



**INVISIBLE THEATRE - PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**IT continues its 46<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season  
with the TV and Film Icon  
Renée Taylor  
in  
MY LIFE ON A DIET**

**TWO PERFORMANCES ONLY!**

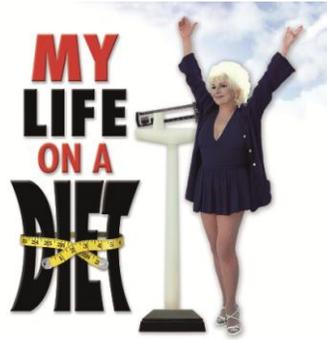
**Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 7:30 PM  
Sunday, January 8, 2017 at 3:00 PM**

**The Berger Performing Arts Center  
1200 W. Speedway Blvd**

*(December 9, 2016, Tucson, Arizona);* Best known as Fran Drescher's mom on the hit television series *The Nanny*, Broadway and Hollywood legend Renée Taylor takes the audience on a trip through her 60-plus year career in show business, where dieting (as well as her 50 year marriage to Joe Bologna!) have been the only constants in her life. In this uproarious show, the delightful comedian receives dieting advice from such Hollywood stars as Grace Kelly, Marilyn Monroe, and Cary Grant. Hilarious and nostalgic, Renée Taylor is a national treasure, and **MY LIFE ON A DIET** is not to be missed!

**This production is made possible in part through the generous support of the  
Milton and Elizabeth Kahn Philanthropic Fund**

**"MY LIFE ON A DIET is a hysterical journey!"**  
*NY Theatre Guide*



**Starring - Renée Taylor**  
**Written by Renée Taylor and Joe Bologna**  
**Directed by Joe Bologna**  
**Stage Manager - Lisa de la Garza**

**MY LIFE ON A DIET** will play January 7-8, 2017 at the Berger Performing Arts Center, located at 1200 W. Speedway Blvd, Tucson, AZ.

The single show ticket price is \$42. All seats are reserved. Additional discounts are available for groups, seniors, active military and students. Rush tickets are available for purchase at half-price one half hour prior to performance time and are subject to availability.

Tickets are available for purchase by calling the Invisible Theatre Box Office at (520) 882-9721 and are also available 24/7 on-line through OvationTix at [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com).

The running time is 90 minutes with NO intermission.

## **THE INVISIBLE THEATRE**

The Invisible Theatre (IT) of Tucson, a 501(c)(3) organization, is dedicated to producing quality theatre and arts education experiences for all facets of the community in an intimate setting that showcases local professional talent and guest artists. IT takes its name from the invisible energy that flows between a performer and audience, creating the magic of theatre. Started in 1971 as an arena for local playwrights, the theatre has expanded its programs to include adaptations of classics and recent Off-Broadway plays and musicals, while continuing to encourage new playwrights through both full productions and staged readings.

Under the leadership of Managing Artistic Director Susan Claassen, Associate Artistic Director James Blair, and PR Director Cathy Johnson, IT is strongly committed to community service and outreach programs. The company's current season includes a six play Main Stage season, many special events, a world class cabaret series, organizational collaborations, educational tours, seminars that encourage community dialogue and Project Pastime – an educational theatre program for mentally challenged youth.

The Invisible Theatre, the recipient of the first Arizona Theatre Association Award for Best Producing Theatre Company, is a member of the Theatre Communications Group and has long enjoyed both local and national recognition for its strong leadership role in the arts community. Productions take place in an intimate 80-seat converted laundry building. IT celebrates its 46<sup>th</sup> season with an even greater commitment to professionalism, artistic excellence, accessibility, freedom of expression, diverse programming and creative challenge – thus making the Invisible Theatre a very visible force in Tucson's cultural community.

## ABOUT RENÉE TAYLOR

This is the best of times for Renée Taylor. Her portrayal of the title character's mom on the hit series *The Nanny*, earned her an Emmy nomination. The theatrical feature *Love is All There Is*, which she co-directed and co-wrote with her "husband of 50 years", Joe Bologna, and in which they both appeared, earned Cannes Film Festival raves and was distributed by Samuel Goldwyn in the fall of 1996. Taylor and Bologna's play "The Bermuda Avenue Triangle," which they co-wrote and in which they starred, was the SRO Toast of Los Angeles and Broadway for eight months. The semi-autobiographical comedy, "If You Ever Leave Me, I'm Going With You," after completing successful runs in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York and Atlantic City, went on to Broadway. Life for her has not only been good, but also very funny. She invests her daily experience with the same humor she so expertly puts on the screen.

Taylor is an accomplished actress, comedienne and director. She is an Academy Award nominated screenwriter and Emmy Award winning writer. She has written for and starred on Broadway, in addition to appearing in almost every form of media in the known world. Taylor has proven herself as a source of artistic creativity for many years.

