

Kevin Jacobsen OAM

Kevin is acknowledged as one of the world's most prominent entertainment entrepreneurs. Uniquely Kevin has been successful in every aspect of the live entertainment industry also enjoying success in the recording industry, artist management, family and music driven television, and venue and facilities management. Kevin has produced and presented first class events, concerts and theatre around the world including UK, across Europe, Asia, Asia Pacific, Japan, Africa, and USA.

From a one-time rock-n-roll piano playing accountant (whose band Col Joye and the Joyboys had a string of number 1 hits in early 60s), Kevin went on to produce, promote and present the finest stage spectacles, concerts and major special events in Australia and around the world, including special international celebrations for the Australian Federal and various State Governments. Kevin served a four-year term on the board of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) and was influential in establishing the Triple J radio network, the most significant broadcaster of contemporary music in Australia. He was also a Director and Founder of Wesgo Radio Ltd, and a Director Special Advisor to '*Old Sydney Town*' a leading historical tourist attraction. In 1985 he received the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in recognition of his services to the entertainment industry and the performing arts. Other awards include numerous ARIA's (Australian Recording Industry Award), Logie Awards, Green Room Awards, Mo Awards, and the prestigious James Casius 'Helpmann Award'. Kevin was the subject of *This Is Your Life* television special on Nine Network achieving one of its highest rating shows.

Kevin has presented music artists such as Barbra Streisand, The Three Tenors, Bruce Springsteen, Michael Jackson, Usher, KISS, Simon and Garfunkel, Bob Marley, Shania Twain, Billy Joel, Elton

John, John Denver, Pearl Jam, Cyndi Lauper, Julio Iglesias, Barry Manilow, Meatloaf, Olivia Newton-John, Bee Gees (who he discovered and first recorded) to name but a few. Theater productions include Dirty Dancing "The Classic Story on Stage", Disney's Beauty and The Beast, Fame, Witches of Eastwick and High School Musical among a long list.

Kevin has been involved in venue management since early 1980s and has been the Founder and Director of numerous entertainment and event facilities that include: Sydney Entertainment Centre, Sydney's Capitol Theatre, Darling Harbour Convention & Exhibition Centre, Brisbane Entertainment Centre (14,000 seat) Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Cairns Convention Centre, Newcastle Sports & Entertainment Centre, and Vector Arena Auckland, New Zealand.

As the worldwide producer of Dirty Dancing - The Classic Story On Stage, Kevin invested into the initial workshop in 1999 with a vision of how this iconic feature film could translate to stage and one day become a smash hit musical. Forming a partnership with storywriter Eleanor Bergstein, Kevin then negotiated usage rights for the iconic 'Dirty Dancing' title and logo with Lions Gate Entertainment and launched the Premiere Production in Sydney, Australia in 2004. The show has gone on to perform to capacity audiences in 4 continents and has broken box office records in every territory.

Kevin has made an indelible impact on music, theatre and concert arenas in Australia and his productions have touched the lives of people around the world. For decades his name has been synonymous with world-class live and televised events. Few producers have presented spectacles such as Kevin's productions and none has equaled his success in size or diversity in Australia, or internationally.