

= Amy Adams =

Amy Lou Adams ( born August 20 , 1974 ) is an American actress and singer . She began her career on stage performing in dinner theatre and went on to make her feature film debut in *Drop Dead Gorgeous* ( 1999 ) . After moving to Los Angeles , she made several appearances on television and in B movies before portraying the part of Frank Abagnale 's girlfriend in Steven Spielberg 's *Catch Me If You Can* ( 2002 ) . Her breakthrough role came in the 2005 independent film *Junebug* , in which she played a young pregnant woman , for which she received critical acclaim and her first Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress .

In 2007 , Adams starred as a princess in the Disney animated musical film *Enchanted* , a critical and commercial success . She received her second Oscar nomination for playing a nun in the 2008 film *Doubt* . Adams received two more Academy Award nominations for her supporting roles in the 2010 sports drama *The Fighter* and the 2012 psychological drama *The Master* . She achieved further success in 2013 , portraying Lois Lane in *Man of Steel* and a troubled con artist in David O. Russell 's crime film *American Hustle* . The latter won her a Golden Globe Award and garnered her a fifth Oscar nomination , her first in the Best Actress category . In 2014 , she portrayed Margaret Keane in *Big Eyes* , for which she won a second Golden Globe Award . Adams reprised the role of Lois Lane in 2016 's *Batman v Superman : Dawn of Justice* , her highest @-@ grossing release .

Adams is the recipient of two Golden Globe Awards , and has received five nominations each from the Academy Award and BAFTA Award ceremonies . She was named one of 100 most influential people by Time magazine in 2014 . She is married to the artist Darren Le Gallo , with whom she has one child .

= = Early life = =

Adams was born on August 20 , 1974 in Vicenza , Veneto , Italy , the fourth of seven children of American parents Kathryn ( née Hicken ) and Richard Adams . She has four brothers and two sisters . Her father is a U.S. Army veteran and was stationed at Caserma Ederle at the time of her birth . After years of moving from base to base , Adams 's family settled in Castle Rock , Colorado , when Adams was eight years old . Following his Army discharge , her father sang professionally in restaurants and her mother became a semi @-@ professional bodybuilder . Until her parents ' divorce in 1985 , Adams was raised in the LDS Church . Regarding her religious upbringing , Adams said , " I can 't speak for everybody , but I know it instilled in me a value system I still hold true . The basic ' Do unto others ... ' ? that was what was hammered into me . And love . "

During her years at Douglas County High School , Adams sang in the school choir and trained as an apprentice at a local dance company with ambitions of becoming a ballerina . Her parents had hoped that she would continue her athletic training , which she gave up to pursue dance , as it would have given her a chance to obtain a college scholarship . Adams later reflected on her decision not to go to college : " I wasn 't one of those people who enjoyed being in school . I regret not getting an education , though . " After graduating from high school , she moved to Atlanta with her mother . Deciding that she was not gifted enough to be a professional ballerina , she entered musical theater , which she found was " much better suited to [ her ] personality . " She said that ballet was " too disciplined and too restrained and I was always told off in the chorus lines " and her body at the time was " just wrecked from dancing all these years . "

When she turned eighteen , Adams supported herself by working as a greeter at a Gap store while performing in community theater . For a few weeks after graduating from high school , she took her first full @-@ time job as a hostess at Hooters , a fact that became her " entire press career " for a while . Adams left the job three weeks later after having saved enough money to buy her first car . She later admitted , " So there was definitely an innocence to my interpretation of what Hooters was about . Though I did learn , quickly , that short shorts and beer don 't mix ! "

= = Career = =

== 1995 ? 2004 ==

Adams began working professionally as a dancer at Boulder 's Dinner Theatre , Country Dinner Playhouse and Heritage Square Music Hall . There , she was spotted by a Minneapolis dinner theater director , Michael Brindisi , in 1995 . Adams relocated to Chanhassen , Minnesota , and worked at the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres for the next three years . While she was off work nursing a pulled muscle , she auditioned for the satirical 1999 comedy Drop Dead Gorgeous , which was being filmed in Minnesota , and was cast in her first film role . Adams moved to Los Angeles in January 1999 . Describing her first year there as her " dark year " and " bleak , " she recalled that she would " pine for that time " at Chanhassen because she " really loved that security and schedule , " and said , " The people I worked with there were also a great family to me . " Shortly after arriving in Los Angeles , she was cast in Fox Network 's television series spin @-@ off of Cruel Intentions , Manchester Prep , in the role of Kathryn Merteuil . The series did not live up to the network 's expectations and following numerous script revisions and two production shutdowns , it was canceled . The filmed episodes were then re @-@ edited to be released as the direct @-@ to @-@ video film , Cruel Intentions 2 .

