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ORDINARY SUCKS



**UNLESS
YOU'RE
THE
BEST
AT IT**

REALITY TV

MOVIE

TYTUS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

"REALITY TV MOVIE" STARRING TYTUS BERGSTROM LIWEN ANG DAVID WEISE AND A WHOLE BUNCH OF OTHER PEOPLE YOU HAVEN'T HEARD OF

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A TYTUS BERGSTROM FILM
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“BEST MOVIE I’VE SEEN IN TEN YEARS”

TODD MARSDEN
Quarter Finalist in America’s Got Talent

**“VERY ENTERTAINING. YOU HAVE TO SEE IT,
DANCER OR NOT”**

STEPHEN CULLIP
2x USA Professional Standard Champion

**“REALITY TV MOVIE IS LAUGHING OUT
FUNNY. IT’S FANTASTIC!”**

JHON NARVAEZ
*Same Sex Salsa World Champion &
Quarter Finalist in America’s Got Talent*

“I WAS LAUGHING THE WHOLE TIME”

MELISSA RUTZ
2x US OPEN Strictly Swing Champion

**“LOVED THIS MOVIE! I THINK IT IS THE
NEW POP HIT OF THE FILM WORLD.
CINEMATOGRAPHY IS AMAZING...
PERFORMANCES ARE SPOT ON”**

BETTINA DEVIN
Acting Coach

**“SO ORIGINAL.. SO ENTERTAINING... SO
HILARIOUSLY FUNNY”**

JACK BEARD
Owner of Dance Boulevard, San Jose

**“CAN’T STOP LAUGHING. WRITTEN WELL,
DIRECTED WELL... CHARACTERS ROCK”**

Tom Mayock
Professional Ballet, Jazz Coach

FILM INFORMATION

FILM TITLE

Reality TV Movie

TAG LINE

Ordinary sucks... Unless you are the best at it.

CONTACT INFO

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TECHNICAL INFORMATION

TRT: 89 minutes Non-Rated
Exhibition Format: DCP, DVD, Blu-Ray
Aspect Ratio: 16 : 9
Format: HD, Color
Language: English
Sound: 5.1

LOGLINE

In this wacky comedy dance spoof, no-talent Bergie, takes on the most outrageous Reality TV talent show ever. Can he defy nature's odds with hard work, to dance, sing, cook, and sew his way into the hearts of America? All while avoiding being murdered by his competitor, Maximus.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

A shy nerd, Bergie Barnsworth takes a long shot at the biggest reality talent show of his time - "Chance of Your Life!". Despite being talented at nothing, Bergie miraculously starts to win the audience over with his comedic, entertaining antics and naive vow to attempt a dangerous dance move that could kill him. "Bergie-mania" threatens fellow competitor, Maximus, who schemes to eliminate Bergie at every turn. As competition escalates, so does the satire of reality TV moments and personalities! Can Bergie win votes and the heart of the love of his life?

WHY THIS FILM?

ORIGIN

Being a long-time dancer and competitor, Tytus Bergstrom (Director) wanted his first feature film to be about the subject that he knew best - Dance. When he saw how the first season of *Dancing with the Stars* exaggerated the personalities of his friends and fellow competitors on the show, that sparked an idea to use reality talent shows as a premise for his film. The reality TV show subject is a vast and fertile source of comedic and outrageous materials and characters. Yet, never before had there been a movie made about the absurdity of it. Thus, that combined with Tytus' dance experiences, provided the perfect chemical reaction for his debut feature film.

However, the satire doesn't stop with reality TV shows. **REALITY TV MOVIE** uses comedic, over-the-top visuals and gags to spoof the craziness and frenzy of the entertainment business: from corporate sponsorship/ads, media coverage of no talent personas, to media manipulation and fan craze etc. The film submerges the audience into an incredulous world where everything is blown out of proportion; where nobodies can be made into somebodies overnight; where songs that have absolutely no substance can become overnight sensations with hundreds of millions of views. While being wacky and hilarious, the film is also an eye-opener to how media can manipulate "anything" into becoming the norm.

