

= Roseanne Barr =

Roseanne Cherrie Barr (born November 3 , 1952) is an American actress , comedian , writer , television producer , director , and 2012 presidential nominee of the California @-@ based Peace and Freedom Party . Barr began her career in stand @-@ up comedy at clubs before gaining fame for her role in the classic sitcom Roseanne . The show was a hit and lasted nine seasons , from 1988 to 1997 . She won both an Emmy and a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress for her work on the show . Barr had crafted a " fierce working @-@ class domestic goddess " persona in the eight years preceding her sitcom and wanted to do a realistic show about a strong mother who was not a victim of patriarchal consumerism .

The granddaughter of immigrants from Europe and Russia , Barr was the oldest of four children in a working @-@ class Jewish Salt Lake City family ; she was also active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter @-@ day Saints (LDS Church) . In 1974 , she married Bill Pentland , with whom she had three children , before divorcing in 1990 and marrying comedian Tom Arnold for four years . Controversy arose when she sang " The Star @-@ Spangled Banner " off @-@ key at a 1990 nationally aired baseball game , followed by grabbing her crotch and spitting .

After her sitcom ended , she launched her own talk show , The Roseanne Show , which aired from 1998 to 2000 . In 2005 , she returned to stand @-@ up comedy with a world tour . In 2011 , she starred in an unscripted TV show , Roseanne 's Nuts , that lasted from July to September of that year , about her life on a Hawaiian farm .

In early 2012 , Barr announced her candidacy for the presidential nomination of the Green Party . Barr lost the nomination to Jill Stein . She then sought the presidential nomination of the Peace and Freedom Party , which she won on August 4 , 2012 . Barr received 61 @, @ 971 votes in the general election , placing sixth overall .

= = Early life = =

Barr was born in Salt Lake City , to a working @-@ class Jewish family . She is the oldest of four children born to Helen (née Davis) , a bookkeeper and cashier , and Jerome Hershel " Jerry " Barr , who worked as a salesman . Her father 's family were Jewish immigrants from Russia , and her maternal grandparents were Jewish immigrants from Austria @-@ Hungary and Lithuania , respectively . Her paternal grandfather changed his surname from " Borisofsky " to " Barr " upon entering the United States .

Her Jewish upbringing was influenced by her devoutly Orthodox Jewish maternal grandmother . Barr 's parents kept their Jewish heritage secret from their neighbors and were partially involved in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter @-@ day Saints . Barr has stated , " Friday , Saturday , and Sunday morning I was a Jew ; Sunday afternoon , Tuesday afternoon , and Wednesday afternoon we were Mormons " . When Barr was three years old , she got Bell 's palsy on the left side of her face . Barr said , " [so] my mother called in a rabbi to pray for me , but nothing happened . Then my mother got a Mormon preacher , he prayed , and I was miraculously cured " . Years later Barr learned that Bell 's palsy was usually temporary and that the Mormon preacher came " exactly at the right time " . At six years old , Barr discovered her first public stage by lecturing at LDS churches around Utah and even was elected president of a Mormon youth group .

At 16 , Barr was hit by a car that left her with a traumatic brain injury . Her behavior changed so radically that she was institutionalized for eight months at Utah State Hospital . In 1970 , when Barr was 18 years old , she moved out by informing her parents she was going to visit a friend in Colorado for two weeks , but never returned .

= = Career = =

= = = Stand @-@ up comedian : 1980 ? 1986 = = =

While in Colorado , Barr did stand @-@ up gigs in clubs in Denver and other Colorado towns . She later tried out at The Comedy Store in Los Angeles and went on to appear on The Tonight Show in 1985 . In 1986 , she performed on Late Night with David Letterman and the following year had her own HBO special called The Roseanne Barr Show , which earned her an American Comedy Award for the funniest female performer in a television special . Barr was offered the role of Peg Bundy in Married ... with Children but turned it down . In her routine she popularized the phrase , " domestic goddess , " to refer to a homemaker or housewife . The success of her act led to her own series on ABC , called Roseanne .

