

# Biography Lena Fiszman

October 2016



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DOB: 27.9.55

EQUITY NO: 36187

HEIGHT: 5'2"/157cms

HAIR: BROWN

EYES: BLUE



## THEATRE:

- Nov-Dec 2015 "YOU'RE DRIVING ME CRAZY!" (Lead). Bondi Pavilion Theatre, Sydney. Group Devised play. Dir : Eli Erez.
- Aug-Sep & Dec 2014 "YOU'RE DRIVING ME CRAZY!" (Lead). Chapel Off Chapel, Melbourne. Group Devised play. Dir : Eli Erez.
- May & Aug 2010 "BORN GUILTY – A SCARY GUIDE TO JEWISH PARENTING" (Lead). St. Martins Theatre, Melbourne. Group Devised play. Dir : Eli Erez.
- Oct 2004, Aug 2005 & Nov 2006 "DON'T TEACH ME - I'M PERFECT!" (Lead). St. Martins Theatre, Melbourne and Hakoah Club, Sydney. Group devised play. Dir : Eli Erez.
- 2000-2002 "LAUGH TILL YOU CRY: THE LIGHTER SIDE OF GROWING UP AS A SECOND GENERATION" (Lead). Group devised play, various Melbourne and Sydney venues.
- May 1997 "FRANKENSTEIN'S CHILDREN" (lead) Dir: Helen Gayneor. Rehearsed playreading of new Australian work for The National Theatre Company.
- Feb 1996 "TELL ME A STORY..." (lead) Australia Council assisted work-in-progress written by Jema Stellato-Pledger & Don Linke. Dir: Mike Bishop.
- 1990 & 1991 "IN DUTY BOUND" (lead - Giza) Dir : Maurie Johns. Gateway Theatre Company (formerly Performers Independent Theatre).
- 1980 "THE QUICK-EAZE CAFE" (lead) Dir : Helmut Bakaitis. Regional & interstate tour. St. Martin's Youth Theatre.
- 1979 "THE SENSATIONAL SOUTH YARRA SHOW" (lead) Dir : Helmut Bakaitis. St. Martin's Youth Theatre.
- 1974 - 1977 NATIONAL THEATRE DRAMA SCHOOL - numerous productions.

## FILM & TELEVISION:

- Sep 2016 VMIA/MONASH HEALTH - 'HOW DO YOU MAKE THEM FEEL?' - Volunteer (lead) (100%). Farmwalker Films. Dir: Dan Farmer. TVC.
- July 2016
- Aug 2014 MEAT & LIVESTOCK AUSTRALIA – 'THE TRINITY EXPERIMENT 1986-2016' – Midwife (100%). Guilty. Dir: Clayton Jacobson. TVC.
- Apr 2013 "NAB MORTGAGE - EXPERTS" – *Birthday Party Woman* (lead) (100%). Dir : Tony Rogers – Guilty. TVC.
- Aug 2010 "MEET THE PARENTS" – *Mum* (lead) (100%). Dir : Daniel Lloyd – Screencraft. TVC.
- May 2002 "A DATE TO REMEMBER" – *Mania* (lead). Dir : Eva Singer. Short Listed for "Celluloid Soup" Jewish Film Competition.
- April 2001 "MDA", Episode 6: "Damned If You Do; Damned If..." – *Chairperson* (100%). ABC TV & Screentime Pty. Ltd. Dir: Daina Reid.
- July 2000 "TAY SACHS – WEBSITE CASE STUDIES" - Toni (lead). Royal Children's Hospital Media Department.
- Oct 1999 "BEYOND DARKNESS" – *Mrs. Dalton* (100%). Dir: Peter Truong – VCA Film School (Post Graduate Student).
- Aug 1998 "ESCAPE" – *Social Worker* (100%). Dir: Lyle De Sousa – VCA Film School (Final Year Student).
- "CURRENCY" – *Barmaid* (100%). Dir: Tim Burgin – VCA Film School (Final Year Student).
- July 1998 "MINNIE'S GOT AN OFFICE JOB" – *Heather* (100%). Dir: Kate Begley – VCA Film School (2<sup>nd</sup> Year Student).
- Aug 1997 "DRIVEN CRAZY" – "The Cat" (Episode 3) – *Mrs. Christopolous* (100%). Dir: Sophia Scheduling – Barron Television Limited.
- April 1997 "HALIFAX F.P. - *Afraid of the Dark*" (Episode 12) - *Soula* (100%). Dir: Steve Jodrell - Beyond Simpson Le Mesurier.
- Mar - May 1995 "YOUNG DESIGNER" Commercial for National Australia Bank (100%). Dir: Ray Carlson - Great Southern Films.
- Jan 1995 "THE MAN FROM SNOW RIVER" - SERIES III - (semi-regular - *Mrs. Berkowitz*) - Pro Films.
- Sept 1994 YELLOW PAGES in-house video - "OUR PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE" (100%).
- April 1994 "NEW IDEA" Magazine National Commercial - Yarra Films.
- Mar 1994 "NEIGHBOURS" (guest 100% - *Mitty Petranis*) Dir : Grant Fenn. Grundys.
- June 1993 "LAW OF THE LAND" - Series II (guest 100% - *David's Mum*) Dir : Roadshow, Coote & Carroll.
- April 1993 "NEIGHBOURS" (guest 100%). Grundys.
- Feb 1993 "ALL TOGETHER NOW" (guest 100%) Dir : Pino Amenta. Telltale Films Pty. Ltd.
- 1984 Training Film "HOW TO BE ASSERTIVE" - (lead). Prod/Dir : Eve Ash. Seven Dimensions.
- 1979 "ANZ BANK" (lead) - Training film. Prod : Eve Ash. Seven Dimensions.
- "PRISONER" (guest 100% - *Maura Jayce*) Dir : Leigh Spence. Grundy's
- "PRISONER" (guest 100% - *Glenda*) Dir : Bud Tingwell & Marcus Cole. Grundy's

