WHO'S SERVING WHO?

PROOF OF CONCEPT

AND

NYC THEATRE FESTIVAL

TITLE: ***Who's Serving Who? / My Life Is A Sitcom***

LENGTH: **Proof Of Concept for TV Series**

GENRE: **Dramedy**

LOCATION: **Los Angeles**

LANGUAGE: **English *with a splash of Spanish!***

TAG: ***"Shove your real-life shenanigans into your apron, cos the shift must go on!"***

LOGLINE: Welcome to *The Day Job*, Hollywood's most beloved hot spot! Meet Sydney, your bright and bubbly Aussie waitress, ready to take you on a wild journey through the quirks of restaurant life. During your dinner reservation, prepare for shenanigans as Sydney juggles the chaos of serving whilst navigating her own hilarious escapades. But behind her infectious smile, Sydney conceals the darker corners of her life... and it might only take a single straw to break this kangaroo's back. From over-sharing to heartfelt confessions, you'll get an exclusive backstage pass into the secret world of your waitress... served with a side of Aussie-isms!

G’DAY!

My name is Kelsie McDonald and I am the Writer and Producer of one-woman show *Who’s Serving Who*, which recently recieved rave reviews from sold-out audiences at the Broadwater Main Stage as part of the Hollywood Fringe Festival. *Who’s Serving Who* is a HUGELY relatable story that has the audience laughing throughout, pausing only to shed a tear when hit with a generous dose of vulnerability. This story was developed specifically to follow in the footsteps of Phoebe Waller Bridges, *Fleabag* and Richard Gadd’s, *Baby Reindeer*. Very much inspired by my own real-life experiences as an Australian server in Hollywood, I tested the concept as an 8 minute stand-up comedy routine last November, then this February, began developing the 1 hour stage play. The next step is to shoot the proof of concept short film version (which I am very excited to dive into) and ultimately use this to pitch the show as a TV series.

THE ONE WOMAN SHOW… WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING…

"Kelsie McDonald showcases extraordinary range in her acting abilities. She is able to elicit both laughter and tears via her onstage versatility. Her story is moving and highly entertaining, everything you could want in a night out at the theatre!"

"If you know what to expect from this show, you're probably wrong. Of course the subject matter is going to provide plenty of good material, but Kelsie takes it in another direction that makes you think about ambition, family and separation while laughing almost continuously over sixty minutes."

"As someone who worked in restaurants for many years, this show hits very very close to home. Kelsie is incredibly charismatic and so much fun to watch as she deftly navigates the rollercoaster of a crazy busy shift."

"Kelsie's a great storyteller and gifted entertainer! This show made me laugh and cry and everything in between. The emotional journey's so well done and she's just a great character. Congratulations!"

"The conversational performance was so delightful, and made it easy to quickly fall in love with the character. And while Kelsie's performance was very funny and energetic, the dramatic moments hit really well. Taking the journey with this character was a delight."

"A very fun and hilarious show, Kelsie is insanely charming and funny."

Why take this from the stage to the screen?

Because audiences want to see relatable and entertaining human stories. Hook them in with the humour and then hit them hard with reality… Like *Fleabag* & Baby *Reindeer* which both began as indie one person theatre shows…

Servers SELL! Whether you've worked in the service industry or simply dined out, EVERYONE can connect with and enjoy a waitresses story. AND there is an opportinuty to bring back celebrity cameos that really don't happen anymore.

WHO’S SERVING WHO… ON STAGE!!!

LINK TO WHO’S SERVING WHO THEATRE SIZZLE 🎬

THE PROOF OF CONCEPT SHORT FILM OUTLINE:

Sydney is carrying all the weight of the world, but when she walks into her restaurant job she must “turn in her real-life problems” at the door. As she wipes away her worry and throws on her smiley waitress persona, she enters the restaurant floor and begins work.

The film will be shot as if were a sit-com, with over-the-top laughter from an unseen audience and an on-screen “Tip Tally” that “Dings” enthusiastically as Sydney gets a laugh or does something extra special to constantly increase the value of the tips she will receive at the end of her customer interaction. It’s almost as if she’s on stage... is she? Is this in-fact reality?

As Sydney serves her customers with humour and charisma, she occasionally slips up, unintentionally revealing that maybe she isn't all “sunshine and rainbows”. Her “Tip Tally” is docked whenever she falters. As things start to go wrong she clocks the camera, *Fleabag* style, but she avoids it, actively busying herself with new tasks or moving to another part of the restaurant. As Sydney runs away from the lens of the camera... symbolically she is running away from her inner “truth”.

The “shit hits the fan” when Sydney accidentally spills coffee on celebrity customer Michael B Jordan and has to take a five in the linen closet to calm herself... but is it a staff room or an empty sound stage? It’s hard to tell. In this room, she has a heartfelt conversation directly into the camera ... This is what she was avoiding... Her reality, her “truth”. Sydney scolds the camera; “You can’t be here! You know how it is! I have to leave you at the door when I start my shift!”...

The big climax builds as Sydney re-enters the restaurant floor, racing around, making mistakes whilst dealing with challenging customers. Her “vulnerability” (the camera) chases her until it all becomes too much and she breaks down in-front of her favourite table (the camera).

Sydney confesses to the traumas she’s been dealing with in her real life. The recent death of her young Mother, the separation from her family in Australia, being dumped by the partner she thought she was going to marry, the feeling of being alone in a foreign country… and then finding the “abnormality” in her left breast earlier today and dealing with the health care system in this country. During this monologue, it is revealed that Sydney is in a recording of a sitcom…

Suddenly, the security storm in and take the “camera” away demanding, “We told you to leave this at the door”… You’re already on two write-ups for this.

Sydney pulls herself together, snapping back into her “perfect” self and asks her table cheerily “How can *I* help *you*?”.

As the camera is dragged away it reveals that Sydney is performing to a live audience of nobody except for one person… herself. Sydney watches herself.

END.

CREATOR / TALENT ATTACHED:

Kelsie McDonald is an LA-based Australian actress, writer and producer. She is the sole creator of the theatre show *Who's Serving Who* which she is now developing into the proof of concept short film titled *My Life is a Sitcom*.

Since graduating with a Master's degree from the Guildford School of Acting, UK, Kelsie has acted her way across London, Australia, Mexico and now the USA. She has devised theatre across the UK and Europe fringe with the *Encompass Theatre Collective* and later began collaborating on various short and feature films as an actress, writer and producer. One of her upcoming feature films is a bilingual rom-com titled *No Translation Required*, which she co-wrote/produced and starred in with *Ted Lasso's* Cristo Fernández, set for release later this year. This project began as a low budget short film which Kelsie and Cristo created right out of University, and used as a POC to gain funding for the feature. The team are now pitching the indie feature as a series.

In 2022 Kelsie launched her own female-driven production company, *People Power Pictures,* which is currently at various stages of development for both film & tv projects including female sci-fi/thriller *The Power Within*, which she is about to start pitching as a feature, and another comedic, female-led series titled *Womb Room* which she co-wrote and co-stars alongside up and coming standup comedian Liz Zagone.

Who's Serving Who is PPP's first stage show, written with aspirations to develop the concept into a short film and later a TV series... Think: Phoebe Waller Bridge's *Fleabag* if she were a bright and bubbly Aussie.

Looking to the future; Kelsie aspires to continue telling stories from around the world, determined to push boundaries, evoke thought and inspire change throughout her creative career.

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CHEERS MATE!

PEOPLE POWER
PICTURES

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