

"We are convinced that 'The Finellis' has the potential to enthral audiences worldwide and create a success on a global scale."

- HG Distribution Inc.

A New American SitCom

Season One - 13 x 25 Minutes

TAGLINE:

It's "Mrs. Doubtfire" meets "Goodfellas" meets "Glee."

After taking the fall for a Mafia Boss, and spending 15 years in jail for a crime he did not commit, Tony Finelli, a star from the 1990s tries to rebuild his life and music career while reconnecting with his (now grown) children.

PLOT SUMMARY

In the 1990's, **Tony Finelli**, an Italian-American from New York (<u>Mark Janicello</u>) was a star in Europe. Tony found fame playing the King of Rock and Roll in "ELVIS: The Musical" and together with his ever-present Manager, **Jürgen**, turned that initial success into an international singing career.

In 1997, Jürgen, was contacted by an "Italian Concert Promoter" supposedly representing "Mr. Big," (Godfather of the Gambaretto Mafia Family), regarding a big concert for Tony in Sicily. Actually, this "promoter" was an undercover Agent working for the German CIA, leading a secret sting operation to arrest Mr. Big, who was under investigation for both tax evasion and money laundering. Tony and Jürgen were handed the choice of either going to prison for Mr. Big or watching both of their families get murdered by the mob.

"The Finellis" begins on the day Tony and Jürgen are being released from a 15-year sentence in Moabit Prison in Berlin. No one meets them at the gate. Tony returns to his former home in the well-to-do neighborhood of Charlottenburg, wanting to rebuild his life. Unbeknownst to Tony, shortly before his release, Tony's ex-wife (Chris)**Tina Finelli**, a former Model and Stewardess from Russia, filed for divorce.

The scandal surrounding Tony's arrest, ruined Tina's reputation, and she had no income. To survive, she turned Tony's mansion into a boarding house. Now, as owner of Tony's former home, Tina lives there not only with their two daughters, **Lola** and **Lena** (now 27 and 20 years old), but with Tony's parents, **Pete** and **Bea Finelli** as well as his ancient Sicilian grandmother "**Nonna.**" In short, numerous generations of Finellis are living under one roof.

Recently, the Superintendent in Tina's boarding house, quit. To earn some money, as well as buy some time with Tina and his children while he tries to rebuild his career, Tony, the Italian Divo, takes over the Super's job. Although Tony still has a good relationship with is oldest daughter Lola, his youngest daughter, Lena, can barely remember him.

Between Tony's "Divo Attitude" and his two left hands, he's a pretty rotten Super. When you add to that the cultural and generational differences between the Americans and Europeans, you create the comedic chaos that is "The Finellis."

"The Finellis" is a new American Sitcom being developed for the international TV Market. It is a unique mix of family drama, comedy, music and animation.

Production Photos from the original Demo Episode of "The Finellis"















Director: TBA

Writer: Mark Janicello

Executive Producer: Mark Janicello

Production Company: Marjan Content Productions

> **Distribution: HG Distribution**

Cast: See attached Cast List

Status: Pre-production

Language: English

> Genre: **SitCom**

Format: Season One 13 x 25 Min.

> **Budget** \$1.5 Million

IMDb: goo.gl/GpURVv

> Web: goo.gl/0nL3Kf

Our Theme Song: https://goo.gl/CDF1cQ

Contact:



Marjan Content Productions Mark Janicello, CEO +49 151 663 627 28 mark@markjanicello.org

HG Distribution Henry Gagnon, President T: 514 944-8038 henry@hgagnondistribution.com





Season One - Episode Guide

Episode 1 – "The Homecoming"

TAGLINE: After spending 15 years in jail for a crime they didn't commit, Tony Finelli and his Manager Jürgen Drahtseil return to Tony's Villa in Berlin to find out that nothing is the way they left it. "

Episode 2 – "Dinnertime Disaster"

TAGLINE: Tony's parents, Bea and Pete Finelli try to re-unite the family the only way they know how, with food. It doesn't work out exactly as planned.

Episode 3 – "The Makeover"

TAGLINE: After 15 years in prison, Jürgen thinks Tony is in desperate need of a complete "Makeover." However, sometimes "Less is more!"

Episode 4 – "A (Mr.) Big Problem"

TAGLINE: Tony and Jürgen's past catches up with them when "Mr. Big", Godfather of the Gambaretto Mafia Family makes a surprise visit. Tony and Jürgen are worried that Mr Big will make them another "offer they cannot refuse."

