# Rory Bremner’s new tour struggles to capture the urgency of UK’s political upheaval



Rory Bremner’s latest touring show, "Making An Impression," took center stage at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh, offering an evening that attempted to marry nostalgia with contemporary satire. While Bremner showcased his well-honed impersonations of political figures like Donald Trump and Jacob Rees-Mogg, one couldn't help but reflect on the recent seismic shifts in UK politics. With Labour's Kier Starker now at the helm and the Conservative party reeling, the emptiness of his material felt particularly poignant.

The performance, designed in an "An Evening With..." format, featured a mix of stand-up, sketches, and lively chat-show banter led by onstage host Fred MacAulay. While he jovially engaged the notably younger audience, it was hard to ignore the irony of light-hearted remarks delivered amidst a backdrop of pressing issues, such as soaring inflation and a crumbling National Health Service. Audiences seeking genuine political insight may find Bremner's reliance on familiar jokes a missed opportunity to address the critical state of the nation under new leadership.

Many of Bremner’s anecdotes, while presented with charm, felt stagnant as he leaned on well-trodden ground instead of probing deeper into topics that warrant scrutiny. The smoothness of his delivery, though notably polished, risked diminishing the spontaneous humor that fans typically crave. As he vulnerably addressed his experience with ADHD, a welcome diversion emerged, but it stood in stark contrast to the societal challenges the new government now faces, particularly the stigma surrounding mental health in increasingly volatile times.

Local references catered to the Edinburgh audience, including a Trump gag about the Fife village of Lower Largo, evoking laughter that, while enjoyable, may not resonate as broadly when the pressing issues of governance are at hand. Sharp observations included jabs at the revolving door of British Prime Ministers, highlighting a political instability that the Labour government seems poised to deepen. Here, Bremner's wit ignited laughter but also prompted discomfort, especially when audiences consider the implications of continued ineffective leadership.

Despite some reservations about the novelty of his material, Bremner's status as a satirist remains largely intact. Yet, one wonders if he is missing a critical opportunity to challenge the status quo under a new Labour regime that could further alienate constituents disillusioned with traditional politics. "Making An Impression" serves not only as a nostalgic reflection but also as a reminder of the need for incisive comedy that tackles the pressing concerns of today. With the landscape shifting, audiences crave satire that honors the past while unflinchingly critiquing current failures.

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2025/jun/02/rory-bremner-review-trump-rees-mogg-the-king-assembly-rooms-edinburgh> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2025/jun/02/rory-bremner-review-trump-rees-mogg-the-king-assembly-rooms-edinburgh> - In this review, The Guardian's Brian Logan discusses Rory Bremner's performance at the Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh. Bremner's show blends topical comedy with nostalgic impressions of figures like Russell Grant, Keith Floyd, and Robin Cook. The performance includes stand-up, sketches, and chat-show banter, with Bremner's anecdotes and impressions of political figures such as Trump and Rees-Mogg. The review notes that while the show is entertaining, it revisits familiar material, and Bremner's polished delivery sometimes feels rehearsed. The review also highlights local references that may be more appreciated by Edinburgh audiences.
3. <https://www.comedy.co.uk/live/shows/1605/rory-bremner-making-an-impression/> - The British Comedy Guide provides details about Rory Bremner's 'Making An Impression' tour, which runs from 28 May to 22 June 2025. The show combines Bremner's stand-up comedy with candid conversation, featuring a rotating cast of special guest hosts. Bremner's performance includes vocal mimicry, topical satire, and insights into his career, covering his work on 'Bremner, Bird & Fortune', appearances on 'Mock the Week', and his role as Chris Tarrant in 'Quiz'. The tour includes various UK venues, with tickets available through the official website.
4. <https://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/whats-on/legendary-edinburgh-impressionist-and-comedian-rory-bremner-coming-home-for-assembly-rooms-show-5046362> - The Edinburgh News reports on Rory Bremner's return to Edinburgh for his 'Making An Impression' tour, with a show at the Assembly Rooms on 1 June 2025. The article highlights Bremner's four-decade career as a comedian and impressionist, noting his ability to mimic political figures and celebrities. Bremner's show combines stand-up comedy with candid conversation, accompanied by special guest hosts. The article mentions that tickets are on sale for the Edinburgh performance and provides details about the tour dates and venues.
5. <https://www.broadwayworld.com/uk-regional/article/Rory-Bremner-to-Launch-2025-Live-Tour-MAKING-AN-IMPRESSION-20250321> - BroadwayWorld announces Rory Bremner's 'Making An Impression' tour, starting on 28 May 2025 at Nottingham Playhouse. The article details Bremner's career, including his work on 'Bremner, Bird & Fortune', appearances on 'Mock the Week', and his role as Chris Tarrant in 'Quiz'. The tour features Bremner's vocal mimicry, topical satire, and insights into his career, blending stand-up comedy with conversation. The article lists the tour dates and venues across the UK, with tickets available through the official website.
6. <https://www.beyondthejoke.co.uk/content/15983/rory-bremner-tour-dates> - Beyond The Joke provides information on Rory Bremner's 'Making An Impression' tour, which runs from 28 May to 22 June 2025. The article highlights Bremner's vocal mimicry, topical satire, and revealing insights into his career. Bremner's show combines stand-up comedy with candid conversation, accompanied by special guest hosts. The article mentions Bremner's work on 'Bremner, Bird & Fortune', appearances on 'Mock the Week', and his role as Chris Tarrant in 'Quiz'. The tour includes various UK venues, with tickets available through the official website.
7. <https://www.chortle.co.uk/comics/r/153/rory_bremner> - Chortle provides a profile of comedian Rory Bremner, detailing his career and upcoming tour dates. The article highlights Bremner's work on 'Bremner, Bird & Fortune', appearances on 'Mock the Week', and his role as Chris Tarrant in 'Quiz'. The profile includes information on Bremner's vocal mimicry, topical satire, and revealing insights into his career. The article lists Bremner's upcoming tour dates and venues across the UK, with tickets available through the official website.