

A man with long, grey hair and a beard is playing an acoustic guitar. He is wearing a dark jacket over a dark shirt. In the background, a group of people are gathered, some looking at the man and others looking away. A large wooden cross is visible on the wall behind them. The scene is dimly lit, with a warm, reddish-brown glow. The title 'The FUNERAL SINGERS' is overlaid on the right side of the image. 'The' is in a white script font, 'FUNERAL' is in a large, bold, yellow sans-serif font, and 'SINGERS' is in a large, bold, white sans-serif font.

# The FUNERAL SINGERS

A COMEDY SERIES PRESENTED BY:  
**HARBINGER FILMS**

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## LOGLINE

When a down-on-his-luck copywriter starts a funeral service specializing in roast-style eulogies and comedic musical tributes, he must balance turning dead jerks into saints while managing his chaotic personal life and the constant mishaps that threaten to bury his unconventional business.



# SYNOPSIS

**The Funeral Singers** is an offbeat comedy series following Harry, an unemployed copywriter who starts an unorthodox funeral service company with his oddball partners: Ben O'Toole, a cynical Irish pub manager/musician, and Charlene, a tech-savvy millennial bartender. Their unique selling proposition? Turning deceased troublemakers into beloved angels through humorous eulogies and irreverent musical tributes.

Each episode sees the team tackling a new "client," with Harry applying his advertising skills to spin the deceased's life story into a comedic three-minute roast, while Ben composes and performs personalized musical numbers highlighting the departed's foibles. However, their plans consistently go awry due to demanding family members and difficult clients, forcing Charlene to step in and salvage the situation.

Beyond the funeral hijinks, Harry juggles a complicated personal life: co-parenting his musically gifted teenage son Jack with his ex-wife Jo-Anne (who left him for a woman), dealing with his sexually liberated, hard-drinking mother Mildred, and navigating a will-they-won't-they relationship with Fayette. His weekly poker games, where he consistently loses, only add to his mounting problems.

The series combines workplace comedy with family drama, featuring a diverse cast of characters and musical performances ranging from street buskers to pub bands. At its heart, *The Funeral Singers* explores how humor can heal grief, while showcasing how even the most dysfunctional people can find redemption – whether they're alive or dead.





## GENRE

The series blend of dark humor, unconventional characters, and unexpected narrative turns suggests it will most strongly resonate with audiences who appreciate nuanced, boundary-pushing comedy that doesn't take itself too seriously. Viewers would be those who enjoy who enjoy edgy unconventional comedy with multi-generational storylines.



## TARGET AUDIENCE

As Baby Boomers and the Generation X grow old, there has been a dramatic shift on attitudes on death and dying. From New York to London and Madrid, the hip alternative to traditional funeral services are ones who see funerals like a menu from a restaurant.

The English speaking Baby Boomers and the Generation X market (USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand) is as follows.

Baby Boomers 75 million  
Generation X 87 million

Reimagining the staid funeral industry and replacing cold, traditional services with personalized, humor-filled celebrations of life The Funeral Singers caters to the needs of this market. While maintaining an irreverent tone, the series explores how this misfit team finds purpose and redemption through their unconventional work. As they help others cope with mortality through comedy, they discover their own paths to healing and connection.





## Story Telling

The charm in the series lies in its deeply relatable characters. As Harry and friends stumble through uncomfortable situations and awkward encounters, viewers find themselves simultaneously cringing and laughing – recognizing their own fears and foibles in our endearingly flawed protagonists. This combination of empathy and humor allows the series to explore profound themes while maintaining its entertaining spirit.

Ultimately, the episodes are about love, the love of a lost one, as seen through the heart warming and hilarious funeral scenes, a reflection itself of changing beliefs and attitudes toward death and dying. It is also about love and romantic tension, a father's love for his son, as well as Harry and Ben who are both looking for love.

## Cinematography

The art of comedic cinematography lies in crafting shots that maximize comedic impact. From sweeping wide angles to intimate close-ups can transform even the most mundane moments into opportunities for laughter. The perfect timing of sound effects and the deliberate synchronization of action with song and music can elevate a funny moment into something memorable.

