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# ALI MCGREGOR - CURRICULUM VITAE

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## PROFILE

ALI MCGREGOR is a singer, producer and arts maker based in Melbourne. She started her career as a principal soprano with Opera Australia then ran away with the circus in the form of hit show *La Clique (La Soirée)*. Ali is now an award winning cabaret and operatic performer and arts maker who has performed worldwide from Glastonbury to Carnegie Hall and is one of the most in demand performers on the international festival circuit. She was nominated for an ARIA award in 2014 and in 2015 was awarded a Green Room Award for her contribution to cabaret.

After wrapping two critically acclaimed seasons as Co - Artistic Director for *Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2016/2017* alongside Eddie Perfect, Ali then returned as sole Artistic Director in 2018. Her most recent projects include a mesmerising show about famed Peruvian soprano *Yma Sumac* for which she won a coveted Helpmann award in 2019 and a critically acclaimed operatic cabaret conceived for Victorian Opera - *Lorelei* with music/Lyrics by Casey Bennetto, Gillian Cosgriff & Julian Langdon that debuted at The Malthouse Theatre in November 2018.

## EXPERIENCE

### PERFORMER AND CONCEPT CREATOR - LORELEI - VICTORIAN OPERA – 2018

As well as starring in the production, Ali's involvement also included the original concept of the work, application to Victorian Opera for commissioning and assembly of the cast & creative team.

### ARTISTIC DIRECTOR - ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVAL – 2016-2018

Responsibilities included providing artistic program curatorship to facilitate development and implementation of the Festival. Specific tasks and activities include programming the Festival and contacting artists in conjunction with the Executive Producer with regards their participation in the Festival. A key accountability was to ensure that the program aligned with the objective of ensuring delivery of the Adelaide Cabaret Festival as a world-class festival, attracting local, national and international attention and visitation. The role also included design and marketing concepts from program design and TVCs to on-site design and delivery. Collaborating directly with the programming team, and being spokesperson for all media and stakeholder events.

The Adelaide Cabaret Festival includes a wide range of Cabaret performances from traditional to contemporary styles that tell stories through music, dance, song, and text from the classical and well known forms of Cabaret genre to the very contemporary.

### DIRECTOR - 'CLOSING GALA' - ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVAL 2018

Programming & co-ordination of this major event in the Festival Theatre.

Responsibilities included design concept and curation, artistic direction and direct collaboration with the technical team.

### DIRECTOR - 'FAMILY GALA' - ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVAL 2018

Concept creation of the successful 'Family Gala' for the festival in 2016 led to sole direction of the production in 2018. Tasks included design concept and curation, artistic direction and direct co-ordination with the technical team.

### DIRECTOR 'JACQUES BREL - THE IMMORTAL TROUBADOUR' 2017, 'TOM WAITS FOR NO MAN' & 'GLORIOUS MISFITS' – 2018

Programming and co-ordination of these collaborative works for the Adelaide Festival. Tasks included all casting and curation, design concept, artistic direction and direct co-ordination with the technical team.

### HOSTING/MC DUTIES MAJOR GALAS AND EVENTS - ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVAL – 2016-18

Shows include: Opening, Family & Closing Galas 2016, 2017, 2018

### PRODUCER/PERFORMER - ALI MCGREGOR'S LATE-NITE VARIETY-NITE NIGHT - MELBOURNE COMEDY FESTIVAL 2005-2018, EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL, ADELAIDE FRINGE & ADELAIDE CABARET FESTIVALS.

Creator & Producer of this flagship show for 13 years. Responsible for curation, musical direction, artistic concept and all design elements. Direct negotiations with MICF

Artistic Director Susan Provan and Assembly Festival Director William Burdett Coutts.

#### CABARET PERFORMANCES/PRODUCTION 2005-2018

YMA SUMAC - THE PERUVIAN SONGBIRD - Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2018, Sydney Opera House 2019, Victorian Opera 2020

DECADENCE - Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2015, 2018

ALCHEMY - Edinburgh Fringe Festival, Melbourne Recital Centre, Adelaide Cabaret Festival, The Basement - Sydney, The Hayes Theatre, Sydney, Regional Arts Victoria Tour 2013, Perth Fringe Festival 2014, WA Regional Tour 2015.

