



Laura Davis

Profile

Laura Davis is an award-winning, critically acclaimed Australian UK-based comedian, writer and director. Davis has garnered a reputation as a fearless, honest and razor sharp comedian. They're a hugely distinctive and highly respected artist who tackles dark, difficult subjects with intelligence, raw vulnerability and biting wit.

Since making their name as a national finalist in the **Melbourne International Comedy Festival RAW** competition, Davis has taken multiple critically acclaimed stand up shows to Melbourne.

Davis' sixth offering, **Ghost Machine**, won both the **Golden Gibbo** and the **Melbourne Fringe Best Comedy Award** in 2015. **Marco Polo**, Davis' 2016 show for **MICF** and the **Adelaide Fringe Festival**, won the prestigious **Comedy Channel Moosehead Award**. Laura's 2022 show **If This Is It** received a nomination for the **Most Outstanding Show** at **MICF**.

Laura has regularly performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival where their shows have received huge critical acclaim. **The Scotsman** lauded Davis', "*considerable elan, making series points with wonderfully silly flourishes.*" and **The List** praised Davis' ability to have "*the audience firmly in their palm, refusing to hold back.*" **Time Out** stated: "*Every – EVERY – word is vigorously crafted...this is laughter that takes power away from the darkness...Laura Davis is IT and more*" and **Chortle** called them "*inspired...sends you out into the street with your head spinning*". **The Guardian** identified how: "*Davis' shows are frequently existential – dealing with deep-seated and complex fears about the way society is functioning. They are also very, very funny.*"

In August 2025, Laura will take their new show **Despair is Beneath Us** to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, following an acclaimed run at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival. **Chortle** observed how Laura's "*uniquely fertile brain is a highlight of any comedy festival, and this year is no exception...fizzing*"

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with intelligence and humanity. Plenty of nuggets of comedy gold, including what's guaranteed the best gag based on a Shakespearean sonnet you'll hear this festival."

Davis is an experienced comedy director, most recently having worked with James Nokise and Grace Jarvis. Davis was a writer on the seventh and eighth seasons of ABC TV's **Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell**, Australia's long-running satirical news and current affairs program, and has also performed stand-up on ABC TV's **Comedy Up Late**, **MICF Upfront Gala** and **ABC Comedy Next Gen Special** plus the **New Zealand Comedy Festival Gala 2020**.

Davis has also been a guest on several leading podcasts, including **Wilosophy Podcast** with Wil Anderson, **Be Honest** with Jojo Sutherland and Bruce Devlin, **The Adam Buxton Podcast**, **The Comedian's Comedian Podcast** and **The Guilty Feminist**.

Awards

Nominee: Melbourne International Comedy Festival Most Outstanding Show Award 2023

Nominee: Melbourne International Comedy Festival Most Outstanding Show Award 2022

Winner: Comedy Channel Moosehead Award 2016

Winner: Melbourne International Comedy Festival Golden Gibbo Winner 2015

Winner: Melbourne Fringe Best Comedy 2015

Winner: Best Comedy WA Fringeworld 2013

Credits

TV

- MICF Upfront Gala (Performer, ABC TV, 2018)
- MICF Comedy Up Late (Performer, ABC TV 2017)
- ABC Comedy Next Gen Special (Performer, ABC TV, 2016)

Writing

- Shaun Micallef's Mad As Hell (ABC TV, 2017-2018)

Directing

- James Nokise: Right About Now (2023)
- Grace Jarvis: This Is The Last Goldfish That I Am Going To Eat For You (2023)

Radio & Podcasts

- Always Be Comedy (Guest, 2025)
- Joy Agenda (Guest, 2024)
- Northern News (Guest, 2024)
- Guestimators (Guest, 2024)
- Breaking The News (Guest, 2024)
- Wilosophy Podcast with Will Anderson (Guest, 2023)
- Be Honest with Jojo Sutherland and Bruce Devlin (Guest, 2022)
- The Gargle (Guest, 2022-2024)
- Dating Games (Guest, 2021)
- Tea With Alice (Guest, 2020)
- Evil Genius With Russell Kane (Guest, BBC, 2020)
- The Circuit (Guest, BBC Radio 4 Extra, 2019)
- The Guilty Feminist Podcast (Guest, 2018)
- The Adam Buxton Podcast (Guest, 2018)

