

Entertainment



Marion & Geoff

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Rob Brydon returns as Keith Barrat for a second series of the cult drama *Marion & Geoff*.

In the last two years, Keith Barrat has gone up in the world. No longer a mini-cab driver, he is now the chauffeur to a lonely heiress and her dysfunctional child. Once the world appeared to have passed Keith by, but now he is slap-bang at its centre. Wives, husbands, lovers and children all pass through the back seat of his limousine and, although never seen, are intimately revealed by Keith's solitary musings to a camcorder fixed to his dashboard.

Despite an unfortunate "incident" which means that his own "little smashers" are now in the sole custody of their mother, Marion, and partner Geoff, Keith is determined to remain a family man – even if that means adopting his employers.

Told in a series of monologues to a single camera, *Marion & Geoff* reveals a world that is, by turns, comic and tragic – its ultimate impact reserved for the things that are left unsaid.

Five Things I Hate About You

ED' A

Relationships are never easy, and *Five Things I Hate About You* focuses on the kind of relationships people really have rather than the ones they might dream of. It examines why those we love are also the ones who drive us totally mad.

Each week, a different couple exposes their other half's most irritating habits and foibles and, in the process, learns a great deal about what makes their relationship tick. The couple sets out five things they hate about each other – out of sight of their partner, of course! Christy can't stand the way Daniel pulls his toenails off instead of using clippers; Daniel is infuriated by the way Christy insists on vacuuming the house before they go to bed.

Armed with DV cameras, they have just three weeks to gather the evidence. Each partner is then confronted by their crimes, and viewers can see whether they accept the error of their ways or come out fighting. These petty irritations often disguise much bigger fault lines in their relationship, which are exposed as the programme progresses.

Five Things I Hate About You gives an incredibly intimate insight into a relationship – from both sides.

Double Take

KC

After winning a Bafta for Most Innovative Programme for its pilot episode, *Double Take* returns as a full-length series.

The satirical programme puts famous people in the kind of amusing and often shocking scenarios that the tabloids would die for. Celebrities, politicians and members of the Royal family are caught cavorting off guard and unawares in intimate, sometimes compromising, even downright sleazy situations. A combination of clever filming techniques, seamless dialogue and skilled acting present each scenario as the real thing, causing the viewer to react as the title suggests, until it becomes apparent that they've been fooled by look-a-likes.

With its fearless presentation of razor-sharp satire at its most realistic, the first series of *Double Take* promises to be cult viewing on a massive scale. In such a media-savvy society, what could be more natural than a long-lens ogle at the behind-the-scenes wheeling and dealing within the corridors of power, be they Westminster, Buckingham or even Beckingham Palaces? Prepare to encounter A-list household names revealed in the raw like never before.



Happiness

FP

Paul Whitehouse returns as Danny, still striving to find a meaning to his life and a cure for baldness.

Charlie and Sid are looking for love and a regular income. Terry is bored with being boring, which leads to marriage trouble. Fifty-going-on-15-year-old Angus is still into drink, drugs and young girls ... and Rachel is setting Danny up with her eligible friends.

The series features guest appearances from Kathy Burke, Ricky Gervais, Donna Air and Tony Parsons.

Happiness, written by Paul Whitehouse and David Cummings, also stars Johnny Vegas as Charlie, Fiona Allen as Rachel, Clive Russell as Angus, Pearce Quigley as Sid and Mark Heap as Terry.



Manchild

AC

Following on from the success of its first series, the comedy-drama series *Manchild*, starring Nigel Havers, Anthony Head, Don Warrington and Ray Burdis, returns to BBC Two this winter.

Nick Fisher's story revolves around the glamorous, affluent lives, loves and luxuries of four fancy-free "manchildren" who, at nearly 50, find themselves with the world at their feet.

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Live Floor Show

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Live Floor Show is an all-new series of comedy, music and entertainment for the weekend on BBC Two.

A multi-stage show, recorded as live, *Live Floor Show* is a weekly 60-minute blast of topical comedy, character comedy, stand-up and music that brings together the cream of UK comedians with the best chart bands from around the world. It provides a fantastic platform for rising talent, alongside more established artists.

Shooting Stars

JW

Shooting Stars, the show which prides itself on meaningless team challenges, surreal sketches and bizarre antics, returns to BBC Two for a brand-new series.

As ever, Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer torment the guests with their own peculiar brand of chaotic silliness. Trying to work out exactly what is going on are team captains Will Self and the captivating Ulrika-ka-ka Jonsson. Johnny Vegas rejoins the cast as a permanent team member, while the show would not be the same without Matt Lucas, aka George Dawes, tallying the scores.



Never Mind The Buzzcocks

SF

Now in its 12th year, *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* kicks off a new series of the usual insanity, loosely disguised as a music quiz show, in celebratory style.

The 100th edition features, as always, host Mark Lamar; and regular team captains Phill Jupitus and Bill Bailey, who are joined by guests from the worlds of music and entertainment, showing off their musical know-how and demonstrating why pop music should never be taken too seriously.



The Kumars At No. 42

KC

On the surface, the Kumars are like any other family. Sharing a house are son Sanjeev, granny Sushila, mum Madhuri and dad Ashwin – but Sanjeev doesn't always find it convenient living with his family because he is a professional chat-show host, who films his weekly show in a studio attached to the house.

Each week, the guests arrive and are forced to run the gauntlet of the Kumars, as they make their way through the house to get to the studio. Once there, they are subjected to an interrogation by Mum, Dad and Granny, while Sanjeev tries to keep order and occasionally ask the odd question himself.

Sanjeev Bhaskar plays Sanjeev, Meera Syal plays Sushila, Indira Joshi plays Madhuri and Vincent Ebrahim is Ashwin.

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