



## Rhod Gilbert

**IF.COMEDY – 'BEST COMEDY SHOW' NOMINEE 2008**

**'COMIC OF THE YEAR' WINNER - TIME OUT 2008**

**'BREAKTHROUGH ACT' WINNER - TIME OUT 2008**

**'BEST SHOW OF THE YEAR' WINNER - TIME OUT 2008**

**'BEST HEADLINER' NOMINEE - CHORTLE 2008**

**'BEST RADIO PERSONALITY' NOMINEE - CELTIC MEDIA AWARDS 2008**

**'TOP 50 COMEDIANS' – THE TIMES 2006**

**'TOP 50 ICONS: THE FACES OF COMEDY' - ROUGH GUIDE TO BRITISH CULT COMEDY 2006**

**'PERRIER NEWCOMER' NOMINEE 2005**

**'THE LIST / WRITERS GUILD AWARD' NOMINEE 2005**

**'BEST BREAKTHROUGH ACT' WINNER - CHORTLE 2005**

**BBC NEW COMEDY AWARD WINNER 2003**

2008 has been a phenomenal year for Welsh comedy sensation Rhod Gilbert, truly cementing him as one of the leading comedy names in the UK. He was the talk of this year's Edinburgh Comedy Festival, earning a nomination for the highly prized **If.Comedy Award** for his latest show 'Rhod Gilbert & The Award Winning Mince Pie'. Widely tipped as the favourite to win the top prize (Ladbrokes had tipped him as 5/4 favourite), Awards Director, Nica Burns praised Rhod for his 'perfectly structured, gag-packed show' adding that it had 'moved him into a new league'. He then went on to triumph at the prestigious 2008 Time Out Awards, winning no less than three titles: **'Best Show of the Year'**, **'Best Breakthrough Act'** and **'Comic of the Year'**.

Rhod first exploded onto the comedy scene back in 2002, winning an unprecedented number of awards within his first eighteen months as a stand-up. Since his hotly anticipated debut at the Edinburgh Festival back in 2005, he has enjoyed complete sell-out hits with extra dates added every single year. Building on his reputation as a first class live act, Rhod has been a permanent fixture on the UK touring circuit every year and following this year's success, he is embarking on his biggest tour to date taking in over 70 dates nationally. The autumn leg has already been a complete sell-out, including an eight night run at the Soho Theatre. Due to overwhelming public demand, the tour continues into the spring of 2009, culminating in his hometown of Cardiff at the prestigious Wales Millennium Centre next March.

Firmly established as one of the UK's leading comedy talents, he recently performed on the prestigious Bafta nominated **Live At The Apollo** which aired on BBC One in November. He also had the honour of performing at this year's 80<sup>th</sup> **Royal Variety Performance** at the iconic London Palladium alongside a star-studded line-up including Peter Kay, Jimmy Carr, The Pussycat Dolls, Take That, Leona Lewis and Sir Cliff Richard to name but a few. Rhod's performance amassed widespread critical acclaim; Jimmy Carr praised Rhod live on GMTV for his outstanding performance, and The Stage cited him as "this year's Royal Variety discovery", predicting that the performance would "tip him into stardom".

Rhod recently recorded the pilot episode of his new sitcom **'Rhod Gilbert's Leaving Llanbobl'** for BBC Radio 2. The show is based in Llanbobl, the fictional Welsh village which has become legendary in his stand-up

routines and sees him leaving his top-flight Manager's job in Newport's 'Mr. Shoes' to return to his family home and attempt to repair the damage done by his mother leaving his father in favour of Ivor Evans, the family milkman. The show airs on BBC Radio 2 on 27<sup>th</sup> December.

His weekly radio show continues to go from strength (BBC Radio Wales every Saturday 11am – 1pm) and earlier this year he was nominated for '**Best Radio Personality**' at the **Celtic Media Awards**. He has also recently guested on the legendary **Just A Minute** and **Loose Ends** (BBC Radio 4) and followed in the footsteps of Michael McIntyre, hosting the recent series of **4 Stand's Up**, also for BBC Radio 4.

