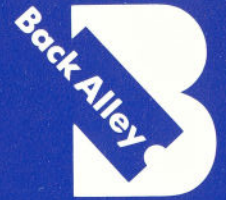


The Back Alley Theatre
15231 Burbank Blvd.
Van Nuys, CA 91411-3590

Producing Directors
Laura Zucker & Allan Miller

818 780-2240

ALLEY WAYS



“JACQUES BREL IS . . .” GOING ON

The Production

The music goes on! JACQUES BREL IS . . . will extend performances at the Back Alley Theatre for six weeks. In JACQUES BREL IS . . . five singers perform 24 songs about love and youth, sailors and whores, soldiers and politicians, old age and hope, accompanied by a three piece band.

Brel's songs are intensely lyrical and surprisingly diverse in mood: sometimes quixotic and funny, sometimes passionate and furious. This production marks almost twenty years since the original production opened in 1968 at the Village Gate in New York City. BREL has not been seen in the Los Angeles area for over ten years.

Show Times

JACQUES BREL EXTENDED FOR 6 WEEKS ONLY

June 18 - July 26, 1987

Thursday - Friday at 8 pm
Saturday at 7 pm & 9:30 pm
Sunday at 7 pm

SONG AND DANCE

Saturday June 6 at 8 pm
Tues. June 9 - Sat. June 13 at 8 pm
Saturday matinee June 13 at 3 pm

TALKBACK, a chance for the audience and artistic staff to exchange views, will follow



Sylvie Drake in *The L.A. Times* raised the interesting question, “Why a revival of JACQUES BREL one might well ask? Perhaps the answer is why *not*?”

“After all, he was the demigod of the mid- to late 60’s, a Belgian troubadour who took the world — and especially America — by storm and died entirely too young (he was only 49). His verve, romance and spirit captured the mood of the generations to follow — generations that reveled in his every note and word. So why JACQUES

Pictured at left (l. to r.): Geraldine Joyce, Melissa Converse, Michael G. Hawkins, Joseph Cardinale, and Thom Keeling in JACQUES BREL IS . . .

Photo: Ed Kreiger

Why JACQUES BREL? Laura Zucker, Producing Director, says the Back Alley revived BREL because “we need to reinterpret classic musicals, just as we reinterpret classic and modern plays. Director Allan Miller had a compelling vision of what the songs would reveal if we could free ourselves of the idea that Brel should always be performed in the typical 60’s cabaret manner — by deadly serious performers dressed in black and perched on stools. Allan has found vibrant, kicky, original interpretations for these songs — instilling lots of movement, passion and fun. Some Brel devotees are shocked by these changes, but most are delighted!”

Laura Zucker adds, “Theatres everywhere need to focus more energy on learning to develop small musicals if we want musical theatre in America to survive. Brel is particularly important because there is a direct evolutionary line between his work and many of our important contemporary songwriters such as Stephen Sondheim.”

Production Conception and
English Lyrics, based on
Brel’s Lyrics & Commentary, by
ERIC BLAU and MORT SHUMAN

Ticket Prices

JACQUES BREL IS . . .

Thursday & Sunday \$13.50
 Friday \$15.50
 Saturday \$17.50

ORDER BEFORE JUNE 18th AND TAKE \$2
 OFF EACH JACQUES BREL TICKET!
 (No discounts for SONG AND DANCE)

SONG AND DANCE

June 6 \$ 50
 June 9 - June 12 \$ 35
 June 13 matinee \$ 35
 June 13 evening \$100

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"Panache is panache and there's always a place for it. Brel's lilting music and super-romantic lyrics are a rousing antidote for Heavy Metal and the dull prevailing pragmatism. The surprise at the Back Alley. . . is how *alive and well* Brel manages to be in the 80's. . ."

The Herald Examiner calls Rich Rose's excellent set design a "techno-pop collection of building materials borrowed from the conventions of postmodern architecture, a three-dimensional collage." *The L.A. Times* calls Sylvia Moss' costumes "lovely and *tres* Melrose Avenue in burnished greens, blues and browns."

Directed by
 ALLAN MILLER
 Produced by
 LAURA ZUCKER
 Set Design by
 RICH ROSE
 Light Design by
 LESLIE ROSE
 Costume Design by
 SYLVIA MOSS

Ticket Order Form

Name _____
Address _____
City, Zip _____
Phone _____

JACQUES BREL

Date _____ Day _____ Time _____ # of tix _____ Price _____ Total _____

SONG AND DANCE

Date _____ Day _____ Time _____ # of tix _____ Price _____ Total _____

Handling Charge for credit cards (\$1 per ticket) _____

Here's an additional tax-deductible donation _____

TOTAL _____

Check enclosed _____
 Visa/MC/Amex Card # _____
 Expiration Date _____

All sales are final. All mail orders will be held at the box office for pick up unless you enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

**HATE ORDER FORMS, ENVELOPES AND STAMPS?
 ORDER BY PHONE WITH A CREDIT CARD!**
 Call the box office at 818/780-2240, open every day from 10 am to 9 pm. Inquire about our great group rates — you only need a group of ten to qualify for our group discount.

The Music Goes On!
 "JACQUES BREL IS..."
 EXTENDED! If you already know
 and love Brel don't miss this
 high-spirited new production...
 If you aren't familiar with Brel's
 songs, RUN to the box office!
 Plus a special event for Back
 Alley patrons only:
 MELISSA MANCHESTER IN
 SONG AND DANCE

Address correction requested

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**MELISSA MANCHESTER in
 SONG AND DANCE**

Melissa Manchester comes to the Back Alley to perform the first act of Andrew Lloyd Webber's acclaimed Broadway musical SONG AND DANCE, directed by Richard Maltby, Jr. This is a unique opportunity to see this magnetic performer in an intimate setting, prior to the show's national tour. Ms. Manchester will sing the first act (one hour and ten minutes), a non-stop musical performance of the humorous, heartbreaking romances of a young British woman in America.

Very Limited Seating — Act Now

This is a sneak preview. You won't see any newspaper ads or reviews of this special benefit event. We have only 498 seats for sale, and this notice has been sent to the 17,000 people on our mailing list. If you are interested in attending, please check ticket prices below and contact us right away. Ticket orders from donors and subscribers will be filled first. All tickets are tax deductible.

Melissa Manchester — your chance to see her without binoculars!

Champagne and Strawberries Opening

Saturday June 6

8 pm

\$50 per ticket

Join us for the opening festivities — the show plus a reception at the Back Alley.

Dress: Cocktail

Five Specially Priced Performances

Tuesday June 9

Wednesday June 10

Thursday June 11

Friday June 12

8 pm

Saturday June 13

3 pm

\$35 per ticket

SONG AND DANCE is a benefit for the theatre and not a part of our regular season; therefore Back Alley Passes and L.A. Theatre Passes will not be accepted.

Gala Closing Party

Saturday June 13

8 pm

\$100 per ticket

Join Ms. Manchester and the Back Alley's Board of Directors for the performance plus a post-show bash at a spectacular private home.

Dress: Black Tie

Talk Back on Thursdays

Every Thursday after the show we want to hear what you think about the production. We invite experts in a related field to share their thoughts with us, too. After SAND MOUNTAIN performances we hosted professional story tellers, after DAYS AND NIGHTS WITHIN representatives from Amnesty International, after FOUND A PEANUT child psychologists. . .you get the idea. Come to the theatre on Thursdays and be prepared to either soak in some new perspectives on the production or TALK BACK. . .