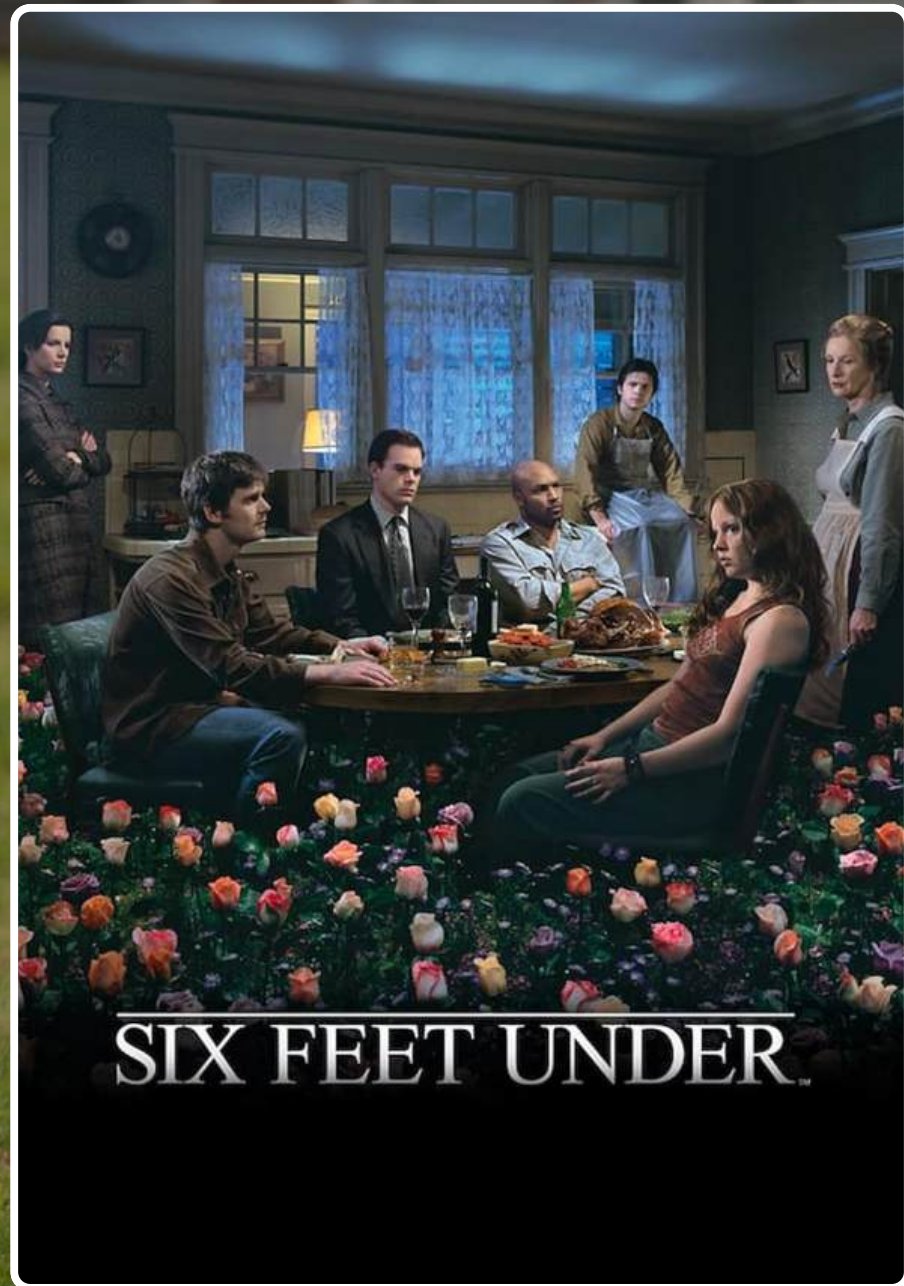
## Style

This series strikes a delicate balance, tackling the universal experience of death through a uniquely humorous perspective. While the subject matter is weighty, the story's light touch creates space for both laughter and reflection. By challenging conventional attitudes toward mortality, it opens up fresh conversations about a topic often shrouded in solemnity.



