



JENN LYON





Jenn Lyon is an award-winning actress who currently stars as "Jennifer," in the hit TNT series CLAWS opposite Niecy Nash which was just renewed for a third season.

Born and raised in North Carolina as the daughter of a preacher, Lyon began her career in the theatre before making the leap to film and television work. She moved to New York City after graduating the North Carolina School of the Arts, and since has worked successfully in various Broadway and Off-Broadway shows.

Theater highlights include appearing on Broadway in the American premiere of Tom Stoppard's 11-time Tony-winning The Coast of Utopia trilogy and Larry David's hit comedy Fish in the Dark. Her off-Broadway credits include A.R. Gurney's The Wayside Motor Inn, which won the Drama Desk Ensemble Award, and the premiere of Kenneth Lonergan's Hold On To Me Darling at the Atlantic Theatre, which was named one of the best plays of 2016 by the New York Times. In addition, she has originated roles in such world premiere works as John Guare's Are You There, McPhee?

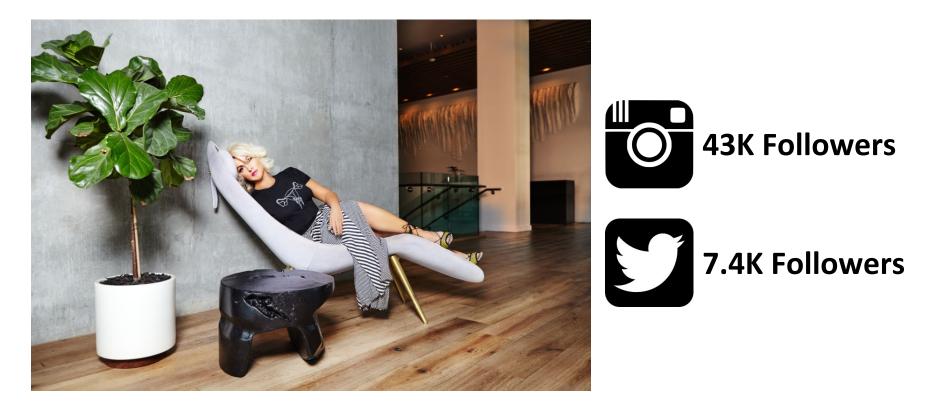
Lyon has shared both stage and screen time with Tim Olyphant in Hold On To Me Darling and as his love interest in FX's Justified Seasons three and four. She also starred opposite George Lopez and Danny Trejo in the sitcom Saint George. Other television appearances include Army Wives, Suburgatory, Louie and Crashing. Film credits include Phil Spector, with Al Pacino and Helen Mirren, and the independent films Flower Shop and Lemon. Most recently Lyon appeared in the feature film Blaze directed by Ethan Hawke which premiered at Sundance.

Lyon is also a writer/producer/co-founder of internet sketch group POYKPAC, which has produced sketches with more than 100 million views to date. They have written for and been seen on MTV, IFC, G4, CBS and CNN.

Jenn Lyon resides in Brooklyn, NY

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Last updated August 27th, 2018 *Click the icons to visit Jenn's social.



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exclusive INTERVIEWS JENN LYON IKE KAWAGUCHI



What is your favorite genre?

It terms of clothing, I love the 1940's and 1950's for women's dresses and hats. Those old movies like "The Women" and "Born Yesterday" really influenced the silhouette I love the most. Judy Holiday and Rosalind Russel are my old school style icons.

Who is your favorite clothing designer?

I don't know that much about designers or fashion. To be honest, as a plus size woman, it's been hard to get into fashion because sample sizes are so very small. I really appreciate what Christian Siriano, 11 Honore, Eloquii and Rachael Antanoff are doing, which is dressing all sizes of women. I wish more designers would do it. Honestly, you can shop at Target or Rainbow, get it tailored a little bit or accessorize it, and you got yourself an outfit.

Where do you go to relax?

I love the mountains, I love a lake, and I love the beach. I can relax in my bathtub if you give me a minute.