However, it wasn't enough to do a satire. This movie gives a new spin on the satire genre, because it is a spoof topped with subtle life affirmative messages. The process of making the film embodies its main message: *Don't let the "you can't do it" stop you from going after your dreams. Believe in yourself and take action to go after what you want.* Such a grandiose vision did not seem possible without a grandiose production budget. However, by focusing on the result, Bergstrom was able to create a film with high production value. As a veteran performer, Bergstrom also conveys his philosophy as an artist through Bergie's journey: *At some point, an artist has to let go of any thinking, learning, analyzing and just become one with the artform.*

"Even if you are unfamiliar with reality TV shows, the film is still fun and relatable. I love to make people laugh. That's why this is a 'feel good' movie and I hope it encourages people to go after what they want" - Tytus Bergstrom



ABOUT

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I wanted this film to come from my life experience, and dance is the subject matter that I eat, sleep, and breathe. My career as a professional dancer, competitor and coach had taught me that so much of what happens in life, depends on whether one believes in oneself. When I first started dancing, I was getting 2nd place in competitions even when I was the only one on the dance floor. No one would predict that I would one day win the US dance Championship, if they had only seen how uncoordinated and untalented I was when I started! Therefore, this will come as a surprise to even those who have known me for years: The main character, Bergie, who is shy, awkward, uncoordinated and nervous in his own skin, is my own young self-caricature. He is continually being told that he will never succeed or amount to anything in life. Yet, he persists, with undying determination and optimism.

The criticisms Bergie received, are similar to what I was faced with, even before I started making the film. No one believed that such a big-scale full length feature film could be made without financial support from a big production company, expensive equipment as well as a big crew and production team. I was told time and again: "You can't do it... you will need a big budget... you can't do all the special effects... you can't get a Lamborghini, Mansion or Theater in your film..." just to name a few put downs. **The impossibilities were endless, but so was my dream.** I didn't know how I was going to do it, but I knew that if I believed and took massive action, I can make it happen. Hence, the journey to create this film gave birth to its controlling idea – **You have to believe in yourself to make your dream come true.**

Reality shows have become the thread of our social and entertainment fabric. Setting the stage on a reality TV show is just a fun and relatable premise for telling the story. Through the 7 years of creating this film, the biggest challenge is finding the belief in myself when others tell me otherwise.

"I hope this film will affect people in such a way that they feel empowered to go after what they want, despite what others may say. At the end of the day, if you believe in something and yourself, it doesn't matter what anybody else thinks. You can find a way to make it happen."

- Tytus Bergstrom



FUN FACTS



BODY SACRIFICE

Being a competitive dancer, Tytus has always been in tip-top physical shape. For the role of Bergie, Tytus gained 45 pounds, to create a character Bergie, who is unconfident, unattractive, has no talent and the ultimate nerd. Bergie's look is inspired by William Hung, Waldo from the music video "Hot for Teacher" by Van Halen & Ace Ventura (scene from the asylum). He had to keep the weight on for the entire production, which took almost 15 months to shoot, all the while, maintaining his other career as a dance performer and coach. It took Tytus more than a year of strict exercise and diet to lose the weight gain and get back in shape.

WHO GOT PUNK'D

Reality TV Movie spoofs Reality Shows: *Dancing with the stars*, *So you think you can dance*, *American Idol*, *Hell's Kitchen*, *Cops*, *The Real World*, & *Project Runway*. The film also takes a jab at scenes from the movies, *Kill Bill vol. 2*, *Rocky 4*, & *Excalibur*, with characters spoofing celebrities such as Dane Cook, Justin Timberlake, Britney Spears, Zhang Ziyi, Janet Jackson, Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul, Hilary Duff and more.

