

On Stage Los Angeles



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THE FOUNTAIN PRESENTS FLY ME TO THE SUN

The Fountain Theatre presents the West Coast Premiere of Brian Quijada's FLY ME TO THE SUN. The full length one act features BQ (Gerardo Navarro) providing animation for Abeula Julia, an engaging puppet that reminded me of "Madam" of Waylon and Madam fame. Abeula Julia is not nearly so bawdy.. But, she rocks. I love this introduction of puppets (full disclosure, I was once a puppeteer.) BQ's charming family story has its moments.

Every review I write these days reminds me of past experience. In one vignette BQ relates from his childhood, all watched over by his loving grannie. He takes us on a road trip from Chicago to Anaheim and the experience of Space Mountain! For some reason, this reminded me of an old college friend, Michael Johnson. His album "That's That" features this tune, "Roller Coaster Ride"

[https://www.google.com/search?](https://www.google.com/search?q=singer+michael+Johnson+song+%22+down+too+fast%22&sca_esv=9c452930055ba69e&ei=slq-aJ7FK7Wrur8PtdLIkAY&ved=0ahUKEwie5sWbqciPAxW1le4BHTUpEmIQ4dUDCBA&uact=5&oq=singer+wiz-serp#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:79d26aec,vid:pCjN2sgXpJU,st:0)

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This link doesn't want to highlight. Oh well.. It's just an old memory inspired by BQ's roller coaster story.

This is a tour de force for Mr. Navarro, even though big brother, Noé Cervantes, provides beats and some well done puppetry, the text of the show all falls to BQ.. The monumental task of remembering ninety minutes of movement and dialogue is worth the price of admission. The BQ energy never falters, though the pace of the show. like a roller coaster, explodes with a bang and then drops to a thoughtful and heartfelt moment before rising again for another plunge.

Live music (ukulele, a fave) and beats by Cervantes on Michael Navarro's truly super duper technicolor set injects life into the show.

BQ is a kid, who produces his own TV Show!! (Applause) and in so doing

tells the story of his very special relationship with his grandmother, Julia.. The show moves in a cinematic flow.

Excellent tech by Deja Collins supports this deeply personal story.

FLY ME TO THE SUN is a special show. Go.