

We're thrilled to be presenting "Michael L. Walters as Dame Edna" in your town, and we're equally thrilled to be a guest on your show. It would be so helpful to us if you could take a moment to read this brief package.

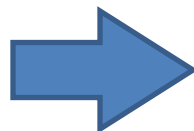
The Dame Edna character was invented by an Australian actor named Barry Humphries over 55 years ago. Throughout the last half of the twentieth century and into the 21st Dame Edna (Humphries) has appeared widely on TV and toured internationally, becoming an iconic figure to people of all ages and types across the globe. (A full bio of Dame Edna is on page three of this document)

While it's true that Michael Walters' impersonation of Dame Edna is the most authentic you'll find, the right to perform the Dame Edna character is merely lent to him with Barry Humphries' generous permission. Therefore we are obligated in presenting said character to be careful not to promote any misunderstanding that Michael is indeed the creator of Dame Edna, or that he will "take over" for Barry Humphries at any time in the foreseeable future. Simply put, Michael is a celebrity impersonator who has been lucky enough to gain the approval of the celebrity he portrays. Michael is the longest-running Dame Edna impersonator in the world and presents the world's only staged homage to Dame Edna's shows.

We find it useful to outline in advance just a few specific requests we hope we can have your help with. These will help us to present a fun, comical, and dynamic segment.

- You can find all media materials you may need at www.dameednashow.com by clicking "Press Kit." If you need anything else at all please email me at dameednashow@post.com
- Michael will arrive at your studio fully dressed as Dame Edna. Rest assured we suffer under no pretense, and while **off-air** you're perfectly welcome to address him as "Michael" or "Edna," whichever you prefer.
- Once the **on-air** segment begins, talent is kindly asked to introduce the performer once as "Celebrity Impersonator Michael Walters as Dame Edna" at first, then continue the interview by addressing the performer as "Edna" or "Dame Edna." *This satisfies the distinction between Michael and the original without destroying the audience's enjoyment of the illusion being presented.*
- In all on-screen text, please refrain from using the "Dame Edna" name without the phrase "Michael L. Walters as" before it. (i.e. "Michael L. Walters as Dame Edna is performing at the local playhouse...")
- We humbly request that in planning the segment you might be so kind as to **avoid** seating Michael on a couch or low chair. Higher chairs or stools are preferable, as are a "news desk" or standing scenario. If you find you must stage the segment with low seating, please be sure that Michael is seated straight to camera and **avoid profile shots**, especially below the chest.
- **We are not authorized to use any image or video of the original Dame Edna when promoting this show**, and we hope you'll help us by using only images found on the "press kit" page at www.dameednashow.com
- Commonly asked questions (please feel free to use these):
 - So we all know you're fabulous Dame Edna, but what is your show about?
 - How do you look so young after over fifty years in show business?
 - Who makes all of your gorgeous gowns?
 - Is your hair naturally purple?

This is an example of an acceptable lower third as it includes the name Michael Walters.



Long press blurb:

"Renowned vocalist and actor Michael L. Walters takes the stage by storm in a critically acclaimed full-scale homage to Dame Edna's fabulous Broadway shows! This fun-filled evening of glamour and side-splitting laughter features incredible glittering gowns, outrageous comedy, original musical numbers, and of course a floral finale with Edna's signature gladioli! It's a show that's been hailed as "SPECTACULAR" by Dame Edna's original creator Barry Humphries, so get your tickets today!"

Short press blurb:

"Sequins blaze and punchlines fly as Michael Walters re-creates a Dame Edna Broadway extravaganza! The Diva from Down Under is back! Not to be Missed!"

Below is a blurb which explains Michael's beginnings with the Dame Edna character.

When Michael Walters first donned the "wisteria" coif and rhinestone glasses in early 1999, he never dreamed he would still be performing the Character today- not to mention gaining the blessing of Dame Edna's original creator, Barry Humphries or having the honor of appearing with Mr. Humphries at a special event on his Birthday in 2010. Walters says he was equally surprised when he discovered that producers all over the world would be eager to present his impeccable impersonation.

"My 'life as Edna' started at a mystery dinner theatre in Orlando, Florida. The cast all performed multiple roles- sort of in rotation. There was this new character based on the archetype of a psychotic cooking show host, and no one seemed to strike the right tone to pull it off. They asked me to do it, and for some reason I thought 'DAME EDNA!' I wouldn't call Edna psychotic like this character was, but there was something about the character's lines that seemed to fit. They got me a purple wig and a pair of rhinestone glasses- and off I went! I'll admit my early attempts at the voice and mannerisms left a lot to be desired in terms of a real impersonation, but somehow or another it was a hit! I was having a blast and getting good laughs. Then strangely enough, audience members would approach me after the show and ask if they could have the character appear at their party or charity event. Always the starving artist, I leapt at the chance! The character has really evolved and become a part of me. It's always a wild ride and I'm so grateful to Barry (Humphries) for his genius and support."

The following is a biographical blurb from Dame Edna's official website.

This is for your reference. The details here pertain only to the Dame Edna character invented by Barry Humphries.

"Dame Edna Everage is probably the most popular and gifted woman in the world today: housewife, investigative journalist, social anthropologist, talk show host, swami, children's book illustrator, spin doctor, Megastar, and Icon. With Olivia Newton-John, Kylie Minogue and Nicole Kidman, she is one of a remarkable succession of female stars to emerge from Australia.

Her success *Down Under* was repeated in London with stage shows including "Housewife, Superstar", "A Night with Dame Edna" and countless command performances for the royal family. Her hit Broadway show, "Dame Edna: The Royal Tour" received the Tony Award for Live Theatrical Event and was met with unanimous critical acclaim and sparked a huge tour of the United States in a production by the same name. Later US productions include "Back With a Vengeance" and "My First Last Tour"

In late 2013, Dame Edna, along with her manager Barry Humphries, completed their Final Farewell Tour of Australia and The UK, with only six planned US tour dates in early 2015. While Dame Edna insists this is her farewell touring production, she promises she'll continue caring and sharing with the world in other ways, such as television appearances and special events. DAME EDNA IS NOT RETIRED.

Television credits include the now legendary UK special, "A Night on Mt. Edna" and two series of her own innovative chat show, "The Dame Edna Experience", with special guests Cher, Robin Williams, Roseanne Barr, Sean Connery and Mel Gibson; as well as a popular Chat Show series entitled "The Dame Edna Treatment" which hosted the world's entertainment elite in 2007.

Her books include Dame Edna's Coffee Table Book, Dame Edna's Bedside Companion, and her seminal autobiography, *My Gorgeous Life*. Also of note are *Dame Edna Everage and the Rise of Western Civilization* by John Lahr, and *Handling Edna* by Barry Humphries; a scathing account of the personal and professional interactions between himself and his only client. Dame Edna is currently in litigation to stop the circulation of this book.

Possibly Jewish, Dame Edna is a widow, with three grown children. She spends her time visiting world leaders and jet-setting between her homes in Los Angeles, London, Sydney, Switzerland and Martha's Vineyard. She is the Founder and Governor of Friends of the Prostate and the creator of The World Prostate Olympics."