

## **A *CurtainUp* Report**

# **2004 New York International Fringe Festival**

**Final Update**



by [Kathryn Osenlund](#)

### ***Bootleg Islam***

Negin Farsad is an Iranian American woman who is half Iranian and All-American. Her monologue of explanations and observations derives from a visit to Teheran for a cousin's wedding. Poised and humorous, with an uncanny ear for accent and language, Negin can pin down a character with a few juicy, well delivered words. In poking fun at her relations who endlessly feed her *Badajam* (eggplant), and at Islamic traditions in "a country obsessed with waiting", she is irreverent but affectionate. The performance is supported by music and judicious use of slides -- pictures, sex life charts, you know, the usual. What would her mother say? Mullah this over: Amy Chan's fine AV support, Kimmy Gatewood's direction, and Negin Farsad's talent and polish make for a very funny and Iran-ic production. At Paul Sharpe Contemporary Art. 45 minutes.