

Under The Jello Mold

A One-Woman Comedy

Written and Performed by Jennie Fahn Directed by Tom Cavanaugh Her mom hid her post-mortem instructions in a specific spot...

It turned out, she was also hiding a secret!

Under The Jello Mold is Jennie Fahn's solo comedy about discovering the secret her mother kept hidden until the final act of her life. A former dancer, Jennie's mom was a force to be reckoned with: there was always a story to be embellished, always a name to drop, and always a lesson to teach.

Told in anecdotes, characters, and song, this roller-coaster of humor and pathos touches many relate-able subjects including love, loss, and being of sound mind and body.

Running time is 80 minutes, with no intermission.

Cntrl+click here to see the trailer!

Cntrl+click to see Jennie interviewed (and perform 'Hospice Hottie') on GOOD DAY SACRAMENTO -2020

Cntrl+click to see Jennie interviewed on Fox40 SACRAMENTO

Cntrl+click to see Jennie interviewed on GOOD DAY SACRAMENTO - 2019





- One actor, no crew
- No set, no costumes, no props
- Simple load-in, load-out
- Light tech requirements: 1 lav microphone, lights, sound/projection cues only

Projection Screen or Blank Wall

Small cube or chair

Small cube or chair

Stage Set-Up for Under the Jello Mold

5/28

by RYAN TOROK



VINAY 28 AUL SIMON

In the 1500s and early-1970s, folk-rockers Simon and Garfunkel harmonized on hit after hit, including "The Boxer," "Mrs. Robinson" and "Bridge Over Troubled Water." Paul Simon was half of the legendary duo and, after they disbanded, became an accomplished solo artist in his own right. He performs his career-spanning repertoire of timeless hits and classic songs at the Hollywood Bowl as part of his "Homeward Bound - The Farewell Tour." 8 p.m. \$39-\$250. Hollywood Bowl, 2301 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood. (323) 850-2000. hollywoodbowl.com.

WED MAY 30

"BENNY GOODMAN: AHEAD OF HIS TIME" Legendary bandleader Benny Goodman's music comes back to life thanks to acclaimed clarinet solois

of Goodman's from Goodma concert, which ous conversati sic. The UCLA ensemble from of Jazz accon tion of a music Swing. A preat 6 p.m. Conc 10400 Wilshir 4761. RSVP at

"A one-person show must demonstrate diversity of character, intelligent, crisp, catchy and electric dialogue, and stage presence that catches and holds the audience's attention. This show...delivers in all three categories."

SAT JUN "THE SOUL OF RICHARD RODGERS

Tony-winning performer Billy Porter, who depicted drag queen Lola in the Broadway musical "Kinky Boots," offers a fresh take on composer Richard Rodgers' classics, from "My Funny Valentine" to "Edelweiss." The live concert draws on Porter's 2017 album, "Billy Porter Presents: The Soul of Richard Rodgers." 8 p.m. \$38-\$98. The Soraya Valley Center for the Performing Arts, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge. (818) 677-8800. thesoraya.org/calendar/details/billyporter.

THU JUNE 7

TASTE OF ISRAEL Foodies and Israel lovers unite at the self-de-

22 = SUMMER SNEAKS = ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT AT THE JEWISH JOURNAL = MAY 2018

scribed "biggest culinary event for Israel in the United States," showcasing Israeli wines and cuisine from c lebrity Israeli chef Eyal Shani; acclaimed che and TV star Meir Adoni; local modern Israel restaurant Jaffa and more. Certified kosher menu. Proceeds benefit Larger than Life, which serves Israeli children with cancer. Black-tie optional. 7-11 p.m. General admission \$ 60. The tax-deductible ticket includes unlin ited food from 20 gourmet chefs and 20 of Is ael's finest wineries. Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. tastee fisraella.com.

