

## **Eight Songs in Eight Weeks – Musical Comedy with Gillian Cosgriff**

*By Danielle O'Donnell*

*Eight Songs in Eight Weeks* is a musical comedy show you will be trying hard not to laugh along with. It is a real treat to enjoy an hour with Gillian Cosgriff, an energetic, musical, and hilarious performer. She sings, and you laugh, but it is her jokes that set you off. Her singing is excellent.

She tells you at the commencement of her show that she invented her concept to prevent creative procrastination. What would she do if she didn't keep coming up with songs as a musical comedian? "Try it, you make so much money", she quips in her third song intro.

But first you'd have to have her unique and quirky take on life coupled with catchy melodic tunes and her comedic timing that gets laugh after laugh. She's a one girl band, who makes you chortle about December 23<sup>rd</sup>, the best day in the holiday season combining heightened anticipation without actual human interaction; the misdirected travel itinerary email addressed to a girl with an exotic name, who Gill obsessively imagines has "an amazing life"; and the crazy-opinionated friend on your Facebook page who doesn't know just how amusing they are. Many of her jokes are multi-layered. Her performance combines clever double-entendre and biting social satire.

As she charms you with her easy-going, down to earth chatter, while using a whiteboard and marker, a soundboard assistant; and conversation with her audience to take notes for an off-the-cuff song, demonstrating her ability to compose, and presents it at the end of the hour. Her ability to adlib, as she brainstorms, and the unique song she produces add value to what is already an entertaining set, making you wish she had the stamina for another hour.

If it's a while since you've tried stand-up comedy, or you don't think it's your thing, look out for *Eight Songs in Eight Weeks*, you will be very pleasantly surprised to some lovely tunes. Gillian Cosgriff has been featured at the Melbourne Comedy Festival, and is an accomplished artistic performer.

I viewed this show as part of the Ballarat Cabaret Festival on October 6, 2017 at the Lost Ones Basement Bar in Camp Street. Gillian Cosgriff continues to perform at various venues throughout Australia.

<http://www.gilliancosgriff.com/>

This show was an outstanding multi-arts form performance and deserves five stars.