FLYING HIGH WITH OUR 85 YEAR OLD PILOT

Our 90 year old friend, Dean Stahr was our aerial pilot for all the aerial shots in the film. He was 85 when he took Tytus up in his airplane. Dean became the oldest American (79 years old) to circumnavigate the solo in a small plane in 2005. He took Tytus up in his plane on 3 separate occasions to capture aerial shots of the San Francisco Bay Area, Sonoma & Napa Valley. On the first occasion, Tytus got violently ill because he was trying to capture footage while the plane was taking off. Tytus learnt his mistake and the next 2 flights went much smoother.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS WITH THE MEN IN UNIFORM

While filming the scene with the Talibans, our weapons specialist had brought in real firearms (without ammunition). Police started pulling up during the filming and Tytus and the crew thought they were going to be in big trouble (Think Talibans, with firearms in the middle of the day!). However, all the cops wanted was for them to move their vehicles because they were parked in an illegal zone!

7 YEARS A MAKING

Tytus conceptualized the film in 2007, and started finetuning the story with Daniel in 2008. After a few renditions of the script, the film finally went into pre-production in the summer of 2008 and starting filming on Feb 6, 2009. Having a Reality Show premise in the film, combined with a lack of a huge arena to shoot in, Tytus decided to shoot more than 60% of the film on a green screen. He then taught himself how to do CGI/FX, and single-handedly designed and constructed all the visual effects for the film. When Tytus finally completed the CGI for the film, he decided to go back and re-design much of the previously completed CGI to up the production quality. As such, it took more than 5 years for Production & Post-production. The film was finally completed in Nov 2014.

Q & A WITH THE FILMMAKER

WHAT WAS IT LIKE WORKING WITH A SMALL BUDGET?

A big driving force behind the making of this film is for it to feel/ look big budget with no budget. Being a self-funded film, we had to be very economical in what we spend our limited dollars on. This budgetary limitation turned out to be a huge advantage because it forced me to be creative and think outside the box at every turn to get the best result with minimal cost. I'll set my eyes on the result I want to achieve, and figure out how to do it, rather than be restricted by what I have. I've learnt since a young age, that whatever I cannot afford to buy, I can make. Not having a green studio, I built my own green screen set and constructed a big turn-table to shoot on. A friend designed and built a crane for overhead shots. My fashion design background and experience as a tailor allowed me to design wardrobe and sets. Lack of a production crew also meant that I had to wear many hats on the set from sound to lighting to cinematography. On the post production side, to single-handedly complete all the CGI seemed at times, an impossible task. However, as a result, I'm a much more all-rounded filmmaker today than I would have ever been, without that hands-on experience.



HOW LONG DID THE PROJECT TAKE?

From first draft to completion, took about 7 years. We started filming on Feb 6, 2009 and post-production and production phases often overlapped. We took insert shots and voice-overs wherever required. The fact that we did not have financial backing and hence no mandatory release date, has upsides and downsides. Being a one-man post-production "team", I was able to really take my time to let the creative ideas gel. However, without a hard deadline and a team, it started to feel like a never-ending project and keeping momentum was incredibly challenging. I pretty much worked on the film every day and had to find new ways to inspire myself to finally finish it. Part of the motivation was to not let down the hundreds of actors and crew who were involved in the project.

What IS CHALLENGING ABOUT A COMEDY?

The most elusive thing about a comedy is that just because I think something is funny, doesn't mean that it makes others laugh. You just have to test it out. Everyone would have a different reaction depending on who they are, and what their mood is when they experience the joke. I may write 20 or 100 jokes and probably nothing would work. The truth is that jokes are not what makes something funny. What makes something funny is playful energy and social like-mindedness that is hard to hit right without a lot of trial and error.

WHO ARE YOUR INFLUENCES?

