

Friends of Circa Newsletter Vol 43, Issue 7, 5 July 2018

Songs for Nobodies

Starring Ali Harper
By Joanna Murray-Smith
Directed by Ross Gumbley
A Court Theatre production

Circa One 7 July - 4 August

Tues - Thurs 6.30pm, Fri - Sat 8pm. Sun 4pm

\$25 - \$52 \$30 specials: Fri 6 July and Sun 8 July Friends \$38 until 22 July



Songs for Nobodies opens on Saturday, July 7th, and this onewoman show has got both critics and audiences raving in every theatre it has performed in so far... It is not a piece for just any actor... and Playwright Joanna-Murray Smith had this to say on a recent visit to Circa:-

"It is with huge pleasure that I gave the rights to my play *Songs for Nobodies* to the extraordinary Ms Ali Harper. After very successful tours throughout Australia and a recent London production, this play has probably engaged more audiences than any other play of mine and it's exciting to know that now it has jumped the ditch and into the lap of this marvellous performer.

A very challenging piece — the solo performer must inhabit ten different women, five of them famous — transforming in front of our eyes and bringing absolute emotional authenticity to all. All that — plus singing! And not just any singing — but five distinct voices we, the audience, already know and love.

Finding an actor who can do all that is no small feat. So, I am hugely grateful that Ali has jumped into the volatile, exciting, terrifying adventure, *Songs for Nobodies*, and is bringing it to one of my favourite theatres in the world, the beautiful Circa."



Joanna-Murray Smith and Ali Harper



Photo Credit: Danielle Colvin

Ali was awarded 'Chapman Tripp Actress of the Year' in 2008 for Joanna Murray-Smith's other one woman tour-de-force *Bombshells*. Ali also performed it at the United Solo Festival on 42nd Street where she was awarded 'Best Actress' in 2014.

This October Ali and her team has been invited to return to New York as an Encore artist with *Songs for Nobodies*.

This special show is at Circa for a 4-week season as part of a NZ national tour, and tickets are racing out the door. Get in quick to grab the remaining \$30 Special tickets for Friday 6th and Sunday 8th July and see for yourself what everyone is talking about. Ali is joined for her Circa season by three stellar Wellington musicians – Daniel Hayles (Piano) Johnny Lawrence (Bass), & Lance Philip (Drums).



"Ali Harper has a range and depth and clarity which, combined with her acting ability, make for a stunning performance." - Theatreview

"... truly astonishing acting and singing tour-de-force." - The Christchurch Press

"Remarkable. A case of the right production meeting the right performer at the right time." - Radio NZ