

**ANNE MARIE CUMMINGS**

4X DAYTIME EMMY-NOMINATED ACTRESS-WRITER-DIRECTOR

INDIE SERIES AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR / BRONZE TELLY AWARD-WINNING WRITER

**EDUCATION**

The Film Connection, Los Angeles, CA, 2015

*(studied screenwriting with Ron Osborn, "Meet Joe Black" and TV show "Moonlighting")*

Carnegie Mellon University, B.F.A. in Drama, 1986-1990

*(one of the top conservatory drama programs in the U.S.)*

British American Drama Academy, Oxford, England, summer 1987

*(studied with Simon Callow, Jeremy Irons, the late Peggy Ashcroft, Earl Gister, and Sir John Gielgud)*

Inlingua Madrid, Escuela de Idiomas, Madrid, Spain, summer 1986

*(speaks English and has a working knowledge of Spanish)*

Northwestern University Summer Theatre Program, Evanston, Chicago, summer 1985

Yoga College of India, Calcutta, India, 1985

*(yoga teacher certification, Jimmy Barkan and Bikram Choudhury)*

Minneapolis Children's Theatre, Minneapolis, Minnesota, summers of 1983/84

Fort Lauderdale Children's Theatre, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, 1973-1982

**AWARDS**

Daytime Emmy Nominations from The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Outstanding Writer & Outstanding Director in a Digital Drama Series ("Conversations in L.A." written, directed, and starring Cummings), 2019

The Telly Awards, Bronze Winner for Best Scripted Series - "Conversations in L.A.," 2019

Indie Series Awards Wins & Nominations, "Conversations in L.A." – Win: Best Directing (Anne Marie Cummings). Win: Best Guest Actor (Lou Diamond Phillips). Nominations: Best Drama Series, Best Writing (AMC), Best Lead Actress (AMC), Best Lead Actor, Best Cinematography, and Best Guest Actress, 2019

Daytime Emmy Nomination from The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Outstanding Writer in a Digital Drama Series ("Conversations in L.A." written, directed, and starring Cummings), 2018

New Media Film Festival, Nominee for Best Category for "Conversations in L.A." Season Two Trailer, 2018

Daytime Emmy Nomination from The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, Outstanding Lead Actress in a Digital Drama Series ("Conversations in L.A." written, directed, and starring Cummings), 2017

Hollyweb Festival, Nominee for Outstanding Digital Drama Series - "Conversations in L.A." 2017

8X Daytime Emmy-nominated series, "Conversations in L.A." – created, written, directed, starring, and produced by Cummings through film production company, Immediate Vision Productions, 2016-2019

Carnegie Mellon University (graduated with honors); National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts Award (outstanding performance); Silver Knight Award (recognizable achievement); Princess Grace Award (nominee)

**COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**

Yoga & Meditation Instructor, Ithaca, New York *(taught private and group meditation at Rasa Spa)*

The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust, Nairobi, Kenya *(currently fostering a baby elephant named RAPA)*

Books for Bars, Ithaca, New York *(responding to letters from inmates and shipping them requested books)*

Reading for Children, Austin, Texas *(reading books to young children)*

## **WORK**

FOUNDER AND PRODUCER, IMMEDIATE VISION PRODUCTIONS 2015 –

Immediate Vision Productions merges theatre and film to create exciting projects for film and television.

([www.immediatevisionproductions.com](http://www.immediatevisionproductions.com))

## **COMPLETED WORK / IN WORK IN DEVELOPMENT**

“SINKHOLE” – a one-take dramatic film. Written by Anne Marie Cummings. To be directed by Anne Marie Cummings.

“EAT BITTER, TASTE SWEET” – a culinary romantic comedy. Written by Anne Marie Cummings.

“SECOND LIFE” – a new TV series. Created and written by Anne Marie Cummings.

“CONVERSATIONS IN NEW YORK” – a new TV series. Created and written by Anne Marie Cummings.

## **PREVIOUS WORK**

“CONVERSATIONS IN L.A.” – the new and original, single-shot digital drama series created, written, and directed by Anne Marie Cummings. All three seasons of this series released on Amazon Prime and [conversationsinla.com](http://conversationsinla.com) by March, 2019.

In October, 2019, FANDANGONOW picked up all three seasons and posted them on their platform, [fandangonow.com](http://fandangonow.com).

