

ANNA ELENA PEPE - BIOGRAPHY

Anna Elena Pepe is a British-Italian director, screenwriter, and actress. She has been awarded a Green Card for “special talent in filmmaking” to work in the United States.

She studied Directing at the **Raindance Film Institute** in London, Comedy Writing at **The Groundlings** in Los Angeles, and Acting at the **Guildhall School of Music and Drama**.

Believing in the power of storytelling, Anna moved from performing to creating her own stories. Growing up between **Italy** and **England**, her work explores themes of **immigration** and the **search for identity**, featuring strong, unconventional female characters and underdogs who face life’s challenges—often through a comedic lens—while seeking their place in the world.

Her short film *Miss Agata*, a dramedy about a woman with PTSD, started the festival circuit at the **Clermont-Ferrand Market** in 2023 and reached over 50 festivals worldwide and winning awards like the **Starlight International Cinema Award** at the **Venice Film Festival 2023**. She also wrote and directed the sketch comedy TV series *Totò e Daiana*, now part of **Amazon Prime’s Official Catalogue** as *Italian Episodes Series 3*.

Currently, Anna is developing projects across the **UK**, **Italy**, and the **US**. Her feature film in development *Ragù* was selected for the **MIA Market Rome** as part of **Alice nella città's** "Unbox - From Shorts to Feature" program. As an actress, she has worked with award winner directors such as **Daniel Percival** (BAFTA), **Pupi Avati** (David di Donatello), and **Richard Blanshard** (Emmy).

SELECTED CREDITS (Released)

Miss Agata | Short film | Ladybug Crossmedia, Tabit Films | Completed 2023

Director, Story by, Screenwriter (*Award list below*)

Toto’ e Daiana | Sketch Comedy TV series | Amazon Prime | Completed 2021

Director, Story by, Screenwriter (*Award list below*)

Lockdownlove.it | Short film | Toed Films | Completed 2021 | Dir: Anna Marcelo

Story by, Screenplay by

Dancing Jellyfish | Feature film | Freeside Films | Completed 2018 | Dir: Aurelio Laino

Co-writer. *Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival*

40th and Climbing | Feature film | Hugo Film | Completed 2020 | Dir: Bindu de Stoppani

Italian adaptation

(Acting credits here: [IMDb link](#))

SELECTED CREDITS (In development)

Ragù | Feature film | Bridgeway films

Director, Story by, Screenwriter.

Selected at the MIA Market Rome as part of Alice nella città's "Unbox - From Shorts to Feature" program.

Miss Agata | Feature film | Ladybug Crossmedia, Tabit Films

Director, Story by, Screenwriter.

TRAINING

- **Raindance Film School**, London, Filmmaking Program
- **The Groundlings Theatre School**, Los Angeles, Comedy Writing Program
- **European Act**, master in acting and creative writing, Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts (RADA, London) & The International Institute of Performing Arts (Paris), Paul Thomson, Head of Screenwriting program NYU.
- **Guildhall School of Music and Drama**, Acting Diploma, London
- **Masterclasses in screenwriting**: Lauren Clooney (Short Films), John Yorke (Advanced Structure), Joseph Campbell (A hero's Journey), Kim Hudson (The Virgin's Promise)

SELECTED AWARDS

- 2023-2024 **Miss Agata**, more than 50 festivals selections and 20 Awards Worldwide including the **Starlight International Cinema Award for Best Screenplay, Venice Film Festival 2023, Best foreign film** at Chandler Film Festival (Arizona), Brighton Rocks (BIFA and BAFTA Qualifying), Golden State (Chinese Theatre LA), Panalight Award at Digital Media Fest. **Best social film** at Festival del Cinema Italiano, Asti Film Festival, Ferrara Film Corto.
(Full festival and award list available on request)
- 2020 "Agata" – original title of Miss Agata. **Best Pitch – Screenplay for Short Film**, Murmat Film Festival.
- 2019 **Totò e Daiana**, finalist at Roma Web Fest, Molise Cinema, Apulia Web Fest (Winner), Miami Web Fest (Winner), Caorle Web Fest (Winner), Sicily Web Fest.
(Full festival and award list available on request)

SELECTED PRESS

TEXT MEDIA:

<https://manintown.com/miss-agata/2023/09/12>
['Miss Agata' violenza sulle donne e immigrazione - Taxidrivars.it](#)
[Miss Agata: alla scoperta del corto di Anna Elena Pepe contro la violenza sulle donne - Cinevagabondo](#)
https://www.ansa.it/emiliaromagna/notizie/2023/03/07/miss-agata-film-di-regista-ferrarese-in-anteprima-a-hollywood_e80fce99-6eb7-474b-b585-fcf126f31aff.html

VIDEO MEDIA:

Cinematografo, RAI 1, 17 Luglio 2023

<https://tinyurl.com/m73usd3y> & <https://tinyurl.com/3r88mcua>

Hotcorn Intervista Anna Elena Pepe

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gc_rpWalvQY