FRI JUNE 8 **ROBBY KRIEGER**

The Doors guitarist Robby Krieger celebrates 50 years of his iconic L.A. rock-and-roll band's music. Krieger, raised in a Jewish family in rote many of the Doors' most

ing Stone magazine appears in discussion with

writer, producer and director Judd Apatow

about "Mark Seliger Photographs," a coffee

table book featuring his best-known portrai-

ture. 8 p.m. \$30 reserved, \$20 general admis-

sion, \$75 reserved and copy of "Mark Seliger

Photographs." Ann and Jerry Moss Theatre,

Monica. livetalksla.org/events/mark-seliger.

A few days before Father's Day, Pulitzer Prize-

winning novelist Michael Chabon ("The Amaz-

WED JUNE 13

MICHAEL CHABON

ing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay") discusses his latest book, "Pop : Fatherhood in Pieces," with former Los Angeles Times book editor David Ulin. Chabon's collection of essays on parenting draws on his experience minding his 13-yearold son at Paris Men's Fashion Week in 2016. A book signing follows the program, which is organized by Book Soup. 8 p.m. \$20 plus tax and fees, includes ad mission and one book. Skirball Cultural Center 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Los Angeles. (310) 44 0-4500. skirball.org.

FRI JUNE 15 GAD ELMALE

The hardest working Moroccan-Jewish standup comedian in the business performs five shows in three nights at the Irvine Improv. Gad Elmaleh s arted his career performing in small shows for the Montreal Sephardic community and rose to prominence in France af-

her mother, a for her dancer who was never content to merely ehash her past, during what turned out to be the final act of her mother's life. Fahn tells her story in anecdotes, charac ters and song. Through Aug. 26. 5 p.m. \$30. The Pico, 10508 W. P co Blvd., Los Angeles. (800 838-3006. underti ejellomold.com.

TUE JULY 10 BERNSTEIN 100 CELEBRATION

WITH DUDAME

In celebration of the centennial of the birth o America maestro Leonard Bernstein, Los Ange les Philharmoni conductor Gustavo Dudamel vocalist Kristin Chenoweth and the L.A. Philhar monic, among others, perform some of Bernstein's most be oved music. Blending jazz and classical music the program includes selections from "West S de Story." "Three Meditations

> \$8-\$104 ve., Hol vl.com.

> is of th ompose 's caree es musie the Way ic," "Fol for show 2055 310) 477

 The Tolucan Times mals" traces the history of food production in

the United S ates, argues for a shift from factory farming to plant-based technologies and follows farmer who have pushed back against industrial agri culture by adopting humane practices. ifcfilms.com/films/eating-animals.



her award winning one-woman show, "Under the Jello Mold," actress Jennie Fahn embarks on a humorous and heartfelt exploration of her relationship with her late mother. Fahn's comedy examines how she dealt with



2055, ext. 7. odysseytheatre.com.

Songsmun Randy Newman's catalog include the classic tunes "Short People," "I Love LA and "You've Got a Friend in Me." Tonight at th Hollywood Bowl, the legendary songwriter pe forms songs from each of his 11 studio album featuring accompaniment by the Hollywoo Bowl Orchestra and his own band. 7:30 pJ \$14-\$70. Hollywood Bowl, 2301 N. Highlat Ave., Hollywood. (323) 850-2000. hollywoo bowl.com.



Rabbi Dara Frimmer Senior Rabbi

Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles Rabbi

Cantor Tifani Coyot Cantor

Rabbi Jaclyn Cohen Cantorial Soloist

Rabbi Robert T. Gan Rabbi Emeritus

Cantor Evan Kent Cantor Emeritus

Mike Diamond President

Jessica Dabney Vice President

Sam Surloff Vice President, Administration

Janet Hirsch Vice President, Community Affairs

Kristen Lonner Vice President, Education

Sharon Halimi-Eshaghoff Vice President, Membership

Suzanne Solig Secretary January 15, 2020

Mrs. Jennie Fahn 2045 Prosser Ave Los Angeles, CA 90025

Dear Jennie,

What a fantabulous event on Sunday! I am truly over the moon and 'Under The Jello Mold'

Thank you so much for bringing your incredible show to our temple 'stage.' The audience was fully engaged and rivetted, as I expected they would be. Your show imprinted on my brain since my husband and I attended it last spring, and I am so glad Isaiah Women was able to bring it directly to our members. I thought it was meaningful, and it inspired people to think about their own stories. It is amazing when a personal story with all of its particular unique details is shared so well, that everyone somehow can relate to it!

