

ALUMNI



Backstage with Camille Carida '87

BY SARA GARNER

■ With more than 20 years of experience working in the entertainment industry, the multi-talented Camille Carida continues her



career as an actress working in film, television, and theater and, most recently as a film director. Camille directed her first film *Winner Takes All* on the RED Camera. On directing,

Camille says "I was a little nervous to direct because I'd never done it before, but I knew I had to take the challenge. I had a strong vision for the film and ended up loving the process. It was fun to be on the other side of the camera and help my actors create great performances. Also, because I'm the youngest of three and didn't always get my way, I have to admit that I liked being at the helm."

Camille says she can't deny that this is a very tough business with a lot of rejection, but she loves it and always has. "It brings me great joy, and I've been fortunate to work with some really talented people over the years. I

got my first theater experiences on the Pine Crest stage. Mr. Williams really believed in me, casting me in *Gramercy Ghost*, and then in every play from my freshman through senior years. When I was in grade school at Pine Crest, I would go up to the balcony and watch the big productions. I was mesmerized, and I would say to myself, 'I want to do that.' "

Camille attended Pine Crest from the time she was in Kindergarten and graduated in 1987. She was class president and Homecoming Queen and was also awarded the Miami Herald Silver Knight Honorable Mention Award for drama and community service that same year. She then went on to graduate Phi Beta Kappa from Trinity College in Hartford, CT with a degree in Theater and Dance. "A lot of people who go into this business think they need to have a backup plan. My father, Dr. Robert V. Carida, Sr., always told me to pursue what I loved with blinders. He would say, 'Don't have anything to fall back on, or you will.' "

Camille has extensive experience working in film, television, commercials, and theater. She's currently starring as a series regular in the role of Olivia Franchesca in the hilarious

web series *Dumbass Filmmakers*. Camille's other work includes playing Meg Guttstein, the kooky wife of a Beverly Hills plastic surgeon in writer/director Maurice Jamal's comedy feature *Friends & Lovers* and the barfly Loretta on *Frasier* opposite Kelsey Grammer '73 and Anthony LaPaglia. She worked with comedian David Allen Grier on his TV show *Chocolate News*, where she got the opportunity to work with Oscar-winning director Danny Boyle of *Slumdog Millionaire*. She also appeared as Kendra's etiquette coach on the E! reality show *The Girls Next Door*.

As a writer, Camille has written several screenplays and recently broke ground as one of the first female comic book creators with her newly published graphic novel *Lick-It Man*, based on her short film. The film was accepted to six film festivals including the LA International Short Film Festival, Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, Tromadance, and Arlene's Grocery Picture Show where it was awarded Best Narrative Short and an Originality Award.

For more info on Camille's current projects, please visit www.WinnerTakesAllthemovie.com and www.DumbassFilmmakers.com.