



## Press Release : Johnny Cash The Legend

Superstar Johnny Cash was a music industry legend for over half a century, with an instantly recognisable voice and style. The hit movie "I Walk the Line" introduced his dramatic life story and his unmistakable, tough music to a younger generation of music lovers. Johnny Cash fans now cover three generations. Even people who might confess to hating Country Music are nevertheless enthusiastic about his legendary up-tempo hits such as Folsom Prison Blues, Ring of Fire, Get Rhythm, I Walk the Line - there are just so many great and unique songs in the Johnny Cash repertoire.

Those familiar with the highly successful bio-pic will know of

the enduring love story between Johnny Cash and June Carter. A member of the iconic country music group The Carter Family, June grew up in showbiz and became an accomplished comedienne, singer, and songwriter - a true music professional. Together they were a towering force in American Music.

Vocalist and writer Barry Ferrier has brought together a team of talented musicians to create an immersive show based on the interaction between these two gifted and unique music artists. Barry has the vocal depth to emulate the unique Johnny Cash sound and the vivacious Ilona Harker 'hoots and hollers' her way through this toe-tapping,

side slapping mix of great songs and stories. Johnny covered songs by many of the greatest 20th Century songwriters such as Bob Dylan, Kris Kristofferson, and Willie Nelson and in later life he brought his unique authority to a later generation of songwriters such as U2 and Tom Petty, so the repertoire is extremely broad and interesting, including some of the greatest popular songs written over the past 60 years.

**"I Hear That Train a-Comin': The Johnny Cash Story"**, featuring Barry Ferrier & Ilona Harker with authentic rockabilly backing by the Tennessee Two, is great entertainment that appeals across the generations and is just plain fun!

# SONGS

**I WALK THE LINE**  
**FOLSOM PRISON BLUES**  
**A BOY NAMED SUE**  
**COCAINE BLUES**  
**RING OF FIRE**  
**5 FEET HIGH & RISIN'**  
**JACKSON**  
**16 TONNES**  
**GET RHYTHM**  
**LONG LEGGED GTR PICKIN' MAN**  
**HOME OF THE BLUES**  
**HELP ME MAKE IT THRU THE NIGHT**  
**HEY PORTER**  
**HURT**  
**SUNDAY MORNING COMING DOWN**

**CAST RECORDING CD AVAILABLE**

## THE SHOW

### a journey through the life & songs of Johnny Cash

The contrasting voices of Barry "Dr. Baz" Ferrier and vivacious songstress Ilona Harker combine to present a musical tribute to the legendary country superstar Johnny Cash, his epic life story and love affair with partner June Carter, threaded through with a tongue in cheek look at Johnny Cash's wild side and their stormy off stage and on stage relationship.

The show captures Johnny looking back on his rise from humble conditions as a child on a poor cotton farm soaking up gospel and country music, to tough times on work gangs, enlistment during the Korean war as a US airman, which got him to the honky tonks of Germany where he began to hone his characteristic style and began writing his unique songs, and on to his rise as a music sensation and a recording artist for the legendary Sun records alongside Elvis and Jerry Lee Lewis.

The show strings together all Johnny Cash's great hits and signature tunes as the story unfolds, and woven through this rich musical journey is a fascinating glimpse into the darker side of his life, his outlaw image and the Prison Concerts, and the epic love story with lifetime soulmate June Carter, a child star and golden haired girl of the famous country music icons 'the Carter Family'.

Looking back on his tough origins, his rise to fame, and his drug addiction, they laugh, they joke, they fight and they harmonise, as they bring so many great songs to life, accompanied by the rockabilly rhythm of the Tennessee Two (with lush backing vocals from Slim Pickens on Bass and Neil McCann on twangy Fender guitar). It's a polished and entertaining upbeat musical show to get you ee-haa-ing and your toes a tapping.



Barry Ferrier aka  
Dr Baz

Barry's gained wide experience in his early career in music theatre, appearing in the original cast of Jesus Christ Superstar and Joseph & the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat and he has written and performed 3 stage musicals. He was a recording artist for RCA appearing on the ABC's Countdown and opening for Ry Cooder at the Palais in Melbourne. He played bass with chart topping pop group The Ferrets. Later he worked as music director and composer at the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Brisbane. He has appeared as support for many eminent Aussie music acts. He was also band leader and guitarist for legendary superstar Eartha Kitt on her 1996 Australian national tour. He has performed in Europe and the UK and at the Byron Blues Festival, Gympie Muster, and the Tamworth Country Music Festivals



**I HEAR THAT TRAIN A-COMIN'**

**THE JOHNNY CASH STORY**