

Out & Abo

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back in
town Page 3



An operatic
milestone

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Author found laughs instead of love in the worst date ever

LAUGHARNE Weekend is promising a host of literary and musical talent.

Also on the bill are comedy writers Jane Bussmann and David Quantick.

Between them they have contributed to some of the UK's best loved comedies like *The Fast Show*, *South Park*, *Smack the Pony* and the controversial *Brass Eye*.

The journal spoke to Jane ahead of the festival and she said she was looking forward to it.

"Probably David will insult me for half an hour and then I'll read from my book," she said.

Her book, entitled *The Worst Date Ever*, is a record of her journey from being a celebrity journalist in LA interviewing the likes of Britney Spears and Paris Hilton to interviewing warlords in Uganda and exposing the human rights violations. Her intentions weren't entirely honourable.

"Ashton Kutcher told me that I needed to sort my life

At a glance

WHAT Laugharne Weekend

WHERE Millennium Hall

WHEN April 9 to 11.

TICKETS www.thelaugharneweekend.com

out and so I applied for a job with *Doctors Without Borders*.

"It turned out there wasn't any need for a celebrity journalist in that field so I had to think of something else.

"I saw a picture of John Prendergast — the George Clooney of human rights activism and decided to find him in Uganda," she said.

"However, having arrived in Uganda I realised it would have been best to check if he was there first. He wasn't."

The result of the journey is a book which is part celebrity satire, part rom-com but also details the failure to apprehend Joseph Kony, the Ugandan terrorist who has led his army of child soldiers on a 20-year campaign of hostage-taking, exploitation and murder in east Africa.

Jane now lives in America

where she hopes to write and direct a film. Her credits for writing are impressive. She began her career at 19 writing for *The Guardian* and was named and shamed by the *News of the World* for her contribution to the controversial *Brass Eye* about paedophiles. "I suppose that was a highlight of my career," she laughs.

"*Brass Eye* was special. I felt privileged to sit round a table with these writers and I just thought, this is something special."

Jane will perform alongside David Quantick on Friday in the Millennium Hall at 5pm.

The Laugharne Weekend takes place between April 9 and 11.

For the full line up, tickets and more information visit www.thelaugharneweekend.com. Weekend tickets cost £50.



COMEDY WRITER Jane Bussmann