

Edinburgh Festivals 2006

Sunday

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August 13

Fringe

**Jane Bussman --
Bussmann's Holiday**

Assembly @ St George's West,
until Aug 27 (not 14, 21), 8pm

There are, Jane

Bussmann realised one day, two kinds of people in the world: the useful and the useless. Fifteen years into a career of celebrity journalism, she twigged that her article praising the frog-brained Ashton Kutcher as "the coolest person in the world" had placed her firmly in the useless camp. Looking to her heroine Katè Adie, she decided to reinvent herself as a foreign correspondent, and brooking no half-measures flew off to Uganda in search of the world's most evil man (according to Google), Joseph Kony, a murderous, child-napping rebel leader. Sounds about as funny as, well, child-napping and murder, but Bussmann's one-woman show amuses with the same sort of brutal satire lovers of Brass Eye and South Park will recognise (unsurprisingly, Bussmann wrote for both shows). At one point, after persuading one newspaper's travel section to bankroll her trip by pretending she wants to teach poor Ugandan kids, the editor agrees, saying, "Altruism's in," to which she tells us, "I genuinely thought at that point: Thank fuck for the tsunami." Find that funny and you pass the test, and even if you don't laugh, Bussmann has a tale to tell that should be heard. That and a tape of Ashton Kutcher incoherently defending creationism. CW

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