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- The Comedian's Comedian Podcast (Guest, 2018)
- Vic & Em's Comedy Gems (Guest, 2017)
- MICF Comedy Up Late (Performer, ABC TV 2017)

Live

- Despair is Beneath Us (Edinburgh Festival Fringe & Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2025)
- Albatross (Edinburgh Festival Fringe & Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2024)
- The Edit (Creator and Co Host, Regular gig in Edinburgh)
- Well Don't Just Stand There Dancing (Edinburgh Festival Fringe & Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2023)
- If This Is It (Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Soho Theatre London & Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2022)
- Better Dead Than A Coward (Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 2019)
- Ghost Machine (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival & Soho Theatre London, 2015, 2018-2019)
- Cake in the Rain (Edinburgh Fringe Festival & Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2017)
- Marco Polo (Melbourne International Comedy Festival & Adelaide Fringe, 2016-2017)
- Pillow of Strength (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2014)
- Look Out, It's A Trap (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2013)
- Notes From Birds (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2012)
- The Dog in the Ink (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2011)
- Ant's Don't Sleep (Melbourne International Comedy Festival, 2010)
- MICF Comedy Zone (2009)
- MICF RAW Comedy National Finalist (2008)

Press

*A comedian with skilful mastery at turning the everyday into comedic gold. **Fest Magazine** ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: Albatross)*

*It's anarchic and the audience is with her all the way. **The Age** ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: Well Don't Just Stand There Dancing)*

*Inspired... sends you out into the street with your head spinning. **Chortle** ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: Well Don't Just Stand There Dancing)*

*Sincere depth of feeling growls from her. Yet her dense, joke-packed diatribe is delivered with the knowing, unhinged glint of her apocalyptic woodswoman experience, as if she has nothing to lose while laying almost everything bare. **The Scotsman** ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: If This Is It)*

*She had the audience firmly in her palm, refusing to hold back....Her likeability is unquestionable (it's clear to see why she has scooped some major comedy awards)" **The List** (on Laura Davis: If This Is It)*

Every – EVERY – word is vigorously crafted...this is laughter that takes power away from the darkness...Laura Davis is IT and more.

***Time Out** ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: If This is It)*

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The laughs are loud and don't let up...an impressive show, assured to leave an impact felt long after its finale." **The Skinny ★★★★★** (on Laura Davis: *If This Is It*)

This Is It is bold and ambitious – and also very funny...An exciting, urgent and relevant comedian.

Chortle ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: *If This Is It*)

Decidedly defiant and damn funny. The inimitable Davis might despair, but the good news is she will not be stopped.

The Age ★★★★★ (on Laura Davis: *If This Is It*)

Davis has devised a blistering powerhouse of a show that gives stand up a sense of urgency and significance that it doesn't always have. Above all else, it is back-breakingly funny, with the award-winning comedian ensuring their audience are laughing maniacally by the time the curtain comes down on a sensational hour of comedy...For a performance of such apparent and gleeful chaos, it has structure and purpose. The gags, stories and quips come thick and fast but never without a point...An achingly funny show that dares you to find value in yourself." ★★★★★ **The Wee Review**

A different kind of provocative... Smart, challenging, ambitious, playful and funny.

Chortle.co.uk ★★★★★

Genuinely brilliant stand-up.

Comedy.co.uk

An hour with Laura Davis leaves you feeling uplifted, somewhat bewildered and utterly amazed by such blistering talent.

Time Out ★★★★★

An ingeniously constructed shaggy dog story which, for all its playful nonsense, will be best remembered for its unexpected moments of emotional clarity.

Fest Magazine (ref. Better Dead Than A Coward) ★★★★★

A lot of laughs from this rising stand-up star.

The List ★★★★★

A beautiful, expressive show.

Fest Magazine (ref. Ghost Machine) ★★★★★

...extraordinary stand-up that squeezes your heart until you feel the blood surging through your body.

The Age ★★★★★.5

Impossible not to laugh. Everyone left on a high.

Herald Sun ★★★★★

This is when the real magic begins; Davis flexes her improv muscles and comfortably lets things loosen up before bringing things home with genuine heart. Last year, Davis earned her status as a cult favourite; this year shows why she won't remain an underground name for much longer.

Time Out ★★★★★

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The performance itself is an act of defiance...one of the more fascinating shows at the festival.

Chortle.co.uk

This is more than straight stand up. This is a performance. This is an experience. A bloody spectacular one... Davis doesn't own the stage. She owns the room.

Illegitimate Theatre

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