

EVOLUTION

By Cathy Cox

Caos Café, Hindley Street

Review by Theresa

Set in the corner of Caos Café with a chair, a table, a microphone, a picture of Charles Darwin and a battery-powered stegosaurus, Cathy Cox takes us on simultaneous journeys through evolution and her local shopping centre. As she wanders up and down the aisles, with Darwin, God and the stegosaurus in tow, she gives us insights into her amazing observations of life, and pokes holes in the various theories of how we came to be.

Early in the evening, Cox observes that it is not usual for a white, middle-aged woman to be doing comedy. Actually, it is not usual for any individual of any species to be doing comedy, because comedy is not easy to do. And while Cox has written some good, intelligent material, she does not quite have enough to sustain a full two-hour show. The show could be improved by a bit of ruthless editing (survival of the fittest!) and a slower, more relaxed delivery. An hour of the best material would be better.

Cox is a funny woman, with a lot of good ideas. Her show, based on the quirks of natural history and natural historians, is (apart from the fart jokes) intelligent and a refreshing change from the usual stand-up fare. Caos Café is a good venue for this type of entertainment - and their Chicken burgers are delicious.

Evolution ran for two nights only, but I am told it will return for the Fringe so try and catch her then.