

MARY LOU BELLI

Two time Emmy award-winner Mary Lou Belli and has been directing and/or producing television for over 30 years including *NCIS New Orleans*, *Elsbeth*, *True Lies*, *Black Lightning*, *Bull*, *Legacies*, *Station 19*, *Sweet Magnolias*, *Pitch*, *Monk*, *Famous In Love*, *Devious Maids*, *The Quad*, *American Woman*, and *Hart of Dixie* as well as Disney's *The Secret of Sulphur Springs*, *Ms. Pat*, *Wizards of Waverly Place*, *Sister, Sister*, *Girlfriends*, and *The Game*. Her short film, *Straight Eye for the Gay Guy* won "Best Mini-short" at the California Independent Film Fest where she also premiered *I Heard Something*, a thriller that went on to play fests internationally. Her award-winning short, *America*, played 14 festivals on 4 continents including at The Hague where it won best micro short. She was nominated 3 times for a Primetime Emmy for Comedy Directing on *The Ms. Pat Show* where she also serves as one of its Executive Producers. Mary Lou received another Emmy nomination in the Children's Programming category.

Mary Lou served two terms as the Co-chair of the Women's Steering Committee (WSC) at the DGA where she also has served on the Western Director's Council, the Negotiations Committee and many others. Presently, she is on the Leadership Council PAC and is a Directory Category Rep for the DGA WSC. Mary Lou is an Icon Member of the Alliance of Women Directors and Advisory Board member of Women in Media. Mary Lou also serves on the Advisory Circle of Film Fatales is and a long time member of Women In Film as well as a Governor of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences where she presently serves as one of the Governors. She is on the board of The Road Theatre known for presenting new playwrights.

She has served as judge and/or guest speaker for the CSU Media Arts Fest, Hollyshorts, and The Cascadia Film Festival. She had been a judge for the Miss America Outstanding Teen Pageant, a jury member at the Sapporo Short Festival, Newport Beach Film Fest, Regina International Film Festival, and The Voice awards, a lecturer at the Chautauqua Institute, and a panelist for Women In Film, the DGA, SAG, and AFTRA and the LA Times Festival of Books. Through her teaching, she supports many of the vibrant diversity programs including ABC/Disney, CBS, NBC Launch, Sony, HBO Access, AFI's Directing Workshop for Women, and Warner Bros. Directing Workshop mentoring the next generation of directors.

She is the co-author of 4 books: *The NEW Sitcom Career Book*, *Acting for Young Actors*, *Acting for the Screen*, and *Directors Tell the Story* now in its 3rd edition.

