

Karen Hines

Toronto-bred, Chicago-born, Karen Hines is a Second City alumna and an award-winning writer, performer and director who enjoys dual citizenship and regular border crossings: Hines's extraordinary black comedies on stage have toured the continent and her signature blend of bitter tragedy and biting satire has won her critical acclaim and a loyal cult following from Louisville to Montreal, while prompting Toronto Life Magazine to call her *'One of the most original artists in the city.'*

Hines's plays have won or been nominated for numerous literary and production awards including the Dora Mavor Moore Award, the Chalmers Award for Outstanding New Canadian Play, the Alberta Writers Guild Award and the Governor General's Award for Drama. Noted in the Canadian independent theatre scene as *'one of the nation's premier dramatists,'* (Eye – Books) her work is both studied at universities, and presented at comedy festivals.

Hines has performed extensively in film and television, co-starring on three seasons of the Emmy Award-winning satire 'The Newsroom,' as well as in several of Ken Finkleman's series including 'Foreign Objects' and 'Married Life' for which she was nominated for Gemini and CableACE Awards.

Hines's first short film, 'My Name is Pochsy: An Industrial Film' (Bravo!FACT), a darkly comedic ode to the industrial film genre, which she wrote, performed and shot at Sudbury's nickel mines, has recently screened at festivals across North America and picked up five national and international prizes.

Karen was a participant in the 2007 TIFF Talent Lab, the 2008 Women In the Director's Chair program at Banff, and attended the 2008 Banff Television Festival as the WIDC Banff Fellow. She is currently writing two black dramedies for television, a feature film (which has just won AFA development funding), and 'Red Light,' a book of imaginary pitches for impossible television shows (Coach House Books). Hines will be directing a half-hour film, 'Horribly Beautiful World,' this August in Toronto, Sudbury and on Manitoulin Island.

For more, please visit: www.pochsy.org

"Ingenious, acidic comedy." (The Globe and Mail)

"Such a sweet face, such a wicked wit." (Toronto Star)

"Hilarious and harrowing" (NOW Magazine)

"Gossamer charm and deadly power." (Eye Weekly)