JAZZAMATAZZ! - Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2012, '13, '14, Sydney Festival 2014, Melbourne Recital Centre 2014, Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2016, The Famous Spiegeltent - Victorian Arts Centre 2015, Melbourne Jazz Festival 2014, Auckland Festival 2014, WBF Christchurch 2018

JAZZ CIGARETTE- Fairfax Studio, Victorian Arts Centre 2009, Space Theatre - Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2009, Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2010

THE OPERA BURLESQUE - Melbourne Comedy Festival 2005/6. Adelaide Fringe Festival 2006/7, Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2007, Wexford International Arts Festival 2007, Adelaide Cabaret Festival 2015

LA CLIQUE - (produced by Brett Haylock) Melbourne, Edinburgh, Adelaide 2005-2008

Other notable venues performed - NYC - Carnegie Hall, Joes Pub, Pangea. LONDON - The Palladium, Brasserie Zedel, Cafe De Paris, Royal Vauxhall Tavern, Bush Hall, Underbelly's Southbank, The Union Church, HONG KONG - Hong Kong Fringe Club

#### PRINCIPAL SOPRANO- 'OPERA AUSTRALIA 2000-2005

One of Simone Young's young Artists in her debut season performing and/or understudying over 25 roles including: Clorinda (La Cenerentola), Phyllis (Iolanthe), Zerlina (Don Giovanni), Marzellina (Fidelio), Yum-Yum (The Mikado), Plaintiff (Trial By Jury), Pousette (Manon), Adele (Die Fledermaus), Ninetta (Love of Three Oranges), Papagena (The Magic Flute).

#### OTHER OPERATIC ROLES 2000-2018

Venus (Cesti's *Il Pomo d'Oro*) Batignano Opera Festival, ITALY; Zerlina (*Don Giovanni*) NZ Opera, Fennimore (Kurt Weill's *The Silverlake*) and Polly Peachum in *The Beggar's Opera* Broomhill Opera at Wilton Music Hall, LONDON.

#### THEATRE ROLES

Polly Peachum/Grace Madden in '*The Convict's Opera*' for Out of Joint Theatre Company & Sydney Theatre Company SYDNEY 2007, UK tour 2008

#### AUDIO RECORDINGS

Jazzamatazz! 2012 (ABC Music)

*Alchemy* 2012 (Independent)

*Jazz Cigarette* 2009 (Independent)

*Midnight Lullabies* EP 2007 (Independent)  
*Love of Three Oranges* - Opera Australia (Chandos) 2005  
*One Perfect Day* - Movie Soundtrack (Universal) 2004

#### DVD RECORDINGS

*Ali McGregor's Jazzmatazz* (ABC) 2014  
*Trial by Jury* - Opera Australia (ABC) 2005

#### TELEVISION

*The Courtney Act Show* (Channel 4 UK) 2018  
*Carols in the Domain* (Channel 7) 2012  
*Spicks and Specks* - Regular panel member 2005-2011  
*Carols by Candlelight* (Channel 9) 2007  
*My Favourite Album* (ABC) 2007  
Narration *IOU* (ABC) 2007  
*Edinburgh Festival Show* (BBC2 UK) 2005,  
*Mornings with Kerri - Anne* (Channel 9) 2004  
*Good Friday Appeal* (Channel 7) 2003  
Presenting *La Traviata - Live in Paris* alongside Howard Goodall (Channel 4 UK) 2000.

#### AWARDS

Green Room Award 'Contribution to Cabaret' 2015  
ARIA - Nominated for Best Children's release (*Jazzmatazz!*) 2014  
Three Weeks Editor's Choice - Edinburgh Festivals 2013  
Green Room Nomination (*Magic Flute*, *The Love of Three Oranges* & *Trial by Jury*) 2005  
Green Room Award 'Best supporting actress' (*La Cenerentola*) 2003

#### EDUCATION

ROYAL NORTHERN COLLEGE OF MUSIC – BA(MUS) 1998

Peter Moores Scholar 1996-98, under tutorial of Theresa Cahill

AUSTRALIA NATIONAL UNIVERSITY – BA(MUS) 1993

Two years of study under Jeanette Russell before continuing studies in UK

GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL - HSC/VCE - 1990

Primary (Years 1-6) - Toorak Campus  
Senior School (Years 7-8 & 10-12) Corio Campus - School Prefect, Choir Captain  
Year 9 - Timbertop Campus

#### SKILLS & INTERESTS

Basic Italian & French language, Graphic Design (Photoshop, Illustrator), Web Design, Musical Instruments (Autoharp, Omnichord, basic piano), Pottery, Rollerblading, Mad Cooking Skills, Dope Rap Flow, Gin Appreciation, Macramé, expert in keeping at least two children alive and happy.