

# Mary Coustas

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## *Keynote Speaker, Moderator & MC*

Mary Coustas is a writer and performer who is well known for her role in Wogs Out of Work and her character Effie in the high rating TV sitcom Acropolis Now - for which she won a Best Comedy Performer Logie Award.

Returning to the stage, she went on to play to full houses in the record-breaking theatrical shows Wog A Rama and her one-woman show Waiting for Effie, which toured nationally. She then joined the cast of Sylvia for Sydney Theatre Company, gaining high praise for her outstanding portrayal of a dog.

Mary's other TV credits include Skirts, Wildside, Grass Roots, The Secret Life of Us and Rake 2. She earned herself an AFI Nomination for Best Supporting Actress for her role in Mull and appeared in Nirvana Street Murder and Hercules Returns.

She has written and performed in her TV shows Greeks on the Roof, based on her character Effie's family home TV studio.

As Effie has so much to say, Mary allowed her to write a book, Effie's Guide to Being Up Yourself - which has been published and acclaimed for tackling youth self-esteem.

Mary's desire to become a mother resulted in a remarkable heart wrenching story that touched the hearts of a nation. In 2013 her deeply personal memoir All I know was published followed by two stories on 60 Minutes.

After wowing audience with her stage show A Date with Effie, the Greek Goddess launched her spectacular one-woman show Effie The Virgin Bride in 2015 and the Comedy Theatre and toured nationally in 2016 as well as an encore national tour in 2017.

## **More About Effie**

For over 3 decades Mary has entertained and inspired the top corporate, financial, political, sporting and cultural communities. Whether the events are big or small, public or private Mary's experience, warmth and humour has kept her in huge demand.



Mary's performing career and personal challenges have cemented her in the eye of the public as an authentic and admired agent of change. Whether the issue is race, diversity, gender, class, leadership, motherhood or politics, Mary is able to tackle life's difficult complicated issues in an illuminating and motivational way.

Mary's special gift is seeing possibility in everything and everyone. Her ability to articulate that in an impactful, funny and memorable way is what sets her apart.

### **Mary Coutas:**

- Entertainer
- Interviewer
- Social commentator
- Debater
- Moderator
- Master of Ceremonies
- Keynote speaker
- Empowerment
- Motivational
- Overcoming Adversity
- Identity/Diversity
- Modern Day Woman

### **Client testimonials**

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“ We should pay Effie double - she was quite simply FANTASTIC - particularly Effie's line - It's not DOG eat DOG - it's WOG eat WOG! Everyone I've spoken to also thinks it was the best ever! It was a great night.

- **SBS Television**

“ People are RAVING about it being the best one ever. Seriously raving. It's great. Effie was a sensation and they're raving about her too. And everyone has a hangover.

- **Daily Telegraph**

“ Wow - what a night! The feedback from guests and staff has been absolutely incredible. Your comical anecdotes were a great hit and your banter with Larry was very entertaining. I can't begin to thank you for your contribution in making our Client Appreciation Party a night that will be remembered for many years to come.

**- Australia Post**

“ Your presence and the comedy spot you delivered were instant hits with our clients and staff members alike. We are still in awe of the way in which you spiced up the information we gave you and delivered it with such aplomb.

**- Minter Ellison Lawyers**

“ Thank you again for bringing Effie along to our Consumer Finance Expo last week. The feedback from staff has been incredible – they loved the fact that a ‘star’ of Effie’s calibre would come along to an event like this and be so tuned in to the theme of the event.

**- ANZ Bank**

“ You were a wild success with our students and staff who were inspired by the messages you presented to them.

**- MLC (Methodist Ladies College)**

“ The standard of entertainment was second to none. As Master of Ceremonies, you delighted the audience as well as conveying all our key messages in your uniquely wicked way. It was a night we will all remember.

**- 2002 Gay Games**

“ Guys and gals. What a great night! Feedback this morning has been outstanding...The best Ball ever, is the common view. Effie slayed ‘em. As John Howard said, the Ball has become THE Canberra event to attend.

**- The Australian**

“ I would like to thank you for your participation in the National Conference, ‘Quest for Excellence’ which contributed to the success of the event.

**- Mortgage Choice**

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