= = = Roseanne sitcom , film , books , and talk show : 1987 ? 2004 = = =

In 1987 , The Cosby Show executive producers Marcy Carsey and Tom Werner wanted to bring a " no @-@ perks family comedy " to television . They hired Cosby writer Matt Williams to write a script about factory workers and signed Barr to play Roseanne Conner . The show premiered on October 18 , 1988 and was watched by 21 @.@ 4 million households , making it the highest @-@ rated debut of that season .

Barr became outraged when she watched the first episode of Roseanne and noticed that in the credits , Williams was listed as creator . She told Tanner Stransky of Entertainment Weekly , " We built the show around my actual life and my kids . The ' domestic goddess ' , the whole thing " . In the same interview , Werner said , " I don 't think Roseanne , to this day , understands that this is something legislated by the Writers Guild , and it 's part of what every show has to deal with . They 're the final arbiters . " During the first season , Barr sought more creative control over the show , opposing Williams ' authority . Barr refused to say certain lines and eventually walked off set . She threatened to quit the show if Williams did not leave . ABC let Williams go after the thirteenth episode .

Roseanne ran for nine seasons from 1988 to 1997 . Barr won an Emmy , a Golden Globe , a Kids Choice Award , and three American Comedy Awards for her part in the show . For the final two seasons , Barr earned \$ 40 million , making her the second @-@ highest @-@ paid woman in show business at the time , after Oprah Winfrey .

Barbara Ehrenreich called Barr a working @-@ class spokesperson representing " the hopeless underclass of the female sex : polyester @-@ clad , overweight occupants of the slow track ; fast @-@ food waitresses , factory workers , housewives , members of the invisible pink @-@ collar army ; the despised , the jilted , the underpaid , " but a master of " the kind of class @-@ militant populism that the Democrats , most of them anyway , never seem to get right . " Barr refuses to use the term " blue collar " because it masks the issue of class .

During Roseanne 's final season , Barr was in negotiations between Carsey @-@ Werner Productions and ABC executives to continue playing Roseanne Conner in a spin @-@ off . However , after failed discussions with ABC , and later CBS and Fox , Carsey @-@ Werner and Barr agreed not to go on with the negotiations .

Barr gave Amy Sherman @-@ Palladino and Joss Whedon their first writing jobs on Roseanne . She released her autobiography in 1989 , titled Roseanne ? My Life As a Woman . That same year , she made her film debut in She @-@ Devil , playing Ruth . Film critic Roger Ebert gave her a positive review saying , " Barr could have made an easy , predictable and dumb comedy at any point in the last couple of years . Instead , she took her chances with an ambitious project ? a real movie . It pays off , in that Barr demonstrates that there is a core of reality inside her TV persona , a core of identifiable human feelings like jealousy and pride , and they provide a sound foundation for her comic acting " .

In 1991 , she voiced the baby , Julie , in Look Who 's Talking Too . She was nominated for a Golden Raspberry Award for Worst Supporting Actress . She appeared three times on Saturday Night Live from 1991 to 1994 , co @-@ hosting with then @-@ husband Tom Arnold in 1992 . In 1994 , she released a second book , My Lives . That same year , Barr became the first female comedian to host the MTV Video Music Awards on her own . She remained the only to have done so until comedian Chelsea Handler hosted in 2010 . In 1997 , she made guest appearances on 3rd

Rock from the Sun and The Nanny .

In 1998 , she portrayed the Wicked Witch of the West in a production of The Wizard of Oz at Madison Square Garden . That same year , Barr hosted her own talk show , The Roseanne Show , which ran for two years before it was canceled in 2000 . In the summer of 2003 , she took on the dual role of hosting a cooking show called Domestic Goddess and starring in a reality show called The Real Roseanne Show about hosting a cooking show . Although 13 episodes were in production , a hysterectomy brought a premature end to both projects . In 2004 , she voiced Maggie , one of the main characters in the animated film Home on the Range .