It was just wonderful to have you perform UTJM in our temple home. A perfect mix of sugar and spice, love and grit. I am thrilled we were able to make this happen, and I hope that your show continues to be experienced for a long time to come. I am grateful so much of our community has been able to experience it!

Abundant blessings and thanks,

~ Hen Miks

Rabbi Zoe Klein Miles





Jennie Fahn's 'Under The Jello Mold' exposes mother-child dynamic SEPTEMBER 20, 2017<u>THEATRE REVIEWS</u> One-person show winner of Best Solo Performance at this year's Hollywood Fringe Festival

Review by RadomirVojtech Luza

If you want to see a one-person show rich in imagination, humor and color make a beaten path to Under The Jello Mold performed and written by Jennie Fahn at The Whitefire Theatre on Ventura Boulevard in Sherman Oaks.

This is the story of Fahn and how she deals with her hurricane of a mother. It fills the heart with an onslaught of stories about love, loss and motherhood.

A one-person show must demonstrate diversity of character, intelligent, crisp, catchy and electric dialogue and stage presence that catches and holds the audience's attention. This show, winner of the Best Solo Performance at this year's Hollywood Fringe Festival, delivers in all three categories with a uniquely comedic turn by Fahn and transparent direction by Tom Cavanaugh.

Cavanaugh, The Actors Studio Drama School M.F.A., molds the play into a showcase for Fahn's hysterics, dramatics and linguistics in a manner that unearths the show's deeper meaning. The language is natural, genuine and never contrived. It suits Fahn the performer brilliantly.

In the end, Under The Jello Mold succeeds because of its spontaneous and tender spirit, charm and courage, not despite it. Yes, we all have mothers, but few children dare dive into the choppy waters of the mother-child dynamic and mine as much comedy, joy and wisdom as Fahn.

"Under The Jello Mold" plays Saturdays at 8pm through November 9 at The Whitefire Theatre located at 13500 Ventura Blvd. in Sherman Oaks. Tickets are \$25. Visit <u>UnderTheJelloMold.com</u> for more information and reservations.



Jennie Fahn's 'Under The Jello Mold'-

Perfectly Set, Firm To The Touch

October 24, 2017 By Ernest Kearney — For those of a certain generation, **Jennie Fahn's** piqued but perfectly prancing paean to her late mother roars with resonance.

"My mother didn't wear sneakers," Fahn proclaims at the opening of her one-woman show, **Under the Jello Mold**, on-stage thru November 12 at **The Whitefire** in Sherman Oaks. And though she is an East coast Jewish daughter and I a West coast Irish son, both of our mothers were of a type unique to 1950s.

Mad Men partially captured the period of sexism enveloped in a miasma of nicotine, but there was so much more, and, paradoxically, so much less.

It was a time when clothes weren't worn for comfort, hair wasn't natural, furniture was encased in plastic, and mirthless sit-coms were layered in canned laughter, when nothing was spoken of that bore any importance, and conversation was the white noise that filled the intervals between the Pink Squirrels and Gin and Sins at the weekend cocktail parties. Glass ceilings were plentiful and all but shatterproof, and opportunities that didn't involve "kinder and küche" nearly nonexistent.

For Fahn's mother, on whom either title of "little woman" or "Gal Friday" would be an ill-fit, it was likely a rough time.

It was for my mother.

