

Talking with MELISSA GOAD



Her Character: Lissa Valentine – who owns the bike-themed creperie, “Tour De Crepes,” changes her hair color to match her clothes, and dances with the bike dance troupe The Sprockettes. She’s flexible and always ready for her close-up. She won’t underestimate you, so don’t underestimate her – even if you can’t help staring at her chest.

Prior to “The Bicyclist”: The Seattle resident graduated from the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Hollywood. She’s co-starred in the Lifetime Television movie, “Real Witches: An Intimate Portrait” and appeared as herself on the Fox reality series, “Live Like A Star.”

Have you always wanted to be an actor?

I’ve wanted to be an actor and live in Hollywood since my mom put me in a beauty pageant at the age of 5. I loved watching the people on TV and in movies and I wanted to be one of them.

What jobs have you worked while waiting for your big break?

My first job was working at Safeway for 2.5 years, doing almost every job possible. I’ve also worked as a receptionist for Johnson International (6 months), a licensed agent (I still am) for State Farm Insurance (2 years), a barista and supervisor at Starbucks for 3 years, and sales at Norstrom’s (3 months). I also spent a year doing copywriting and customer service for TableAndHome.com in Seattle, and did a bra tour two summers in a row for Sara Lee with The Guild Group based out of New York. I’ve also worked as a nanny.

Describe your character in the "The Bicyclist" – and how she's changed.

In season one, Lissa Valentine was very flirtatious and fun and sassy. You always saw her with food. She was dating a guy that she knew was gay. She was trying to find herself. Season two, Lissa has changed quite a bit. She's more punkier than she was. She's changing her hair once again to a short black bob. She loves Betty Page. She's going to have more of an attitude. She's joined the Sprockettes. She's just a little more spunkier. She's going to wear more punkish style clothing, I tend to think of hot topic style, pink and black with skulls. She's getting a tattoo.

Since you're based in Seattle, how did you hear about "The Bicyclist"?

Actually, my business partner, Phillip, had found it on Craig's List in Portland. He told me about it, and we both went out for it. I auditioned for the character of Steve, but I didn't get it. Carl actually wrote a part for me specifically, the character Lissa.

Has it been worth all those three hour drives south?

I love working with Sharon and Carl so much, and the whole cast. It just makes it completely worth it to me. I have so much fun when I go there. I love the show, and even if I didn't get paid, I would still do it.

What is it about the Jamesons that's different from other indie filmmakers you've worked with?

They always take into consideration everyone's schedules, and they always want cast input on the script. They provide hair and make-up and wardrobe. A lot of the sets don't. It's just a very professional set.

Did you go out on auditions while you were living in Los Angeles?

I did a lot. But it was all independent stuff, and I didn't have an agent. It's hard to get an agent down there unless you are SAG. And I'm not.

Has "The Bicyclist" been helpful in getting other acting jobs?

Yes. The fact that it's online, I can send people to the link, and they can view my work. I don't have my reel put together yet. So, yeah, it's definitely helped me out in that way.