

= Larry David =

Lawrence Gene " Larry " David ( born July 2 , 1947 ) is an American comedian , writer , actor , and television producer . He and Jerry Seinfeld created the television series Seinfeld , and he served as its head writer and executive producer from 1989 to 1996 . David has subsequently gained further recognition for the HBO series Curb Your Enthusiasm , which he also created , in which he stars as a semi @-@ fictionalized version of himself .

David 's work won him a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Comedy Series in 1993 . Formerly a stand @-@ up comedian , David went into television comedy , writing and starring in ABC 's Fridays , as well as writing briefly for Saturday Night Live . He has won two Primetime Emmy Awards as well as being voted by fellow comedians and comedy insiders as number 23 of the greatest comedy stars ever in a 2004 British poll to select " The Comedian 's Comedian " .

= = Early life = =

David was born in the neighborhood of Sheepshead Bay , in Brooklyn , New York , the son of Rose ( née Ratner ) and Morty David , who was a men 's clothing manufacturer . His family is Jewish . He graduated from Sheepshead Bay High School , and then from the University of Maryland with a bachelor 's degree in History , before graduating in Business Administration from Maryland 's Robert H. Smith School of Business . After college , he enlisted in the United States Army Reserve .

= = Career = =

While a stand @-@ up comedian , David also worked as a store clerk , limousine driver , and historian . He lived in Manhattan Plaza , a federally subsidized housing complex in the Hell 's Kitchen neighborhood of Manhattan , across the hall from Kenny Kramer , the inspiration for the Cosmo Kramer character in Seinfeld . David then became a writer for and cast member of ABC 's Fridays from 1980 to 1982 , and a writer for NBC 's Saturday Night Live ( SNL ) from 1984 to 1985 . During his time at SNL , he was able to get only one sketch on the show , which aired at 12 : 50 AM , the last time slot on the show .

David quit his writing job at SNL in the first season , only to show up to work a few days later acting as though nothing had happened . That event inspired a second @-@ season episode of Seinfeld entitled " The Revenge " . David met his future Seinfeld stars during that early stage of his career : he worked with Michael Richards ( Kramer ) on Fridays and with Julia Louis @-@ Dreyfus ( Elaine ) on SNL . He can be heard heckling Michael McKean when McKean hosted SNL in 1984 , and he can be seen in the sketch " The Run , Throw , and Catch Like a Girl Olympics " when Howard Cosell hosted the season finale in 1985 .

= = = Seinfeld = = =

In 1989 , David teamed up with comedian Jerry Seinfeld to create a pilot for NBC called The Seinfeld Chronicles , which became the basis for Seinfeld , one of the most successful shows in history , reaching the top of TV Guide 's list of the 50 greatest TV shows of all time . Entertainment Weekly ranked it the third @-@ best TV show of all time . David made occasional uncredited appearances on the show , playing such roles as Frank Costanza 's cape @-@ wearing lawyer and the voice of George Steinbrenner . He was also the primary inspiration for the show 's character George Costanza . David left Seinfeld on friendly terms after the seventh season but returned to write the series finale in 1998 , two years later . He also continued to provide the voice for the Steinbrenner character .

David wrote 62 of the episodes of Seinfeld , including 1992 's " The Contest " , for which he won a Primetime Emmy Award and which TV Guide ranked the episode No. 1 on its list of " TV 's Top 100 Episodes of All Time " . Syndication of Seinfeld earned David an estimated US \$ 250 million in 1998 alone . This amount has been steadily decreasing each year , but payments will continue until the

full \$ 1 @. @ 7 billion from the original deal has been paid . In 2008 David made \$ 55 million from Seinfeld syndication , DVD sales , and Curb Your Enthusiasm . He was nominated for an Emmy award 19 times for Seinfeld , winning twice ? once for best comedy and once for writing .

= = = Curb Your Enthusiasm = = =

The HBO cable television channel aired David 's 1 @-@ hour special , Larry David : Curb Your Enthusiasm , on October 17 , 1999 . This was followed by Curb Your Enthusiasm , a television series on HBO that aired its first episode on October 15 , 2000 . The show revisits many of the themes of Seinfeld , and is improvised from a story outline only several pages long that David writes ( as of the 5th season , additional writers were hired ) .

The actors improvise their dialogue based on the story outline , direction , and their own creativity . David has said that his character in the show , a fictionalized version of himself , is what he would be like in real life if he lacked social awareness and sensitivity . The character 's numerous and frequent social faux pas , misunderstandings , and ironic coincidences are the basis of much of the show 's comedy and have led to the entry into the American pop culture lexicon of the expression " Larry David moment " , meaning an inadvertently created socially awkward situation .

