









JESSICA SHERR starring in

## BETTE DAVIS

— AIN'T for SISSIES-

Written & Performed by
JESSICA SHERR



www.BETTEDAVISAINTFORSISSIES.net



# "Brilliant hour of Theater. A performance that was worthy of an Oscar"—MUMBLE THEATER



It's the 1939 Academy Awards, young Bette Davis is nominated for Best Actress. But the Los Angeles Times LEAKED the winners EARLY! "Vivian Leigh triumphs Best Actress". With newspaper in hand Davis decides to leave! Witness Bette's most defining moments as a tenacious young starlet fighting her way to the top. See what happens when someone who always wins...loses.



# "Sherr is mesmerizing to watch - a dynamic performance reflecting both the vanity and vulnerability."—EDINBURGH GUIDE

Internationally acclaimed one-woman show,

Bette Davis Ain't for Sissies tours Scotland, London, Boson, Virginia, New York and gets rave reviews. Jessica introduces audiences to a previously unseen side of Hollywood icon Bette Davis. One that is *vulnerable, insecure* and *imprisoned by ambition*. The play, written by Sherr, offers audiences a rare insight into the mind of one of Hollywood's greatest stars.

Jessica Sherr - who has an uncanny resemblance to the young starlet - plays a disillusioned, Bette Davis, on the evening the young actress loses the 1939 Academy Award for Best Actress in Dark Victory to Vivian Leigh's Scarlett O'Hara in Gone with the Wind. Audiences meet a frustrated Davis who, having decided to leave the 12th Academy Award ceremony early, at home, disillusioned and frustrated; grappling with memories of past lovers, confidants and mentors. With humor and unabashed frankness Jessica Sherr journey's into Bette Davis' battle to win freedom from the grip and control of the Hollywood studio moguls studio executives and mother Ruthie. See what happens when someone who always wants to win...loses.

"I have TWO Oscars, not ONE but TWO!"

### **PRESS**

"★★★★" "Mesmerizing to watch - a dynamic performance reflecting both vanity and vulnerability"--Edinburgh Guide

"★★★★" "Miss Sherr delivered a performance that was worthy of an Oscar" ---Mumble Theater

"★★★★" "A tour de force"---Quotidian Times

"★★★ "She is sardonic, sultry, sexy, vicious and vivacious, dominating the stage from word one (Bette would've been proud)" --
Broadway Baby

"★★★ ""Magnificently witty... She is a star in the making"
---The List

"Very Strong Piece"—James Albrecht, Artistic Director St. James
Theatre London

"Sherr is stunning in her forcible delivery"—Times Square Chronicles

"Jessica Sherr promises to tease and unease—NY Post

"Sherr is a compelling presence"—NYTheatre.com



"She is sardonic, sultry, sexy, vicious and vivacious, dominating the stage from word one (Bette would've been proud)"—Broadway Baby

### **ARTIST HISTORY**

[Jessica Sherr] Sweet, Petite, Kooky and Upbeat grew up in El Cajon, California and has long been called a creative. At age five she began typing wild stories on her Grandma Alice's typewriter, at age eight she choreographed elaborate dances to Mickey Mouse's Splash Dance and mounted shows in her pool, by age ten she built the Hotel Del Coronado out of 267 Popsicle sticks. She has always been resourceful and creative.

Jessica is a Southern Californian at heart and adores the water, which has been a long running theme in her life. She studied at UC Santa Barbara and holds a BA in English and Dramatic Arts. When not acting she can be found at Rockaway Beach surfing. She just bought her third surf board, "Smurfette".

