

THE MEE-OOW SHOW FEST

EST. 1974

APRIL 6, 2024



NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

QUÆCUMQUE SUNT RIDUCULAM!

Today we celebrate 50 years
of the longest running student improv comedy show
- The Mee-Ow Show!

Started as an act of rebellion in 1974,
The Mee-Ow Show has found a way to pivot, on a yearly basis,
with new people, new ideas, and
new ways of looking at the world around them.
No two casts or shows have ever been the same.
It's a wonder that it lasted this long and a testament
to the staying power of a good idea.

As with every Mee-Ow Show, this reunion was made possible
through remarkable acts of love, nostalgia,
and countless hours of meeting and planning.
Our mission from the start was to celebrate
a half century of laughter, collaboration and spontaneity
by reuniting the Mee-Ow Show family, acknowledging our past,
reveling in our present, and shaping the future of our beloved tradition.

Today we have a packed program of alumni,
many of whom are returning to NU for the first time
since their days as a student here.
It's our homecoming. It's our family. It's our double-major.

Thank you for taking your time to be with us today,
and for celebrating The Mee-Ow Show's first 50 years.

Corey Rosen
Chair, Mee-Ow Show Fest Reunion Committee

The Mee-Ow Show Fest Committee

Event Chair: Corey Rosen
"Cat Chat" Producers: Dory Weiss & Jill Alexander
Communications Chair: Chris Pfaff
NU Relations: Jessica Hughes
Co-Chair/Finance Chair: Mark Brogger
Merchandise Chair: Saskia Young
Resident Historian and Graphic Designer: Joseph Radding
Improv Jam Chair: Dave Clapper
Party MC's: Eric Gilliland, J.P. Manoux, Ed Herbstman
Mee-Ow Show Alumni Relations: Stuart Feldman
Honorary Chairman: Paul Warshauer

SCHEDULE

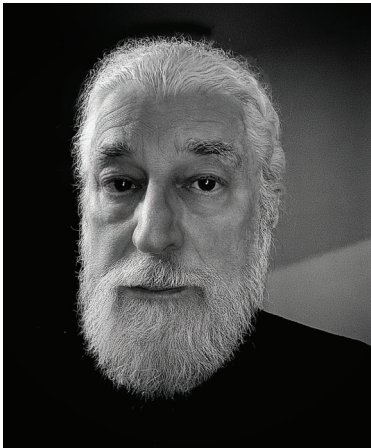
10:00 AM	Check-in/Will Call opens.. All ticket holders: please pick up ticket/ID badge at the Will Call table in lobby of Norris.
10:30 AM	Doors open at McCormick Auditorium
11:00-11:15 AM	Welcome to Mee-Ow Show Fest! Presenters: Corey Rosen, Evanston Mayor Daniel Biss
11:15-12 Noon History of Mee-Ow	A Short History of The Mee-Ow Show Presenter: Joseph Radding, Co-author of the upcoming book: <i>The Mee-Ow Show at 50: From Cultural Rebellion to Comedy Institution</i>
12:15-1:30 PM Cat Chat 1	Mee-Ow Impacts: TV Makers & Screenwriters Host: Eric Gilliland in conversation with: Liz Cackowski, Jen D'Angelo, Abby Kohn, Liz Kruger, Robin Shorr, Justin Spitzer, Adrian Wenner, and Jason Winer.
1:30-1:45 PM	15 minute break
1:45-2:35 PM Cat Chat 2	Mee-Ow Impacts: Developing a Comedic Voice in the Real World Host: Ana Gasteyer in conversation with: Mark Brogger, Pat Buetow, Danielle Calvert, Carly Ciarrochi, Karen Cooper, Scott Duff, Richard Radutzky, and Saskia Young.
2:35-2:40 PM	5 minute break
2:40-3:15 PM Cat Chat 3	Mee-Ow Impacts: Improv Worldwide - From Whose Line Is It Anyway? to Boom Chicago and Beyond Host: Josh Meyers in conversation with: Dan Patterson, Pep Rosenfeld, Lillian Frances, Chris Gorbos, and Ed Herbstman.
3:15-3:30	15 minute break
3:30-4:45 PM Cat Chat 4	Mee-Ow Impacts: Actors & Storytellers, with Q&A Host: Jill Alexander in conversation with: Anjali Bhimani, Ana Gasteyer, Peter Grosz, Jessica Lowe, J.P. Manoux, Josh Meyers, Dermot Mulroney, Romy Rosemont, Kristen Schaal, and Jean Villepique.
4:45-5:00 PM	15 minute break
5:00 -6:00 PM	All Alumni Improv Comedy Jam Hosts: Daniele Gaither and Orly Lewittes Featuring the cast of the 2024 Mee-Ow Show!

