

# CAN YOU SURVIVE THE 2013 LONDON 50 HOUR IMPROVATHON?

Extempore Theatre in association with Die Nasty present

## The Sixth Annual London Improvathon

A 50-hour non-stop improvised comedy soap opera  
in 25 two-hour episodes

**"It's absolutely incredible. This isn't theatre –  
it's blood sports"**

Whatsonstage.com

**"These hideously talented regulars are pushing improv in new  
directions. Go marvel"**

The Daily Telegraph

**"Hilarious. Like nothing you've ever seen before. Late night clubbers  
and early morning joggers unite"**

Time Out

Produced by Extempore Theatre (the new name for award-winning experimental theatre company The Sticking Place), creators of *Showstopper! The Improvised Musical* and *The Terror Seasons*, Britain's only annual festival of horror theatre and Grand Guignol, The 6th Annual London Improvathon will take place over 50 hours from Friday 11 January at 7.00pm to Sunday 13 January at 9.00pm at Hoxton Hall.

The finest improvisers from all over the world are flying to London to take part. This year participants come from America, Canada, Australia, Norway, The Netherlands, Austria and France, joined by the cream of UK talent.

Set in 1926, this year's theme celebrates the glory days of Carter and Egyptology - it's *The Mummy* meets Indiana Jones via Dorothy Parker and Agatha Christie! What secrets lie buried in the desert sands? Will there be greater discoveries than Tutankhamun's tomb? What is the riddle of the Sphinx? And what happens when performers stay awake for over 50 hours? As our cast gather in the old hotel overlooking the market square, prepare for an epic odyssey of romance, mystery and adventure...

The Improvathon is imported from Edmonton (Alberta, Canada) where for 20 years, the Die Nasty troupe have held an annual 'Soapathon'. Discovered by the late great theatre maverick Ken Campbell in 2005, Ken brought the event to the UK where it later became produced annually by Adam Meggido and The Sticking Place.

Some of the improvisers will go the distance for a full 50 hours of non-stop performance including musicians, technicians and the director. After 30 hours without sleep, the performers are peeled back to their 'lizard brain' resulting in a wild, uncensored and euphoric playing style that you will never see anywhere else in the world! Although the action plays like four seasons of your favourite DVD box set all in one sitting, each episode is self-contained. So audiences can drop in for any 105 min episode which stands alone. Although many people get caught up in it and want to stay for more!

There will be a special children's episode between 11am and 1.00pm on Sunday morning. This will be suitable for families and children of all ages.

Among those taking part are...

**Mark Meer** is an actor, writer and improviser known internationally for his work on the hit Mass Effect video game trilogy, in which he provides the voice of leading character Commander Shepard. In his home country of Canada, Mark is a writer and performer on CBC Radio's national sketch comedy program *The Irrelevant Show*, APTN TV's *CAUTION: May Contain Nuts*, and the new sitcom *Tiny Plastic Men*. He has been nominated for several Canadian Comedy Awards, including Best Male Improviser in 2011 and 2012.

**Jacob Banigan** lives in Austria. He is one of the leading theatresports and shortform improvisers in the world. His award-winning one man improv show *Game Of Death* was recently seen for the first time in the UK at The Bristol Old Vic.

**Cariad Lloyd** was nominated for Best Newcomer in the Fosters Edinburgh Comedy Awards 2011. She is a founder member of Edinburgh hit *Austentatious: The Improvised Jane Austen Novel*, and appears with *Monkey Toast* and *Grand Theft Impro*.

**Ruth Bratt** is to be seen soon to be seen in the new Ricky Gervais series *Derek* (CH4) and with Vic Reeves in *The Ministry Of Curious Stuff*. She is a regular player in BBC 3's cult hit *Mongrels* and is half of the comedy duo *Trodd en Bratt*. She is a founder member of the award-winning improv troupe – *The Showstoppers*.

**Pippa Evans** was nominated for Best Newcomer in the Edinburgh Comedy Awards 2008. Her character *Loretta Maine* is a staple of the comedy circuit (Funny Women Award Winner and Time Out Critics' Choice). She is a founder member of *The Showstoppers* and appears regularly in *Grand Theft Impro*.

**Adam Meggido** (Director). In 2012 Adam became the first Brit (and only the second man in the world) to direct all 50 hours of the Improvathon. He is the co-creator of award-winning *Showstopper The Improvised Musical* which has enjoyed three West End residencies, five Edinburgh Festival sell-out runs at the Gilded Balloon, a UK tour and BBC Radio 4 series. He also created *The School Of Night* with Ken Campbell with whom he enjoyed a close collaboration for five years.

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Listings information

## The 6th Annual London Improvathon

Hoxton Hall  
130 Hoxton Street  
LONDON  
N1 6SH

**Friday 11 January at 7.00pm -  
Sunday 13 January at 9.00pm**

How to get there:

Hoxton Hall is a short walk from Old Street (10-15 mins) and Liverpool Street (20 mins). It is two-minute walk from the new Hoxton overground station and 5 minutes from Shoreditch station, both on the East London line.

Tickets:

£10 for all episodes

£7.00 concessions

£5.00 if you want to stay on for  
another episode (subject to availability)

Full event Pass £55.00  
(£45.00 if booked before 5 January)

Book online at [www.hoxtonhall.co.uk](http://www.hoxtonhall.co.uk)  
(plus booking fee)

Ticket reservations at 020 7684 0060

[www.extemporetheatre.com](http://www.extemporetheatre.com)