The basis of the show is the events in David 's life following the fortune he earned from the Seinfeld series ; David , semi @-@ retired , strives to live a fulfilled life . Alongside David is his wife Cheryl ( played by Cheryl Hines ) , his manager and best friend Jeff ( played by Jeff Garlin ) , and Jeff 's wife Susie ( played by Susie Essman ) . Celebrities , including comedians Bob Einstein , Wanda Sykes , and Richard Lewis , appear on the show regularly . Actors Ted Danson and Mary Steenburgen have had recurring roles as themselves .

The show is critically acclaimed and has been nominated for 30 Primetime Emmy Awards , with one win , as well as one Golden Globe win . In the first six seasons , Julia Louis @-@ Dreyfus and Jason Alexander appeared in several episodes , and Jerry Seinfeld made a cameo . In season 7 , the cast of Seinfeld , including Michael Richards , returned in a story arc involving David 's attempt to organize a Seinfeld reunion special .

On Wednesday , June 2 , 2010 , the series premiered on the TV Guide Network , making its network television debut . TV Guide Network also produced a series of related discussions with high @-@ profile guest stars , media pundits , and prominent social figures called " Curb : The Discussion " debating the moral implications depicted in each episode . David is quoted as saying " Finally , thanks to the TV Guide Network , I 'll get a chance to watch actual , intelligent people discuss and debate the issues addressed on ' Curb ' . Now if only someone could tell me where this alleged ' Network ' is , I might even watch it . "

= = = Other projects = = =

David has also been involved in other films and television series . David wrote and directed the 1998 film Sour Grapes , about two cousins who feud over a casino jackpot . It was neither a commercial nor a critical success . He appeared in minor parts in two Woody Allen films ? Radio Days and New York Stories ? before taking the leading role in Allen 's New York @-@ based comedy film Whatever Works ( 2009 ) . Because his daughters were Hannah Montana fans , David , along with his daughters , guest @-@ starred , as themselves , in the episode " My Best Friend 's Boyfriend , " in which they were waiting for a table at a fancy restaurant . David had a cameo appearance on the HBO series Entourage as a client of Ari Gold , and also appeared as a panelist on the NBC series The Marriage Ref . During the 2008 U.S Presidential Election , David supported and actively campaigned for Barack Obama . In December 2010 , David penned an op @-@ ed piece for The New York Times , a sardonic critique of the extension of Bush @-@ era tax cuts headlined " Thanks for the Tax Cut ! " David played Sister Mary @-@ Mengele in the 2012 reboot of The Three Stooges . David co @-@ wrote and starred in the 2013 HBO television film Clear History .

David stars in the Broadway play Fish In The Dark , which he also wrote , alongside Rita Wilson ,

Jayne Houdyshell and Rosie Perez . The play centers on the death of a family patriarch and opened March 5 , 2015 . As of February 1 , 2015 , its advance sale of \$ 13 @. @ 5 million had broken records for a Broadway show .

In 2015 and 2016 , David had multiple guest appearances portraying 2016 U.S. presidential candidate Bernie Sanders on Saturday Night Live ; he also hosted the show on February 6 , 2016 , with musical guest The 1975 and a cameo from Sanders himself .

= = Personal life = =

David married Laurie Lennard on March 31 , 1993 . They have two daughters , and lived in Pacific Palisades , California . David and his wife became contributing bloggers at The Huffington Post in May 2005 . On June 5 , 2007 , the couple announced their intention to separate amicably . Laurie David filed for divorce on July 13 , 2007 , citing irreconcilable differences and seeking joint custody of the couple 's two daughters . As of 2013 , David 's estimated net worth was \$ 900 million . However , the estimate according to a former Reuters reporter does not take into account the divorce . David also disputes the figure , saying he has nowhere near that amount .

The results of a DNA test shown live on Lopez Tonight in 2009 revealed that 37 % of David 's ethnic lineage might be Native American , though some criticism was shared about the method of testing that the show used . Specifically : " The best known quirk of the test Lopez Tonight is using is its problem distinguishing between Iberian , Italian , and Ashkenazi heritage . Many people of Iberian , Italian and Ashkenazi heritage are assigned Native American ancestry - and Larry David is Ashkenazi . "

= = Awards and nominations = =

Nominated for an Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for various episodes of Seinfeld from 1991 ? 1994 .

Won an Emmy Award for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for the Seinfeld episode , The Contest , in 1993 .

Shared an Emmy Award for Outstanding Comedy Series for Seinfeld with co @-@ creator , Jerry Seinfeld .

Nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Television Series ? Musical or Comedy for his role in Curb Your Enthusiasm in 2002 , 2004 , & 2005 .

Voted by fellow comedians and comedy insiders as number 23 of the greatest comedy stars ever in a poll to select The Comedian 's Comedian .

Nominated for an Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series for his role in Curb Your Enthusiasm in 2003 , 2004 , 2006 , 2010 and 2012 .

Laurel Award for TV Writing Achievement from the Writers Guild of America in 2010 .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Films = = =

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= = Theatre = =