



## Lisa Chappell.

**Height** 174 cm

MC/Entertainer Biography  
**JOHNSON&LAIRD**

Cross her palm with silver and Lisa Chappell just might tell your fortune; in the early days of her acting career the award-winning actress often doubled as Juanita, a singing telegram-come-fortune teller to earn a crust between jobs.

But it 's sheer talent and hard graftnot fortunethat has spurred Lisa's success in life.

The multi -talented artist has extensive television, film and theatre roles under her belt, plays guitar, and has several works of creative writing for film and theatre on the go.

After 25 years in the acting business Lisa has a swathe of inspirational stories about dealing with the highs and lows of working in the creative industries, and overcoming obstacles. Despite a major fear of singing in public, Lisa released and toured her self-penned album *When Then Is Now*, in 2006.

Plucked from obscurity as an 18 -year old she played stropky rich girl, Chelsea Redfern, on the 1980s local TV soap *Gloss*. Further local TV, theatre and film roles followed, but after a decade of work Lisa decided it was time to stop working and formally study her craft. She moved across the ditch to Australia, earned an Advanced Diploma in Acting and worked as a shop girl to pay the rent, before nabbing the lead role of cowgirl heiress Claire McLeod in the hit romantic drama *McLeod's Daughters*.

So how does a self -confessed city girl morph into a true blue Aussie outbacker? Lisa discovered a talent for shoeing horses and shearing sheep, but don't ask her to lasso a steer in a hurry. These days her main contact with animals consists of volunteer work for animal rights organisation SAFE, and taking her dog George for a stroll. However one lasting effect of the show was her attitude toward eating meat. Thanks to the close daily contact with animals during the first season, Lisa found she couldn't eat the cast and has been a vegetarian ever since.

After a decade in Australia and with two Logie awards for her *McLeod 's Daughters* role, she came home to be with her family, particularly her seven year old nephew Josh.

In 2010 Lisa won Best Supporting Actress for her role as mercenary chick Sophie in local TV drama *The Cult*, and has starred in Auckland Theatre Company 's production of *The Importance of Being Ernest*, Peach Productions, *Wizard of Oz*, and starred in screwball comedy *Mike & Virginia* which made its debut at the 2011 International Comedy Festival.

Writing is another creative channel. Her film, *Sisters*, reached the finals in the New Zealand Writers Guild 2011 Television Script Competition, and her play, *Don't Hold Your Breath*, was chosen to be work-shopped by the Auckland Theatre Company.

And her creativity has outlets other than the arts; spare time on set has made her a knitting-nut, and while she hasn't yet mastered the Argyle sweater, she churns out scarves by the drawerful. Tennis with her Mum and a fierce air-hockey competition with her

continued...

nephew also keeps her fit and on her toes.

## **Testimonials.**

---

"Lisa was MC for the Awards Gala evening for the Reel Earth Environmental Film Festival in Palmerston North 2011. A highly professional and energetic person with a detailed focus and steady attitude. She finalised and clarified the run plan for the event by working with the technical person and director. 100%reliable and delivered exactly what was required. The feedback from the audience was that she conducted the MC process in a very clear and professional way. I would certainly recommend her as she was friendly and easy to work with "

---

Lynda Williamson, Director - Reel Earth Environmental Film Festival