“CONVERSATIONS IN L.A.” - the 8X Daytime Emmy-nominated – 2016-2019

Five Daytime Emmy Nominations from The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences:

Anne Marie Cummings, Outstanding Lead Actress for a Digital Drama Series

Anne Marie Cummings, 2X Outstanding Writer for a Digital Drama Series

Anne Marie Cummings, Outstanding Director for a Digital Drama Series

Gustavo Velasquez, Outstanding Lead Actor for a Digital Drama Series

Lou Diamond Phillips, Outstanding Guest Actor for a Digital Drama Series

Vanita Harbour, Outstanding Supporting Actress for a Digital Drama Series

Mike E. Winfield, Outstanding Guest Actor for a Digital Drama Series

“CONVERSATIONS IN L.A.” – Bronze Telly Award Winner, 2019

Anne Marie Cummings, Best Scripted Series

“CONVERSATIONS IN L.A.” – 2X-Winning Indie Series Awards, 2019

Anne Marie Cummings, Best Directing

Lou Diamond Phillips, Best Guest Actor

“CONVERSATIONS IN L.A.” – 6X nominated Indie Series Awards, 2019

Best Drama Series, “Conversations in L.A.”

Anne Marie Cummings, Best Writing

Sebastian Heinrich, Best Cinematography

Anne Marie Cummings, Best Lead Actress

Gustavo Velasquez, Best Lead Actor

Terra Strong, Best Guest Actress

Graphic Designer of the “Conversations in L.A.” Look Book. (available upon request)

## **FOUNDER & ARTISTIC DIRECTOR of THE READERS' THEATRE OF ITHACA, 2010-2015**

In 2010, Anne Marie started a unique theatre company taking performance readings of plays to a whole new level. The idea for The Readers' Theatre was born during the 2009 U.S. economic downturn as Anne Marie searched for a theatre model that would adapt to the changes in the economy.

The ensemble included professional and non-professional actors performing plays from esteemed and award-winning playwrights. The theatre company also brought theatre online by intersecting the mediums of theatre and film into one. This began in the summer of 2013 when Anne Marie's play, *Soul Mates*, was filmed for The Readers' Theatre's website, bringing audiences an opportunity to watch the company's productions anytime, anywhere.

Also in 2013, The Readers' Theatre created The Writer's Café, a podcast of new and unproduced plays by New York State playwrights, performed by professional and non-professional actors across the U.S. The Writer's Café was free theatre for everyone. It appealed to people's imagination through their auditory senses, and while fans of radio entertainment could appreciate The Writer's Café, The Readers' Theatre believed the blind would especially embrace this unique accessibility to the performing arts.

The Readers' Theatre reached many of its goals. It demonstrated that theatre can be stripped down to its very bare essence and still leave audiences with a sense of wonder. It also showed that theatre doesn't need to be performed in a traditional setting. All of the intimate locations allowed audience members a chance to practically touch the actors on stage, as the actors – metaphorically speaking – touched the audience. [www.thereaderstheatre.com](http://www.thereaderstheatre.com)

### **The Readers' Theatre's Seasons, Plays Selected (and directed) by Anne Marie and the Script Reading Committee**

**2014-2015 Season** (*location, 96-seat theatre at Cinemapolis, the independent movie house in downtown Ithaca*) On stage: *Photograph 51* by Anna Ziegler and *Wrecks* by Neil LaBute. On screen: *Easy Prey*, an anti-bully film written by Anne Marie Cummings, Evan Stewart Eisenberg, and Effie Johnson. A project in conjunction with Cornell University and Pacer's National Bullying Prevention Center.

**2013-2014 Season** (*location, Lehman Alternative Community School black box theatre*) On stage: *Collected Stories* by Donald Margulies, *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza, *Should've* by Roald Hoffmann (a new work by Cornell University's Nobel Prize Winner in Chemistry), *In a Forest, Dark and Deep* by Neil LaBute, and *Detroit* by Lisa D'Amour. On screen: *Soul Mates* by Anne Marie Cummings.

**2012-2013 Season** (*location, GreenStar Warehouse*) *No Child* by Nilaja Sun, *The Mercy Seat* by Neil LaBute, *Sight Unseen* by Donald Margulies, *Oleanna* by David Mamet, and *K2* by Patrick Meyers.

**2011-2012 Season** (*location, GreenStar Warehouse*) *Frozen* by Bryony Lavery, *A Steady Rain* by Keith Huff, *Art* by Yasmina Reza, and *Uncle Vanya* by Anton Chekhov.

**2010-2011 Season** (*location, performance space at Buffalo Street Books Bookstore*) *Extremes* by Anne Marie Cummings, *True West* by Sam Shepherd, *Fat Pig* by Neil LaBute, and *Burn This* by Lanford Wilson.

