



ADELAIDE FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

PENNY ARCADE

What's the best way to tackle censorship? A full-frontal attack with go-go dancers. That's Penny Arcade's routine, and she's sticking to it. And why not? *Bitch! Dyke! Faghag! Whore!: The Penny Arcade Sex & Censorship Show* enjoys the honour of being the second longest running off-Broadway show ever.

Arcade (left and inset) is an American who claims that her working class sensibility, humanistic conviction, and the "tawdry band of drag queens" who took her in as a teenager in Manhattan, made her what she is today.

Her show shifts between sadness and rage, joyous celebration and defiance, in an amorphous series of partly autobiographical monologues that show up the fanaticism of moral crusaders – as well as the stifling political correctness of the 'art house' scene.

Love thy fellow man, says Arcade. And that includes women, fags, dykes, blacks, Asians, Muslims, old people and kids. "The thing that makes this show so popular," she says, "is that it has a lot of heart, but I'm not a goody-goody. I'm angry, I'm dangerous, but I'm very loving."