# COMPARABLES

## The FUNERAL SINGERS





# Character **BREAKDOWN**

## **HARRY**

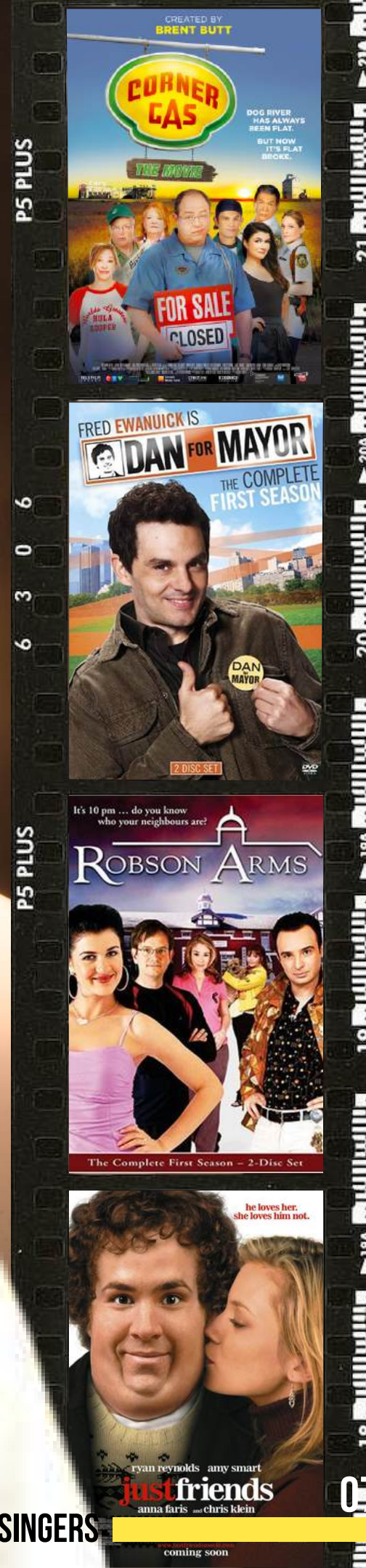
He is a forty-year old father who forgot to grow up but knows how to make people laugh. Unemployed, Harry needs a job, dearly wants to reconnect with his son and maybe find love. But his most pressing need is to move out of his mother's basement suite.

### Cast Wishlist

**FRED EWANUICK**

Best known for his roles in the television series *Corner Gas* as Hank Yarbo and as the title character in the CTV sitcom *Dan for Mayor*. He was also a regular in a CTV anthology series, *Robson Arms*.

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coming soon



## Character **BREAKDOWN**

# **BEN**

Originally from Newfoundland, Harry's sidekick owns the marginally profitable Irish pub that is Harry's second home. When he's not fishing or on the lookout for a rich widow, he's ready to be a part of the next quick buck scheme.

### Cast Wishlist **ALAN DOYLE**

Best known as the lead singer for the Newfoundland-based folk group Great Big Sea, Andy has guest starred on several Canadian shows including The Republic of Doyle and Murdoch Mysteries.

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## Character **BREAKDOWN**

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# **JACK**

Harry's teenager son lives with his mother. He's reluctant to be around his loser father and wants to be a rock and roll drummer. Harry tries to make amends by sometimes letting Jack do drum riff at services.

### **Cast Wishlist**

**LIAM DIAZ**

This Canadian actor is best known for his performance as Bing in the 2021 film Scarborough for which he won the Canadian Screen Award for Best Actor.





## Character **BREAKDOWN**

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### **CHARLENE**

A Millennial girl Charlene is underemployed working as a waitress while on the look out for the perfect female partner to settle down with and began a family. She is also technical and media savvy. In other words, the real brains behind the funeral singing service enterprise.

#### **Cast Wishlist**

#### **JESSICA LUCAS**

She is known for her roles in television, such as Edgemont, Melrose Place, Cult and Gotham and in the films The Covenant, Cloverfield and the Evil Dead.



