

Persona is **everything.**



ACTOR FOR HIRE

FORTE PICTURES PRESENTS "ACTOR FOR HIRE" JESSE O'NEILL JOEL HOGAN HOLLIE SHAY
JANDRES BURGOS GREG PERROW NAJEE DE-TIEGE JT ALEXANDER AND JESSE C. BOYD MUSIC BY JEREMY TISSER
EDITED BY MARCUS MIZELLE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ZACK YAN CO-PRODUCED BY NANCY KIRHOFFER MANNY DURAN CHAROME KAOCHAROEN
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER DUSTIN TAYLOR PRODUCED BY MARCUS MIZELLE JILLIAN LONGNECKER WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MARCUS MIZELLE

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coming soon

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PROJECT INFO

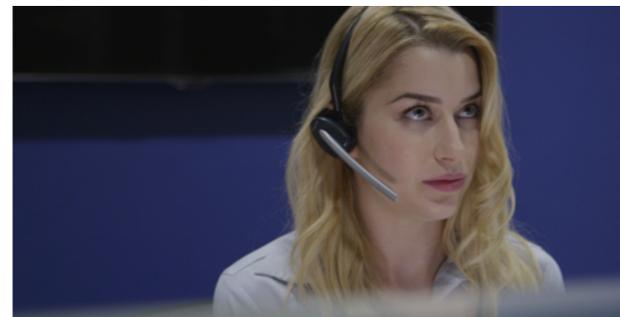
FORM Narrative Fiction, Feature **GENRE** Myth/Romantic Comedy, Satire **RUNTIME** 1 hour 30 min. **ASPECT RATIO** 1.78 (16x9) **PRINT** Color (RED cam) + B/W, Stereo



SYNOPSIS Being a BALD, out of work actor and desperate to be seen, Jesse discovers the power of persona in the form of a...cheap wig. Wearing a part, to play the part can be hairy business in this industry satire where status, celebrity, and friendship are all on the line.

MEDIUM SYNOPSIS Aspiring actor Jesse thinks he's not landing parts because he's bald. After several failed auditions he decides to cover his bald head with a wig, head back out to the auditioning chopping block and give it a fresh new go. He immediately books a small role on TV pilot 'Between The Waves', giving full credit to his newly discovered persona. Between juggling his personal life, which includes a cheating girlfriend and a missing roommate to keeping a grip on his career, where he accidentally befriends a heartbroken celebrity on the rise, Jesse realizes his true desire isn't to be an actor. It's to be a movie star. A disguise comedy about facades, persona and the friends along the way.

LONG SYNOPSIS Aspiring actor Jesse thinks he's not landing parts because he's bald. After several failed auditions he decides to cover his bald head with a wig and head back out to the chopping block. Jesse immediately books a small role on TV pilot 'Between The Waves', giving full credit to his new persona, which proceeds to take over his personal and professional lives... When an elated Jesse walks in on girlfriend Hollie having sex with his roommate, Jesse must pick his heart off the ground and find a new place to live. Jesse contacts casting director/method actor Jandres who has a room for rent. Jandres welcomes and introduces him to his actor friends and his agent JT, who tells Jesse to keep him posted on the TV pilot- that he's on a trial period. Wiggled Jesse arrives on set to film his scene for 'Between The Waves', where he meets rising star Joel Hogan. Jesse is soon replaced by the director, with a bald guy, and leaves the studio lot devastated. Nothing to lose, Jesse knocks on Joel Hogans trailer door where, to his surprise, Joel lets him in. They connect as both have recently been betrayed by their respective girlfriends; soon after, Joel invites Jesse to his house party and introduces him to some 'players in town', including producer Cynthia. Just as Jesse begins to mingle, ex girlfriend Hollie appears- as a waitress at the party. She tells Jesse he's on the schedule to work. To avoid being fired, Jesse borrows a shirt from Hollie, beginning a quick back and forth of Jesse as two personas. After a few close calls at revealing his persona, he survives the night, capping it off with a bonding moment with Joel, who soon tells Jesse he can borrow his car and crash at his place. He also tells Jesse his director friend is holding auditions and he has convinced him to give Jesse a part in his next movie... Jesse abandons friends Jandres, Najee and Greg to meet with producer Cynthia about the part Joel has set up, only to be told she is not going to help him, that he "wont make it in this town with a guy like Joel mad at you". Jesse rushes to Joels to discover his wrap is up. Joel has learned Jesse has been lying to him, 'just like the rest of them' and to leave. Jesse's blown the break of a lifetime. Bags packed and headed back to New York, Jesse makes one last call- He meets with Hollie to say goodbye. She asks him to get back together, to move back to New York together. They can just say "this whole LA thing was just a phase we gave our best shot at..." As Jesse seriously contemplates giving up, one more glimmer of hope appears- one final audition. But he will need help from his friends to face one final test. A disguise comedy about persona, celebrity culture and the friends who have your back.



