

## JULIA LEDERER

Writer/Copywriter/Editor

(416) 835-8744

julia\_lederer@yahoo.com

Julia is an internationally acclaimed writer. Starting as a playwright, she has shifted easily into television, film, prose, audio, and commercial work. Her writing is unique but also marketable: both short films she's written have sold to CBC, and her recent commercial spot for BetterHelp is their most popular ever, with over 10-million views solely on YouTube. She's also written prose and personal essays for online publications including: She Does the City and The Town Crier (of The Puritan).

### **COPYWRITER** (Freelance)

#### **COMMERCIALS:**

#### **BETTER HELP (US)**

“What Do You Want?” **Role:** Writer

Hired to write a second spot for BetterHelp. Release date: Oct 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Currently being tested.

#### **BETTER HELP (US); HAVEN (CANADA)** “Distant Friends” **Role:** Writer

[This comedic spot](#) was created in response to mental health during COVID and then sold nationally (to Haven Helpline) and internationally (to Better Help). It is the most successful spot for both companies.

#### **SUBARU CANADA (Geared Content)** Subaru Starlink Connected campaign **Role:** Writer

Combined, simplified, and incorporated information about Subaru Starlink into a series of video spots.

#### **CENTRAL COUNTIES TOURISM (Colour)** “Get Out Of Work Early” campaign **Role:** Writer

Developed ideas and wrote a series of ads for Central Counties Tourism.

#### **INSPIRING VOICES (Forge Media)** Holodomor Educational Videos **Role:** Writer

Wrote the scripts for five educational videos in the voices of famous historical figures surrounding the Ukrainian genocide, Holodomor. These short films tour continuously to communities and schools in the Holodomor Mobile Classroom (a large bus that travels nationally).

### **SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT:**

#### **CARMILLA** Smokebomb/Shafesbury **Role:** Creative Consultant, editor

Helped create and edit a myriad of online narrative content for the award-winning hit web-series, *Carmilla*. This included twitter strategizing and writing for a number of character accounts, creating blog content, generating ideas for Instagram posts, working on scripts for a spin-off podcast, all in tandem with the narrative of the show as it was released online.

### **PUBLICATIONS**

*Books:* **With Love and a Major Organ** [published by J.G. Shillingford Publishing](#) (Scirocco Press 2016)

*Anthologies:* *monologues and plays included in--*

**The Best Women's Monologues From New Plays 2019** (Applause Books 2019)

**One Minute Plays: A Practical Guide to Tiny Theatre** (Routledge 2017)

*Selected Essays:*

**TIFF'19: IT'S NOTHING EXCAVATES MY EXPERIENCE...** for She Does the City, Published 2019

**VOLDEMORT NERVOSA** for Bitches Be Witches, Published 2017

**COOL GHOST** for The Town Crier (of The Puritan), Published 2017

### **SELECTED WRITING FOR AUDIO:** *(produced short pieces performed)*

[“I've Been Thinking About Vanishing”](#): Created with the support of the Toronto Fringe Festival

[“Small Adjustments \(for smaller spaces\)”](#): Created with the support of Convergence Theatre

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[“Cool Ghost \(Please Haunt Me\)”](#): Created for The Hidden Station, UK.

[“With Love and a Major Organ”](#): Created with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts

**EDITING:** Julia has worked as dramaturg and writing assistant for projects with writers as experienced as Ann-Marie MacDonald to first-time writers, to peers. She has assisted with guiding ideas, story shape and structure, character development, and editing and proofing work.

### **TELEVISION:**

**SAFE SPACE** (*Sharp House, series: creator and writer*)

**In development**

A half-hour comedy about technology addiction currently in development with Sharp House in the UK.

**KIM’S CONVENIENCE (CBC/THUNDERBIRD, Netflix)**

**2018**

Selected from over 800 applications to work on the 4th season of the award-winning hit, KIM’S CONVENIENCE, as part of CBC’s Emerging Writers Room. SHOWRUNNERS: Ins Choi & Kevin White.

**AVOCADO TOAST** (2020)

Guts and Gall/OutTV

**Role:** Script Editor, Season One

### **FILM:**

**WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN** (*feature film, writer*)

**Director:** Kim Albright, **Producer:** Madeleine Davis, **Status:** Greenlit to go to camera in 2021.

**Other:** Selected for the 2019 Whistler Film Festival Screenwriters’ Lab, short-listed for Sundance Feature Lab, recipient of Telefilm’s Regional Productions funding and Harold Greenberg funding.

