

MATHEW KENNEALLY FOR PARLIAMENT? ★★★½

Helen Razer Reviewer

You wouldn't want to bump up against this winning wonk in debate class. He's a whip-smart, funny and gifted spin-paramedic. If you find you've nothing to laugh about in the painful prelude to election, Mathew'll fix it.

Kenneally is a relaxed performer. His writing is beefy and his delivery has the polish of the confidently clever.

This hour of "policy statement" is fuelled by a charming desperation. Kenneally lampoons politics per se and does so with complete disregard for your preference. He is Fair and Balanced, loathing equally the lethargy of Rudd and the diabolic doublespeak of Howard.

Kenneally is a little green. And, no, not in the Gunns way. His inexperience as a performer shows when he introduces some unforgivably lo-fi audio. He's also beset by youthful vigour, determined to get to every gag he's written even if it means disengaging with his audience.

In short, the only thing he's missing is experience. With a little more of this, he'll be commanding big rooms. Or writing gags for *The Chaser*.