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THE FILMMAKERS



MARCUS MIZELLE Director, Producer, Writer, Editor

Marcus is a multi faceted LA based director, writer, producer and editor. He has directed music videos for Interscope recording artist Aloe Blacc, Atlantic artist Kevin Gates, Roach Gigz, Kreayshawn, Poet (Black Eyed Peas) and more. He has directed over 30 short films including the award winning comedies *The Reliever* & *The Buck Johnson Story* as well as the award winning crime comedy feature *Half Empty*. He just completed his second feature film *Actor For Hire* and is in pre production on the next one.

With 7 years in the lighting and camera department on over 50 major productions across the US including *21 Jump Street*, *Eastbound and Down*, *Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters* and *Snitch*, Marcus is a technical minded, story-first director with emphasis on strong performance and theme within an engaging framework. **REEL** vimeo.com/marcusmizelle/reel2015 www.marcusmizelle.com



JILLIAN LONGNECKER Producer

Jillian has over a decade of experience in independent filmmaking and is a graduate of Pepperdine University with an M.F.A. from AFI (American Film Institute). In 2013, she was recognized as one of the top **35 Under 35** by **The Hollywood Reporter**. Her credits include Executive Producer on the soon to be released *Dark Places* starring Charlize Theron, Executive Producer on the Hammer Films release *The Quiet Ones* and acclaimed **ACADEMY AWARD WINNING** doc *Undeclared*, which she brought to Spitfire.

She was also a Co Producer on *End of Watch* (Jake Gyllenhaal), *Snitch* (Dwayne Johnson), *So Undercover* (Miley Cyrus), *A Walk Amongst the Tombstones* starring Liam Neeson, the JFK film *Parkland* and many more.

DIRECTOR STATEMENT

I grew up in a quiet, conservative area of eastern North Carolina but was blessed with a father who opened my eyes to being a true individual, whether he knew it or not. Having bi-racial relationships, he showed me there was no need for discrimination in a world where there was clearly a ton. He also taught me about humor. I learned comedy by listening to his funny and sometimes terrible jokes. My Dad wasn't as funny as he thought he was, but that made me laugh even harder. He showed me some of the most subversive films as a 7 year old. Comedies such as Eddie Murphy's "Boomerang" and "Coming to America" come to mind. You know, those really good, broad comedies with heart they don't quite make anymore.

Now, having had experience working in independent and major studio films, I've not only gotten to sharpen my craft but I've also been able to witness firsthand a class structure in Hollywood. This is what brought me to "Actor For Hire." From a simple conversation with friend and LA neighbor Jesse, who being a white male, one would think has no discriminatory problems, the concept and twist of a struggling actor in Tinseltown was born. Since women, LGBT and other minorities are more accepted now, I realized one of the remaining discriminated groups still in the Entertainment Industry is...the young, white, male...bald mother f*cking actor.

PRODUCTION NOTES

A big part of Actor For Hire is about the various absurdities and clichés of LA and celebrity culture, which I find endlessly interesting. My fascination of Hollywood culture is probably in part due to the fact that I was once a full-time crew member observing all types of on-set situations and different class statuses on these sets.

For about 7 years, I would write and shoot my own shorts between working as a Grip on "shows" of all sizes. Regardless of the income gripping brought, it was never the end goal...it was the knowledge I could gain (how to light, rig a camera, properly pace a show, set safety) and the people I could meet (girlfriend and now producing partner Jillian Longnecker for one). I also quickly realized the hierarchy that is ALWAYS present on a film set. Status, hierarchy, and contrasts of all sorts have become themes I find a great deal of in my own work.