= = = Return to stand @-@ up , television guest appearances , and radio : 2005 ? 2010 = = =

In 2005 , she returned to stand @-@ up comedy with a world tour . In February 2006 , Barr performed her first @-@ ever live dates in Europe as part of the Leicester Comedy Festival in Leicester , England . The shows took place at De Montfort Hall . She released her first children 's DVD , Rockin ' with Roseanne : Calling All Kids , that month . Roseanne 's return to the stage culminated in an HBO Comedy Special Roseanne Barr : Blonde N Bitchin ' , which aired November 4 , 2006 , on HBO . Two nights earlier , Roseanne had returned to primetime network TV with a guest spot on NBC 's My Name Is Earl , playing a crazy trailer park manager . In April 2007 , Barr hosted season three of The Search for the Funniest Mom in America on Nick at Nite .

In March 2008 , she headlined an act at the Sahara Hotel and Casino on the Las Vegas Strip . From 2009 to 2010 , she hosted a politically themed radio show on KPFK . Since 2008 , she and partner Johnny Argent have hosted a weekly radio show on Sundays , on KCAA in the Los Angeles area , called " The Roseanne and Johnny Show " . On March 23 , 2009 it was announced that Barr would be returning to primetime with a new sitcom , wherein she would once again play the matriarch . Jim Vallely of Arrested Development had been tapped to pen the series . She later stated on her website that the project had been canceled .

On April 15 , 2009 , Barr made an appearance on Bravo 's 2nd Annual A @-@ List Awards in the opening scenes . She played Kathy Griffin 's fairy godmother , granting her wish to be on the A @-@ List for one night only . Barr headlined the inaugural Traverse City Comedy Arts Festival in February 2010 , a project of the Traverse City Film Festival , founded by filmmaker Michael Moore . Moore developed the comedy fest with comedian Jeff Garlin . In 2010 , Barr appeared in Jordan Brady 's documentary about stand @-@ up comedy , I Am Comic .

= = = Reality television , third book , sitcom pilot , politics and Comedy Central Roast : 2011 ? present = = =

Barr released her third book , Roseannearchy : Dispatches from the Nut Farm , in January 2011 . She appeared in 2011 on a Super Bowl XLV commercial for Snickers along with comedian Richard Lewis . It was the most popular ad based on the number of TiVo users rewinding and watching it over . Roseanne 's Nuts , a reality show featuring Barr , boyfriend Johnny Argent , and son Jake as they run a macadamia nut and livestock farm in Big Island , Hawaii was broadcast by Lifetime Television in July 2011 , and cancelled in September of that year .

In August 2011 , it was reported that Barr was working on a new sitcom with 20th Century Fox Television tentatively titled Downwardly Mobile . Steven Greener , who also executive produced her reality show Roseanne 's Nuts , will also executive produce the sitcom . Eric Gilliland is attached as co @-@ creator , writer and executive producer ; Gilliland was also a writer on Barr 's previous sitcom Roseanne . The show will be set in a mobile home community and use a multiple @-@ camera setup . In October 2011 , NBC picked up the show . A pilot was filmed but initially ended up being shelved by the network . Barr blames her " Progressive politics " as being the sole reason behind the pilot 's rejection . Barr states that she was notified that the show would not be picked up due to its being labeled " too polarizing " by network executives . In an interview with Politicker , Barr revealed that the show had been axed only to announce three hours later that she had just received a phone call saying that NBC had not given up on the project completely . The show could end up

as an NBC midseason replacement . Barr hopes she 's given the opportunity to retool the show .

Barr was " roasted " by Comedy Central in August 2012 . Barr 's former spouse , Tom Arnold , had claimed that he would not be appearing , but he ended up doing so .

In the summer of 2014 Barr joined Keenen Ivory Wayans and Russell Peters as a judge on Last Comic Standing on NBC .

On November 28 , 2014 , Barr 's series , Momsters : When Moms Go Bad debuted on the Investigation Discovery cable network , a network that she says she 's a ' little obsessed with . ' Barr hosts the show as herself .

