



**BETWEEN COMMUTES**

**Press Materials**



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**BETWEEN COMMUTES – SKETCH COMEDY REVUE RETURNING TO TORONTO**  
**2 Special Performances in April of “Highly Recommended” and “Thoroughly Entertaining” show**

TORONTO – *Between Commutes*, the sketch comedy revue that premiered to great success as part of last summer’s Fringe of Toronto Theatre Festival, is returning for two special performances at The Second City Mainstage this April. [Show Information, Venue and Times below.]

For its Fringe premiere, *Between Commutes* received excellent critical and audience reviews. The **Toronto Star** called it: “HIGHLY RECOMMENDED... one of the most appealing shows at the Fringe.” **EYE Weekly** said: “Thoroughly entertaining.” And **Fast Forward Review** hailed it as “Fun to watch, and guaranteed to make you laugh, *Between Commutes* is smart and satisfying – you won’t want to miss it.” The show also received the **Fringe’s “Patron’s Pick” Award** as the best selling show in its venue.

Billed as “a show about how we battle our way across the urban landscape,” *Between Commutes* is the latest production by local writer/performer **David Raitt**. Raitt is an alumnus of The Second City National Touring Company. His previous productions, *WORKAHOLICS: Scenes from the White Collar Grind* and *ALL THE RAGE*, have played to enthusiastic and occasionally sold-out audiences. *ALL THE RAGE* was nominated for a **2008 Canadian Comedy Award**. **EYE Weekly** has called Raitt “energetic and accomplished, driving sketches forward.”

Returning to join Raitt for the show is **Carly Jones**, previously seen in the role of Linda in *Evil Dead: The Musical*, as well as many other local productions and television appearances. Jones is also an alumnus of The Second City Touring Company. **EYE Weekly** has praised her performance in *Between Commutes*, saying her “subtle performances make the production playful and funny.”

Raitt says the title *Between Commutes* reflects how big a part of people’s lives commuting is. “It sometimes feels like we’re just biding time where we are, waiting for the next big commute. So, in the show, we’ll do a quick, funny blackout about commuting in between the longer scenes, as we move from work to home and elsewhere, mirroring people’s lives as they travel through their day.”

This matches well with Raitt’s writing style, which deals with everyday events taken to bizarre extremes. In one scene, a bored office worker begins living out his life as a Shakespearean fantasy. In another, two students writing a test resort to an elaborate game of charades to pass the answers to each other. A commuting blackout sees a driver’s GPS system giving directions for driving in a traffic jam: “Drive two metres. Stop. Drive six inches. Stop. Place vehicle in Park.” And the show closes with a musical number about solo drivers yearning to drive the HOV lane.

Raitt credits the ongoing debates over Toronto’s transit problems with the inspiration for much of the show. “When I got the idea for commuting as a theme, I began to research the issues. That very same week there were at least three articles published in local magazines and newspapers, about traffic, transit, and the white papers by Metrolinx [the new Greater Toronto Transportation Authority] on how to fix all of it.

“And then, of course, there was the TTC strike last April, which was gold. I already had a scene in the show about how Heaven deals with an angel strike, and I completely rewrote it to reference the TTC trouble. People get really angry and frustrated about this stuff, which of course makes it perfect material for comedy.”

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*Between Commutes* returns for two shows only at The Second City, 51 Mercer Street, Toronto. Written by David Raitt. Featuring Carly Jones and David Raitt. **Content Advisory:** Coarse Language. Tickets \$15, available from The Second City Box Office at (416)343-0011 or [www.secondcity.com](http://www.secondcity.com).

MEDIA CONTACT for *Between Commutes*:

David Raitt  
[contact@davidraitt.com](mailto:contact@davidraitt.com)  
(905)827-0209  
[www.davidraitt.com](http://www.davidraitt.com)

SHOW TIMES:

Friday	17 April	11:00pm
Friday	24 April	11:00pm



## **BETWEEN COMMUTES**

### **SYNOPSIS**

*"Life is the stuff that happens between your commutes."*

*- Anonymous Transit Worker*

*Between Commutes* is a sketch comedy show about how we battle our way across the urban landscape. Everyday characters move back and forth from work to home and elsewhere, fighting their daily frustrations even as they fight to just get there.

Popcorn-free offices. School exams. Sorting junk mail. Wrangling kids. The Afterlife (currently on strike). And everywhere, traffic. *Between Commutes* takes you to all these places and more in a hilarious, fast moving hour of sketch comedy, which is probably less time than it takes you to get to work in the morning!

Sit back, relax and let us do the driving. Have a laugh *Between Commutes*.

For further information on the show, please visit [www.davidraitt.com](http://www.davidraitt.com).



## BETWEEN COMMUTES

### COMPANY BACKGROUND and BIOGRAPHIES

The company for *Between Commutes* is made up of experienced and accomplished performers from the Toronto sketch comedy and improv community, and was formed by **David Raitt** specifically for this production.

Raitt says: “**Carly Jones** is an extremely talented performer and singer. We have known each other for several years, but had never worked together until the Spring of 2007, when we were performing for **The Second City** on Norwegian Cruise Lines. At the time I was writing material for *ALL THE RAGE*, and had several ideas I couldn't use. When I brought them back for *Between Commutes*, I immediately thought of Carly.”



**CARLY JONES** – A native of Kingston, Ontario, Carly has been performing sketch and improv since the age of 13. She has been a part of **The Second City** National Touring Company, Education Company and most recently a cast member of their BoatCo aboard the Norwegian Spirit. You may have also seen Carly in *Evil Dead: The Musical* as Linda. Additionally, you might catch Carly performing stand-up from time to time in Toronto's various comedy clubs. Her most notable performance to date, however, is as "Pizza Girl" in *The Wilkinsons: House Raising* on CMT, wherein she was featured singing a completely improvised song about pizza and love. She will serenade you with this song with very little provocation.



**DAVID RAITT** – Dave is an alumnus of **The Second City** National Touring Company. To date he has performed in eleven Second City revues, on the Toronto Mainstage, at theatres and events all over Canada, and on Norwegian Cruise Lines. He has also written, produced and performed two previous sketch shows: *Workaholics: Scenes from the White-Collar Grind*, and the solo effort *ALL THE RAGE*, the latter of which was nominated for a **2008 Canadian Comedy Award**. Dave has also been honoured to perform solo as the opening act for the legendary comic duo **The Smothers Brothers**. He regularly performs sketch comedy and improv in and around the GTA, and teaches improv and communications skills to student groups through his association with The Second City. Dave has two degrees, and uses neither.