



MIRAGE MAKERS

A COWARD IN VEGAS

A cabaret show about ... making a cabaret show!

It's 1955 and Las Vegas, a growing glitzy, neon drenched Mecca for gamblers and gangsters, is about to receive a surprise visit by one of the world's most famous entertainers, Noël Coward.

Revered, refined and respected, this quintessential Englishman is about to headline one of the newest and glitziest clubs on the strip. No one guesses that his career is on the line: he's washed up, passé, middle-aged, bereft and broke. Worse, he's arrived in America without rehearsal, without an accompanist, **WITHOUT A SHOW!**

Set in New York, Los Angeles and Las Vegas, the play reveals the backstage story of ambition, desperation, loss and guts as a career teeters on the edge. Seen through the eyes of his American accompanist, Pete Matz, *A Coward in Vegas* shows the personal sacrifice of stardom and the knife-edge difference between success and failure.

A Coward in Vegas catches the entertainment legend at a pivotal point as he swings from being a hopelessly outdated queer Englishman to international performance icon with crowds – including the Hollywood A-list - clamouring for more.

Written and directed by John Senczuk, *A Coward in Vegas* stars renowned Coward exponent John Michael Swinbank as Coward and Swinbank's long time accompanist Tim Cunniffe, making his acting debut as Pete Matz, Coward's American accompanist.

A Coward in Vegas had a trial season in Perth in August 2007 with the World Premiere planned for May 2009.

"It was hard to believe that John Michael was acting as he transmogrified into the part completely – revisiting Coward so competently, yet he gave such an original and engaging performance in his own right rather than playing the mimic." - Audience member

"The 'duetting-duelling' with the piano and pianist in music and dialogue was superb - the effort and the personality-dramas of rehearsing. - I had a feeling of watching a proper real-life show come together." - Audience member



Contact details		Previous presenters
MIRAGE MAKERS: +61 8 9328 4588 info@miragecorporation.com Website www.miragecorporation.com		- of <i>Two Old Queens</i> Robert Love, Director Riverside Theatres, Sydney (02) 8839-3350 rlove_riverside@parracity.nsw.gov.au - of <i>Two Old Queens</i> and <i>Noël it All</i> Rachel Fothergill, <i>Manager</i> Chapel Off Chapel, Melbourne +613 8290 7007 RFotherg@stonnington.vic.gov.au - of <i>JMS</i> in cabaret Gordon Gorman, <i>General Manager</i> Avari Hotels, Middle East +92 215677463 gmkhi@avari.com
Specifications		
Target audience Mainstream, 40+ seniors, baby boomers, English & Commonwealth expatriates, traditional theatre audiences, professionals.	Venue Theatres (<500)	
Running Times: 2 x 55 minutes	Stage requirements - Grand piano (black) tuned A-440 - Sound system (microphone and stand provided) - Standard lighting rig (design provided) - 1 x dressing room for 2 pax with air-conditioning	
Entourage: 2 Cast, 2 Crew		
Bump in / out: 4 hours / 1 hour		