

**RELEASE DATE:
3rd September 2024**

MURDER FOR DUMMIES

HORROR-COMEDY WHODUNNIT "MURDER FOR DUMMIES" TRAILER AND RELEASE DATE ANNOUNCED

The six episode, ventriloquism-themed murder mystery "cunningly disguised as a true crime documentary" debuts on YouTube October 10th

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM — Multi award winning UK comedy troupe [Casual Violence](#) today [revealed the trailer](#) and release date for **MURDER FOR DUMMIES**, the "horror-comedy whodunnit" series they have independently developed and produced.

The six episode series is written and executive produced by [James Hamilton](#), head writer of Netflix's animated sci-fi comedy series **Dogs In Space** ("*A total blast... consistently smart and deft*" - *The New York Times*) and upcoming Netflix YA animated series **Jentry Chau Vs The Underworld** (starring and executive produced by Ali Wong). All six episodes of **MURDER FOR DUMMIES** are directed and executive produced by Casual Violence's filmmaking partner [J.W. Roberts](#).

Casual Violence - comprised of actor-comedians **David Arrondelle, Luke Booy, Greg Cranness, Alex McCallum** and James Hamilton - have been making comedy together on stage and screen for over fifteen years. As a live act, they created award-winning and critically acclaimed shows for high-profile UK theatres including the Pleasance at the Edinburgh Fringe, the Soho Theatre in London, and the Lowry in Manchester.

The series co-stars an ensemble of British stage and screen talent including **Claire Marie-Hall** (West End musical *Operation Mincemeat*), **Amy Rockson** (*Queen Charlotte: A Bridgerton Story*), **Beth Eyre** (*Wooden Overcoats*), **Thom Tuck** (*The Play What I Wrote*), **Lucy Farrett** (*Sally4Eva*), **Kath Hughes** (*Afterlife*), and **Edward Easton** (*Starstruck*).

THE PREMISE

A murder mystery "cunningly disguised as a true crime documentary", **MURDER FOR DUMMIES** imagines a world where ventriloquism was "*bigger than Princess Diana and the Spice Girls put together*" back in the nineties. When Britain's best loved ventriloquist Keith Flapp (played by *actual ventriloquist Sean Garratt*) was found murdered in his West End dressing room in 1999, the nation mourned - but the killer was never found.

In the present day, a true crime documentary filmmaker attempts to solve the murder. But in classic whodunnit tradition: every interviewee, from his money-hungry manager to his double-act dummy partner, seems to have had a motive for killing the victim...

To make matters worse, the documentary quickly goes off the rails when the mysterious killer returns, bumping off the suspects in increasingly theatrical ways from episode to episode. Can the documentary director solve the case before everyone dies... and the murderer kills her too?

Influenced by murder mystery maestros from Agatha Christie to Rian Johnson, as well as the idiosyncratic comedy Casual Violence were first inspired by - including Chris Morris's *BrassEye* and Garth Marengi's *Darkplace* - **MURDER FOR DUMMIES** was produced entirely independently by the creative team. Through pooling their savings, collaborating with their friends, and running a [successful Kickstarter campaign that reached its target in six hours](#), Casual Violence and J.W. Roberts produced a broadcast-quality series for a fraction of the budget of a typical television show.

A worryingly significant portion of that budget was spent on ventriloquist dummies. Several puppets star in the show: one of them is even regularly interviewed as part of the documentary, playing Keith's bitter former double act partner.

"I had to stuff ventriloquist dummies in my luggage and fly them back to London with me; I gave dummies to visiting friends to bring back home" says Hamilton. "Airport security thankfully never asked questions".

SERIES RELEASE

Today, [with the launch of their new trailer](#), Casual Violence announce the release date for the first two episodes - **October 10th, 2024** - with new episodes appearing weekly on [their YouTube channel](#) after that. Making and releasing the show independently is, for the group and their collaborators, a response to the current state of the increasingly risk-averse television industry.

"From day one, the idea was to develop something we could make entirely by ourselves" says Hamilton. "Studios are increasingly reluctant to make anything that isn't based on big-name IP. We made Murder for Dummies because we love making weird, stupid comedy together, and we didn't want to have to ask permission".

Fellow Casual Violence member Luke Booy - who co-produced and stars in **MURDER FOR DUMMIES** - echoes this sentiment: *"We're lucky to have been able to make this completely independently. We spent our twenties rehearsing every Sunday, taking shows up to Edinburgh six years in a row, making our own short films on top of that; that gave us the experience, the relationships and the resources to pull off something this ambitious, and do it our own way."*

-ENDS-

NOTES TO EDITOR:

**TO REQUEST PRE-RELEASE EPISODES FOR REVIEW FOR YOUR PUBLICATION,
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YOUTUBE: [/casualviolence](https://www.youtube.com/c/casualviolence)

[Click here for a link to the MURDER FOR DUMMIES press kit - including hi-res images, full cast and crew details, and more information on the show.](#)