



Blue Élan Records Presents

Take One Thing Off

**A digital series of existential proportions
by Scout Durwood**

**Total Runtime: 90 min
Country of Origin: USA
Language: English
Genre: WebSeries
Unrated**

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Logline

An existential odyssey based on the original music from cabaret singer/bon vivant Scout Durwood's debut studio album, *Take One Thing Off* is a twenty-two episode digital series combining music videos and narrative sketch following Scout's transition from performing in dive bars and supper clubs in NYC to the City of Angels where IRL is IR-relevant forcing her to step onto the biggest, strangest stage she's encountered so far: The Internet.

Synopsis

TAKE ONE THING OFF features eleven comedy vignettes paired with eleven original music videos from Scout Durwood's debut studio album with Blue Elan Records. The series follows the life of chanteuse/bon vivant Scout Durwood, who has spent most of her adult life singing in New York supper clubs and dive bars, fostering a meaningful connection between audience and performer. Now living in Los Angeles, where IRL seems IR-relevant, she's stepping onto the biggest, strangest stage of all: The Internet.

In this twenty-two episode digital series, Scout traverses the deserts of YouTube tutorials in her episodes *Make-Up Tutorial*, *DIY Cupcake Bra* and *Scout on Scout*. She opines on the chemical reactions society has labeled "romance" in her ballads *Here We Are* and *Falling in Love*, and delves into the complicated nature of female friendships in *Frenemies*. *Take One Thing Off* is as esoteric as it is slapstick; as high-concept as it is low-brow. You'll laugh. She'll cry. Grown men will drink wine from a baby pool. So be the strange you wish to see in the world, and in the immortal words of Coco Chanel, "after you dress but before you leave the house, look in the mirror and take one thing off."





Director's Statement

By Scout Durwood

When I left New York City, I told myself it was time to grow up. No more singing in dive bars or paying my ConEd bill in cash. I was hell bent on adulting; dental insurance, savings account, perhaps even a rescue dog. One year later, the only part of my dream that had managed to come true was the rescue dog. I was working as a stand up comedian, which was fun, but I desperately missed the razzle-dazzle of my cabaret days. On a whim, I auditioned to play blues singer Janiva Magness in a show about her life. A month later, I found myself on a lunch date with her long time collaborator/producer Dave Darling who said he'd like to try to work out a record deal with me and an indie label he'd recently started partnering with, Blue Élan. I told him I'd love to, but I wasn't really a singer. I was a comedian. A handful of chips and salsas and two stiff margaritas later, I decided to give it a shot.

The result was my first comedy music album, *Take One Thing Off*: a series of non-funny songs with stand up tad-bits in between. Immediately, it became evident that neither the comedy nor the music were able to stand alone, so when it came time to shoot some videos, I decided it was digital series or bust.

Everyone told me I was taking on too much, and oh girl, were they absolutely right. Had I known then what I know now, I definitely would have scaled back. But thank goddess for naiveté, because what we pulled off in the end is pretty bad ass. Sure, none of us slept for a year, but it was totally worth it in the end. (Special thanks to Kacy, John, Sammi, Bruce, Catherine, Bonnie, and Dee.)

This series represents my transition from working as a live performer to working through a screen, and not just any screen, the very smallest of screens. It is easy to dismiss new technologies as they invade our day to day—to portray the internet as a sticky film hanging over the brightest parts of human existence, dulling genuine emotion in favor soulless emojis and *likes*. And maybe that's right. Maybe the entire world is about to come crashing down and it's all the internet's fault. But as a friend at a party once said to me, “every generation thinks theirs is going to end in the apocalypse. How narcissistic are we to assume that we are the first generation to be right?”


It is my hope that you experience *Take One Thing Off* as a reminder to “be the strange they wish to see in the world.” Sure, the internet has resulted in a flood of mis-leading and watered down content, but it's also given rise to a crop of low-budget oddball creators who never stood a chance in the studio system. Myself included. *Take One Thing Off* is my love-letter to New York Scout reminding her that you don't have to change who you are in order to fit in, nor do you necessarily have to break down any walls—the mold is way more flexible than you think.