From 2000 to 2002 , Adams appeared in a series of small films like Psycho Beach Party , while guest @-@ starring on television series such as That ' 70s Show , Charmed , The Office , Buffy the Vampire Slayer , Smallville and The West Wing . She appeared in Steven Spielberg 's Catch Me If You Can as Brenda Strong , a nurse with whom Frank Abagnale , Jr . ( Leonardo DiCaprio ) falls in love . It was , in Spielberg 's words , " the part that should have launched her career , " but she was unemployed for a year after that . However , Adams said , " It was the first time I knew I could act at that level with those people . To be believed in by Steven Spielberg . ? it was a huge confidence booster . " In 2004 , she starred in The Last Run as well as voicing characters on the animated television series King of the Hill . She was also cast as a regular in the television series , Dr. Vegas , in the role of Alice Doherty but was later fired after a contract dispute .

== 2005 ? 2007 ==

Prior to leaving Dr. Vegas , she had received the script for the low @-@ budget independent film Junebug and auditioned for the role of Ashley Johnsten , a young , cheerful and talkative pregnant woman . Director Phil Morrison explains his decision to cast Adams : " Lots of people looked at Ashley and thought , ' What 's the sorrow she 's masking ? ' To me , the fact that Amy didn 't approach it from the angle of ' What 's she covering up ? ' was key . " The film was shot in 21 days in Winston @-@ Salem , North Carolina . During that time , Adams turned 30 and was worried about her film career : " I thought maybe I should move to New York , maybe I should do something else . It wasn 't that I was quitting or making a dramatic statement . It was more like maybe this just wasn 't a good fit . " On the experience of making Junebug , Adams said , " It was really empowering . At the end of the summer I was unemployed but I was happy and I was proud . I was like , you know what , I 'm done with being pushed around . " Junebug premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival with Adams winning a Special Jury Prize for her performance .

After the February 2005 theatrical release of The Wedding Date , in which Adams appeared alongside Debra Messing and Dermot Mulroney , Junebug was released in theaters by Sony Pictures Classics later in the year , in August . Adams earned critical accolades for her work in Junebug ; Carina Chocano of Los Angeles Times noted , " Adams 's performance in a role that could have easily devolved into caricature is complex and nuanced . " Joe Leydon of Variety commented , " Partly due to her character 's generosity of spirit , but mostly due to her own charisma , Adams dominates pic with her appealing portrayal of a nonjudgmental optimist savvy enough to recognize the shortcomings of others , but sweet enough to offer encouragement , not condemnation . " She received several awards for Best Supporting Actress including the National Society of Film Critics award and the Independent Spirit Award . She was also nominated for a Screen Actors Guild Award and an Academy Award . The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and

Sciences invited Adams to become a member in 2006 .

Although Junebug had a limited audience , Adams 's critically acclaimed performance in the film helped to increase interest in her acting career . Adams went on to appear in films like Standing Still and Talladega Nights : The Ballad of Ricky Bobby , and played the recurring guest role of Katy on the television series The Office . After providing the voice for Polly Purebred in Walt Disney Pictures ' Underdog , Adams starred in Disney 's 2007 big @-@ budget animated / live @-@ action feature film , Enchanted . The film , which co @-@ stars Patrick Dempsey , Idina Menzel , Susan Sarandon and James Marsden , revolves around Giselle , who is forced from her hand @-@ drawn animated world to real @-@ life New York City . Adams was among 300 or so actresses who auditioned for the role of Giselle , but she stood out to director Kevin Lima because her " commitment to the character , her ability to escape into the character 's being without ever judging the character was overwhelming . "

