

THE MARSH SAN FRANCISCO PRESENTS  
**FEISTY OLD JEW**

A COMIC MONOLOGUE OF  
21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY SAN FRANCISCO

Written and performed by Charlie Varon  
Developed with and directed by David Ford  
February 8 ó March 16, 2014

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (10 December, 2013) ó Solo performance legend **Charlie Varon** returns to The Marsh in February with **FEISTY OLD JEW**, a fictional comic monologue about a 20th-century man living in a 21st-century city. At age 83, here's what Bernie hates: yoga studios, tattoo parlors, boutiques of all kinds, medical marijuana dispensaries, \$6 cups of coffee, and the young people who are drinking them. **FEISTY OLD JEW** plays February 8 ó March 16, 2014, with performances Saturdays at 8pm and Sundays at 7pm, on **The Marsh MainStage** at 1062 Valencia Street. Press opening is Saturday, February 15. (On Sunday, March 9, the show will be replaced by a work-in-progress reading of Varon's newest work, "Fish Sisters.") For tickets (\$25-\$100), the public may visit [www.themarsh.org](http://www.themarsh.org) or call **415-282-3055** between 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday.

The latest work created by **Varon** and his collaborator and director of 23 years, **David Ford**, **FEISTY OLD JEW** takes place entirely in one hot October day in the Bay Area. Out on Post Street, Bernie gets tired of waiting for a cab and sticks out his thumb. He's picked up by three 20-somethings in a Tesla with a cappuccino maker in the dashboard and two surfboards strapped to the roof. By the time they get to the beach in Bolinas, Bernie has convinced the kids to let him surf for the first time in his life, and bet them \$400,000 that he'll ride a wave.

"This monologue is not autobiographical," says Varon, who has been an artist-in-residence at The Marsh for over 20 years. "It's about a city in flux. It's about what I see when I step out of

## THE MARSH SF PRESENTS CHARLIE VARON'S "FEISTY OLD JEW"

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our theater and walk down Valencia Street ó the hipsters, the techies, the restaurants serving truffle butter and pink aoli. When I moved to the Mission District in 1978, my rent was \$70 a month. Now people pay \$70 a month just for lattes.ö

**Charlie Varon** has been called "very funny" (*The New Yorker*), "hilarious" (*The Washington Post*), and "wildly entertaining" (*SF Chronicle*). The *Chronicle* has also credited **Varon** with "redefining the art form" of solo performance. His hit shows ó all created in collaboration with David Ford ó include the award-winning *Rush Limbaugh in Night School* (1994; revived 2004), *The People's Violin* (2000), and *Rabbi Sam* (2009), which the *Chronicle* named one of the year's 10 best plays. In 2012, Charlie collaborated with David Ford and Jeri Lynn Cohen on the 2-actor comedy *Fwd: Life Gone Viral*, which enjoyed critical acclaim and an extended run at The Marsh. As collaborator/director, Charlie has worked with Dan Hoyle since 2004, on his award-winning solo shows *Circumnavigator*, *Tings Dey Happen*, and *The Real Americans*.

**David Ford**, who co-developed and directed **FEISTY OLD JEW**, has been collaborating on new and unusual theatre for two decades. His work includes Brian Copeland's new and critically acclaimed holiday show *The Jewelry Box*, as well as Copeland's upcoming show *The Scion* and previous shows *The Waiting Period* and *Not a Genuine Black Man*, which currently holds the record for longest running solo performance in Bay Area history and has been performed more than 650 times in San Francisco, LA and New York. Other work of note includes *Say Ray*, with storyteller-holy-man Ron Jones and Michael Rice, a mentally disabled performer; Geoff Hoyle's *Geezer*; Marilyn Pittman's *It's All the Rage*; and Cherry Zonkowski's *Reading My Dad's Porn and French Kissing the Dog*. He also worked with Bill Talen on the original creation of *Reverend Billy*, the Obie Award-winning theatre/political action piece. Ford's work has been seen regionally at Public Theater, Second Stage Theatre, Theatre at St. Clement's, Dixon Place, New York's Theater for the New City, Highways Performance Space in Los Angeles, and Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company, as well as at theatres around the Bay Area including Magic Theatre and Marin Theatre Company. Ford also teaches *Creating and Performing Your Own Work* at The Marsh and is a Resident Artist.

### FOR CALENDAR EDITORS

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MEDIA CONTACT: KELSEY VERDIER - CARLA BEFERA & CO.  
3600 WEST BAYSHORE ROAD, SUITE 203/ PALO ALTO, CA 94303  
PHONE 650.327.1200 FAX 650.327.6700 EMAIL: KELSEY@CB-PR.COM

THE MARSH SF PRESENTS CHARLIE VARON'S "FEISTY OLD JEW"  
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**WHAT:** Solo performance legend **Charlie Varon** returns to The Marsh in February with **FEISTY OLD JEW**, a fictional comic monologue about a 20th-century man living in a 21st-century city. The latest work created by **Varon** and his collaborator and director of 23 years, **David Ford**, **FEISTY OLD JEW** tells the story of 83-year-old Bernie, who gets picked up by three 20-somethings in a Tesla with a cappuccino maker in the dashboard and two surfboards strapped to the roof. By the time they get to the beach in Bolinas, Bernie has convinced the kids to let him surf for the first time in his life, and bet them \$400,000 that he'll ride a wave.

**WHEN:** February 8 ó March 16, 2014 (press opening February 15, 2014)

**SHOWS:** Saturdays at 8pm; Sundays at 7pm  
NOTE: Sunday March 2 performance is 2pm  
NOTE: Sunday March 9 ó 7pm performance will be a reading of Charlie Varon's new work "FISH SISTERS"

**WHERE:** **The Marsh San Francisco Main Stage**  
1062 Valencia Street  
*Parking is available at New Mission Bartlett Garage (21<sup>st</sup> St between Mission & Valencia.)*  
*Bart Station (closest): Mission & 24<sup>th</sup> Street between 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets*

**TICKETS:** \$25-\$35 sliding scale; \$50-\$100 Reserved Seating  
For tickets, visit [www.themarsh.org](http://www.themarsh.org) or call 415-282-3055

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**PRESS:** Contact Kelsey Verdier, Carla Befera & Co.  
650.327.1200 | [kelsey@cb-pr.com](mailto:kelsey@cb-pr.com)

**PHOTOS:** Downloadable high-res photos are available here:  
<http://www.cb-pr.com/press/feistyoldjew.html>