

ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT



CREATED, WRITTEN & EXECUTIVE PRODUCED BY:
DOMINIQUE SALERNO

DIRECTED BY:
ELVIRA IBRAGIMOVA

PRODUCED BY:
MARINA CATALA
KATIE MACK
DAVID M. NIGHT MAIRE

STARRING:
MICHELLE HURD – as Ciara
JASON KRAVITS – as Ralph
JASON VEASEY – as Charlie
JOY FRANZ – as Betty
ILDA MASON – as Gabby
DAVID FIERRO – as Michael

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LOGLINE – PILOT Episode 1 ‘A Star is Born’

An elite matchmaker plagued by medical bills and on the brink of losing her job convinces her talented, out-of-work actor friend to play the role of a dream date for a wealthy client-from-hell.

SHORT SYNOPSIS – PILOT Episode 1 ‘A Star is Born’

Plagued by medical bills, Diana endures another soul-crushing day as an elite matchmaker. She listens to self-absorbed clients, survives a humiliating video call, and narrowly escapes being fired. At rock bottom, Diana convinces her talented gay friend Charlie to play the role of ‘William’ for a dream date with Ciara, her client-from-hell. At the breakneck speed of a farce, the pair navigate the date’s debacles and decide to expand the business.

LOGLINE – SERIES

An elite matchmaker creates a secret ‘dating ring’ pairing her wealthy clients with out-of-work actors.

SHORT SYNOPSIS – SERIES

Ex-playwright turned elite matchmaker Diana is plagued by medical bills and on the brink of losing her job. Desperate, she uses her wealthy clients' lists of impossible romantic demands as casting breakdowns, hires her broke actor friends to portray these ‘dream dates,’ and inadvertently launches an underground empire.

SHORT OVERVIEW – SERIES

Ex-playwright-turned-elite-matchmaker Diana is plagued by medical bills and on the brink of losing her job. Desperate, she uses her wealthy clients’ list of impossible romantic demands as casting breakdowns, hires her broke actor friends to portray these ‘dream dates’... and inadvertently launches an underground empire. Initially vowing to work this dating scam only until her post-cancer medical bills are paid, our matchmaker soon struggles to get out of the game. Not only is the money good, but the actors are doing their best work in years! Diana will battle the suspicions of rival matchmakers, the egos of needy actors, and the unrealistic expectations of her wealthy clients as she strives to turn a profit and stay out of jail.

TAG LINE

Dating is hard. Fraud is easy.

PITCH LINE

“Sex and the City” (1998) meets “Breaking Bad” (2008)

GENRES & NICHES

dark comedy, series pilot, inspired by real events, triple-F rated

RUNTIME

23 minutes 56 seconds

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

“MATCHED” is a proof-of-concept pilot for a series project titled “MATCHED”.

“MATCHED” was shot on location in New York City, NY and Jersey City, NJ over the course of 4 days and 1 overnight.

“MATCHED” is inspired by Creator- Writer- Exec. Producer- Actor Dominique Salerno’s own experiences working as a professional Manhattan matchmaker to wealthy elite.

Producers Marina Catala and David M. Night Maire, along with Costume Designer Don-Ya and Sound Mixer Danny Hollis all worked on truTV’s ‘Impractical Jokers’, Marina from 2012 to 2021, David from 2015 to 2016, Don-Ya 2017 to 2026, Danny from 2011 to 2025.

CREATOR-WRTIER'S STATEMENT

I want to tell this story, because I lived this story... except the fraud part, I promise! I worked as a high-end matchmaker for two years, and you wouldn't believe the humiliating experiences I endured while finding love for Manhattan's elite. I politely nodded when a 64-year-old bachelor told me he wouldn't date women over 49 because he claimed, "Something happens to women at 50; they turn into pterodactyls." I dug my fingernails into my palms when my clients limited their preferences to "Caucasian Only," and I even grabbed my own boob on a call with a bachelor so he could "visualize his preferred cup size." That was a low. But mama had to eat. During this time, I was working both as an elite matchmaker and an artist, so I was clued into two completely different social spheres simultaneously. While my artist friends struggled to feed themselves, my matchmaking clients stormed out of dates because "Stanford's not an Ivy!" Somehow, I was a living link between these worlds, and that jarring and hilarious disconnect inspired this series. Elite matchmaking has high stakes involving love, desire, rejection, deception, and money. And the brutal truth of the matchmaking industry will knock your socks off.

xoxo, Dominique S.