Enchanted was a commercial success , grossing more than \$ 340 million worldwide . Her performance was well received by critics . Roger Ebert of Chicago Sun @-@ Times commented that Adams was " fresh and winning , " Wesley Morris of The Boston Globe stated that she " demonstrates a real performer 's ingenuity for comic timing and physical eloquence . " She garnered a Golden Globe Award nomination for Best Actress - Motion Picture Musical or Comedy , a Critics ' Choice Award nomination for Best Actress , and the Saturn Award for Best Actress . Three of the film 's songs were nominated for Best Original Song at the 80th Academy Awards . Adams performed one of the songs , " Happy Working Song " , live on stage during the Oscar ceremony . " That 's How You Know , " originally performed by Adams in the film , was sung by Kristin Chenoweth at the ceremony . In an interview , Adams remarked that the song was " perfect " for Chenoweth since Chenoweth " was a huge inspiration for how [ she ] approached Giselle . "

The success of Enchanted increased Adams 's media exposure during the 2007 ? 08 film awards season . As well as appearing on the covers of Interview , Elle and the Hollywood issue of Vanity Fair , which named her as one of the " 10 fresh faces of 2008 , " Adams hosted the seventh episode of the 33rd season of Saturday Night Live in March 2008 . In the episode , she played various characters , including Heidi Klum , as well as singing " What is this Feeling " from Wicked in a mock battle with SNL cast member Kristen Wiig during the opening monologue . Adams appeared in Charlie Wilson 's War as Bonnie Bach , the title character 's administrative assistant . On the experience of making the film , Adams said , " It was so much fun . Just to be on that set and learn from these people and get to watch Philip Seymour Hoffman and Tom Hanks do these amazing scenes together , directed by Mike Nichols , it was for me like going to school . " Adams 's next project was Sunshine Cleaning playing a single mother who starts her own crime scene clean @-@ up business in order to make enough money to send her son to a private school . The film premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and received mixed reviews . When it received a limited theatrical release in March 2009 , it was generally well received . Mick LaSalle of San Francisco Chronicle gave the film a positive review , saying , " The play of emotion on Amy Adams 's face is the main reason to see Sunshine Cleaning . "

= = = 2008 ? 2012 = = =

Her first theatrically released film of 2008 was the 1939 @-@ set film Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day , in which she plays Delysia Lafosse , an aspiring American actress living in London whose life is changed after meeting a governess named Miss Pettigrew , played by Frances McDormand . While the film received generally favorable reviews , Adams 's role was noted to be similar to her joyful and naïve characters in Junebug and Enchanted . Carina Chocano of the Los Angeles Times stated that " Adams is amazingly adept at playing smart playing dumb . " Kirk Honeycutt of The Hollywood Reporter wrote that " Adams more or less reprises her princess from Enchanted , only with a beguiling touch of ditzy naughtiness . " When asked whether she is in danger of being typecast , Adams responded , " Not at this point . ? Right now I 'm just doing what I enjoy and I 've done some different films , I 've done some different types of roles . I 've done drama this year , we had a film at Sundance ( Sunshine Cleaning ) , but I enjoy playing upbeat characters , I really do

because you take your characters home with you whether you intend to or not . " In another interview , Adams said , " I think I just respond to those kinds of characters . ? They 're so layered , and I love the fact that they 've made this choice to be joyful . ? I really identify with that sense of hope . " She noted that before dyeing her naturally blonde hair red , she mostly played the role of " the bitchy girl . "

In late 2008 , Adams starred in *Doubt* , an adaptation of John Patrick Shanley 's play of the same name , as the young and innocent Sister James alongside Meryl Streep , Philip Seymour Hoffman and Viola Davis . After being informed of the project by her Sunshine Cleaning co -@-@ star , Emily Blunt , Adams pursued the role of Sister James but was told that it had already been offered to another actor . Shanley eventually cast Adams in the role because " she 's got this Ingrid Bergman thing going on , this luminosity . You see a good person struggling in this complicated world . She 's fiercely intelligent but has this peculiar innocence about her . She has a beautiful face of light . " On acting alongside Streep and Hoffman , Adams revealed that there was " a sense of uncertainty , a sense of doubt , a sense of wanting to please these amazing actors . " The film was well received by critics , while Adams 's role was noted to be the " least @-@ showy " among the four major parts . Although her performance was criticized by Manohla Dargis of *The New York Times* as " unsteady , " Todd McCarthy of *Variety* commented that " Adams does all anyone could with the role of a nice young nun . " Mick LaSalle of *San Francisco Chronicle* wrote , " Adams provides one of the film 's singular advantages . She takes the role of Sister James , which onstage seemed little more than a sounding board for Sister Aloysius , and turns the young nun into someone quite specific and lovely . " Adams was nominated for Best Supporting Actress at the 81st Academy Awards , the 66th Golden Globe Awards , the 15th Screen Actors Guild Awards , and the 62nd British Academy Film Awards .

