



CATS SWINGING TO THE SUCCESS OF THE 2006 ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVAL

The Adelaide Festival Centre announced today that this year's **Adelaide Cabaret Festival**, in its sixth year, has been the most successful to date.

The 2006 Festival, which concluded last night has been a resounding success both artistically and financially with over 48,000 attendances and more than 80 sold out shows including seasons of *KEATING!*, *The Burlesque Hour*, *Camille*, *Todd McKenney LIVE* and *Spontaneous Broadway*.

"It is so gratifying that in six short years we have created something that is totally unique to the world - something prestigious that audiences and artists are embracing with such enthusiasm", said Festival Director Julia Holt.

Some recent reviews that demonstrate the Festival's international reputation follow:

"In six years the Adelaide Cabaret Festival has grown to the point where it is beginning to look like a serious rival to the Adelaide Festival of Arts". The Australian 12/6/06

"The festival, as always, is a superb and diverse combination of acts from England, New York, Europe and Australia...There are masterclasses, jams, performers cross-pollinating all over the place, exhibitions, bodies of work, and a club; by any standard, the Adelaide Cabaret Festival rocks." The Age 21/6/06

"an amazing two-week event that celebrates the diversity of the mostly intimate art" Daily Express, London 18/6/06

According to Julia, it is the first time the Festival grossed more than \$1.1million in ticket sales.

"We are thrilled with this result given that the net average ticket price was around \$29 and there was a program of free events - our vision of cabaret as a rich, contemporary and relevant art form has been realised," Julia said.

The Festival featured artists from across the globe from New York, Belgium, London, Ireland, Germany and all over Australia with sensational performances over the 16 memorable nights including 10 premieres.

"You have created something really special with your Cabaret Festival...you hear about it at home and a lot of people want to come to Adelaide and perform here," said Irish chanteuse Camille one of the undoubted stars of the Festival. New York's Broadway diva Christine Andreas also backs this up and says "the Adelaide Cabaret Festival has garnered a powerful reputation in New York".

Highlights of this year's Festival included the premiere performance of *Meet Me In the Middle of the Air* in which two of Australia's greatest musical minds Paul Kelly and Paul Grabowsky combined with sister act Vika and Linda Bull, the Adelaide Art Orchestra and the Cat Scratch Choir; the presentation of concert versions of two new Australian chamber musicals, *Metro Street* and *After the Beep*; Masterclasses with Mandy Patinkin and Barb Jungr, shows in development and the German and New York series.

The free program included the series of *In Conversation With* featuring Festival Director Julia Holt interviewing artists, The Bulletin and Mo exhibitions and the free performances in the Lyrics Lounge ensured the Festival remained within the reach of everyone.



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"I congratulate Director Julia Holt as it's events like the Adelaide Cabaret Festival that see the Adelaide Festival Centre acknowledged well and truly as South Australia's heart of the arts. It's internationally acclaimed, accessible, diverse, creative and people have such a great time - just what we will soon be announcing more of at the Centre," said Adelaide Festival Centre Chief Executive Officer, Douglas Gautier.

Adelaide Cabaret Festival dates for 2007, 2008 and 2009

8 - 23 June 2007

6 - 21 June 2008

5 - 20 June 2009

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