

**Edinburgh Fringe 2017**



## **Louise Reay: Hard Mode**

The Stand Comedy Club, Stand 4  
3-27 August (not 14) @ 5.55pm

**‘Truly fantastic. Utterly out there, really charming, see it!’**  
Al Murray

Images

Imagine how you’d act if you were always being watched? Imagine living in an authoritarian regime? Imagine if the Chinese government bought the BBC?

Imagine no more. It’s the year 2020, Theresa May has clung on to power and all of her dreams have come true - the ‘Liberal Metropolitan Elite’ have been burned, and the BBC has been sold to the Chinese Government. This can only mean one thing! Last Night of the Proms must now be held in Beijing!

Award winning comedian **Louise Reay** continues to blaze a trail in **Hard Mode**, an innovative new satire where comedy meets immersive theatre. Based on a dialogue with **Ai Weiwei** and featuring a team of masked police, this provocative show explores oppression as the audience experiences life in an authoritarian regime. Reay also explores just how much UK audiences are currently under social control. “The UK is now the world’s most surveilled state with 6 million CCTV cameras — that’s one camera per 10 citizens”, says Reay.

**‘Louise Reay can legitimately claim to be unique’**  
Alice Jones, The Independent

Comedian and documentary-maker **Louise Reay** has been performing stand-up since age 16, training with **Jill Edwards** (Brighton Komedia) before moving into physical comedy with **Phil Burgers** (Doctor Brown) and **Deanna Fleysheer** (Butt Kapinski), who directed *Hard Mode*.

**Louise** read Modern & Classical Chinese at the **School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London** before working as a documentary maker for the **BBC** and **Channel 4**. Among her credits are **C4's** *Dispatches*, **BBC1's** *Panorama* the **C4** series on immigration, *Why Don't You Speak English?* and the **BBC's** education experiment *Chinese School: Are Our Kids Tough Enough?*

Louise has written and performed in two live shows questioning our attitudes to language, immigrants and race, *It's Only Words* and *Que Sera*, 些拉. The shows were all in Chinese – but for people who didn't speak any Chinese at all, utilising the 93% of communication that is non-verbal! Both were critically acclaimed with *It's Only Words* making the Amused Moose Awards shortlist for best show at the Edinburgh Fringe 2015 and *Que Sera*, 些拉 nominated for the Edinburgh Fringe Groundbreaker Award 2016, transferring to the Southbank Centre (December 2016) and the National Arts Festival in South Africa (July 2017). Louise Reay's *Hard Mode* recently won the Best Emerging Artist award at Adelaide Fringe 2017.

**'A delightful, almost childlike performer.'**

Kate Copstick, The Scotsman

**'One of the most insanely high concept undertakings at the festival.'**

Jay Richardson, The Scotsman

**'An impressive, multi-talented performer.'**

Fest

**'Such a natural clown'**

Phil Burgers (aka Edinburgh Comedy Award-winning Doctor Brown)

**'A superb debut show that proves in comedy, nothing is lost in translation.'**

The Skinny

**'Like the teletubbies doing standup...fascinating.'**

Steve Bennett, Chortle

**Full Listing:**

**Title:** Louise Reay - Hard Mode

**Venue:** The Stand Comedy Club, Stand 4

**Fringe venue number:** 12

**Address:** 28 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3EP

**Venue website:** <http://www.thestand.co.uk>

**Tel:** 0131 558 9005

**Direct ticket/ show link:**

<https://tickets.edfringe.com/whats-on/louise-reay-hard-mode>

**Dates:** August 3 - 27 (not 14)

**Press Night:** August 4

**Time:** 5.55pm

**Age:** 16+

**Duration:** 1 Hour

**Entry:** £8, £7 concessions (August 3 preview £7, £6 concessions)

**Preview dates:**

**House of Idiot, Brixton, London - 26th July - 8pm**

Market House, 443 Coldharbour Lane, London SW9 8LN

**Mama Biashara, Shepherds Bush, London - 28th July - 7.30pm**

W12 Shopping Centre, Westfield London Shopping Centre, W12 8PP

**Links:**

**Website:** [www.louisereay.com](http://www.louisereay.com)

**Twitter:** [@LouiseReayBeam](https://twitter.com/LouiseReayBeam)

**Images:** <http://tinyurl.com/kdbd3el>

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