



THE HIT LIST

This madcap comic duo will go to any lengths to create a chaotic show the whole family can watch, writes **Alexander Fynes-Clinton**

THERE is no method to the madness of zany comedy duo The List Operators. Just ask the team at ABC radio.

The dynamic pairing of Matt Kelly and Richard Higgins caused chaos on the airwaves during their whirlwind 2010 tour of Brisbane.

"I don't think they were prepared for us," Kelly laughs.

"We made this two-minute song where we'd gotten pieces of classical music and just added fart tracks.

"They played about 15 seconds of it before pulling it from the air. It was like we were naughty school boys all over again."

After a stellar run at the

Out of the Box festival last year, the pair aim to conquer the city all over again this month.

They will take their hit show *More Fun Than a Wii* to the Brisbane Powerhouse for five performances.

"The shows we did (in Brisbane) last year were just crazy," Higgins says.

"By the end of the week they'd added 40 extra seats. We were breaking all sorts of fire marshal laws I'm sure.

"The kids were just awesome. There's just an unbridled enthusiasm in Brisbane."

The boys pull no punches when describing what to expect from a List Operators show.

"Poo, farts, blood, pus and guts. If it's disgusting, it's in

there," Kelly says. "Controlled chaos is the best way to describe it. We always aim to start with a clean stage and finish with as much stuff lying around as possible."

"We have a really live experience. You get something you're never going to get to experience at the movies."

Kelly and Higgins capped 2010 with an incredible rise to the top of Australian comedy.

A host of acclaim culminated in a nomination for the prestigious Barry Award for best show at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

They are the first and only children's act to ever be considered.

"We didn't even go to the announcement of the nomi-

nations because we're a kids' show," Kelly says.

"Then we got a whole bunch of messages at three in the morning telling us we'd been nominated. It was amazing."

The duo put their success down to the broad appeal of their humour.

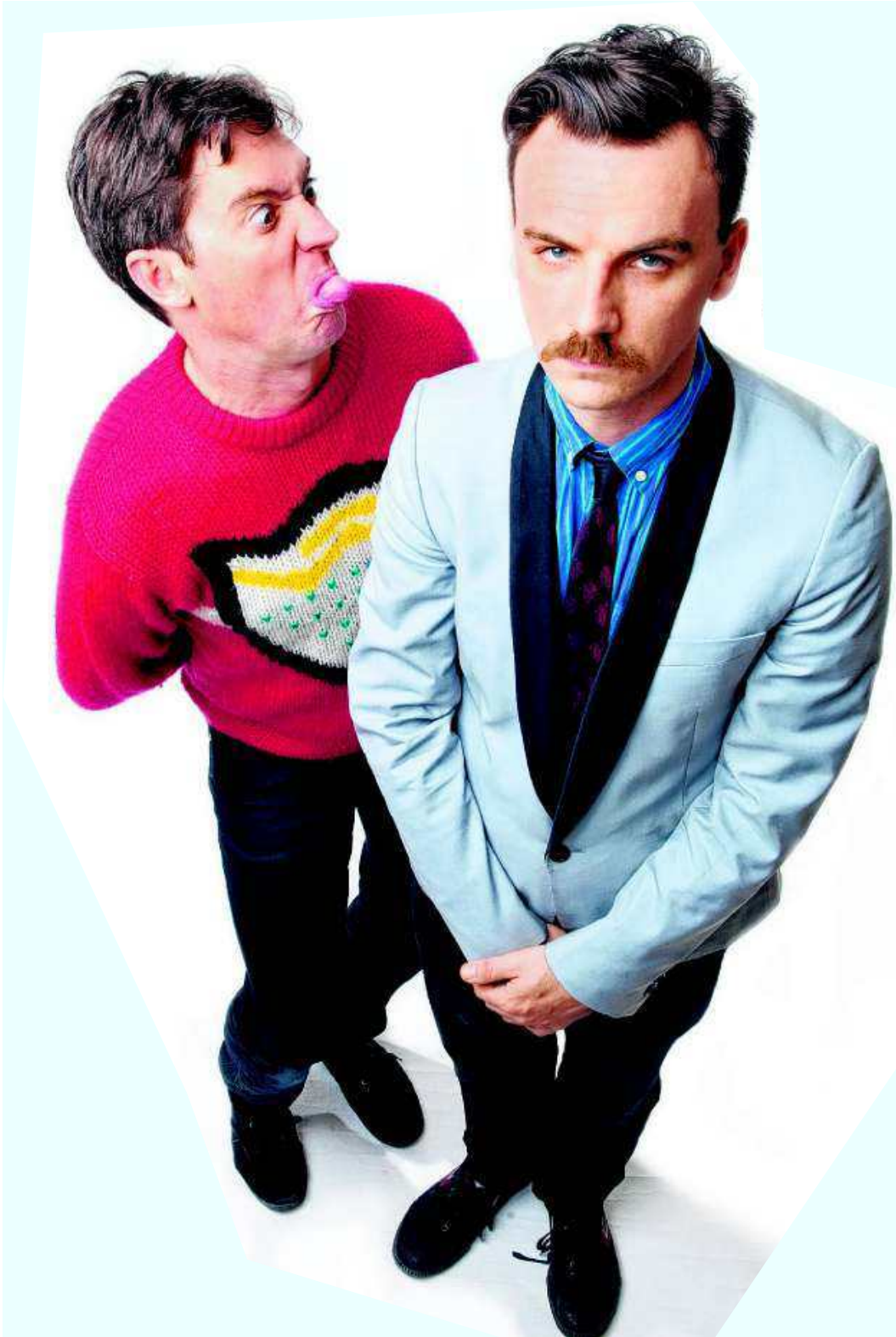
"For us, our show is (so successful) because it's a family experience," Kelly says.

"It's not just the kids who laugh at our shows. The objective is to get the whole family to laugh together.

"That's the most satisfying thing for us."

More Fun Than a Wii,
Brisbane Powerhouse,
starts Tue until Jan 22, \$18,
brisbanepowerhouse.org

**It was like we
 were naughty
 school boys all
 over again**



Making waves (and faces): Richard Higgins (right) and Matt Kelly.