



MILES JUPP: ON I BANG

“Compelling new stand up show unspools his health ordeal with an understated delivery that hits hard”* The Daily Telegraph***

“Joyful show about near death is his best yet” * The Times***

“An engaging tale told with superior wit” Chortle

******* What's On**

RBM is delighted to announce a brand new tour for Miles Jupp - ***On I Bang*** - which starts touring the UK in January 2024.

Since Miles' last tour finished at The London Palladium in 2017, he has played Emperor Francis I in Ridley Scott's new film *Napoleon*, a man who loses a battle, and consequently rather a lot of territory, in spectacular fashion. He's been in *The Full Monty* on Disney Plus, *The Durrells* and *Why Didn't They Ask Evans?* on ITV, as well as a heap of episodes of *Frankie Boyle's New World Order* and *Have I Got News For You*. He's made an award-winning radio series and he's published a novel.

Yet one sunny day in the middle of all this, he suddenly suffered a brain seizure. This led to the discovery of a tumour the size of a cherry tomato, and a rather pressing need to undergo major neurosurgery. Obviously, one doesn't wish to make a big deal of it, but the experience has left him with a story to tell and a few things that he'd like to share with the room. So that's exactly what he's doing in his new show *On I Bang* – a tale about surprise, fear, luck, love and qualified medical practitioners.

Miles previous tours include the acclaimed *Fibber In The Heat*, *Miles Jupp is The Chap You're Thinking Of* and *Songs Of Freedom*.

As an actor, comedian and writer, Miles' work spans across theatre, film, TV, radio, books and stand up. He recently starred in the Disney+ series *The Full Monty* and can soon be seen in the *Belgravia* sequel.

Other recent credits include Hugh Laurie's ITV mini series *Why Didn't They Ask Evans*, *SAS: Rogue Heroes*, *Trigger Point*, *A Very British Scandal* and *Professor T*. Further television credits: *Sex Education*, *Grantchester*, *The Crown*, *The Durrells*, *Rev.*, *A Young Doctor's Notebook* and *The Thick Of It*.

Miles' film credits include: *Napoleon*, *Misbehaviour*, *The Man Who Invented Christmas*, *Rosewater*, *The Monuments Men*, *The Riot Club*, *The Look Of Love* and *Greed*.

Theatre credits include *People*, *Rules For Living* (National Theatre), *The Way Of The World* (Northampton Royal Theatre), *A Day In The Death Of Joe Egg* (Glasgow Citizens), *Neville's Island* (West End). Miles also starred in one-man play entitled *The Life I Lead* which toured around the UK and went into Wyndham's Theatre in the West End.

Miles has contributed to a number of BBC Radio 4 shows including *The News Quiz*, which he hosted for four years, his own sketch series *Whatever Next* and *In And Out Of The Kitchen*, which he wrote and created. He is the author of three books, the most recent of which is a novel, *History*.

Miles also co-hosts the podcast *Middle Please, Umpire* alongside England's 97mph World Cup-winning bowler Mark Wood. Together they share a highly entertaining chat on their mutual love of cricket from their very different vantage points. They are often joined by some great guests as well.

TOUR SCHEDULE:

January 2024:

11 January	Epsom, Playhouse
12 January	Maidenhead, Norden Farm
15 January	Salford, The Lowry
16 January	Oxford, Playhouse
17 January	Wimborne, Tivoli
18 January	Basingstoke, Haymarket
21 January	Bristol, Redgrave
22 January	Stafford, Gatehouse
24 January	Newbury, Corn Exchange
25 January	Milton Keynes, The Stables
26 January	Nottingham, Playhouse
29 January	Chelmsford, Civic
30 January	St Albans, Arena
31 January	Shrewsbury, Severn

February:

1 February	Tewkesbury, Roses
2 February	Cardiff, Sherman Theatre
5 February	Newcastle Upon Tyne, Theatre And Opera House
6 February	Buxton, Opera House
7 February	Leeds, City Varieties
8 February	Birmingham, Town Hall
20 February	Swindon, Wyvern
21 February	Exeter, Northcott
22 February	Henley, Kenton Theatre
25 February	Brighton, Dome
26 February	Westcliff On Sea, Palace Theatre
27 February	Lincoln, Theatre Royal
28 February	Hull, Truck Theatre
29 February	Bristol, Redgrave Theatre

