

Alternative Comedy Now Conference Schedule

Thursday 2 May	
10:00	Registration and coffee (Jarman foyer)
11:00	Welcome & Keynote 1: Sophie Quirk (Jarman 1) <i>Chair: Oliver Double</i>
12:15	Lunch (Jarman foyer)
13:15	<p>1a. Alternative Comedy Today (Jarman 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marianna Keisalo – Alternative Comedy in Finland: The Metacomedy of Juhani Nevalainen, Musician Not Comedian • Ed Wilson – ‘New’ comedy? The challenge of the ‘already said’ in contemporary stand-up comedy performance • Sarah Slack – What are the current equivalents of alternative comedy? <p><i>Chair: Sophie Quirk</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>1b. Therapeutic Comedy (Jarman 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dieter Declercq – Stand-up Comedy, Mental Health and Narrative • Cait Hogan – Censorship, Criticism, and the Comedic Space: Playing Part in My Own Degradation • Mark Ralkowski – The 'True Politics' of Self-Deprecating Humor. <p><i>Chair: Shaun May</i></p>
14:45	Coffee (Jarman foyer)
15:15	<p>2. Performers’ Perspectives (Jarman 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ray Campbell – Cabaret A Go Go: a portrait of a Northern cabaret club • Richard Cuming – ‘A Local Show for Local People’ • Brian Mulligan – The Benefit: scenes from a drama <p><i>Chair: Oliver Double</i></p>
16:45	Alternative Comedy Now exhibition launch (Templeman Library)
18:00	Conference Dinner (Gulbenkian Café)
19:30	Alexei Sayle in Conversation (Gulbenkian Theatre)

Friday 3 May

9:30	<p>3a. The Reception of Alternative Comedy (Jarman 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morten Nielsen – At the fringes of alternative comedy: The straight face of Norm Macdonald • Neil Washbourne – Pressing for no-change? UK newspaper responses to the emergence of the ‘alternative comedy movement’: 1981-1997, 2002, 2007, 2012, 2017 • Ian Wilkie – Alternative audiences: 1980s stand-up crowds and their comic consumption <p><i>Chair: Sharon Lockyer</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>3b. Comedy at the Edge (Jarman 2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jonjo Brady – The Humour of Everyday Life • Tory Gillespie – The Comedy Labs Festival and the Legacy of Alternative Comedy in Belfast • Neha Pande – Finding Alternatives in Liminal Stand-up <p><i>Chair: Richard Cuming</i></p>
11:00	Coffee (Jarman foyer)
11:30	<p>Workshop a (Jarman 2)</p> <p>Ian Saville – Can comedy (or performance, or magic) really also be political action?</p> <p><i>Chair: Ian Wilkie</i></p> <p>OR</p> <p>Workshop b (Jarman 1)</p> <p>Jennifer Davidson – How many comedians does it take to change a culture?</p> <p><i>Chair: Neil Washbourne</i></p>
12:30	Lunch (Jarman foyer)
13:30	<p>Tony Allen & Pat Welsh - Attitude (Jarman 1)</p> <p><i>Chair: Oliver Double</i></p>
14:40	<p>4. Alternative Comedy & Gender (Jarman 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Esther Linares-Bernabéu - Pushing Boundaries in Female Stand-Up Comedy • Lynne Parker & Nicola Streeten – A Feminist Alternative: Women in comics and Women Comics • Ellie Tomsett – “Less dick jokes”: Women-only comedy line-ups, audience expectations and stereotypes <p><i>Chair: Rosie White</i></p>
16:10	Coffee (Jarman foyer)
16:30	<p>Keynote 2: Oliver Double (Jarman 1)</p> <p><i>Chair: Sharon Lockyer</i></p>
17:30	Break
18:00	Pioneers of Alternative Comedy (Gulbenkian Café)

