

Ben O'sullivan

Heavy Petting, Heavier Blankets

Ben O'sullivan is an offbeat comedian whose style is as silly as it is deadpan. Think of him as a deflating bouncy castle (colourful, whimsical and only slightly full of hot air), and he's bringing an absurd new stand up show to Edinburgh Fringe this year all about weighted blankets, intimacy issues and the art of seduction.

Heavy Petting, Heavier Blankets is a stand up show focused on theme rather than a conventional narrative. It's a show that unashamedly prioritises jokes, silliness and whimsy with the show's key themes of connection, accountability and intimacy issues being the subtext rather than at the forefront of everything. A comic heavily inspired by Dr Mark Silcox, Ben has that dead-pan tone with a slice of absurdity and a hint of meta. Heavy Petting, Heavier Blankets has all the makings of a cult classic.

The show was created after Ben got a weighted blanket last year. After going on a date, Ben quickly learned the nature of perfection is very fleeting indeed. On this date Ben decided to do the sensible thing, manufacture a cool, calm and collected version of himself that almost certainly doesn't and has never existed. Then came a shuddering moment of logic, the kind of logic Ben has always tried to avoid, what if this goes exactly the way Ben wants it to go and they go back to his. She's just going to walk in and see Ben need to be hugged artificially to sleep. She'll instantly realize hang on this guy isn't Pierce Brosnan at all, he's just a man who needs to be hugged?

Ben has always been drawn to specificity in comedy. All his favourite shows have been very narrow in scope and very deliberate. Think Dr Mark Silcox's *'Women only'* or Ollie Horn's *'The Most Toast'* shows that revel in their silliness and thrive in that close quarters comedy. Heavy Petting, Heavier Blankets is a new piece of work and is the culmination of writing shows every year and developing a uniquely silly voice.

Ben's been a staple of the London comedy circuit for roughly four years, Ahead of Edinburgh fringe Ben said *"I've always prioritised long form comedy partly because having that yearly target provides the creative focus where I thrive but also because In long form comedy you can create your own world and you can bring people on a true journey like listening to a whole album rather than a single"* This will be Ben's third show but his first full hour. His first show 'Bowling Alone' was a 45 minute themed show about Bowling (more specifically Bowling shoes) and isolation, This show became a bit of a cult hit selling out two dates at the Camden Fringe and four dates at the Edinburgh Fringe.

'Ben reminds me of a young James Acaster and look what he achieved' **Everything theatre**

'Side splittingly brilliant' **WeLoveBrighton**

'Amusingly Quirky' **Chortle**

Listings Information

Venue: 332 Cellar at Laughing Horse @ The Raging Bull
161 Lothian Rd EH3 9AA

Dates: 6-18th Aug 2026

Time: 19:45 (60 minutes)

Box Office: 0131 226 0000,

Website: tickets.edfringe.com

Book tickets here: <https://www.edfringe.com/tickets/whats-on/heavy-petting-heavier-blankets>

For further information, or to request a media ticket please contact **Ben O'sullivan** on ben.osullivan93@gmail.com or **07943938047** @benosullivancomedy

For high resolution images please click here: [📷 Heavy petting press photos](#)