March:

3 March	Cambridge, The Arts Theatre
4 March	Guildford, Yvonne Arnaud
5 March	Northampton, Royal and Derngate
6 March	Salford, The Lowry
11 March	Swansea, The Grand
12 March	Cheltenham, Town Hall
13 March	Harrogate, Theatre
18 March	Newcastle Under Lyme, New Vic Theatre
19 March	Canterbury, Marlowe Theatre
22 March	Winchester, Theatre Royal

April:

11 April	Crewe, The Lyceum Theatre
15 April	Scunthorpe, The Plowright Theatre
16 April	Ipswich, New Wolsey Theatre
17 April	Weymouth, Pavilion
18 April	Aldershot, Princes Hall
21 April	Norwich, Playhouse
22 April	Norwich, Playhouse
23 April	Portsmouth, New Theatre Royal
25 April	Abergavenny, The Borough Theatre
29 April	London, Duchess Theatre
30 April	Milton Keynes, The Stables

May:

1 May	Hedge End, The Berry Theatre
2 May	Cardiff, Sherman Theatre
3 May	Machynlleth, Comedy Festival
6 May	Leeds, City Varieties
7 May	Sheffield, The Lyceum
8 May	Glasgow, The King's Theatre
9 May	Edinburgh, The Queen's Hall
13 May	Guildford, The Yvonne Arnaud Theatre

14 May London, The Bloomsbury Theatre
15 May Leamington Spa
16 May London, The Bloomsbury Theatre
17 May Lichfield, The Garrick Theatre

June:

3 June Kingston, Rose Theatre
4 June Plymouth, University Main Hall
5 June Worcester, Huntingdon Hall
6 June Bury St Edmunds, Theatre Royal
7 June Frome, Merlin Theatre
10 June London, Duchess Theatre
11 June Andover, Lights
12 June Ipswich, Wolsey Theatre
13 June Wimborne, Tivoli Theatre
18 June Tunbridge Well, Trinity Theatre
19 June Reading, Concert Hall
20 June Guildford, Yvonne Arnaud
30 June Bristol, Old Vic Theatre

SYNDICATED INTERVIEW WITH MILES:

Miles Jupp sets out on a brand new stand-up tour in 2024. His On I Bang tour starts at the Epsom Playhouse on January 11.

A lot has happened to Miles since his last tour finished at The London Palladium in 2017. He has acted in series including The Full Monty, Trigger Point, The Durrells and Why Didn't They Ask Evans? In comedy mode the former host of The News Quiz has appeared on shows including on Frankie Boyle's New World Order and Have I Got News For You.

But most notably, he suffered a brain seizure in August 2021 and had major neurosurgery. This is the subject of On I Bang – finding the funny side to a tale of surprise, fear, luck, love and qualified medical practitioners.

Buy tickets for all shows here: milesjupp.co.uk/on-tour/

Hi Miles, you are looking very well.

My skull probably has a groove in it, but it's at the back, I can't see it. I feel quite quite jolly.

This major life event in 2021 forms the basis of your new show On I Bang. Without any spoilers what happened?

Well, the big spoiler is I survived. I had a brain seizure, which was actually quite lucky. It meant I was taken to hospital where they ran tests. So having the seizure was an element of fortune because it's like a big helpful sign that something is up. And that something was a brain tumour the size of a cherry tomato, which had to be removed.

What were you doing when it happened?

I was filming the ITV series Trigger Point. I'd just finished my scene. Ludicrously my character, a radio host, is speaking and then a bomb goes off roughly when it felt like a bomb had gone off in my own head. Luckily I was in a work environment which meant there was a medic on the set so they wrestled me into the appropriate position. It was only a day's work, but taking that job might have saved my life.

Was it completely unexpected?

The tumour was there but I was totally unaware of it. They can't date it. It's not like trees or fossils.