**The Mee-Ow Show at 50:
From Cultural Rebellion to Comedy Institution**

Presented by Joseph Radding (Mee-Ow '74 surrealist-in-residence)

An entertaining and academic overview of the history of the Mee-Ow Show, the longest-running student improv comedy show in the world.

This is a preview of the upcoming book by the same title, co-authored by Mr. Radding and Paul W. Warshauer. Publication by the Northwestern University Press is expected October 2024.



Joseph B. Radding was the Surrealist-in-Residence of the first Mee-Ow Show. He is an artist, graphic designer, writer, former agency creative director, martial artist, medieval re-enactor, and lecturer in Integrated Marketing Communications at Eastern Michigan University. His previous book, *Suits plus Creatives*, is a textbook about interdisciplinary collaboration. He lives in Michigan with his brilliant wife Marilee, their extraverted basset hound Hank, and their two cats Bella and Chaucer.



Paul W. Warshauer co-founded the Mee-Ow Show. He owns and operates Grande Venues, a real estate development company that acquires, restores, rehabilitates, or operates historic old theaters and buildings. He also has written, produced and performed over 450 original murder mystery entertainments across all 50 states under the company name Murders4Fun. He lives in Minnesota.

12:15-1:30 Cat Chat 1: TV Makers and Storytellers

Mee-Ow alumni from across the decades share how their involvement in the show impacted their careers as writers and producers of television and movies.

Hosted by



Eric Gilliland (cast/director '84) has written for TV shows such as *Who's The Boss?*, *The Wonder Years*, *Roseanne* - where enough people got fired that he eventually wound up as executive producer/ head writer. Other credits include *That 70's Show*, *My Boys*, *Mr. Sunshine*. Taking a year off from TV and making money, Eric produced the documentary *God Grew Tired Of Us: The Story of The Lost Boys Of Sudan* which won both the Grand Jury Prize and the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival and "Best Documentary" at both the Deauville and Galway Film Festivals. Last year, he wrote and executive produced a 20-part "radio show" adventure series for the whole family called *The Cinnamon Bear* for Audible. It was saluted as one of the top 100 podcasts of the year and stars pretty much everyone you've ever heard of.

In conversation with

Liz Cackowski (cast '97, '98) is a comedy writer, producer, and actress whose credits include *Saturday Night Live*, *Community*, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, *Neighbors*, *Funny or Die Presents*, *Last Man on Earth*, *Wine Country*, and *Girls 5 Eva*. Most recently she co-created *Paperkite Podcasts* with Amy Poehler. In addition to the Mee-Ow Show, she is a proud alum of Boom Chicago and The Second City.

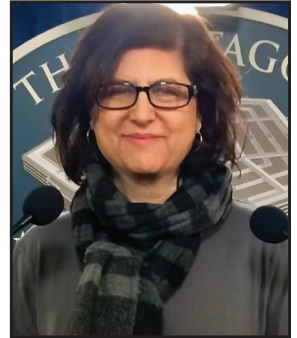


Jen D'Angelo (cast '09, cast/co-director '10) wrote and produced the Critics Choice Award winning feature *Quiz Lady* starring Awkwafina, Sandra Oh, and Will Ferrell which premiered at TIFF in 2023 (PGA & WGA Award Nominee) as well as Amazon's genre-bending *Totally Killer* (WGA Nomination) directed by Nahhatchka Khan. She wrote the Emmy Award-Nominated *Hocus Pocus 2*, which broke the record for views for a streaming movie in its debut weekend. She's worked on feature projects at Universal, Paramount, Netflix, New Line, and Amazon. Jen was a Co-Executive Producer on *The Young Rock* starring Dwayne Johnson. Additional credits include *Solar Opposites* (Hulu), *Happy Together*, *LA to Vegas*, *Workaholics*, *The Millers*, and *Cougar Town*. She's performed on Comedy Central's Adam Devine's House Party and starred opposite Nicole Byer on MTV's *Loosely Exactly Nicole*.



