# **SAMMY J - BIOGRAPHY**

Sammy J is an award-winning comedian, writer and musician. A proud nerd, he abandoned his law degree to travel the world and sing funny songs for a living. You may have seen him on TV, at a festival, or as one half of the man/puppet duo Sammy J & Randy.

As a solo act, Sammy J won the Best Newcomer award at the 2006 Melbourne International Comedy Festival. He has since performed at the Edinburgh Fringe, Montreal Just For Laughs, and every major Australian comedy festival. His album "Skinny Man, Modern World" was nominated for Best Comedy Release at the 2012 ARIA awards, and in 2013 he hosted the ABC's political sketch show "Wednesday Night Fever". He went on to interview several highprofile politicians as part of his "Democratic Party" series at the Wheeler Centre in Melbourne.



In 2008, a collaboration with puppeteer Heath McIvor led to the dark musical comedy Sammy J in the Forest of Dreams, which won the Age Critics' Award in Melbourne and went on to receive five-star reviews in Edinburgh and London's West End.

As "Sammy J & Randy", the duo received Australia's most prestigious comedy prize - the Barry Award - at the 2010 Melbourne Comedy Festival, and went on to play the Sydney Opera House, headline a Montreal gala, and gain a national following on the TV sketch show "Good News World". In 2014 Sammy J & Randy travelled to South Africa as Oxfam ambassadors to witness Oxfam's work firsthand. Their debut sitcom, "Sammy J & Randy in Ricketts Lane", premiered on ABC TV in 2015, and will launch in the United States in 2016.

As a composer, Sammy J has written countless comedy songs for stage and TV, and scored the incidental music for "Sammy J & Randy in Ricketts Lane".

Away from the comedy world, Sammy J regularly runs workshops in schools, co-hosts The Conversation Hour on ABC radio, and has written for multiple publications including The Age newspaper. His MC work has seen him host awards shows, corporate events, and inject much-needed humour into panel discussions. He is a proud Ambassador for <u>Big</u> <u>Brothers Big Sisters</u>, a national organisation that matches volunteer mentors with young people in need of guidance and friendship.

Sammy J's biggest project remains unfinished. In 2008, he started <u>The 50 Year Show</u>, a comedy spectacular that will run every five years until 2058. The show continues in Melbourne in 2018.

# FOR ALL BOOKING & PUBLICITY ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT:

michelle@buxstock.com www.sammy-j.com

# **REVIEWS - SAMMY J**

"One truly spectacular hour of comedy" - Chortle, Edinburgh

"A beautiful show from an endlessly creative talent" - Time Out, London

"Sammy J's narratives are rich in imagery and wordplay, and his command of language and cadence is superb" - Sydney Morning Herald

"Witty, talented and possessed of incredible timing and memory" - The Age, Melbourne

"Whiplash smart and laugh out loud funny, he is already a Fringe legend" - The Herald, Edinburgh

"Gleefully raucous, meticulously crazy, charmingly revolting, achingly funny" - Beat Magazine, Melbourne

# AS SAMMY J & RANDY

"The best skinny-man-purple-puppet double act in the world right now" - Fringe Review, Edinburgh

"The funniest, smartest, rudest show on the Fringe" - The Herald, Edinburgh

"Another brilliantly executed musical extravaganza that's raucous, witty fun from start to finish" - Chortle, Edinburgh

"One of the most entertaining, exciting performances you'll find on the Fringe" - British Comedy Guide

"One of the funniest shows you're likely to see this year" - Edinburgh Evening News

"It's not often that you see a completely fresh comedy show but they have nailed it this time." - Daily Record, UK

# **AWARDS & NOMINATIONS**

ARIA Nomination for Best Comedy Release - 2012, 2013 & 2015

AACTA Nomination for Best Comedy Show - 2015 (Sammy J & Randy in Ricketts Lane, ABC TV)

AWGIE Award for Best Sketch or Light Entertainment Writing - 2014 (Wednesday Night Fever, ABC TV)

Best Show Nominee - 2013 Adelaide Fringe Festival (Sammy J in Potentially)

Barry Award for Most Outstanding Show - 2010 Melbourne Comedy Festival (with Randy)

