

MELISSA'S BIG MOVES

Rauch goes for gold in a raunchy sports comedy

Melissa Rauch was set free on the set of *The Bronze*. "Normally, I'm in some sort of Spanx situation," says the actress, who plays Bernadette on *The Big Bang Theory*. But while filming the offbeat gymnastics comedy — she stars as a washed-up hometown hero — she breathed easy in an Olympic warm-up suit. "It's the most comfortable thing I've ever worn," adds Rauch, 35, of her wardrobe in the indie flick (out March 18), which she cowrote with husband Winston Rauch. "I want to market them because every woman should have one!" She wins *Us* over.

Q: Did you pick up any gymnastics skills?

I took lessons, but you can't teach an old broad new tricks! I'd get on the balance beam and fall off. There were 3-year-olds at the gym like, "Who is that weird lady?"

Q: How is Hope different than *Big Bang's* Bernadette?

Bernadette has a sweet exterior but is like a boiling teakettle, whereas Hope is the exact reverse. But she has a heart somewhere.

Q: Bernadette and Howard [Simon Helberg] are expecting! What do you think the baby will be like?

I'm curious too! Bernadette's voice and Howard's cry are not the most appealing combination.

Q: Is this a hint you're expecting?

I've been asked if I'm pregnant, so I actually called my parents and was like, "You're TV grandparents. That's all!"



"I'm a sucker for scrunchies," says Rauch (with Sebastian Stan).

Rauch admits she's "so, so excited" to wear maternity clothes on *The Big Bang Theory* (CBS Thursdays at 8 P.M.).