

Media Release

Arts Centre Melbourne presents

An afternoon with one of pop music's most influential practitioners, Simon Napier-Bell



In an Arts Centre Melbourne exclusive, music journalist and chair of the Australian Music Vault advisory panel **Jane Gazzo** will spend an afternoon in September speaking with rock manager, author, composer, record producer, film maker and all-round expert in popular music, **Simon Napier-Bell**.

As one of Britain's most successful artist managers, Simon has worked with acts such as **Dusty Springfield**, **The Yardbirds (**featuring **Jimmy Page** from **Led Zeppelin**), **Ultravox**, **Marc Bolan and T-Rex**, **Asia**, **Candi Staton**, **Boney M**, **Sinéad O'Connor** and he most famously discovered **George Michael** and **Wham!**, who became the first Western band to ever tour China in the early 80s thanks to his persistence.

Working alongside the managers of The Beatles and the Rolling Stones - Brian Epstein and Andrew Loog Oldham - Simon took notes and observed the workings of the music industry, which he later applied to the artists he managed - all of whom became household names.

Simon's composition credits include co-writing the 60's hit You Don't Have to Say You Love Me, first performed by **Dusty Springfield**, and then **Elvis Presley**. He is also the author of four best-selling books on popular music and recently directed two film documentaries - an investigation into the psyche of creative music artists, *The 27 Club* and also *50 Years Legal*, to mark 50 years since the decriminalisation of homosexuality in Great Britain.

Join us for a discussion focusing on Simon's brilliant career and the history of popular music.

Arts Centre Melbourne presents An Afternoon with Simon Napier-Bell, hosted by Jane Gazzo Saturday 9 September, 2017 The Pavillion, Arts Centre Melbourne Book at <u>artscentremelbourne.com.au</u>

For more information about Arts Centre Melbourne visit <u>artscentremelbourne.com.au</u> or phone 1300 182 183. Become a fan of Arts Centre Melbourne on <u>Facebook</u> or follow <u>@artscentremelb</u> on Twitter or @artscentremelbourne on Instagram.

For further media information and interviews, please contact: Stephanie Jones, Media Advisor, Arts Centre Melbourne: <u>stephanie.jones@artscentremelbourne.com.au</u> or 03 9281 8214

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