

Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2022 – Pakistan to 60s Glasgow – a mother and daughter's cultural journey as New Scots

Actor and comedian Lubna Kerr is returning to the Fringe with a freshly updated version of her acclaimed show *Tickbox*.

The one woman show explores the experiences of different generations of a middle class Pakistani family moving to the Govan area of Glasgow in the late 60s.

Lubna earned extensive critical praise at last year's Fringe. *The Scotsman's* Joyce McMillan called her "a wonderfully vibrant and witty performer" ★★, *The Guardian* declared *Tickbox* was a "warm and witty solo show", *Broadway Baby* described it as "moving" and *Asian Image* said it was "storytelling theatre that's full of humour".

It deals with many aspects of family life; the joys, the love and the tragedies. Health, physical and mental, are a key focus – not least the way that two strong Pakistani women cope with life in a new land when the head of the family dies.

Lubna was raised in Glasgow but has lived in Edinburgh for many years and has appeared in TV shows such as *Scot Squad* and *Two Doors Down*, *Armchair Detectives* as well as the stage show *Still Game* in 2014. She is a regular on Radio Scotland and was

a guest on Radio 4's *Loose Ends* with Clive Anderson.

In *Tickbox* she takes on multiple roles, including that of her mother and her younger self, in a production that explores struggle, expectations and empowerment.

Tickbox reflects the cultural journey of a Pakistani family and is full of insights about the nature of identity.

Lubna said: "It intertwines my life with that of my Mum, who was just the best. Growing up in Scotland, after my Dad won a place to do a Chemistry PhD at Strathclyde University, had its challenges for us all, especially when tragedy struck the family.

"But *Tickbox* is wider than that. It's about the lives of strong, determined women across two generations. And there's a lot that anyone who has moved from one society to another will recognise – the experiences that have been common to them all throughout history."

In the case of *Tickbox* this includes exposing the prejudice and discrimination that has been experienced by many new Scots.

Lubna is just back from a successful tour of Northumbria and has a summer full of festivals where she will be sharing *Tickbox* with a wide range of rural and city audiences.

Lubna, who is also an NHS pharmacist, began her career in acting and comedy in 2010 as a mature woman. She enjoys using her very Scottish sense of humour to break down and sometimes to play up her Asian heritage – and the issues faced by people of Pakistani heritage across the UK.

She has gigged comedy across the country, and in the USA. Her 2018 debut show *The Asian Ellen DeGeneres* premiered at the Glasgow International Comedy Festival before going to the Edinburgh Fringe. In 2019 she followed this up with another

solo show *Where are You Really From?* – a question she frequently faces – and with an answer that depends on whose asking.

For more about Lubna Kerr see <http://www.lubnakerr.co.uk>.

Listings details

- Show title: Tickbox
- Cast: Lubna Kerr
- Category: Theatre
- Venue: Summerhall (Venue 26)
- Time: 20:55
- Dates: 16-28 August
- Duration: 55mins
- Ticket prices: £12
- Box office contact details: summerhall.co.uk and www.edfringe.com
- Suitability: Age 12+
- First review date: 16 August

