

Written Mon 3rd July 2006
Lionel Curtis

Tim McKew is Noel Coward

“ It is very special having you here at the latest Melbourne season of my personal tribute to the wit and genius of Mr Noel Coward.....”

The opening words of Tim McKew’s musical homage to the master of style at the Moonee Ponds Incinerator Arts Complex. The incinerator was designed by American architect Walter Burley Griffin as has now become a suitable gentleman’s performance theatre. This particular season of 4 nights was also the 3rd season of COWARD (and my cat Satchmo’s 6th birthday) on Sunday the 26th of March.

“Lets do it” “Mad about the Boy” “Room with a view” “London Pride”, along with the outrageous renditions of “Mad dogs and Englishmen” and the bizarrely controversial “I like America” formed the first half of his wicked, campy production. His backing band was made up of keyboards and saxophone, and with clever sound tape and lighting interventions. All in all, a witty, somewhat fabulous production, and creepily like what I believe Coward would do if alive today. Another six classic but almost modern, racy, and naughty versions of Cowards hits followed the interval.



Tim McKew has been an acclaimed master of the alternative/ cabaret scene for many years and still manages to shock us yet again by performing classic material in an age that reveres way-out wacky, so called avant-garde, as new theatre. McKew by re-inventing Coward still manages (yet again) to offend and upset the style gurus of contemporary cabaret. SHOCKING of you MR McKEW, how dare you do a show our mothers would love to attend, Bravo!

It originally opened at The very swank Australia Club as a private function for 100, and then the trendy Castlemaine Royal Theatre, and most recently a luncheon at The Alexandria Club, (the female version of The Melbourne Club) and a wedding celebrants do in Melbourne. Now that's what we call stylish.

Tim's next **NOEL COWARD** performance is a **ONE NIGHT ONLY** event dinner and show (of course) at **Dante's Restaurant, Gertrude Street Fitzroy** (Melbourne Australia) on **Friday the 28th July, 2006**. Catch this show before it goes overseas to Shanghai, and possibly NYC-USA, and Vegas where Noel was the most appreciated, rumour has it, and we all know thatALL RUMOURS are TRUE !

Newsflash ! - Channel 31 will be interviewing Tim McKew and The Fabulous The Opera Boys at Dantes also.

