

Catalogue of Noses

SHORT FILM ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT

DIRECTOR

JOSIE ANDREWS

WRITER

LAUREN SCHAFFEL

TALENT

starring LORI ALAN – *as Debbie*
and MICHAEL KOSTROFF – *as Doctor Pearlman*

LAUREN SCHAFFEL – *as Adult Emily*

RACHEL BERRY – *as Kimberly*

introducing JEMMA HANDLER – *as Emily*

PRODUCERS

LAUREN SCHAFFEL

JOSIE ANDREWS

TALISA FRIEDMAN

EMILY NASH

JOHN NOBLE BARRACK

NICOLE FRIEDBERG

A.J. KELLY

YVONNE CONE

SAMI KOLKO

DAVID M. NIGHT MAIRE

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INTRODUCTION

“Catalogue of Noses” is a short musical comedy film with ‘Fiddler on the Roof’ parody songs that illustrate the sacrifices Jewish women make to assimilate. Inspired by Writer/Producer Lauren Schaffel's own life story of growing up as a child actor in Hollywood and getting a nose job at sixteen.

MISSION STATEMENT

“Catalogue of Noses” combats the harmful portrayal of Jews in media that still exists today, and which is built on centuries of underlying antisemitism. Since the antidote to hate is comedy, we’re telling a story that pokes fun at Western beauty standards and Jewish stereotypes with an educational twist.

We are proud to partner with Reboot Studios on an educational curriculum for “Catalogue of Noses.” Designed to accompany the film, this guide supports our mission to spark meaningful dialogue and deepen understanding of its central themes — including the pressures of assimilation, the origins and impact of the Jewish-nose stereotype, as well as the persistence of antisemitism in contemporary media.

Our goal is to bring this program to Jewish and non-Jewish communities in cities where we’re screening the film, including schools, museums, and religious organizations. The target audience is middle school age and up, including college students and adults.

About Reboot: Reboot is an arts and culture non-profit that reimagines and reinforces Jewish thought and traditions, offering an inviting mix of discovery, experience and reflection.

About the Lesson Plan: The “Catalogue of Noses” companion curriculum is a guided educational tool for teachers, group leaders, and individuals looking to engage further with the themes of the film. Through private reflection, group discussion, and a creative exercise, students will be introduced to key terms and cultural context, the origin of the “Jewish nose” stereotype, and the history of rhinoplasty as they relate to the central question of the film: What are the costs and benefits of assimilation? The lesson plan is designed to take one class period; educators may adjust the length to fit their curriculum. This lesson plan is designed to accompany High School Education through adults and is most suitable for students over the age of 12.

To learn more or bring this curriculum to your organization, please visit www.rebooting.com/catalogue-of-noses or contact Producer Lauren Schaffel.

PITCH LINE

“Crazy Ex-Girlfriend” meets “Zoey's Extraordinary Playlist” and “Schmigadoon”

LOG LINE

When a 16-year-old Jewish actor faces off with her mother and Jewish plastic surgeon on the day of her surgery, she learns unsettling truths about the consequences of assimilation.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

A dark musical comedy following a Jewish teen actor who faces off with her mother and Jewish plastic surgeon on the day of her scheduled rhinoplasty, only to learn some unsettling truths about the consequences of assimilation. Inspired by real events.

LONG SYNOPSIS

“Catalogue of Noses” tells the story of Jewish 16-year-old actor Emily, who faces off with her mother and her Jewish plastic surgeon on the day of her scheduled rhinoplasty. Emily must navigate this emotional decision and learn unsettling truths about the consequences of assimilation. Inspired by real events.

GENRES & NICHES

Short dark musical comedy. Drama. Magic realism. Social commentary. Triple F-rated.

PRESS & REVIEWS

“Josie Andrews superbly directs this **delightful musical short**. **All the performances are wonderful**, and everyone brings high energy to their roles. Jemma Handler has a beautiful singing voice and perfectly handles the material. Both Lori Alan and Michael Kostroff are scene stealers in their supporting roles. ... **It is awesome to have a lighthearted musical again!** Catalogue of Noses is **a palette cleanser in a world where musicals are uninspired remakes**, overtly political, and unnecessarily campy. Schaffel’s story provides **a great message for teenagers about feeling confident in their appearance**. See this film, whether you love the musical genre or are a casual viewer.”

