

## RACHAEL MEYERS



Rachael Meyers is an award-winning director, writer and producer. Meyers began directing and producing at Colorado College, mounting full-scale theatrical productions and exploring absurdist, classical, contemporary, and site-specific theatre before moving to Los Angeles and broadening her scope to film and television. The recipient of 15 awards internationally, she has tackled a wide-range of genres from high concept to character-driven content. In 2012, she received the Young Artist Development Award from Chaspen Foundation for the Arts for her work as writer and producer on the noir short *Midnight Showing*. Her directorial debut, the action-packed western comedy *Highway 15*, garnered awards at festivals across the country, including Best Direction. Most notably, *Zoe + Ari*, a short LGBTQ+ romantic dramedy which Meyers directed and produced, screened in 30+ festivals, won 4 awards, received 5 more nominations, and made a special appearance at the 2018 Cannes Film Festival as part of the Cannes Court Métrage. She received Best Director at the UCLAx Film Festival for *Zoe + Ari*, and her heartfelt short *Forget-Me-Not* won Best Drama Short Film at the North Hollywood Cinefest. Her screenplays *The Mirage* and *Cherry Pie* have been recognized, respectively, as Quarterfinalist in the Emerging Screenwriters Comedy Competition and Semifinalist in the WeScreenplay Feature Lab. Most recently, she was one of eight writers worldwide invited to attend the Nostos Screenwriting Retreat in Arezzo, Italy helmed by mentor Jessie Keyt of NYU Tisch. Meyers is currently in development on several projects, including *The Shift*, the first of a three-film dystopian sci-fi adventure franchise.

Filmmaking seemed a natural offshoot from her work as an actress. Meyers is known for her recurring role as Josie on Tina Fey's Emmy-nominated comedy *Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt*. A six-foot-two former collegiate athlete, she has appeared on ABC's *Fresh Off the Boat*, Disney's *Dog with a Blog*, Mindy Kaling's *Champions*, Hulu's *Veronica Mars*, CBS' *All Rise* and as the barbaric volleyball center Barracuda in Facebook Watch's *The Set Up*. This summer, she portrayed Tessa Smith in the new horror feature *i don't like it here*, directed by Robbie Smith. Meyers' career has also spanned the stage, including the Ovation-nominated *The Elephant Man*, the world premiere of *FAMOUS*, and as Red Casey in the world premiere of Brynn Thayer's *Let Me In* opposite Jorge Garcia (*Lost*, *Bookie*), a performance for which she received a nomination for Best Performer in a Play in the 2023 BroadwayWorld Awards, one of eleven earned by the production. In the press, her performances have drawn critical praise ranging from "the ultimate stage mother from hell" (*BroadwayWorld*) to "dorky/sexy humanity" (*BroadwayWorld*) to "a towering beacon of goodness" (*StageSceneLA*).

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Director. Writer. Producer.

