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## Henry Churniavsky & Joe Bains: 2 Religions, 1 Comedy Show Review

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Bunbury Magazine: ★★ ★

Comedy shows about religion can sometimes divide the audience's expectations. Half of the audience may be predicting comedy that is a little close to the knuckle, and this can create a tension in the room.

Henry and Joe made sure that everyone in the room felt at ease, each performer delivering 30 minutes of solid comedy from the points of view of their respective religions – Henry being of the Jewish faith and Joe following Sikhism.

Joe and Henry each used their charm to disarm the audience in the room as they poked fun at their own religions and traditions – Joe's jokes exploring cultural differences between India and the UK, such as the outsourcing of call centres and where Indian people in the UK can go for an authentic Indian experience. Again, Henry's comedy explores what it was like growing up Jewish in Liverpool, with a great story about being excluded in a bar warming us up for what was to follow. All of the comedy from both performers subverted traditional jokes and stereotypes in a pleasing way.

I would have perhaps liked to see this exploration go a little deeper and it would have been great to see the performers on stage together, comparing and contrasting their own religions against each other's and highlighting some absurdities and common ground. All in all though, it was an enjoyable hour of comedy which sought to challenge expectations and shed new light on and have fun with what could have been tense subject matter.

2 Religions, 1 Comedy Show.

Part of The Free Festival.

The Pear Tree.