Abby Kohn (cast '93) is a director and writer. After graduating from Northwestern, she earned an MFA in Film Production from the University of Southern California. Just a few months out of school, she and her writing partner sold their romantic comedy *Never Been Kissed* to Fox 2000 and Flower Films. The script was rushed into production with Drew Barrymore leading the cast. Abby then made her directorial debut with her original script *I Feel Pretty*, starring Amy Schumer and Michelle Williams. She and her writing partner are currently developing their feature comedy *NOOBS* with Bette Midler attached to star. Abby also co-wrote *He's Just Not That Into You*, *Valentine's Day*, *The Vow*, and *How to Be Single*, which together have grossed nearly 800 million dollars in worldwide box office.

Liz Kruger (stage manager '85, producer '86) is a writer, director, and creator. She and her writing partner/husband Craig Shapiro most recently served as showrunners of the CW's *Charmed* reboot and executive produced the pilot of the CBS/ P+ hit *So Help Me Todd*, starring Marcia Gay Harden and Skyler Astin. Liz and Craig got their start in features, penning scripts for a variety of studios and talent including Reese Witherspoon and Scarlett Johansson. They created and EP'd the USA Network dramedy *Necessary Roughness* and co-created the CBS sci-fi thriller *Salvation*. Additional EP credits include Steven Spielberg sci-fi series *Extant*, *The Girlfriend's Guide to Divorce*, *Star Trek: Discovery*, as well as writing for ABC's *Pan Am* and *Miami Medical*. Their production company is aptly named "Still Married Productions." (Because they are.)



Robin Shorr (cast '96, '97) has been writing sitcoms for the last 19 years. Her credits include *Samantha Who?*, *Workaholics*, *The Middle*, *Galavant* and *The Carmichael Show*. She served as showrunner for the Disney+ show *Diary of a Future President* and as Co-Executive Producer of the Peacock reboot of *Punky Brewster*. In addition to being on staff, Robin has developed pilots for ABC, FOX, and HULU and co-hosts *Los Feliz the Podcast* with comedian Morgan Murphy. Robin's latest podcast project with *Girls* showrunner Jenni Konner launches later this year.



Justin Spitzer (cast '98) created and executive produced *Superstore*, which ran on NBC for six seasons (2015- 2021), and *American Auto* (starring Ana Gasteyer), which ran on NBC for two seasons (2021-2023). Currently, he is executive producing *St. Denis Medical*, a comedy mockumentary he co-created which is set to air on NBC next year. His other credits include seven seasons writing and producing *The Office*, as well as stints on *Scrubs*, *Committed*, *Courting Alex*, and *Mulaney*.

Adrian Wenner (cast '93, '94, cast/co-director '95) is a writer and producer. He and his writing partner (and fellow Mee-Ow alum) Ethan Sandler have worked on *New Girl*, *Man With a Plan*, *Whitney*, and *My Boys*. They've written several television pilots and have developed feature projects for Scott Rudin, Mike White, and Steven Spielberg. He and Sandler also wrote and starred in the two-man show *Epitaph* which won Best Sketch at the HBO Comedy Festival and was nominated for the Perrier Award at the Edinburgh Fringe. Adrian has also written on *Grey's Anatomy* and adapted the bestselling novel *Thursday Murder Club* for the screen.



Jason Winer (cast '94) is a producer and director best known for the pilot of *Modern Family*, for which he won the DGA Award for "Outstanding Direction of a Comedy Series." He was the producing director of *Modern Family's* first season, receiving an Emmy, Peabody, PGA Award, and more. Over the course of his career, Winer has directed 2 feature films plus 8 television pilots that have gone on to series, including *Don't Trust the B* in Apartment 23*, *Life in Pieces*, *Single Parents*, *Perfect Harmony*, *The Big Leap*, and most recently *The Santa Clauses* for Disney+. He is an alumnus of Improv Olympic in Chicago.

1:45-2:35 Cat Chat 2: Developing a Comedic Voice in Real Life

Mee-Ow alumni from the '80's and '90's, now decades into careers outside of Hollywood, share how their experiences in Mee-Ow still impact their work. More recent alumni from the '00's and '10's also discuss the challenges of transforming the skills they developed and honed in Mee-Ow into sustainable careers.

Hosted by

Ana Gasteyer (cast '88, '89) spent 6 seasons on SNL portraying iconic characters like NPR radio host Margaret Jo and Lilith Fair poetess Cinder Calhoun as well as performing her incomparable impressions of Martha Stewart and Celine Dion. Ana's recent TV work includes *American Auto* (created and executive produced by Mee-Ow alum Justin Spitzer) as well as *The Goldbergs* and *Lady Dynamite*. She maintains a vibrant theater career, having played Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl*, Mrs. Peachum in *The Threepenny Opera*, Elphaba in *Wicked*, Kitty Dean in *The Royal Family* as well as Mimi in City Center's *A New Brain*. Film roles include *Mean Girls*, *Robot and Frank*, and *The Women*.



