

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SAMANTHA PRESSDEE

Title Of Show: Samantha Pressdee: Back 2 Basics (WIP)
Venue: The Caroline of Brunswick
Time: 22:00pm
Dates: May 24th-25th

“The most endearing political activist I have ever met.”
(Kate Copstick, The Scotsman)

“Hits a rich vein of dark humour, nicely crafted jokes with sharp timing.”
(The Times)

“An “endearing” stage presence, happy to share her realisation that she can make and live by her own rules rather than anyone else’s.”
(Broadway Baby)

Sammie is best known for performing and campaigning topless. In the new show she will be baring her soul instead of her chest. Following last years topless comedy show ‘Sextremist’ and the Brighton Beach topless takeover in support of #FreeTheNipple which caused quite a stir in not only the national but international press. Alternative political comedian and activist, Samantha Pressdee returns to the Brighton Fringe Festival with her work in progress show ‘Back 2 Basics’ at Caroline of Brunswick from 24th & 25th of May.

An anarchy-feminist, who confronted the patriarchy with her tits out was crowned winner of the ‘I am a Woman’ Defining the Norm Award - Proudly accepted topless much to the delight of the crowd. Stating “I’m so happy female nipples are now considered normal” This caused Will Franken to joke “I think we’ve found the first feminist with a sense of humour!”

“Back 2 Basics” is a bitter sweet tale of political awakening from a working class perspective. With nothing left to lose but everything to fight for Samantha followed Russell Brand onto the frontline of the revolution - a council estate in Barnet. An adventure through the Neverland of anarchy where squatters, families and activists unite in a battle to cover basic needs. There’s no place like home.

As well as looking at her alternative method of recovery from a breakdown following the death of her father a few years ago. The show chronicles her involvement in high profile political occupation ‘Sweets Way Resists’, which was a fight against social cleansing. Sadly one of the activists she met during this time passed away during her run at Edinburgh last year, he was only 28. Well known and loved activist Tom Palmer was failed by the mental health system. Samantha talks about the importance of getting basic needs met and advocates for an Unconditional Basic Income which could produce a more stable and creative society.

The show focuses on the importance of basic needs rather than wants. In a world where

the rich get richer as the poor fall through our disintegrating welfare safety net she asks, how much is enough?

In order to connect with nature and the bare necessities, Sammie has visited campsites in the British countryside for writing retreats. There's nothing more grounding than emptying a porta-potty!

When Samantha is not performing she teaches pole dancing, burlesque and seduction workshops. She cares deeply about issues relating to mental health and last year started a social enterprise 'Love Muffin Productions' focusing on female empowerment with the help of the government's new enterprise scheme. As an activist she's been a member of Sweets Way Resists (Social Housing), co-founder of The Trewps (inspired by The Trews), admin for Walsall Against Cuts and was a founding member and treasurer of Walsall Green Party, until till she decided to become an anarchist!

Samantha hails from the Black Country, which used to be one of the most industrialised parts of Britain. Her home town Walsall is now ranked the 4th most deprived area in England. (Office for National Statistics.) She has been a professional performer for over 10 years, previously working as an Actress, Dancer and Model. She trained at the Lee Strasberg institute in Hollywood California, which counts Scarlet Johansson, Sienna Miller and Angelina Jolie among their alumni to name but a few.

As an Actress she has appeared in the award winning film 'Short Trousers'. Spent 3 years with Pineapple Cheerleaders and appeared in national papers and magazines as a glamour model. She has also featured as herself talking about issues close to her heart on various TV & Radio programmes on channels including ITV, The BBC, Channel 5, Juice FM, BBC WM & Absolute Radio. She was a regular contributor to 'Tim Shaw's Asylum' on Kerrang! radio as a comedy character 'Real Life Barbie'

She's now a regular guest on James Whales Talk Radio show, a presenter on Brum Radio's 'Funny Brummies' and has recently filmed a new TV show called 'The Dating Guru's'.

The finished show will debut at this years Edinburgh Fringe Festival, 3rd - 27th Aug at Laughing Horse @ 48 Below 7.30pm.

WATCH SAMANTHA IN ACTION: <https://youtu.be/5FVjRnM-ivw>

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