



< CABARET The Pleasure of Sad Songs

Friday-October 15, 7.30pm, Judith Wright Centre of Contemporary Arts, Fortitude Valley, \$36-\$42

judithwrightcentre.com

Let's take a moment to reflect on how, sometimes, it's OK to feel sad. And how the person who is feeling sad might find comfort in song. Songs, which Leah Cotterell (*left*) has homed in on, that are full of courage, compassion and healing. *The Pleasure of Sad Songs* is a kind of musical memoir in which Cotterell shares her life story – about a family living with agoraphobia, schizophrenia and dementia. It's part of Cotterell's Masters of Music Research at Queensland Conservatorium, completed last year. The stage veteran has since begun a doctorate, arguing that emotion and connection are at the heart of singing. Cotterell is highly regarded as an interpretive singer of haunting songs and *The Pleasure of Sad Songs*, fittingly, is on during Queensland Mental Health Week.

GILLIAN CUMMING