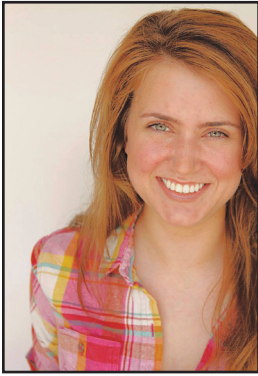
In conversation with

Mark Brogger (producer '84, '85) spent his early career years as a fledgling screenwriter with one IMDB credit to his name— *Courage Mountain*, which starred a sober-enough Charlie Sheen. Mark pivoted to coding and website development which led to a career in digital marketing. He spent seven years with The Walt Disney Company building websites and leading online marketing campaigns for such hits as *Finding Nemo*, *The Incredibles*, *Pirates of The Caribbean*, *Wall-E*, *Ratatouille* and *Up*. Mark then transitioned into the hospitality industry as creative director for Viking Cruises where he spearheaded their corporate sponsorship of MASTERPIECE on PBS with programs such as *Downton Abbey* and *Sherlock*. Currently, Mark is head of content for a startup in San Francisco, where he lives happily with his partner and their two Labradoodles, Buttons and Cookie.



Pat Buetow (cast '13, '14) is an actor and writer best known for his comedy videos @nomdecoom (TikTok/IG) where he's accumulated over 500,000 followers. In 2022, he developed his half hour comedy pilot *Doomed To Repeat*, based on characters he's created online, with Mike Sikowitz (*The Goldbergs*, *Friends*) and optioned it to Sony Television. "Mee-Ow was an amazing developmental experience for finding my voice in comedy— I repurposed a sketch I wrote for a Mee-Ow Show and made it into a TikTok that became one of my more-viewed videos."

1:45-2:35 Cat Chat 2: Developing a Comedic Voice in Real Life (con't.)



Danielle Calvert (cast '11) is an Emmy-nominated children's TV writer. In LA, she worked as a writers' assistant on a number of Disney Channel shows and pilots until she was staffed on Netflix's *Malibu Rescue* and Disney Channel's *That's So Raven* reboot, *Raven's Home*. Danielle has also contributed to the comedy segments on Steve Harvey's talk show on NBC and clip shows for *America's Funniest Videos*.

Carly Ciarrochi (cast '07, '08, co-director '08) is an Emmy-nominated host, writer, musician, and producer. She has spent most of her career in children's media, making and hosting TV shows and podcasts with collaborators like Sprout, Universal Kids, Disney+, Nick Jr, Tinkercast, Amazon Kids, and Sesame Workshop. As a musician, she's written tunes for Sprout/Universal Kids and is a vocalist/songwriter on two Grammy Award winning children's albums. She hosts multiple kids' podcasts including Tinkercasts' *Who When Wow: Mystery Edition* and *Pinna's Hey Story Go!* She also serves as co-creator/producer on the latter. Carly is a speaker and emcee, working often with the LEGO Foundation and other organizations that advocate for creativity and play. Whether she's talking to preschoolers or policymakers, her work invites all ages to create, imagine, explore, fail, connect, bounce, wonder, feel and play more - together.



Karen Cooper (cast '84) is a seasoned editorial professional who has spent her career making words happen good. After graduating from Northwestern, she was a script coordinator at The Muppets and produced several children's TV shows for NBC & PBS. She was recruited to Microsoft, where she created advanced technology prototypes (You don't remember interactive television? That's cuz it was so interactive you got incepted) and created content for MSN and online learning. She spent the next decade as content director at the photo editing startup PicMonkey.com and then at Shutterstock.com, where she helped create the user experience and messaging for generative AI. She holds a master's degree in instructional technology from Columbia University, and recently retired, except for cool little projects that mock her intention to get better sleep and chill the f out.

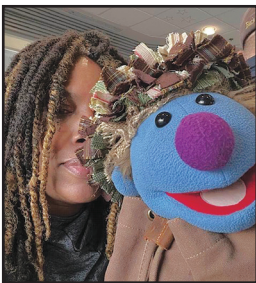
1:45-2:35 Cat Chat 2: Developing a Comedic Voice in Real Life (con't.)



