

CARL KISSIN

HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

I have over 30 years of experience performing, writing, and directing for television, theater, corporate events, film, and advertising. My specialty is comedy improvisation.

- Write book & lyrics for musical comedy
- Write/perform comedy material for theater, television, movies, commercials, corporate
- Teach improvisational comedy, sketch, stand-up
- Direct theater, television, improv comedy, sketch
- Performed more than 4000 live improv comedy shows with Chicago City Limits

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Jewish In An Hour (2020): Dramatist Guild Friday Night Footlights series. Writer of comedy solo show about the major holidays and traditions of Judaism.

DonorsChoose (2019): Created an improvised musical theater event and workshop for this charitable organization culminating in an audience participation musical about their lives and work.

Adventures of My Ballerina and Me (2018-19): Wrote comedy sketches and song lyrics for this television show about young ballet dancers.

New American Youth Ballet (2017): Wrote book and additional lyrics for “My Triple Threat Dad,” a musical comedy with ballet.

Sesame Studios (2016): Sesame Street’s YouTube channel. Lyricist for “Spider Halloween Song.” Over 787,000 views.

Lincoln Center Directors Lab (2014): Teach up and coming directors to be better at their craft via my musical “Alone World.” It was the only contemporary musical used alongside works by Shakespeare and Chekhov at this prestigious theatrical institution.

The Front Row Center (2014-present): Writer. Theatrical reviews. Broadway, off-broadway, cabaret.

Open Mic on Education (2013-16): Performer/writer. Television variety show dedicated to presenting K-12 education issues.

AbbVie Pharmaceutical (December 2014): Write music videos and comedy material.

Alone World: (2011-present) Book writer, lyricist. West Village Musical Theater Festival: 2011: Won best lyrics, book, and honorable mention for best musical. Produced in New York City and Milwaukee, WI.

Date of a Lifetime (2010-present): Musical comedy. Book writer, lyricist. Jerry Zaks, creative consultant. New Jersey Repertory Company. (2014): New York Musical Theater Festival (2011): “Date of a Lifetime.” Winner, excellence in writing: lyrics. Numerous press reviews including New York Times.

Kissin Improv (2013-present): Improv teacher, all levels, beginner to advanced.

Bronxwood Home for the Aged (2012): Improv teacher at this assisted living home. Engaged participants in therapeutic improv exercises to aid mental well-being and help strengthen memory skills.

No Solo Mio (2009): Jackson Rep Theater. Write/perform one man show that allows for audience participation in all my monologues. Director: Ari Kreith

Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical (2009): Victoza launch. Write comedy sketches, parody lyrics, and material for national sales force meeting.

Monologues & Madness (2008–present): Featured writer/performer in this monthly monologue show at Cornelia Street Café, Pangea, and online.

HB Studios (2008-2013): I teach four different improv comedy classes (beginner to advanced) at this renowned West Village acting school.

Ross, Culbert & Lavery (2007): Write song parodies and sketches for Scholastic Books annual meeting.

Elaine Kaufman Cultural Arts Center (2007- 2012): Teach playwriting and musical theater to 4th and 5th grade students at the Manhattan School for Children.

Cut to the Chase, TBS (2005): Actor. Role: The Candy Man.

Street Wise (2005): TSI Playtime Series. Write/perform solo show — monologues.

Manhattan Monologue Slam (2004, 2005, 2007): 3-time winner - Competitive monologue slam championship.

Reality TV - Live on Stage (2003): The Workshop Theater. I write / perform this solo show mixing sketch with on-stage audience participation. Director Paul Obedzinski.

JCC Manhattan (2003-2008): Improv teacher. Teach singles groups as well as classes for adults with learning disabilities.

92nd Street Y (2003- 2008): Teach improv comedy, sketch writing, stand-up, juggling.

11/9 - Film (2002): Co-writer, lead actor. Arthur. Director Jeff Clinkenbeard.

FOX-5 News (2001): News feature - I am dubbed the “Outgoing Phone Message King” for my prolific comedy phone messages.

Live on Tape (2000): Director / head writer of sketch comedy show that shoots 10 pilot episodes for NBC.