- Ethan Padgett, *FilmThreat*

link: <https://filmthreat.com/reviews/catalogue-of-noses/>

“**A fetching new short musical comedy** film, Catalogue of Noses with a bonus Fiddler on the Roof parody, is **a hooter**. ... This **dark yet breezy comedy** features **a top cast**. ... Anyone who loves musicals and comedy will lap up the L.A.-set romp, with original- and outrageous- songs.”

- Gordon Durich, *The Hollywood Times*

link: <https://hollywoodtimes.net/catalogue-of-noses-not-so-funny-under-the-surface-but-fun-film-just-the-same/>

“**A sharp and surprisingly** devastating portrait of what happens when young girls internalize the idea that their natural face is a liability. ... A **relatable** on-screen situation centered around a teenager still figuring out who she is. ... The musical numbers allow the film to **embrace the absurdity** of the premise, while also heightening the stakes. ... The film feels real and so much of it is in the vulnerability in Jemma’s lead performance. ... “Catalogue of Noses” is not anti-surgery. It’s anti-silence. ... The ending doesn’t offer a tidy resolution. It offers something harder.”

- Brian Fishbach, *Jewish Journal*

link: <https://jewishjournal.com/culture/arts/film/382830/film-catalogue-of-noses-turns-cosmetic-surgery-pressure-into-a-musical/>

“There is a mixture of **hilarious lines** and ironic scenes that make every part **entertaining**. ... There is a **gut-wrenching, but strong, message** that comes through, even with all the fun visual and auditory elements. ... This idea is applicable to different cultures and communities as well.”

- Joy Kim, *League of Filmmakers*

link: <https://www.leagueoffilmmakers.com/behind-the-making-of-catalogue-of-noses-an-interview-with-lauren-schaffel/>

“The film’s commentary on assimilation and Jewish identity **resonates** even more **against Hollywood’s long history of misrepresentation**. ... [The film] **entertains while offering a sharp commentary** on assimilation, beauty standards, and Jewish identity. In just 12 minutes, it **balances humor with insight**, highlighting the pressures—both cultural and personal—that shape how we present ourselves to the world.”

- Danielle Solzman, *Solzy at the Movies*

link: <https://solzyatthemovies.com/2025/11/14/catalogue-of-noses-explores-jewish-assimilation-through-musical-comedy/>

ACCOLADES

SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL SCREENINGS*

1. La Ciné Network : projection de courts-métrages 2025
2. Holocaust Museum LA: Short Film Screening & Conversation 2025
3. The Barrow Group Film Festival 2025
4. The Jewish Community of Ojai Screening & Conversation 2025
5. Jewish Louisville: Flights & Flix 2026

OFFICIAL FILM FESTIVAL SELECTIONS

1. Santa Cruz Jewish Film Festival 2025
2. Big Apple Film Festival 2025
3. Atlanta Shortsfest 2025
4. LA Shorts International Film Festival 2025
5. Woods Hole Film Festival 2025
6. A Pecan Pickling FAM Festival 2025
7. Woman, Life, Freedom Film Festival 2025
8. Castine Film Festival 2025
9. Jeonju International Short Film Festival 2025
10. Roadies Film Festival 2025
11. SOHO International Film Festival 2025
12. LA Femme International Film Festival 2025
13. Tamuz Shomron Film Festival 2025
14. Ojai Film Festival 2025
15. East Lansing Film Festival 2025
16. Reale Film Festival 2025
17. Miami Jewish Film Festival 2026
18. New York Cinefest 2026

AWARD NOMINATIONS

1. Semi-Finalist – Best Narrative – Woman, Life, Freedom Film Festival 2025

AWARDS

1. Best Director – Jeonju International Short Film Festival 2025
2. Audience Award – Roadies Film Festival 2025
3. Best International Short Film – Tamuz Shomron Film Festival 2025
4. Best Musical Comedy Short – the Solzy Awards for Short Films in 2025
5. Best Movie Poster – Reale Film Festival 2025

* private & non-competitive screenings

DISTRIBUTION DATA

Number of Continents Screened On

4x

Events Screened at Per Country

18x North America

2x Asia

1x Oceania

2x Europe

Number of Countries Screened In

6x

Events Screened at Per Country

18x U.S.A.

