ripe

a juicy new one-woman show

written & performed by **wendy hammers**

want a taste?

for bookings and inquiries please contact
Dorit Simone Management
doritsimone@gmail.com or phone: 310.728.0100

www.ripetheplay.com

Rave Reviews

Photo by Badar Howar

"A poignant, humorous dance [that is] fiercely, unapologetically personal and broadly universal at once." – *LA Times*

"Supremely entertaining... Absolutely perfect…Thought-provoking and full of laughs… Lively with unexpected surprises…Brilliantly staged and fiercely funny." – *NYSplash Magazine*

"Contagious… Refreshing… Timeless." – *Examiner.com*

"The voluptuous Wendy Hammers is sexy and, well... ripe. And it's contagious! You are laughing or crying throughout this show, and when it's over (all too soon) you walk out feeling wonderful about your own body, and maybe even appreciating its so-called flaws. For me, that was some kind of miracle." – *Tracy Newman, Emmy winner and co-creator of "According to Jim"*

"Simply stated, Ripe is a peach of a show!" – *Agenda Magazine*

"Bravo Wendy. Your show was fantastic! Thoughtful, poignant, hilarious, inspirational and profound. Your fearless confrontation of body issues and self-worth was engaging, compelling and provocative. In your journey of self-acceptance, you give other women permission to liberate themselves as well. Any women struggling with loving their bodies should see it. So that means every woman we know. And *girl*…you can dance!" – *Camryn Manheim, Emmy Award winning actress*

"Ripe showcases the humor and humanity of two women I love: Wendy Hammers and our mutual friend who inspired the play, Judy Toll. You will feel like you know and love these extraordinary ladies after you see this extraordinary show." – *Cindy Chupack, Emmy Award winning writer/ producer of "Sex and the City" and "Modern Family"*

I have a thing for making out in cars. I'm from Jersey.

About RIPE

Part stand-up confessional, part booty shakin' biography, **RIPE** is the story of life re-invented midstream, a powerful romp through the peaks and potholes of middle-age.

Hilarious and moving, Wendy shares stories of her body and self-image; romance and love; marriage and motherhood. She goes through disappointment and divorce; dating and sex. And finally… self-acceptance and joy.

Above all, the play is a celebration of life, of being in the blessings of what we do have – this day; this body; this life.

Want to see more?
Two-minute animated teaser:
www.ripetheplay.com

Video highlight from the play:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-_YTSnUkF9s

I'd like to take a moment to publicly thank Jennifer Lopez for making it acceptable to have a booty. I like to think of myself as the Jewish J.Lo - I am Jew.Lo.

Photo by Pawel Litwinski

Wendy's Bio

On the Stage Flying Solo:

- *Ripe,* currently touring U.S.
- *Sweat/Pants*, developed with Spalding Gray
- *Undressing New Jersey (and Other States of Mind),* Dramalogue Award
- Nationally known stand-up comic, Vegas, AC, and all points in between

On the Stage in Fine Company:

- *Vagina Monologues* with Calista Flockhart and Doris Roberts
- Chris Durang's *Laughing Wild* with Richard Hochberg, Dramalogue Award
- Creator and co-host of the monthly LA-based storytelling salon *Tasty Words*, now in its 12th smash year

On the Small Screen:

- *Curb your Enthusiasm, The Sopranos, Oprah, Mad About You, The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson*

On the Big Screen:

- *40 is the New Dead* with David Arquette
- *The Unborn* with Kathy Griffin

On the Bookshelf:

- *You've Got Meal* (Marabout Press)
- *Stories to Get You Through That Time of the Month* (Vare Press)
- *What Was I Thinking?* (St. Martin's Press)
- Contributing writer for the Huffington Post

Wendy also coaches writer/performers at Write at Home.
www.wendyhammers.com

I'm 52. I know it's against the law to say your age in LA, but I don't care. I think getting older is awesome, especially if you consider the alternative.

Photo by Pawel Litwinski

Ripe is in Season!

Perfect for:

- Women of All Ages and the Men Who Love Them
- Menopausal Moms
- Singles Looking for Inspiration
- Eating Disorder Support Groups
- Jewish Organizations
- Colleges and Universities

Other Peachy Offerings:

- Q&A after the performance
- Writing Workshops – for creativity, fun and healing
- Self-Esteem Conversations
- Artist Reception

My son is growing so fast. He's taller now than he was when I started this sentence.

Photo by Pawel Litwinski

Artist's Statement

It takes a while to become ripe, to become seasoned so you're ready to bloom. I feel like I'm at the greatest place in my life that I've ever been. Most people in our culture think that they hit 50 and they might as well put one foot in the grave. It's so backwards.

My dear friend Judy Toll, who passed away from cancer at 46, was the inspiration for RIPE. She reminds me on an almost daily basis how fortunate I am to have a life.

I hope this play to be a wake-up call, a rallying cry against self-loathing and the preoccupation with body image that runs rampant in our culture and is an emotional and psychological time suck. I developed all of the material through dancing and letting the movement inspire my writing. My butt wanted to talk, my breasts wanted to talk, my elbow wanted to talk – and I let them!

RIPE is, at the end of the day, a celebration piece –
a play about taking stock in who we are and what we truly have.

I'd like to see folks leave my play and give themselves permission to love themselves more deeply, or even at all, for the first time.

Photo by Badar Howar