



Name: Lena Dunham

Place: New York, NY

Years: May 13, 1986- Present

Brief Biography

Lena Dunham was born on May 13, 1986 to Laurie Simmons and Carroll Dunham. As a child growing up, she was exposed to the creativeness of both of her parents who were both artists. She witnessed her mother direct a film which ignited a spark for Lena. It became clear that Lena wanted to write and direct. When she was young she often wrote her own plays. When she was in college she began to focus on short films.

Her short films kept her going. In 2010, her short films led to one called *Tiny Furniture* which started her mother, her sister, and herself. Having very little money, she shot the short film in her parents' apartment. This film happened to focus on a college graduate returning home and grossed over \$1 million. But just as important as the income, was the fact that this short helped catch the eye of Judd Apatow who is responsible for writing and directing *Knocked Up*.

This has led to an HBO series entitled *Girls* that Lena both writes and stars in. She is also in the process of creating a full length movie with Scott Rudin, a prominent movie producer.

Major Achievements

She won the best narrative film prize at the South by Southwest Music and Media Conference for *Tiny Furniture*. She also won the "Chicken and Egg" award for being an developing woman filmmaker focused on narratives for *Tiny Furniture*. She is also creating two web series entitled *Tiger Shots* and *Delusional Downtown Divas*.

For More Information

<http://tinyfurniture.com/>

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2501633/>

<http://twitter.com/#!/lenadunham>

Resources

<http://mycrains.crainsnewyork.com/40under40/profiles/2011/lena-dunham>

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/20/movies/20tiny.html>

<http://www.npr.org/2010/12/06/131761926/lena-dunham-s-big-dreams-rest-on-tiny-furniture>

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/showtracker/2011/01/hbo-picks-up-new-comedy-girls-from-judd-apatow-and-lena-dunham.html>

by Jenn Delisle