

watch!

CELINE DION

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HOW THE GRAMMY WINNERS ARE CHOSEN

EXCLUSIVE AWARDS BALLOT

WHO WILL WIN? PREDICT THE OUTCOME!

VOL. 3 ISSUE 1
FEBRUARY 2008

\$2.99 US

cbswatchmagazine.com



GRAMMY AWARDS

THE MUSIC ISSUE

THE MOMENTS, THE MAGIC AND THOSE UNFORGETTABLE PERFORMANCES

PLUS: Pop Couture at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame



contributors



Lee Zimmerman

Lee Zimmerman is a music writer and reviewer for such publications as *Performing Songwriter*, *Goldmine*, *New Times* and *Amplifier*. A lifelong music enthusiast, he goes behind the scenes to get the goods on the Grammys ("The Big Show").



Rebecca Ascher-Walsh

A former senior writer at *Entertainment Weekly*, Rebecca Ascher-Walsh has contributed to *The Wall Street Journal* and *Hollywood Reporter*. For *Watch!*, she explores the ramifications of a main character leaving a show ("The Show Will Go On").



Joel Stein

Joel Stein, who got his start with *Time* magazine, is considered one of America's funniest writers. The *Los Angeles Times* columnist offers some friendly advice to Grammy performers and producers ("Pump Up the Volume").



Jim Colucci

Contributing editor Jim Colucci is the author of the TV companion books *The Q Guide to The Golden Girls* and *Will & Grace: Fabulously Uncensored*. In this issue, he explores Hollywood's best baby-bump hiding tricks ("Oh, Baby!").



Cliff Lipson

As senior staff photographer at CBS Television, Cliff Lipson has captured a host of world-famous faces, from Jon Stewart to Sidney Poitier. For *Watch!* he turns his lens to *The Young and the Restless*' Christel Khalil and Bryton McClure ("Glam Rock").

Oh,

Baby!

Momma's got a brand-new bag ... to hide her pregnant belly from viewers. Still, some shows choose to embrace the battle of the bulge



Without a Trace's Marianne Jean-Baptiste pats down Poppy Montgomery's baby bump

When *Without a Trace* returned this past fall, its cast was visibly larger. No, the Missing Persons Squad hadn't recruited a new investigator; star Poppy Montgomery had announced over the summer that she was pregnant, and now her also-expecting character, Samantha Spade, was growing right along with her.

Although hour-long shows like *Trace* tend to have grueling production schedules, Montgomery says she was more than happy to keep up the strenuous pace, despite having to tote her gestating tot. "Working [while pregnant] has been a great thing, because you don't have the time to lie around and think, 'Oh, I feel this!' or 'Oh, I feel that.'"

The pregnancy has turned out to be good for the show, too. For starters, there's the juicy "who's your daddy" question. Recognizing the chance to inject their sixth-season show with some brand-new, soapy drama, *Trace's* producers decided to draw the answer out over a long arc of episodes. Looks like, even outside the office, Samantha's been a ... er ... rather busy gal. "The character will be struggling to have a child, alone, in a world where she really needs not to be too attached to any one thing because of the dangers of her job," Montgomery

predicted as she shot one of the first shows of the new season. "We're going to see how the men relate to her as a pregnant agent. There's going to be a lot of really cool stuff."

Bundles of Joy

On *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, star Julia Louis-Dreyfus, who had to hide her own pregnancy from the *Seinfeld* cameras in 1997, actively encourages her female co-stars to be in the family way. Alex Kapp Horner, who plays Lindsay, remembers a conversation with fellow "Meanie Mom" Tricia O'Kelley, aka Marly, about how each of them wanted to have a kid. "And Julia, who's such a great mom, started saying, 'You should do it! It would be so cool if you had babies at the same time!' I remember thinking, 'A show where I'm being encouraged to have a baby?'"

Newlywed O'Kelley agrees that her show is a rare example of family-friendly TV. "Emily Rutherford, who plays New Christine, was pregnant for the last few episodes of the first season," O'Kelley says. "And Kari Lizer, our executive producer, said to her, 'Get pregnant as many times as you want. We'll write it into the show. It's good news—be happy!' Kari is really incredibly supportive."

A Mixed Blessing

For many other shows, though, a pregnancy is often considered somewhat less of a blessing—particularly when a baby story line would seem out of place in the lives of its characters. For those shows' producers, it's a problem as old as the TV camera itself: What do audiences expect when your star is expecting? In the case of *Numb3rs'* Diane Farr, a baby just didn't make sense for her relatively new character, FBI behavioral specialist Megan Reeves, and so in the show's second season Megan got stuck with a lot of desk duty. And this fall, when Jeri Ryan announced her own baby-to-be, *Shark's* producers opted not to deliver a stork's package to her character Jessica Devlin, previously revealed to be a widow who seems still in mourning.

For as many times as pregnancies are written into a show, other shows will opt to hide their stars' bulging bellies behind briefcases, laundry baskets or even oversized gift boxes. When camera angles alone won't cut it, an "unwanted" pregnancy can solicit quite a bit of creativity from a show's writers, whether their intent is to disguise it or, more interestingly, to explain it away. **U**

Top Tummy-Hiding Tricks

A LOOK BACK AT SOME OF THE MOST INGENIOUS TECHNIQUES USED TO HIDE A PREGNANCY ON TV:



1952

I Love Lucy
The old "Say It in French" trick

When Lucille Ball became pregnant in *Lucy's* second season, CBS censors forbade the show from actually saying the word "pregnant." So the episode that announced Lucy's "condition" was titled (strangely not in Desi's native Spanish), in French, "Lucy Is Enceinte."



1986

Kate & Allie
The old "Hospital Bed" trick

In *Kate & Allie's* fourth season, producers hid most of star Susan Saint James when her character Kate McArdle spent one episode in a sudsy bathtub, and another two in hospital traction.

1996

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine
The old "Alien Shell Game" trick

Deep Space Nine's writers came up with a truly new one: the midpregnancy surrogate mom. Dr. Bashir used a transporter beam to conveniently transplant an injured woman's fetus into Major Kira's womb, thus explaining the shape-shifting appearance of actress Nana Visitor.



1997

Everybody Loves Raymond
The old "Flashback to a Time When the Character Was Pregnant" trick

Everybody Loves Raymond's Patricia Heaton bore three sons during the run of the show. Each time, producers hid her character, Debra Barone, behind furniture as often as possible. But the show's first season finale episode used their cleverest technique: a flashback showing how Ray's family had reacted to Debra's past announcement that she was having twins.



1997

The Nanny
The old "Oversized Props" trick

When actress Lauren Lane became pregnant in the show's fifth season, *The Nanny* decided just to have fun with the whole thing. So producers hid her bitterly single character, C.C. Babcock, behind items so hugely oversized that they were designed for you to notice.



2003

JAG
The old "Undercover Assignment" trick

The producers of *JAG* weren't quite ready to fit Catherine Bell's character, Lt. Sarah "Mac" MacKenzie, with a maternity military uniform. So in an eighth season episode, Mac went undercover, supposedly only pretend-pregnant as she masqueraded as fellow agent Webb's wife.

2003

The King of Queens
The old "Couch Potato" trick

By its sixth season, *The King of Queens* had garnered attention for *not* having thrown a kid at thirtysomething couple Doug and Carrie Heffernan. So when Leah Remini announced her pregnancy, the show's writers had the normally body-conscious Carrie lose her job, take to the couch and don loose-fitting sweat gear. By the end of the episode, Carrie got some of her drive back—but the sweats stayed for a few more months.