Don't get me wrong, I still hate the internet. Honestly, I don't even like to text. Pretty much I'm biding my time until I have enough money to buy a hermit cabin in Montana with a sign across the front porch that reads “no one owns the land!” but for now, what a joy to get to share my existential crisis with the world. We were able to produce ninety minutes of *Take One Thing Off* for a fraction of what a single music video would cost on a major label, and I think that's pretty cool. So please enjoy our little series, like and subscribe to my YouTube channel, and feel free to come say hi to me if we ever cross paths in IRL.*

Cast and Crew

SCOUT DURWOOD (writer/director/actor) is a Los Angeles based cabaret singer turned writer/comedian. Her debut studio album, **TAKE ONE THING OFF**, was released with Blue Élan Records along with a twenty-two episode digital series of the same name, which was recently nominated for Best Indie Series at the 2019 Streamy Awards.

Scout starred in MTV's scripted comedy series, **MARY + JANE** and appeared as one of six cast member on Oxygen's **FUNNY GIRLS**. Her thirty minute comedy special was released in 2018 in on the Epix series, **UNPROTECTED SETS**. Scout is an accomplished cabaret singer and nationally touring stand up comedian. Her second comedy music album is set to release in the spring of 2020 along with a feature length visual album. She currently has a scripted half hour comedy series in development with Sony and Freeform Entertainment.



“The other day I realized, I don’t even know how to spell the word ‘existential’ . . . And then I was like, does it even matter?”

KACY BOCCUMINI, (producer)

Kacy Boccumini has her B.F.A and MA in critical film theory, focused on representations of gender, race, sexuality, and identity in films, television, and digital media. She is a 12-year veteran executive at Sony Pictures working in digital distribution and operations. In 2011, Kacy was featured on seasons 2 and 3 of Showtime's unscripted series, **The Real L Word**. In 2018, she stepped behind the camera to produce **Take One Thing Off**, a 22-episode digital series. In 2019, she started **My Best Guy Productions**, where she writes, directs and produces independent content focused on LGBTQI storytelling.

BRUCE ALLEN (director *I'm Cool Right?, All The Pretty Bottles, No Filter*)

Bruce is an award-winning live action and animation director who loves to tell offbeat, heartfelt stories using an unlikely mix of South African workshop theater techniques and precisely executed visual effects. Bruce's tother work includes directing horror film promos for Focus Features, designing Sacha Baron Cohen's titular character for *The Dictator* and creating titles for blockbuster film like *The Avengers: Infinity War*, *Mad Max: Fury Road* and the sleeper arthouse classic *Hannah Montana: The Best of Both Worlds 3D Concert Film*. A resident of Los Angeles after staying film production at USC, Bruce is currently going fulfilling but financially ruinous transition from working on other directors' projects to making his own.

SAMMI COHEN (director *Take One Thing Off, GoGo*)

Director, writer, and producer Sammi Cohen has quickly become a favorite to work with in the scripted comedy world. Born and raised in Los Angeles, CA she began her career directing digital series, music videos, branded content, and short form scripted comedy for College Humor and Big Breakfast. She has since transitioned into directing long form content and has worked with Comedy Central, Funny or Die, Verizon GO90, NewForm Digital, Pop TV, and Youtube RED. www.sammicohendirects.com

JOHN GARDINER (director of photography)

Legend tells of a man so spectacular so talented and so charming he once coaxed a the spots off a leopard. A man with a with photographic talents so good that it prompts total strangers to say "What camera did you use?" A man with such stunning facial hair his wife often exclaims "how long is this gonna be a thing?" A man Joss Whedon once called "A god among men" as he sped away in a Prius. He's been called many things, but mostly he's called John. www.johnmgardiner.com

DAVE DARLING (composer)

Starting on the other side of the glass in the mid-ninties, Dave Darling released two records on Atlantic Records with his band Boxing Gandhis, scoring a hit at AAA radio and a Billboard Video Award with his song *If You Love Me*. After that, he joined forces with friend and Morley Crue bassist, Nikki Sixx to form the experimental industrial band, 58, releasing one record on BMG. Dave has received six Grammy nominations as a producer and mixer, including 2016 Best Blues Album for Janiva Magness' *Love Wins Again*, and 2011 Best Instrumental Album for Brian Sltzer's *Instru-Mental*. He's been nominated for three BMAs including record of the year, winning Song of the Year for *I Won't Cry* from Janiva Magness' *Stronger For It* album in 2013. Dave's ability to move freely between and coming different genres of music stems from a true love of all things noisy.