Following success as a stand-up, TV and radio personality, Rhod was selected to be the '**Voice of Wales**' and has been representing his country providing the voice-over for the **Welsh Tourist Board's** national television advertising campaign since 2005. As his profile continues to soar, he has been chosen to front their nationwide TV campaign and will be gracing our screens next year in a new advert encouraging visitors to Wales.

Rhod's international profile has also continued to soar and since 2004 he has been invited to perform at every major international festival in the world including **Adelaide, Sydney, Melbourne, Montreal, New Zealand** and **Cape Town**. His globetrotting has also taken him to the Middle and Far East and he has also entertained British troops in Iraq and Afghanistan; performing one show in a former palace of Saddam Hussein's.

### **EDINBURGH FESTIVAL**

- 2008 RHOD GILBERT & THE AWARD WINNING MINCE PIE** - If.Comedy Award Nominee
- 2007 RHOD GILBERT: WHO'S EATEN GILBERT'S GRAPE?**
- 2006 RHOD GILBERT: KNOCKING ON HEAVEN'S DOOR**
- 2005 RHOD GILBERT'S 1984** - Perrier Best Newcomer Nominee & The List/Writers Guild Award Nominee
- 2004 STEREOCOMICS**, Edinburgh Comedy Rooms alongside Mark Watson
- 2003 THREE MEN AND A GIANT & THE BEST OF THE HACKNEY EMPIRE NEW ACT OF THE YEAR**

### **INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS**

- 2007 MELBOURNE COMEDY FESTIVAL**, performing 'Knocking on Heaven's Door'
- 2007 THE UN COMEDY FESTIVAL**, Johannesburg, South Africa, performing in the 'UN Comedy Show'.
- 2006 CAPE TOWN COMEDY FESTIVAL**, performing in the 'Main Arena' & headlining 'Best of the Fest'.
- 2006 NEW ZEALAND COMEDY FESTIVAL**, performing in 'The Big Show', 'Comedy Gala', and 'The Comedy Convoy' (nationwide tour).
- 2006 MELBOURNE COMEDY FESTIVAL** performing in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest'
- 2006 SYDNEY CRACKER COMEDY FESTIVAL** performing in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest'
- 2006 BRISBANE**, performing in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest'
- 2006 ADELAIDE FRINGE FESTIVAL** performing in 'Britcom'
- 2005 KILKENNY FESTIVAL**, Ireland
- 2005 MONTREAL JUST FOR LAUGHS FESTIVAL**, including the esteemed televised 'Britcom Gala'
- 2005 MELBOURNE COMEDY FESTIVAL**, performing in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest'
- 2005 SYDNEY**, Comedy Store performing in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest'
- 2004 ADELAIDE FRINGE FESTIVAL** – performed in 'Best of the Edinburgh Fest', subsequently touring Australia culminating in a sell out week at the Sydney Comedy Store

### **TELEVISION & RADIO**

- Presenter **Rhod Gilbert on Saturday** - BBC Radio Wales (Saturday, 11am - 1pm) September 2007 – Present
- The Royal Variety Performance** – BBC 1, December 2008
  - Live At The Apollo** – BBC 1, November 2008
  - Loose Women** – ITV, November 2008
- Regular contributor to **BBC Wales Today** – BBC 1, Wales, February – November 2008
- Series Host of **Radio 4 Stand's Up** – BBC Radio 4, November 2008
  - Series Host of **Jest A Minute** – BBC Radio Wales, November 2008
  - 8 Out of 10 Cats** – Ch 4, September 2008
  - The Culture Show** – BBC 1, August 2008
  - Sean Lock & Friends at the Fringe** – BBC Radio 2, August 2008
  - Just A Minute** – BBC Radio 4, August 2008
- Presenter of **Teen Tribes** – BBC 1, Wales, January 2008
- Big Welsh Challenge** – BBC 1, Wales January 2008
  - The Blame Game** - BBC 1 Northern Ireland, November 2007
  - Max Boyce's World Cup Journey** - BBC 1 Wales, October 2007

Script Writer/Voiceover 'TV Gaffes Galore', 'Football Gaffes Galore', 'Pranks Galore' - BBC 3, July 2007