With a closet full of backless high heeled mules, such as Marilyn had popularized, a row of coiffed wigs for all occasions and her "face" ready, at-hand in a train case of cosmetics, Joyce was a constant source of fascination and anguish for her daughter.

There are brief cameos by Fahn's father and others during the narrative, which is a slight construct woven of mother and daughter arguing over a mugging, over Thanksgiving Dinner, on a visit to dad's grave during which "mom" grills his spirit as to the dead floozies he's dating in the hereafter. Eventually, with little fanfare and less impact one dark family secret arrives on stage; though it seems placed there in hopes that the presence of a denouement might cloak the fact that the evening is basically a string of vignettes. This doesn't detract from the show's appeal, which is anchored in Fahn's lovingly etched portrait of her mother.

The audience, too, comes to share Fahn's fascination and frustration with the loud, brassy pint-sized panzer tank in pantyhose whom she called "mom."



Fahn is a joy to watch as she sidesteps with an economy of effort seamlessly between characters, distinguishing instantly the persona of each.

Under The Jello Mold But it is in her characterization of her vain, vivacious and vibrant mother that Fahn captures her audience, by evoking those emotions we all have encountered and endured when faced with a parent's passing.

Fahn infuses the confrontations between the mother and child with great humor and a meticulous pacing.

It is like watching a match at Wimbledon with Fahn playing both sides of the net.

The production benefits from a pristine starkness in staging, a bare stage lit by **Derrick McDaniel** is provided just the right accent by **Stebor Louanne's** graphics, undoubtedly with guidance from technical director **David Svengalis**.

Melissa Fahn is listed as choreographer, and likely contributed to the gracefulness of the overall staging.

Recognizing the delicacy of Fahn's piece, director **Tom Cavanaugh** has wisely structured a clean, crisp and very streamline production here, assuring there is no impediment to Fahn's performance.

In the final analysis, Cavanaugh and his company have delivered a thoroughly crafted and engaging evening for their audiences. And while Fahn's piece may suffer from a deficiency of aspiration, it and Fahn's performance display a surfeit of humanity.

*** * ***

Under The Jello Mold

Directed by Tom Cavanaugh

Written and performed by Jennie Fahn five-time nominee and winner of the 2017 Hollywood Fringe Festival Solo Performance, Pick of the Fringe, and Encore! Producer's Awards

> Running now through November 12: Saturdays at 8pm two added performances on Sunday, November 12 at 3pm and 7pm

> > Whitefire Theatre 13500 Ventura Boulevard (on the corner of Sunnyslope / between Coldwater Canyon and Woodman) Sherman Oaks, CA

"UNDER THE JELLO MOLD" plays Saturdays, now through November 12, 2017 at The Whitefire Theatre.

Jennie Fahn's "UNDER THE JELLO MOLD," now playing at The Whitefire Theatre, is an energetic reminiscence of a mother, part philosopher, part yenta, who dotes and pries on Jennie throughout her life.



Ms. Fahn is a compact dynamo, holding us rapt for an hour and a half with anecdotes of her experiences with her Mom, taking both roles of herself and Mom with aplomb.



The set is bare and simple: two wooden cubes down left and right, and a big film screen up center upon which images are projected. The first image after the title dissolves is that of a big high heeled backless and strapless shoe, called a mule. Ms. Fahn then launches into a factual story of Mom's vast collection of mules. It's quite amusing as Fahn then segues into Mom "putting on her face" to go shop at N.Y. City's Waldbaum's supermarket. Other anecdotes present Mom as both crude but truthful. At times Mom will go off on hilarious tangents but somehow makes sense of them. Always an influential force in Jennie's life, the anecdotes can both endear you to this colorful character or make you think "feh!, what a witch of a mother!"

The anecdotes lead up to Mom's death. Seems she left

complicated instructions placed under the jello mold in the kitchen of what to do in the event of her passing. Jennie discovers more than just burial orders under that mold!

