"Anywhere U.S.A. reduces every audience that sees it into a delighted, giggling mob. The talented cast of non-professionals reminds one of what the word, 'amateur' really means: to love. As silly, provocative, risky and downright loose-screwed as Mr. Haney-Jardine and his cast are, the sense that they did this movie out of love-- love for the weird, love for the unsayable idea, love for the privilege of movie making-- proved to be one of the most moving experiences at the Sundance Film Festival. It reminds one of the joy of sitting in an audience of strangers while everyone laughs hysterically."



Winner Special Fury Prize dramatic competition

A CHUSY FILM

Sundance 2008

SUNDANCE
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WWW.ANYWHEREUSATHEMOVIE.COM

#### **SYNOPSIS**

In a trailer deposited in an unkempt pastoral glade, a woman who used to be an alternate on her high school tennis team beats her boyfriend senseless once a week. She beats him, cause, well he deserves it. It's his act of redneck contrition....

Meanwhile, an eight-year-old girl finds accidental elucidation; the sort of awakening that makes her wonder if that guy next door driving the '89 Subaru is, in fact, the guy she thinks it is....

On the other side of the tracks, over there where posh beards, Kobe beef steaks and manicured gardens go hand in hand, a man of privilege has an epiphany at the dinner table that ultimately leads to a contusion and a revelation.

Told in three subtly related segments (Penance, Loss, and Ignorance), ANY-WHERE USA is a du jour portrait of one man's America inspired by and drawn from the director's own experiences as both foreigner and citizen of these United States.

Featuring a cast of mostly non-professionals and exploring passive racism, geo-political vagaries, good intentions, faith and disappointment, this deeply personal film manages to tread the lines between vulgar and humane, between absurd and tender, and finds its heart in the story segment featuring the director's own daughter and a man living in a van.

Part satire, part tragedy, part masterpiece theatre gone awry, ANYWHERE USA is a comedy of manners that defies gravity.

#### **DIRECTOR STATEMENT**

When I set out to make my movie I emptied my head altogether of expectations and accepted the fact that I was going to use whatever I could find around me to put together a story. I wasn't going to fight the fact that I had intellectual and financial limitations, so I fashioned a movie based on the principle of found objects, themes, and people. In fact, this film is about as close to a found film as you can make it without becoming an exercise in aleatory assembly-- an accidental collage. I cast people from the streets of my hometown, Asheville, North Carolina and tried to use talent, music, objects, and locales within my reach. Because my cast was comprised almost entirely of non-professionals, I decided to create the film *in situ*. In other words I created it on the spot. I am not suggesting, however, that this is an improvised film. Far from it. Every word was pre-written. Only thing is that I often wrote the script with my wife hours and even minutes before shooting each day, based on whatever and whomever we could find on the day.

For the record, this film was inspired by a chair. made of pieces of found wood.

the Chair ANYWHERE USA PRESS NOTES/PAGE 4

**DIRECTOR'S BIO** 



Chusy

Born and raised in Venezuela, Chusy has lived in Europe, Latin America and the USA. He has put his febrile imagination to work as a bag boy, translator, video clerk, "marketing representative," copywriter, art director, executive creative director, teacher and commercial director. Chusy attended the director's program at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles, California and received an MFA in directing. There he made, MONKEY PARK, a short film starring Tim Roth, Amanda Plummer and Ray Wise. He is married to the producer of ANYWHERE USA and is the proud father of two gorgeous children, one whom starred in ANYWHERE USA. ANYWHERE USA is his first feature film. He wrote, directed, and edited the movie.

**CRAZY STUFF** 

When you make a movie in situ, you're inviting some craziness. Here's a small anecdotal list of craziness you might find interesting.

When I set out to make the movie, a tick bit me in the ass and I contracted Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. You do not want to contract Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. I fell into a coma as the tick attacked my central nervous system and production had to be halted. I lost a 1/4 of my budget and about 12 percent of my mind

A lot of my cast was on parole. Nuff said on that one.