Tell us about your pets.

I have an old lady pit bull named Kona, and she is my most special treasure. She is so very sweet to me and the people she loves, but she has also eaten through countless wooden doors. I don't mind though. I like my women complicated.

What is the most important thing in your closet?

Probably anything that belonged to my Memaw, that's southern for grandmother. I have a couple of her dresses, scarves, and costume jewelry and that's my favorite.

Tells us about your handbags.

Most of my handbags are old book-bags, rented from RTR, or ratty used ones I bought off Poshmark. I have one super nice Nina Ricci bag that George Lopez bought me because we were doing a show together, and he said I was embarrassing him in public.

Where did you go to school? I graduated from The University of North Carolina School of the Arts

What was your fashion like growing up?

It went in phases, but I always liked costumes better than real clothes. I thrifted hard in high school and college, and loved vintage anything from the 70's. I also went through a "dress over a pair of pants" phase that I can never take back.

Tell us about your personal fashion. Lately 1^m into collared shirts that 1 like to button all the way up. 1 like a mix of masculine and feminine. I think a pencil skirt is a dependable stople and 1 love high heels and saddle adards.

What's your personal life like? Got a boyfriend? I have a fiancé named Taige Jensen, and he works for the New York Times. He is so funny, smart and handsome, and I'm incredibly lucky that he puts up with me.

Do you support any charities?

Lot J can a huge advacate for AisFor, which is fighting for reproductive rights daily as they are being stripped away right under our noses. I am a part of TimesUp as a volunteer with the VA. We have to do better by our veterons, they get forgotten so easily. I'm also getting ready to do a fundraiser for a fantastic group called Unlocal, and they are on the front lines of trying to get these immigrant families back together.

What advice do you have for your fans?

When you feel scared or anxious about something, ask yourself what other feelings are present as well- is there excitement, or joy, or dread, or hunger or what else is there? I know frequently I become the story I'm telling myself but if I can check in, I might find a different story.

What is up next for you?

I just shot an indie film that my friend wrote, and it's so funny. After that, I would like to repaint my bathrooms and clean out the fridge.

Twitter- @thejennlyon IG- @thejennlyon New website coming soon-JennLyon.net

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KEEPING OUR MARRIAGE FUN



The Kevin Costne The screen icon opens up

Inside Harry and Meghan's Lavish Love Nest CLOSER TO THE STARS YOU LOVE

> about his marriage, his greatest fear and how he tries to be a hero to his seven kids **PLUS: EXCLUSIVE DETAILS OF HIS NEXT BIG PROJECT!**

On July 2, 1971, the black private eye risked his neck to rescue an NYC mobster's daughte from a rival gang in this hip action flick.

Richard Roundtree Can you dig it? After two more films busting up thugs as P.I. John Shaft in sequels Shaft's Big Score (1972) and Shaft in Africa (1973). Richard later overcame a bout with cancer in 1993 before taking on roles in a wide range of TV series like The Closer, Heroes, Lincoln Heights and most recently, BET's Being Mary Jane.



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Playing Shaft's gruff Police Lt. Vic Androzzi led the veteran actor to make a name for himself in the '70s and '80s in other films like Lucky Luciano, The Other Side of Midnight, Little House on the Prairie and Newsies before he stepped out of the spotlight

uel L. Jackson nese days he may be best nown as Nick Fury in the *venger*s films, but Sam's original John Shaft's nephew in

JENN LYON "My Broadway debut in *Coast of* Utopia"

BEST DAY of my life/November 5, 2007

Relax!

Jenn recently reunited with co-star Ethan Hawke at the Sundance **Film Festiva**

CENTER STAGE

"I just couldn't believe my fortune," actress Jenn Lyon reminisces to Closer of her breakout Broadway role in Coast of Utopia." My heart was in my throat," she recalls of her opening night nerves. "But once the scene started to play, it was second nature." Ever since then, the star of Claws (Sundays at9p.m. on TNT) admits she still cherishes the memory-in more ways than one. "I saved so many copies of the playbill," she confides. "I really am a super-grateful nerd!'



