

DEBRA DRAGOTTO

BIOGRAPHY

Debra re-located to Los Angeles from New York City where she worked as an Actress, Writer and Stage Director. In Los Angeles, Ms. Dragotto has been honored with numerous prestigious, Drama-Logue Awards for her stage direction. She also staged work at the famed Actors Studio Writers & Directors Unit where she was an invited member.



As a TV Producer, Talent Producer, and Casting Director she became an industry leader working with many of the top names in the Reality World including Mark Burnett, Michael Davies, Dick Clark, Stu Billett, Scott Sternberg, Phil Gurin, Mark Cronin, Bob Eubanks, Mark Walberg, Wink Martindale, and Jerry Springer.

Companies Ms. Dragotto has worked for include Disney, Buena Vista, Fox Television, The WB, Telemundo, NBC, FX, Sony Television, New World, Rysher Entertainment, USA Network, and Lions Gate

On her own accord, Debra has created projects for TV and film. These include One-Hour Dramas, Sitcoms, and Reality Treatments. In film she had covered various genres including Comedy, Dark Comedy, Drama, Period, and Suspense Thriller, some of which have already been produced and/or optioned. As a result of her experience and training she is often sort out as a Script Doctor and Development Consultant on various Reality Treatments, Film, TV, and Web Projects.

Her short film, *The Desire*, was made through the highly competitive UCLA Extension professional's course where Debra was selected as one of only four directors chosen after a year long elimination process involving hundreds of international applicants. *The Desire* was chosen for screening at the Women in Film International Film Festival. She has also directed the sitcom pilot, *Patsy's Place*, that she also created, the sizzle reel for the upcoming reality show, *Big Dough*, and was at the helm directing numerous shorts for her undergraduate and graduate students. Currently, she is in pre-production on her feature film, *ADDICTION* that she will also direct.

Ms. Dragotto holds a B.A. in Drama from Hofstra University, as well as a M.F.A. in Screenwriting from UCLA's School of Theatre, Film & and Television where she was honored with the Jack K. Sauter Award for Artistic Merit. She has studied acting and directing at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute in New York, as well as Film Production

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at New York's School of Visual Arts, and has attended the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts where she studied Shakespeare.

Debra's work experience along with her academic training has afforded her the ability to instruct a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate classes at the New York Film Academy, Los Angeles. These include acting and writing, along with directing on the Universal backlot and on location for her student's thesis film projects where they are required to write, produce, and act. Countless numbers of her students have gone on to successful careers in commercials, TV, film, and new media. And, under her tutorage, many have done very well with their thesis films in the international festival world.

Currently, her private coaching includes, Script Doctor & Consultant, Personal Development and Branding, Acting Technique, Auditioning Technique, and the Business of Acting (maneuvering and understanding the way the business works, advising on head shots, building a professional resume, and cover letters, etc.).

For up-to-date information,
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