Episode 5 – "Barbie's Dreamhouse Record Company"

TAGLINE: A record executive wants to sign Tony to a new recording contract, on the "unspoken" condition that Tony also services her in her bedroom. Tony and Jürgen have to figure out how Tony can get the record deal without turning into Barbie's "Ken."

Episode 6 – "A Bird in the Hand" (Part One)

TAGLINE: Juergen's revolving door of girlfriends lead he and Tony to discover that perhaps there is more to being a woman than what they ever imagined.

Episode 7 – "A Bird in the Hand" (Part Two)

• **TAGLINE:** Juergen's revolving door of girlfriends lead he and Tony to discover that perhaps there is more to being a woman than what they ever imagined.







Season One - Episode Guide (con't)

Episode 8 – "And now a word from our Sponsor"

TAGLINE: Tony's life is turned upside down by Tina's "Sponsor."

Episode 9 – "Coffee, Tea or Me?" (Part One)

TAGLINE: Tony meets a beautiful, slightly wacky, but very funny waitress at the local bakery who makes him finally start to forget Tina.

Episode 10 – "Coffee, Tea or Me?" (Part Two)

TAGLINE: Love throws a monkey wrench into the lives of the Finellis.

Episode 11 – "What a Dump!"

TAGLINE: Tina's "Sponsor" dumps her for a 25 year old University Student. She is furious and wants to exact revenge - on Tony.

Episode 12 - "The Heat is On"

TAGLINE: Tony and Jürgen are under a lot of pressure as they prepare for Tony's big "Comeback" Concert. At the same time, his and Jürgen's relationships start to experience "growing pains"

Episode 13 – "The Comeback"

TAGLINE: Tony's first major Comeback Concert since his release from prison doesn't turn out the way he and Jürgen hoped. He and Jürgen are left holding the bag.





CAST OF CHARACTERS

LEAD ROLES

Tony Finelli (53) – formerly successful popstar Jürgen Drahtseil (45) - Tony's Manager (Chris)Tina Finelli (45) – Tony's Ex-Wife Lola Finelli (27) - Tony's oldest Daughter Lena Finelli (20) - Tony's youngest daughter.

SUPPORTING CAST

Pete Finelli (75) - Tony's long-suffering italian/american Father
Bea Finelli – (73) - Tony's nagging, italian/american Mother
Nonna (89) - Tony's italian grandmother from Sicily
Agent Schmitt (45) - Undercover Agent for the German CIA
Mr. Big (58) - "Godfather" of the Gambaretto (Shrimp) Mafia Family

CHARACTER BIOGRAPHIES:

Tony Finelli, (53), Singer. Italian-American.

Italian heritage. "Not the brightest light on the Christmas Tree" but all heart. Family man. Loves his home. Loves his children. Has an amazing singing voice and is also an amateur cartoonist. Won a contest sponsored by a fast-food chain where he combined Elvis and Pavarotti into one song "It's Now or Never/ O Sole Mio". This put him on the entertainment map in the US. He was then hired for and moved to Europe with a touring musical production of the musical "Elvis."

Tony met his Manager, Jürgen Drahtzeil, when Jürgen worked as the Stage Manager of the "Elvis" Tour. Jürgen encouraged Tony to stop playing Elvis and start writing his own songs. They got a record deal after 5 hard years building up a career for Tony. They landed a hit record all over Europe in 1995 with a song called "Zombie Heart" which Tony wrote after a major fight with his wife Chris(Tina).

Jürgen Drahtseil, (48), Tony's Manager. German.

(Drahtseil means "tightrope" in German). Born in Berlin. Serial womanizer who never had a serious relationship. Has a fixation with America and with Martin Scorsese Films. He watched "Goodfellas" 16 times in a row and as a result, he curses like a truck driver. Jürgen met Tony when he was working as the Stage Manager for Tony's "Elvis" Musical.

In 1997, he was contacted in 1997 by an Italian concert promoter for a big concert in Sicily. It was to have paid 50.000 Deutsch Marks Cash "off the books." The presenter was supposedly working for Mr. Big, the Godfather of the Gambaretto (Shrimp) family, who was a big fan of Tony's, and had said so publicly. Jürgen spoke to Tony about it

Jürgen Drahtseil (con't)

and while they had reservations about the job because of it involving the mob.. however, they agreed to do it. Turns out the "Concert Promoter" was an agent for the german FBI and it was a sting operation trying to get to "Mr. Big" for tax evasion and money laundering.