= = Controversy = =

= = = National Anthem = = =

On July 25 , 1990 , Barr performed " The Star @-@ Spangled Banner " before a baseball game between the San Diego Padres and Cincinnati Reds at Jack Murphy Stadium . As she later claimed , she was initially having trouble hearing herself over the public @-@ address system , so she was singing as loudly as possible , and her rendition of the song sounded " screechy " . Following her rendition , she mimicked the often @-@ seen actions of players by spitting and grabbing her crotch as if adjusting a protective cup . Barr claimed she had been encouraged by baseball officials to " bring humor to the song " . The song and the closing routine received heavy media attention and offended many , including President George H. W. Bush , who called her rendition " disgraceful " . Barr would revisit this incident during her Comedy Central Roast in 2012 , wherein she once again belted out the last few bars of the national anthem , without screeching .

= = = Zimmerman tweet = = =

In 2014 , the parents of George Zimmerman , a neighborhood watch coordinator who is known for fatally shooting Trayvon Martin but was later acquitted of second degree murder and manslaughter , filed a lawsuit against Barr for tweeting their home address and phone number on March 29 , 2012 . Barr allegedly tweeted " At first I thought it was good to let ppl know that no one can hide anymore ... If Zimmerman isn 't arrested I 'll rt his address again- maybe go 2 his house myself . " Zimmerman 's parents allege that Barr sought to " cause a lynch mob to descend " on their home . The Seminole County Circuit Court complaint sought more than \$ 15 @,@ 000 for emotional distress and invasion of privacy . In August 2015 , summary judgment was granted in favor of Barr .

= = 2012 Presidential campaign = =

On August 5 , 2011 , Barr appeared on The Tonight Show with Jay Leno and announced her candidacy for president in the 2012 presidential election , running on the " Green Tea Party " ticket . Her candidacy mixed attention to economics , personal health and meditation . She also said that she is running for Prime Minister of Israel . In an interview with The Jewish Daily Forward she invoked tikkun olam in her support of bringing women into politics and religion . On September 19 , 2011 , she appeared at the Occupy Wall Street protests and spoke in support of the protestors . She further stated that any " guilty " Wall Street bankers should be forced to give up any income over \$ 100 million , be sent to re @-@ education camps , or be executed by beheading if they resisted . Barr filed with the Federal Election Commission as a Green Party presidential candidate in January 2012 . She formally announced her candidacy for the party 's 2012 presidential nomination on February 2 , 2012 .

On July 14 , 2012 , Barr came in second , losing the nomination to Jill Stein . Stein chose Cheri Honkala as her running @-@ mate despite suggestions that she could choose Barr . Barr was given a prime speaking role at the Green Party National Convention in Baltimore , Maryland , but decided to instead send a surrogate (Farheen Hakeem) to speak on her behalf . Barr 's surrogate

reportedly chided the Party for not respecting Barr 's candidacy . A shouting match in a hallway reportedly ensued . Barr repeatedly criticized Jill Stein after losing the Green Party nomination , and caused controversy by using alleged transphobic words in statements about Stein on Twitter .

Shortly after losing the Green Party nomination , Barr announced she would run on the Peace and Freedom Party ticket with activist Cindy Sheehan as a running mate . On August 4 , 2012 , Barr won the 2012 presidential nomination of the Peace and Freedom Party . Barr 's running mate , Cindy Sheehan , immediately had disagreements with Barr , from Barr 's views on policy , to Barr 's desire to only campaign online , and Barr 's treatment of Green Party nominee Jill Stein , leading Sheehan to request her name taken off the Peace and Freedom Party ticket . Sheehan was told it was too late to have her name removed , so she instead announced that she was simply leaving the campaign .