### **Created and Coordinated Community Talk-Backs Following Plays**

Anne Marie invited leaders in the community and professors from Cornell University and Ithaca College to speak following performance readings. Audience members were given the opportunity to reflect, more deeply, on what they had just seen on stage, and they were provided with a platform for voicing their thoughts and feelings about the work.

#### **Following *Wrecks* by Neil LaBute**

On screen at Cinemapolis, award-winning playwright, Neil LaBute talks about writing *Wrecks* and the development of the main character in his riveting one-person play. Filmed by Torkil Stavdal, on set of Neil LaBute's TV show, "Billy and Billie."

**Following *Photograph 51* by Anna Ziegler**

On screen at Cinemapolis, award-winning playwright Anna Ziegler talks about her process writing a historical fiction about a group of scientists on the verge of discovering the DNA double helix. Filmed and interviewed by Anne Marie Cummings over Skype. *(interview available upon request)*

**Following *God of Carnage* by Yasmina Reza**

City of Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick, Chief of Police, John Barber, and New York State Assemblywoman, Barbara Lifton  
*"Bullying and What Our Community Can Do About It"*

Cornell University's Marie Underhill Noll Professor of History, Richard Polenberg  
*"The History of Bullying in America"*

**Following *Collected Stories* by Donald Margulies**

Ithaca College's Writing Professor and Author, Jeanne Mackin  
*"On the Mentor-Mentee Relationship"*

**Following *No Child* by Nilaja Sun**

City of Ithaca Mayor Svante Myrick and New York State Assemblywoman, Barbara Lifton  
*"Overcoming Obstacles in the American Education System"*

**Following *Sight Unseen* by Donald Margulies**

Cornell University's Director of the Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Stephanie Wiles  
*"Art and Commerce"*

**Following *The Mercy Seat* by Neil LaBute**

Ithaca College's Professor of Electroacoustic Composition, Peter Rothbart  
*"Composing Music for The Mercy Seat"*

City of Ithaca Psychologist, Rebecca Golding  
*"9/11 and the Psychology Behind Escape"*

**Following *Oleanna* by David Mamet**

Cornell University's Interactive Theatre Ensemble Coordinator, Vivian Relta  
*"Listening To Be Heard Or Listening To Be Right"*

Cornell University's Marie Underhill Noll Professor of History, Richard Polenberg  
*"History: The Mamet/Clarence Thomas Connection"*

Director of *Oleanna* and RTI's Founder and Artistic Director, Anne Marie Cummings  
*"A Director Prepares: Examining Complex Characters"*

**Following *K2* by Patrick Meyers**

Cornell University's Former Executive Director of Cornell Outdoor Education, Todd Miner  
*"Being at High Altitude"*

Cornell University's Professor in the Departments of Classics, Comparative Literature and Near Eastern Studies, Gail Holst-Warhaft

*"Silence and Nature"*

**Following *Frozen* by Bryony Lavery**

Former City of Ithaca Mayor, Carolyn Peterson and Former Ithaca Chief of Police, Edward Vallely  
*"When Children and Adults Go Missing: How the Community Can Help"*

**Following *A Steady Rain* by Keith Huff**

Cornell University's Marie Underhill Noll Professor of History, Richard Polenberg  
*"The Facts Behind the Fiction: Chicago Police and Jeffrey Dahmer"*

**Following *Art* by Yasmina Reza**

Cornell University's Former Director of the Herbert F. Johnson Museum, Frank Robinson  
*"What is Art?"*

**Following *Uncle Vanya* by Anton Chekhov (the David Mamet adaptation)**

## PLAYWRIGHT 2004 -

**India Awaiting, 2004-2005.** Off-Broadway, Samuel Beckett Theatre in New York City (Director Tyler Marchant. Starring Maulik Pancholy, "30 Rock," "Whitney," and "Weeds"). Readings of **India Awaiting** were held at the Culture Project and Cherry Lane Theatres, NYC. Performance readings included actors: Aasif Mandvi ("The Daily Show"), and Indian movie stars, Madhur Jaffrey ("Prime") and Lillete Dubey ("Monsoon Wedding").

**Touché!, 2006.** Readings in NYC at the Cherry Lane and Classic Stage Company (Director Lucie Tiberghien).

**Purgatory Row, 2006-2007.** Readings in NYC at the Culture Project and Salaam Theatre (Director Ludovica Villar-Hauser), and at Buffalo Street Books in Ithaca, NY (starring Kate Buddeke, "Payback").