Written by
Scout Durwood

Executive Producers
Blue Elan Records
Kacy Boccumini
Scout Durwood

Director of Photography
John Gardiner

Colorist
Jason Zenni

CAST

Scout Durwood as Scout
Graham Beckett as Bing/French Guy/Groom
Kacy Boccumini as Bing/Greek Guy/Party Guest/Kacy Puppetini
Joshua Parker as Bong
Cory Robison as Bong/Dreadlocks Guy
D'Andree Galipeaux as Bong/Elvis/Romance Girl
Sada Bettencourt as Jade
Dre Swain as Brunchette 1/Catch Girl
Nikkilette Wright as Brunchette 2/Warrior Girl
Bonnie He as Video Girl/Pizza Lady
Catherine McCafferty as Tail Slates/Popcorn Girl/Headdress Lady
Bruce Allen as Himself
Sarah King as MAGA Lady/Love Interest 1
J Chris Newberg as Sombrero Guy
Carrie Deskin as Egyptian Girl/Make Out Lady
Lindsay Hicks as Disco Girl/Scout's BFF/Bride
Keith Saltojanas as Turban Guy/Scout's BFF/Puppeteer
Gloria Bigelow as Bindi Girl/herself
Leroy Patterson as Luchador
Ali Miller as Harajuku Girl
Corey Saucier as Cowboy
Allison Scagliotti as Scout's Inner Monologue
Whitney Mixter as Party Hero
Anna Goodman as Party Host
Laurel Valdez as Love Interest 2
Rojdi Munoz as Party Guest
Riley Soriano as Party Guest
Krystal Garcia as Party Guest
Lynzee Colclasure as Party Guest
La Zvirbulus as Party Guest

Credits



Matthew McCarthy as Bro
Joe Derosa as The Producer
Minhdzuy Khorami as Puppeteer
Kate Huffman as Swing Girl
Grant Cohen as Catch Guy
Nicholas Gianforti as Swing Guy
Kevin Kelley as Romance Guy
Claire Mitchell as Kissing Girl
Chaz Ahern as Kissing Guy
Breanne Loveland as Mom
Angus Loveland as Baby
Cindy Alexander as herself

“Take One Think Off”
Directed and Edited by
Sammi Cohen

Produced by
Sarah King

Director of Photography
Julia Swain

Steady Cam Operator
Neal Bryant

Choreography
Lindsay Ames

Dancers

Graham Beckett, Cory Robison, Kelly McDevitt, Sarah Healey,
Cate Garcia, Mo Garcia, Gabrielle Maiden, Janessa Mason, Lee,
James McGrath, Jason Hill, Katie Molinaro, Leroy Patterson,
Ruha Taslimi, Alli Miller, Kelly Richardson, Brin Hamblin,
and Chevycito The Dog

Featuring

Jac Pablo, Dorothy Micklea, Kaitlin Weichsel, Cindie East
and Judy Ramirez

“Frenemies”
Directed and Edited
by Scout Durwood

Assistant Director
Momo

Set Photography by
Elizabeth Kingston Young

Production Assistant
Krystal Garcia

Additional Music
“Two Step” by Huma Huma

1st Assistant Camera and B Camera Operator
Gabe Gely

Best Boys
Nicholas B. Gianforti
John “Goose” Garaguso

Production Sound Mixers
Matt Kendrick
Michael Holcomb
Marcos Castros

Re-recording Mixer
Michael Holcomb

Production Designer
Scout Durwood
John “Goose” Garaguso (*I’m Cool, Right?*)

“Countdown”
Directed and Edited by
Scout Durwood

Additional Music
Cold Funk - Funkorama by Kevin MacLeod
Daybreak by Kevin MacLeod