The swelling of the tumour causes the pressure. And it's the pressure that eventually caused the seizure. It could have happened at any time, but until about five minutes before, there was nothing. I just started feeling very dizzy very quickly and there was some flashing of lights. I remember falling forward and then some people holding me down and then it's just like a series of moments of consciousness. Next time I was in an ambulance and then I was in A&E at West Middlesex Hospital.

Has it changed your outlook on life?

It's very good for putting things in perspective. Not that I don't moan about all the pathetic things other people moan about as well. But after a while, you can go, oh, I've got the freedom to moan about it. You just think about things in a different way.

It must have been very worrying for your family.

I could be lying in a hospital bed plugged into stuff and actually feeling fine, whereas from their point of view it's 'oh no, he's lying in a hospital bed with lots of stuff plugged into him.' And they got the call from the programme's line producer to say I was on my way to hospital. So that's quite as a shocking thing to get when you are on the bus.

The luxury for me was you go, 'well, all I can do is trust these people.' In a way it's sort of freeing. It's all the unknowns that are stressful. Even dealing with being lucky is stressful. Because you think why? Why me?

You had surgery after three weeks to remove the tumour...

It was accessible, but not totally straightforward. I found being in hospital, very uplifting, actually, partly because you're just surrounded by people that are very caring. There must have been about five other people on that ward all in the same boat. So you don't feel alone in that sense. It is scary. And I've not experienced a thing like that. I can't pretend that it isn't.

So On I Bang is all about this event - before, during and after?

This is the show. It's a story told in a stand-up style. I promise you there are lots of jokes. It's not me moaning about unsatisfactory customer experience or something I've noticed about luggage. Hopefully it's a pure piece of storytelling, with a beginning, a middle and an end. I got a letter from a guy who saw a work in progress gig and he's been through the same thing. He was saying people around him were worried but it was very cathartic for him.

How did the show come about?

I started writing it down, not in a comedic way, but I thought it would be useful to have a record of it. Then I thought, I haven't done a stand-up tour for six years. And I went to see Blur at Wembley and I just thought it's great being in a crowd, isn't it? I just thought I like this thing of a crowd enjoying a thing together so much. And I thought, yes, I should turn that thing into a show and do it, which is a kind of an odd genesis, really. And I like going to theatres.

You started out as a stand-up but many people will know you as an actor. You've done so much, from Balamory and Harry Potter to Rev and The Thick Of It.

I think filming my part in Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix took 20 minutes. My costume fitting took longer. I'm a sucker for a straight offer without an audition. There's a difference between working hard and working a lot. And I think if you're creating the work yourself, that counts as working hard, if you're just accepting the work that you're given that's not the same. Working on my own has its pleasures in terms of control and being able to fix something quickly, or make adjustments. But I really like the bit when you're making something in a team, the rehearsals are the best bits.

With acting you don't know what's next...

I got a nice part in a thing in Antwerp and then a week later I did one audition for Disney+'s The Full Monty on a Friday, got the part on the Tuesday, the next Friday I had a costume fitting, then started filming on the following Monday for six months.

You've got some high ranking roles coming up. The Duke of Rochester in the series Belgravia and Emperor of Austria in Ridley Scott's movie Napoleon...

It could be cut to nothing but I did get to ride a horse in Napoleon. I had to go to a riding school and I thought, this is quite fun, quite therapeutic. But then when we started filming a stunt rider did absolutely everything!

You clearly enjoy performing, but stand-up seems to be your first love.

I like walking out onto a stage somewhere. I think the best view of a theatre is nearly always from the stage. I find there's a sort of romance about touring. I remember with my show Fibber in the Heat appearing in Swindon on a Monday night. I turned up and there was 170 people there. I don't know Swindon, I didn't know anyone in Swindon. And I remember thinking, that's great that 170 people have come here to watch this thing. I just love touring for that. So I really look forward to walking onstage again and telling a story. And hopefully, you know, we'll have fun.

end

For tickets: <https://www.milesjupp.co.uk/>

Further information: Amanda Emery at Emery PR: amanda@emerypr.com