



Image by Joel Devereux

BABUSHKA in HAPPILY EVER AFTER - QUEENSLAND TOUR 2018

Three unlikely princesses tell you a very grown-up bedtime story...

The townsfolk of Cloncurry are invited to a very grown-up bedtime cabaret this October when musical comedy quartet **Babushka** reigns for one night only. Grab your mates and leave the kids at home so you can see your best-loved children's stories turned inside out. **Alicia Cush, Bethan Ellsmore, Judy Hainsworth and Luke Volker** are coming to give Rapunzel a sharp new haircut, put Goldilocks in charge of the three bears and give a whole new meaning to Puss in Boots.

Having performed to rapturous applause at Queensland Cabaret Festival, Melbourne Cabaret Festival and Adelaide Fringe Festival, these potty-mouthed princesses are not afraid to tell Disney how it really feels to be trapped in a castle and put the grim back into Grimm's Tales. This frenzy of fairytales is a riotous celebration of our favourite tales, just not like Granny told you.

This is **Babushka's** third time crossing the great state of Queensland bringing their unmatched voices, boisterous laughs and titillating stories. After the success of their last touring work, *Babushka in Doll*, the girls are back to reconnect with locals, visit the pub and host a royal party. "We love getting out to the regional towns," the fiery-haired Bethan exclaims. "You get a much closer interaction with the audience and it challenges us to keep it fresh and new for each place we visit. The show in Townsville is going to be totally unique to the one in Quilpie, because of the people in our audience."

The hospitality is something the trio appreciates, "We've been fed roast dinners, shouted pints at the pub and been driven out to some truly phenomenal landmarks simply because we stick out like a sore thumb," says pint-sized Judy with her golden curls. "It's humbling and really makes us proud of the friendliness of Queenslanders," adds resident mama-bear Alicia.

Audiences can expect the unexpected, with entertaining musical mash-ups from Kylie Minogue and Beyonce, through to Kate Bush and even Metallica. Coupled with their blazing individual personalities and a knack for silliness, you have the recipe for an enthralling, side-splitting piece of theatre. Highlights include some unexpected rapping, a shower of petals and a retelling of Princess and the Pea crossed with Fifty Shades of Gray. These incredible singers bring every inch of their stunning voices and performance skills to deliver a high-energy, uplifting and hilarious show that sparkles and shines like the Queen's jewels.

Babushka in Happily Ever After is a cabaret creation that's simply not to be missed.

For further media information, images and interviews please contact:
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BABUSHKA IN HAPPILY EVER AFTER CAST

JUDY HAINSWORTH

Judy Hainsworth is one of Brisbane's most dynamic performers and writers. Her cabaret #FirstWorldWhiteGirls has earned rave reviews and toured to Brisbane, Adelaide, Melbourne and regional Queensland. In 2015, she was a finalist in the International Cabaret Competition with her show Hangry White Female and she is a member of award-winning cabaret trio Babushka. Judy's theatre credits include Revolving Rhymes & Dirty Beasts (shake & stir) and The Narcissist (STC/La Boite), which toured nationally and earned her a Matilda Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress. Judy has also performed with Opera Queensland, Queensland Ballet, Harvest Rain and The Good Room. Judy has a Bachelor of Theatre Arts (acting, with Distinction) from the University of Southern Queensland and a Master of Arts from the University of Queensland.

ALICIA CUSH

Alicia Cush is a Brisbane-based performer, musical director and producer. Currently, Alicia is the Artistic Director of Little Match Productions, encompassing Babushka, operatic group Belladiva and children's production The Owl and the Pussycat. These ensembles have performed at many prestigious events, including Brisbane Festival, Queensland Cabaret Festival and Queensland Music Festival. Recently, Alicia has toured internationally with Circa's Helpmann Award-winning show *Il Ritorno*, been a Fresh Ground Artist-in-Residence program at the Judith Wright Centre and a featured performer with Queensland's iconic Women in Voice series. This year will see Alicia producing a Brisbane Festival season of The Owl and the Pussycat at QPAC and state touring with Babushka.

BETHAN ELLSMORE

Bethan Ellsmore is growing her reputation as a truly versatile vocalist, producer and performer. A graduate of the Queensland Conservatorium with a Bachelor of Music in Performance (Classical Voice), she continued with a Master of Music Studies in Jazz & Contemporary Voice. Bethan creates and performs with acclaimed Brisbane cabaret collective Babushka, starring in *Doll* at the Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts. She has recently performed the role of Penelope in the Australian cast of Circa's *Il Ritorno*. Her solo cabaret work *Queen of the Night* debuted to excellent reviews at the 2015 Queensland Cabaret Festival. Bethan leads her band La Trav from behind the piano, co-produced and performed in the 2014 premiere of electro-opera spectacle *Aria Moderna* and starred alongside Carita Farrer and Lil Fi in the 21st *Women in Voice*.

LUKE VOLKER

Luke has music directed cabarets, concerts, and full-scale musicals across Australia and internationally. Credits include: *BARE* (Understudy); *THE OWL & THE PUSSYCAT* (Little Match); *A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC* (Brisbane Philharmonic); *RENT* (QLD Conservatorium); *COMPANY*, *LITTLE WOMEN* (Ignatians); *SONGS FOR A NEW WORLD* (Phoenix); *HAPPILY EVER AFTER*, *DOLL*, *COOL BRITANNIA* (touring cabarets); OperaQ (Open Stages); Universal Studios Japan® (various); Underground Broadway (resident accompanist); performances with QSO, Rhonda Burchmore, Philip Quast, Kristin Chenoweth, and Jason Robert Brown. Training: Tony Award®-winning Goodspeed Musicals (USA) (Music Direction), QLD Conservatorium (Masters of Contemporary Music), QLD University of Technology (Bachelor of Music/Drama).

SEASON DETAILS

Dates + Times Sunday 14 October @ 4:00pm

Venue CLONCURRY SHIRE HALL, 38-46 DAINTREE STREET, 4824, CLONCURRY

Tickets Council office 4742 4100

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