

GAVIN STEPHENS

PARK BENCH ONTOLOGY

COMEDY FOR COLLAPSING REALITIES

Press kit & artist overview



BIO

Caribbean-Canadian comic, writer, and cultural irritant.

Born working class and raised by contradiction, Gavin's résumé reads like satire – writing for CBC News one day, dismantling sacred cows the next. His work points in one direction: exposing the absurdity, brutality, and symbolic violence that structure North American life.

His albums *All Inclusive Coma* (Juno-nominated) and *Park Bench Ontology* are blue-collar critiques wrapped in existential dread, calling bullshit on polite liberalism, market virtue, and nationalist performance art. Gavin isn't here to kill – he's here to confront. His comedy doesn't flatter its audience; it implicates them.

In a scene built on market value and middle-class myth, his voice is hard to brand, harder to ignore. His work has been featured by CBC and *Just For Laughs*. Gavin fuses zine logic with cartoon theory and culture critique. Expect glitch-laced dread, radical play, and laughter from the edge.

PARK BENCH ONTOLOGY

Identity. culture. capitalism. dread. repeat.

Park Bench Ontology isn't a podcast – it's a low-stakes philosophical crisis disguised as a pop culture conversation. Each episode, comedian and writer Gavin Stephens explores the invisible ideologies beneath our everyday lives, using everything from sitcoms to sci-fi, Baudrillard to Black Twitter.

It's a show for people who feel like something's off, but can't always name what. Listeners can expect cultural criticism with jokes, existential spirals with hope, and just enough structure to feel like you're not losing your mind.

Themes:

- Ontological collapse
- Whiteness & identity performance
- Capitalism as myth and meme
- Afro-Absurdist resistance
- Meaning breakdown in media overflow

ARTIST STATEMENT

I make comedy for the end times. My work explores whiteness, capitalism, and symbolic violence through a neurodivergent lens — not as abstract theory, but as the psychic wallpaper of everyday life. Drawing from Black existentialism, media theory, and the absurd, I use stand-up, writing, and podcasting to interrogate the stories we live by: race, class, identity, and the capitalist dream state.

Influenced by thinkers like Mark Fisher, Octavia Butler, and Baudrillard — as well as late-night cartoons and sci-fi pulp — my art collapses the boundary between the hilarious and the horrifying. I'm interested in the moments where ideology breaks down, where anxiety leaks through the cracks of normalcy, and where laughter becomes a survival tactic.

I've always made work that disrupts — not to shock, but to show what's already there, hiding in plain sight. I believe art should be as accessible as it is critical, as funny as it is philosophical. I don't offer answers. I offer glitches in the system.

BOOKING / CONTACT

Email: info@gavinstephens.ca

Website: www.gavinstephens.ca

Instagram: [@countgavin](https://www.instagram.com/countgavin)

Podcast: [Park Bench Ontology](#) (available everywhere)

For tour bookings, media requests, and speaking inquiries.