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LIFE'S A DRAG

Dripping with diamonds (OK, rhinestones), Ester Goldberg takes the stage at the Westin Embassy Row. With Bozo the Clown-like hair and a voice that's a mix of Joan Rivers and Linda Richman (Mike Myers's SNL coffee talker), Goldberg stars in *The Big Swanky After-Dinner Show* (page 37). She sings (both real songs and ones she makes up on the spot), dishes on current events and tells risqué jokes. And she has lots of fun with the audience—like a 20-something fella she drags up on stage and seductively serenades.

Goldberg is the alter-ego of Michael Airington, who bases the character on a woman who worked in a Los Angeles department store. Ester began as only a voice during his stand-up act, but she's now a full-time job. "I do corporate events, personal appearances, radio voice-overs," he says. "And I signed with management in L.A. They're currently developing a TV sitcom for me." Looks like Goldberg may be in for a jewelry upgrade. —Beth O'Leary

