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Rob
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 28/08/2007 : 23:29:22



There was a short interview with Sandra Bernhard in last Sunday's Observer magazine.

Check out the third bold sentence.. "**When i feel the need to head off the mediocrity.**"

United Kingdom
4205 Posts

| This much I know |

Sandra Bernhard

Performer, 52, New York

I'm looking for a silent rapport with my audience, for a shared sense of the world and how we perceive it, with them nodding and winking at each other as if to say: 'Ain't that the truth.'

I knew that if I didn't become a mother, I'd be really sad about it. I didn't read one single book about motherhood – I just went for it. I felt like I wanted to go outside of myself emotionally, and that I would have a really wonderful, interesting kid who I could help guide, and who would contribute to a better sensibility in this age.

When I feel the need to head off the mediocrity, I listen to Dusty Springfield and Joni Mitchell. **I doubt Madonna will come to my show**, though I run into her all the time, so it's not like there's any irresolvable strangeness. I like to think of the time when we were hanging out as the end of an era. We played out our friendship in the public forum, but it wasn't drunken or irresponsible airheads hanging out – she's a smart lady and I'm obviously my own brand of intellectual.

Kabbalah gives a spiritual meaning to being Jewish. It's not just religion – religion is kind of the downfall of civilisation.

I lived on a kibbutz straight after high school. They grew oranges and cotton, but my main job was cleaning chickens in the slaughterhouse. It was life changing – it gave me a lot of self-confidence and discipline to do all the years of performing, because it never really gets easier.

I've never allowed my life to get precious or let myself feel that I have to be taken care of. I like my independence – it keeps me real and it keeps me anchored.

Jerry Lewis was not easy to work with on *The King of Comedy*, but I grew up watching him, so it was a pretty unbelievable experience – it was crazy, a lot of fun.

My fans really get who I am as a person, so they'll talk to me on the street like they'll talk to a friend; they're really connected. Because I haven't created the illusion of something that I'm not, they're very respectful – they just tell me how they feel and then they move along.

Cosmetic surgery isn't for me. Our culture is so obsessed with staying young, people don't mature emotionally. It's great to look young, but something within has to reflect your years of experience.

I've never set out to be shocking. Shocking is a cheap shot, and I don't think my work is cheap.

If you're really a true artist and in touch with your emotions, you'll find yourself attracted to a lot of different people. I've been with my girlfriend for eight years, but it doesn't stop me from being a full person. The word lesbian limits sexuality, and I'm not a limited thinker.

Celebrity fashion lines drive me insane. The whole face of fashion has changed; it doesn't have the same specialness. There's too much cross-pollination, too many regular people in on it.

I might do a line of essential oils. I've liked patchouli since I was 12. It would be earthy and tactile and fun – it wouldn't be like J-Lo and all those cheap perfumes.

I love the warmth and the intimacy of Britain. It's an old country: you feel the sense of history enveloping you – it's not all now, now, modern, modern.

Posing for *Playboy* was fantastic to do. It wasn't like: 'Oh god, I need to show my body now because it's not going to look this good again' – it was just another level of my work. You always want to expose your work to unexpected venues, and it was a great, ironic place to play it out, like an artist doing a painting for a Burger King.

Interview **Hephzibah Anderson** Photograph **Todd Selby**

The Sandra Bernhard tour *Everything Bad & Beautiful* begins on Sunday 21 October at Huddersfield Town Hall. For more information, go to www.tdpromo.com

*10 The Observer Magazine 26 August 2007

me too 🍷

RoB 🍷

Tim
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 28/08/2007 : 23:43:42 🗨️ 🏠

2 of my favourites too.



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

Paula
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 29/08/2007 : 00:01:28

thanks for that Rob...ditto, Tim 😊

I've been to S.B. shows a couple of times..first time..early 80's..fantastic & very funny..second time..uhmm I'm guessing 90's sometime 🤔..she was singing more ..not funny singing..serious singing... hmmm, I really enjoyed the first show. 😊
Paula x



USA
5012 Posts

Graham
Little by little
★

Posted - 29/08/2007 : 10:32:13

I saw her in Washington a couple of years ago.....she mentioned getting Britney Spears to listen to Dusty to learn how a real singer does it!She is a fan,perhaps a friend of Dusty's?



United Kingdom
119 Posts

Tim
Where am I going?
★★★

Posted - 29/08/2007 : 11:25:43

Ha ha Graham - maybe that's why Britney gave up 'singing'..?!

Yes interesting thought - does anyone know if SB did actually meet DS? I would imagine they could have got on rather well.



United Kingdom
3422 Posts

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 29/08/2007 : 16:23:22

Did Britney ever actually sing? 🤔



USA
14235 Posts

Paula
Moderator
★★★★★

Posted - 30/08/2007 : 01:10:25

In one of the shows I attended, Sandra sang a version of a "House Is Not A Home"..of course, not even close to Dusty's version 😊



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2010-07-28

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