Jessica's credits include Theater: BETTE DAVIS AIN'T FOR SISSIES, Edinburgh Fringe Festival (Assembly Rooms), Fringe NYC, E2E Festival at 59E59, St. James Theatre London, The Great Gatsby (Hudson Theater Ensemble), Almost, Maine (Hudson Theater Ensemble), As Bees In Honey Drown (Hudson Theater Ensemble) Films: ANNIE (Columbia Pictures), Rock Dove (winner Flagstaff & Washington Gorge Film Festival), The Video Guys (Best Comedy IFF Festival); Television: Miss Faltine on Team Toon (NETFLIX), Flight of the Conchords (HBO)

"I am not afraid to take risks. I hustle because I am passionate about my work. I was born funny. I understand drama is part of being human. Improv is excellent at parties. I always answer with "YES AND". Tears can be happy or sad. I get along with others"—Jessica Sherr



### "Sherr delivers a wonderful performance"—Remote Goat

BDAFS began as a 28-minute vignette created by Jessica Sherr. Jessica spent two years researching Miss Davis and creating the character as part of Slices of Lives workshop directed by Susan Batson. Jessica performed her 28-minute show for 13 Saturdays in 2010 as part of The Redheads: A night of Bette Davis, Shirley MacLaine and Lucille Ball. Jessica submitted her 12-page script to The New York Fringe Festival 2011 and to her surprise she was accepted. Jessica wrote out a full-length show and performed at CSV Theatre. Jessica SOLD out her shows. Jessica self produced and continued to work on the show performing at Stage 72 and Laurie Beechman. In 2013 Jessica decided to take the show to Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Before leaving for Scotland Jessica contacted Kathyrn Sermak of The Bette Davis Estate. Miss Sermak was very happy with the show and gave Jessica a real pair of Bette Davis' gloves to wear.

Jessica performed at 59E59 Theatre to an eager crowd. She knew she was onto something when she sold out in the first week. Jessica was met with open arms at Edinburgh Fringe Assembly Rooms 2013-2015. The press went crazy. Sold out shows, featured articles in Three Weeks Magazine and Edinburgh Evening News. 5 Star reviews and a glowing smile knowing that the show works. St. James Theatre in London picked her up for a limited run. In 2015 Jessica toured Performing Arts Centers around the country ranging from 400-700 seats. After much hard work and a lot of heart Jessica is proud to share a show she has created. It is unlike any other.

"FASTEN YOUR SEAT BELTS IT'S GOING TO BE A BUMPY NIGHT"

### **PERFORMANCES**

The Players Club Gramercy Park

Edinburgh Fringe 2013 - 2015 Assembly Rooms, Scotland

St. James Theatre London, England

59E59 Theatre 2013-2015 New York, New York

The Cabot Theater Beverly, MA

The Beacon Hopewell, VA

John W. Engeman Theater Northport, LI

New York Fringe Festival CSV Theater: NYC

Stage 72 / The Triad New York, NY

The Laurie Beechman New York, NY

# **REVIEWS**





#### "Jessica Sherr is a tour de force"--The Quotidian Times

#### **Edinburgh Guide**

http://www.edinburghguide.com/festival/2014/theatre/drama/bettedavisaintforsissiesassemblyroomsreview-14699

#### Fringe Review Highly Recommend Show

http://www.fringereview.co.uk/fringeReview/5957.html

#### The List

http://edinburghfestival.list.co.uk/article/63818-bette-davis-aint-for-sissies/

#### **Broadway Baby**

http://www.broadwaybaby.com/shows/bette-davis-aint-for-sissies/700650

#### **FEATURED INTERVIEWS**

#### **CBS Virginia**

http://wtvr.com/2015/10/21/meet-the-star-of-the-one-woman-show-bette-dayis-aint-for-sissies/

#### Front Page of Three Weeks Magazine

http://www.threeweeks.co.uk/article/jessica-sherr-playing-with-bette-davis/

#### **Edinburgh Evening News**

http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/what-s-on/theatre/jessica-sherr-1-3510738

#### **Broadway Baby Interview**

http://www.broadwaybaby.com/news/jessica-sherr/138



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www.BetteDavisAintForSissies.com

**SIZZLE REEL** 

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt5o2Felbeo&feature=youtu.be

### BETTE DAVIS AIN'T FOR SISSIES



