

**SYDNEY
FESTIVAL**
6-28 JAN 2018



16 LOVERS LANE

THE GO-BETWEENS ORIGINAL BAND MEMBERS
AND SPECIAL GUESTS | AUSTRALIA



NSW
GOVERNMENT

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STATE THEATRE

18 JANUARY AT 8PM

BAND

Lindy Morrison
Amanda Brown
John Willsteed
Dan Kelly
Danny Widdicombe
Luke Daniel Peacock

GUEST VOCALISTS

Steve Kilbey (The Church)
Izzi Manfredi (The Preatures)
Jodi & Trish (The Clouds)
Kirin J Callinan
Shogun (Royal Headache)
Dave Mason (The Reels)
Rob Snarski (The Blackeyed Susans)
Peter Milton Walsh (The Apartments)
Romy Vager (RVG)

ABOUT THE WORK

The Songs

In the middle of another Sydney summer, 1988, Lindy asked me to join the band – somewhere amongst the tennis, the late-night parties, and lobster at The Aquatic Club. There was practising, and learning, and getting re-acquainted. And then into the studio, on Monday morning, April 4, to record *Love Goes On*; on Wednesday, *I'm All Right*, and out they tumbled till early May. Three weeks of recording, and a machine that dispensed cans of VB for a dollar. The even-tempered Mark Wallis. Television and laughter and playing pool. Lots of strumming acoustic guitars. By July we were in London, playing *16 Lovers Lane* at The Astoria. The songs survived, if some of the relationships didn't. I have a deep fondness and regard for these songs, and the way they sound. It is anchored in that summer, and the lightness that I felt at the time: the days stretching out, nights full of smiles and only music ahead.

JOHN WILLSTEED

CREDITS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A concert version of *16 Lovers Lane* was performed in Brisbane as part of Queensland Music Festival in 2017.

The Band

Our choices for the musicians to play with us wasn't that hard. We looked to find those connected.

The songwriter guitarist, world-weary journeyman Dan Kelly was our first choice. He plays with the skill and affection the songs need. His wry sense of humour, energy and larrikin take keeps us light and laughing.

From Brisbane came the trim, spruce gentleman Danny Widdicombe who is a songwriter and guitarist working in folk and country genres. In 2010, he won the Grant McLennan Memorial Fellowship. His rhythm guitar instinctively complements Forster and McLennan's and his lead playing is lyrical and exquisite.

Finally, in the unassuming tender musician Luke Daniel Peacock we found someone to play essential keyboard and other critical guitar lines providing fragility, colour, dynamics and detail. Peacock plays in Halfway, a Brisbane based indie rock/alt country band with John, and is a fine singer and songwriter.

LINDY MORRISON

The Singers

Performing *16 Lovers Lane* in the 21st century was always going to be a challenge. We knew we had a unique, poetic collection of songs and a wonderful band. But we would always feel the absence of Grant.

When QMF approached us about the show in 2016 we realised we had the opportunity to transform this loss into a new and diverse celebration of an album that in a strange way over time has become The Go-Betweens' version of Dylan's *Blood on the Tracks*. Our overriding concern in curating the line-up of singers was that there had to be a meaningful connection to the band. It could not be a cynical bums-on-seats exercise.

The Sydney Festival line-up embraces this idea, ranging from artists like Steve Kilbey, Dave Mason and Peter Milton Walsh – who we performed with and became friends with years ago – through contemporaries like Rob Snarski and The Clouds, to a younger generation of singers like Kirin J Callinan, Shogun and Romy Vager, who have covered The Go-Betweens songs or are somehow connected, either musically or with the eccentric, independent spirit that always defined The Go-Betweens.

AMANDA BROWN