Scott Duff (cast '92) is a Chicago-based actor, comic, and radio host. He is an Artistic Associate and founding member of About Face Theatre, Chicago's premiere theater company dedicated to advancing LGBTQ+ equity. He has performed all over Chicago including work at the Goodman, Steppenwolf, Theater Wit, Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Second City, Laugh Factory Chicago, and comedy clubs throughout the city. Scott is the host/producer of *Out Chicago*, a live weekly talk show for the LGBT community airing Sundays on WCPT, Chicago's Progressive Talk Radio. Now in its 10th year, *Out Chicago* tackles today's tricky political and social issues from a queer point of view.

The show is an insightful mix of local and national politics, interviews with LGBTQ activists and artists, and a healthy amount of shade.

Richard Radutzky (cast '84, '85) graduated from NU and was immediately welcomed into the Chicago theater scene, appearing in many productions at Steppenwolf, Remains Theatre, and The Goodman. In 1989, Richard made a major life and career change, deciding to put his acting pursuits on hold and go into his family business - the JOYVA candy company where Rich now serves as President and Co-owner. Located in Brooklyn, the 116 year-old company founded by Rich's grandfather Nathan, is maker of such beloved treats as Halvah, Tahini, Jell Rings and Marshmallow Twists. Richard was recently (temporarily) pulled out of the candy biz by some friends in Hollywood to appear in a pilot with his friend and fellow Wildcat, David Schwimmer. (You can take the candy-maker out of the theater but you can't take the actor out of the candy-maker... or something like that.)



Saskia Young (tour director '94, producer '95) began her career working in entertainment, first as a literary agent's assistant at CAA and then as a creative executive at Fox 2000 Films. From there she went to Paramount Pictures where she was Vice President of Lynda Obst Productions. Saskia pivoted out of entertainment when Senator Barack Obama began his presidential campaign, working as a Deputy Regional Field Director for Obama for America. She was a State Organizing Lead for the National Day of Service on the Presidential Inaugural Committee. Her commitment to political organizing was cemented and eight years later

she was a field director for Hillary for America. Saskia is now based in Chicago where she is Associate Organizing Director for the Indivisible Project, whose mission is to resist Trump's agenda by empowering local activist groups to make their Members of Congress listen.

2:40-3:15 Cat Chat 3: Improv Worldwide – from Whose Line is it Anyway? to Amsterdam’s Boom Chicago! and Beyond

Mee-Ow alumni share how the show prepared them to launch Mee-Ow style improv on an international stage (*Whose Line is it, Anyway?* and *Boom Chicago* in Amsterdam) as well as throughout the United States, working at established institutions like *The Second City* and *IO* and opening their own training centers in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

Hosted by



Josh Meyers (cast '97, '98) is a proud alum of Boom Chicago. As an actor, he is well known for his work on MadTV, including dead-on impressions of Owen Wilson and Justin Timberlake, and for his role of Randy Pearson on *That '70s Show*. Recent TV work includes *History of the World Part II*. Film credits include *Date Movie* and Sacha Baron Cohen's *Brüno*. Josh remains active in theater and his Broadway credits include *The Pee-wee Herman Show*. Josh also co-hosts the hit podcast *Family Trips with the Meyers Brothers* with his brother, Mee-Ow Show alum, Seth Meyers.

In conversation with

Dan Patterson (director '86) is a British television producer and writer who co-created the hugely popular improv-comedy series *Whose Line is it Anyway?* The show originated on BBC Radio before moving to Channel 4, eventually expanding to an American version hosted by Drew Carey (for ABC) and then Aisha Tyler (for The CW), bringing Mee-Ow-style improv to millions of living rooms around the world. As a third-year NU grad student, Dan directed the 1986 Mee-Ow Show's *Oedipuss 'n' Boots* and spearheaded Mee-Ow's first-ever trip to the internationally acclaimed Edinburgh Fringe Festival. In 2004 he established Angst Productions which produced the hit British satirical panel show *Mock the Week*.



Pep Rosenfeld (cast '90) has written for *Saturday Night Live*, co-founded the Boom Chicago Theater in Amsterdam, and appeared on *Late Night with Seth Meyers* twice - once on purpose. As part of Boom Chicago, Pep writes and performs comedy shows, travels Europe delivering keynotes on storytelling and leadership, and hosts business events where he meets folks like Barack Obama. The book he co-authored, *The 30 Most Important Years in Dutch History*, was published in July. His secret service nickname is "Matrix."

2:40-3:15 Cat Chat 3: Improv Worldwide – from Whose Line is it Anyway? to Amsterdam’s Boom Chicago! and Beyond (con’t.)