My two biggest influences are George Lucas and Robert Rodriguez. George Lucas' belief in pushing the envelope when it comes to creating better/ more accessible visual effects, and his role in bringing digital film to the forefront of filmmaking, made this film possible. As a child, I would see Star Wars in the theaters as often as I could. His movies are the most influential and inspiring to me. As for Robert Rodriguez, I admire his ability to make something out of nothing. His "Making of" commentaries on all his films are invaluable - I spent hours listening and learning from him. To paraphrase his philosophy: Not having a big budget forces a filmmaker to think outside of the box for a production. This inspires me to solve problems and come up with innovative solutions that I would not otherwise have, if I just had a money hose to fix all my problems. (my wife might feel differently - a money hose is awesome).

PHOTOS



1



6



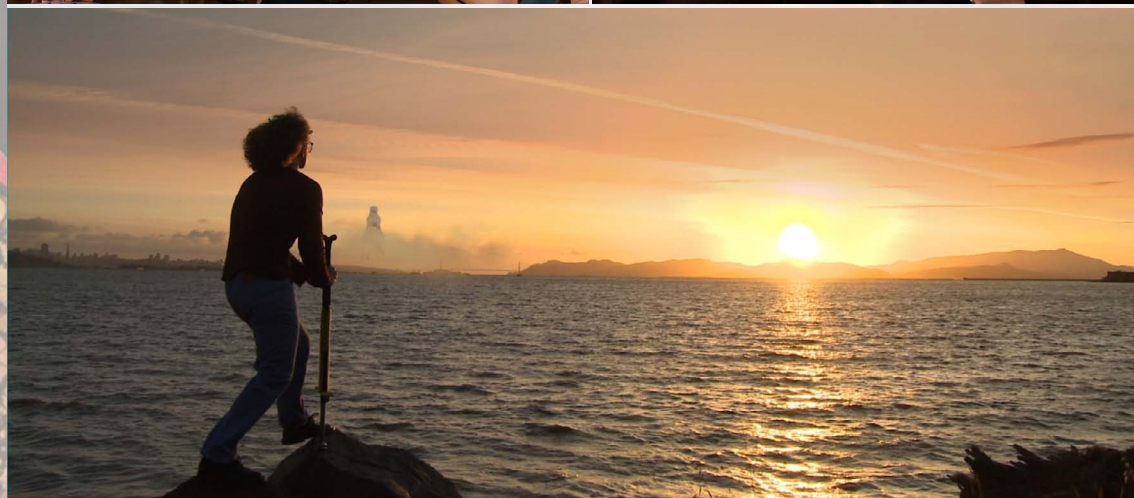
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From TOP Clockwise:

1-Bergie's Audition | 2-Lolli Pop in trouble | 3-Lufus & Rick plotting | 4-Bergie vowing to do the dance move that killed his parents | 5-The Judges | 6-Bergie being interviewed

CREDITS & TRIVIA

CAST

Bergie Barnsworth

Lolli Pop

Maximus Sextus

Mia Favor

Lufus

Henry

Tina Bambi

Joe King

Charlotta Ecstasy

Imus Dupido

Alby Pompous

Manny Nutz

Rick

Tytus Bergstrom

LiWen Ang

David Weise

Joanna Siekierska

Daniel Will-Harris

Brian Levy

Sandy Morrisa

Jeffrey Davis

Jenoa Harlow

Steve Budd

Dick Martin

Brian J. Patterson

Morris Mizrahi



CREW

Written, Directed & Produced by

Co-Produced by

Story by

Cinematography by

Original Music by

Assistant Director

Tytus Bergstrom

LiWen Ang

Tytus Bergstrom & Daniel Will-Harris

Tytus Bergstrom & Miles Kittredge

Michael Teoli

Sandy Morrisa



TRIVIA

- A crew member bought manure instead of soil for a scene, not knowing that it was going to be used as mud bombs to be thrown at Tytus. As a result, Tytus ended up eating shit. Literally.
- Character Mia Favor was cast four times. Joanna turned out to be the best fit for the part.
- Brian J Patterson had originally auditioned for Maximus, but was cast as Manny Nutz.
- The crane designer/fabricator is Joanne's (Mia Favor's) husband.
- Tytus designed and made most of the dance costumes including all of Manny Nutz's outfits.
- Being a competitive dancer almost all his life, Tytus had to unlearn his well-trained body with a coach to get his dancing "bad and awkward" enough for the film.
- Tytus constructed the entire green screen environment from scratch (including backdrops, floor, turn-table, and other props).



