



Julia Deans.

Height 162 cm

MC / Entertainer Biography

Johnson&Laird

On stage she 's a glamorous rock chick who sings and plays guitar, but at home, Julia Deans likes to cook, sew, and trawl the internet for pictures of outer space. After nearly two decades as a professional touring musician, the flame-haired songstress reckons it's the everyday things that keep her sane.

The hardworking frontwoman has a host of inspirational tales about the ups and downs of the music business. At just 18 she joined a band called Banshee Reel and spent five years playing guitar and singing in pubs, before starting her own group, Fur Patrol. Their hit song Lydia saw Julia crowned Best Female Vocalist and Best Songwriter at the New Zealand Music Awards in 2001. The band moved to Melbourne and landed a record deal with Universal. They opened for Pink, played the Viper Room in Los Angeles and shared takeaways with Gene Simmons from Kiss, but after three albums and two EPs, called it a day.

After some soul searching Julia recorded her own album Modern Fables which was nominated for gongs at the New Zealand Music Awards for Best Female Solo Artist and Best Pop Album in 2012, as well as the coveted Taite Music Prize. She teamed up with Shihad 's Jon Toogood and Straitjacket Fits' Shayne Carter to form The Adults, and recently changed her tune to perform in the acclaimed cabaret-style theatre showcase of Belgian musician Jacques Brel 's works at Auckland's Silo Theatre. More recently, Julia has received raving reviews for her 'Both Sides Now: Julia Deans Sings Joni Mitchell' a world premiere collaboration with former Silo artistic director Shane Bosher; with comments highlighting her "performance was studied and highly focused with just 15-or-so songs delivered over an hour of enchantment ". Currently Julia is putting the finishing touches on her second solo album, We Light Fire, to be released early 2015.

The touring lifestyle satisfies Julia 's itchy feet and her love of meeting people. She always takes her swimming togs on tour and if she ever quit music she 'd travel the world in search of the best swimming pools. Her trusty laptop-based studio always comes too, as you never know when inspiration will strike.

Sometimes she likes to get lost in a good sci-fi novel, or ponder pictures of the universe on the net. Her strong interests in politics, economics and the environment often keep her awake at night wondering if the world can work out a sustainable balance between the three. Also adding, she is studying a degree in Psychology; beauty and the brains to match.

To keep fit Julia runs and hones her boxing skills at the gym. The former vegetarian succumbed to a steak in a Japanese restaurant and now loves to eat meat - she highly recommends her boeuf bourguignon.

Among her most prized possessions are the acoustic Japanese Takamine guitar she 's had since her late teens, and a late 1960s candy apple-red electric Fender Coronado. Another vintage favourite is her ten-year old mobile phone which she's determined to see through to its bitter end.

Julia also loves to give her drum kit a good workout in her private home studio –best to knock loudly if you drop by to visit.

Testimonials.

BOTH SIDES NOW: JULIA DEANS SINGS JONI MITCHEL - ENTERTAINER - JUNE 2014: "You'll be enchanted by Julia's urban take on Joni 's pastoral songs. Julia evokes the same sad fragility she showcased with Fur Patrol's Lydia on Joni's Blue and The Last Time I Saw Richard. She adds a welcome earthiness to Joni's ultra-feminine songs while effortlessly gliding over the demanding high registers. " - Kathryn van Beek, Contributor

BREL - ENTERTAINER - APRIL 2014 "It was Deans who shone the brightest. Her ability to be light and funny on Timid Frieda through to the heart-achingly beautiful Song for Old Lovers was astounding. Her voice has the ability to both make your heart ache and soar in equal measures and her performance has charming nuances throughout. " - Bridget Jones, NZ Stuff. co. nz

THE SUGAR CLUB OPENING - ENTERTAINER - AUGUST 2013: "Julia was my performer of choice when we opened the latest incarnation of The Sugar Club restaurant on Level 53 of The Sky Tower in August this year. " - Peter Gordon, Owner of The Sugar Club