Being with her mother could be somewhat of a frightful tornado but Jennie manages to find the humor in every situation. She throws in a charming song and dance number to boot.

The segment when she discovers that Mom has passed is done with taste and strikes a nerve in the viewer.

Winner of the 2017 Hollywood Fringe Festival!

UNDER THE JELLO MOLD

Saturdays, 8pm, through November 11th with 2 special perfs Sunday November 12th, 2017, 3pm & 7pm **The Whitefire Theatre** 13500 Ventura Blvd, Sherman Oaks, CA. 91423 For tickets call 800-838-3006 or visit <u>www.UnderTheJelloMold.com</u>

Writer/Star: Jennie Fahn Director: Tom Cavanaugh Choreographer: Melissa Fahn Composer: John T. Mickevich Lighting: Derrick McDaniel





by Tracey Paleo, Gia On The Move

"Go drown ya'self ... in tears!"

It's something one could imagine coming out of the mouth of *Under The Jello Mold* actress Jennie Fahn's mom, whose ever caustic yet hilarious persona would hardly seem embellished by the quote.

The one-woman comedy starring Fahn, directed by Fringe veteran Tom Cavanaugh captures, in infamy, nearly everyone in the world's idea of the almost the Seinfeld version of mother/daughter relationships. It's exasperating and often painful and embarrassing for they who are living through them, and laughably mouth-gaping for the rest of the world to witness. I mean, who could live like that right? The nagging about the tiniest details for no apparent reason, the oversharing that makes the simplest directions overly complicated, the flirting with every remotely good looking guy including the E.R. doctor while on a stretcher, the dolling up even when not leaving the house , the bragging – you know, that story she's told a million and a half times like it's the first, the upbraiding – in Jennie's case – from how she cooks her beans to how she puts on her child's socks to practically the unsaid notion of not erecting a shrine to the woman whose genius has raised the entire household to greatness. (sigh)

If you have this mother, you would know. If you don't, well, this is the show that will imprint your eyes, your imagination, and mostly your heart, in the most loving, humorous way.

Jennie has been growing up with a monstrously insane mother, a former dancer and New York City ad woman, who is divinely glamorous, incredibly outspoken, and knows how to get what she wants if she has to bully or guilt you into it, without remorse or shame.

When mom has one of her routine breakdowns and is hospitalized in the crazy ward, Jennie is ready to leave her there, but, for a shocking impromtu revelation about her mother's life.

Fahn's story is deeply moving as it is funny. Her priceless characterizations of her mother, father and everyone else passing through this tale are endowed with so much detail and love. The fantasies, the secrets, the fights, the instructions 'in case of death' ... what Fahn ends up with is a bigger revelation about them both than the one she's handed.

(Geez, I'm crying as I write this!)

Highly Recommended!





TITLE OF SHOW: Under the Jello Mold

VENUE: Ruby Theatre at the Complex

REVIEW: What more can be said about a show that has already won Pick of the Fringe, and is consistently sold out - only that the hype is true - Jennie Fahn has captured the heart and soul of HFF 17 in a way no one has in several years. This masterpiece was directed by Tom Cavanaugh and written and performed by Fahn. Her characterizations are truly memorable and heartpulling, while her message is crystal clear - love your family and spend as much time with them as you can, because all too soon they are gone. Don't be surprised to hear Fahn's name called a few times at next Sunday's Fringe Awards. She deserves nothing less.

RECOMMENDATION: Do whatever it takes to See this show. It is one of the best productions at HFF 17. Tickets are available for June 21 and 24 at 7 p.m., but are sold out for June 22.