# Character **BREAKDOWN**

## **FAVETTE**

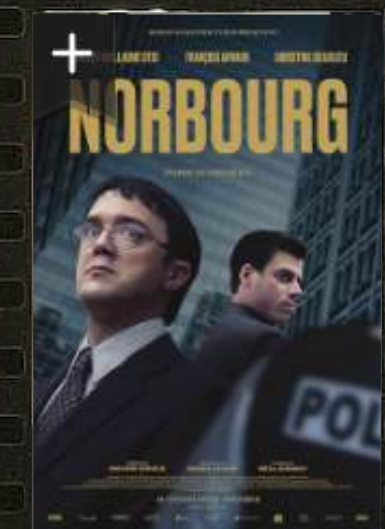
The mysterious French flower delivery girl with an exotic form of art. Henry is hopelessly infatuated with her but Fayette is way out of his league – or is he?

### Cast Wishlist

#### **CHRISTINE BEAULIEU**

She won the Gémmeux Award for Best Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series in 2020 for her regular role as Josiane in L'acharné. She was previously a nominee in the same category in 2019 and a Prix Iris nomination for Best Supporting Actress at the 18th Quebec Cinema Awards for her performance in The Mirage (Le Mirage), and was again a Prix Iris nominee for Best Supporting Actress at the 24th Quebec Cinema Awards in 2022 for Norbourg.

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# Character BREAKDOWN

## JO-ANNE

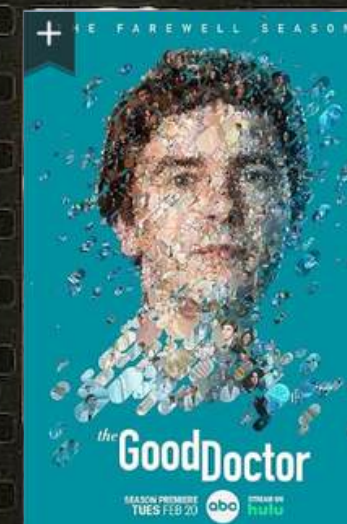
Harry's ex found love with a woman who happens to be a martial arts instructor. She and Harry have an amicable relationship but she remains wary of Harry's influence on Jack.

### Cast Wishlist

**YVETTE LU**

Yvette is a Canadian independent film and stage actress, filmmaker, singer, composer, writer and producer, as well as a licensed family physician based in Vancouver, British Columbia

