

# GEORGE DOUKAS' BALCANO

With his music career spanning twenty years, George Doukas is a favourite of the Australian Greek music scene. His virtuosic guitar and bouzouki playing has mesmerised and excited audiences from intimate venues and tavernas to Greek festivals and larger concerts alongside Sakellariou, Doukissa, Floriniotis and Dalaras.



George had the prestigious appointment of performing and directing the music at the exclusive IOC Pavilion at the Sydney Olympics, as well as performing live with the Millennium Choir for a worldwide audience at the closing ceremony of the Paralympics. More recently he co-directed the Millennium Choir for a performance during the Sydney leg of the Athens Olympics torch relay.

George Doukas' current ensemble Balcano is an exciting fusion of Greek, Serbian and Balkan Gypsy music and dance. BALCANO crosses cultural and political boundaries blending brass and gaida with

bouzouki and baglama to deliver a big sound with exciting dance rhythms.

Expect to hear traditional Greek and Balkan tunes, Bulgarian and Hungarian gypsy music and contemporary Greek and Serbian songs complimented by mesmerising Greek and Serbian dancing. Balcan is performing live for Musica Viva's

Caft Carnivale on Friday 8 August at 8.15pm at Eastside Music Caft, 395 Oxford St Paddington. For more information and bookings please visit [www.cafe-carnivale.com.au](http://www.cafe-carnivale.com.au) or call 1800 688 482.

## BALCANO LINE UP:

George Doukas on vocals, guitar, bouzouki, and whatever else he can get his hands on; Bale Stocjevski, the clarinet and sax virtuoso; percussionist Pape Mbaye from Senegal; George Ganakas (bass) and Spiro Arcoudis (drums), one of the most respected rhythm combinations in the Greek music scene in Sydney; Stratos on keyboards and Stolle on trumpet.

## Cyprus: Australia Welcomes Announcement of Settlement Talks

Australia welcomes the agreement by Cypriot President, Demetris Christofias, and Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Mehmet Ali Talat, to commence fully fledged negotiations towards a lasting settlement to the longstanding Cyprus dispute.

The situation in Cyprus has endured for far too long.

Australia urges both leaders to look to the future, to be flexible in their negotiations and to be prepared to compromise. The challenges ahead will be difficult but, with sufficient political will, not insurmountable

The negotiations are set to begin on 3 September under the auspices of the United Nations and facilitated by UN Special Adviser to Cyprus, the Hon. Alexander Downer.

Australia is a long standing supporter of efforts to settle the Cyprus dispute demonstrated by 44 years of continuous commitment of Australian police officers to the UN Peace-Keeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and the appointment of a Special Representative for Cyprus, Ambassador David Ritchie.

Australia and the Australian Cypriot community wish for a comprehensive settlement leading to a just and equitable solution to the dispute.

Together with the United Nations, the European Union and other members of the international community, Australia strongly supports the peace process and the people of Cyprus in their quest for reunification.

This opportunity to bring a lasting settlement to Cyprus should not be missed.

The Hon Stephen Smith MP  
AUSTRALIAN MINISTER FOR  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Vanish Entertainment presents the World Premiere production

# LAS VEGAS (CONFIDENTIAL) THE MUSICAL

Creator / Writer: JAMES KARP  
Director: CHRISTOPHER HURRELL

Choreographer: JAMES TAYLOR  
Cast includes: Tamlyn Henderson, Katrina Retallick, Tiffani Wood, Tony Nikolakopoulos, Garry Scale, Alistair Toogood, plus showgirls, gamblers, henchmen and little old ladies from Utah.

Special guest appearance by Indira, the most pampered tiger in showbusiness.

It's fabulous. It's scandalous. It's fun, sexy and glamorous. It's everything you want in one show!

Spend a night in the city of sin! Experience the extravagance, high stakes, entertainment and scandals of classic Las Vegas...here in Sydney at the opulent State Theatre from November 4.

This sizzling new musical captures the heart and soul of the world's entertainment capital, with something for everybody. Brilliant song and dance numbers surround a fascinating story of love, lust and luck... money, murder and the mob... complete with mind-blowing, spectacular acts of illusion. You won't believe your

eyes!

Set during a time when the mob ran the strip, Las Vegas (Confidential) The Musical is based on previously untold true events. Master illusionist James Karp has created a fascinating musical which invites you to enter the stranger-than-fiction world behind the glamorous façade.

Alexander "The Great" Dean (Tamlyn Henderson) has been a headline illusionist act on the Vegas strip for 12 years, but his bad habits are finally catching up with him. To slip past the mob and the FBI, Alex will have to perform the ultimate vanishing act. Francesca (Katrina Retallick), the beautiful but streetwise chanteuse, is performing in Vegas for a limited engagement. She's been hurt before, but finds herself falling for Alex. And she just may hold the truth he is looking for. Burlesque starlet Tiffani Hills (Tiffani Wood) stopped in Vegas on the way to Hollywood, and never left. She's learnt how to manipulate the seductive power of lust and money. But with Tony "The Tool" Spitori (Tony Nikolakopoulos) at the top of the heap,

the mob is really calling the tune.

Tamlyn Henderson (We Will Rock You), Katrina Retallick (Company),

Tony Nikolakopoulos (Underbelly) and sensational singing artist and former Bardot member, Tiffani Wood, will lead a brilliant cast of 25 actors, singers and dancers to bring this compelling story to life. Wearing tonnes of feathers and sparkling jewellery, the show features the most beautiful showgirls and most spectacular dance routines ever seen outside Vegas.

The show includes the world's greatest songs of love and luck including Love Me With A Feeling, The Gambler, Que Sera Sera, Everybody Knows, Petula Clark's In Las Vegas, D'ove L'amore, and of course, Viva Las Vegas!

"All the events you are about to see are true. Only the names have been changed to protect the innocent...and the guilty!" Peter Reveen, veteran Las Vegas agent and producer, script consultant to Las Vegas (Confidential) The Musical.

SEASON DETAILS: LAS VEGAS (CONFIDENTIAL) THE MUSICAL

Venue: State Theatre, 49 Market Street, Sydney

Dates: From 4 November, 2008

Performance times: Tues - Sat 8pm, Sun 5pm Matinees: Wed 1pm, Sat 2pm

Bookings: [www.ticketmaster.com.au](http://www.ticketmaster.com.au) Ph: 136 100

In person: At State Theatre Box Office or any Ticketmaster outlet

