



KIWI-FILIPINO COMEDIAN DISMANTLES HIS COLONIAL PAST IN NEW SHOW



**James Roque in
BOY MESTIZO**

After a successful run at last year's Melbourne and New Zealand International Comedy Festivals, comedian James Roque introduces his new show *Boy Mestizo* - the next step in his journey to get back to his Filipino roots.

Boy Mestizo is a light-hearted, hilariously honest, no-holds-barred takedown of the colonial thinking that grips the Filipino diaspora. From pinching their baby's noses to try make it pointier like a white nose to using skin whitening products to try and make their skin whiter - no stone is left unturned as Roque asks the universal question; when you dismantle your history, what are you left with?

A local favourite on the stand-up comedy scene, James is also featured on New Zealand's prime time comedy TV shows. His credits include being a writer and cast member for Jono and Ben, 7 Days, Funny Girls and Only in Aotearoa. He is also a panellist for 7 Days and was featured in the 2018 NZ International Comedy Gala.

"The word 'mestizo' means mixed race" James says "In the Philippines being mixed or lighter skinned is always what is considered more beautiful. Growing up, I never really questioned that. But now as adult I've realised how messed up that actually is. I reckon comedy is the best way to destroy that way of thinking."

"One of the best shows you'll see this year!" – Penelope Stevens, Milkbar Mag (AU)

"An absolute joy to watch" – Laura Ferguson, Art Murmurs (NZ)

Show Details: James Roque in BOY MESTIZO – WELLINGTON

Dates: May 7 – May 11 2019

Time: 7:00PM

Cost: \$20 - \$20

Venue: The Fringe Bar, 26 Allen Street, Wellington

Tickets: www.comedyfestival.co.nz

Media contact for interview arrangements, high-res photos, bios and further info:

James Roque

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**Performing as part of the 2019 NZ International Comedy Festival
With Best Foods Mayo from 2 – 26 May.**

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