1x Australia

1x Israel

1x Italy

1x France

1x South Korea

Number of U.S. States Screened In

9x

Events Screened at Per U.S. State

7x California

4x New York

1x Georgia

1x Kentucky

1x Massachusetts

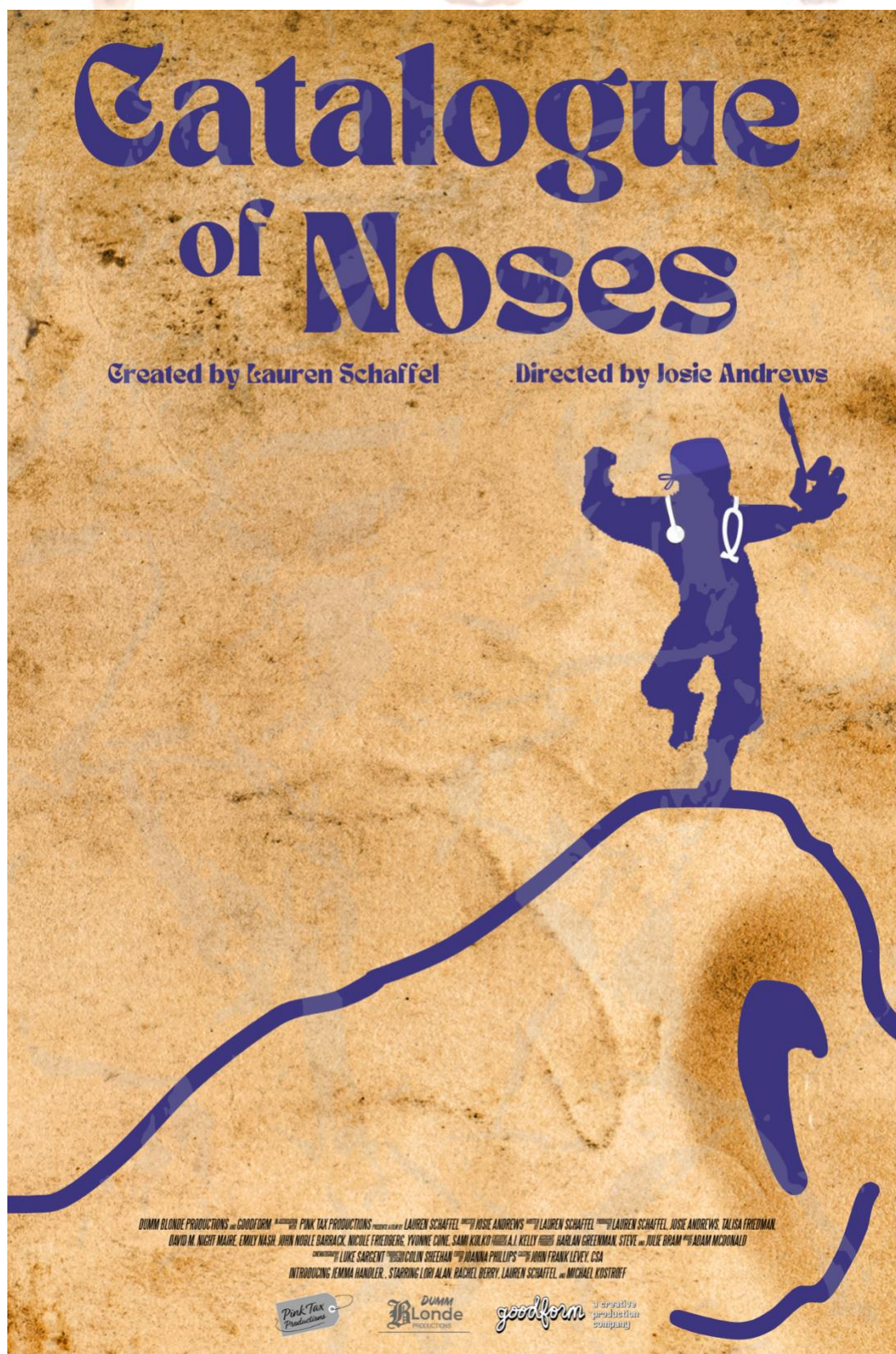
1x Michigan

1x Florida

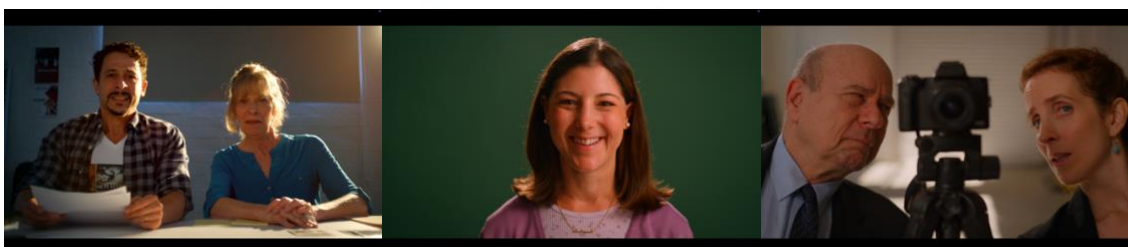
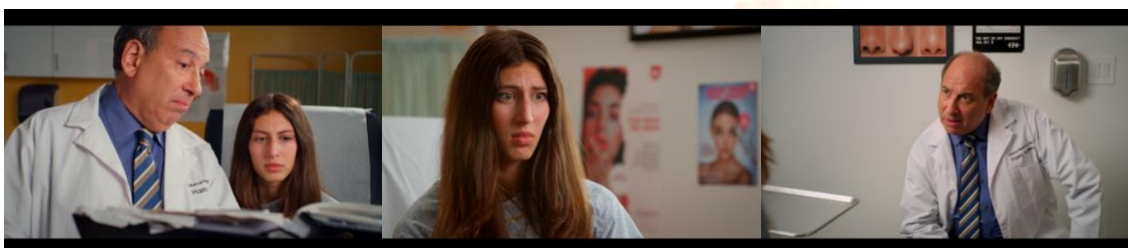
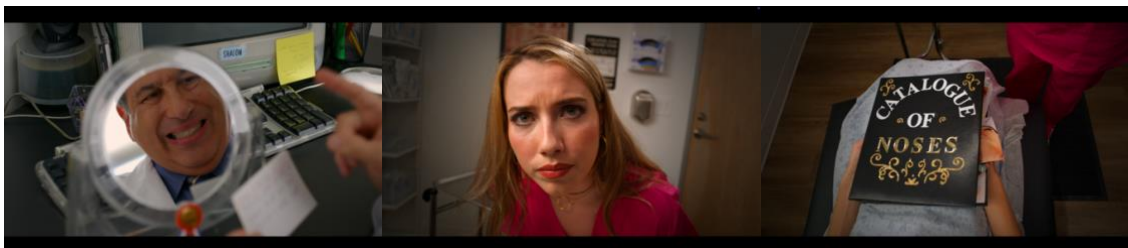
1x Maine

1x North Carolina

POSTER



FRAME GRABS



TECHNICAL SPECS

Runtime:	12 minutes 33 seconds
Video format:	Digital, color
Aspect ratio:	16:9
Audio format:	Stereo
Language:	English
Subtitles:	English, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish
Countries of origin:	United States of America
Country of filming:	United States of America
City/County/State of filming:	Glendale, Los Angeles County, California
Camera:	RED EPIC-W with GEMINI 5K S35 sensor
Lenses:	spherical Tokina 11-20mm f/2.8 AT-X PRO DX

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

“Catalogue of Noses” has been in the works since Summer 2022. The script was originally commissioned and workshopped as a play for the LA-based theater company JewFace under ShPIeL Performing Identity and was part of their inaugural Short Play Development Lab in Fall 2023. Fueled by the positive reception from the JewFace public reading, the script was adapted into a short film to share the story with a wider audience.

