

DAILY NEWS



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FOR IDIOSYNCRATIC SINGER AND '60S survivor Marianne Faithfull, it all makes perfect sense: She saw the show, she liked the show and now she's *in* the show.

That the show happens to be called "Bitch! Dyke! Fag Hag! Whore!" only adds to the quirky allure.

It's performer Penny Arcade's kaleidoscopic vision of sex and love at the Top of the Gate, replete with go-go dancers of many genders and lots of explicit talk-and-gawk about the real deal. Faithfull's one-night-only appearance tomorrow will add so much to the evening's curiosity value, they should temporarily retitile it "Bitch! Dyke! Fag Hag! Whore! Legend!"



MICHAEL MUSTO

And Protective Aunt. The singer, it turns out, caught Arcade's production two weeks ago as a devious way of checking up on her 18-year-old niece, Guinevere Liberty, who dances in it.

"I went with her mother," Faithfull explained by phone. "We're two liberated women, but in a way we were a bit worried and thought, 'We'd better go see it.'"

She ended up enthralled, pastie-twirling and all, and was especially taken by the touching AIDS segment that advises, "Love someone and let someone love you — it's the most political act you can make."

"I cried," admitted Faithfull, as tears go by. "It's been a very hard year — I'm losing friends."

Two nights later, she revisited the mini-extravaganza — which is closing this weekend with this very bang — and by the end of dinner with Arcade afterwards, had agreed to be a "Bitch!" guest (guest "Bitch!"). She won't be go-go dancing with her niece, however.

She'll inimitably warble "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" and "Working Class Hero," and, in the midst of Arcade's rant about relationships, will deliver her rancorous ditty of romantic retribution, "Why'd You Do What You Did?" ("Imagine all the dancers bumping and grinding in G-strings while she sings *that*," exults Arcade.)

THE TIRELESS PERFORMANCE ARTIST has also arranged for veteran homosexual Quentin Crisp to surface in the segment in which she converses with the audience in the dark (perhaps he can shed some light on whether he liked being a Queen in the art-house film "Orlando" and a queen in the upcoming "Philadelphia").

And if Deborah Harry gets back from Tucson on time, she might show up to do "Heart of Glass" and explain what she was doing in Tucson to begin with.

So what links the unlikely twosome Arcade and Faithfull — aside from bizarre nomenclature, a certain cult following and a close bond with an 18-year-old go-go dancer?

"We're both anti-divas," explains Arcade. "A diva is fabulous and has fans. An anti-diva is fabulous and thinks everybody *else* is fabulous who's fabulous too."

So Auntie Diva is an anti-diva? How fabulous!