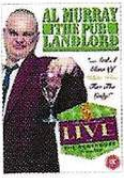
AL MURRAY THE PUB LANDLORD

The Duke of Draft brews up a treat in ...And A Glass Of White Wine For The Lady

By Afsheen Shaikh



A stint on reality TV often looks like a desperate measure to kick-start a flagging career. In which case, Al Murray's participation in the programme *Hell's Kitchen* is baffling, when you consider he's had no trouble pulling punters to his stand-up live shows as the boisterous Pub Landlord, a part he created ten years ago.

Escaping the perils of light entertainment, however, the Perrier Award-winning Murray wisely makes his way back to the bar for his live DVD *...And A Glass Of White Wine For The Lady*. Here's an opportunity to witness on-screen the Guv'nor's occasionally ludicrous values. Knocking back pints, for example, the self-appointed Duke of Draft is forthright on why Britain is far superior to other nations. While conceding that his glass was manufactured in France and the lager originated in Germany, Murray expounds his theory that "British thinking is about combining things and creating something greater..." thus explaining the "great British pint". Also on display is his fierce approach to audience participation – demanding their names and professions, and confiscating their drinks if they're spotted with the wrong tipple (the obligatory "pint for the fella, glass of white wine or fruit-based drink for the lady" rule applies).

The jibes are brash and his prejudices unsurprising, but Murray's ability to brew an engaging performance delivered with such aplomb it absorbs you. At an hour long, with no extras, there is pleasure enough in watching Murray try to stay sober.

...And A Glass Of White Wine For The Lady is released by Universal Pictures Video