

Julia Sweeney bio, 2019

SHORT BIO: Julia Sweeney is an actress, comedian, writer and film director. She was born in the U.S. in Spokane, Washington in 1959. She's appeared on numerous film and television shows and is well known for her years on SNL in the first half of the 1990s. She has created several comedic one-person shows. The latest TV series Julia has appeared in is *Shrill* and *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*.

LONGER BIO: Julia Sweeney is an actress, comedian, writer and film director. She was born in the U.S. in Spokane, Washington in 1959. She's appeared on numerous film and television shows and is well known for her years on *Saturday Night Live*. She has created several comedic one-person shows.

Julia spent four and a half years on *Saturday Night Live* from 1990 to 1994. Her most popular recurring character was Pat, an androgynous person who caused people to become confused. She also wrote and starred in a film about Pat entitled *It's Pat!* This film had a dismal reception at the box office and was universally panned by critics. That was basically the end of Pat, although the character still seems to be part of American popular culture.

After Julia left *Saturday Night Live*, she became most well known as a monologist. Her first one-person show was entitled *God Said Ha!* which chronicled a terrible year when she and her brother were both diagnosed with cancer. This show was a tremendous success; it played in several U.S. cities and on Broadway at the Lyceum Theater in 1997. The audio of the show was nominated for a Grammy. Quentin Tarantino produced a film version of the show, which Julia directed. It still plays on cable.

Julia's second monologue was entitled *In the Family Way*. It chronicled Julia's quest to become a mother and her eventual adoption of a child as a single person. She did theater runs of this show in New York off-Broadway and in Los Angeles.

Julia's third monologue was *Letting Go of God*. It's a story about her quest to find a God in which she could truly believe. She chronicles her discovery of science and her slow, but firm, adoption of a scientific worldview. She becomes openly secular, even withstanding the rejection of her parents. Julia performed this show all over the world, including in New York and Los Angeles. The play won numerous awards. The film of the show, which Julia directed, played on Showtime.

In 2013, Julia wrote a memoir, *If Its Not One Thing, It's Your Mother*, published by Simon and Schuster.

In 2018, Julia opened her show, *Julia Sweeney: Older & Wider*, at The Second City in Chicago. It opened in Los Angeles in 2019.

In 2008 Julia married Michael Blum, and he adopted her daughter. Michael is a biophysicist. They lived in the Chicago area for ten years. In 2019, they relocated to Los Angeles.