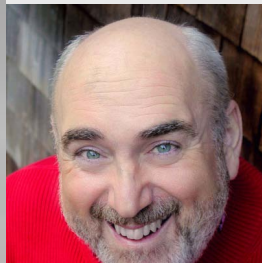
TYTUS BERGSTROM | DIRECTOR/ PRODUCER / ACTOR

Born and raised in San Rafael, California, Tytus has always been in love with movies. Beginning at age 7, armed with his 8mm camera, he started to create short films, making his own props and costumes. His route into filmmaking took a detour, when he began his career following his passion for latin dance. He is a four-time United States Latin Dance Champion, had won countless competitions across the nation and represented the US in the world championships twice. He has since coached many top dancers and teams to become champions, such as the Salsamania Dance Company (2011 & 2013 World Salsa Champions), John Narvaez & Andrew Cervantes (Salsa World Champions & 2014 America's Got Talent quarter finalist) to name a few. Tytus is a self-taught filmmaker, from lighting to cinematography, editing to music. All the CGI, FX, costumes, green screen sets in *Reality TV Movie* are designed and constructed by Tytus.



LIWEN ANG | CO-PRODUCER/ ACTRESS

LiWen trained as a stage actress through her youth, starring in numerous award-winning original plays in Singapore where she grew up. A trained choral singer, she represented Singapore in the South-East Asia's Youth singing festivals and sang with the award-winning choral group for 4 years. She also danced in the youth troupe with the Tammy L. Wong dance company in Singapore for a year. LiWen came in 2nd place on a RealityTV show, *Dirty Dancing - Living the Dream* by WE in 2007. She was also the choreographer for the play *Speech and Debate* at Aurora Theater, Berkeley in 2010. LiWen is a professional Latin dancer and a practicing Architect with successful multi-million dollar public and privately funded projects under her belt.



DANIEL WILL-HARRIS | CO-WRITER/ ACTOR

As a writer, Daniel has sold over 300,000 books. He plays a lead role in *The Uniform Motion of Folly* which premiered at the Santa Barbara Film Festival. He created and hosted an early cable comedy show called *Tar Pit Theater* that became a late night LA classic. He has performed at BATS improv in San Francisco, doing both longform and completely improvised musicals and continues to perform live improv onstage with Marinprov and sings with the MartinTones.



DAVID WEISE | ACTOR

David Weise is a professional ballroom dancer. In 2006, he placed second in the World Championship Smooth Division with Valentina Kostenko. Weise's dancing film credits include featured dancer roles in *Dance with Me* and *Rent*. He has also coached dancing and performance for the United States Olympic Rhythmic Gymnastics Team as well as *Dancing with the Stars* competitors. Weise teaches method acting and performs on stage at Shelton Studios in San Francisco, California.



MICHAEL TEOLI | COMPOSER

Michael is an award-winning Film and Theater composer. Notable accomplishments include: "Best Original Score" for *41* (2007) at The Director's Chair Film Festival in Staten Island, NY, 2007. Two Portland Area Musical Theatre Award nominations (PAMTA's) for "Best Original Musical" *Tonya & Nancy: The Rock Opera* and "Best Original Song". This full length musical also received national media attention including spots on CNN, Fox News and Good Morning America. Other film credits include: *Cold Case*, *Close to Home*, *Adrift in Manhattan*, *The Simpsons Movie*, *The Naked Brothers Band* and *Columbus Day*.