

Catching Up with **MATT YEE**

Matt Yee performs on the Biggest Ships in the World and has recently been seen on the Logo Network airing later this year. His standing room only Adult Sing Along Shows have become legendary. Matt is also one of Atlantis Events Signature Entertainers. He has shared the stage with stars, including Margaret Cho, Rosie O'Donnell, Gloria Estefan, Ru Paul, Little Richard, The Village People, Joan Jett, and more! It's been sometime since Matt has performed here in Hawaii. He has made his name crisscrossing the continents gaining fans at every stop. Hulas owner Jack Law caught several of Matt's shows in the Baltic and really wanted to bring his energy back to Honolulu, even if only for one night.

We caught up with Matt for a brief moment while he was "land bound" and asked him a few questions.

Odyssey Magazine: Hey Matt, glad you could take the time to chitchat with us. Where are you off to next?

Matt: I'm off to Miami where I'll be performing on Royal Caribbean's Liberty of the Seas for 4 weeks. I really don't want to leave Honolulu but I'm excited about the upcoming Atlantis gay cruise on the Liberty. We're going to Mexico, Haiti, Grand Cayman and of course partying our asses off!

OM: What can your fans on dry land expect of your show at Hulas?

Matt: Come to laugh and sing, and please bring your friends! I'll be doing my signature Late Nite Adult Sing Along Show. Be prepared to party and sing your lungs out. I'm all about audience participation. As I say, we don't care if you don't know how to sing. We don't care if you SUCK. All we care is that you sing LOUD! And I try to choose songs everyone knows. You can get a taste at www.mattye.com. My friend Mahlon Moore of Link Screen designed and just launched it.

OM: You have been one of the Atlantis Cruise's entertainers. How is it being on a ship with all those hot, half naked men, who have nowhere to run too?

Matt: I tell them all to run to me and see my show. And they have thank goodness for the last 9 years! I love doing Atlantis. The energy and the friends I've met there, all hanging in a totally unapologetically Gay environment. The people that produce Atlantis design this experience for us.

And in my show, I try to include everyone regardless of who they are or how they look. There are all kinds of people on these cruises and resorts. All shapes, sizes, ages and different stages of coming out. From 21 to 80. That's the magic.

OM: Where have some of your favorite cruises been too?

Matt: Last year I went to Asia and rediscovered the joy of travel, riding elephants in Cosa Mui, shopping in Bangkok, visiting Vietnam and Singapore. Jack Law saw me on the Baltic Cruise (out of Copenhagen to Russia) and came to almost every show. And of course, Egypt and the pyramids were definitely a highlight of 2009. I'm looking forward to returning to Asia this year, including Shanghai and Tel Aviv.

OM: Any stories of a fav performer you have worked with?

Matt: OMG! There are so many. Patti Lupone was in the audience of my last show in the Med last year and we had so much fun. Of course I had to do "Don't Cry for Me Argentina". After the first chorus, I paused and said, "Wait...someone is singing flat" and looked directly at her. She and the audience cracked up. Of course, I love Chita Rivera. We are good friends and always attend each other's shows. And I do love listening to stories about Hollywood and the entertainment business over dinner with Alec Mapa and Bruce Villanche.

OM: And lastly, with all the "crusing" you do, do you know how to swim?

Matt: Oh yes. But the funny thing is, because my husband Paul is so fair, we don't swim a lot in Hawaii. I do more swimming in the Caribbean.

OM: Thanks Matt. We look forward to your show at Hulas and your return to dry land.

Matt: Me too. I'm so glad Jack could schedule this in between my flights from Miami to Sydney! See you soon.

Matt Yee will be appearing at *Hulas Bar & Lei Stand* Friday, February 12th 8:30pm - 10pm. Advanced seating reservations by calling 808-375-8440.