**Extremes, 2010 and 2011.** A reading in NYC at Primary Stages (Director Sydney Sidner. Starring Michael Cullen, "Dead Man Walking" and Jessica Blank, author of "Exonerated"), and a reading at Buffalo Books, Ithaca, NY.

**Soul Mates, 2015.** A Readers' Theatre play presented online with a special screening at Kendal, Ithaca, NY.

**Sinkhole, 2015.** Three private readings in Ithaca, NY, with a recording on [www.annemariecumplings.com](http://www.annemariecumplings.com).

**Conversations, 2014 - .** A series of shorts. A work in progress.

## THEATRE ACTRESS 1990-2015

~Seattle Repertory Theatre, **Faith in Voir Dire**, by Joe Sutton, Director Doug Hughes (mainstage & studio)

~New York Theatre Workshop (NYC), **Faith in Voir Dire**, by Joe Sutton, Director Doug Hughes (reading)

~The Readers' Theatre of Ithaca, **Betty in In a Forest, Dark and Deep**, by Neil LaBute, Director C. Henderson

~The Readers' Theatre of Ithaca, **Abby in The Mercy Seat**, by Neil LaBute, Director Bryan VanCampen

~Cleveland Play House, **Antigone in Antigone**, by Jean Anouih, Director Edward Payson Call

~GeVa Theatre (Rochester, NY), **Antigone in Antigone**, by Jean Anouih, Director Edward Payson Call

~Intiman Theatre (Seattle, WA), **Agatha in Smash**, by Jeffrey Hatcher, Director Victor Pappas

~Sacramento Theatre Company, **Rosaura in Life is a Dream**, by Pedro Calderon de La Barca, Director Mark Cuddy

~Cherry Lane & Culture Project (NYC), **Janet in India Awaiting**, by A.M. Cummings, Director Leigh Fondakowski

~Synchronicity Space (NYC), **Irina in Three Sisters**, by Anton Chekhov, Director Peter Sylvester

~Sacramento Theatre Company, **Ligurio in The Mandrake**, by Niccoló Machiavelli, Director Tim Ocel

~Alley Theatre (Houston, TX), **Eugenie in A Flea In Her Ear**, by Georges Feydeau, Director Gregory Boyd

~Alley Theatre, **Ensemble in American Vaudeville**, by Anne Bogart and Tina Landau, Director Anne Bogart

~Alley Theatre, **Casca in Julius Caesar**, by William Shakespeare, Director Christopher Baker

~Alley Theatre, **Calliope in Calliope Jam**, by Christopher Baker, Director Michael Wilson

~Capital City Playhouse (Austin, TX), **Constanze in Amadeus**, by Peter Shaffer, Director Mark Ramont

~Austin Shakespeare, **Puck in Midsummer Night's Dream**, by William Shakespeare, Director Anne Ciccolella

~The Immediate Theatre (Seattle, WA), **Marie in Woyzeck**, by Georg Büchner, Director Chuck Hudson

~The Immediate Theatre, **Gregor in The Metamorphosis**, by Franz Kafka, Director Chuck Hudson

~Genesis Theatre Project (Seattle, WA), **Taylor in K2**, by Patrick Meyers, Director Benjii Bittle

~Seattle Shakespeare, **Hero in Much Ado About Nothing**, by William Shakespeare, Director Terry Moore

~Seattle Shakespeare, **Isabella in Measure for Measure**, by William Shakespeare, Director David Wright

~Seattle Children's Theatre, **Lavinia in Sara Crew**, by Frances Hodgson Burnett, Director John Dillon

~AHA! Theatre (Seattle, WA), **Chastity in The Rape of Lucrece**, by W. Shakespeare, Director Allison Halstead

~Alice B. Theatre (Seattle, WA), **Frances in A Good List**, written and directed by Andrew Mellen

~Hollywood Playhouse (Florida), **Anne in Diary of Anne Frank**, by Frances Goodrich, Director Marianne Mavrides

~Kresge at Carnegie Mellon, **Rosalind in As You Like It**, by William Shakespeare, Director Bernard Hopkins

~Kresge at Carnegie Mellon, **Martirio in The House of Bernarda Alba**, by Lorca, Director Rina Yerushalmi

## **JOURNALIST, BLOGGER, & PHOTOGRAPHER 2007-2015**

### ***The Ithaca Journal, The Star Gazette, Press & Sun Bulletin, Upstate New York, 2007-2013***

Food reviewer (online and in print) for restaurants, bars, and bed and breakfast locations: “Ithaca Eats.” Columnist (online and in print) for “Instant Message” and “Alternative Tompkins” (*created both columns*). “Instant Message” was an uncensored column written in a monologue format and gave teenagers a voice to speak honestly about everything under the sun from sex, drugs, eating and mood disorders, bullying, being gay, surviving the divorce of parents, coping with death and illness, social pressures at school, etc.