In Spring 2024, the “Catalogue of Noses” screenplay was selected as a semifinalist for the Reboot Studios Grant, which has produced several award-winning Jewish comedies, including Alex Edelman's solo show Just For Us and the short film The Anne Frank Gift Shop.

In Summer 2024, the Jewish Plays Project recognized the “Catalogue of Noses” play script as Commended Status, part of a select group of plays read and discussed thoroughly by a team of theatre professionals.

“Catalogue of Noses” is TRIPLE F-rated with a woman director, writer, and principal actor.

“Catalogue of Noses” was shot on location in Glendale, Los Angeles County, California over the course of 3 days.

“Catalogue of Noses” raised most of its budget through a successful Seed&Spark crowdfunding campaign, with over \$20,000 in pledged donations in support.

“Catalogue of Noses” is an accredited signatory production under the SAG-AFTRA Short Film Agreement.

“Catalogue of Noses” is the second collaboration between Lauren Schaffel and David M. Night Maire after the short grounded sci-fi “Launch at Paradise”.

WRITERS' STATEMENT

I grew up as a child actor in Los Angeles and starred in many primetime comedies like Will and Grace, Still Standing, and several Peanuts films and series (as the voice of Lucy). My dream was to be a series regular on a sitcom, but most of the roles I auditioned for were things like “Freak Girl Number 2” and “Nerdy Little Rascal.” Exactly what every little girl dreams of being, right? I kept being told that my BIG Jewish nose was holding me back...

I wrote “Catalogue of Noses” to combat 'Jewface'— the harmful, inauthentic portrayal of Jews in entertainment including the stereotypes of a large nose prosthetic and an affected Yiddish accent. These stereotypes still exist in Hollywood today and are built on centuries of underlying antisemitism. Since the antidote to hate is comedy, I set out to tell a film that pokes fun at beauty standards and Jewish stereotypes with an educational twist.

Having been a child actor in Hollywood, I’ve faced the pressures of having to change my appearance (specifically my nose) to achieve American beauty standards. These ideas have become more topical with celebrities like Sarah Silverman speaking out about a more recent definition of "Jewface" in the casting of non-Jewish performers to play Jewish characters. On her podcast, Sarah Silverman speaks openly about some recent examples of Jewface, including Bradley Cooper and Helen Mirren wearing large prosthetic noses to portray Leonard Bernstein and Golda Meir, respectively, Rachel Brosnahan in The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel adopting a 'Jewish-sounding' dialect, and Kathryn Hahn (not Jewish) being cast to play Joan Rivers.

I'm proud to be working with a team of predominantly Jewish women in front of and behind the camera to tell this timely and relatable story. This film is for Jewish women who have made sacrifices to assimilate into western culture, whether they've undergone surgery to make their nose appear more gentile, or as in the story of Fiddler on the Roof, given up traditions and religious practices as a means of survival.

Yet, this story is not unique to Jews! We live in a world where pressures to assimilate have increased for people of all backgrounds, especially with our reliance on social media constantly demonstrating unattainable standards of beauty. Turn on Instagram and you'll see a variety of filters available to “touch up” one’s appearance, including the infamous “nose filter” to alter the size of your nose, as well as enhancing one’s eyes, lips, and body. My goal is to shed light on the universality of the need to seek acceptance and achieve unrealistic beauty standards as a means of survival and acceptance.

- **Lauren Schaffel**

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

At a time when antisemitism has increased rapidly since October 7th, this story feels sadly more important now than ever. For centuries, Jews have been making sacrifices to assimilate into western culture, whether it's undergoing surgery to make one's nose appear more gentile, or in the story of Fiddler on the Roof, giving up traditions and religious practices as a means of survival.

