

Laurie Okin

Laurie earned her theater degree (with a minor in Spanish) at the University of Massachusetts. She then spent several years in Los Angeles performing in The Groundlings Sunday Company before co-producing several sketch and improv shows at The HBO Workspace, The Court Theatre and Stella Adler.

Laurie's television credits include guest star roles on "Friends," "Donor Unknown," and "MadTV," and a recurring role as a sketch player on "Late Night with Conan O'Brien." She was a series regular in "The Dave Sheridan Show," a script/improv hybrid pilot for the WB, and was also attached as a regular to PBS's airing pilot "Cop Shop," in which she played a dominatrix and worked toe to leather-clad toe with such greats as Richard Dreyfus, Rosie Perez and Rita Moreno. After moving to N.Y. three years ago, she starred in the pilot presentation of IFC's "Z-Rock," playing a rock-and-roll groupie by night and upper-East-side mom by day. Her most recent film credits include the title role in the independent feature "Why George?" and lead roles in the short films "Any Body" and "The Lake Effect."

While in N.Y., Laurie co-founded CharlieCat Productions, a theatre company through which she wrote and produced her two-character play "A Comfortable Silence." She also commissioned, produced and starred in the Edward Allan Baker comedy "Lila on the Wall," which CharlieCat took to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August 2005 where it received outstanding reviews and was greeted enthusiastically by an international audience. Her production company also commissioned "Nested Doll" by Clay McLeod Chapman and produced it at the Red Room. Other theatre work includes appearing in Suzan-Lori Parks' "365 Plays/365 Days" at the Public Theater in New York City and starring as Margy in "The Widow's Blind Date" at the Gloucester Stage Company in Massachusetts

She recently moved back to L.A., where she was immediately cast in the world premiere of Catherine Butterfield's six-character ensemble play "Brownstone" at the Laguna Playhouse. Laurie has also acted extensively in commercials, most notably for Chase, Home Depot, Secret and Milky Way.

For *Brownstone*:

"Talented thespians expand and deepen their characterizations throughout, notably Naughton's gradual realization of where Jessica's true priorities lie." - Variety

"Naughton turns in nice work as a driven career woman derailed by biology." - LA Times

For *The Widow's Blind Date*:

"Laurie Naughton's Margy is a marvel of controlled pain and brittle self-preservation...Naughton invests Margy with impressive strength and versatility." - The Boston Globe

"[Margy] is in turn a bit shy and awkward...seductive, sarcastic, manipulative, and angry, and Naughton makes each of her moods convincing." - Broadway World