



Lisa McCune brings love to Brisbane

# Lisa McCune in love

Chris Herden talks to Lisa McCune about love ahead of her one-night cabaret performance in Brisbane

all its highs and lows in which McCune and her co-star Kane Alexander will sing cozy renditions of *Baby, It's Cold Outside*, *Something Stupid* and Cole Porter's *You're The Top*.

"It's music about the journey of love, how people meet and how having children fits into it all. There are a few standards, a lot of cabaret songs that tell a strong story, and I love singing with Kane - his voice is so smooth, so Harry Connick Jr," McCune says.

"It will be great to do this simple little cabaret in intimate arenas and take audiences on a journey." But McCune stresses there are no songs from *South Pacific* in the show.

"I love *Baby, It's Cold Outside* because I find that kind of era so beautiful, it's one that I really enjoy. It doesn't matter what generation you're from, you sort of know it."

To help put the show together McCune called upon Denis Follington, the former head of music theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts and who played a defining role

in McCune's life as a young Perth musical theatre student back in the 1980s.

"I told Denis that I would really love to just do a torch song sitting on a piano," she explains.

Follington told McCune: "I've got just the song for you - *More Than You Know* and Kane does a fantastic version of *Love on the Rocks*. Instead of those traditional 'I'm in love, you're in love, we're in love' type of songs, it's about other aspects of love."

Lisa McCune, arguably one of the most bankable stars around, is the first woman in Australian television to win four consecutive Gold Logies and she has had a spectacular starring run in award-winning musicals. She has been our favourite girl-next-door since her very first appearance as the feisty Coles Supermarkets' check-out girl and then as the adored Maggie Doyle on *Blue Heelers*, a role she played for seven seasons and which made her the highest paid female actor on television.

But, lately, it hasn't been all glitter for TV's

golden girl who is clearly disappointed the recent television drama *Reef Doctors* attracted one of the lowest set of audience figures for a new Australian drama on a free-to-air channel.

"No, the timing wasn't great, we went to air on a public holiday and we had the *MasterChef* juggernaut right behind us which the network had to ensure was introduced well. *Reef Doctors* didn't deliver the numbers on the night. I think it's a shame that we weren't in a position to give it a few extra weeks but these are the things that happen in the land of TV."

McCune remains tight-lipped when asked if *Love...and all that follows* will have any songs referring to her own behind-the-scenes relationship with *South Pacific* co-star Teddy Tahu Rhodes. Her own love life is one area she is adamant she will not discuss.

*Love...and all that follows* will be at Twelfth Night Theatre, 4 Cintra Road, Bowen Hills, Thursday 18 July, 8pm. For tickets call 3252 5122 or see [www.twelfthnighttheatre.com.au](http://www.twelfthnighttheatre.com.au), or Ticketmaster call 136 100 or see [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au).

Lisa McCune is taking a new musical on the road and is hoping to get up close and personal with people who rarely get to the city to see the big shows. Before she begins a return season of the hugely successful *South Pacific* at the Sydney Opera House in September, McCune will embark on a whirlwind 17-venues regional tour of her intimate cabaret show *Love...and all that follows*.

On that whistlestop tour, her cabaret show will appear at the intimate venue of Twelfth Night Theatre, Bowen Hills, for one night only on Thursday 18 July.

The show is a musical celebration of love with

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