### ***Tompkins Weekly, Ithaca, New York, 2007- 2015***

Weekly news journalist and photographer (online and in print) covering breaking news in and around the Finger Lakes Region. Topics ranged from local politics to ground-breaking news from local colleges.

### ***Rasa Spa, Ithaca, New York, 2007-2012***

Created and wrote a blog for Rasa Spa’s meditation class – a weekly blog with one to three entries per week with information following Anne Marie’s weekly group meditation class. Topics ranged from learning to live with compassion, coping with anger, learning to listen, and what to expect when meditating.

### ***Your Health Monthly, National Magazine, Gannett Pacific Publications, 2007-2011***

Correspondent (online and in print) covering articles about alternative health. Topics ranged from alternative approaches for illnesses and diseases to the latest products used to support physical and mental health.

### ***Good Life Magazine, Central New York Magazine, Gannett Pacific Publications, freelance 2010***

Correspondent for upscale glossy magazine covering stories about the people who enrich Central New York.

### ***The Ithaca Times, Ithaca, New York, 2007-2008***

Columnist (online and in print) for “Police Beat” and “Jenny About Town” (*created both columns*). “Police Beat” was a column about Anne Marie’s adventures riding in a police car late at night with a rookie police officer. “Jenny About Town” was a column about Anne Marie’s observations moving from NYC to the small town of Ithaca.

## **PROGRAM DIRECTOR AND PRODUCER 1996-2007 (project-by-project basis)**

### ***Program Director, The Greenhouse Spa, New York City, New York***

Wrote all copy, articles, ads, and press releases for outgoing Greenhouse mail, e-blasts, promotional materials, and newsletters. Booked top experts, authors, and celebrities to give lectures and talks at the spa. Oversaw designs of the Art Director, interacted with the press, and communicated extensively with the spa staff.

### ***Program Director for NYC Socialite Mrs. Audrey Gruss, New York City, New York***

Supervised over 30 household staff members among five international homes; maintained personal, business and charitable calendars; coordinated VIP events; and corresponded with major political figures and celebrities. Played key role in assisting Mrs. Gruss in realizing her foundation “Hope for Depression,” by securing the participation of renowned physicians, celebrities, and socialites through strong oral and written communication skills.

### ***Program Director, The Brine Charitable Trust, New York City, New York***

Played key role in transitioning founder Kevin Brine’s philanthropic dream into a viable charitable trust. Oversaw ongoing event functions, handled invitations (design, distribution & tracking), venue selection, catering, entertainment, and décor for elite charitable functions. Entrusted by founder to manage relationships and serve as primary contact for diplomats, ambassadors, VIP’s, and major institutions including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Whitney, New York University,

and the New York Public Library. Capitalized on pr/advertising background to oversee the design of the website [www.projectphilanthropy.com](http://www.projectphilanthropy.com).

**Art Producer, Serino Coyne Advertising, New York City, New York**

Played key role in repositioning this agency into one of the top Broadway advertising firms by sourcing, evaluating, and securing top fashion photographers and illustrators for major ad campaigns. Worked with a team of eight Art Directors while producing major photo shoots for *The Producers*, *Cabaret*, *42nd Street*, *The Music Man*, and a number of other Broadway musicals. Successfully introduced weekly "Photo Exhibits" for Art Directors where top photography agents showcased new talent. Administered art budgets, negotiated contracts, hired creative teams, assisted celebrities, and oversaw makeup artists and stylists during photo shoots.

**Producer, "Explorations," New York Fashion Week, New York City, New York**

Producer for fashion show highlighting the following clothing designers: Henry Lehr of American Colors, Bi Li of Earth Speaks, Mr. B., Salonas 7, February Eleventh, and Feuerwasser. Sponsors: Vespa, Orbit, Bentley, The Millennium Broadway Hotel, Hue, Conair, and OP Vodka. Cast the models and choreographed the show.

**Junior Account Executive, LaForce & Stevens PR, New York City, New York**

Account executive for the U.S. launch of the beauty store, Sephora, located in SoHo. Worked closely with Vice President of Sephora, coordinating press presentations and launch parties. Additionally, wrote compelling and creative business proposals securing new accounts including Sephora, The Body Shop, Yves Saint Laurent, Glenlivet, Taittinger Champagne, Nautica, Perry Ellis, Lancaster, Kate Spade, and Hard Candy.