

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Peter Fleming's Woefully Inaccurate History of the BBC – Edinburgh Fringe 2022

Award-winning character comic returns for one-off show to mark the BBC centenary

Sketch Off! 2020 finalist, winner of Best Debut Show at Leicester Comedy Festival and host of the *Sunday Times*-recommended *Into the Archives* podcast, character comedy hit Peter Fleming is returning to Edinburgh in a one-off show to celebrate 100 years of the BBC.

Played by awarded-winning comic and actor Tom Burgess, the befuddled children's TV pioneer brings his warped nostalgia back to the Fringe in a fast-paced, absurd pastiche of vintage TV, and a call to arms for everyone who believes in public broadcasting and collective society.

Peter tells the corporation's whole story, with sketches, spoofs and viewer complaints guiding us through the last century – all that we've gained, and all we could lose. From the early days of broadcasting, through the golden age of children's TV, to scandal, algorithms, modern indifference, and even the shocking truth about every *Blue Peter* presenter, this show has it all.

TV and radio programmes used to happen live, in the moment, then they were gone. They weren't there on demand for a whole month, and nor is this show. This will happen for one night, then it will finish. It will be a big, communal event, like broadcasting used to be, and if you miss it, that's it. It's gone.

Peter Fleming's Woefully Inaccurate History of the BBC is a must-see for any fan of alternative comedy and sharp writing. Burgess' manic and joyous creation is a wistful love letter to British pop culture and childhood, and a timely reminder of the value of shared institutions. Reminiscent of cult hits *Look Around You* and *Garth Marenghi's Darkplace*, this is a silly, affectionate, and hilarious hour.

About Tom Burgess

Tom Burgess is an award-winning comedian, actor and writer whose previous work has included *Staple/face* (Winners of Gilded Balloon's *So You Think That's Funny?* Best New Sketch Act 2013) and *Sam & Tom* (Leicester Square Theatre *Sketch Off!* Finalists 2018). His 2019 debut as Peter Fleming, *Have You Seen?*, earned praise from Stewart Lee and Tony Slattery, while his lockdown podcast *Into the Archives* has been recommend by the *Sunday Times* and Sarah Greene.

Burgess's own work in children's TV and love for classic television has helped shape this beautifully honed character into an acclaimed cult hit. He can also be seen as various characters on *Saturday Mash-Up!* and *Blue Peter* (CBBC and BBC Two), and has appeared in *Newsjack* (BBC Radio 4 Extra), *Gein's Family Giftshop Present...* (BBC Radio Wales), and the *Beef and Dairy Network* podcast.

Leicester Square Theatre *Sketch Off!* Finalist 2020

★★★★ Stewart Lee, *My Cultural Year* 2019

Best Debut Show – Leicester Comedy Festival 2018

'A daft, well-observed show' Sunday Times

'Wonderfully silly and fast-paced... realised with skill, fondness and detail' Chortle

'Like a lost Fast Show character' Beyond the Joke

'Warm and nuanced... a vibrant hour' The Skinny

'A warmly recommended delight' We Are Cult

Show Information:

Venue: Laughing Horse @ The Counting House – Ballroom (Venue 170)

Date/time: Monday 22nd August, 7-8pm (**ONE NIGHT ONLY**)

Tickets: £5 - £12.50 / Pay What You Can

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/peter-fleming-s-woefully-inaccurate-history-of-the-bbc>

Ages: 18+

Contact Information:

Email: tgburgess91@gmail.com

Phone: 07783038904

Twitter: @PeterFlemingTV

Facebook: /PeterFlemingTV

Instagram: @nottomburgess

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