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# Dispatches from The Fringe – over 90 good reasons to visit Dublin

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Dublin Absolut Fringe Festival

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Given their close proximity, comparisons between the Dublin and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals are inevitable. Yet it's a little like comparing chalk and cheese. Because you've travelled to one, doesn't mean you shouldn't bother with the other. Matter of fact, for the total Fringe Experience, you probably need to do both.

Deservedly recognized as the Mother of all Fringe Festivals, Edinburgh takes a shotgun approach, firing such a broad spread with the sheer number of acts on offer. If there's considerably less on offer at the Dublin Fringe it's because Dublin takes more a precision weapon designed for maximum impact approach. Featuring around 90 acts, in comparison to Edinburgh's 2,695, Dublin aims for quality rather than quantity.

Fringe Director and Curator, Róise Goan, has created a program dominated by home grown talent this year, including the highly anticipated *Elevator*, from award winning, Irish company THISISPOPBABY, and the excellent *Rockeroke*. International talents are also showcased over the coming two weeks, as well as joint Irish/international projects including the Australian cabaret

circus *Briefs*, Danish alt-pop outfit *Efterklang* and the Iranian *White Rabbit*, *Red Rabbit*, a play without a director or set created by Nassim Soleimanpour, who is forbidden from leaving his home country. But check out the program yourself. As is often the case, it's the hidden gems buried there that can make your festival truly memorable.

Now in its 18th year, The Dublin Fringe Festival has gone from strength to strength and is recognized as one of the premiere Fringe Festivals globally. Sponsored by [Absolut](#) in their final year as generous patrons of the festival, this year's Fringe is shaping up to be another extremely promising one. So if you're visiting in the next two weeks, just passing through, or are already travelling and thinking of pushing it out for a few more days, check out <http://www.fringefest.com/festival> for everything Dublin Absolut Fringe Festival. Or download the free app to your phone. Be aware though, several events have short or single day runs, so get your tickets early. And watch out for parking, especially around The Lir, where clampers are only too happy to lock you down right up to midnight. Use the Bus, Luas or City Bikes if you can.

So if you're looking to have some serious fun in Dublin, check out the Dublin Absolut Fringe Festival program, make your choices then go see some amazing shows.



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