Barr finished her campaign with nearly 50 @, @ 000 votes nationwide , placing sixth overall with considerably less than 0 @. @ 1 % of the popular vote ; Stein placed far ahead of her in fourth place with roughly 0 @. @ 3 % of the popular vote and 469 @, @ 501 votes . Barr was followed by a film crew throughout her entire campaign , with documentarian Eric Weinrib directing , leading to questions about the sincerity of her campaign . Over 300 hours were filmed and were released as a film called Roseanne for President ! . Despite questions of her sincerity regarding her campaign , Barr and her family have insisted her desire to run for President was " very real . "

= = = Endorsements = = =

Green Party Black Caucus
National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws
Cynthia McKinney , 2008 Green Party nominee

= = Personal life = =

In 1970 , when she was 17 , Barr had a child whom she placed for adoption ; they were later reunited . On February 4 , 1974 , Barr married Bill Pentland , a motel clerk she met while in Colorado . They had three children : Jessica , Jennifer , and Jake . Pentland and Barr divorced on January 16 , 1990 . Four days later , on January 20 , 1990 , Barr married fellow comedian Tom Arnold and became known as Roseanne Arnold during the marriage . Barr had met Arnold in 1983 in Minneapolis , where he opened for her stand @- @ up comedy act . In 1988 , Barr brought Arnold onto her sitcom , Roseanne , as a writer .

Barr has a lesbian sister , Geraldine Barr , and a gay brother , Ben Barr , both of whom inspired her to introduce gay characters into her sitcom . Barr has stated that she supports gay marriage . Geraldine was also Barr 's manager while performing in comedy clubs and at the start of her sitcom . Geraldine claimed that Arnold tried to dominate Barr " for his own reasons " . After being fired by Roseanne , Geraldine filed a \$ 70 @. @ 3 million breach of contract lawsuit in Superior Court of Los Angeles County on December 18 , 1991 . She said Barr promised her half the earnings from the Roseanne show for helping invent the " domestic goddess " character in 1981 , serving as " writer , organizer , accountant , bookkeeper and confidante " . Since it was six months past the statute of limitations , the suit was thrown out .

In a 1991 interview with People , Barr described herself as an " incest survivor " , accusing both of her parents of physical and sexual abuse , claims which they and Geraldine publicly denied . Melvin Belli , her parents ' lawyer , said that they had passed a lie detector test " with flying colors " . Barr was even part of an incest recovery group , something she said her parents knew about but for which they were " in denial " . On February 14 , 2011 , Barr and Geraldine appeared on The Oprah Winfrey Show where Barr admitted that the word " incest " could have been the wrong word to use and should have waited until her therapy was over before revealing the " darkest time " in her life . She told Oprah , " I was in a very unhappy relationship and I was prescribed numerous psychiatric drugs ... to deal with the fact that I had some mental illness ... I totally lost touch with reality ... (and) I didn ' t know what the truth was ... I just wanted to drop a bomb on my family " . She added that

not everything was " made up " , saying , " Nobody accuses their parents of abusing them without justification " . Geraldine said they did not speak for 12 years , but had recently reconciled .

Barr filed for divorce from Tom Arnold on April 18 , 1994 in the Superior Court of Los Angeles County , citing irreconcilable differences . Their efforts to have children were unsuccessful . On February 14 , 1995 , Barr married Ben Thomas , her one @-@ time personal security guard , at Caesars Tahoe with a reception at Planet Hollywood . In November 1994 , she became pregnant through in @-@ vitro fertilization and they had a son named Buck . The couple stayed together until 2002 .

In the mid @-@ 1990s , Barr had multiple cosmetic surgeries performed , such as a breast reduction , tummy tuck , and a nose job . During the late 1990s she had gastric bypass surgery .

In 2002 , Barr met Johnny Argent online after running a writing competition on her blog and began dating him in 2003 , after a year of phone conversations . They live on a 46 @-@ acre macadamia nut farm located on the Big Island of Hawaii . Barr purchased the property in 2007 for \$ 1 @.@ 78 million . Barr has studied Kabbalah at the Kabbalah Centre and frequently comments on the discipline .

In 2015 , Barr revealed she has been diagnosed with both macular degeneration and glaucoma , and thus is gradually losing her eyesight and expects to eventually go blind ; she is consuming medical marijuana to fight the raised intraocular pressure that is a feature of these diseases .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television (Acting) = = =

= = = Television (Hosting / Reality) = = =

= = Awards = =

Roseanne Barr has a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame on the north side of the 6700 block of Hollywood Blvd .