While they were in prison, Tony and Jürgen starting making plans for Tony's big comeback. However, Jürgen is no Colonel Parker and Tony's been gone from the music scene for 15 years. This is the moment where we meet Tony and Jürgen in "The Finelli's"

Chris(Tina) Finelli, (45), Tony's Ex-Wife. Russian.

Former Model. Born in St. Petersberg, Russia. Intelligent. Well-read. Well-educated, but cold as a Russian Winter. Worked between modelling jobs as an Airline Stewardess für Aeroflot. On one of her "overnights" from St. Petersberg, Tina, with two other Stewardess Colleagues went to a "Tony Finelli" (then an up-and-coming singer) at the **Quasimodo Bar** in Berlin. They were sitting at a table right next to the stage. As soon as Tony and Tina saw each other, they "clicked." The italians call it "Il Fulmine" (Struck by lightning). Tony was enamored with Tina's Beauty and European Charm. Tina, while she thought Tony was sexy, also thought his singing was very good and that he would quickly become a big star. She liked the idea of being with an American Artist. He would become quickly famous and she'd become a "Hollywood Trophy Wife."

They married a few months after meeting each other. However, almost from Day One, Tony and Tina fought constantly. His American and her Russian backgrounds led to numerous misunderstandings, both in language and culture. Tina wanted Tony to "play the star 24 hours a day." Tony was from a working-class family and had no use for "playing a role" and just wanted to be himself.

Lola Finelli, (22), Tony Finelli's eldest Daughter.

Lola is the daughter with a big heart, but who's not overly intelligent. She reacts emotionally to everything. She's played the role of "peacekeeper" between Tony and Tina all her life.. She tries to please everyone, but ends up never pleasing herself or anyone else. Since her father was in prison, Lola has tried to be the "big sister" to Lena, but always ends up on the short end of the stick.

Lena Finelli, (18), Tony Finelli's youngest Daughter

She is overly sensitive, but acts as if she has no feelings, no heart. She is extremely intelligent. She speaks numerous languages that she taught herself. Very much like her mother, she's as cold as ice. She shows emotion only with enormous effort. Was 5 years old when her father was arrested. She has grown up without a father and resents it greatly.

Pete Finelli, (75), Tony's Father. (Italian/American)

Born in Coney Island, Pete Finelli married his childhood sweetheart Bea D'Agostino when she was 18 and he was 20 years old. They've been married forever and are still very much in love.

Pete is the "rock" of the Finelli family. He is a retired electronic engineer and is not only extremely charming and funny (with a very dry sense of humor) but also quite intelligent. He has "hands of gold" and can repair ANYTHING. On top of that, he can't resist a "bargain." He's forever going to flea markets and yard sales to buy old TV's and Stereos to fix them up and use them in his home or to give to people. Subequently, there's a TV in every corner of Pete and Bea's apartment.

Pete and his only child, Tony, have a loving but difficult relationship. Pete never understood Tony's career choice of being a performer. Pete wanted Tony to have a "normal" "respectable" job that had "security." When Tony defied his father's wishes to become a singer, he and his son did not speak for nearly 2 years. However, once Tony became successful, Pete became Tony's biggest fan. Even though he is often critical of Tony's choices, Pete is Tony's best friend. He's Tony's "go to" man for advice on everything.

Pete and Bea had just moved into an apartment in Tony's Villa in Berlin, when Tony got arrested in a sting operation run by the German CIA. 15 years later, Pete and Bea are still living in the same apartment, except now Pete's 89-year old, senile, mother-in-law "Nonna" is living with them. This situation causes a lot of friction between Pete and Bea, but being the good son-in-law and husband that he is, Pete swallows his anger and frustration and lives with the situation.

Bea Finelli, (73), Tony's Mother. (Italian/American)

Born in Ozone Park Queens, Bea Finelli married her childhood sweetheart Pete Finelli when she was 18 and he was 20 years old. They've been married forever and are still very much in love. Like all couples, they have their arguments, but they adore each other. Bea still kisses Pete all day long. "If you tied my hands behind my back so I couldn't hug and kiss my family, I would die."

Bea is the "anchor" for the entire Finelli clan. She has been a wife and mother all her life. She never worked outside of her home. Family is EVERYTHING for Bea. Like most Italians, Bea expresses love through food. She is constantly cooking. Bea thinks, "If you're not eating you must be sick. What's wrong??" The sun rises and sets on her husband Pete and on her son, Tony. She's a loving woman, but if you touch a hair on either of their heads, she becomes a lioness protecting her brood.