In addition to starring in "The Bermuda Avenue Triangle", Taylor portrayed the over-caring mother to Fran Drescher on the CBS series *The Nanny*. During 1993, Taylor managed the incredible feat of juggling not two but three television series on three different networks. Besides *The Nanny*, she also played Brian Benben's outrageous mom on HBO's *Dream On* and Richard Lewis' mom on the FOX comedy, *Daddy Dearest*.

A native New Yorker and graduate of the Academy of Dramatic Arts, Taylor supplemented her theatrical studies under the tutelage of Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler and Harold Clurman. While writing and performing in the off-Broadway review "The Third Ear", directed by Elaine May, Taylor was spotted by Mike Nichols, who cast her as Anne Jackson's understudy in the hit comedy "Luv". Her performance in "Luv" attracted the attention of George Abbott, who cast her in his Broadway show "Agatha Sue, I Love You". She then went on to other Broadway roles, including the restoration comedy "The Rehearsal" and "Lovers and Other Strangers", which she co-wrote and co-starred in with husband Joseph Bologna.

Following her motion picture debut in Jerry Lewis' *The Errand Boy*, she and Bologna worked together professionally developing the film *Lovers and Other Strangers* and *Made For Each Other*. In 1987, Taylor co-wrote, co-directed, and co-starred with Bologna in their third motion picture collaboration, *It Had to Be You*. She has had starring roles in *The Last of the Red Hot Lovers* with Alan Arkin, Elaine May's *A New Leaf* with Walter Matthau, *The Detective* starring Frank Sinatra, and *Lovesick* starring Dudley Moore. Other recent film appearances are *The Do Over* starring Adam Sandler and the soon to be released *How To Be A Latin Lover* starring Rob Lowe and Raquel Welch.

Taylor and Bologna were nominated for an Academy Award for their first screenplay, *Lovers and Other Strangers* and earned an Emmy Award for their television special *Acts of Love and Other Comedies*. The couple also collaborated, both on screen and behind the typewriter, on the Emmy-nominated CBS special *Paradise* and the HBO special *Bedrooms*.

Taylor resides in Beverly Hills, California. The couple's son Gabriel is currently following his parents' lead as director, writer and actor.

## ABOUT JOE BOLOGNA

Mr. Bologna's acting career dates back to his days as an undergraduate at Brown University. After a tour of duty in the Marines, he began directing documentaries and commercials and writing special comedy material.

In 1965, he married writer/actress Renée Taylor. They wrote the Broadway play "Lovers and Other Strangers", in which Mr. Bologna made his professional acting debut. They then collaborated on the screen version which earned them their first Oscar nomination and critical acclaim.

In 1971, the duo co-wrote *Made for Each other*, which marked Mr. Bologna's feature film acting debut. The feature was re-released in 1985 and developed a tremendous cult following.

Bologna and Taylor received an Emmy Award for co-writing the television special *Acts of Love and Other Comedies*. They wrote and co-starred in the television special, *Bedrooms*, for which they received a Writers Guild award. The duo also created the television series *Calucci's Department* on CBS.

Additionally they co-wrote, co-directed and co-starred in the feature film *It Had to be You*, based on their Broadway play. They also shared the same duties in their original feature film; *Love is All There Is*, with Angelina Jolie in her first starring role.

In between writing projects, Mr. Bologna's acting career flourished. His major starring feature film credits include: *My Favorite Year*, *The Woman in Red*, *Blame It On Rio*, *Chapter Two*, *Honor Thy Father*, *Coupe de Ville*, *Cops and Robbers*, *Mixed Company* and *The Big Bus*. He also played Adam Sandler's father in the huge box office hit *Big Daddy*.

Mr. Bologna will receive this year's LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD at Night of 100 Stars.

## TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR INFORMATION

To charge tickets by phone, call our Box Office at (520) 882-9721. You may also visit the Box Office in the Invisible Theatre Lobby (1400 N First Avenue at Drachman). To buy tickets online 24/7, go to [www.invisibletheatre.com](http://www.invisibletheatre.com) and click on the Ovationtix logo. Visa, MasterCard, Discover and American Express are accepted.

### WHEELCHAIR ACCESS:

The Berger Performing Arts Center is fully accessible to patrons using wheelchairs or with other mobility challenges. Seating areas to accommodate persons using wheelchairs are located in the theatre. If patrons require special seating they should inform the Box Office at (520) 882-9721.

### ABOUT THIS PRESS RELEASE:

This mailing list is for members of the professional media and allied organizations who have requested e-mail press releases from The Invisible Theatre. If you no longer wish to receive e-mail press releases or if there is someone else with your organization that should be added to our list, send a message to [cathy@invisibletheatre.com](mailto:cathy@invisibletheatre.com) or phone Alayna at (520) 884-0672 with your request.

### ONLINE MEDIA MATERIALS:

Photos of Renee Taylor are attached to this press release. The press release and photos will also be available at [www.invisibletheatre.com/press](http://www.invisibletheatre.com/press) beginning December 9, 2016.