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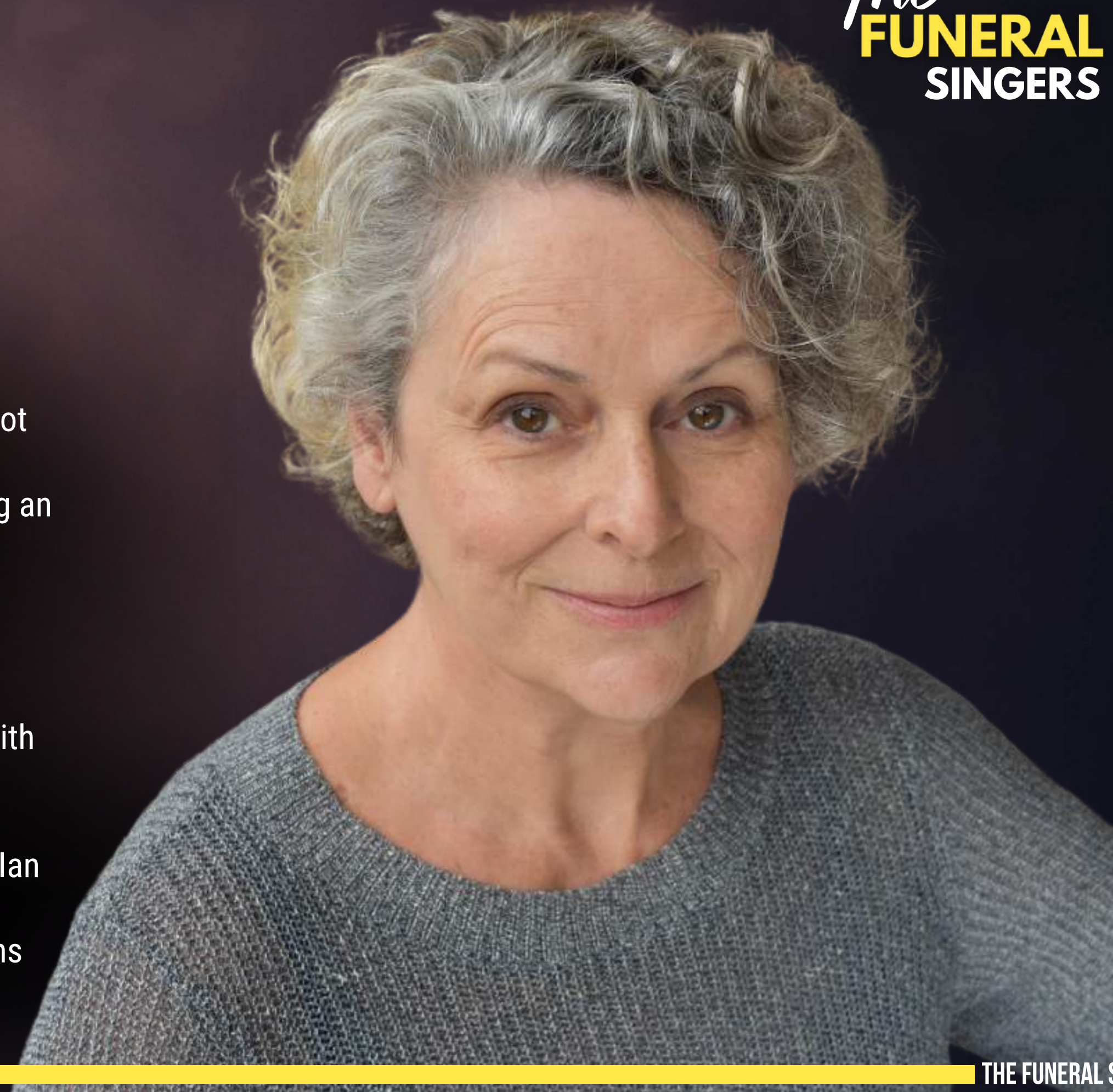
# Character BREAKDOWN

## MILDRED

Harry's wise cracking mother. When she's not trolling senior's homes selling single joints, Mildred supplements her pension by running an S&M business out of her home. Crack!

### Cast Wishlist GABRIEL ROSE

This multiple Genie Award winner worked with Atom Egoyan in *Where the Truth Lies*, *The Sweet Hereafter*, *Speaking Parts* and *The Adjuster*. In 2016, Gabriel was awarded the Ian Caddel Vancouver Film Critics Award for Achievement for her significant contributions to the B.C. film industry.