She loves to watch TV talkshows and tries hard to be "up to date." She's extremely nosy and is quite happy to meddle in other people's business.

She loves music and especially Tony's singing. She was the one who encouraged him to persue a career in the entertainment business – even against the wishes of her husband.

Bea is also the primary caretaker for her 89-year old, senile, mother "Nonna," who no longer can live alone and shares the apartment with Pete and Bea. This situation causes a lot of friction, but Bea loves her mother and feels it is her duty to care for her.

The Finellis

Leading Team



Mark Janicello Executive Producer Author

Ulf Weidman Producer/Komposer Soundtrack

Joris Hermans Director

Henry Gagnon Int'l Distributor



Igor Andreevski Dir. of Photography

Barbara Langbein Costume Design

Graziella Tomassi Art Direction

Yvonne Denner Makeup



Sandra Freisinger Product Placement

Andrea Kaul Marketing & PR

Steffen Baumgart Daniel Janouschek Head of Animation Post-Production

Info Links:

Mark Janicello

Ulf Weidmann

Joris Hermans

Henry Gagnon

Igor Andreevski

Barbara Langbein

Graziella Tomassi

Yvonne Denner

Sandra Freisinger

Andrea Kaul

Steffen Baumgart

Daniel Janouschek

"The Finellis" Meet the Cast

Meet the Cast

Mark Janicello Author / Executive Producer / "Tony Finelli"

As the second of three brothers, **Mark Janicello** learned how to take his licks... but also learned how to dish them out. Born in New York, and currently living in Berlin, Germany, Mark made his first solo appearance as a boy soprano at four years old. He's been onstage or in front of a camera ever since.

In his amazing and eventful career, he first conquered both the New York Subways and the very critical New York audiences as a street singer winning "America's Best Street Performer 1992."

His \$15.000, prize-winning appearance in New York's Grand Central Station featured multiple musical and vocal styles and was based on the idea: "What if Elvis never died but just turned into Pavarotti?" He then made the leap to established theaters and concert halls performing in Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, The Zürich Opera House, The Apollo Theater in Harlem, The Grand Ole Opry and The World Music Festival Copenhagen among many, many others.

Since 1984, he has performed Mark leading roles in over 23 Musicals, 30 Operas, 12 Plays and 6 Films. Additionally, he has recorded 32 CDs and appeared innumerable times on television all over the world.



With "Elvis:A Musical Biography" Mark Janicello made a name for himself in Europe. From 1998 until 2016, Janicello produced Musicals, Theatrical- and Corporate Events under the corporate banner of **LaRaven Productions**, which was incorporated in Amsterdam in 2004. In 2010 and 2011, both **LaRaven Pubishers** and **Gallery LaRaven** Art Galleries were added to mix of LaRaven Productions Product Lines.

In 2016, Mark Janicello made the move from live- and theatrical events, to television production when he founded **Marjan Content Productions**. **"The Finellis"** is the first product from this new corporate entity. **"The Finellis"** which has filmed a pilot episode, is currently being offered on the international television market.

Bianca Karsten "(Chris)Tina Finelli"

Bianca Karsten was born in Berlin, Germany.

She is an actress and singer who works regularly both on stage and on camera.

She has appeared on the legendary German Soap Operas

Gute Zeiten Schlechte Zeiten, and Unter Uns, as well as on primetime shows like

Anna und die Liebe, SOKO Wismar and many, many others.

She has made numerous films and TV Movies and also appears regularly at the

Komödie on Kurfürstendamm in Berlin. A talented country singer as well,

Bianca makes regular concert appearances nationwide.

INFO: http://agentur-matthies.com/karsten-bianca



Timo Merkhoffer "Jürgen Drahtseil"

Timo Merkhoffer was born in Braunschweig,
Germany. After moving to Los Angeles in 1995,
he started his acting career playing very small
roles in movies like "Heat" (1995) and TV shows like "Baywatch" (1995), "Melrose Place" (1996)
and "Beverly Hills 90210" (1997) while continuing to study with some of the best acting
teachers in Hollywood.

In 2000, he returned to Berlin, Germany, where he's been seen playing supporting roles on TV Shows like "Ein Starkes Team," "Verbotene Leibe" and "Unschuldig" as well as numerous TV Movies. Timo has an active career as both actor and model in Commercials and Corporate Videos for companies like Volkswagen and Deutsche Bank, Vodafone, TUI and Volksbank, among others. Music fans may recognize him from his appearance Annette Louisan's music video for "Besonders." Timo is also a talented singer and guitarist.

