# Wynne Evans steps back from Strictly amid controversy over misunderstood remark



Wynne Evans, the Welsh tenor known for his roles in the entertainment industry and for presenting on BBC Radio Wales, has recently found himself at the centre of controversy following remarks he made during the launch of the Strictly Come Dancing live tour. Reports, notably from The Mail on Sunday, accused Evans of making an inappropriate comment about professional dancer Janette Manrara, which he later described as mischaracterised. In the wake of the backlash, Evans has announced that he will be stepping back from his public commitments, including the tour and his radio show, to "prioritise his wellbeing."

In a statement, Evans expressed his sorrow over the incident, acknowledging that his choice of words was inappropriate. He said, “I am deeply sorry for the pain my inappropriate actions have caused, and plan to take this time for self-reflection.” However, speaking to other media outlets, including The Sun on Sunday, he refuted claims that the remark was sexual or aimed at Manrara. Instead, he clarified that the term “Old Spit-roast Boy” referred to fellow contestant Jamie Borthwick and was a nickname based on a comedic observation of his flexibility. Evans insisted this context had been lost in translation, stating, “I’m not a bad guy, I’m not a misogynist, I’m not any of these things.”

This isn't the first time Evans has faced scrutiny over his behaviour. Last year, he garnered criticism for a video showing him placing his hand on another dancer, Katya Jones's waist, which she appeared to rebuff. Both Evans and Jones later apologised, asserting the act was intended as a joke, a statement that drew mixed reactions from audiences and critics alike. The incident raises broader questions about the culture surrounding behaviour in the entertainment industry, particularly regarding boundaries and consent.

Following his comments and subsequent fallout, a spokesperson for the Strictly Live Tour and BBC Studios noted that they were previously unaware of Evans's remarks and reiterated that such conduct is not tolerated on their platforms. The situation underscores a growing awareness of the need for accountability in entertainment, especially in light of recent movements advocating for respectful behaviour and mental health awareness.

Many of his colleagues, including Jones, have expressed support for Evans. Jones, in particular, urged the public to “show humanity and consideration” towards him during this challenging time, indicating that the entertainment industry must navigate these complex interactions with sensitivity. As Evans takes time away to reflect, the entertainment landscape faces an ongoing examination of professional conduct, personal accountability, and public perception in the wake of his remarks.

This incident serves as a renewed reminder of the importance of respectful discourse and interaction, challenging both public figures and audiences to engage in a dialogue about appropriate behaviour in the limelight. As the dust settles on this controversy, it remains to be seen how Evans's reputation will recover and what implications this will have for his future in the industry.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/25189796.wynne-evans-not-misogynist-strictly-tour-remarks/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/tv-and-radio/2025/jan/26/wynne-evans-apologises-unacceptable-sexual-remark-strictly-tour-launch> - Welsh opera singer Wynne Evans apologized for making an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' sexual remark during the Strictly Come Dancing live tour launch. The Mail on Sunday reported that Evans used the term 'spitroast' in reference to dancer Janette Manrara. Evans acknowledged his language was inappropriate and expressed sincere apologies. A spokesperson for the Strictly Live Tour and BBC Studios stated they were not previously aware of the remark and emphasized that such behavior is not tolerated on the tour.
3. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvge3k2pxp0o> - Wynne Evans apologized for making an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' comment during the Strictly Come Dancing live tour launch. A Mail on Sunday reporter recorded Evans, 52, making the sexualized remark at the Birmingham Arena as the group prepared for a photo on stage. Evans stated, 'My language was inappropriate and unacceptable, for which I sincerely apologize.' A spokesperson for the Strictly Live Tour and BBC Studios said they were not previously aware of the remark and did not receive any complaints.
4. <https://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/tv/news/wynne-evans-strictly-tour-controversy-sacked-b2687589.html> - Opera singer Wynne Evans will leave the Strictly Come Dancing live tour after making a crude remark about professional dancer Janette Manrara. Evans announced he will take time off from his radio show and the Strictly Live tour to prioritize his wellbeing. He expressed deep apologies for the pain his inappropriate actions have caused and plans to use this time for self-reflection. A spokesperson for the Strictly live tour and BBC Studios stated they were not previously aware of the remark and emphasized that such behavior is not tolerated on the tour.
5. <https://www.standard.co.uk/showbiz/katya-jones-wynne-evans-strictly-come-dancing-tour-b1207722.html> - Professional dancer Katya Jones has broken her silence after Wynne Evans left the Strictly Come Dancing UK tour following the backlash to his sexual remark during its launch. Evans announced he will take time out from his radio show and the Strictly Live tour to prioritize his wellbeing. Jones expressed support for Evans, stating, 'Let's show humanity and consideration.' She added that she would miss Evans in the post to her Instagram stories.
6. <https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/wynne-evans-katya-jones-apologies-bbc-studios-glasgow-b2687913.html> - Wynne Evans announced he is taking 'time out' from the Strictly Come Dancing tour and his other public commitments to prioritize his wellbeing. This follows his apology for an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' remark made during the tour launch. Evans expressed deep apologies for the pain his actions have caused and plans to use this time for self-reflection. A spokesperson for the Strictly live tour and BBC Studios stated they were not previously aware of the remark and emphasized that such behavior is not tolerated on the tour.
7. <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvg8jwyveyxo> - Singer and broadcaster Wynne Evans has said he is taking 'time out' from the Strictly Come Dancing tour as well as his 'other public commitments', to 'prioritise my wellbeing'. The Welsh tenor's statement came two days after he apologised for making an 'inappropriate and unacceptable' comment. The Mail on Sunday reported that he made a sexualised remark as the tour's dancers prepared for a group photo at the tour's launch. On Monday, the BBC said he was 'taking time off' from presenting his weekday show on BBC Radio Wales.