- **Josie Andrews**

CAST & CREW BIOGRAPHIES:

LAUREN SCHAFFEL

WRITER & PRODUCER & ACTOR (as Adult Emily)

Lauren Schaffel is an actor, writer, comedian, and singer and has been acting professionally since she was five years old. Her television credits include *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Will and Grace*, *Still Standing*, and the voice of Lucy in *A Charlie Brown Valentine's Day*. In film, she has appeared in *My Dead Boyfriend*, *Admission*, and *Revenge of the Green Dragons*. She's worked at numerous theaters, most recently at the Road Theatre in North Hollywood, and others including Geva in Rochester, several NY theaters including The National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene, Playwrights Horizons, The Barrow Group, and Urban Stages. Lauren is a recent graduate of the Improv and Writing Lab tracks at the Groundlings School and currently studies and performs at Upright Citizens Brigade. As a filmmaker, she wrote, produced, and starred in the upcoming short, musical comedy film *Catalogue of Noses*. She also recently wrote and starred in two comedy shorts "Gentle Parenting" and "Steak Dinner," incorporating her original characters created at the Groundlings. Both are currently making the festival circuit. Lauren is a co-founder of the production company LMC Productions, which supports new script development focusing on amplifying female voices. She's also on the board of Jewface Theater Company based in LA, which produced the play version of *Catalogue of Noses* in their inaugural short play lab development in 2023.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0769810

JOSIE ANDREWS

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

Josie Andrews began performing professionally at the age of eight, touring with Broadway musicals and appearing in countless Off-Broadway and regional productions before going on to write and record her own music. By thirteen, she was opening for Radio Disney acts including Raven Symoné and the Naked Brothers Band. A double Trojan, Josie graduated as the Salutatorian of USC's class of 2018, continuing at USC to earn her M.F.A. in production. Her thesis film *WANNABE*, which she wrote, directed, and created original music for, debuted at LA Shorts, garnering many wins and nominations across the globe including Nashville Film Festival, Arizona Film Festival, Melech Tel Aviv, and Sydney Women's International Film Festival. Her debut documentary tracking live theatre's comeback amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, *WAITING IN THE WINGS*, played Santa Fe International Film Festival, won best doc at Noho Cinefest, and can now be seen on the PBS app through their Fine Cut series. Now an adjunct professor at USC, she teaches a producing/development course and heads Dumm Blonde Productions, where she recently completed a short starring Sidney Flanigan (Never Rarely Sometimes Always) and Academy Award® Nominee Cathy Moriarty (Raging Bull) titled *LINE OF FIRE*. She is slated to make her feature directorial debut with *MIRIAM*, one of five projects selected for WIF/Sundance finance intensive, as well as the AWD Rising Director fellowship.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm2573409

LORI ALAN
ACTOR (as Debbie)

Lori Alan, actor/writer/producer, started talking as soon as she fell out of the womb, and hasn't stopped since. A native of the Washington, DC area, her passion for entertaining led the five-year-old actress to make her television debut as the star of a Shakey's Pizza commercial. She went on to graduate with honors from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and set off cutting her teeth on the comedy circuit, as a longtime member of New York's Gotham City Improv (Groundlings East). Lori is perhaps best known for her award-winning voice-over work, which was honored at the First Annual Voice Arts Awards (the Academy Awards for Voice-Overs) with first-place prizes for Outstanding Body of Work and Outstanding National Television Commercial. She starred as Diane Simmons on Family Guy, Pearl the Whale on SpongeBob: Squarepants, Sue Richards, The Invisible Woman, on Marvel Comics' The Fantastic Four, and The Boss in the Metal Gear Solid video game trilogy. She's proud to be a part of the Pixar Family, voicing characters in Wall-e, Monster's University, Bonnie's Mom in Pixar's Toy Story 3, Despicable Me, Minions, and Mother's Sadness in Inside Out. From roles on the gripping Showtime drama Ray Donovan, to the hilarious Comedy Central gem Workaholics, to the deliciously naughty Desperate Housewives. Her television career has flourished with appearances on Bones, Southland, CSI, 90210, Grey's Anatomy, Law & Order. Lori lives in Los Angeles with the love of her life, Sir Philip Bumble, her 4-legged, "soulmate" Bichon-Lhasas Apso mix. Lori is a celebrity supporter of the Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM) a national nonprofit organization working to end the use of animals for food through public education and grassroots activism.