Adams 's next role was as Amelia Earhart in *Night at the Museum 2 : Battle of the Smithsonian* , opposite Ben Stiller . The film premiered over the 2009 Memorial Day weekend and topped the U.S. box office with a gross of \$ 15 @. @ 3 million on its first day , beating *Terminator Salvation* . Although the film received " mixed or average reviews , " Adams 's performance was praised by most critics . Among those to give it a positive review , Michael Phillips of the *Chicago Tribune* thought that the film " radically improves whenever Amy Adams pops up as aviatrix Amelia Earhart ? she 's terrific ? a sparkling screen presence " ; and Owen Gleiberman of *Entertainment Weekly* wrote that " *Battle of the Smithsonian* has plenty of life . But it 's Adams who gives it zing . " On the other hand , Ty Burr of *The Boston Globe* disliked the film , describing Adams 's Earhart as " a flighty pill with no resemblance to the woman herself . " While Lael Loewenstein of *Variety* thought Adams was " trying a bit too hard , " Roger Ebert commented that she was the only actor who surpassed the material . The film 's director , Shawn Levy , says of her , " I don 't know that there 's a better actress in her generation . ? I mean , there are other big female actors , but someone who can do *Doubt* and *Julie & Julia* , and *Night at the Museum 2* , all in the same year ? Her range is almost unparalleled . It 's a huge part of why we feel that this movie is even better than the first . " That same year Adams starred in *Julie & Julia* alongside her *Doubt* co -@-@ star Meryl Streep as Julia Child , with Adams as government secretary Julie Powell , who decides to cook all of the recipes in Child 's *Mastering the Art of French Cooking* . Carrie Rickey of the *Philadelphia Inquirer* said that the film showed Adams " at her most winsome " and that " Adams is superb . "

In 2010 , Adams began the new decade with roles in two films : the romantic comedy *Leap Year* and *The Fighter* , in which she portrayed Charlene Fleming , the aggressive and gritty girlfriend of boxer " Irish " Micky Ward . The Best Picture nominated @-@ film received critical praise for its actors in which Adams starred alongside Mark Wahlberg , Christian Bale and Melissa Leo . Adams later said about being cast in *The Fighter* that the director , David O. Russell , said , " ' Oh you are so not a princess type ? we 'll have to do something about that ! I just want to expose that side of you , and give you the opportunity to shed the whole princess thing , because that isn 't who you are ? it 's just one aspect of the work you 've done . " She won acclaim for her work . Joe Morgenstern of *Wall Street Journal* wrote that she 's " as tough , tender , smart and funny as she was ethereal and delightful in *Enchanted* . What an actress , and what range ! " For her role in *The Fighter* , Adams was nominated for the BAFTA Award , Broadcast Film Critics Association Award , two

Screen Actors Guild Awards , Golden Globe and an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress losing the latter three awards to her co @-@ star Leo . In 2011 , she again worked with Disney , starring in the acclaimed film The Muppets alongside Jason Segel and The Muppets ; in the film , she returned to singing .

In July 2012 , Adams played the role of the Baker 's Wife in Stephen Sondheim 's Into the Woods at The Public Theater as part of their annual Shakespeare in the Park summer festival at their outdoor home , The Delacorte Theater in Central Park , marking her New York Stage debut and her first appearance in theater in 13 years . Adams received some of the best reviews of her career for her performance in Paul Thomas Anderson 's The Master . In the film , Adams plays Peggy Dodd , the ruthless and manipulative wife of a religious organization leader played by Philip Seymour Hoffman . Peter Travers of Rolling Stone wrote that she " deserves serious award attention for the subtle authority she brings to this so @-@ called dutiful wife . " She was nominated for an Academy Award , Golden Globe Award , and BAFTA Award for this role . Adams also starred as the daughter of Clint Eastwood 's character in the baseball drama Trouble with the Curve . Whilst the film itself received mixed reviews , Adams 's performance was praised by critics . Roger Ebert wrote that she " takes a standard role and makes us value it . " Adams also stars in Walter Salles ' film On the Road opposite Viggo Mortensen . The film is an adaptation of the Jack Kerouac novel of the same name . In the film , Adams plays Jane Lee , a junkie and beat poet based on Joan Vollmer . The film debuted in Cannes to mixed reviews . In December 2012 , the French luxury brand Lacoste announced that Adams will be the face of Lacoste 's fragrance for women .