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Jenn Lyon

By Allie Volpe



As a trained theater actor, Jenn Lyon had to learn how to make big stage moments inimate for the screen. Her first recurring television role came in 2012, when she began playing Lindsey Salazar, a thieving bartender on FX's "Austified". Her first sories regular role came in 2014 on FX opposite George Lopez on "Saint George," a job that gave her the confidence to make it through a long day on set. She took that experience with her to TMT's "Claws," the drama where she plays spirited, loyal manicurist Jennifer Husser. Season 2 returns June 10. What has playing Jennifer on "Claws" added to your acting skills? I would say theater actors are used to acting with their whole bodies. With "Claws," these archetypaid characters but set within the backwoods of a Florida swamp culture. It really gives you permission to play they when the scene demands it. When you're in the actipate with your husband taking about sofieity, you might want to rein it. In. The language and the circumstances will always reveal to you how you should befare.

How do you propore for an audition for this sort of character? This particular character, the very familiar with Ligrew up with her. I'm close to her. I'm not as rough and ready as site is, but it know what It's like to not have any money and scrape by and do what you have to do. The way I actually prepared for it lives being in Now York, working at a pizza restaurant. I put on a tank top and a little bit too much makeup and worked on the script a bot the eight before. Then i went on the tani and I waked into Warner Bros, they worked with me, and [bhen] I went to the pizza shop and worked my shift. A lot of times, that's the prop. You have the language, your we got to make bold choices, and then your you to work your day job.

Other than the pizza restaurant, what was your most memorable survival job? Being a waltness was always tough for me because everything gots taken out on you: the kitchen gots mad at you, the customers got mad at you. I take on the suffering of whatever's happening around me, so I was like, "Let's work in an icecream shop." They let me put my heasisted on the bathroom door because I was always running in the bathroom to get neady for an audition.

Have you used Backstage in the past? When I found out | got to do an interview with you gays, I falt like I id finally arrived. Backstage was my bible. When I moved to New York, I moved from a very small town in North Carolina, and I would pore through Backstage for castings [and] advice from other actors, I bought it constantly and kept It with me.

What other skills have you acquired along the way? Maintaining your energy level over irong days of shooting is a thing you have to learn. You have to learn how to conserve and alocate your energy in the night ways. Any kind of sex scenes are a whole other beast. You have to learn to cover yourself in appropriate ways, how to say you and no to what you'ro comfortable with. It's hard is a room full of people to say no or to negotiate what is good for you. That's been a huge lesson for me in being a storing winnarc How do I say no and not appear difficult? Or how do I say no, appear difficult and be fine with it because it's my body?

"THAT'S BEEN A HUGE LESSON FOR ME IN BEING A STRONG WOMAN:

HOW DO I SAY NO AND NOT APPEAR DIFFICULT?"

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10 QUESTIONS WITH VIC By Vic Gerami

JENN LYON

drama, Claws. After high-school, she attended the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. She created her own work by co-founding the online sketch comedy group POYKPAC, which was featured on IFC, MTV and numerous websites and gave a huge boost to her career. After doing theater for many years, she gained notoriety playing Mackenzie Bradford-Lopez on the sitcom Saint George and as Lindsey Salazar on Justified. Jenn has certainly paid her dues in order to play blonde-bombshell Jennifer Husser on Claws and her popularity is no surprise.

Jenn Lyon seems to have done

everything right as an actress

in order to land TNT's popular

Modesty aside, how would you describe yourself?

I am 57, I hope I am kind and funny, sense of humor is the best thing; when I am cripplingly stressed-out, sense of humor is so important, and laughing is my favorite thing.

