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Cheyenne Jackson Reflects on Personal Events in 'Eyes Wide Open'

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Broadway leading man Cheyenne Jackson opens the winter cabaret season at The Cafe Carlyle, with his new autobiographical show "Eyes Wide Open." Our Frank DiLella recently caught up with the performer during a rehearsal to talk about bringing his story into the spotlight.

Broadway favorite Cheyenne Jackson is back in New York and taking those lyrics to heart in his new cabaret show "Eyes Wide Open".

The performer has a half dozen Broadway credits to his name, but he is a newcomer when it comes to the famed Cafe Carlyle.

"I've never even seen anything at The Carlyle before, truth be told. So I thought if I'm ever going to do it, I want to do it from the stage," says Jackson.

Jackson - who recently relocated to Los Angeles - sees this show as a reflection of where he is currently, in his personal life and his career.

"My shows are very, very autobiographical, but I don't know how to be any other way," he says. "These last few years, a lot has happened in my personal life. I got divorced, I

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got remarried, I moved across the country - all of these things have really informed why I sing what I sing and what I sing.”

And as for the songs in his set-list...

“‘Your Song,’ the Elton John song is one of my favorites and I’ve never done it. And then Elvis, I haven’t sung Elvis stuff in a long time. I kind of shied away after doing “All Shook Up” and singing 17 songs per night, two on Wednesdays, two on Saturdays,” says Jackson.

Over the course of the evening, you will also get a dose of Jackson, the musician.

“For the very first time ever, I’m singing and playing the piano. I’m doing “Edge of Glory” by Lady Gaga and it scares me to death. But if it scares you, you need to do it. So I need to listen to my own advice and it’s scary, and why not try it in the most prestigious cabaret venue in New York City?” says Jackson.

You can catch Cheyenne Jackson at The Cafe Carlyle now through January 24.