FRINGE SHOWS, HOLLYWOOD FRINGE FESTIVAL, REVIEWS, SEE IT C

HFF17 – SEE IT OR SKIP IT (DAY 4) PART 1 BY BOB LEGGETT



Combined Artform & Fringe Management

PICK OF THE FRINGE

"Fahn's story is **deeply moving as it is funny.** Her **priceless characterizations** of her mother, father, and everyone else passing through this tale **are endowed with so much detail and love.**" – GiaOnTheMove.com



EPIPHANY EPIPHANY EPIPHANY AT THE FRINGE, PART I: FOUR SOLO SHOWS

06/13/2017 6:13 pm PDT

By Stephen Fife Writer, Editor in Chief, Better Lemons

UNDER THE JELLO MOLD by Jennie Fahn

Jennie Fahn is another master storyteller, though very different from David Rodwin – less hip, less edgy, more in the female Jewish comedy tradition of Joan Rivers, though very much her own person. (She actually reminded me most of Chandler Bing's girlfriend Janice on Friends.) The day I saw her perform, the A/C had gone out, and the Ruby Theatre at the Complex was packed to the brim. While producer Tom Cavanaugh distributed fans to the audience, it was still going to be a task to keep interest in her show. But Jennie had no problem with it, she had the audience laughing and hanging on every word from the start, as she weaved her tale about her deeply eccentric (to the point of actual cuckoo-ness) mother, and how Jennie dealt with her, both in life and in depth. It is very rich material, and I assume that there's an 80-90 minute version as well. Judging by her huge success here, I certainly think there's an audience for such an evening. My only advice would be to loosen up a bit and relate more to the audience, to the here and now. But maybe she does in other circumstances. When the A/C is out on a hot day in LA, the here and now may be something to keep at bay.

- See more at: https://better-lemons.com/featured/epiphany-epiphany-epiphany-fringe-part-four-solo-shows/#sthash.QtMhyOwC.dpuf



Outreach

Jennie offers a variety of engaging workshops, for adults as well as for children, enthusiastically guiding participants to unleash their inner storytellers.

What's Under Your Jello Mold? A Journey Amid Personal Stories

In her solo show, UNDER THE JELLO MOLD, Jennie reveals a longhidden secret. Audiences relate to the show because most families harbor secrets of one kind or another. How and when is the right time to reveal them? Jennie describes her own process, and offers participants insight on how to walk the path.

The Story of Something: Crafting a Monologue Using Personal Artifacts

Acting often involves creating characters who perform monologues. In this workshop, Jennie guides participants through crafting personal monologues, using familiar objects.

Jello Jiggles: Exploring Physicality in Storytelling

Jennie's solo show - which is for mature audiences - is performed without any props or sets. In this active, participatory workshop for children, Jennie demonstrates how the physicality of acting enhances storytelling. (This workshop is an option for audiences too young for the show itself. It can be adapted for mature, yet young-at-heart, audiences as well!)

Under The Jello Mold Q & A: Post-Show Discussion

Jennie is always happy to host a post-show conversation with an audience.

Production History

Premiered - Hollywood Fringe Festival June, 2017 Ruby Theatre at the Complex, Hollywood, CA Winner: Best Solo Show, Producer's Encore, Pick of the Fringe

> Whitefire Theatre, Sherman Oaks, CA September 9 – November 18, 2017 Encore performance February 13, 2018

6-month Engagement at The Pico Playhouse, Los Angeles, CA March 18 – August 26, 2018

Engagement at Del Rey Yacht Club, Marina Del Rey, CA September 29, 2018

> The Sofia Tsakapoulos Center for the Performing Arts, Sacramento, CA February 9, 2019

Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival, Venice, CA March 9-16, 2019

Santa Monica Binge Fringe Festival, Santa Monica, CA October 29, 2019

> Temple Isaiah, Los Angeles, CA January 12, 2020

The Sofia Tsakapoulos Center for the Performing Arts, Sacramento, CA February 9, 2020

Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts Scottsdale, AZ September 23 – 26, 2021

Named Best of Los Angles Theatre – 2017

by TheTVOlution.com

www.UnderTheJelloMold.com

For booking information, contact Producers, Inc. www.producersinc.com