

Singer-Comedienne-Impressionist Dee Dee Hanson: One Singular Sensation

by Rachele Cost

If you were to have walked into the famed Cinegrill at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel a few minutes after nine last Saturday night, you'd have sworn the performer on stage was none other than Joan Rivers.

There she was, cracking jokes about everything from the Hollywood Madam scandal to the trials and tribulations of dating in the '90's. The voice, the mannerisms, the timing — it WAS Joan.

Or so it seemed. In fact, it was singer, comedienne and master impressionist Dee Dee Hanson, debuting her remarkable new one-woman show, "All of Me."

Widely regarded as the country's best Joan Rivers impersonator (she's recently been featured on "Vicki!", "Family Feud Celebrity Lookalike Week" and "America's Funniest People"), the dynamic Hanson clearly proved



Joan or Dee Dee?

during her 12-song, 75-minute show that she's ready to step out of Joan's shadow and make it on her own.

After a brisk, biting 25-minute set as Joan, Hanson left the stage and returned thirty seconds later in a red wig and sequined bustier as Bette Midler.

After two songs and a classic Midler monologue, she was back for a comedic sendoff of the Queen of Rock and Roll, Tina Turner.

But what followed moments later, at least for Saturday's standing room only audience,

came the highlight of the evening — Hanson as Hanson.

She delivered a tongue-in-cheek version of the old standard "Fever," then followed with a half dozen other songs that highlighted her sassy sense of humor and strong, lush voice.

Hanson received two curtain calls, and ended the evening sprawled on the piano with a rousing, full throttle rendition of "Come Rain, Come Shine."

Hanson's next Southern California appearance is slated for Labor Day weekend at the Riviera Hotel in Palm Springs. Make a point of catching this impressive, entertaining one-woman show.

While she treats the audience to nearly a dozen dead-on impressions of famous women, this talented performer proves that Dee Dee Hanson is also a name that audiences are going to remember.