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CIRCUMCISE ME

Yisrael Campbell's very funny one-man show recounts his spiritual quest, beginning with his Catholic childhood in suburban Philadelphia (son of an Italian mother and an Irish father, he was "Catholic enough to know I was going to Hell"), and continuing on through his alcoholism (ages nine to seventeen), recovery, and interest in Judaism—prompted by a cute waitress who gave him a copy of a Leon Uris novel. Ultimately, Campbell (né Christopher) underwent three conversions—from Catholicism to Reform Judaism, from Reform to Conservative, and from Conservative to Orthodox—each requiring its own "ritual bloodletting, and not from your thumb." His self-exploration strikes the perfect balance between theology and comedy: Campbell agreed to a third circumcision, but said to the Orthodox rabbi who demanded it, "Three circumcisions is not a religious covenant. It's a fetish." (Bleecker Street Theatre, 45 Bleecker St. 212-239-6200.)