You have had Continued on page 44

For over 23 years Online and in print facebook.com/desertdailyguide 9



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Jenn Lyon, who plays Jennifer, was born and raised in North Carolina, First a star of the stage, the 36-year-old actress made the jump to TV with roles on FX's "Justified" and

"Saint George," and guest-star-ring stints on "Army Wives," Suburgatory" and "Louie." With the minth episode of Season 2 almost done and shooting for episode 10 starting the following week, Lyon squeezed in a quick phone interview while riding around her temporary home, New Orleans. Shooting locations also include Slidell, Westwego and Chaimette. To what do you attribute the popular-

Continued from page 1D

By of the houriong series? I think maybe because you've never seen women get to be so badass on TV. I feel like often the woman is the accessory to the man who gets to do the badass s***, and then in this

one, we're the ones doing the badass s***. Also it's women of all different colors and stees, and they're unapologetic for their sexuality, they're unapolopetic for the complicated s*** they do to survive, and I think It's empowering. And there are a lot of carry women,

yourself included, on the show. That's what I'm talkin' about Veah. I think it's kind of revolutionary to est food and be on TV but like that's a reflection

of exactly what women should be doing, like, we should be allowed to take up space; lef's take it up. What do you consider your character's positivos and negativos?

Jennifer's positive attributes are that she is extraordinarily fown to not have a drink in. I beronyourhair? loyal, compassionate, maternal mean you think you're just go. I'm lucky b

From left, Niecy Nash as Desna, Judy Reyes as Quiet Ann, Jenn Lyon as Jennifer, Carrie Preston as Polly and Karrueche Itan as Virginia, are back for more drama in the second season of 'Claws.' and funny. As far as negative, ine to have one hurricane, and wig in the show, so I'm just in she's got this hair-trigger temper, like she'll snatch a bitch up body's yard. by the ponytail in a second, and

How do you like living in the city? I live in the upstairs of a house and it's beautiful. It has I think maybe sometimes it's better to take a breath, count to 10, you know, before you get a backyard and a swing. I really love it. It's real hot right now, but we've been here since January. It's getting to be that She is lenuously sober. I don't heat that where it's just like, "Oh hell." We have doubles of all the costumes because we

people are so nice. It's Dantastic

OF REAL PLANE

Distance in La



arrested in a bar fight. Nurchasactor has a deniting position

and smokes. How is that to deal with?



PRIMIDED PHOTO BY SKIP BOLDEN/THT

then you wake up in some- a lakefront fantasy living my best life. But it's also like wear ing a fur pell, so it's hot, but it's easy to keep it looking good. Do those super-long mails you all have

to war pt in par with Oh, girl, yes. You don't even cra-zy. I will just say that a Oh, girl, yes. You don't even cra-zy. I will just say that a oh, girl, yes. You don't even cra-zy. I will just say that a point to the bathroom or run-It's somebody you've never met before. And if you thought ning your lingers through your hair. We have to wear press-ons when we're shooting the show Rive (the Dinie Maile's Russian nemests) was crazy, you ain't many different episodes in a day. We've all mastered texting Follow Judy Bergeron on by now. Just the way you pick Twitter, @judybergerontr. up your kids, you grab your purse, it's all different.

liow is it working alongshie the over the-top Nexy Nash (as Desita)? She is a mess. She is so fun-

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ny; she is so kind. We call her

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so talented.

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"Mama" because if you need a iland-Aid and she hears you need a Band-Aid, she's like,

'CLAWS'

WHER: 8 p.m. Sunday

in New Orleans).

"Oh, let me gel my purse out," and there'll be Bland-Aids, fishine lines, handkerchiefs, a rubher chicken. like the bacevery thing. And she takes care of us. We couldn't ask for a better No.

Could you describe Louisians natives Keets Raskis (who grow up in Morgan City) and Exem Daigle (of Labayotte), who also star?

You need to hold on to your

ems even people who don't like poetry should love. Kevin is my Cajun love. He If time allows, I'll tackle is wonderful, he's funny, he's "Battleship Yamato," a small inventive, he's a great dad. book by Jan Morris about He's a wonderful TV husband the huse Japanese vessel that struck fear in the Allies to me. I look for his flaws every day and I just can't seem to find during World War II.