The Age Critics' Award Winner - 2008 Melbourne Comedy Festival (with Randy)

Barry Award Nominee - 2008 Melbourne Comedy Festival (with Randy)

Most Outstanding Comedy Show Nominee - 2008 Adelaide Fringe Festival (with Randy)

Brian McCarthy Moosehead Award Recipient - 2008 Melbourne Comedy Festival (with Randy)

Best Emerging Cabaret Artiste Nominee - 2007 Green Room Awards

Best Newcomer Award Winner - 2006 Melbourne International Comedy Festival

2006 Butterfly Club "Under Our Wing" Award

# LIVE SHOWS

## 2016

Sammy J & Randy Land (Adelaide, MICF)

## 2015

An Evening With Sammy J & Randy (Perth Fringe, MICF, Sydney)

## 2014

Sammy J & Randy's Difficult First Album Tour (Adelaide, MICF, Sydney)

## 2013

Potentially (Adelaide, MICF)

# 2012

The Inheritance (Adelaide Fringe, MICF, Sydney) The Sammy J Song Book (Adelaide)

## 2011

Potentially (Edinburgh) Bin Night (Adelaide Fringe, MICF, Sydney) Sammy J & Randy Arena Spectacular (Perth)

#### 2010

Ricketts Lane (Adelaide, MICF, Brisbane, Sydney, NZ, Edinburgh) Skinny Man, Modern World (Edinburgh, Melbourne Fringe)

## 2009

1999 (Adelaide, MICF, Edinburgh)

#### 2008

Sammy J in the Forest of Dreams (Adelaide, MICF, Brisbane, NZ, Edinburgh, London) The 50 Year Show (Melbourne Fringe) Sammy J's Wagon of Friendship (Famous Spiegeltent)

# 2007

58 Kilograms of Pure Entertainment (Adelaide, MICF, Edinburgh) Breaker Morant (Edinburgh Fringe) La Clique (Famous Spiegeltent)

#### 2006

Sammy J's 55 Minute National Tour (MICF) Cyclone (Melbourne Fringe Festival) Sammy J's Weak and Randy (Butterfly Club) **2005** Three Minute Walk (MICF) Laughapoolooza (MICF) 2005 Melbourne University Law Revue

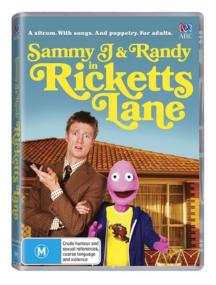
## 2004

The Comedy Zone (MICF) 2004 Melbourne University Law Revue

# **FILM & TELEVISION**

Sammy J & Randy in Ricketts Lane (ABC) Insiders (ABC) Neil Patrick Harris' Circus Awesomeus (JFL / Montreal) Wednesday Night Fever (ABC) Edinburgh Comedy Live (BBC) Comedy Warehouse Special (ABC 2) Good News World (Network Ten) Spicks and Specks (ABC TV) Talkin' 'Bout Your Generation (Network Ten) A Tribute to Nerds (Montreal Comedy Gala) 7pm Project (Network Ten) The Circle (Network Ten) Good News Week (Network Ten) Operation Irina (VCA Masters Film, 2010) OXFAM Melbourne Comedy Festival Gala (Network Ten) Sunrise (Network Seven) Stand Up Australia (Comedy Channel) Studio A (Channel 31) Kids WB (Channel Nine) I Could Be Anybody (Standing There Productions, 2005) Stand Up! (ABC TV) Let Loose Live (Network Seven) Champagne Comedy (Channel 31) Hey Hey it's Saturday (Channel Nine)

# DISCOGRAPHY



Sammy J & Randy in Ricketts Lane (ABC DVD, 2015)



Sammy J & Randy Live (DVD, 2015)



Sammy J & Randy's Difficult First Album (2014)



*Skinny Man, Modern World* CD, Words & Music Entertainment (2012)



Sammy J & Randy in Bin Night DVD, Laughing Stock Productions (2012)



*58 Kilograms of Pure Entertainment* DVD, Madman Entertainment (2011)



Sammy J in the Forest of Dreams DVD, Control Entertainment (2010)



*Sticky Digits* CD, Words & Music Entertainment (2009)