

SONGS FOR PSYCHEDELICS

A MAGICAL MUSHROOM ADVENTURE

By Tania de Jong AM

Musical Direction by Anthony Barnhill

Melbourne Cabaret Festival

Chapel off Chapel

Sunday 20 June at 7.30pm

Duration: 60 minutes approx.

Tickets: \$42 Full, \$39 Concession & Groups 6+, \$36 Festival Friends

<http://www.melbournecabaret.com/songs-for-psychedelics-a-magical-mushroom-adventure>



Until 2016 Tania de Jong AM had never taken any drugs. She didn't drink or smoke! Singing has always been her wonder drug! Then she had her first guided psilocybin (magic mushroom) ceremony in 2016, in Amsterdam. That trip took her through a multi-dimensional universe. Everything changed! Tribes have sung and danced together to ward off enemies and healed their ills through plant medicines since the beginning of human civilisation.

Tania's acclaimed TED Talk 'How singing together changes the brain' explains the incredible neuroscience of singing (and lots more). When we sing with others, we improve the neuroplasticity of our brains making us smarter, healthier, happier and more creative. Our hearts even start to beat together!

"Tania is the consummate world class performer in every sense." Rotary Down Under"

"Thank you so much for your exceptional, inspired, inclusive and transcendental performance in London at our concert. Your input, angelic voice and icebreaking audience interaction and inclusion was invaluable and key to the success of the evening. Bravo. Magnifico!" Warren Wills, West End Musical Director

Songs for Psychedelics brings together moving stories, anecdotes, immersive videos, all integrated with uplifting favourite songs and show tunes – including original songs written by Tania and composed by the outstandingly talented Musical Director, Anthony Barnhill. This cabaret will appeal to everyone who is interested in music, theatre, powerful storytelling and innovative and effective solutions for our escalating mental health epidemic.

Follow Tania and her brilliant pianist, Anthony Barnhill, as they share stories and songs to entertain, educate and uplift spirits in times of chaos and increasing mental distress, accompanied by specially curated psychedelic videos for an interactive and enchanting trip that will leave you feeling lighter and much more connected!

To organise an interview with Tania, or for more information please contact:

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About the Artists:

Tania de Jong AM

[Tania de Jong AM](#) is an acclaimed soprano who presents magical performances across classical, music theatre, contemporary, sacred, spiritual and world genres. She creates heartfelt music and performances for meditation and prayer, tribute, reflection, inspiration and illumination.

Opera Magazine described Tania as “... *gorgeous, golden-voiced and theatrical...what a talent.*” She performed with the Victoria State Opera and has appeared as a soloist in operas and musicals, festivals, corporate, private and special events globally.

Her internationally renowned group [Pot-Pourri](#) have performed in over 40 countries at major festivals, including with the Seoul Symphony Orchestra in Korea, Hannover World Expo in Germany, Macau Concert Hall and so much more. Tania has released seven albums with Pot-Pourri and has released five solo albums.

[With a grandmother who invented the foldable umbrella](#), innovation is in her blood. And, as the daughter of Holocaust survivors, she has learnt about resilience and re-invention and developed a passion for diversity and social inclusion. Tania is an award-winning social entrepreneur and the Founder of [Mind Medicine Australia](#), The Song Room and [Creativity Australia and the With One Voice program](#), and [Creative Universe](#), [Creative Innovation Global](#), [Dimension5](#), [Pot-Pourri](#) and [MTA Entertainment & Events](#).

Tania was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in June 2008 for service to the arts as a performer and entrepreneur and through the establishment and development of music and arts enrichment programs for schools and communities. She was honoured with the Award for Meritorious Service to the Community in the Victorian Multicultural Awards for Excellence. Recently she was named in the 100 Women of Influence, the 100 Most Influential Entrepreneurs in Australia and the 100 most influential people in psychedelics globally! Her mission is to change the world, one voice at a time.

Anthony Barnhill

One of Australia's leading young musicians, [Anthony Barnhill](#) is a versatile pianist, composer and conductor. His performances have been described as ‘*heroic*’ (Wilma Smith, concertmaster MSO), ‘*sensitive and intelligent*’ (ArtsHub), and displaying ‘*incredible showmanship*’ (Tina Arena). Anthony's credits span radio, national television, and as guest soloist with symphony orchestras.

In 2019, Anthony was the Associate Musical Director for the international tour of *West Side Story* (Opera Australia, GWB entertainment, BB group). Tour highlights included conducting performances at renowned opera houses around the world, including Staatsoper Unter den Linden in Berlin and the Sydney Opera House. Other musical theatre credits include *Evita* (Opera Australia), *Oklahoma!* (The Production Company) and, most recently, as AMD for the Australian production of *Chicago* (GFO).

Anthony has worked for the Victorian State Schools Spectacular, Monash University, Creativity Australia's *With One Voice* program and Opera Scholars Australia. He has been pianist for Grammy nominated RnB artist Mario, toured China as Musical Director for Australian International Productions, and served as Composer in Residence for Creative Innovation Global. He is also pianist and Musical Director for acclaimed group, Pot-Pourri.

Anthony studied at Monash University where he won numerous awards including the flagship Concerto Competition, while also achieving the university's highest performance result in each year of study. He was winner of the prestigious Rob Guest Endowment Musician Award.

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