

# Redfern Legal Centre



## MEDIA ALERT

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### **Standing up for social justice: Tom Ballard and Rhys Nicholson to headline comedy fundraiser for Redfern Legal Centre**

Two of Australia's brightest comedy stars and whole raft of local comedic talent are coming out to support NSW's oldest community legal centre, Redfern Legal Centre.

This giant night of local comedy, headlined by Tom Ballard and Rhys Nicholson, marks the end of Redfern Legal Centre's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year. The fundraiser will be held at Giant Dwarf in Redfern on 8 March 2018.

**WHEN:** Thursday, 8 March 2018, 7.30pm-9.30pm (doors open at 6.30pm)

**WHERE:** Giant Dwarf. 199 Cleveland Street, Redfern.

**COST:** \$35. Tickets at: <https://giantdwarf.com.au/events/redfern-legal-centre-40th-birthday-comedy-show/>

**All proceeds raised will go towards ensuring Redfern Legal Centre is able to maintain free legal advice and advocacy for NSW's most vulnerable communities.**

RLC CEO Joanna Shulman said: "We're delighted to have such an incredible line up of Australian comedic talent coming out to support the work of Redfern Legal Centre. As well celebrating our achievements of the last 40 years, this comedy fundraiser will help us continue to meet the legal needs of our community.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to come together to support the important work of Redfern Legal Centre while having a giggle," Joanna Shulman said.

**RLC CEO Joanna Shulman available for interview.**

**Contact RLC Communication Manager Finn O'Keefe on 02 9698 7277 , 0424 548 019 or email [finn@rlc.org.au](mailto:finn@rlc.org.au)**

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**See overleaf for information on the performers.**

## **THE PERFORMERS**

### **Tom Ballard (Headline Act)**

Tom Ballard is a stand-up comedian, writer, actor, broadcaster, philanthropist and philanderer. He co-hosted the triple j breakfast show for four years and won an ARIA for his trouble and in 2014 he got his own shiny panel show Reality Check for ABC TV. Tom has fronted SBS's coverage of the Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras three times and has guest hosted ABC TV's Q&A.

### **Rhys Nicholson (Headline Act)**

Razor sharp, daring and downright lascivious, Rhys Nicholson is a wit quickly gaining international acclaim. After winning Best Newcomer at Sydney Comedy Festival in 2012, Rhys has gone on to perform all over the world, including Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Dublin's Vodafone Comedy Festival and London's prestigious SOHO Theatre, garnering audience and critical praise. They also quite liked his nice jackets.

### **Joe Shaffer (MC, Texas US)**

Hailing from Texas, USA, Joe has a unique upbeat southern style and hilarious jokes. Full of energy, he draws you in, then slaps you in the face (in the best possible way). As seen on ABC TV and heard on ABC Radio.

### **Jen Carnovale**

Jen Carnovale is a comic who has toured across the UK, Australia, all the good looking parts of Europe and tasty parts of Asia, this year Jen performed for Comedy Central Australia, Frocking Hilarious for Action Aid, was a regular guest on ABC iview's Bookish and was invited to perform with All Together Now for Comedy Vs Racism.

### **Fran Middleton**

Fran Middleton is a weirdo stand-up/rule-breaker who lives in Sydney. Golden Gibbo award nominee (Melbourne International Comedy Festival 2017), Fran is a comedian with a background in contemporary theatre, improv and immersive sketch. This evolved into her own solo act in Sydney, where she pops up on TV (The Checkout, ABC), 'fancy' theatres (The Chaser's Giant Dwarf) and grubby pubs for good measure.

### **Cameron James**

Cameron James is a quickly rising comedian, actor, writer, and podcast guy. He can currently be seen being funny in Comedy Central's popular "Share This" web series, which he writes and stars in, as well as roles in ABC's hit show Utopia, and on his chart-topping podcasts Mike Check and The Blank Slate. He was named one of the "Funniest Aussie Comedians To Follow On Social Media" by the Herald Sun. He's also funny in conversations with peoples mothers at parties.

### **Steph Broadbridge**

Steph Broadbridge and her ukulele are currently single and have been delighting and hitting on audiences around Sydney. Her catchy melodies and painfully honest lyrics will leave you asking "Did she really just say that?" You will laugh, you will cry, you will learn more about her than you are comfortable with.

### **Frida Deguise**

It's not easy being a mother of four, Lebanese and Muslim. But with a hijab and a microphone, Frida Deguise is smashing any stereotypes people might have of Muslim women in comedy. She is funny and outspoken, pushing the boundaries of perception and making her own rules about what a Muslim woman is allowed to say and what her audience is allowed to laugh at.

**More acts to be announced.**