

MEDIA RELEASE

Melbourne
Fringe



8 August 2011

The Unexpected Variety Show

How does an Aussie mother of three find herself in Los Angeles having her one-woman show directed by a world-renowned comedy legend whose company helped launch the careers of Will Ferrell, Lisa Kudrow, Helen Hunt and more? Musical comedienne Jenny Wynter is not quite sure either, but one thing she does know is that she will be performing the resulting piece: "The Unexpected Variety Show" at Melbourne Fringe Festival from September 27 – October 8.

Wynter is fresh off the plane from the USA, where, in addition to working with director Gary Austin, "the real deal, a total genius", she met Helen Hunt, Sarah Silverman and trained with some of the world's best improv comedy teachers thanks to the Ian Potter Cultural Trust. Gary Austin, she says, is now making plans to bring Jenny and her show back over to the USA in 2012 for runs in LA and New York.

But first, Melbourne!

As Wynter is quick to point out, the show's Melbourne debut is an emotional one. Just weeks before the show was to premiere at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival last year, she was wiped out in a head-on collision. "It was such a horrifying time," she says, "not to mention so wickedly ironic, given that my whole show is about the unexpected!"

Sidelined from comedy for months to recover, Jenny now says that having her Melbourne plans cut short, makes coming back again all the sweeter. "I'm like a phoenix rising from the ashes! Except less bird-like. Or ashy."

The show is a fusion of stand-up, character and musical comedy, with storytelling, in a theatrical piece which has received rave reviews at the recent Cabaret Fringe Festival in Adelaide, where it made its Aussie debut.

"Total strangers have come up to hug me, people have cried, one woman brought her recently separated husband back the next night to watch the show again with her, another one emailed to tell me the show had inspired him to move cities and follow his dream," says Jenny.

"I've been tremendously lucky to have Gary come onboard. To work with him was such an honour, at times I wanted to pinch myself. This journey has already blown my expectations away."

"Jenny Wynter oozes talent, and The Unexpected Variety Show is a very passionate piece...I know I could see her over and over again." - Adelaide ArtBeat

"...a clever, funny and moving show...Wynter's energy and passion were captivating...her honest and clever delivery moved the audience from laughter to tears. If you get a chance to see (it) you have to do it. You'll laugh and you'll be inspired." - GlamAdelaide

"...a very funny, talented lady. I hope Brisbane realises what a treasure it has." - Steve Kaplan, Los Angeles comedy coach (has represented Jack Black, Nia Varadalos and more.)

<http://www.comicmummy.com/the-unexpected-variety-show/>

The Unexpected Variety Show

VENUE

Revolt Melbourne - Theatrette
12 Elizabeth St
Kensington, Victoria 3031

DATES: 27 Sept - 2 Oct and 4 - 9 Oct
TIME: 7.30pm, Sun 4.30pm (60min)

TICKETS

Full: \$20

Concession: \$15

TO BOOK visit melbournefringe.com.au or call (03) 9660 9666

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