

A4 MEDIA RELEASE.



**AFTER YEARS OF PLANNING NIC SAMPSON HAS FINALLY
DREAMED UP THE PERFECT CRIME
BUT HE NEEDS YOUR HELP TO PULL IT OFF...**

**BASEMENT
THEATRE**

Nic Sampson Jewel Heist

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"Sampson is at the peak of his game...a beautiful gem of comedic goodness" – TV

Some say he's peaked (see above) but there are gems still to be uncovered from this award-winning comedian. Nic Sampson (*Jono and Ben*, *Funny Girls*, *Brokenwood*) brings his brand new show, *Jewel Heist*, to Basement Theatre as part of the New Zealand International Comedy Festival powered by Flick Electric Co. from the 9th – 13th of May, 2017.

Nic Sampson has just turned 30, and yet somehow years of performing irreverent stand up comedy at the Basement Theatre hasn't made him as rich as he believes he deserves. But like most Millennials, Nic is also unwilling to stop spending his house-money on frivolous items like 'smashed avocado', 'cold-brew cocaine', and 'rent'.

So this year Nic has a genius plan:

- A) Perform some irreverent stand up comedy at Basement Theatre.
- B) Steal the 20-carat Hortensia Diamond which is on loan from The Louvre.
- C) Break even on ticket sales.

Nic has earned his stripes as a writer as part of the writing teams for *Funny Girls* and *Jono and Ben*. He's also a founding member of the weekly improvised comedy sensation, *Snort*. Sampson's 2016 Comedy Festival performance proved his skills as both a writer and comedian and landed him with both a nomination for the prestigious Fred Award and a sell-out return season at The Basement.

Nic's unique blend of observational comedy, absurdist scenarios and slapstick physical comedy is in demand all over the country. This year his historical epic *Ernest Rutherford: Anyone Can Science!* will be touring the New Zealand Festival circuit.

Does Nic have what it takes to pull off the jewel heist of the century in front of a (presumably) sold-out crowd, while simultaneously delivering a hilarious hour of irreverent stand up and humorous observations about life as a 30 year old? Let's find out!

(Please don't bring police.)

**Performing as part of the 2017 NZ International Comedy Festival
powered by Flick Electric Co. from 27 April - 21 May.**

For the full line-up of shows in the Festival head to comedyfestival.co.nz

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Best Newcomer Winner – 2014, Billy T Nominee – 2015, Fred Award Nominee – 2016

“A world-class hour of comedy from one of the country’s best performers. It’s essential.” – Stuff.co.nz

“This is neck-jerking, knee slapping, wiping-tears-from-your-eyes comedy that had my ears ringing because the audience was laughing so much” – Tearaway Magazine 4/5

“Sampson fully unleashed his weird imagination on the audience, with such excellent results” – Gather & Hunt

“...he is so obviously the boss of the stage.” – Gather & Hunt

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Nic Sampson – Jewel Heist

Auckland

Dates: Tue 9 – Sat 13 May, 8.30pm

Venue: Basement Theatre, Lower Greys Ave

Tickets: \$18 – \$25

Bookings: basementtheatre.co.nz // 0508 ITICKET (484 253)

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For more information, images and interviews contact:

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