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## EXPERIENCE

### **TV/FILM/COMMERCIAL (Partial)**

<b>Director/Writer/Producer</b> — “ <b>The Mirage</b> ” RM Productions, Feature, in development	2025
• Selected Writer: Nostos Screenwriting Retreat 2024	
• Quarterfinalist: Emerging Writers Screenplay Competition	
<b>Director/Writer/Producer</b> — “ <b>Mister Snow</b> ” RM Productions, Feature, in development	2025
<b>Writer/Producer</b> — “ <b>Cherry Pie</b> ” RM Productions, Feature, in development	2025
• Semifinalist: WeScreenplay Feature Lab Competition	
<b>Producer/PM/Coordinator</b> — <b>Global Brand Campaigns</b> SpecialGuest/1stAveMachine	2021-2024
• Clients Include: Ray-Ban, Meta, Google, TSMC, among others	
<b>Director/Writer/Producer</b> — “ <b>The Battle of the Butter</b> ” RM Productions, Spec Commercial	2020
<b>Director</b> — “ <b>A Night at the Troll Farm</b> ” RM Productions/Map on Fire Films, Short	2020
<b>Director/Producer</b> — <b>K.C. Clifford Music Videos</b> RM Productions, Music Videos	2019
<b>Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>Zoe + Ari</b> ” RM Productions, Short	2017
• Winner: Best Director (UCLAx Film Festival); Best Ensemble Cast Short Dramedy (Best Actors Film Festival)	
• Distinguished Screening: Cannes Film Festival 2018	
<b>Director/Producer/Writer</b> — “ <b>Forget-Me-Not</b> ” RM Productions, Short	2017
• Winner: Best Drama Short Film (North Hollywood Cinefest)	
• Nominee: Best Director Short Film (North Hollywood Cinefest)	
<b>Director</b> — “ <b>Eugene</b> ” Ian Ostroot Productions/RM Productions, Short	2016
<b>Director</b> — “ <b>Obviously Not a Child of God</b> ” RM Productions/SkitBags, Short	2015
<b>Director/Writer</b> — “ <b>Chénmò de péngyôu</b> ” Fed by Fire Productions, Short	2015
<b>Director/Co-Producer</b> — “ <b>My Brother’s Keeper</b> ” Sticks & Stones Films/RM Prod, Short	2014
• Winner: Best Short Film (Los Angeles Spotlight Film Festival)	
<b>Director/Producer/Writer</b> — “ <b>Escape</b> ” RM Productions/Truth Told Productions, Short	2013
• Based on the book “Blown for Good” by Marc Headley	
<b>Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>Melody and Her Many Men</b> ” RM Productions/Friday Films, Series	2013
• Notable Cast: Gina Hecht, James Kyson, Elisa Gabrielli	
<b>Director/Producer/Writer</b> — “ <b>Highway 15</b> ” RM Productions, Short	2013
• Winner: Best Direction & Audience Choice (Imperial Valley Film Fest); Best Comedy (Desert Rocks FF); Best Western Short (Bare Bones FF); Audience Choice (Brainwash Movie Fest)	

## **THEATRE**

<b>Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</b> ” SMTG, Musical	2010
<b>Co-Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>Cabaret</b> ” SMTG, Musical	2009
<b>Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>Little Women</b> ” SMTG, Musical	2008
<b>Director/Producer</b> — “ <b>Chicago: A Musical Revue</b> ” SMTG, Musical Revue	2007

## TRAINING

<b>Workspace with Howard Deutch – Scene Study Master Class</b>	2022 - Present
<b>Larry Moss – Scene Study Master Class Intensive</b>	2017 - Present
<b>Beverly Hills Playhouse – Advanced Scene Study</b>	2010-2018
<b>Colorado College – BA: Collaborative Performance Studies</b>	2006-2010
• Cum Laude, Distinction in Liberal Arts & Sciences	

# **RACHAEL MEYERS**

## Production Awards

### **Awards**

Best Director	“Zoe + Ari”	UCLAx Film Festival
Best Direction	“Highway 15”	Imperial Valley Film Festival
Best Drama Short Film	“Forget-Me-Not”	North Hollywood Cinefest
Best Short Film	“My Brother’s Keeper”	Los Angeles Spotlight Film Festival
Best Comedy	“Highway 15”	Desert Rocks Film Festival
Best Western Short	“Highway 15”	Bare Bones International Film Festival
Best Ensemble Cast, Dramedy	“Zoe + Ari”	Best Actors Film Festival
Semifinalist	“Cherry Pie”	WeScreenplay Feature Lab Competition
Quarterfinalist	“The Mirage”	Emerging Screenwriters Comedy Competition
Selected Writer	“The Mirage”	Nostos Screenwriting Retreat
Audience Choice Award	“Highway 15”	Imperial Valley Film Festival
Audience Choice Award	“Highway 15”	Brainwash Movie Festival
Award of Excellence: LGBT	“Zoe + Ari”	Accolade Competition
LGBT Film Award of Merit	“Zoe + Ari”	IndieFest Film Awards
Award of Recognition	“Chénmò de péngyôu”	Best Shorts Competition
Award of Merit	“Highway 15”	Accolade Competition
Award of Merit	“Highway 15”	Best Shorts Competition
Young Artist Development Award	“Midnight Showing”	Chaspen Foundation for the Arts

### **Nominations**

Best Director Short Film	“Forget-Me-Not”	North Hollywood Cinefest
Best Director LGBT+ Film	“Zoe + Ari”	New Renaissance Film Festival
Best Short Film, Comedy	“Zoe + Ari”	NewFilmmakers Los Angeles Film Festival
Best LGBT+ Film	“Zoe + Ari”	New Renaissance Film Festival
Best Actress LGBT+ Film ANASTASIA LEDDICK	“Zoe + Ari”	New Renaissance Film Festival
Best Actress CARTER SCOTT	“Zoe + Ari”	LoveSick Film Festival