

[theatre]

Casey Seymour Kim stars as Miss Pixie in alt-holiday anti-classic @ The Gamm

If you were to compile a theatrical holiday survival guide, finding an alternative to "Christmas Carol" and "The Nutcracker" would be at the top of the list.

Thankfully, local improv queen and comic actress Casey Seymour Kim brings her quirky "Miss Pixie" character to a full blown production, sure to bring the holiday spirit to its knees.

With Gamm Artistic Director Tony Estrella's assistance, Seymour Kim has pulled together

the bits and bites of a character she originally created to host talk backs in an innovative and humorous fashion at Perishable Theatre during the 2002 season. The character grew in local popularity and stuck around the

Perishable scene, showing up at fundraisers half in the bag.

Now, the half scripted, half improv, "Miss Pixie's Cable Access Holiday Extravaganza" debuts at The Gamm under Estrella's loose direction.

You see, back in the early cinematic days of Shirley, Judy, and Elizabeth, there was also Pixie.

So from Dec. 11 through Dec. 23, Martha "Pixie" Feingold, showbiz legend and hostess of Channel 3's "Miss Pixie's Late Nite Clubhouse," will be more than tickled pink to present, for the first time, her "Holiday Extravaganza."

As Little Miss Pixie, the child (almost) star charmed and delighted audiences in such C-grade movie-musicals as "Purim Parade," "Little Miss Mark-up" and "Lox, Stox and Bagels." For those who only vaguely recall her, we saw her through puberty, held our collective breath through her marriages and sent our best wishes to the Betty Ford

MISS PIXIE'S CABLE ACCESS HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

The Gamm, 172 Exchange Street, Pawtucket

Directed by Tony Estrella
Starring Casey Seymour Kim
Costumes by David Howard
Music by Charles Cofone & David Rabinow (Elemental Theatre)

Runs Dec 11-23.

Visit www.gammtheatre.org

Center as her checkered life played out as public spectacle. In this one-of-a-kind special, Pixie reconnects with her devoted fans, recalling past holiday hits and favorite festive moments with the help of some very special guests.

Touting the philosophy "Let's have fun," Seymour Kim's aging Miss Pixie embodies hyperbolic stereotypes, caricatures of all things almost Hollywood and holiday spirit, with no particular denomination in the show.

"It's a ½ baked cable access

holiday show, desperately trying to be what those old variety shows once were,"

Seymour Kim says.

There will be trivia and a Holiday Hot Seat, in which Miss Pixie hauls audience members on stage, puts questions to them, and let's them select prizes from the Kwanzaa table. Why not? After all, she's Jewish and it's almost Christmas.

"She's Jewish with no spiritual integrity whatsoever and open to anything, any time," Seymour Kim says.

And, Miss Pixie has her fingers crossed that a certain high profile local politician will make an appearance. She also knows in her heart-of-hearts that an old celebrity friend, whose last name



Casey Seymour Kim as Miss Pixie

rhymes with "Danza" (I mean rhymes with "Manza") will surely make a cameo.

The show includes world class numbers such as "Holidays in Pawtucket," a song that rhymes.

Use your imagination people.

And a little ditty called 'I'm Always the Last Person at the Party':

I'm always the last one

Helping to put the dishes away

From the evening through the nighttime to the day

I just park myself and stay and stay and stay

Think Gary Coleman – without the flash-in-the-pan comeback – trying to be Liza on cable, but with friendlier addictions and more ex-husbands – seven to Liza's four – and in a perpetual state of recovery.

Her marriages have apparently included David Niven, Tab

Hunter and Tony Perkins.

"She's been in the biz a long time," Seymour Kim says. "Her mantra is 'that sounds like fun.' She's never hostile and relentlessly happy."

A formula sure to put her in a few tight spots along the way.

This starring role couldn't be a better fit for Seymour Kim, a teacher at School One by day and member of the Improv Jones troupe by night.

In recent years, she's turned in tremendous supporting roles at The Gamm such as Jocelyn Dunbar in "The Santa Land Diaries & Season's Greetings," also an alt-holiday show, and Marie Blin in "A Hand Witch of the Second Stage" (part of Enhanced Interrogation Techniques), among others.

With incredible energy, timing and the comedic fire she has for the stage, Seymour Kim's Miss Pixie may be *THE* holiday extravaganza of the season.

However, if not, "We're encouraging people to drink," she says.

"We're encouraging people to drink."

~ Casey Seymour Kim

