

NINA OYAMA



Nina Oyama is a 26 year old, half Japanese, writer, director and comedian from Sydney, Australia.

At age 19, Nina scored her first television writing job on *You're Skitting Me Season 2* after a producer saw her performing stand up comedy in a dingy room in Kings Cross. Since then her writing has been seen on television shows *The Chaser's Election Desk*, *The Chinaboy Show*, *Mornings*, *The Project*, *The Slot Online* and *Squinters Season 1 & 2*.

In 2014, her comedy script *Tip Rats* was a finalist in the SBS Comedy Runway competition. In 2016, she graduated with a Bachelor of Communications (Theatre/Media) from Charles Sturt University and her debut play *The Glass System* won the *Blair Milan Tour Scholarship*.

In 2017, Nina secured her first acting role as Courtney the receptionist in the main cast of *Utopia Season 3*, a multi AACTA and Logie Award winning comedy show about a dysfunctional government office. The same year, Nina was handpicked to work on *Tonightly with Tom Ballard*, an Australian version of *The Daily Show*. Initially working as a writer, she was quickly promoted to a "correspondent" role, which saw her writing and performing segments as various kooky characters. As a result of her work on *Tonightly*, Australian panel show *The Project* has hired Nina to present a range of short pieces, including sending her to Fiji to cover *Australian Survivor*.



Nina has also acted in multiple roles on sketch show *Kinne Tonight* as well as creating skits for millennial news site Pedestrian TV, who were so impressed with her work that they gave her the regular hosting role on *Big Flick Energy*, a movie show which aired on Channel 9Go!

In 2017, *The Angus Project*, a web series which Nina wrote, directed and starred in, was commissioned for a 30 minute pilot episode by ABC COMEDY's Fresh Blood Initiative. The pilot aired in late 2018 to critical acclaim, with praise for its ground-breaking diverse cast and boundary pushing comedy. In 2019, Nina scored an Australian Directors' Guild nomination for Best Direction in an Online Comedy Series for *The Angus Project*.

As a stand-up comedian, Nina was nominated for the Best Newcomer Award at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival and has performed on *Stand Up at Bella Union*, and more recently *Just for Laughs* at the Sydney Opera House.

This year, funding body Screen Australia selected Nina to be a recipient of the Talent LA Grant, which saw 10 filmmakers travel to Los Angeles to meet with industry professionals. Currently you can catch Nina hosting *15 Minutes*, a documentary series on Facebook Watch, about Australians who achieved accidental viral fame. She is also on Season 4 of *Utopia*, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's highest rated comedy show. Though Nina has had a range of roles over her career, her passion is writing. She currently has a bunch of projects in development and intends to live in Los Angeles.

Her dream is to be the Australian/Japanese version of Ali Wong.

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