



## Meera Syal CBE

British Comedian, Playwright and Actress

"One of the fifty funniest acts in British comedy" - *The Observer*

Meera Syal CBE has risen to prominence as one of the UK's best-known Indian personalities. In 2000 she won the "Media Personality of the Year" award in the Commission for Racial Equality's annual Race in the Media Awards. She has appeared in 8 *Out of 10 Cats* and *Absolutely Fabulous* among many other programmes.

### TOPICS:

- Host
- Entertainment
- Awards

### LANGUAGES:

She presents in English.

### PUBLICATIONS:

**2001** Life Isn't All Ha Ha Hee Hee

**1999** Anita and Me (this book won a Betty Trask Award in 1996 and was short listed for the Guardian Fiction Prize)

### IN DETAIL:

Meera Syal studied English and Drama at Manchester University. Her play *One of Us*, won the National Student Drama Award. She became an actress, joining the Royal Court Theatre. The BBC commissioned her to write a short series on marriage from different views and this was called *My Sister Wife*. Meera has also achieved notable success with *Goodness Gracious Me* a television comedy series, which she co-wrote and starred in. She wrote the screenplay for *Bhaji on the Beach* which was the first British feature film written and directed by an Asian woman, now used in schools and colleges in studying violence against women and inter-racial relationships. The film received an *Evening Standard* nomination for Best Screenplay. Meera also sang with the famous pop star of Pakistan, Nazia Hassan.

### WHAT SHE OFFERS YOU:

Comedienne and actress as well as an award winning author, Meera Syal is an instantly recognisable TV personality with vast media experience. Having honed her comedy acting skills on the sketch show *The Real McCoy*, Meera is always well received and her presentations are well put together and truly entertaining.

### HOW SHE PRESENTS:

Charismatic, quick witted and a delight to work with, Meera Syal is an excellent comedienne who provides memorable and hilarious events.