



(Clockwise from top left) The many faces—and cocktail glasses—of Amy Phillips: as Dorinda Medley of *The Real Housewives of New York City*; Heather Dubrow of *Orange County*; Yolanda Foster of *Beverly Hills*; Ramona Singer of *New York City*; and Stassi Schroeder of *Vanderpump Rules*



# The Fake Housewife of L.A.

How Andy's go-to comedian **Amy Phillips** mastered the hilarious art of sending up Bravo's biggest personalities.

Written by KEVIN O'DONNELL

**WHEN RAMONA SINGER, STAR OF BRAVO'S** *The Real Housewives of New York City*, appeared on Andy Cohen's *Watch What Happens Live* in 2012, she came face-to-face with her No. 1 superfan: Amy Phillips. "I could see Ramona live in all her glory," recalls Phillips, 40. "Andy said it best—that when he looked over at me, I was 'going mental.'"

There's a reason she's obsessed with Bravo stars like Singer. Since 2009 Phillips has gained a devoted YouTube following thanks to her impressions of the network's boldest, brashest stars, which Cohen has heartily endorsed. The L.A.-based comedian has nailed every nuance of *Beverly Hills* doyenne Lisa Vanderpump and dozens more. "These Housewives bring me such joy that I can't, and won't, contain myself," she says.

Growing up in Grosse Pointe, Mich., Phillips developed her gifts of impersonation early. (Liza Minnelli's role in 1981's *Arthur* was

an awakening.) After studying at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York, she hit the improv circuit in Chicago and landed a stint on VH1's short-lived sketch show *Stevie TV*. But when she began binge-watching *The Rachel Zoe Project*, Phillips donned a wig and oversized sunglasses and found her calling as a Bravolebrity impersonator extraordinaire. "When I met [Zoe], she was like a giddy schoolgirl," Phillips recalls. "She was quoting me [quoting her]!"

Phillips isn't content to simply mimic her favorite reality stars. In fact, she's set to host an hour of programming on Cohen's SiriusXM channel, *Radio Andy*, launching this fall. "It's going to be *Housewives*-centered," she says. "But I want to do sketches, too. Like, could you imagine if Teresa Giudice from *The Real Housewives of New Jersey* joined the cast of *Downton Abbey*? I want to bring those worlds together." ♦



PHILLIPS IN CHARACTER: AMY PHILLIPS (6); PHILLIPS: HAWKEY PHOTOS