= = = 2013 ? present = = =

Adams portrayed Lois Lane , opposite Henry Cavill as Superman , in the 2013 comic book reboot film , Man of Steel . Before production began , director Zack Snyder said , " We are excited to announce the casting of Amy Adams , one of the most versatile and respected actresses in films today . Amy has the talent to capture all of the qualities we love about Lois : smart , tough , funny , warm , ambitious and , of course , beautiful . " That same year , Adams earned critical acclaim starring alongside Christian Bale , Bradley Cooper , and Jennifer Lawrence in the film , American Hustle , directed by David O. Russell . In the film , she played the character of Sydney Prosser , a former stripper and a con artist who creates the fake persona of a British heiress named Lady Edith Greensley , based on Evelyn Knight . Peter Travers of Rolling Stone said that " Adams , decked out in boob @-@ baring Seventies fashions , owns the role . Whether putting on a Brit accent to fool a mark or showing the emotional toll of trying to fool herself , Adams scores a knockout . With four supporting @-@ Oscar nominations ( Junebug , Doubt , The Fighter , The Master ) , Adams fully earns the spotlight she inhabits here . " She won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Musical or Comedy and the BFCAs award for Best Comedy Actress and received Academy Award and BAFTA nominations for the role as well . Adams also appeared in Spike Jonze 's critically acclaimed film , Her .

In 2014 , Adams was named one of 100 most influential people by Time magazine . That year , she starred in Tim Burton 's Big Eyes , playing artist Margaret Keane , alongside Christoph Waltz , and won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress ? Motion Picture Comedy or Musical . In July 2014 , Adams was named the face of Max Mara 's accessories campaign . In October 2015 , Max Mara premiere the ? A ? bag , a new line of handbag inspired by and dedicated to Adams . Adams reprises her role as Lois Lane in the 2016 film Batman v Superman : Dawn of Justice . She will also star in the upcoming Justice League film .

Adams is set to star in an adaptation of Steve Martin 's novella , Object of Beauty , which she will also be producing . Adams is also confirmed to star in a biopic of Janis Joplin , provisionally titled Get It While You Can . Adams will star in the Denis Villeneuve film Arrival as Dr. Louise Banks , an expert linguist . The film is based on the short story by Hugo Award @-@ winning author Ted Chiang . Adams is also set to star in the film Nocturnal Animals , based on Austin Wright 's novel Tony and Susan , directed by Tom Ford and co @-@ starring Jake Gyllenhaal .

In February 2016 , it was announced that Adams will star and co @-@ produce the television

adaptation of Gillian Flynn ' s novel , Sharp Objects , as Camille Preaker , a reporter returning to her hometown to cover a violent murder . The project marks Adams ' first return to television since 2006 . The series has been picked up by HBO with an eight @-@ episode straight @-@ to @-@ series first @-@ season order . Sharp Objects will have UnReal co @-@ creator Marti Noxon as showrunner and Jean @-@ Marc Vallée as director .

= = Personal life = =

In 2001 , Adams began dating actor and artist Darren Le Gallo , whom she met in an acting class . Adams and Le Gallo became engaged in April 2008 . They have a daughter together , Aviana Olea Le Gallo , born on May 15 , 2010 . In May 2015 , she married Le Gallo in California .

= = Filmography = =

Since 1999 , Adams has appeared in over forty feature films , as well as numerous television shows . Her most acclaimed and highest @-@ grossing films , according to the online portal Box Office Mojo and the review @-@ aggregate site Rotten Tomatoes , include Catch Me If You Can ( 2002 ) , Junebug ( 2005 ) , Talladega Nights : The Ballad of Ricky Bobby ( 2006 ) , Enchanted ( 2007 ) , Doubt ( 2008 ) , Julie and Julia ( 2009 ) , The Fighter ( 2010 ) , The Muppets ( 2011 ) , The Master ( 2012 ) , Man of Steel ( 2013 ) , Her ( 2013 ) , American Hustle ( 2013 ) , Big Eyes ( 2014 ) and Batman v Superman : Dawn of Justice ( 2016 ) .

= = Discography = =

= = Awards and nominations = =