website: www.lorialan.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0015935

MICHAEL KOSTROFF
ACTOR (as Doctor Pearlman)

Michael Kostroff is a television, stage, and film actor best known for his five seasons as unscrupulous gang attorney Maury Levy on HBO's legendary series, "The Wire," and for his recurring roles on a long list of popular television shows. Born in New York City, he grew up attending theatre and went on to study at the High School of Performing Arts. He traveled throughout the US as a member of the original cast of the first national tour of "The Producers," and again as the comic villain, Thénadier, in "Les Misérables," a role he reprised for the re-imagined 25th anniversary production. Kostroff is the author of four books including "The Stage Actor's Handbook" (Rowman & Littlefield, 2022), named one of Playbill.com's must-reads for fall, 2022. He's a former advice columnist for Backstage and a former writer for Disneyland. His blog, "The Weekly Curmudgeon," offers humorous gripes. As an instructor, he's offered classes in acting, comedic acting, the business of the business, and more. His popular Audition Psych 101 workshop deals with the mental part of the audition process. Kostroff has also been a frequent guest at colleges, universities, and theatre schools. He divides his time between New York and Los Angeles.

website: www.michaelkostroff.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0467512

RACHEL BERRY
ACTOR (as Kimberly)

Rachel Berry (yes, that's her real name) is a Los Angeles-based actress originally from Phoenix, Arizona. Growing up as a theater kid with a name that turns heads, Rachel naturally developed her comedic chops early on. Some might say she's got a nose for it. She's so excited to join the 'Catalogue of Noses' team and create more great work in the future.

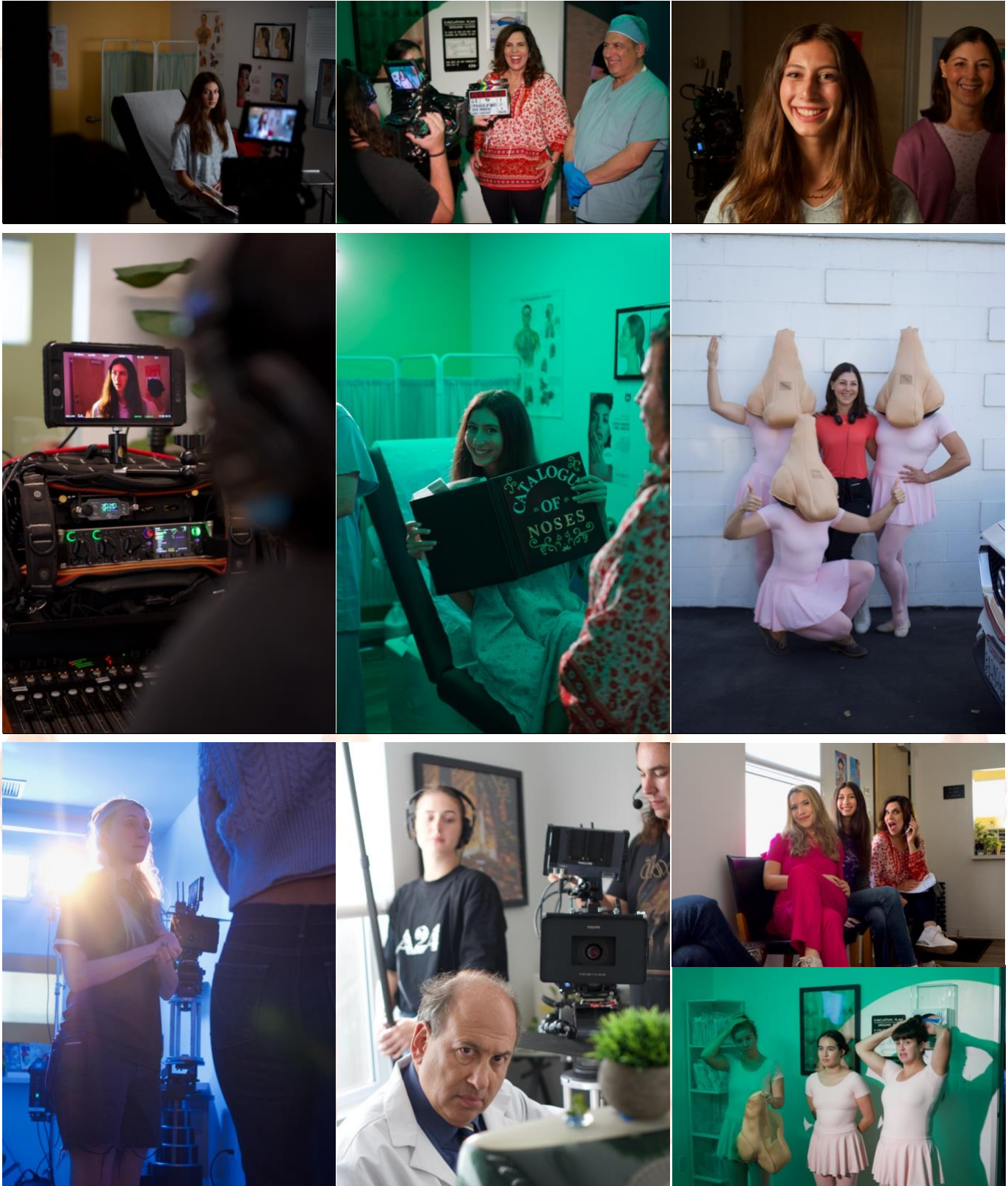
IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm12446408