**Mock The Week** - BBC 2, February & August 2007

Series Host of **Big Welsh Joke** - BBC1 Wales, February/March 2007

**Comedy Shuffle** - BBC 3, February 2007

**The Charlotte Church Show** - Ch 4, October 2006

Special extended set on **The Comedy Store** - Series 7, Paramount, October 2006

**Comedy Cuts** - ITV 2, February 2007

Writer and Voice over, **Paramount Comedy Channel** - September 2006 - February 2007

**Dara O'Briain Talks Funny** - BBC 1, September 2006

**Dara O'Briain & Friends** - BBC Radio 2, September 2006

**The If.Comedy Awards** - ITV 2, September 2006

Series Host of **Jest A Minute** - BBC Radio Wales, July 2006

**Never Mind The Buzzcocks** - BBC 2, April 2006

**I Am** - Channel 4, February 2006

**28 Acts in 28 Minutes** - BBC Radio 4, February 2006

**The World Stands Up** - Paramount, January 2006

**Rhod Gilbert Stands Up For Wales** - BBC 1 Wales, October 2005

**Live from the Fringe** - STV and Paramount, August 2005

**Edinburgh Nights** - BBC Radio 2, August 2005

**Just A Minute** - BBC Radio 4, August 2005

**Edinburgh & Beyond** - Paramount, September 2005

**The Comedy Store** - Series 6, Paramount, October 2004

Host of **Paramount's live stand-up weekend** 2003

**Four at the Fringe** - BBC Radio 4 2003

**Spanking New'** - BBC Radio 7's 2003 / **On Show** - BBC Wales 2003

### 2008 PRESS REVIEWS

"This year he's made an evolutionary leap that could propel him into comedy's super-league. Gilbert makes Basil Fawley look as serene as the Dalai Llama...the laughs never let up for the entire hour...a virtuoso performance. Every moment is exhilarating, passionate and sparkingly funny." ★★★★★ **CHORTLE**

"Rhod Gilbert was on fire...comedy manna from heaven" ★★★★★ **INDEPENDENT**

"Fantastical occurrences that make Salvador Dali's melting clocks look about as imaginative as a potato print. He's given this his all. And it shows. Gilbert's performance is powerhouse and this show is his best yet." ★★★★★ **METRO Edinburgh**

"Gilbert has finally surpassed all expectations. This is exhilarating stand-up, misguided rage elevated to a sublime degree of storytelling...so unremittingly trivial yet gloriously intense that I almost lost all track of time...unflinchingly brilliant." ★★★★★ **SCOTSMAN**

"A rollercoaster theatre show...in comic terms, he looks indomitable" ★★★★★ **GUARDIAN**

"His finest hour of stand up yet...a joy to behold" ★★★★★ **TIMES**

"A turbo-charged rant from the Welsh Victor Meldrew...there are a lot of good shows and a few great ones but one that clearly stands out is Rhod Gilbert...magnificent. As a comedy show that simply knocks you over by sheer force of humour this is certainly going to take some beating." ★★★★★ **EVENING STANDARD**

"The best show of his six-year stand-up career. Gilbert has material in spades and structures it beautifully ...this is a rich tapestry of 40 year old exasperation from a Welsh Wonder." ★★★★★ **METRO London**

"Blistering tour de force...Without doubt, this supremely talented Welshman's best show ever ...the best solo show by any comedian this year." **TIME OUT**

"The revelation of this Fringe has been the coming of age of Rhod Gilbert ...a beautifully crafted and masterfully controlled explosion of rage." **OBSERVER**

"This year's Royal Variety discovery was Welsh stand-up Rhod Gilbert. Pitching his routine about growing up in Wales just about perfectly, this could just tip him into stardom." **THE STAGE**

**Exclusive Representation: Charlotte Smith**  
**Comedy Store Management, The Comedy Store, 1a Oxendon Street, London, SW1Y 4EE.**  
**t: 020 7930 2949, f: 020 7930 2951, e: charlotte@thecomedy.com**  
**[www.myspace.com/rhodgilbertcomedian](http://www.myspace.com/rhodgilbertcomedian)**

**[www.comedystoremangement.com](http://www.comedystoremangement.com)**