The lead actor in the second story was our production assistant. He was living in a van when we met him and he applied for the job as P.A. with mismatched socks and a curriculum vitae that was a 1/2 page run-on sentence, speckled with grease, presumably from fries.

When we were at a Toyota dealership my four-year-old son, Lux, was laughing at a kid his height who was smoking and had tattoos. When I told him that the kid was a man, a little man, my son started laughing. I made him go apologize to the 3 foot 4 man and the rest is history. Watch Little Ricky's performance in the first story entitled, PENANCE.

The film was made by a family. Dad wrote, directed, and edited. Mom produced and wrote. Sissy acted and did all the costumes design (she was eight when we made the film!). We put up our house to make the film. I realized at Sundance that the film, from conception to presentation had consumed half my son's life.

The cast comes from the streets of Asheville, North Carolina. From Walmarts, Subway Sandwich Shops, and Applebee's to mention a few fertile grounds for casting. Mary Griffin who plays Tammy in the first story was discovered working in a convenience store.

**UPCOMING SCREENINGS, DATES & VENUES** 

#### **CALGARY**

FRIDAY SEPT. 26 @ 7:00 P.M. WESTHILLS THEATRE SUNDAY SEPT. 28 @ 7:00 P.M. UPTOWN STAGE & SCREEN

**INDY BRAZIL** 

**CANCUN** 

LONDON BRITISH FILM INSTITUTE FRIDAY OCT. 24 @ 11;15 P.M. NFT1

**STOCKHOLM** 





#### JENNIFER MACDONALD. Co-writer and Producer.

Jennifer has held several jobs in front of and behind the camera. She has produced plays and commercials, traveled the world, studied and worked as an Arabic linguist. Additionally she speaks Spanish and Portuguese. On ANYWHERE USA she produced, cast, cooked, co-wrote, and posted bail. ANYWHERE USA marks her debut as feature film producer.

#### PATRICK ROUSSEAU. Cinematographer.

Patrick left a career in engineering to become a cinematographer. For the past ten years he has been working as a camera operator on such films and TV shows as Freedom Writers, Six Feet Under, and Arrested Development. This is his fourth feature film.

#### **HEATHER WINTERS. Executive Producer.**

Heather Winters is a producer/writer and most recently co-Executive Produced Morgan Spurlock's Academy Award® nominated documentary film, SUPER SIZE ME. Heather is the co-writer and producer of the critically acclaimed documentary, CLASS ACT (Arts Alliance America, 2007) about the decline of arts and creativity in American public schools. Heather has produced several feature films and began her production experience in television as an assistant to the legendary animation team, Rankin/Bass. Her television series credits include THUNDERCATS, SILVERHAWKS, THE COMIC STRIP and the first season of MTV's, REAL WORLD. An accomplished writer and musician, Winters is a native of Miami Beach and a graduate of Sarah Lawrence College. Her company, STUDIO-ON-HUDSON, founded in 2000 with producing partner Joe Morley, specializes in the production and financing of independent feature films, documentaries, television and theatre projects. Awards include 2007 Best Documentary Artivist Film Festival, 2007 First Place Rhode Island International Film Festival, 2004 TELLY® Award, 2003 PLAT-INUM BEST IN SHOW AURORA Award, 2000 CHICAGO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL FIRST PLACE Award, 2000 U.S. INTERNATIONAL FILM AND VIDEO FESTIVAL, and multiple awards of creative excellence.

#### JOE MORLEY. Executive Producer.

Executive Producer and Co-Writer of CLASS ACT, Joe is a partner in STUDIO-ON-HUDSON with Producer Heather Winters. He shares the co-Executive Producer credits on the STUDIO-ON-HUDSON film THE PARTY HEADS, and the Sundance award winning and Academy Award® nominated documentary, SUPER SIZE ME. An accomplished writer/producer in his own right, Joe has produced more than 100 live events and video projects. He is a working playwright whose scripts are seen in the off Broadway theaters.