JEMMA HANDLER
ACTOR (as Emily)

Jemma is an accomplished high school senior with a passion for acting and singing. She has been performing since the age of five and has appeared in over 25 plays and musicals, building a strong foundation in both dramatic and musical theatre. She is currently starring in the short film Catalogue of Noses, a comedic musical written by Laren Schaffel and directed by Josie Andrews. This fall, she will join the prestigious USC School of Dramatic Arts to further hone her craft.

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm9117328

BEHIND THE SCENES STILLS



*photo credit John Noble Barrack

CONTACT INFO

SHORT FILM

“Catalogue of Noses”

webpage: www.dmnightmaire.com/catalogue-of-noses

IMDb: www.imdb.com/title/tt33501727

insta: @conosesfilm

Reboot educational curriculum: www.rebooting.com/catalogue-of-noses

Seed&Spark crowdfunding campaign: www.seedandspark.com/fund/conosesfilm#story

WRITER & PRODUCER

Lauren Schaffel

email: laurenschaffel111@gmail.com

phone: +1 (310) 592-4046

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm0769810

insta: @laurenschaffel111

DIRECTOR & PRODUCER

Josie Andrews & Dumm Blonde Productions

email: josie@dummblonde.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm2573409

insta: @thatjosieandrews

PRODUCER

Talisa Freidman

website: www.talisafriedman.com/

email: talisa.friedman@gmail.com

phone: +1 (202) 465-1311

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm3901680/

insta: @talisafriedman

PRODUCER

Emily Nash, Nicole Friedberg, John Noble Barrack & Pink Tax Productions

website: www.pinktaxproductions.com

email: pinktaxprod@gmail.com

insta: @pinktaxprod

PRODUCER

A.J. Kelly & Goodform

website: www.goodform.la

email: hello@goodform.la

insta: @goodform

PRODUCER

Yvonne Cone & JewFace

website: www.yvonnecone.com

email: vonnycone87@gmail.com

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm7369147/

insta: @voncone

PRODUCER

David M. Night Maire

website: www.dmnightmaire.com

email: dmnightmaire@gmail.com

phone: +1 (347) 366-1916 // +33 06 20 59 23 20

IMDb: www.imdb.com/name/nm4731396/

insta: @dmnightmaire