

“I will not wait on Hollywood to tell me when I am good enough.” – DeAara Lewis

Actress. Writer. Producer. Director. DeAara Lewis. Lewis decided at a young age that she wasn't going to wait on opportunities but create her own.

Her versatility can currently be seen on her online one woman show, “The People Inside My Head,” a series of poetic monologues that explores the diverse characters and trials of Lewis' life.

A native of Memphis, TN, where talent can be found from church pew to street corner and everywhere in between, Lewis began developing her talents early. As her love of the craft grew she reached out to Oprah Winfrey seeking advice on breaking into the industry. Winfrey advised her to stay in school, go to college, and learn everything she could about the craft. That advice coupled with an article Lewis read titled “Hollywood Blackout”, exposing the dismal reality of lack of work and representation, for people of color and women, sparked her deep determination to portray the diverse, powerhouse roles that she had grown to love and learned to develop.

Lewis graduated from the University of Memphis with a Bachelor's Degree in Film and Video Production and went directly work on her first film, the independent short “The Forgotten Ones.” The film delivered a frank message about psychological wounds, sexuality, and oppression. The film earned honorable mention as the Women of Color Film festival (NY). Additionally, the University of Denver purchased and adapted the film to use in conjunction with the curriculum for their Psychology department.

In “Tricks”, her first independent feature film offering, Lewis writes, produces, directs, and co-stars. “Tricks” confront the forbidden subject of prostitution through the fictional accounts of five prostitutes and their enterprising madam. The story focuses on their struggles to survive and thrive in an industry that is considered to be illicit and debauched.

When not working she practices Krav Maga, an Israeli form of martial arts and street fighting.

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