

CONCERT | PREVIEW

INDULGE ME

SummerStage 2004 presents Rebecca Ungerman

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday

Where: Norman Theater, Tulsa Performing Arts Center,
Second Street and Cincinnati Avenue

Tickets: \$20 table seating, \$10 general admission, from
the PAC box office, 596-7111, or online at www.tul-sapac.com

When Ungerman's collaborator P. Casey Morgan sat through the first "Indulge Me," she was overwhelmed by the audience response. "I didn't expect them to cheer at the good parts and to be so touched and saddened by the sad parts," she said.

A. CUERVO / Tulsa World



Sweet indulgence

Diva Rebecca Ungerman offers encore cabaret performance

BY JOHN WOOLEY

World Scene Writer

Unlike the other two shows in SummerStage's cabaret weekend, Rebecca Ungerman's "Indulge Me" is, as television ads like to put it, an "encore presentation."

"We did the first show July 9, and I was overwhelmed with the response," she said recently, a feeling seconded by her friend and writing collaborator on "Indulge Me," P. Casey Morgan.

"I was really touched at how the crowd was with her in the first show," noted Morgan. "I expected them to be entertained and amused – I just didn't expect them to cheer at the good parts and to be so touched and saddened by the sad parts."

Friday, said Ungerman, "We're doing the exact same show, in the same venue, and I'm recording them both and looking forward to having a live CD in the fall."

She's even working with the same pianist who

accompanied her the first time around – the legendary Tulsa jazzman Sonny Gray.

"We did the Gridiron (the Tulsa Press Club's annual stage presentation) together, and he asked me to do the Internet radio show he's doing with Sam Jones (at www.oletimeradio-ranch.com)," said Ungerman.

"I went over there and appeared a few times, and Sam said, 'Kid, I love what you do,' so I started doing some sketches with them, and now I'm a semi-regular."

There's not much sketch comedy in "Indulge Me," although there are moments of humor in the stories she shares when she's not singing.

Together, she said, the songs and the narrative add up to "the most personal thing I've ever done in my life."

"It's really intimate," she said. "My best friend asked me if it was scary, and after I'd thought about it a moment, I had to say, 'Yeah. It's real scary.'"

"It deals candidly with my relationships, with my marriage and divorce – basically, it follows

my career path and romantic life. There are a lot of stories, a lot of talking with the audience."

And the musical portion of the show, she said, will draw from "an old-fashioned range of songs."

"We're premiering three new originals, but they're definitely in an older style, too," she added. "We touch on songs from my days with (the jump-blues band) Blue Combo, and the solo career as well, but we also go all the way back to my childhood."

"It's a musical retrospective, and since I'm an old soul, my music has an old-time feel."

While the presentation deals frankly with her life and times, Ungerman believes "It's family-appropriate, but for older kids, probably. It's certainly not a kids' show."

It is, however, a show she's been wanting to do for a long time.

"This kind of performance, a cabaret performance, has always been a big dream of mine," she said. "Just a singer, a piano and a show – very intimate. It's pretty great, and it's something I'd like to do more of."