

MARLENE VILLAFANE

Marlene Villafane is a trained comedic actress, lyric soprano and is a NYC native of Puerto Rican descent. She's an alumni of La Guardia H.S of Music & Performing Arts and is a Manhattan School of Music graduate with a BM & MM in Classical Voice. She has toured internationally and nationally performing in theatre and concerts. She portrayed the role of Julie in Harold Prince's Australian production of SHOWBOAT with Livent. She has studied with Roger Simon off and on for more than a decade and credits him for helping find freedom in acting by trusting her instincts. She performed for the Actor's Studio in the reading of Jose Rivera's THE HOURS ARE FEMININE with starred Chazz Palminteri and was directed by Mr. Simon himself.

She is the 11th Annual One Festival Winner of 2016 for her performance in her one woman show MARLENE GOES TO HOLLYWOOD which premiered Off- Broadway. She appeared as Guadalupe Santanos in WOMEN BEHIND BARS directed by Joe Battista at the 13th St Repertory alongside Amy Stiller in the leading role of Gloria. She has experience in performing sketch comedy which she has a profound love for. Her influences in comedy & musical theatre to name just a few have been Madeline Kahn, Carol Burnett, Lucille Ball, Gilda Radner to Rita Moreno. Other theatre credits: Regional: UNMITIGATED TRUTH by Melvin Van Peebles (Leading Lady); David Lamb's PLATANOS AND COLLARD GREENS (Supporting/Mother), National: OKLAHOMA (Vivian, Portland Center Stage) Independent film/TV credits; CELEBRITY GHOST STORIES (Ghost/Billie Holiday, Biography), Scott Goldberg's THE DAY THEY CAME BACK (Supporting/Private Rockman), RHAPSODY INJUSTICE (Supporting/Florita Cortez), and the Spanish sketch comedy show QUE LE PARECE? (Various, Telemundo). Online credits: SLAPNUTS COMEDY WEBSERIES, MAS MEJOR TV WEBSERIES (Various roles). She is the producer & director of her own after primetime show Marlene Villafane's R.U.A.STAR Presents which airs every Tuesday night a 11pm ch 56 Spectrum & airs worldwide on mnn.org also on Tuesdays a 11pm. Owns passport will travel. She thanks God, her guardian angels, her mother Nancy, her father Wilfredo; may he rest in peace, her brother Fred, all family, for this opportunity to teach and their undying support.