

COMEDY TRAINING COURSES

"Top comedy courses": Chortle.co.uk

ABSOLUTE AND ALMOST BEGINNERS COMEDY COURSE

led by MARKUS BIRDMAN on SUNDAY AFTERNOONS in central London

"I have been on several comedy courses but this is the best, and we are given plenty of stage practice which allows for a rapid learning curve with such an enthusiastic tutor": Vic, June 2018

"Your course was very good and I enjoyed the sessions, which have given me confidence and enthusiasm. I recommend it to anyone": Phil, May 2018

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at stand-up comedy? Or perhaps you are looking for an exhilarating experience or an exciting challenge? Maybe you want to improve your ability to make presentations or a Best Man speech? Or dreamt of becoming the next Josh Widdicombe, Greg Davies or Rhod Gilbert?

Then the answer is the frequently recommended *Absolute and Almost Beginners Comedy Course* led by award-winning ("Uniquely talented ... demonstrates just how it's done": *Evening Standard*) Markus Birdman.

This practical, in-depth course explores the fundamentals of creating and performing stand-up in a fun, friendly and supportive atmosphere. You will discover how to generate original material and how to hone your ideas into well-written jokes. You will learn stage craft, including delivery, performance skills and microphone technique. You will find out how to deal with nerves and hecklers. But most of all, you will become the best and funniest performer you possibly can, having discovered how to communicate effectively with your audience in your own unique way.

There will be ongoing opportunities to practice stand-up routines throughout the course. By the end you will have evolved into fledgling comedians, ready to take part in the hugely enjoyable, though optional, graduation showcase compered by the course leader, to demonstrate your newly acquired skills. Then afterwards, *Absolute and Almost Beginners Comedy Course* graduates will be able to move on to our advanced courses. Incidentally most participants will have no stage experience since school, although a few may, including those who tried doing a 'try-out' comedy spot and then realise they need help.

With over 18 years experience, Markus Birdman is one of stand-up's most well respected and well travelled British comedians, much in demand across the UK and internationally. TimeOut featured Markus in their Top Ten Comedians list; his extensive comedy CV is [here](#). He has appeared on television around the globe (including Festival Galas, and a Netflix Special in Amsterdam), won and had nominations for numerous comedy awards at the Edinburgh Fringe and as far afield as New Zealand and Australia, and in London appears at Soho Theatre, The Comedy Store and the O2. Also Markus leads comedy courses, after working with Lancaster University Performing Arts and as a qualified FE teacher.

Soon after the *Absolute and Almost Beginners Comedy Courses* began, graduates started winning comedy competitions. Many have gone on to perform solo comedy shows at the Edinburgh Fringe, and sign with major comedy managements. Graduates have won awards at every international comedy festival, and performed at top comedy clubs, theatres and arenas worldwide. Some have become presenters, TV show panellists, have their own radio/television series, and do stand-up on primetime television. Notable *Absolute and Almost Beginners Comedy Course* graduates are

[Josh Widdicombe](#) (*Last Leg, Mock The Week, QI, Josh, Taskmaster*)

[Rhod Gilbert](#) (*Live at the Apollo, HIGNFY, Buzzcocks, StandUp To Shyness*)

[Greg Davies](#) (*Man Down, Inbetweeners, Cuckoo, Taskmaster*)

[Holly Walsh](#) (*QI, Mock The Week, Live at the Apollo, News Quiz*)

[Andi Osho](#) (*Live at the Apollo, Mock The Week, Buzzcocks*)

Minimum age: 18 No preparation is required Maximum group size is 18

Course sessions:

12.30pm to 5.30pm on Sundays 28 October, 11 November, 18 November, 25 November and 9 December.

Graduation showcase:

Evening of Sunday 9 December (Performing in the showcase is not compulsory, but to be included 80% course attendance is required)

Venue:

The Karma Sanctum Hotel's cinema, 20 Warwick St, Soho, W1B 5NF Tube: Piccadilly Circus & Oxford Circus

NB: No refunds are given for sessions not attended, and dates/times/location/course leader etc may very occasionally differ from those shown, without liability

EARLY ENROLMENT IS RECOMMENDED BECAUSE OUR COURSES ARE USUALLY OVERSUBSCRIBED

HOW TO ENROL: The course **FEE** is £360 Earlybird; the regular fee is £396 when Earlybird places are full.

Enrol online by going to <http://www.wegotickets.com/event/442156> (there is no additional booking fee)

But if you want to pay by cheque or in cash, please email courses@comedytrainingcourses.com for the postal address

INSTALMENTS: You can hold a place with a £196 deposit but your place is not confirmed until the £200 balance is paid at least 10 days before the course starts. Email us for links for paying the fee in instalments.

To complete your enrolment: email Courses@ComedyTrainingCourses.com with your mobile number, and the name the payment is made in (and the name you want to be known by if different) when you have just enrolled online

FINAL DETAILS WILL BE E-MAILED A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE COURSE STARTS