

KATIE MANCUSO

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CAREER SUMMARY

Pittsburgh native Katie Mancuso holds a Bachelor's in Theatre Arts from Point Park University. She honed her craft in Chicago's comedy scene, studying at IO and Second City and performing with The Onion, while also producing work showcased at festivals like Chicago Sketchfest and Lass Laugh. In Los Angeles, she moved quickly from a one-woman show in live theater form to the film scene, writing and producing in a self-created webseries and short film. Recently, Katie has hopped headfirst into production and is in development for a new animated pilot. Passionate about independent art, she views creativity as a spiritual and playful practice that fosters community and uplifts others.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Co-Producer & Assistant Director, "The Pigeon" short film // Los Angeles, CA // July 2024

- PHEW! Learned a lot from this one: time management, shooting schedule development, running a safe set, really strong and respectful communication, and facilitating the director's vision.

Writer & Producer & Lead Actress, "Shadow Work" short film // Los Angeles, CA // March 2024

- I wrote *Shadow Work* from the depths of my healing journey after sexual assault, pouring my quirkiest, truest voice - full of giggles and heart - into the story. As soon as I finished writing, I jumped into producing it without hesitation, even though I was totally new to the process. I learned so much on the fly: how to secure film rights, fundraise, budget, assemble an all-female crew, and work with a brilliant key team. I dove into location scouting, grant writing, getting insurance, coordinating equipment, and managing three full days of filming (all while leading the cast—lol). Now that we're nearly done with post-production, I can't wait to share this story with people who I know will deeply connect with its message.

Co-writer & Co-producer, "iMPERFECT mARTINIS" webseries // Los Angeles, CA // January 2021

- During the height of COVID, my roommate (and longtime friend) and I decided to create something to keep us sane—and that's how this web series was born. *Imperfect Martinis* became our silly, joyful project, written and produced entirely on our iPhones while we were quarantined. Working within tight creative boundaries taught me a lot about producing on a shoestring budget, and it was an absolute blast. We wrote, filmed, directed, cut, edited, sound designed - literally everything ourselves, with pretty much no production value lol.

Writer & Performer, "A One Dummy Show, A Dumb Night in Dumb Dumbness" // Chicago & UCBLA // Autumn 2019

- My first time writing a full show, this cabaret-style one-woman show was a hilarious mix of storytelling, character work, sketches, and fun snippets from my life. I "premiered" it at an event space in Chicago, IL and was then invited to perform it at Spank at UCBLA. Covid cut its run short, but it is still my OG pride and joy – the reason I fell in love with self-production and indie filmmaking.

Writer & Performer, Multiple Sketch Shows // Second City, Lass Laugh Festival, Chicago SketchFest // 2018-2019

- My time at Second City was glorious. I took the writing program and was part of several sketch groups there where we were given the opportunity to write and produce on the Second City stage. This taught me how to structure comedy, speak from truth, and not to self-edit, laying the foundation for where I am now.

EDUCATION

- **Point Park University** // Pittsburgh, PA // May 2013 // Bachelor of Arts

TRAINING

- **Pilot Writing with Ben Axelrod** // Los Angeles, CA // 2024
- **Short Film Intensive** // Los Angeles, CA // 2023
- **Comedy Writing Program at Second City** // Chicago, IL // 2018-2019
- **Improvisation** // IO Theatre // Chicago, IL // 2016-2018
- **Monologue Workshop with F Murray Abraham** // Pittsburgh, PA 2012