

John Michael Swinbank Sings Noël Coward

Who ever would have thought a boy from the bush would become a swizzle-stick wielding sophisticate from Raffles Hotel to QE2 to the West End?



English born, John Michael Swinbank is based in Perth, WA, and has been described as "Australia's foremost Coward exponent" and "one of Western Australia's most unusual exports."

His grand passion for the witty and elegant songs of theatre legend, Noël Coward, has seen him blaze a trail across the Far East, Middle East and India, frequently in the footsteps of Coward himself.

In his cabaret show, "he weaves a captivating narrative of Coward's life and times with his own personal story, starting with his childhood in country Western Australia where he first discovered Coward's musical works."

In December 2008, John Michael made his West End debut for The Noël Coward Society, followed by a six week theatre season in London, finally bringing the material 'home'.

"Tart as a royal bastard", John Michael relishes the waspish observation in Coward's famous comedy classics, *Don't Put Your Daughter on the Stage*, *Mrs Worthington* and *Mad Dogs & Englishmen* as well as the bittersweet longing in his elegant signature songs, *I'll See You Again* and *Matelot*.

Deliciously nostalgic, surprisingly contemporary, Swinbank's interpretation of the Master's notoriously difficult and idiosyncratic repertoire "revisits Coward so completely, yet he gives such an original and engaging performance in his own right rather than playing the mimic."

"JMS is rather better looking than my old friend, Noël and very, very funny." *Gore Vidal*

"Mr Swinbank has the talent to amuse and to move an audience." *South China Morning Post*

"Utterly convincing as the high camp virtuoso of literary nuance." *The West Australian*

"The overall effect is so accomplished ... however, my greatest delight is his live and recorded rendition of *Matelot*, which I have seldom heard better-sung." *Dominic Vlasto, The Noël Coward Society*

Contact details		Previous presenters
MIRAGE MAKERS: +61 8 9328 4588 info@miragecorporation.com Website www.miragecorporation.com		Andrew Bushell <i>Manager</i> John Inverarity Centre, Perth +618 9347 9726 ajb@hale.wa.edu.au
Specifications		Rachel Fothergill, <i>Manager</i> Chapel Off Chapel, Melbourne +613 8290 7007 RFotherg@stonnington.vic.gov.au
Target audience Mainstream, 40+, traditional theatre audiences, seniors, professionals, baby boomers, English & Commonwealth expatriates. Running Times: 2 x 45+ minutes Entourage: 2 Cast, 1 Crew Bump in / out: 4 hrs / 1 hr	Venue Theatres (<500), cabaret venues, hotel ballrooms, preferably intimate Stage requirements - Grand piano (black) tuned A-440 - Sound system - Standard lighting rig (design provided) - or simple wash (plus specials) - 2 x dressing room with air-conditioning	Gordon Gorman, <i>General Manager</i> Avari Hotels, Middle East +92 215677463 gmkhi@avari.com