Lillian Frances (cast ‘89, ‘90, director ‘91, ‘92) has performed with improv ensembles at iO and other venues in Chicago and has assistant directed and performed at Boom Chicago in Amsterdam. Directing credits also include Second City National Touring Company, all-women’s improv groups *Jane* and *Sirens*, critically acclaimed sketch groups *GayCo* and *Stir Friday Night*, and ensembles at iO and The Playground. She worked as a lead facilitator for Second City Business Communications and as Core Faculty Member for the Second City Training Center. She currently teaches comedy classes in the Theater Department at Columbia College and owns and runs Laugh Out Loud, a comedy theater in Schaumburg, IL.

Chris Gorbos (cast ‘03) is originally from Bethlehem PA and currently lives in Venice, CA. After graduating from Northwestern, Chris toured with *Mission: IMPROVable!* performing at over 1,000 colleges and universities in 48 states as well as *Lollapalooza*. He has acted in numerous commercials and, like, 3 TV shows for ten seconds. In 2009, Chris co-founded The Westside Comedy Theater and Training Center in Santa Monica, California where he is the general manager, booker, and co-owner. He is an award-winning international surfer and celebrated photojournalist and was considered for nomination for a Pulitzer Prize (this is technically true). Chris is a founding member of The Westside Surf Crew.



Ed Herbstman (cast ‘93, ‘95, director ‘94) is a NY-based actor and writer. After graduation, Ed toured with The Second City, then moved to LA with Mee-Ow cast-mates where they helped found iOWest and performed as *Bitter Noah*. After he met his to-be wife, Mee-Ow alum Melanie Hoopes, he moved to NYC where he co-founded the Magnet Theater (where he not-so-secretly hired mostly new Mee-Ow alumni as teachers.) Ed has written for *Da Ali G Show* and Pixar. Acting film credits include: *IF*, *The Big Sick*, *Hustlers*, and *Ode To Joy*. TV: *Manifest*, *White House Plumbers*, and *Search Party*. Off-Broadway: *What Else is True?* and *Hotel Happy*. Upcoming: *The Loneliness Cure* written and directed

by Melanie, which is why she’s too busy to go to this reunion. Ed and Melanie have two wonderful children who didn’t get into Northwestern despite the double legacy. (They go to Oberlin and Michigan, by the way. So suck it, NU!)

3:30-4:45 Cat Chat 4: Actors and Characters

Mee-Ow alumni from across the decades share how their involvement in the show impacted their careers as actors and creators of characters and content.

Hosted by



Jill Alexander (cast '94, '95, director '96, director/cast '97) is an actor, writer, and creator. On screen, she is best known for her 4-season stint as “Patrice” on *Silicon Valley* and Peggy Olson’s secretary “Marsha” on the final season of *Mad Men*. She has guest starred on *Modern Family*, *New Girl*, *American Housewife*, and lots more. Jill created and served as Co-Showrunner of her half-hour dark comedy *Sunshine Scouts* which was the first comedy Shonda Rhimes produced under her Netflix banner. Most recently, Jill wrote a green-lit action-adventure animated feature for Pixar. Currently, she is developing a comedy series with Lorne Michaels’ Broadway Video. She is an alumna of the Groundlings Sunday Company and IOWest’s long running improv show *Trophy Wife*. Jill is an adjunct lecturer at the University of Southern California where she teaches Acting for Sitcom.

In conversation with

Anjali Bhimani (cast '93) is an award-winning actor, voice-artist, and content creator best known onscreen as Nina Patel in *Modern Family* and Joya in *Alex, Inc.* She portrayed Auntie Ruby in *Ms. Marvel* (Disney+) and recurred in the final season of *Dead to Me* (Netflix). Recent credits include *Special*, *The Blacklist*, *Law and Order: SVU*, *911: Lonestar*, and *The Neighborhood*. Anjali is well known for her standout gaming roles as Symmetra in *Overwatch* and *Overwatch 2*, Rampart in *Apex Legends*, and Medusa in the musical game *Stray Gods*. She was an original cast member of the Tony-nominated *Metamorphoses* on Broadway, which won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Play, and *Bombay Dreams*. Anjali recently released her first book *I Am Fun Size, and So Are YOU!: Thoughts from a Tiny Human on Living a Giant Life*, which landed on the USA Today and Barnes and Noble Bestseller Lists.



