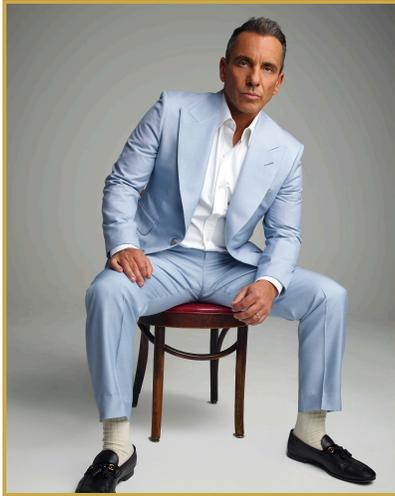


2026 HONOREE

NIAF Dea Roma Special Achievement Award



Sebastian Maniscalco

COMEDIAN & ACTOR

Photo credit: Peggy Sirota

BIOGRAPHY

Sebastian Maniscalco

Sebastian Maniscalco, hailed by *The New York Times* as “the hottest comic in America,” is a record-breaking comedian with over two decades of unparalleled success. Renowned for his dynamic physical comedy and razor-sharp storytelling, he has shattered ticket sales and attendance records at premier venues including Madison Square Garden, United Center, Scotiabank Arena, Prudential Center, UBS Arena, and Hertz Arena — and made history as the first comedian to headline Los Angeles’ new Intuit Dome.

Maniscalco earned the #1 highest-grossing comedy tour in Billboard’s Midyear 2025 Boxscore, ranked among the Top 25 global tours across music and comedy, and finished the year as the third highest-grossing comedy tour overall. He is the only comedian on Pollstar’s Top 20 Global Concert Tours of 2025 and also ranked among the Top Ten highest-grossing comedy tours of 2024, cementing his status as one of comedy’s most influential figures.

His comedy special, *It Ain’t Right*, was the #1 platform title within 24 hours as part of Hulu’s Hilarious comedy slate. Filmed live at the legendary United Center Arena in Chicago, Maniscalco goes all in on family chaos, aging, and the little things that drive us all nuts — with his one-of-a-kind comedic bite.

SEBASTIAN MANISCALCO · BIOGRAPHY CONTINUED

Beyond the stage, Maniscalco is a bestselling author and podcast host of *The Pete and Sebastian Show* and has demonstrated his versatility across film and TV with standout roles in *The Irishman*, *The Super Mario Bros. Movie*, and *About My Father* — which he co-wrote, produced, and starred in alongside Robert De Niro. Two years after its theatrical release, the film has become a global hit on Netflix, boasting an 81% Rotten Tomatoes Audience Score and ranking among Netflix's Top 10 movies for the week of September 29 – October 5, with 2.1 million views and 3.2 million hours watched. On television, he stars in Max's *Bookie*, which he co-produces with Chuck Lorre. He also voices *Easy Money: The Charles Ponzi Story*, Apple's first scripted podcast series — an eight-episode docudrama chronicling the astonishing rise and fall of an Italian immigrant who, in 1920, swindled investors out of what would now amount to a quarter of a billion dollars.

Together with his wife Lana, Maniscalco is deeply committed to giving back through their Tag You're It! Foundation, which supports a range of causes close to their hearts — from honoring and uplifting U.S. veterans to advancing research for Alzheimer's disease and improving access to education for children across underserved communities.