# **Rod Quantock**

**Rod Quantock** is one of the reasons that Melbourne is the live comedy capital of Australia. As a pioneer of stand-up comedy, Rod has more than fifty years' experience working in cabaret, theatre, television and radio.

Rod is known first and foremost as a very funny man, but his reach extends beyond comedy into political and social activism. A passionate environmental activist and advocate for social justice, he lobs Molotov cocktails of mirth at the most serious of subjects. When you see Rod Quantock in action, you can be sure he'll be talking about something of substance; he just may be holding a rubber chicken.

The truly remarkable thing about Rod is that for that time he has remained a contemporary stand-up comedian, evolving and staying at the forefront of the craft. His contribution was rewarded when he received the 2004 *Sydney Myer Performing Arts Award*, putting him in the company of such arts luminaries as Robyn Nevin, Nick Enright & Paul Grabowsky.

In 2015 Rod was recognized with an Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for his service to the performing arts, and to conservation and sustainability. He has also received an Honorary Associate Fellowship at the Institute of Sustainability at Melbourne University for his contribution to the environmental debate in this country. His career and contribution are unparalleled.

To celebrate Rod's 50th year of performing stand-up, he returned with a brand-new show *Happy Birthday to Me* at the Arts Centre as part of the 2018 Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

### "A living Melbourne treasure" The Age, Melbourne

"Sophisticated satire, unpretentious, daffy. His easy rambling fills the stage. Clever, simple and acid... a comedian for thinkers." The Melbourne Times

"A gloriously shambling style, punctuated by sudden gags and proposals of Swiftian excess... He is the archetypal wise fool adrift in a dark & dangerous world." The Australian

"For sheer cheek and inventiveness, the amazing Rod Quantock must take the honours. Bizarre, fresh, theatrically dangerous, unpredictable" The Guardian, London

"wit, warmth & aplomb ... wise, scary, funny." The Age, Melbourne

"We walked away entertained, reflective and finally, amazed. If you only see one comedy show this year, make it Sunrise Boulevard." Daily Telegraph, Sydney

"Quantock is hilarious, accessible & passionate." Herald Sun



### Melbourne

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"He's the thinking audience's comic – holing it in absolute fascination. His ability to maintain several through-lines throughout the show holds everything together in near perfection. You must see him." The Adelaide Advertiser

> "...always funny, intelligent and socially responsible" Herald Sun, Melbourne

"Rod Quantock is still our best political comedian. He may simply be our best comedian." Herald Sun

"This show has huge belly-laughs, but it is often so close to the truth of the mad events in our world at present that we laugh with an ache. Quantock's show is about learning and laughing. Go now" Herald Sun

> "Quantock is the master of comedy as social criticism" The Sunday Age, Melbourne

"Bus is the most chaotic, unplanned fun you can have. Take a friend. Take a camera. Take the risk." The Age, Melbourne

"Rod Quantock is an extremely sophisticated comedian at the height of his craft." The Adelaide Advertiser

### LIVE SHOWS

2018	Happy Birthday To Me
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2016-18	The Last Tim Tam
	Melbourne
2015	Drivetime with Two Leggy Redheads – Rod Quantock & Fiona Scott Norman
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2014	Invitation to a Revolution
	Melbourne Fringe Festival
2014	Peak-A-Boo
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Canberra Comedy Festival
2013	Rod Quantock: Forty Five and Counting
	The Athenaeum Theatre Melbourne
2013	Rod Quantock's Fourth Annual Mystery Comedy Walking
	Tour
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2012	Rod Quantock's Annual Mystery Walking Tour
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2011	The Insane Asylum (You're Standing In it)





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2011	The History of the Melbourne Comedy Festival, A Walking Tour Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2011	<i>Court in the Act</i> Melbourne
2010	The People We Should Eat First (And How To Cook Them) Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2010	In The Beginning: A Walking Tour Of The Birth Of Melbourne
	Comedy Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2009	Bugger The Polar Bears, This is Serious – Solo Show
2000	Trades Hall, Melbourne
2009	Rod Quantock Eats Himself – Solo Show
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2008	Last Man Standing – Solo Show
	Trades Hall, Melbourne
2008	2050 AD The Musical – Solo Show
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2007	The John Howard Farewell Party – Solo Show
	Canberra, Melbourne
2007	anconvenientlie – Solo Show
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2007	Hand In Bloody Hand: The John & Janette Story – Solo Show
	Adelaide Fringe Festival
2007	Court in the Act – Solo Show
	Melbourne
2006	The Annual Report – Solo Show
	Regional Arts Victoria National Tour, Tasmanian Regional Arts Tour
2006	Rod Quantock's Australia! – Solo Show
	Adelaide Fringe, Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2005	Demockracy – Solo Show
0005	Melbourne
2005	A Brief History Of The End Of The World – Solo Show
2004	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2004	Howard On Ice: The Musical – Solo Show
2004	Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2004	Changing Regimes – Solo Show Adelaide Fringe
2003	The Axis Of Stupidity – Solo Show
	Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Darwin Festival
2003	Sun, Sex & Sydition – Solo Show
2000	Big Laugh Comedy Festival – Parramatta
2002	Scum Nation – Solo Show
-002	Adelaide Fringe, Melbourne International Comedy Festival
2002	Boredom Protection Policy – Solo Show
	Melbourne