VOICE OVER &  
NARRATION

April 2012

Narrator, Melbourne Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Commemoration) for Jewish Community Council of Victoria.

May 2011

Narrator, Melbourne Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Commemoration) for Jewish Community Council of Victoria.

May 2011

Corporate Voice Over for Yeshivah College, High Key Productions.

Nov 2011

Corporate Voice Over for Jewish Holocaust Centre, Meltzer Productions.

COMEDY/CABARET:

Founding member of the highly successful musical comedy/cabaret group *THE HOT BAGELS*.

1981 – 1989

Comedy Cafe, Melbourne

1981 - 1989

Le Joke, Melbourne

1982 & 1988

Seasons at Last Laugh Theatre Restaurant, Melbourne

1984 & 1985

Seasons at Kinsellas, Sydney

1981

Lygon Street Festa, Melbourne

1985

Support act for The Nylons, Melbourne

1987, 1988 & 1989

Melbourne International Comedy Festival

1988

Support act for Phyllis Diller, Melbourne

1987, 1988 & 1989

Women's season, La Joke at Le Joke, Melbourne

1982

Residency, Dick Whittington Tavern, Melbourne

1985

Residency, The Prince Patrick Hotel, Melbourne

1987

Season at Spoleto Festival, Melbourne

1987

Season at The Space Cabaret, Adelaide Festival Centre, Adelaide

1988

Season at Adelaide Fringe Festival, Adelaide

1988

Season at Bay Street Theatre, Sydney

1988

Expo '88, Brisbane

1988

Season at Warana Festival, Brisbane

1988

Melbourne & Regional Country Tour of own show "A Pucker-Lips Now"

1988

Season at Club Foote, Adelaide

1989

Various comedy venues in Los Angeles & New York, USA

1996

Reunion show at 'Moosehead Awards', Fringe Festival, Melbourne

TV APPEARANCES

Numerous appearances on "The Darryl Somers Show", "Hey Hey It's Saturday", "Good Morning Melbourne", "Shirl's Neighbourhood", "Good Morning Australia", "The Midday Show" with Ray Martin, "Clive Robertson's Newsworld", "Hinch", "The Bert Newton Show", "Tuesday Night Live – The Big Gig.

## LANGUAGES

Polish (Basic), French (Basic), Russian (Basic), Hebrew (Basic)

## ACCENTS

German, Yiddish, Hungarian, Israeli, General American, Upper Class English, Upper Class Australian, Working Class Australian, Working Class Greek, Working Class Italian.

## TRAINING

1974 - 1977

NATIONAL THEATRE DRAMA SCHOOL - 3 year course.

1977 - 1979

TELEVISION DRAMA classes with John Gauci – Lunar Productions.

1978

VOICE PRODUCTION lessons with Junwin Jones.

1979 - 1980

St. Martin's Youth Arts Centre, variety of classes.

1985 - 1988

SINGING classes with Anna Mardardi.

1990

VOICE OVER TECHNIQUE - 10 week course with Kirk Alexander (Fortissimo Studio)

1992

Classes at Playbox Theatre for professional actors.

1997

"Art to Soul" Drama & Mastery workshops

## SKILLS

Driver's Licence

Comedy Cabaret, Singing & Dancing, Voice Overs, Narration.

General Office (Reception/Word Processing/Desktop Publishing/Clerical)