There are little things on a film set that don't exist anywhere else- for example, one thing that always tripped me out was when an actor is giving his lines to another actor off-screen, except the script supervisor is reading the lines in place of the said off-screen actor. What you get is this really fun, hilarious contrast of a focused, confident actor on screen against a usually awkward, monotone woman reading from a script uncomfortably. With some of these exact scenarios and my imagination, Actor For Hire developed into an exaggerated version of this business we call show.



CREW

PRODUCTION **Writer/Director** Marcus Mizelle **Producers** Marcus Mizelle, Jillian Longnecker & Dustin Taylor **Co-Producers** Nancy Kirhoffer, Manny Duran & Charome Kaocharoen **Associate Producers** Cynthia Bravo & Jesse O'Neill **Key Set PA** Matt Charity **Production Assistants** Patrick Dielubanza **Additional** Victoria Gonzalez, Alana Kerrigan

CAMERA **Director of Photography** Zack Yan **Additional Photography** Aaron Grassos & Marcus Mizelle **1st Assistant Camera** Matt Charity **Additional** Chris Wess **Grip/Electric** Anthony Duran, Matt Charity, Patrick Dielubanza, Tom Villa, Justin Weaver

SOUND **Mixer/Boom** James Molina **Additional** Jackie Summers & Ahmad Powell **HAIR & MAKEUP** Gabriel Almodovar

POST PRODUCTION **Post Production Supervisor** Nancy Kirhoffer (*The Prestige*, *50/50*, *The Switch*, *Mud*) **Composer** Jeremy Nathan Tisser (Rec. at The Bridge) **Editor** Marcus Mizelle **Colorist** Mitch Paulson/EFilm **Sound Mix** The Dub Stage

CAST

Jesse Jesse O'Neill

Joel Joel Hogan

Hollie Hollie Shay

Jandres Jandres Burgos

Greg Greg Perrow

Najee Najee De-Tiege

JT the Agent JT Alexander

Boyd Jesse C. Boyd

Beth Beth Lepley



Jesses Mom Flora Rubenhold **Brittany the Lobbyist** Brittany Finnamore **Nick the Director** Nick D'itri **Bryant the AD/Landlord** Bryant Turner **Cynthia** Cynthia Bravo **Lance** Lance Charnow **Katie** Kate Austin **Danielle the PA** Danielle Marie Lueder **Ayana the Hairstylist** Ayanna S. Flemings **Julia the Makeup Artist** Julia Louiza **Carol the Scripty** Carol Dorman **Iris** Iris Karina **Ace the Dog** Ace the Dog **Chiu the Director** Richard Chiu **Quinn the Assistant** Quinn Knox

HW Casting Twins Lina & Erica Green **Rob** Rob Dough **Security Guards** Drew Moore and Omar Acosta **Young Jesse** Bryson Pitts **Carl the Cable Guy** Rich Baker **Talk Show Host** Ryan Sandberg **Production Assistants (Jandres Flashback)** Heather Graves and Clayton Cardenas **Sarah the Waitress** Sarah Scott **Joel the Extra** Joel Slabo **Joels Stand-In** Daniel Button **Celebrity** Dan Tucker **New Young Actor** Jonathan Moore

Partygoers (Jandres Place) Marilyn Monroe Theresa Ireland **James Dean** Dan Emo **Mini Luche Libre** Jose Navarette **Spider-Man** Manny Duran **Mary Jane** Kelly Donelson **Afro Guy** Ahmad "Big Thirsty" Powell **Partygoers (Joels Place)** Anna Kolenko, Christopher D. Lindsay, Kerstin Alm, Patrick Dielubanza, Paul Michael Draper, Scott Brown, Tommy Guns, Victoria Gonzalez **Photo Shoot Photographer** Terryl Daluz **Paparazzi** Art Roberts, Moises Macedo, Wilfred Lopez III, David Fichtenmayer, Andrew Yanker, Dustin Stredwick, Jules Sanchez **Auditioning Detectives** Callen David Stilphin, Michael Brown, Zach Zohdy, Martin Harris, Nicolas Montesinos, Rion Martell, Jordan Borges, Shane Turner **Cynthia's Visitor** Marcus Mizelle **Cafe Patrons** Justine Winkler, Jillian Longnecker, Danielle Allaire **Between the Waves Prop Girl** Alana Kerrigan **Between the Waves Grip** Anthony Duran



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