Jessica Lowe (cast '05, '06, co-director/cast '07) is a writer/performer who recently starred in the Starz series *Minx*. Other recent credits include HBO’s *The Righteous Gemstones*, *Wrecked*, *Miracle Workers*, *Tacoma FD*, *Man Seeking Woman*, *Flaked* and *One Big Happy*. Her voice can be heard on the animated shows *Bob’s Burgers*, *Second Best Hospital in the Galaxy*, *Star Trek: Lower Decks*, *Central Park*, and *Pickle and Peanut*. In film, her credits include the Comedy Central film *Cursed Friends*, Ken Marino’s *Dog Days*, Netflix’s *Happy Anniversary*, *Christmas Chronicles*, and *Sandy*, and a lead role in the Warner Brothers film *Blended* opposite Adam Sandler and Drew Barrymore.



After graduating from NU, Jessica spent 2 1/2 blissful years performing and writing for Amsterdam’s acclaimed BOOM CHICAGO followed by 4 seasick months on the Norwegian Cruise Line’s GEM as a cast member of the Second City ensemble.

3:30-4:45 Cat Chat 4: Actors and Characters (con't.)

Ana Gasteyer see bio above.

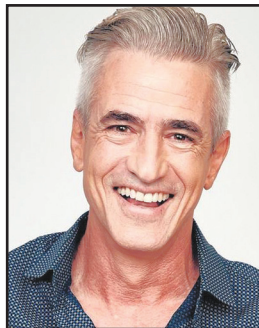
Peter Grosz (cast '96) is an actor and writer. He began his training in Chicago where he wrote and performed in four reviews on The Second City's ETC stage. Film credits include: *The Menu*, *Stranger Than Fiction*, *Rough Night*, *Things Heard and Seen* and *Here Today*. TV credits include: Sidney Purcell on *Veep*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *Fleishman Is In Trouble*, *Search Party* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. Writing credits include: *At Home With Amy Sedaris* (WGA Award), *Late Night With Seth Meyers*, and *The Colbert Report* (Emmy, WGA and Peabody Awards). He executive produced and played Mike Pence on *The President Show*. Broadway: *Goodnight Oscar* and *A Kid Like Jake* at Lincoln Center. He is a frequent panelist on NPR's *Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me* and was the guy sitting in the driver's seat in a long running series of commercials for Sonic Drive In.



J.P. Manoux (cast '89, '90) is best known for his characters in multiple Disney projects (*Phil of the Future*, *The Emperor's New School*) as well as memorable roles in *Community*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *ER*, and *EuroTrip*. His performance resume includes stage, feature film, procedural drama, multi-camera sitcom, video game motion capture, animation voice-over, and commercials. J.P. says: "In Mee-Ow, I honed the unique skill set that would later help me effectively sell underpants dressed as a bunch of green grapes."

Josh Meyers see bio above.

Dermot Mulroney (cast '84, '85) has graced the big screen for decades and is well known for his work in *Young Guns*, *Zodiac*, *My Best Friend's Wedding*, *August: Osage County*, and more. He's starred in serious issue TV movies including *Sin of Innocence*, *Daddy*, and *Unconquered* and worked on notable series including *Shameless*, *Arrested Development*, *New Girl*, and *Hanna*. Dermot is also an accomplished cellist, playing with the scoring orchestras on many films for Academy Award-winning composers such as James Newton Howard and Michael Giacchino. Dermot even portrayed a cello soloist in the second and third seasons of *Mozart in the Jungle*!



Romy Rosemont (cast '84, director/cast '85) stars in Amazon's upcoming comedy series *The Pradeeps of Pittsburgh* from producer & director Michael Showalter, written & created by Vijay Patel. Some recent credits include a five-season recurring role in ABC's drama *A Million Little Things*, a season-long arc in ABC's mystery-thriller *Big Sky* from producer David E. Kelley, and a recurring role in Netflix's hit series *You*. Prior roles include a series regular in sci-fi drama *Beyond* and recurring parts in *Silicon Valley* (HBO), *American Crime Story* (FX), *Scandal* (ABC), *Justified* (FX), *Secrets & Lies* (ABC) and *Swingtown* (CBS). Romy is often recognized for her role on *Glee*, playing "Finn's" (Cory Monteith's) mom. In film, Romy starred alongside Catherine Keener in *Please Give* and also appeared with Jennifer Aniston in Nicole Holofcener's *Friends with Money*.



