

SCOTCH WICHMANN - BIOGRAPHY

"...absolutely hilarious...hallucinatory..." —Colin Mitchell, *Bitter Lemons*
"You're one funny, funny fuc★er." —Kurtis Matthews, *Celebrity Rehab*
"Madcap...the chaos and insanity keep ratcheting up" —*Publisher's Weekly*

SCOTCH WICHMANN is a Los Angeles performance artist, writer, comedian, filmmaker, and occultist.



A two-time finalist in California's largest comedy competition, Scotch has performed standup at clubs across the country. He's been scouted by the *Gong Show*, appeared on the BBC's *Show Me the Funny* reality TV show, was co-nominated for Best Comedy and Best Stunt at the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and *LA Weekly* called his irreverant troupe of comedy misfits "L.A.'s craziest improv show."

Inspired by intense performance artists like Karen Finley, David Lynch, and Chris Burden, Scotch has performed performance art since 1991. He's been featured at venues like Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions, HIGHWAYS, San Francisco's SOMArts, the Claremont Graduate School, the University of California, and the Edinburgh Fringe, where he's become known for his manic energy, magical realism, and Dadaist pranks.

In 2007, Scotch launched Meth Coffee, an underground coffee company in San Francisco as a branding experiment and ongoing performance. Donning a crazy wig as the company's paranoid spokesman, he attracted press from CNN, NBC, NPR, *Maxim*, *The Washington Post*, and *The New York Times* while selling super-caffeinated coffee beans in white druggy bags. The product was eventually banned in Illinois by its Attorney General (which boosted national sales even more).

In 2014, Scotch launched Dicktemp (dicktemp.com), a 30-day experiment to measure the temperature of his private parts 24/7 after being inspired by a dream about actor Matt Damon. Sadly, the Smithsonian formally declined to add Scotch's used thermometer to its permanent collection.



In a strange turn, Hollywood actor Shia LaBeouf was caught plagiarizing Scotch's performance art writing in 2014. Scotch responded with a 6-hour protest entitled #LABEEF outside of a L.A. gallery where LaBeouf showed up to perform a public apology called #IAMSORRY. With beef patties duct taped to his shoes, Scotch performed for crowd of hundreds and Entertainment Weekly reporters, but LaBeouf refused to come out and apologize.

Scotch's debut novel, *Two Performance Artists Kidnap Their Boss And Do Things With Him*—a dark caper comedy about two performance artists desperate for fame—won the Silver Medal for Best New Voice at the 2015 Independent Book Publishers

Association Awards. *Kirkus Reviews* called it "raucous, with a scabrous comic imagination," *Publishers Weekly* said it was "madcap, with chaos and absurdity that keep ratcheting up," and Kill Radio L.A. said it was "possibly the funniest caper ever written...what you'd get if *Fear and Loathing*, *Office Space*, and *Jackass* made a baby."



Scotch directed *Secret to A Better Life*, a dark comedy short featured at the 2011 Nihilist Film Festival, and *Two Performance Artists*, an edgy trailer promoting his novel that won the "Most Bizarre" award in L.A.'s 2015 BookReels contest. In 2020 he wrote and directed *Rattle Rattle*, a surreal short that was an Official Selection at film festivals across the country.

A professional computer hacker and longtime conspiracy theorist, Scotch recently co-wrote *Dark Silo*, a conspiracy-thriller screenplay about a female FBI agent who is pulled into a dangerous game of espionage, which won Best Original Screenplay at the 2020 Burbank Int'l Film Festival.

Scotch studied English and Film at the University of California at Irvine, and he's currently a Ph.D. candidate in Parapsychology, specializing in occult and shamanic practices. In 2021, he finished writing *The Occultist*, an exciting new series pilot script about an occult detective. The script was a finalist at the 2021 Los Angeles International Underground Film Festival — stay tuned for more!

For more, visit www.seescotch.com.