WEBSITE: www.timomerkhoffer.de





Stefanie Sekler "Lola Finelli"

"Lola Finelli", Tony Finelli's oldest daughter, will be played Stefanie Sekler. Stefanie grew up in a small town in southern Germany close to Stuttgart. After graduation from Hamburg's famed Stage School in 2016, she has appeared in numerous musicals and short films.

Steffi is a very talented actress who not only looks like a Disney Princess, but plays them quite often! She will be making her television series debut in "The Finellis."

INFO: http://www.schauspielervideos.de/fullprofile/schauspielerin-stefanie-sekler.html

Gabriela Burkhardt "Lena Finelli"

Gabriela Burkhardt was born in Brasil and spent the first years of her childhood there, until her family emigrated to Germany.

As a small child, she began both violin- and piano lessons while simultaneously studying ballet, modern dance and gymnastics. As a gymnast, Gabriela has won numerous tournaments and competitions. Through music and sports, she became increasingly interested in traveling which culminated in her spending a year abroad, living in the USA.

She is an extraordinarily talented young actress. She plays the role of "Lena Finelli." Lena is the "baby" of the Finelli family. Lena's extremely intelligent, but has extreme difficulties expressing her emotions... Fortunately, Gabriela has no trouble expressing her emotions and played this part as if it was written just for her. Gabriela is making her television series debut in "The Finellis."

INFO: https://de.neidig.org/gabriela-burkhardt

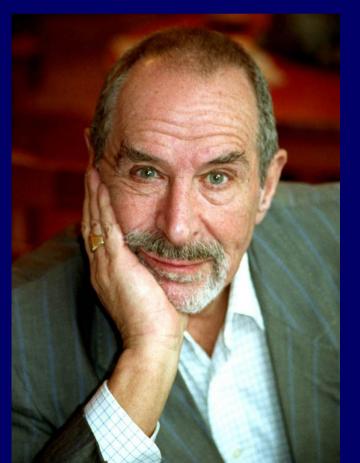


"Bea Finelli"

German TV Audiences need no introduction to veteran actress Karin Rasenack who will be playing Tony Finelli's mother, Bea Finelli. Born in Berlin, Karin attended Berlin's famed Max Reinhardt Schule.

She has starred in more than 60 theatrical productions all over German- speaking Europe, has had more than 65 roles on television and made 8 films including "Heimat" from Edgar Reitz, which won international acclaim.

WEBSITE: http://www.karinrasenack.de/index.html



Klaus Hoser "Pete Finelli"

Klaus Hoser was born on in Duisburg, Germany. The veteran actor has appeared

in 14 film roles in films such as 3, Aimée and Jaguar and A Raven Called Poe. Klaus' television work has seen him starring on popular German TV shows like "Soko Leipzig," "Frauen hinter Gittern" and many others.

In addition to his work as an actor, Klaus is a sought-after stage director and acting teacher. Klaus will be playing Tony Finelli's long-suffering father, Pete Finelli.

INFO: http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0395928/





"Agent Schmitt"

You may not recognize his face, but if you live in German-speaking Europe, you certainly know his voice. Dietmar is the German Voice of Daniel Craig as James Bond. LISTEN to Dietmar as James Bond: https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=Z2J5dq8QmT0

Dietmar synchronizes not only Daniel Craig, but Cuba Gooding Jr., Adam Sandler and many other Hollywood Legends in the German-language Versions of their films. He also narrates many books for "Audible"- Amazon Audio Books, including the recently released "You Are Wanted," which has just been turned into a TV Series on Amazon Prime with Matthias Schweighöfer.

Dietmar will be playing an Undercover Agent working for the German CIA, Agent Schmitt in "The Finellis"

INFO: http://www.dietmar-wunder.de

Erwin Bröderbauer "Mr. Big"

Erwin Bröderbauer was born in Salzburg, Austria. He started his career at the world-famous Salzburg Festival and has been onstage and on camera ever since.

At 140 centimeters tall, Erwin is a huge talent and personality in a small package. A talented and passionate singer, In addition to Erwin's work on TV and Film, Erwin has been a member of the Acting Ensemble of the Vorpommersche Landesbühne for 20 years. There he has played leading roles in shows by Shakespeare and Schiller, as well as appearing in numerous Musicals and Operettas.

