

AFRICAN IN L.A.: THE TRIALS OF MANDLA DUBE BY KENNETH MILLER

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L.A. WEEKLY



FEB. 10-16, 2006 / VOL. 28 / NO. 12

laweekly.com

THE ITALIAN IN ME In her one-woman show, pretty blond Italian-Canadian Dina Morrone alternates between good Catholic girl and would-be sexpot. Though she grew up on an Ontario farm with her stern Catholic grandmother, she wanted to be an actress. Finding the idea of New York daunting, she decided to pursue her career in Italy. There, she discovers, “actress” is a synonym for “whore,” and every agent/producer/director she meets is a relentless lecher. Even on a crowded bus to the Vatican to see the Pope, she’s furtively humped from behind by a stranger. “I was the Italian Vanna White,” she says, after describing how she landed a hostess job on an Italian variety show — but Vanna was never so frenetic. In her most solid scene, she plays out a meeting with famed director Federico Fellini, who offered her sage advice and a role in his next film — but he died too soon. Morrone is a skillful, attractive comedian, but her amusing stories skate across her life without probing much. Peter Flood directs. *Me & My Big Mouth Productions* at the Globe Playhouse, 1107 N. Kings Road, W. Hlywd.; Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m., thru Feb. 11; then Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m., Sun., 2 p.m., thru March 5. (323) 960-5521. (Neal Weaver)