

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2013 – REVIEW – Milton Jones On The High Road *****



Milton Jones On The High Road, Assembly Hall 7:30pm, until 14 Aug (except 5 and 6), £16.50

The king of one-liners is perhaps not yet a 'household name' after all his years in the business, but thankfully not having this title, which can never truly be defined, has not stopped his vivid mind creating a catalogue of laugh-out-loud puns that are reeled off in a brilliantly-paced, self-assured manner that had the audience craving more.

Star of BBC2's 'Mock the Week', a production that most viewers always hope that he appears on and are genuinely slightly miffed if he has a week-off, Jones' On the High Road is awash with hilarious jokes, the best of which take 2 or 3 seconds to eventually comprehend – the moment the audience's minds begin to 'click' is palpable. His mind is like a machine, but the show is anything but formulaic, with the inclusion of an amusing overhead projector segment being a highlight of the performance.

Heckling can spring up at any show of any kind at any time, and Milton Jones proved he knows how to deal with the 'tipsy' that can find their way in, even at an early evening showing. "That's why we should stop experimenting with embryos," he retorted to an incomprehensible bellow, the producer of which actually did Jones a favour by granting him an opportunity to respond, to the great delight of the audience.

Milton Jones is a comedic craftsman who, rather than simply

observing everyday happenings, has in fact focussed his energy on observing everyday language and well-known sayings and completely flipped them on their heads. The only negative about the performance was that it was sixty minutes long. More of Milton is mandatory.