ACCOLADES

OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

1. New York Comedy Film Festival 2026
2. LA Women Film Festival 2026
3. Dances With Films: LA 2026
4. Stay Gold Film Festival 2026
5. Atlanta Underground Film Festival 2026
6. New Jersey Film Festival – Fall 2026
7. The Broad Humor Film Festival 2026
8. Scene Awards 2026
9. Phoenixville Film Festival 2026
10. DaVinci Film Festival 2026
11. Buffalo International Film Festival 2026
12. Santa Fe International Film Festival 2026
13. Montclair Film Festival 2026
14. Deep Fried Film Festival 2026
15. North Fork TV Festival 2026
16. Hobnobben Film Festival 2026
17. East Lansing Film Festival 2026
18. Austin Film Festival 2026

NOMINATIONS

1. Honorable Mention – Best Short Film – The Broad Humor Film Festival 2026
2. Top 5 – Independent TV Pilots – North Fork TV Festival 2026

AWARDS

1. Best TV Episodic – New York Comedy Film Festival 2026
2. Kickass Short Award – LA Women Film Festival 2026
3. Best Series Pilot – Scene Awards 2026

ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES

DOMINIQUE SALERNO

CREATOR, WRITER, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, CO-STAR
as Diana

Dominique Salerno is from San Diego, CA and is a New York City-based writer, actor, and ex-matchmaker. Her solo show “The Box Show” (where she plays 30 characters inside of a cupboard) won the “Overall Excellence Award” from FringeNYC, “Best Comic Script” from the United Solo Theatre Festival and received a rave review from *The New York Times*.

(www.theboxshow.org) She has an M.F.A. in Acting from American Conservatory Theater, and a B.A. from Princeton University.

website: www.dominiquesalerno.com

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MICHELLE HURD

as Janelle

Michelle Hurd is an American actress as well as SAG-AFTRA’s Secretary-Treasurer and Co-Chair of SAG-AFTRA’s National Sexual Harassment Prevention Committee. Hurd has worked as a television character actress, first appearing on the soap opera *Another World* (1991–1997). She later earned recognition for playing Monique Jeffries in the legal drama *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* (1999–2001). Afterwards, she led the drama series *Leap Years* (2001–2002) and held recurring roles in the drama series *Skin* (2003), the comedy *According to Jim* (2004), the medical drama *ER* (2006–2007), and the teen drama *Gossip Girl* (2007–2008). Hurd starred in the crime drama *The Glades* (2010–2013), the comedy horror *Ash vs Evil Dead* (2016), and the crime drama *Blindspot* (2015–2018). She played Raffi Musiker in the science fiction series *Star Trek: Picard* (2020–2023) and achieved her highest-grossing film with the romantic comedy *Anyone but You* (2023). Hurd is a proud alumnus of NYC’s premier artist community at Westbeth. She earned a Bachelor's degree from Boston University's College of Fine Arts in 1988.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0403335

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JASON KRAVITS

as Ralph

Jason began his career in Washington, DC, at age 13, playing Lolo in the short-lived but highly acclaimed PBS series *Powerhouse* (1982). After graduating from the University of Maryland, he found a home in the Washington, DC, theater community, where he became a well-known presence at theaters such as the Round House Theater, the Shakespeare Theater, and the Woolly Mammoth Theater Company. Upon moving to New York City, Jason began working with the writer-performer collective known as Rumble in the Red Room. There, alongside fellow writer-performer Joel Jones, he developed the material for "Making Faces," which would eventually go on to win Best Sketch Show at 1999's U.S. Comedy Festival in Aspen, Co. This prompted him to move to Los Angeles, where he soon landed a guest-star spot on David Kelley's *The Practice* (1997). This role would eventually grow and, by the beginning of the fifth season, his character, A.D.A Richard Bay, would be a regular on the show. (The character would eventually meet his demise in a hail of bullets on the show's 100th episode.) After several more busy years of television and film work, Jason would eventually move back to New York, although he remained busy on both coasts as both an actor and a writer. Jason Kravits is probably best known for his work on television dramas such as the *Law & Order* (1990) franchises. He has found just as much success in comedy, however, from his award-winning original sketch show "Making Faces" to noted roles on *Everybody Loves Raymond* (1996) and *Curb Your Enthusiasm* (2000).

