



ALIYA KANANI Comedian, Actress, Writer

Aliya Kanani is a celebrated comedian, actress, and writer known for her vibrant personality and incisive humor. Her acclaimed one-woman show, *Where You FROM, From?*, explores themes of identity and belonging with wit and warmth, earning accolades like Best of Fest and Patrons Pick. Through her comedy, Aliya tackles complex issues such as race, gender, and societal labels, drawing from her own experiences as a world traveler to debunk stereotypes and connect with audiences on a human level.

Aliya has toured across Canada, Australia, South Africa, the UK, and the USA, performing at prestigious events like Just For Laughs, the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, and the Johannesburg International Comedy Festival. Her standup is featured on CBC's LOL network and SiriusXM, highlighting her wide-ranging appeal.

In addition to her comedy, Aliya has earned critical acclaim in film, notably with a Best Lead Actress nomination from the Academy for Canadian Cinema and Television for her role in *Scarborough*. She has appeared at the Toronto International Film Festival and stars alongside Amanda Seyfried in *Seven Veils*, as well as in the latest season of *Law and Order: Toronto*.

Aliya's writing talents are evident in her work for the sketch show *Abroad* and as a finalist in the Just for Laughs Standup & Pitch competition for her series *HYPE*. With a career that spans comedy, film, and television, Aliya Kanani continues to leave a mark on the entertainment industry, creating impactful and entertaining works that foster connection and laughter.



aliyakanani.com

TOURING SHOWS

Where You FROM, From?

30 countries, 10 schools, 6 languages... so, where am I from? Good question. Using humour, Aliya learned to adapt and take up space in her ever-changing surroundings. Constantly moving meant she was always the new kid and an easy target... until she learned the best way to handle a bully is to beat them to the punch! Aliya relocated with her family from one Canadian city to the next, and when they ran out of places to move... they went to Africa! Growing up with this nomadic rhythm contributed to her taste for movement and adventure. Visiting over 30 countries, Aliya learned life by immersing herself in different cultures, meeting teachers through the people she encountered. Her curious nature meant she sometimes got herself into trouble, but somehow always talked her way out... usually by making people laugh... sometimes without even speaking their language! After all her roaming, Aliya still can't figure out how to answer the one question she's asked every place she's ever been: "Where you from?"



"While her 'otherness' is the central theme of the conversation in Where You FROM, From?, the heart of Kanani's show is in forming a 'togetherness' with the room and her audience... ensuring the audience always has plenty to laugh at and plenty to bond over." (My Melbourne Arts)

VIEW EPK

VIEW: 4 MINUTE SIZZLE REEL

VIEW: OSAC SHOWCASE 2024



A Comedian's Guide to Enlightenment

Aliya's newest show marks a creative evolution—moving beyond traditional stand-up into a more immersive theatrical experience that invites audiences not only to laugh, but to reflect. At a time when the world feels increasingly divided, overwhelmed, and disconnected, Aliya is using comedy as a way to bring people back together.

Through sharp observational humor, deeply personal stories, and playful audience interaction, she explores the chaos of modern existence: the search for meaning,

the pressure to "heal", the absurdity of influence, and the very human struggle of trying to become a better person while still wanting wine, validation, and a good bargain. This show asks big questions without taking itself too seriously.

Inspired by her travels, meditation studies, wellness culture, and the wisdom passed from person to person through conversation, Aliya shares tales from studying meditation in India to the time she (accidentally) joined a cult in Texas.

And with her love of mischief and uplifting take on life's challenges, audiences are rewarded with cathartic laughs as she barrels through awkward confessions, spirals into a tiny existential crises and zigzags throughout the show with delightfully entertaining ADHD energy.

"Her show is timely, potent, and incredibly affecting. Alone on stage, Aliya has the unique skill of earning an audience's trust. Expertly timed comedy and vulnerability leaves a crowd wildly receptive... Steeped in morality, politics, and love, Aliya Kanani will make you laugh, smile, meditate (yes, mid-show), laugh again, and—ultimately—think." (Parton and Pearl)

Agent: Margot Holmes, Caline Artists International 250-729-5951 | www.caline.com | margot@caline.com