

Laura Merli

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Stand-up

- Festivals: Rogue Island, Women in Comedy Festival, Ladies of Laughter (won their preliminary competition and was runner up overall), Cinderblock Comedy Festival
- Winner of Improv Boston's "Battle Royale" standup competition
- Performed at many venues including Gotham, New York Comedy Club, Broadway Comedy Club, the Greenwich Village Comedy Club, the Comedy Studio, Laugh Boston, the People's Improv Theatre, and more

Sketch Comedy

- Acts in, writes, & edits comedy videos available at youtube.com/lauramerlicomedy, which have been featured on UCB's Channel 101 Showcase, Whohaha.com, and screened at The People's Improv Theatre (PIT)
- PIT sketch house teams: writer / actor *Sept 2017 – Sept 2018*
- Terrible People: actor / writer for Improv Boston's resident sketch comedy team *Oct 2016 – Sept 2017*

Semi-Scripted Stuff

The Dinner Detective Murder Mystery Show *March 2015 – January 2016*

- Playing various characters, I performed improved crowd-work as well as pre-written bits for 100+ guests
- Located at the Somerville Holiday Inn

Room Escape Adventures *September 2015 – January 2016*

- As "Dr. Oxy" I play a zombie chained to a wall, bent on eating participants
- The audience must solve a puzzle to "escape" while my chain gets longer and longer throughout the show

Publications

- McSweeney's Internet Tendency: Unpaid Emotional Labor I've Done (For Myself), Five Excuses to Get out of Reading a Friends Poetry
- Reductress: Smokey Eye Looks for When You're Really Confident You Won't Cry, 5 Safe Words Your Roommates Won't Mind Hearing You Scream, 5 Claire's Accessories To Pass off as That Family Heirloom You Lost
- The Hard Times: New Shazam Feature Identifies Which TED Talk Friend Ripped off During Debate
- BuzzFeed Community: Why The Bachelor Should Have Corgi Contestants

Podcasting

How to be Less Awkward: *the podcast where people share real-life stories they'd rather forget* *Feb 2017 - Present*

- Host and editor of bimonthly podcast on the Women in Comedy Festival (WICF) podcast network
- Secures guests, develops copy, and manages online marketing campaigns
- Listen at wicf.com/awkward/

Terrible People, Terrible Podcast *Oct 2016 – Sept 2017*

- Voice actor and co-writer

Improv

Theatre House Teams / Resident Casts

- The Armory (New York, NY) *July 2018 – December 2018*
- Improv Boston (Boston, MA) *June 2015 - June 2017*
- Improv Asylum (Boston, MA) *January - May 2015*

Magic the Gathering the Show *Nov 2015 – April 2017*

- Cast member: improvise scenes based the popular card game "Magic the Gathering"
- The best-selling show at the Riot Theatre

Improv Jones, *an independent improv group* *March 2015 – October 2016*

- Performances at The Riot Theatre every other Saturday night
- Monthly collaborations with "Mass Mouth," where we create montages based on professional story-telling
- Featured in the Del Close Marathon

Education

David Cady Commercial Acting Course *June – July 2019*

DeSales University *Aug. 2006 – May 2010*

- Earned a B.A. in Television and Film, minor in Philosophy
- Led complex weekly projects, which involved securing and managing a cast, crew, equipment, and location