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0006463insta: [@jasonkravits](https://www.instagram.com/jasonkravits)***JASON VEASEY***

as Charlie

Jason Veasey was born in in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He is a SAG Award nominee and two-time Obie Award winner. He is a New York based actor and singer who has been fortunate to do what he loves on stage and screen, such as *American Gangster* (2007), *Friendship* (2024) and *Only Murders in the Building* (2021). Notably too on Broadway in *The Lion King* as well as the touring company. On Stage he was most recently seen in the critically acclaimed *A Strange Loop* at Playwrights Horizons. He's also been seen at The Public Theater, Actors Theater of Louisville, The Denver Center and more! On the big screen he's been seen in *American Gangster*. TV credits include *Chicago Fire*, *High Maintenance* and the upcoming *Starling*.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm2803885Insta & X: [@veaseyville](https://www.instagram.com/veaseyville)

JOY FRANZ

as Betty

Joy Franz is an American actress and singer. A native of Overland Park, Kansas, she graduated from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, majoring in music. She acted in the Starlight Theatre in Kansas City three summers before she moved to New York. She's best known for her stage work, for playing Susan in the original 1972 West End production of Stephen Sondheim's *Company*, and the role of Cinderella's Stepmother in the original 1987 Broadway production of Sondheim's *Into the Woods*. She was also in the ensemble of the 1965 New York City Center production of *Guys and Dolls*. She also appeared in the Broadway productions of *A Little Night Music* and *Pippin*, and the national tours of *Company*, *The Sound of Music*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Damn Yankees*. She reprised her role of Cinderella's Stepmother in *Into the Woods* twice. First, in the 1988-90 US Tour, and then again in the 2002 Broadway revival. In the Broadway revival she also played Little Red's Granny and understudied the role of Jack's Mother. She was one of the Street Singers in the world premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *Mass* at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts on September 8, 1971. She most recently appeared as the Dowager Empress in US National Tour of *Anastasia* and portrays the role of the Mother in My Damn Channel's television series *Horrible People*.

website: www.joyfranz.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0291839

STEPHEN SCOTT WORMLEY

as Ray

Stephen is no stranger to performing at the most prestigious venues in the nation's capital, including the White House, the British and Finnish Embassies, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He performed annually at the Kennedy Center and was one of the youngest members of the Washington Performing Arts Society, a guest soloist with the Choral Arts Society of Washington, and in the Joffrey Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker*. Stephen received double degrees with honors from Marquette University in May 2010: a B.A. in Performing Arts with a Dance Minor and a B.A. in Communication Studies. Stephen began performing full time professionally with his Off-Broadway debut in *Black Nativity Now!* He also toured as a vocalist throughout Japan with the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra. Stephen continues to perform at a variety of theatres and venues around the country.

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IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm12397442

insta: [@sirstephenscott](https://www.instagram.com/sirstephenscott)

KRYSTINA ALABADO

as Heidi

Krystina Alabado is first-generation Mexican + Lebanese, and was born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona. She made her Broadway debut in 2011 in the Green Day musical, "American Idiot" and has gone on to do many other touring and Broadway productions, most notably, she starred as Gretchen Wieners in Mean Girls on Broadway in 2019. You can catch her on screen as the mean casting director in the Disney+ film "Better Nate Than Ever", "Tyrant", "God Friended Me", and "First Reformed". Krystina is also an accomplished voice actor, both in commercials, and animation. She first started her animation career by voicing Veronica on the Netflix reboot of Voltron Legendary Defender of the Universe. She has been recording voices on 4 shows just this last year to be released later in 2022, one being the role of Hannah on AMC's first animated Drama, "Pantheon". Most recently she just finished leading the Pre-Broadway production of "Kiss My Aztec" a new musical comedy written by John Leguizamo.