## The FUNERAL SINGERS



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# CREATIVE TEAM



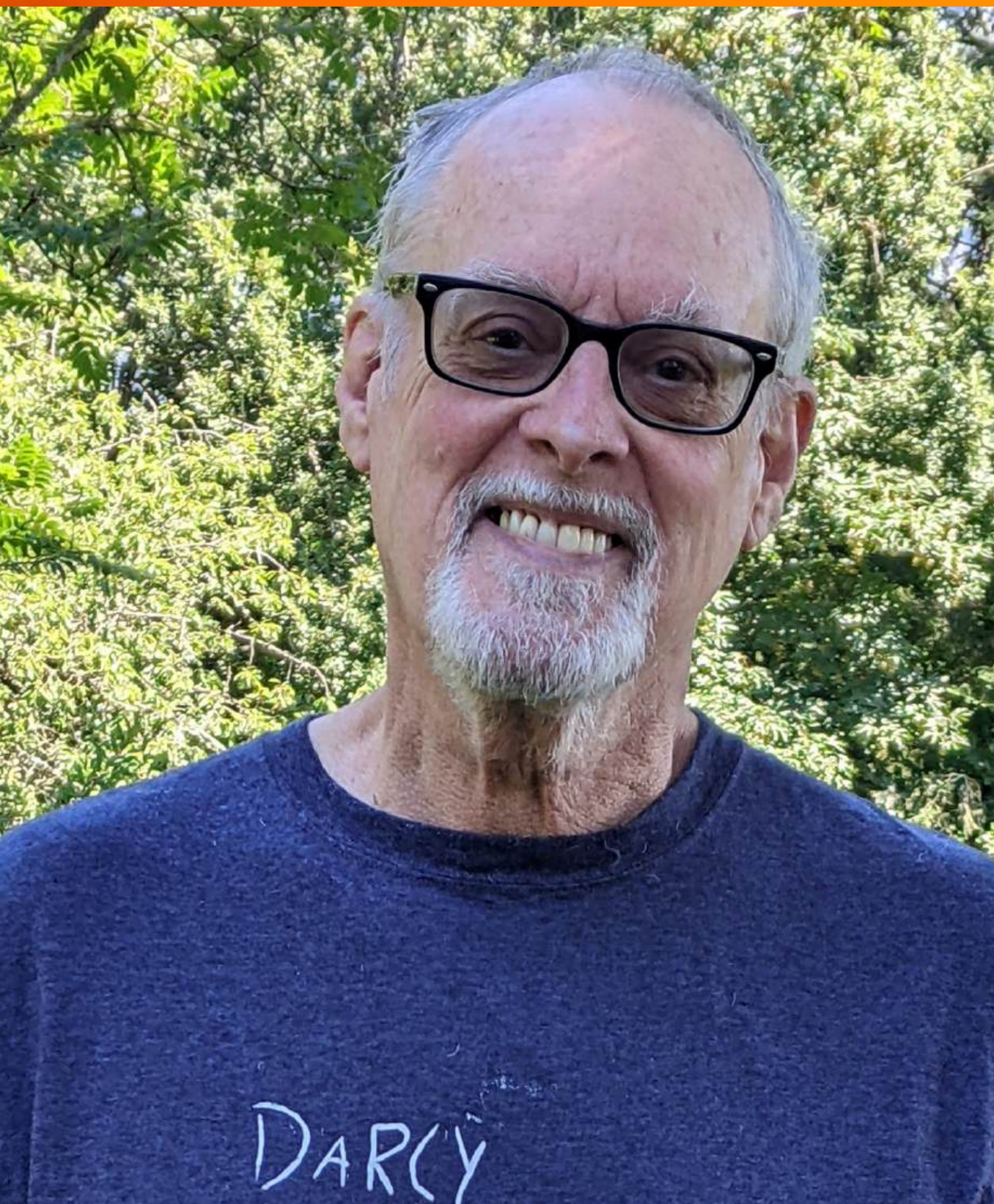
## MICHAEL MAITLAND

### *Producer/Writer*

Michael's background includes marketing , journalism, law and film. A graduate of Toronto's York University MFA program in screenwriting, Canadian Film Centre Television program resident, Chesterfield Film Company Screenwriting Fellowship Competition semi-finalist, Canadian Playwriting Competition Finalist and a National Screen Institute Drama Prize winner he began his film career in Canada's North. Most recently, he has written, directed and produced documentary films for Canadian broadcasters. His book *The World is But a Broken Heart*, is currently being developed into a limited series.



# CREATIVE TEAM



## BOON COLLINS

### *Writer*

Vancouver Island based, Boon has been writing, directing and producing feature films and television programming for over thirty years. His work has won numerous awards international awards and is distributed worldwide. His work includes, The Chosen One, (starring Rob Schneider and Steve Buscemi). Most recently, he wrote and produced Centurian the Dancing Stallion (Lionsgate 2022). From 2018- 2021 he worked as a consultant on Real Rob (Rob Schneider) on Netflix.

*Member: Writer's Guild of Canada, WGA*





## TRACY TRAEGER

### *Producer*

Tracy has a varied history in the Canadian Film and Television scene that spans more than 20 years. She has produced four feature films, two of which were with industry icon Guy Maddin (Archangel, 1990 and Careful, 1992). Tracy has also line-produced three television series, one of which was a period western for MGM/Showtime/and Disney and another that won an Emmy award for best Children's Mini Series. As a production manager member of the DGC, Tracy has managed more than 15 feature films, television series and other notable projects.

At one point in her career, Tracy was the Financial Analyst for Telefilm Canada's Feature Film and Broadcast Fund. Tracy has also served on the board of Women in Film & TV International, British Columbia branch and was Vice President of the Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association.