

Ed Kuepper

The high priest of all security... A career retrospective with strings

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

Australia

Legendary guitarist and songwriter combines electronic and acoustic strings for an absorbing career retrospective



Photo: Ed Keupper © Judi Deansfield

"The most legendary and influential Ed Kuepper." **ABC**

"Alternating guitar work between two beautiful instruments, Kuepper's playing affirmed him as a master musician." **Rhythms Magazine**

In an exclusive performance, Australian rock pioneer **Ed Kuepper** is joined for the first time by members of the **Sydney Chamber Orchestra**, in a special retrospective revisiting and reinventing selections from his illustrious and storied repertoire.

A founding member of seminal punk band **The Saints**, frontman of the jazz-inflected, post-punk outfit **Laughing Clowns** and a prolific solo artist in his own right, Kuepper's influential 40-year career has seen his rise from a ground-breaking young punk to a revered musical legend.

Performing live with a string section for the very first time, Kuepper completely rearranges a diverse array of songs, ranging his entire catalogue, from **The Saints** and **Laughing Clowns**, to his recent solo work. The interplay between the strings and unexpected electronic elements blur the line between the acoustic and the electric, and breathes new life into familiar classics.

"On my last solo tour I started to consciously move away from the idea of any set arrangements on my songs, meaning they are played differently every time I play them. This show for the Sydney Festival with members of the Sydney Chamber Orchestra will be the first time the two approaches are combined," says Kuepper.

This master musician and ARIA-Award winning artist has more than a dozen albums to his own name, including his latest *The Return of the Mail-Order Bridegroom*, which sees him rework classics from the breadth of his career.

Born in Germany, Kuepper migrated with his parents to Australia in 1958. He formed **The Saints** with **Chris Bailey** and **Ivor Hay** in 1973. He was the principal songwriter, guitarist and producer on the bands highly acclaimed first three albums. When the original Saints split up Kuepper returned to Australia and formed *Laughing Clowns* in 1979. Kuepper led the Clowns through five albums then became a solo act, releasing his first solo album *Electrical Storm* in 1985. Since then Kuepper has released several dozen albums, toured extensively in Australia and overseas including a couple of international tours with Nick Cave and the

MEDIA RELEASE

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Bad Seeds as replacement for Mick Harvey. He has also written and recorded music for film and radio including the Jeremy Simms directed feature "Last Cab to Darwin" due for release in 2015, as well as collaborating with author Matt Condon on the theatrical piece "The Valley Burns" for the Powerhouse Theatre Company, Brisbane.

Where City Recital Hall, Angel Place

When 24 January at 9pm

Duration 90minutes no interval

Price Premium \$65
A Reserve \$55/\$50
B Reserve \$39/\$35

Bookings Sydney Festival 1300 856 876
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