“All The Pretty Bottles” Directed and Edited by Bruce Allen	Gaffer Danny Williams	Set Photography D’Andree Galipeau
Color by Bruce Allen	Production Sound Mixer Marcos Castro	Additional Music iPhone Ringtone (Jaydon Lewis Trap Remix) by Trapcity
Assistant Director Momo	Production Assistant Catherine McCafferty	“No Filter” Directed by Bruce Allen
Production Assistants Krystal Garcia La Zvirbulus	Additional Music “Buzz Worthy” Song by Scout Durwood Arranged by David Schmoll	Edited by Scout Durwood
“Make-Up Tutorial” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood	“Take One Thing Off (Whitney Day Remix)” Song by Scout Durwood and Dave Darling Remix by Whitney Day Chucky the Construction Worker by Kevin MacLeod	VFX by Bruce Allen
Additional Music “Spring in My Step” by Silent Partner “Beat Your Competition by Vibe Tracks “Hot Heat” by Topher Mohr and Alex Elena “Blue Skies” by Silent Partner “Greenery” by Silent Partner	“Falling in Love” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood	Original Music by Cindy Alexander
“Im Cool Right?” Directed and Edited by Bruce Allen	“Hate Crime” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood	“The Twitter Song” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood
Color by Bruce Allen	Production Sound Mixer Matt Kendrick	“DIY Cupcake Bra” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood
Choreography by Kasmira Buchannan	Re-recording Mixer Michael Holcomb	Additional Music “Cloud 9” by Valesco “Locally Sourced” by Jason Farnham Ship Wrek & Zookeepers by Ark
Assistant Camera Mitchy Meija Production Assistants Rolland Leung Gary Tang	Production Assistant Krystal Garcia	“Like” buttons by Alien Green
“Palm Trees” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood	Additional Music “Get There and The Only Girl” by Silent Partner	“Appropriate” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood
	“Here We Are” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood	“Killing Kittens / Anxiety Lions” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood
	Best Boy Bing Putney	“Taxi Take Me Home” Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood

Best Boy
Bing Putney

Production Assistant
Grant Cohen

“Scout on Scout”
Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood

Additional Music
“Spring in My Step” by Silent Partner
“Days are Long” by Silent Partner
“The story unfolds” by Jingle Punks
“Sugar Zone” by Silent Partner

“Brooklyn”
Directed and Edited by
Scout Durwood

“My Funny Valentine”
Directed and Edited by
Scout Durwood

Production Assistant
Nina Tarrab

Music:
Original song from the musical *Babes in Arms*
Composed by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Lorenz Hart

“Coney Island Wine Bath”
Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood

Assistant Director
Momo

Theater Technician
Andrew Steven

Additional Music
“Super Blues” by Unicorn Heads
“Together With You” by JR Tundra



“The Black Cat” by Aaron Kenny
“The Story Unfolds Sting” by the Jingle Punks
“Hat the Jazz” by Twin Musicom

“Go Go”
Directed and Edited by
Sammi Cohen

Choreography by
Kasmira Buchannan

Brunch Ravers
Catherine McCafferty, Kacy Boccumini, Lindsay Hicks, Keith
Saltojanes, Leroy Patterson, Bonnie He, Corey Saucier , Kasmira
Buchanan, Tirek Johnson, Kevin Kelley, Evan Michael Lee, Allan
Smith, Stephanie Crothers

“Resolution”
Directed and Edited by Scout Durwood

The Filmmakers Would Like To Thank
Enrique Gonzalez of Classified Car Club East L.A.
Blackwood Coffee Bar

Ralph Norton
Mary Beltcher
Harlem the Dog
The children of Simi Valley Verde park

Adina Pliskin
Priscilla and Neil Allen
The Five Towers Productions
Jon Ghoddoussi

The City of Beverly Hills
Dave Darling
Kirk Pasich

Edgar the Horse
InFit Pole Dancing Studio
Lonni Silverman

Dynasty Typewriter
Jamie Flam and Vanessa Ragland
The City of Brooklyn

Lucile Baker Scott
Vinni Vinchenzowitz
Adina Pliskin
Kendall and VIP Photo and Video Stage