**IT’S NOTHING** (*short film, writer*)

**Premiere: 2019**

A TIFF 2019 “*must-see*” – Norm Wilner, NOW Magazine

**Director:** Anna Maguire, **Producer:** Jessica Adams, **Status:** Completed.

**Official Selection:** at acclaimed festivals all over the world, including the Toronto International Film Festival; Festival du Nouveau Cinéma (Montreal); London Short Film Festival (UK); Sun Valley Film Festival, THESS International Short Film Festival (Greece); Cinemagic (Belfast); Abertoir (Wales); MOTELX (Lisbon); Rouen Nordic Film Festival (France); PÖFF Black Nights (Estonia); St Louis International Film Festival; Uşak Kısa Film Festivali (Turkey); Montreal Feminist Film Festival.

**Acquired for BROADCAST:** CBC; **STREAMING on:** CBC Gem.

**SPOONING** (*short film, writer, producer*)

**2019**

**Director:** Rebecca Applebaum, **Producers:** Rebecca Applebaum & Julia Lederer, **Status:** Completed.

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** 2019 Cinequest Film Festival (San Jose); 2019 Breakthroughs Film Festival (Toronto); Canadian Film Fest (Winner: Best Performance in a Short Film: Krista Morin); Aesthetica Short Film Festival; FilmBath; UCLAx Shorts Fest. **Acquired for BROADCAST:** CBC; **STREAMING on:** CBC Gem.

**EAT YOUR HEART OUT** (*short film, co-writer*)

**2018**

**Director:** Abby Pierce, **Producer:** Picture North. [Trailer Link.](#)

**OFFICIAL SELECTION:** Elevated Films Festival (Chicago, Winner: Audience Choice Award, 2019); Midwest Independent Film Festival; NewFilmMakers New York; Golden State Film Festival (LA); Newport Beach Film Festival; New York Shorts International Film Festival (*Winner: Best Comedy, 2020*); Burbank International Film Festival; Imagine This Women’s Film Festival (Brooklyn); Oregon Short Film Festival; SF Indie Shorts (San Francisco); Austin Revolution Film Festival. **STREAMING on:** Discover Film.

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### **SELECTED THEATRE:**

Julia's plays have been performed all over the world, often as the first/only Canadian work a company has ever produced. She's had productions in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Alaska, Paris (translated), Texas, Boise, London, Vancouver, Alberta, Toronto, etc.

Her most well-known play, *WITH LOVE AND A MAJOR ORGAN*, was part of Theatre @ Boston Court's Polly Warfield Award-winning season and nominated for "Best Production" by the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards, against every other production to happen in LA that year. *HAMILTON* won.

**Currently**, Julia is nominated for a Playwrights Guild Tom Hendry Award, for her play *SMALLBOTS*.

**Other produced plays include:** *REALITY THEATRE*; *U-R-U* (inspired by Karel Capek's *R.U.R.*); *THE BEST PLAN FOR LIVING HAPPILY*; *FRAME*; *BOXED IN*, *SMALLBOTS*.

### **ACCOLADES & ENDORSEMENTS: Theatre Reviews**

*"A show that stands out above the others... With Love and a Major Organ is just about perfect... rises to a rare level of universal truth, all while making us laugh. A lot."* - **NEW CITY STAGE CHICAGO**

*"Lederer's dialogue is laced with sophisticated poetry and wry insight into the isolation faced by a generation for whom the meaning of "friend"-ship has been devalued by social media."*

- **THE LOS ANGELES TIMES**

*"[W]onderfully weird, piercingly poetic and unexpectedly moving...afterward you may feel, as I did, a deep need to talk to someone about the play. Isn't that what theater should do?"* - **CRAIN'S CHICAGO**

*"Lederer has a deliciously twisted way with words... the end result is pure elation."*

- **CHICAGO STAGE STANDARD**

*"A brash, poetic and fiercely original voice that's equal parts pee-your-pants funny and get-out-that-Kleenex poignant...Keep your eye on Lederer, whose got huge potential."* - **NOW, TORONTO**

*"Julia Lederer is a writer with a delightfully original voice."* - **THE TORONTO STAR**

### **OTHER:**

Julia has mentored young writers through the Paprika Festival and worked with students, creating new plays for them at Humber College and Young Peoples' Theatre. She was Writer-in-Residence for SMOOTHIELAND Performance Projects, creating episodic theatre for schools.

She is an apt collaborator and confident leader. For narrative film, television, and theatre work she is represented by Drew Mackenzie at Great North Artist Management in Toronto.

Passports: Canadian & EU.

### **RECENT SELECTED EDUCATION & UNITS:**

2020	TV Comedy Course	Brent Forrester
2019	Professional Screenwriting & TV Writing	Corey Mandell
2008	Nightwood Theatre's Write From the Hip program for emerging writers	
2006 – 2008	University of Toronto: MA in Drama Studies	

### **WEBSITE:**

[www.julialederer.ca](http://www.julialederer.ca)

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