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IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm7386406

insta: [@krystinaalabado](https://www.instagram.com/krystinaalabado)

ILDA MASON

as Gabby

Ilda Mason is a Panamanian actress, singer and dancer based in New York City. She began her acting career in theatre with productions such as Peter Pan (Peter Pan), The Beauty and the Beast, A Chorus Line (Bebe) and Hello Dolly (Minnie) among others. She was a professional dancer on Panamá's Dancing with the Stars (Season 2 Champion). Favorite credits in the U.S include the Broadway revival of West Side Story, On Your Feet! (National tour), West Side Story (Paper Mill Playhouse, Signature Theatre), Cinderella (National tour), and Legally Blonde (International tour). She can be seen as Luz in the upcoming Steven Spielberg remake of West Side Story coming to theatres this December 2021.

website: www.ildamason.com

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DAVID FIERRO

as Michael

David Fierro booked his first series-regular role on the Cinemax hit *The Knick* having come right out of the Columbia University MFA Program. He recurred on *Maniac* (Netflix), *Red Oaks* (Amazon) and *Full Circle* (HBOMAX). On the feature side, Fierro appeared in *Birdman*, *Live by Night*, *Worth*, and *The Trial of the Chicago Seven*. Born and bred in the San Francisco Bay Area, he is currently living in New York City. He has trained with American Conservatory Theater, Shakespeare and Company, and The California State Summer School for the Arts.

website: www.davidfierro.net

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0276435

insta: [@d52picture](https://www.instagram.com/d52picture)

MARISA BRAU-REYES

as Janet

Marisa Brau-Reyes is best known as ‘Counselor Edwina Meyerson’ on NBC’s “Law & Order: SVU.” Other TV credits include “Billions” (Showtime), “Bull” (CBS), “New Amsterdam” (NBC), and “Mozart in the Jungle” (Amazon). Off-Broadway: *Initiative*, *Cymbeline*, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

website: www.marisabraureyes.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm5329427

facebook: www.facebook.com/MarisaBrauActor

NICK MESTAD

as Rex

Nick Mestad is a New York City based writer and comedian. He was a 2022 *Just For Laughs* New Face and can be seen in the sci-fi rom-com *Molli & Max in the Future*. He has appeared on Nathan Fielder’s *The Rehearsal*, *Girls5Eva*, *Chicago Fire* and Seeso’s *Shrink*, as well as on *The Tonight Show* where he has just joined as a staff writer. His work has been featured in Vulture and Clickhole, and he has amassed millions of views online with his highly physical brand of comedy.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm3703309

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KEY CREW BIOGRAPHIES

ELVIRA IBRAGIMOVA

DIRECTOR

Elvira Ibragimova is an LA-based comedy filmmaker. Elvira is a half Jewish, half Muslim political refugee; hailing from sunny, Soviet-era Uzbekistan she landed in Brooklyn at age ten. After an initial career in architecture, she pivoted to comedy and filmmaking. She studied comedy and directing at Second City Film School. Her short DINGUS WISHES, placed in multiple film festivals and helped her secure the Viacom/Nickelodeon Directing Fellowship. Since completing the program, she's directed multiple episodes of JIMMY KIMMEL LIVE!, DANGER FORCE and FAIRLY ODDPARENTS. Her web series, WE'RE DOING GOOD!, premiered at SXSW, was nominated for a Webby and screened at HollyShorts, SeriesFest and BroadHumor where it won Best Series. She's a recipient of the Best Female Creator award from AMC Networks. Her short, SHIT ON YOUR LIP, screened at Austin Film Festival, Nevada Film Fest, Montclair Film Fest and won Best Ensemble at SeriesFest. She's directed multiple women-helmed comedy pilots; the latest, BLISS TALENT, won Best Series at Austin Film Festival. But if this all goes bust, she'll always have that pavilion she designed for the Golden State Warriors.

