**Daniel Kitson** 

Love, Innocence and the Word Cock Until 27<sup>th</sup> August (not 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> &10<sup>th</sup>) Pleasance Below, 10.30pm £8.50 to £9.50, £7.50 to £8.50 concs.

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## 4 stars

As a man scared of teenagers, Daniel Kitson shows remarkable courage in the face of psychos. Instantly confronted by a deranged member of the audience sniffing compressed air from a silver canister, Kitson, screamed, 'You've brought a soda stream to my gig!' There was relief all round the packed sweaty hall when the nutter eventually left and Kitson hurriedly bolted the door after him. Unfazed by this bizarre drama, Kitson, his new 'fluffy' beard furthering his image as a loveable geek, promised 'an hour of whimsy with no more banter.'

Daniel, 23, has been playing the comedy circuits since he was 16. Appearances on 'That Peter Kay Thing 'and 'Dog Eat Dog' have obviously bolstered his respect for the medium. 'Television serves to objectify a two-way mediative process between performer and audience. And that's a load of cock in anyone's language.'

A victim of clumsy child syndrome, a large part of his act recreates playground humour, often involving the audience. Innocence is Kitson's big theme and he hammers it home with relish and obvious regret at the loss of his own through Internet porn and the discovery that ice cream is not magically produced by dwarves in ice cream vans.

He even manages to milk material from his own stutter, forewarning the audience of possible sporadic outbreaks of scat jazz. His relaxed style wavers from side-splitting improvisation to thoughtful and imaginative wordplay. If you've ever wondered just what the exact rules of Pissball are, then go check him out.