



Kim Smith – Dame Joan Sutherland Fund Recipient 2008



Cabaret Artist Kim Smith has received the American Australian Association's support through the Dame Joan Sutherland Fund in February 2008 to assist in his undertaking a series of lessons and workshops from distinct cabaret instructor and historian Karen Kohler. In addition, Mr. Smith will present a showcase of his work with Ms. Kohler in February of 2008, at New York's Don't Tell Mama cabaret theatre.

KIM SMITH is an Australian cabaret artist known internationally for his androgynous beauty, dark humor and mellifluous voice. His cabaret works include Quietly Kim Smith, Kim Smith is Madly Adored, and Kim Smith's Jungle Parade --the latter two having run for a total of five seasons at Melbourne's Butterfly Club. On February 7, 10, and 15, 2008, Mr. Smith will be premiering his new cabaret, Johnny Come Lately, directed and produced by Karen Kohler at New York's Don't Tell Mama. In 2007, Jungle Parade headlined the Melbourne International Comedy Festival in a highly acclaimed run at Melbourne's Trades Hall. Furthermore, Jungle Parade has toured to New York (January 2007) marking Smith's North American Debut at The Duplex. Smith appeared frequently at New York's Unisex Salon, and has headlined for Earl Dax's Off The Cuff--Down Under, an Australian cabaret extravaganza. Also, he frequently collaborates with Ali McGregor of Opera Burlesque, appearing in Ali Mcgregor's Late-nite Variety-nite Night as well as Midnight Lullabies. Other theatrical credits include Merrily We Roll Along (Charlie Kringas), The World Goes 'Round (Redroom Theatre), and the New York premiere of Jude, a new British musical after Hardy's Jude the Obscure (as Philotson). In 2005, Smith was featured in the Australian AIDS fundraising gala Hats Off presented at Melbourne's National Theatre. Mr. Smith studied at the Ballarat Arts Academy (BA, Music Theatre), and has worked extensively with the Walt Disney Company. Mr. Smith also writes as travel columnist for Australia's leading gay newspaper, MCV, and now resides in New York.

"Wit and cleverness aplenty in Kim Smith's Jungle Parade. Smith has strong sense of irony, wit and avante garde – always entertaining, great voice with impressive range – Smith has self-important and extravagant persona – gratifying to see new edgy shows like this." – Tim Hunter, Melbourne Age

"A new breed of cabaret star." – Troy Gurr, MCV Magazine