website: www.elviraibragimova.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm9036780

MARINA CATALA

PRODUCER

Marina Catala is a New York-based editor and producer with over two decades of experience shaping story across scripted, comedy, documentary, and reality television. Her credits include Netflix's *Survival of the Thickest* and *Girls5eva*, CBS's *The Amazing Race*, NBC's *The Biggest Loser*, and truTV's *Impractical Jokers*, where she served as Executive Producer for nine seasons. With a background in both scripted editing and unscripted storytelling, Marina brings a sharp sense of rhythm, structure, performance, and story to her work. On *Matched*, Marina served as editor and producer, guiding the pilot through post-production from media management to final delivery, including editing, online finishing, and visual effects.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm1434832

insta: [@marinapcatala](https://www.instagram.com/marinapcatala)

KATIE MACK
PRODUCER

Mack (she/her) is a queer, nomadic, creative producer and culture architect who believes how you make the thing matters as much as the thing itself. Award-winning in performance and audio storytelling, she builds the room where socially conscious, self-aware work happens — from the first creative conversation to the final audience experience — crafting conditions where collaborators feel safe enough to ask for what they need and bold enough to make something new. That's the freedom indie making is for.

website: www.mackstage.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm6207794

DAVID. M. NIGHT MAIRE
PRODUCER

Cosmopolitan in nature, David is an alumnus of NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, earning his B.A. in Film & T.V. with a focus on Directing, and Minors in Producing and Psychology. This native Alpine's passion for directing led him to pursue a Masters in Live Action Short Form at SVA under famed music video and commercial director Bob Giraldi, and later a Masters in Screenwriting for Television and Film from Royal Holloway's University of London. He Co-Founded AireBedd, a banner under which he has garnered thousands of laurels and awards for his short films and music videos, as well as produced content for Louis Vuitton . Moet Hennessy, Red Bull and the Leslie-Lohman Museum, amongst others.

website: www.dmnightmaire.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396

HEATHER MINGO
1st ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Heather Mingo is a 1st A.D. based in Los Angeles who loves cultivating kind and creative sets. She has worked on such projects as *Everyone Is Doing Great* (2018), *Katie's Mom* (2023) and *Happy Ending* (2025).

website: www.heathermingo.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm2823022

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ROB SILCOX
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Currently residing in New York City, Rob is available for hire throughout the Tri-state area, New England and beyond as the director of photography, gaffer and assistant camera/operator. Also specializes in conceptualization-to-post feature producing with a specific focus on complex lighting scenarios, camera setups and shot design. This includes a knowledge of scene and script analysis and talent direction. Extensive experience throughout production team from grip to gaffer to camera team working as cinematographer to camera assistant and operator. Proficient in film editing and a working knowledge of special effects rendering.

website: www.robsilcox.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm5286094

insta: [@wildrebbby](https://www.instagram.com/wildrebbby)

JASON POMERANTZ
MUSIC COMPOSER

Jason Pomerantz is a Brooklyn-based composer, songwriter, keyboardist, and producer whose music has been featured in numerous podcasts, animated and film media, and theatrical productions, including Huffington Post, Funny Or Die, and The New York Times website amongst numerous others. Jason has performed at venues from Carnegie Hall to Brooklyn Bowl to New World Stages (NAMT). Projects include songs for Sesame Studios, ACLU's *Know Your Rights University*, his EP *Panoramic View*, and the *Matched* pilot.

website: www.jasonpomerantzmusic.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm10725270

insta: [@jason_pomerantz](https://www.instagram.com/jason_pomerantz)

FRAME GRABS

CONTACT INFO

SERIES PILOT

“MATCHED”

webpage: www.dmnightmaire.com/matched

IMDb: www.imdb.com/title/tt42251858

insta: [@matched.show](https://www.instagram.com/matched_show)

CREATOR & WRITER & EXECUTIVE PRODUCER & ACTOR

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