometimes salutary... an hour of genuine belly laughs. I actually spat out my drink... but peppered throughout the laughter are stories that give us pangs of empathy, and a truly touching moment." **Theatrereview, New Zealand**

"A thoroughly compelling performer... funny, insightful, interesting and surprisingly touching... super-charged and hilariously blunt... superbly performed... a quality show... intelligent and endearing. SEE IT." **Applause-Meter, Calgary**

"Hilarious and strange... Gee is wonderful!" **Vue Weekly, Alberta ★★★★★**

"Delightful... balancing on the fine line between madness and genius... certifiably funny!"  
**Saskatoon StarPhoenix ★★★★★**

"Robin Williams on speed... one of my top favourites... his writing and performance were both, in my opinion, brilliant... I was mesmerised throughout." **Calgary Sun**

"The wonderful part about all of this is the feeling that Gee cares about people... where he could have easily gone for the crazy person joke, he spun the humour on its ear and showed us a fun and quirky world where being crazy isn't a thing... and he is hilarious."  
**Edmonton Sun, Alberta ★★★★★**

"This is a man who stared into the abyss and saw it wink back at him." **The Ubyyssey, Vancouver**

"Shocking, moving and hilarious. A serious must-see!" **FringeFamous, Minnesota ★★★★★★**

"Hilarious... poignant... life affirming... joyful!" **Uptown Magazine, Winnipeg ★★★★★½**

"(A) highly entertaining gem... one show you'd be crazy to miss!" **Eye Weekly, Toronto ★★★★★**

"Rob Gee knows his stuff when it comes to working with patients or working a crowd... really gets into your head!" **Monday Magazine, British Columbia ★★★★★½**

"More McMurphy than Nurse Ratched... flawless." **Now Magazine, Toronto ★★★★★**

"A clever knack for dispelling stigma around mental illness... Rob's rubbery facials, eccentric accent and hyperactive demeanour will evoke a surge of serotonin which will remain long after you leave the room." **All Over Adelaide**

"One of those rare performers who immediately engages, befriends and electrifies an audience... there is always a tinge of the comedic and never a loss of hope for the complex personalities who inhabit the material he delivers with the deepest sense of sympathy and commitment... an intelligent and enlightening sixty minutes with a good dose of inspiration thrown in."  
**Beat Magazine, London**

"Stunningly talented... amazing... so engaging it's almost criminal... the hype was well-earned."  
**The Visitorium, Ottawa**

"A natural-born storyteller with the ability to create equal parts comedy and empathy from the series of stories and characters he brings to life on stage. Madly engaging.  
Highly recommended!" **Toronto Star**

“One of the most brilliant things is that he uncovers these aspects of mental health, lays them bare and breaks down stereotypes... we empathise wholeheartedly. We understand that most of us would break under the same conditions and this is Gee’s art at its finest. Gee is talking about people, not patients. He draws mankind together as he destroys myths surrounding mental health and highlights the weakness of everyone. The problems are not theirs but ours...”

“Thanks to Gee’s company, my first night on the psych ward was inspirational. Yes, he’s hilarious and his comic timing is perfect but it’s so much more than that. Gee offers unique insight into a topic which is too often hidden or avoided and his delivery is graceful, respectful and relatable. We leave with the impression that we are all one short step away from the psych ward and this is somehow both confronting and reassuring. I gained renewed respect for my fellow man and a deep admiration for Gee’s comic genius.”

“Thought-provoking, humbling and hilarious... a must-see.”

### **Mind Share Mental Health, Adelaide**

