

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE WORLD'S FIRST PLAYABLE COMEDY SHOW MAKES UK DEBUT

Karate Man – A Live-Action Video Game, Beak Comedy's award-winning interactive hit, plays three nights at the Hen & Chickens Theatre, Islington, 22–24 June 2026

LONDON — Following sell-out Australian fringe runs and a Best in Interactive win at Adelaide Fringe 2025, *Karate Man – A Live-Action Video Game* makes its UK debut at Islington's Hen & Chickens Theatre this June for three nights only. The London run is a work-in-progress preview ahead of bigger UK dates later in the year.

Here's how it works. There's a real video game controller in the audience, and whoever's holding it controls Karate Man (co-creator Bruno Dubosarsky) for the full 50 minutes. Press A, he punches. Press B, he jumps. Up, Down, Left, Right, Grab, Pause. And if it's not your turn, feel free to play little sibling and just yell your commands at the player.

Karate Man defeated arch-nemesis Ross Roundkick (co-director Jacob Henegan) and saved Karatetown back in 198X. Now it's 20XX, and he's facing his most difficult adventure yet: ordinary life. His glory days are decades behind him, and his marriage to Kara (Alexandra Smith) is facing the looming threat of divorce. All our hero has now is a chaotic crowd controlling his every move.

Each night the show features completely different characters and games, thanks to a branching path system driven by audience choices. Four chores, four career paths, eight special moves, all leading to a grand heart-pumping heart-breaking finale. These are brought to life by a sophisticated tech system, an extensive script, and a talented cast of Australia's best improv-trained comedians (including Maddie Houlbrook-Walk and Alexander Richmond). What path will you take?

"We've built this show that rewards the audience for expressing themselves. Its emergent design lets them find their own game inside ours. If the audience decides to make me do thirty burpees, or just make me walk offstage and exit the venue, then THAT's the show! Excited to see what London is going to put me through."

— Bruno Dubosarsky, co-creator

RECENT ACCOLADES

Winner — Best in Interactive, Adelaide Fringe 2025

Finalist — Best in Interactive, Sydney Fringe 2024

Finalist — Best in Comedy, Sydney Fringe 2023

PRESS FOR KARATE MAN

★★★★★ 'An absolute blast' Lilithia Reviews

★★★★★ 'Never wanes in its ability to surprise and delight' Sydney Theatre Reviews

★★★★★ 'Refreshingly original' Ed Fringe Review

★★★★½ 'Subversive and novel' Stage Door

'A considerable sense of community forms in the space without anyone realising it's happening' My Melbourne Arts

'The level of audience interaction embedded in the performance is a triumph' Toasting Aussie Theatre

LISTINGS

Karate Man – A Live-Action Video Game

Hen & Chickens Theatre, 109 St Paul's Road, London N1 2NA

22–24 June 2026, 7:30pm nightly

Running time: approx. 50 minutes • Age guidance: 15+

Tickets: unrestrictedview.co.uk/events/karate-man-a-live-action-video-game-wip

Press and reviewers welcome on all three nights. Please contact in advance to arrange comps.

PRESS & INTERVIEW REQUESTS

Bruno Dubosarsky & Jacob Henegan (co-directors)

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Press images: drive.google.com/drive/folders/1q1GGrgcVOclOWNe-INPvlCOzVw5Jgpsx

ABOUT BEAK COMEDY

Beak Comedy is a Sydney-founded sketch and interactive-comedy collective active since 2015, with members now split between Sydney, London and Paris. Their work has played comedy and fringe festivals internationally.

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