

WIGMORE HALL

Friday 7 June 2024
10.00pm

Ty Jeffries Sings Ty Jeffries Wigmore Hall Pride Concert

Say Hello

January Jones

Melt into You

Pigalle

Nothing For You

Pimlico Green/Portobello Girl

Brazilian Waltz

Star Fall

Elegy

Berlin Cabaret/I Love Berlin

Please Don't Desert us at Dessert

Queen of Fools

The Devil Made Me Do It

Carnival

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Firstly, thank you for being here tonight. This is my third solo show at Wigmore Hall, but my first wigless!

I grew up between Hollywood and Pinewood and wrote my earliest song aged five, on an old piano in our potting shed. Later I went to The Purcell School to study piano, violin and composition and, despite struggling with reading and writing the dots (being musically dyslexic), I had my first publishing deal at 15 years old and was later signed to Elton John's Rocket Music.

I started my cabaret career in 1980, playing and singing at Langan's Brasserie, and I went on to ply my wares at The Roof Gardens in Kensington and The Ritz Hotel. Much later, in the late 1990s, I started presenting my work through my theatrical 'tragi-comic' washed-up showbiz alter ego, Miss Hope Springs. This led to a 12-year residency at Crazy Coqs in Piccadilly, which has just come to a close. I also made a few trips up to the Edinburgh Fringe where in 2019 I won 'Best Cabaret' (Broadway World Awards).

Now it's time for me to step out from Hope's towering sequined shadow and to take to the stage as myself. But also to set my work free, hopefully to flourish in the hands of other artists. This exciting process has begun in style. Claire Martin and Joe Stilgoe performed 'It's All Latin to Me' at the 2021 EFG London Jazz Festival and Claire has recorded my

original jazz standard 'Water and Salt' for her forthcoming album. Sidney Myer, one of New York's most venerated cabaret performers, has included my song 'Nothing For You' (which you will hear tonight) in his recent shows to critical acclaim.

This is a programme of material gleaned from a period of more than 40 years. Some songs take us on parts of the journey through Hope's tawdry travails: from Vegas to Weimar, via Paris, Hollywood and, ultimately, to Dungeness (on the Kentish Riviera). Others are stand-alone pieces or taken from my own as yet un-staged musicals. I have also included studies from my solo piano albums. I've always been inspired by the Great American and European songbooks, Golden Age film scores and French impressionist music of the early 20th Century. If you laugh a little and shed a tear or two tonight then I feel my work here is done.

It is a great honour to be here again at the invitation of John Gilhooly who has been a huge supporter of my work over recent years, and it's a delight and a privilege to share my compositions with you for this special Wigmore Hall Pride Concert tonight. I do hope you enjoy them.

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