

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 27, 2020



**CONTACT:** DeAnn Lubell-Ames – (760) 831-3090

Note: Photos available at <http://mccallumtheatre.com/index.php/media>

**Michael Griffiths' Cole**  
**McCallum Theatre**  
**Sunday – February 16 – 3:00pm**

Palm Desert, CA – Michael Griffiths, Australia's king of one-man cabaret shows, is returning to the McCallum Theatre at 7:00pm., Sunday, Feb. 16, bringing back *Cole*, his one-man tribute to the great Cole Porter.

How insanely talented is Michael Griffiths? *Cole* will be taking place just hours before he takes the McCallum stage for an evening performance of *In Vogue: Songs by Madonna*.

*Cole* covers the colorful life and timeless songs of Cole Porter. It's a tale of hedonism and grave misfortune—with a legacy that sparkles with wit and wisdom. Sometimes, anything goes! Songs include "You're the Top," "It's De-Lovely," "Let's Misbehave" and "Night and Day," woven around Anna Goldsworthy's cleverly written script.

With pop music as his first love, Michael grew up in Australia, playing the piano by ear, dancing to Michael Jackson and dreaming of pop stardom. Discovering musical theater later in his teens, he moved from his hometown of Adelaide to Perth to study at the West Australian Academy of Performing Arts, whose alumni include Hugh Jackman. Michael graduated bachelor's degree in music theater; he also has a diploma in music composition.

This led to many years touring around Australia performing in musicals, including *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* during which he learned to dance in high heels. Other performances include the Australia and Japan tour of *We Will Rock You*, where he was thrilled to meet Queen's Brian May. He was nominated for a Green Room Award for Best Supporting Actor for his performance as Bob Crewe in *Jersey Boys*, a role he performed for more than four years. He was also in the original Australian cast of *Shout!*, and in the original workshop for the Australian musical *Prodigal*. Michael performed cabaret at Sydney's legendary Showqueen at the Supper Club and for Kookaburra's "Up Close and Musical" series.

In his absence, his sleepy hometown launched the annual Adelaide Cabaret Festival—which quickly became the biggest of its type, hosting some of the finest cabaret performers from all corners of the globe. Michael stumbled across this festival on a visit home—and a new love for cabaret was born. *In Vogue* was his first one-man cabaret show, and it went on to win the Best Cabaret Adelaide Fringe Award in 2014.

A chance conversation with old school friend and best-selling author Anna Goldsworthy led to *Cole*, which premiered at the 2015 Adelaide Cabaret Festival by invitation of Barry Humphries (also known as “Dame Edna”). With his intoxicating combination of talent and wit, Michael stole the show at the 2016 Adelaide Fringe, and his performance in *Cole* earned Michael a Helpmann Award for Best Cabaret Performer in 2016. That same year, *Cole* was the top-rated cabaret show at the Edinburgh Fringe.

The *Herald Scotland* said of *Cole*: “Heartbreak is always bubbling under the surface as the beautifully melancholic tunes, such as ‘Night and Day,’ transport the musical mind to another era full of glamour and tragedy. ... You will leave on a little cloud of cabaret heaven; it’s simply ‘De-Lovely.’”

With his dear friend Amelia Ryan, he recently toured *Livvy and Pete: The Songs of Olivia Newton-John and Peter Allen* across Australia. His original song “Resemblance” was featured in the award-winning ABC documentary *Sperm Donors Anonymous*.

[www.michaelgriffiths.co](http://www.michaelgriffiths.co)

Tickets for this performance are priced at \$68, \$48 and \$28. Tickets are available at the Theatre’s website at [www.mccallumtheatre.com](http://www.mccallumtheatre.com) or by calling the McCallum Theatre Box Office at (760) 340-2787. The McCallum Theatre, located at 73000 Fred Waring Drive, Palm Desert CA 92260, accepts payment by cash, personal check, VISA, MasterCard, Discover and American Express.

*The McCallum Theatre Box Office, its phone center and website, are the **only** authorized outlets for tickets to performances presented at the Theatre. Tickets purchased from any other sources, such as brokers or secondary market websites, are purchased at consumer’s own risk and cannot be guaranteed as valid.*

###