

Fundamental Human Stupidity

Comedy / NSW

Rating: ***

Mainstage, Bakehouse Theatre

Until March 6

Exploring what stupidity means in today's society through examples of past idiocy is an interesting premise for a stand-up show. However philosopher Stephen Sheely's stand up show feels more like a university lecture. Albeit a lecture from a teacher who knows how to engage his class, but a lecture nonetheless.

It's interesting and thought-provoking, and humorous in parts, but not laugh out loud funny by any stretch of the imagination.

In *Fundamental Human Stupidity*, Sheely spins his wheel to lead us through a randomly generated show based around a number of topics associated with what can best be described as acts of sheer daftness. From trying to use nuclear explosions to build harbours near established colonies and hunting emus with machine guns, to people literally blowing smoke up other's people's arses – Sheely covers a range of topics in an interesting and engaging show.

But for all its warmth, the show lacks pace. A bit more of a rapid-fire approach and some tightening up of his tales to cover more ground and this would be a great show with broader appeal.

As it stands, it's still bound to win over the older demographic.

Tim Bowden – The Advertiser