STORIES AND SONGS OF THE BIG MUMMA'S

Starring by Jade da Silva

Thank you for supporting Saturday night's show at The Camelot Lounge Marrickville.

This is our launch night and will be very special.

We are really looking forward to entertaining you with some terrific songs delivered by an awesome leading lady and her very hot band.



Stories and Songs from the Big Mumma's tells the incredible journeys of some of the most influential female singers of all time. From the 1920's through to the present, From the white cotton fields to the White House, their stories are compelling. Understanding their stories, sets the songs with a new and powerful insight. These women were feisty and larger than life - and Jade doesn't pull any punches. She doesn't glamorize them, she just tells it as it is. Supported by a sensational funky band that delivers the blues with soul and a touch of edge that will leave the audience spellbound.

Some interesting facts about the ladies we will represent

MA RAINEY:

The original poster girl for hip-hop. She flaunted her bling and the audience loved it: diamonds, furs and gold in her teeth.

BESSIE SMITH:

Bessie was a wild, hard-drinking woman who one night chased the KKK away from one of her performances when she found out they were fixing to burn down the tent.

BILLIE HOLIDAY:

The Federal Bureau of Narcotics made Billie their first target in the war on drugs back in 1939 because she refused to stop singing about the horrors of lynching.

BIG MAMA THORNTON:

6 foot tall 350 pound blues belter was noticed by a record producer when she was helping some of his artists carry a piano up a huge stair case.

KOKO TAYLOR:

Grew up in the cotton fields near Memphis, Tennessee with no electricity and went on to become the most celebrated female blues artist of her time.

NINA SIMONE:

Suffered with Bi-polar disorder before it had a name; her ups and downs went from wandering naked through a hotel lobby to selling out the Olympia in Paris 7 nights in a row.

ETTA JAMES:

Once while recording a television show with Van Morrison, she thought he was hogging the mic. With one hefty hip bump she knocked him clean across the room whispering 'Slack me some room brother!!'.

MAVIS STAPLES:

Bob Dylan wanted to marry her in 1963 but interracial marriage was still illegal in most states of America.

BETTY DAVIS:

Even the NAACP (The National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People) denounced Betty. It was official: Betty Davis was too funky for black people.

BETTY LAVETTE:

Pregnant at 14, a single mother at 15 and her first hit at 16; her career was over by 20 until ...

SHARON JONES:

Before her death from cancer in 2016, she joked to her friends that it was the Trump election that gave her the stroke that put her in hospital.

SHEMEKIA COPELAND:

Blues royalty ... she holds the baton from the early blues mama's and sings fearlessly sings about social issues. She made it to the White House.

JADE DA SILVA:

Has something in common with each and every one of these women, Jade has paid her dues to sing the blues. This story is a metaphorical lullaby of her life.

Song list

R.E.S.P.E.C.T. Aretha Franklin

Wild Women Don't Get The Blues - Gertrude 'Ma' Rainey
St Louis Blues - Bessie Smith

Good Morning Heartache/Strange Fruit - Billie Holiday

Hound Dog/Ball And Chain - Big Mama Thornton

Wang Dang Doodle/Let The Juke Joint Jump/Koko Taylor

Feelin' Good/Mississippi Goddam - Nina Simone

Interval

I Just Wanna Make Love To You - Etta James
I'll Take You There/Respect Yourself - Mavis Staples
Nasty Gal/Down Home Girl - Betty Davis
Let Love Reign - Bettye LaVette

Just Dropped In To See What Condition My Condition Was In - Sharon Jones

Ain't Gonna Be Your Tattoo/Wil' Wild Woman - Shemekia Copeland

Natural Woman - Aretha Franklin.





Jade Da Silva – Lead

Jade da Silva has been performing on stage since the early 80's. While in a band called Fandango, she toured as a support with Uriah Heep.

She had the lead role in Once A Catholic at The Independent and went on to join Walkers and Talkers Theatre Company with Carol Churchills Mouthful of Birds at the Wharf Theatre. She formed a theatre company with her Ensemble

crew and they produced A Mad World My Masters that had a run at the Rocks Theatre, directed by Doug Anderson.

Toured with Soul Kitchen, a 9 piece soul and funk band and with Ian Moss from Cold Chisel, The Hard Word, Paris Green and the 11th House. She also recorded with Louis Tillet on *Letters to a Dream*, which remains in the top 10 best selling independent albums in Europe.

10 years in London she scored the role of Olive Maddison in the *Odd Couple* (the female version) that had a run at Jermyn Street Theatre, *Sex, A Divised Play* at the Tristan Bates Theatre and Maria in 12th Night at Shephards Bush. She also sang in bars around Tin Pan Alley and The West End with John Evans.

Mick Malouf - Musical Director / Bass/ Vocals

Mick's recent touring credits include performances at Glastonbury Festival, Byron Bay Bluesfest, Great Southern Bluesfest, Sydney Opera House, Twilight at Taronga, The Enmore Theatre, The State Theatre (Sydney), Festival Theatre (Adelaide) and Crown Casino (Melbourne) with artists such as Graeme Connors, Bob Malone (USA), Melinda Schneider, Stevie: The Life and Times of Stevie Wright and the Easybeats, Pearl/The Janis Joplin Story, Peace Train, Glenn Cardier, Luke O'Shea and Genevieve Chadwick.





Jack Evans – Guitar/ Vocals

Recorded and Produced solo instrumental album featured on some
Australian documentaries and series and recorded and produced
albums for -Clive Suares, Rachael Zella, Narelle Evans & the Jetbacks.

Performed at Edinburgh festival, Byron Bay Blues festival, Darling
Harbour Jazz Festival, Tamworth country festival, Blues across the bay
festival

Evan Kerr - Keys/ Vocals

Specialising in all genres of music particularly jazz, roots and blues, Evan is an in demand session keyboard player as well as a regular at festivals, theatre's and many other productions. He maybe the baby of the troupe.. but his skills astound the most seasoned professionals who often request Evan to play on their gigs. He is what one might have called a child prodigy of The Blues.





Greg Ohlback - Drums/ Vocals/ Teller of dad jokes

Greg has had a professional drum and percussion career for over 35 years, including performing at The Regent Theatre, Sydney and touring the country with major local and overseas acts including Julian Lennon. Greg is also an award winning music producer, having produced 2 successful albums. Greg has participated in many community projects, including a gathering of Tibetan, Aboriginal and Northern NSW Beaches youth, together with disabled youth, to join as one and create music/music therapy and song together.

Chris Keeble - Producer/Promoter

Chris Keeble is a writer, producer, promoter, living within the Entertainment Industry across all types of areas such as theatre, clubs, pub's, corporate venues to name a few. With a triple Major BA degree in Theatre, Theory and Practice, Chris has over the years produced many events from curating art exhibitions to rugby league matches. Also managing theatres and sitting on industry boards and is a current contributor/board member to various arts organisations and venue consultancies. A degree also in Marketing and Multi Media helps add to her business, Fish out a Water Productions.

This company overseas The Rockumentary Series (for theatres and ticketed venues), The Independents (original singer songwriter project) and The Classic Album Series.

Chris also dabbles in film and is executive producer to an independent Canadian company currently with works under development.



More info can be found on www.rockumentary.com.au
Chris is also known as The Aussie & The Indian – www.theaussie-theindian.com

Thank you for supporting live entertainment – the greatest gift of all is to buy a ticket to a show!