

Sun outshines rivals to grab comedy prize

RHIANNON EDWARD

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A FORMER psychology student from Australia has won a major UK stand-up comedy award for emerging new talent.

Nick Sun outshone eight other acts to scoop the £2,000 prize in the grand final of the Edinburgh Fringe's longest-running stand-up competition for newcomers, So You Think You're Funny?

The Sydney comic had qualified for the competition's regional heats by winning the Raw Comedy prize in Melbourne earlier this year.

His winning routine of laconic observation at the Gilded Balloon venue also secured Sun a spot at Montreal's Just for Laughs comedy festival next July.

Sun, 22, who started stand-up last year after quitting university, described winning the prize as "surreal" and said he felt "kind of spaced out".

The nine finalists, who had emerged from more than 300 acts, performed in front of a 320-strong Edinburgh crowd and a judging panel including the comic actor Mackenzie Crook and Just for Laughs director, Bruce Hills.

Russell Kane, a full-time copywriter from Enfield in London, came second and was awarded £1,000.

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