

# COFFEE WHO

Sally Bain Rosson  
BY TRICIA DUFFIELD

She's theatre and entertainment, soothsayer and psychic; a fortune teller for the modern age. Sally Bain Rosson is the Bondi Gypsy, a modern and glamorous version of the travelling gypsy of old Europe and a popular entertainer on the eastern suburbs social circuit. She's a hot ticket item at corporate functions, birthday parties, girls' nights – wherever a group is gathered. Her spin on the fortune teller combines that 21st century sage – the lifecoach – with something more akin to a cabaret performer in 1930s Germany.

Sally describes the Bondi Gypsy as a “mind cocktail”, a sparkling, new age champagne; the psychic equivalent of the girl jumping out of the birthday cake.

It helps that she has a hearty sense of humour and humility, but Sally admits there's more to her work than favours for folks looking for something new and novel. The light-hearted party trick can be a genuine turning point.

“I become the bridge between your psyche and my interpretation. I read three cards that you choose from the deck [and] I have five minutes to do the reading. And because I am usually meeting you for the first time, and in a social setting, I have no other references to interfere

with the reading,” Sally says, explaining her process. “It's like reaching into the psyche and shining a light onto something. It can be very exciting and liberating for both of us.”

Sally first picked up a pack of tarot cards more than two decades ago. Like most of those pivotal life moments, the occasion was inauspicious but full of portent.

“Someone gave me a pack of cards – an Aquarian deck. They were the most beautiful things I'd ever seen. I was into graphics and textile design, and these cards were that link between the artistic image and the psyche.”

“I started practising and practising, and to be honest, I thought I'd be lousy. But one day, I realised I could do it. Like anything, you have to master the method before you can realise the gifts you have,” Sally says, believing it is a gift, as well as a service and not one to be taken too lightly. “I work with humility to be inspirational. I respect that what I do, even though it's for fun, can be a turning point for someone. For me, and for them, that can be an exciting and liberating exchange.”

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