

For immediate release
September 2017

Manchester-based Canadian Comedian Brings Fringe Hit to Women in Comedy Festival

Katharine Ferns is in Stitches

Women in Comedy Festival

October 22nd at 8:30pm - £5/£4 concessions

Tribeca

50 Sackville Street, Manchester M1 3WF

Tickets Available Online: <http://bit.ly/WICshow>

"It is a pitch perfect performance and a beautifully-written, perfectly-paced comedy script. Absolutely wonderfully done. A perfect Fringe show. Laughs. Tears. Jaw-dropping. It deserves a (formerly-known-as) Perrier Award" **John Fleming**

"Brutally honest from the start, this show just goes to prove you can make comedy out of tragedy...moving, witty and sincere." **** **North West End**

Brutally funny and unflinchingly honest, "In Stitches" is the latest Fringe hit from Manchester-based Canadian comedian Katharine Ferns (MTV, ichannel). Using comedy for catharsis, "In Stitches" takes audiences through the visible and invisible scars of surviving mental illness, domestic violence, and drug addiction — with some feminism thrown in for comic relief. Based on true events from her own life, the story begins on April 21, 2016 — the day Prince passed away and Katharine ended up in stitches (literally). Through personal insights and a lot of laughs, Katharine's acclaimed solo show leaves her audiences in stitches (figuratively).

Ferns says, "This is the most honest comedy show I have written. Violence and mental health are issues we don't talk about enough, and through comedy I am able to talk about my experiences in way that is empowering but also honest. Since performing this show in the UK, I have received so many messages from fellow survivors and people that want to be advocates for change in how we deal with domestic violence in society. These inspiring audience reactions propel me to keep telling my story and hopefully it helps others talk about their own experiences too."

Following her critically-acclaimed performances at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Vancouver Fringe Festival, the show will be part of the Women in Comedy Festival in Katharine's home base of Manchester. After the festival circuit, Katharine will bring "In Stitches" to the small town where the events from her show actually happened. Ferns adds, "In a sense, I'm returning to the scene of the crime to tell my story and reveal the truth of what happened to me there that I hid from everyone for so long." A documentary on that journey is currently in development.

Audience Reviews:

Link to more reviews: <http://www.katharineferns.com/2015/04/25/upcoming-shows/>

"The most incredible comedy performance I've ever seen." (Phil J. as quoted on BBC Radio 2)

"The most important and needed comedy show I've ever seen. Brilliant, hilarious, brave, poignant. I was in stitches the whole time -- crying at times from laughter and at times from the gut wrenching honesty of her confessional storytelling. It was a treat. Not to be missed." (Tara P.)

"Sad, uplifting, courageous, funny, horrific, mind blowing! Unforgettable brilliance!" (Corin J.)

"An incredible story that will make you laugh when you probably want to cry! This woman is amazing!" (Mariana D.)

"I was expecting normal stand-up comedy not a deep thought provoking, funny, sad story of courage" (Jason S.)

"Compelling hour of honest, gutsy and funny stand-up" (Andy K.)

"Dark and funny and pretty bloody powerful. I wouldn't usually say any show was 'must see' but Jesus, this. Absolutely this. The show will hit you like a brick. But one with brilliant jokes written on it." (Adam F.)

"Brilliant, honest, emotional AND funny. See Katharine Ferns wherever/whenever you can" (Rachel W.)

"The most revealing and personal comedy show I've ever attended. Both brutal and brutally funny at the same time." (Antony J.)

"Absolutely brilliant, inspiring, heartbreaking and outrageously funny show." (Mark P.)

"Delightful Katharine Ferns delivers a series of serious messages in her standup show, finding way to make real and tragic events funny." (David C.)

"Harrowing, hilarious, this lady has stories you all need to hear." (Sean C.)

More information and clips can be found at:

www.katharineferns.com

twitter and instagram: @katharineferns

More about Katharine Ferns:

"Perky, charismatic performer with an acute sense of irony" – **Chortle**

"Observant and witty, Katharine Ferns is a modern, 21st century woman, who throws herself into life and consequently her jokes."— **** **The Wee Review**

"Salty-sweet, savagely honest, brutally funny."—**The Scene Magazine**

In 2012, Katharine was a finalist in the Toronto's Funniest Comedian Contest at Just For Laughs (JFL42) and while in Canada had been the support act for Jay Oakerson, Ari Shaffir, Kurt Metzger, Tom Segura, Sam Tripoli, Baron Vaughn, Brian Redban from Deathsquad and Brendon Walsh. Katharine was featured on Canada's iChannel in the stand-up series *No Kidding* and as a panelist on *Inside Joke* in 2014. She also appeared in an episode of MTV's *Losing It* and several theatrical productions with the PineTree Players in Alberta.

In 2014 Katharine moved to the UK to continue her career in her family's home country. That year she was a finalist in the Laughing Horse New Act Competition and in 2015, Katharine brought her 4 star debut solo show *Conscious, Incompetent* to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. In 2016, Katharine returned to Edinburgh with her work-in progress show *Faking It* and split hour with Evelyn Mok to rave reviews and she also was the support act for Dane Baptiste in Northern England.

This year, Katharine brought her new show *In Stitches* to the Leicester Comedy Festival, Glasgow International Comedy Festival and the Greater Manchester Fringe. After the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, the show was part of the Mainstage at the Vancouver Fringe Festival to critical acclaim.