Kwik Witz (1999): Writer/actor in nationally syndicated competitive sketch comedy show. Fellow cast members include Wayne Brady, Steve Carrell, and Andrew Daly, et al.

Starr’s on Broadway (1999): Political satire. Actor. Played Richard Nixon, Bill Clinton, Lenny Bruce and original characters. The Producer’s Club.

The Misanthrope (1998) - Actor. Altered Stages. Played role of Oronte. Director: Julie Thaxter-Gourlay.

What’s a Nice Country Like You Doing In a State Like This? (1995): Script doctor. Write scenes/sketch material for revival of satirical musical.

Katie Kouric (1993): Write comedy material for her speech at the White House Press Correspondents Dinner.

The Joan Rivers Show (1992): WPIX-TV. Actor/writer. Perform political song parody I wrote, “You Gotta Have a Gimmick.”

The Jackie Mason Show (1992): WOR-TV, Channel 9. Panelist discussing censorship in the arts.

Chicago City Limits (1990-present): MainStage actor and head-writer for nationally acclaimed improvisational & sketch comedy group. My material appears on the Today Show, Joan Rivers, Jackie Mason, Good Day NY, et al. Director of National Touring Co.

Chicago City Limits Touring Company (1988-1989): Actor, tour across the United States and internationally.

American TV-R (1991-1993): Copywriter. Write twenty seven television commercials for Jamesway Department Store. Commercials won advertising's 1991 Monitor Award.

Cortez-Seidner/ Devlin-Hair/ Todd Street Prod./ Jack Morton/ Drury/ MJM/ et al (1990-present): Write/perform corporate shows for over 100 Fortune 500 companies.

NY Post (1990): Write/perform "Ed Koch" impersonation to roast Mayor David Dinkins at celebrity fundraiser.

MTV: "Quality Time with Uncle Spike" (1989): Jocko the Birthday Clown.

Mr. Eggman, VH1 (1989): Actor. Recurring character: Chef Bernaise. Host Vic Dunlop.

"Goldigger": Screenplay (1989): Add comedy/continuity to this indie film.

MTV: "Mouth to Mouth" (1988): Original staff writer/performer. Comedy variety show.

Talk Radio - movie (1988): Director Oliver Stone. Voice of Glenn.

Talk Radio - play (1987): Actor. Public Theater. Onstage character: Sid Greenberg, offstage: six call-in voices. Understudy to 3 onstage roles and all 18 male call-in voices.

Ulan Bator (1989-1990) HOME for Contemporary Theater & Art, Cooper Square Theater. Actor. Various comedy characters. Director William Parker.

Corporate/Industrial (1987-present): Perform for and teach team-building, communication, collaboration, and brainstorming skills for the executives and sales forces of Fortune 500 companies. (List available upon request).

Sanky Perlowin (1987-1989): Freelance writer for Direct Mail fundraising company. Write donor solicitation letters for charities such as "Recording For The Blind."

The Front Line (1986-1988) 13th Street Theater. Sanford Meisner Theater. Actor. Various comedy characters. Director William Parker.

Shoppers University (1986): Copywriter. Write monolog and dialog scripts for various products (jewelry, electronics, art, etc.) for television sales show.

"SYNC" Catalog (1985): Freelance writer for national electronics and executive toy catalog.

New York Improv Squad (1984-1987): Founding member of improv comedy troupe. Perform at Kraine Theater, Wings Theater, The Original Improvisation, et al.

ABC - TV (1984): Voice-over artist. Winter Olympics, Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. Translation voice of numerous foreign athletes, spoken in the accent of their country.

Marketing Equities (1980-1984): Premium jobber/writer. Create in-house incentive programs & comic newsletters for major companies, e.g.: Panasonic, Revlon, Showtime.

Our Town Newspaper (1979): Reporter. Write numerous articles for local Manhattan newspaper.

Sports Extra (1979): WNEW-TV. Intern for weekly sports show. Hosts: Bill Mazer and Lee Leonard

EDUCATION

Collegiate High School, New York, NY

B.A. Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY

BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop - Advanced, New York, NY

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Dramatists Guild

SAG-AFTRA

AEA