

Rob Gee presents

Smart Arse

It's a thin line between clever and stupid

An exhilarating story of several childhoods

Comic and slam poet Rob Gee presents SmartArse, a look into the universally common traumas and delights of childhood. The show weaves together Rob's father's upbringing in a charitable institution for war orphans, his own school, which was unique in one very distinctive way, and his experiences of going into schools as a comic and poet; and it asks why are kids so much better at so many things than we are? What can we learn from them?



Comic poet and reformed psychiatric nurse **Rob Gee** has toured the UK, Europe, Australia and North America. He's performed with Harold Pinter, John Cooper Clarke, Jo Brand, Sarah Millican, Russell Howard and Jimmy Carr, and appears regularly on BBC radio. He's won numerous poetry slams, including The Edinburgh Slam, BBC2's Why Poetry Matters Slam, The Arts Council of England's Lit Up Slam, The Toronto \$83 Slam and the Orlando Poetry Smackdown. He also leads comedy and poetry workshops in schools with children of all ages and ability levels. Rob's is the only performance ever to have instigated a fight at the Leamington Spa Peace Festival.

"The kind of performer you pray you'll discover" Orlando Sentinel

A witty skilful storyteller with some hugely entertaining anecdotes" Chortle

"Seriously funny" Sunday Mirror

The shows director **Tracy Cruickshank** is a lecturer and subject leader in Drama Studies at De Montfort University in the UK. She has written and directed numerous acclaimed theatre shows, including This Vehicle is Rehearsing and Elvis Has Left the Building. She is also a recovering Slam Poet.

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SmartArse Media Reviews

"A tornado of hilarious stories, Seussian poems and observational comedy... a master storyteller... be prepared to be blown away." CBC ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Wickedly funny stories... interspersed with sensational slam poetry interludes... absolutely brilliant." Uptown Magazine, Winnipeg ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"A poetic charge into the funny, frustrating world of school yards and classrooms, past and present... consistently funny and sharply written, Gee's own crazy genius of an inner child is front and centre in this string of wild and wonderful stories."
Winnipeg Free Press ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"A wonder of a one-man show... thought-provoking and unabashedly hilarious... a feat of theatrical entertainment." Vue Weekly, Edmonton ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

"Gee has another talent, and it's not one you often see in stand-up. It's compassion... no matter how cheeky his comedy, there's that underlying kindness... Gee might be a smart-ass. But his kind of smart-ass is in all too short supply."
Orlandotheatre.com

"Hugely funny... perfectly timed and wonderfully executed... the stories get funnier as the show progresses." Orlando Sentinel

"More than just a brilliant performer... a one man poetry slam... you are right there with him... greatness in action!" Daily City, Orlando

"Combines the puerile and the heartfelt with masterful charm... a hysterical and surprisingly poignant portrait of the kid in all of us." The Visitorium, Victoria