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2002	<i>Bus</i> – Solo Show Big Laugh Comedy Festival – Parramatta, Melbourne			
2001	Lest We Forget: An Inquiry Into Police, Politics & Protest – Solo Show Melbourne			
2001	<i>The Rodtacular</i> – Solo Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival (Celebrating Rod's 30 Years in Comedy)			
2000	Utopia – Solo Show Adelaide Fringe, Melbourne International Comedy Festival			
1999	Eureka – A Blueprint For The Revolution – Solo Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival			
1999	A Major Event: The Final Report of the Comedian General into the State of Victoria – Solo Show Melbourne			
1998	Crown Of Thorns – Solo Show Adelaide Fringe, Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Harold Park Hotel – Sydney, Return Melbourne Season			
1998	Double Dissolution – Solo Show Melbourne			
1997	Sunrise Boulevard – Solo Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival, Adelaide, Return Melbourne Season, Harold Park Hotel – Sydney 1998			
1997	Happy Birthday Jesus – Ensemble Show Melbourne			
1996	Bus: A Moving Experience – Solo Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival			
1988	Rod Quantock Inflates – Solo Show Melbourne International Comedy Festival			
1988	<i>Bus</i> – Solo Show Edinburgh Festival Fringe (Bus was specially chosen by the Australian Bicentennial Authority to represent Australia at the Edinburgh Festival)			
1981	Bus, Son Of Tram – Solo Show Melbourne. Return Melbourne Seasons 1982, 1984. Sydney 1983. Melbourne International Comedy Festival 1986			
1980	<i>Tram</i> – Solo Show Melbourne			

\*\* Various shows between 1973 & 1980, both solo and group devised with Mary Kennealley, Stephen Blackburn & Geoff Brooks, at Melbourne's pioneer comedy venues The Comedy Café & Banana Lounge, Fiobles Theatre Restaurant, The Flying Trapeze Café, The Last Laugh and The Pram Factory.





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\*\*Rod has also toured his stand-up show, *Bugger The Polar Bears, This is Serious* to dozens of regional venues and sustainable living festivals across the country.

### TELEVISION

2006	ABC TV	Enough Rope with Andrew Denton (Interview)
2006	SBS	Insight (Guest Appearance)
2006	Comedy Channel	Stand Up! Australia
	,	(Stand Up Appearance)
2005	ABC TV	Talking Heads (Interview)
2004	Comedy Channel	Stand Up! Australia
	,	(Stand Up Appearance)
2003	Ten Network	GNW Debate (Adjudicator)
2002	Ten Network	GNW Debate (Adjudicator)
2001	ABC TV	The Glass House
		(Development Consultant)
2001	Ten Network	GNW Debate (Debater)
2001	ABC TV	The Peoplescape Concert
		Celebrating the Centenary of Australian
		Federation
		(Solo Sketch Appearances x 2)
1999 – 2000	ABC TV	Backberner (Head Writer)
2000	ABC TV	One Size Fits All (Producer & Writer)
1999	ABC TV	Standing Up (Interviewer)
1998 – 2001	ABC TV	Comedy Unit - Script consultant &
		Associate Producer
1997 - 2000	ABC TV/	Good News Week (Regular Panellist)
	Ten Network	
1997	Nine Network	Melbourne International Comedy
		Festival Gala (Stand Up Appearance)
1996	Seven Network	Denton (Writer)
1990	Seven Network	Lift Off (Writer)
1989 - 1990	ABC TV	The Big Gig
		(Writer & Stand Up Appearances x 2)
1989	Seven Network	Fast Forward
		(Associate Producer/Script Editor)
1986	ABC TV	Book Program (Host)
1983 – 1984	ABC TV	Australia You're Standing In It
1001	<b>T N</b> ( )	(Cast Member & Writer)
1981	Ten Network	Ratbags (Cast Member & Writer)
1976	ABC TV	The Razzle Dazzle Revue
		(Writer & Performer)

# CORPORATE

Various clients such as AMP, the Australian Bicentennial Authority, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, the Department of Premier & Cabinet (Victoria), IBM, Kraft Foods, NAB, Privacy Victoria & Red Tulip Chocolates to name just a few.

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## AWARDS

- 2015 Order of Australia Medal (OAM)
- 2004 Winner of the Sydney Myer Performing Arts Award (Individual Award).
- 2003 Nominated for the Barry Award for the best show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival
- 1997 Winner of the Green Room Award for Best Fringe Performance for *Sunrise Boulevard*. This is the first time a comedian has won this prestigious award
- 1999 Nominated for the Campus Activities Victoria Best Comedy Act Award

### OTHER

Rod has been a founding member on the Melbourne International Comedy Festival board, a consultant to the Melbourne Moomba Festival and a member of the Arts Committee of the Bicentennial BHP Awards For Excellence
Rod opened and operated The Comedy Café & Banana Lounge along with comedy cohorts Mary Kenneally, Geoff Brooks & Stephen Blackburn
Rod wrote a column for The Sunday Age between 1989 and 1994. Lothian Books published a compilation of these columns in 1999 called *Double Dissolution*

Exclusively represented by Token Artists. Contact Kevin Whyte on 03 8417 0000 or management@token.com.au for further details. Updated: August 2024

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