

## FRENCH CABARET STAR PLAYS BRISBANE FOR ONE NIGHT ONLY THIS JUNE

The Judith Wright Centre Presents  
**CAROLINE NIN – *HYMNE A PIAF***

*Direct from France, this is pure cabaret at its finest – erotic, poetic and simply delicious.*

The Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts is thrilled to announce the inclusion of French cabaret star Caroline Nin in next month's Brisbane Cabaret Festival program.

Nin is a classic femme fatale – sexy, infectious, and so very French. Her intimate solo performances have transfixed audiences worldwide, and she is set to melt hearts in Brisbane with **Hymne A Piaf**, playing for one night only Friday 18 June as part of a national tour.

**Hymne A Piaf** is a bilingual tribute to legendary singer Edith Piaf – a mesmerising musical trip into the tragic world of France's most famous chanteuse.

Piaf's story is an absolutely devastating one. She was born in 1915 practically on the streets and died in much the same way despite an international career that saw her become one of the world's most popular entertainers.

In **Hymne A Piaf**, Nin charms and charges with smoky, sensual and sensitive interpretations of legendary anthems about love, loss and emotional hardship, including 'Hymne à l'amour', 'Padam', and 'La vie en Rose'.

"They are not happy songs at all, and when you sing them you can really feel it in your heart; you live them," Nin told Sydney Central while on tour last year.

Born in Paris, Nin is often referred to as the Dietrich of the 21st century, for her sultry and breathlessly devastating performances. She started her career in the highly regarded Parisian jazz venue *The Hollywood Savoy* interpreting the songs of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Sarah Vaughan, and has since toured the world extensively.

**Hymne A Piaf** has played sell-out performances internationally in venues that include the Royal Festival Hall (London), the King's Head Theatre (London), and recently at the Sydney Opera House. Judith Wright Centre Director Ruth Hodgman said Nin's inclusion in this year's Brisbane Cabaret Festival was a real coup.

"It's très bon to present French chanteuse Caroline Nin in a concert that captures the unique style of France's national icon, Edith Piaf. Nin is an artist of exquisite ability, one of France's true stars, and this is a very special opportunity for Brisbane audiences to experience authentic French cabaret here in the heart of the city," Hodgman said.

"...Magnificent.... je t'aime Caroline." - **The Scotsman (Edinburgh)**

"...a spine tingling, tear-jerking revelation." - **Time Out (London)**

"...this is a must-see event if you are craving something extraordinary." - **Australian Stage (Sydney)**

"...Nin supplies a shot of pure cabaret directly to your bloodstream." - **The Age (Sydney)**

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<b>Date</b>	Friday 18 June
<b>Time</b>	7.30pm
<b>Venue</b>	Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts
<b>Tickets</b>	Cabaret \$45, Theatre Full \$39 Concession \$34
<b>Bookings</b>	07 3872 9000 or judithwrightcentre.com

For further information, images and interview opportunities please contact  
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# JUDITH WRIGHT CENTRE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS

## CAROLINE NIN – BIOGRAPHY

Caroline Nin is a classic femme fatale, one who charms, intrigues and fills your imagination with a plethora of images, stories and memories through her mesmerizing personality, her captivating, rich voice and her own musical interpretations with a repertoire ranging from Edith Piaf to Liza Minnelli, Marlene Dietrich to Jacques Brel.

Caroline Nin, born in Paris, makes her debut in the late 80s at The Hollywood Savoy, a swing and jazz venue, where she quickly attracts the attention of its punters by interpreting the songs of Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday and Sarah Vaughan.

In the early 90s, Nin moves to London when Marc Almond asks her to perform at his thriving new Soho venue The Freedom Theatre and where she sings classic cabaret standards (Brel, Kander, Ebb & Sondheim, Weill, Brecht) applying her own intellectual eroticism.

The French Institute then chooses her to promote French culture around Britain through a series of tours during 1994-1996. She begins to turn heads globally when Vidal Sassoon's artistic director spots her and signs her to accompany his worldwide hairdressing conventions featuring musical and cabaret shows. This is also when she first enters into an intimate relationship with Edith Piaf, singing her own adaptation of the song 'La Vie en Rose'.

Thanks to the response of this worldwide tour, which also includes a stint at New York's Don't Tell Mama on 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Nin delves even further into the tragic and joyful world of Edith Piaf. This inspires her to produce her show *Hymne A Piaf* - a smoky, jazzy, sensual and sensitive interpretation and not impersonation of Piaf's works, including the showstoppers 'Milord', 'Non', 'Je Ne Regrette Rien' and 'Padam'. Since its inception the show has been presented as far as the Sydney Opera House, the Royal Festival Hall and the King's Head Theatre in London.

At the Pleasance Theatre for the 1998 Edinburgh Festival, Nin continues to seduce, entice and reel in her audiences by winning the first edition of the "Herald Angel" for her cabaret *The Last Show* featuring Piaf, Dietrich, Minelli and Brel numbers.

The 1999 Edinburgh Festival edition, sees her at The Assembly Rooms where she weaves her red light district sly intrigue *Scarlet Stories*, a show that recreates the atmosphere of the red light districts of Amsterdam, Berlin, New-York or Paris with renditions of 'Irma La Douce', 'Liebertango', 'Amsterdam', 'Big Spender', 'Johnny' and 'The One and Only You', a song Marc Almond wrote for her.

In 2001, Caroline moves back to Paris and has since been singing regularly at the famous cabaret venue Le Lido on the Champs Elysées.

In 2002, Caroline sets foot for the first time in Australia where her second album *Scarlet Stories* is recorded live at the Adelaide Cabaret Festival. She returns the following year with *Hymne A Piaf* and meets great success. It is in 2007 that the Festival also commissions her to prepare a musical cabaret performance reflecting her fascination in the iconic performer Marlene Dietrich. Her latest show is born: *La Dietrich*.

That same year, *Hymne A Piaf* registers sold-out at the Sydney Opera House when it is presented alongside the world premiere of French blockbuster *La Vie en Rose*.

After her debut at the Christchurch Cabaret Festival (NZ) in June 2008, Caroline performs, for the second consecutive year at the Sydney Opera House, her new show *La Dietrich*.

Spotted by a Parisian director during her Sydney run, *La Dietrich* was scheduled for a season on the French National Theatre Stage La Péniche Opéra in October 2009.

2009 saw Nin return to the Christchurch Arts Festival and debut at the Auckland Cabaret Festival (NZ). The tour ended in Sydney with a sold-out two week season at the renowned venue The Vanguard.

Nin's busy 2010 touring schedule includes a five-week Australian tour with performances in Brisbane, Melbourne, Canberra, Perth, Sydney, the Gold Coast, and the Sunshine Coast.

[Adapted from [www.carolinenin.com](http://www.carolinenin.com)]

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