Topping off the list is "A Roundabout Manner," an Evan Daigle - our sweet assortment of newspaper Toby. We love Evan so much. He is just a delight, so sweet, essays by 19th-century novelist William Makepeace Can you give any hints about this Thackeray.

AT RANDOM

Continued from page 1D

for Stars on an Island in

his summers off the New

Fineland coast have taught him about the meaning of

"The Art of the Wasted

Day," Patricia Hampl's wise

and witty celebration of loaf

ing, is on my summer books

gards," a collection of new

who writes the kind of po-

and old work by 'led Kooser,

list, too. I've also added to the stack "Kindest Re-

100

Maine," physicist Alan Lightman's story about what

Last week, I had touted the wisdom of not biling off more than you can chew when it comes to summer reading. But those groaning shelves at MacLood's last year reminded me of that old Mac West quote: "Too much of a good thing can be wonderful."

Follow Danny Heitman on Twitter @Danny Heitman.





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I'm lucky because I wear a











10 THINGS – JENN LYON



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CLAWS STAR JENN LYON GIVES SEASON 2 SNEAK PEEK

By Julie Freeman



B oasting an extensive acting portfolio and on-stage experience, Jenn Lyon is truly a multi-talent. The actress is also the writer, producer and co-founder of internet sketch group POYKPAC, attracting more than 100 million viewers. Needless to say, the CLAWS star is not going anywhere, with season 2 of TNT's hit dramedy airing in June. But Jenn has a lot more to talk about than her success. Having struggled with her weight and health in the past, the 33-year old is all about being comfortable and happy in her own skin, and encourages women everywhere to embrace their true self so they can feel the same way.

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INTERVIEW: CLAWS' JENN LYON





Chicago Tribune

Go Away With ... Jenn Lyon







Interview: Jenn Lyon on 'Claws'







The women of 'Claws' ready for more starting Sunday night



'I mean you think you're just going to have one Hurricane, and then you wake up in somebody's yard,' says Jenn Lyon of living in New Orleans to play the role of Jennifer on 'Claws.'



10Q | JENN LYON



THE BLUNT POST WEHO TIMES







Jenn Lyon talks the drama (and girl power) of Claws season 2

Claws season 2 has ramped up the craziness and the camaraderie, so FanSided spoke to series star Jenn Lyon about tackling the second season.





Jenn Lyon talks Claws season 2 and their role in the Time's Up movement







Jenn Lyon – Claws







'Claws' Stars Niecy Nash And Jenn Lyon Discuss Season Three And This Season's Big Plot Twist



A few lucky fans were treated to an early screening of last Sunday's episode of *Claws*, "Vaginalologist," during the 2018 ESSENCE Festival, where they got to see characters Desna (<u>Niecy Nash</u>) and Jennifer (Jenn Lyon) deal with some major drama, revealing a big plot twist in season two's fifth episode.



BROADCAST





"Claws" Actress Jenn Lyon stopped by to talk all about Season two

Click here to watch







TNT's "Claws" got the green light for a third season -- we can expect a lot more drama and even more nail art. Star of the show, Jenn Lyon, sits down to discuss the growth of her character and what continues to make the show claw its way to the top.



Click here to watch





Lyon stars in the TNT comedy "Claws." She says the show puts "female badassery on display" in its depiction of Florida manicurists. The actress discusses what it's like working with Niecy Nash, who plays her best friend in the series.

Click here to watch



CELEBRITY STAGE STORIES WITH GERRY STRAUSS



Scratching & "CLAW"-ing w/ Jenn Lyon

With a healthy dose of sourthern charm and New York attitude, Jenn Lyon has been lighting up the small screen for two seasons on TNT's hit "CLAWS", but this week, she delves deep into her theater career, teaching us a TON of tips, tricks and insights that only a pro would know. It's an insightful, in-your face conversation with Jenn Lyon on #CSS! Celebritystagestories.com

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