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# Dispatches from The Fringe - O'Hanlon and Buckley are funny and free

**August 20, 2012**

7:30 PM MST

Free Comedy  
*Edinburgh Fringe Festival*

## Rory O'Hanlon and Phil Buckley

Rating: ★★★★★

### Phil Buckley's *Simple Things* is a little too easy going

Phil Buckley is a nice guy with a fondness for stupidity. Easy to listen to, affable, it's all the harder to admit his show *Simple Things* simply isn't anyway near engaging enough. In fairness it was some distance into his hour long set before he began dealing with the issues his show purported to be about, namely his inability to grow up and his newly found status as an engaged man. That's when he began to get seriously funny and his joke about Shiloh Pitt will circulate for years to come. But the extensive regaling with incidents from former gigs and Festivals just didn't deliver. This show needed a few more solid routines. As Jake La Motta said in Raging Bull, "come on, hit me. Harder! Harder!" Three Stars.

*Simple Things* plays daily at The Laughing Horse@ The Counting House until August 26th. Doors open 2.15 p.m. Admission is free.

### Rory O'Hanlon is great craic in the afternoon

Rory O'Hanlon's hilarious *A Bit of Craic in the Afternoon* is a sharp, funny and entertaining show, even if it did lag a little towards the end. By that stage though O'Hanlon, Irish and ginger to boot, had won over his audience completely. With effortless charm and humour, and with some wicked observations, O'Hanlon regaled the audience with tales of Irish eccentricities, relationships, living in London and, of course, drinking. Get there early if you want a seat. O'Hanlon offers one of the better free gigs to be had and word is getting out fast. Four Stars.

*Rory O'Hanlon: A Bit of Craic in the Afternoon* plays daily until August 25th at Rush Bar. Doors open at 4.15 p.m. Admission is free.



**Chris O'Rourke**

Tulsa Theater Examiner