Kristen Schaal (cast '99, '00) is a prolific comic actress and stand-up comic whose credits include *The Last Man of Earth*, *Flight of the Conchords*, and Disney+'s *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. She has won two Annie awards for her work voicing Louise Belcher on *Bob's Burgers* as well as Mabel Pines on *Gravity Falls*. Additionally, Kristen was nominated for an Emmy for her voice work on *BoJack Horseman*. She currently plays The Guide on *What We Do in the Shadows*. Catch her in theaters this summer in *MySpy 2*.

Jean Villepique (cast '92, '93, '94, cast/co-director '95) After graduation, Jean continued to study and perform improv at the iO Chicago, was cast as a touring company member and then ETC and MainStage cast member at The Second City, Chicago. She then moved to NY and taught and performed at Ed Herbstman's theater The Magnet, performed at the Upright Citizens Brigade, and then moved to LA where she continued to improvise, most notably on a house team at the UCB LA in the show *Soundtrack* for ten years. TV and film credits include *The Office*, *I Love You, Man*, *30 Rock*, *Better Call Saul*, *Up All Night*, *Sharp Objects* and most recently a series regular on NBC / Peacock's *A.P. Bio*. She has also been teaching and facilitating improv-based corporate workshops with The Second City and independently for over 20 years.



Starring the cast of the 2024 Mee-Ow Show!

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Daniele Gaither (cast '91, '92) is known for comedy variety series, sketch and improvisation, voice acting, and singing. Credits include *MadTV*, *The Thundermans*, *Bojack Horseman*, *Mad About You*, *Battle Kitty*, *The Great North*, *Bob's Burgers*, *Family Guy*, *American Dad*, *2 Broke Girls*, and *Key and Peele*. Based in L.A., she improvises in The Black Version and The Groundlings Theatre Main Company and also performs in the drag sensation *Golden Girlz Live!* Daniele volunteers to support the unhoused community and uses her social media platform to encourage civic engagement.

Orly Lewittes (cast '22, '23, cast/co-director '24) is a senior at Northwestern and one of Mee-Ow's co-director's this year. Having been on Mee-Ow since her sophomore year, Orly has spent most of her college years writing cum jokes. Upon graduating in the spring, she hopes to write cum jokes professionally. She's also a stand up comedian who opened for Hannah Einbeinder and Meg Stalter when they visited Northwestern last year. Orly's first feature film, *Strut*, a very queer, very dark comedy, has placed in numerous screenwriting competitions nationally.



Featuring:

- Alondra Rios
- Ferdinand "Ferd" Moscat
- Brenden Dahl
- Walter Todd
- Shai Bardin
- PJ Fahrenkrug
- Jeff Snedegar

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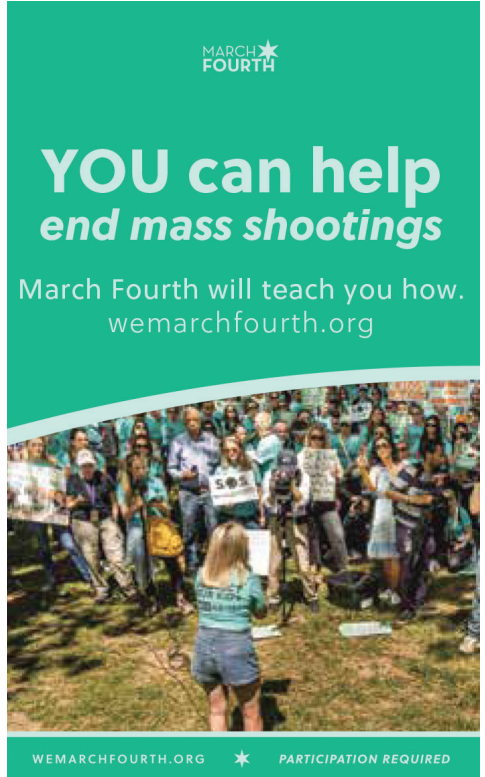
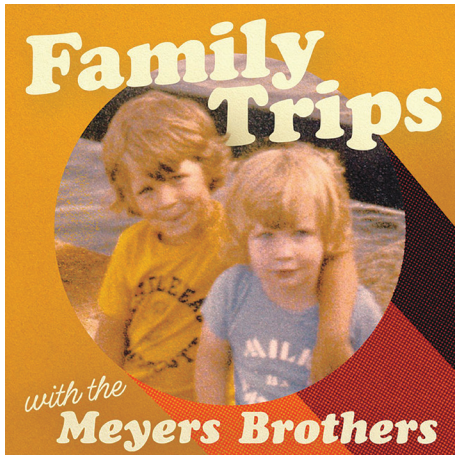




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