Erwin will be playing "Mr. Big," Godfather of the Gambaretto Mafia Family in "The Finellis.

INFO: http://www.theater-und-orchester.de/ensemble/personinfo.php?id=811



Trish Osmond "Nonna D'Agostino"

Playing the role of Nonna D' Agostino, Tony Finelli's 90 year old, slightly-demented Italian Grandmother will be the veteran English actress Trish Osmond.

Trish was born on the Isle of Wright. While raising her family, she appeared in many amateur and semi-professional productions in her native England. Since moving to Germany, she has become a regular presence on German Afternoon TV.

INFO: http://www.simonsmanagement.de/trishosmond



Ricky Watson "Mike Richards"

Ricky Watson is an American Actor born on the Delmara Peninsula. He now lives in Berlin.

His impressive resumé includs film roles in "Iron Sky: The Coming Race", "Snowblind" and "Speed Racer," among many, many others.

Ricky is a talented singer and trained tap dancer. In preparation for the roll of Joe Louis in the musical "Der Kampf des Jahrhunderts", (The Fight of the Century), he trained an entire summer at the boxing club, Sparta 58 in Berlin, Germany. Ricky is an original cast member of Sylvester Stallone's Broadway musical, "Rocky". He also portrayed Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in the play, "The Mountaintop", the first-ever English-speaking production at the Vaganten Theater in Berlin, Germany. He has a band called Universal Suspects.

Ricky will be playing the role of Tony Finelli's Band Manager, and good friend, Mike Richards.

Website: http://www.rickywatson.net/





Yollette Thomas "Hyacinth LaVet"

Yollette Thomas was born in Kingston, Jamaica and majored in Acting at NYU's Tisch Film School. She has made a career in Film and TV in Europe starring in numerous award-winning projects such as "Shahada" which was nominated for the Golden Bear at the 60th Berlin Int'l Film Festival.

Yolette will be playing Hyacinth LaVet, an undercover Agent working for the German CIA.

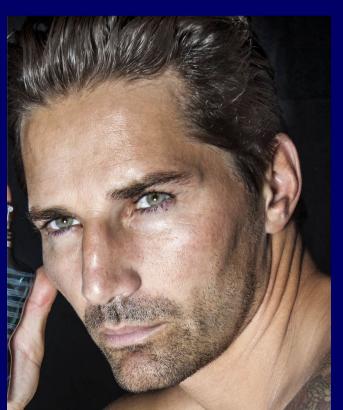
INFO: http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0859663/

Anja Karmanski "Faith Michels"

Anja Karmanski has enjoyed an amazing run of success as both a Stage and Screen Actress. She has worked with the biggest names in the German Entertainment Industry and recently co-starred with Germany's Number One Comedy Star, Bully Herbig in his last TV Series "Bully does Buddy.

Anja will be playing Tony Finelli's girlfriend, Faith Michels' for an extended series of Episodes in Seasons 1 and 2 of "The Finellis."

INFO: http://www.anjakarmanski.de





Claude Paulus "Pierre Montreux"

Multi-lingual leading man Claude Paulus was born in Luxembourg. He has enjoyed success as an actor, model & TV Host in numerous European countries. In addition to his work on film and TV, Claude is also the CEO of Cabani Models.

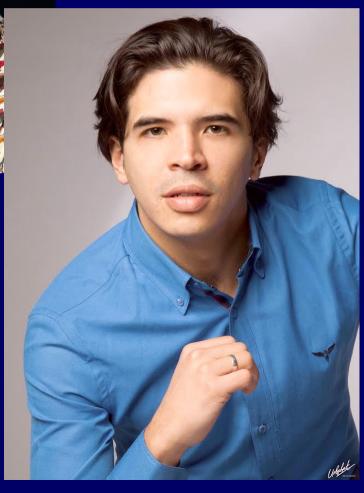
Claude will be playing the role of French Playboy "Pierre Montreux" who woos, wins and loses leading lady Tina Finelli during a series of Episodes in Season One of "The Finellis."

Website: http://claudepaulus.strikingly.com/



Ruth Legagneux as "Gaby Wahrsteiner"







Gloria Gray as Herself



Judith Shoemaker as "Helga Brennfeuer"

Julian Fernandez as "Ingolf Lutschmann"



Melli Ehregezen as "Ebru Richards"



Pierluigi Crisci as "Simon le Gre"



Melanie Stahlkopf as "Marie Oppermann"

Elena Theis as "Sarah Fischer"



as "Louise König"

