

BEFORE THE DRUGS KICK IN

A pilot by Mike Lemme | mike@mikelemme.com

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GENRE: COMEDY/DRAMA



After receiving nominations for two of the biggest awards at the largest arts festival in the world, *Before The Drugs Kick In* is following in the footsteps of *Baby Reindeer* and *Fleabag* by turning a one-person show into an entire universe.

Before The Drugs Kick In follows a group of young people in New York City as they use the power of storytelling and family to turn their tragedies into triumphs, or at least a happier ending and maybe the potential to pay their rent.

The TV series will provide a voice to the voiceless while blending together the undeniable love for New York City found in a Spike Lee joint, the humor of a classic Judd Apatow film, the life-changing potential of meeting a stranger in *Before Sunrise* with the fire and the passion of *Gladiator*, except our Maximus happens to be a female comedian. Audiences are craving personal, emotionally honest stories and this is an intimate story about the power of using your voice — and now is the moment to share it.

'Funny, thought provoking and sweet, time flies as you feel yourself entranced by a mind-blowing performance and leave the room wanting more.'

—Theatre Scotland

ESTIMATED BUDGET: \$55,000

SCHEDULED FILMING: DEC. 2025

PRODUCERS

Next Door Pictures, an award-winning production company, is attached as producer. Known for developing bold, character-driven stories, they cannot wait to bring this pilot to life.



TALENT

Maria DeCotis reprises her lead role from the stage. With credits including opening for Mike Birbiglia on Broadway, Comedy Central, HBO Women in Comedy Festival, Rolling Stone, Vogue, and so much more!



DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Cinematographer Arthur Woo will lead the visual approach. His work is known for its emotional clarity and cinematic polish, making him an ideal fit for a project that blends grounded storytelling with surreal, stylized moments.



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