

RACHEL HANDLER

SAG-AFTRA* AEA*

Person with Disability: Left Below Knee Prosthetic Leg

Email: Rachel.Handler@yahoo.com

Cell: 609-517-2967

IMDB: <https://imdb.me/rachelalanahandler>

WRITING, DIRECTING, & PRODUCING CREDITS:

LAME (Single-Cam Comedy Pilot)

- *Semifinalist (top 50)* in the Cinequest Screenwriting Contest
- *Quarterfinalist* in the WeScreenplay Diverse Voices Competition
- *Quarterfinalist* in the Stage 32 TV Comedy Screenwriting Contest
- *Second Round Selection* in the ISA Fast Track Fellowship

Hope for the Holidays (Narrative Feature Film)

- *Semifinalist* in the ISA Emerging Screenwriters Family & Holiday Competition

Don't Take This the Wrong Way (Narrative Short Film) - released 2025

- *Finalist* Best Writer, Best Director in the Disability Film Challenge
- *Winner* Audience Choice Award at YoFiFest
- Currently screening at Reelabilities NY.

Derailed (Narrative Short Film) - released 2024

- *Winner* SUNDANCE Co//ab June Monthly Challenge
- *Winner* Best Female Filmmaker in the NJ Film Awards
- *Best of Fest* in Glass Ceiling Breakers Film Festival
- *Finalist* in Astoria Film Festival

Unlucky in Love (Narrative Short Film) - released 2023

- *Winner* Best Writer Award in the Disability Film Challenge
- *Winner* Best Musical in the Southern Shorts Awards
- Screened at Hollyshorts, Heartland, Portland, NewFilmmakers LA and more

Andy & Kaliopé (Narrative Short Film) - released 2022

- *Winner* Best International Short Film in Focus on Ability Film Festival
- *Winner* Best Live Action Short Film in the Boston International Kids Film Festival
- *Winner* Best Home Grown Family Short in the Garden State Film Festival
- Screened at Heartland, Portland, Reelabilities NY & LA and more
- Currently streaming on Planet Classroom

HOW MUCH AM I WORTH? (Documentary Short Film) - released 2020

- *Winner* Best Awareness in the Easterseals Disability Film Challenge
- Screened at Slamdance, Heartland, Portland, Reelabilities NY & LA, Hollyshorts and more
- Over 120,000 views on Facebook
- Currently streaming on the Slamdance Channel and Mubi
- Currently being expanded to a feature with a grant from Adobe and Easterseals (2025)

Authentically Me (Documentary Short Film) - released 2019

- *Winner* "What's Your Reelability" Film Competition with Reelabilities Film Festival NY
- Aired in NYC taxi cabs

The Vanished (Narrative Short Film) - released 2019

- *Winner* Best Awareness in the Easterseals Disability Film Challenge
- Screened at Hollyshorts, Bentonville, Heartland, Newport Beach Film Festival and more

Committed (Narrative Short Film) - released 2018

- *Winner* AT&T Underrepresented Filmmaker Award
- *Best Monthly Comedy* in the Changing Faces International Film Festival
- Currently streaming on the Slamdance Channel

ACTING CREDITS:

TELEVISION

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|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE | Recurring | AMC/Dir. Alan Taylor |
| NEW AMSTERDAM | Recurring | NBC/Dir. Michael Slovis |
| NCIS: NEW ORLEANS | Guest Star | CBS/Dir. Tessa Blake |
| STARCAMS | Co-Star | Apple/Dir. Alethea Jones |
| BEST FOOT FORWARD | Co-Star | Apple/Dir. Anne Renton |
| BULL | Co-Star | CBS/Dir. Michael Smith |
| GOLIATH | Co-Star | Amazon/Dir. Dennie Gordon |
| LAW & ORDER: SVU | Co-Star | NBC/Dir. Michael Pressman |

FILM (very partial selection)

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| THE UPSIDE (opp. Kevin Hart) | Supporting | The Weinstein Company/Dir. Neil Burger |
| SMOTHERED | Supporting | Indican Pictures/Dir. John Schneider |
| SAM (opp. Alice Kremelberg) | Supporting | Big Picture Collective/Dir. Catharina Schürenberg |
| NO LIMITS | Supporting | Miracle Makers 973/Dir. Joy Suprano |
| ROAD TO L'ETAPE DU TOUR | Supporting | Ashella Productions/Dir. Julia Coulter |
| THE HOUSEWARMING <i>Best Comedian*</i> | Lead | Magnalux Pictures, LLC/Dir. Adam Volerich |
| DISABILIDATES <i>Best Actor**</i> | Lead | Brilliant Mind Prod/Dir. Marques Cheney |
| **Easterseals Disability Film Challenge | *Hollywood Hills Awards | |

NEW YORK THEATRE (selected)

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| THE LUCKY STAR | Dola/Vita u/s | 59E59/Dir. Noah Himmelstein |
| ALICE BLISS <i>Reading</i> | Coach BD | Playwrights Horizons/Dir. Mark Brokaw |
| INSPIRATION WHORE <i>Solo Show</i> | Rebecca | Tongue In Cheek Theatre/Dir. Illana Stein |
| RICHARD III | Lady Anne | Nicu's Spoon/Dir. Stephanie Barton-Farcas |

REGIONAL THEATRE (selected)

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| COST OF LIVING | Ani | Philadelphia Theatre Co/Dir. Jeffrey Page |
| ALICE BLISS <i>workshop</i> | Coach BD | TheatreWorks Silicon Valley/Dir. Mark Brokaw |
| THE MUSIC MAN | Marian | Bucks County Playhouse/Dir. Stephen Casey |
| OKLAHOMA | Laurey | Bucks County Playhouse/Dir. Stephen Casey |
| CAMELOT | Morgan LeFay | Pocono Playhouse/Dir. Matt DiCarlo |

TRAINING:

Bachelor of Music: Musical Theatre, Westminster Choir College

Writing Courses: Sundance Co//ab Scripting and Pitching Your Documentary; Sundance Co//ab TV Writing: Core Elements; Screenwriter Brunch Club; Industrial Scripts Online Screenwriting Certification Course

Labs & Workshops by application only: RespectAbility Entertainment Lab 2020; Blackmagic Collective: All Access 2021; 1in4 Coalition Writing Mentorship Program 2023; Docs in Progress FWD Doc Fellowship 2025

Scene Study: Rob McCaskill (ongoing); Jamie Carroll **On-Camera:** Bob Krakower; Heidi Marshall

Cold Reading: Andrew Leynse **Voice:** Katy Pfaffl (ongoing)