#### ANDY O'NEIL. Co-Producer.

b. Richmond, VA. 1982. Asheville resident since 1983. BA in film, UNC Greensboro. First job, not at the mall. Drives a '98 Toyota Corolla. High School swim captain and Scrabble Tournament champion '04.



#### MARY GRIFFIN (TAMMY)

Currently works as a maid in a retirement home. She is a voracious reader and the mother of two. This is her first acting role.

#### MIKE ELLIS (GENE)

Born and raised in western North Carolina, Mike works as a carpenter and in construction. He enjoys classic rock. This is his first acting role.

#### MOLLY SURRETT (MOLLY)

Currently works as a secretary. She is a North Carolina native and the proud mother of two children. She enjoys NASCAR racing. This is her first acting role.

#### SHELIAH RAY HIPPS (SHEILAH)

Born and raised in Western North Carolina, Sheliah works as a dog groomer. She enjoys horseback riding and motorcycles and wants you to know that she is hyper. This is her first acting role.

#### BRIAN FOX (LITTLE RICKY)

Born and raised in Western North Carolina, Brian has a stand up comic act that he performs in front of audiences east of the Mississippi. Brian is 3 feet 4 tall. If you think he's short, think again. This is his first acting role.

#### RAFAT ABU-GOUSH (ALI)

Born in Jordan. Raised in Jordan and Palestine, Rafat was managing a Subway Sandwich shop when we cast him in Anywhere. He is a graduate of Amman Hospitality School and enjoys classic cars. This is his first acting role.

#### PERLA HANEY-JARDINE (PEARL)

Was born in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She started her acting career in commercials her daddy directed. Her first film role was as B. B., Uma Thurman's daughter in Quentin Tarantino's KILL BILL VOLUME 2. Since then she has appeared in Walter Salles' remake of DARK WATER, Sam Raimi's SPIDERMAN 3, UNTRACEABLE with Diane Lane and most recently she starred in Michael Winterbottom's new film, GENOVA. She did her dad a favor by appearing in ANYWHERE USA.





#### JEREMIAH BRENNAN (JEREMIAH)

Born in New York and raised in South Carolina, Jeremiah works odd jobs in restaurants and is currently working as a production assistant. This is his first acting role.

#### RALPH BRIERLEY (RALPH)

Originally from California, Ralph currently works as a financial analyst. Ralph's been involved in community theatre in one way or another for 35 years. This is Ralph's first film acting role.

#### DIANNE CHAPMAN (DIANNE)

Is retired from theatre management. Dianne now works on many local theatre productions. This is her first film acting role.

#### **ELLIS ROBINSON (ELLIS)**

Was born and raised in Western North Carolina. He is in high school. He is on the debate team. Now that he's acted in his first movie he's into plays at his high school. This is his first acting role.

#### SUSIE GREENE (PAT THE REALTOR)

An Asheville native, Susie Greene attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in NY. In addition to raising a 17 year-old, Susie loves to sing and is an ordained wedding minister.

#### FRANK AVERY (FRANK A.K.A. DR. GOOGLE)

Frank is a retired navy captain who found stage acting as his second-calling. His roles as 'Tevye', 'Willie Loman', 'Big Daddy' and 'Falstaff' are samplings of nearly 50 shows in 20yrs.

#### GENE HAMPTON (GENE)

Gene is a social activist in the Western North Carolina. This is his first acting role.



# ANYWHERE USA CREDITS Press Notes

**FILMMAKERS** 

Director Chusy Writer Chusy

Producer Jennifer MacDonald Jennifer MacDonald

Executive Producer Joe Morley
Heather Winters
Director of Photography Patrick Rousseau

Editor Chusy

CAST

Mary Griffin Tammy Mike Ellis Gene **Brian Fox** Ricky Molly Surrett Molly Sheliah Ray Hipps Sheliah Jeremiah Brennan Jeremiah Perla Haney-Jardine Pearl Ralph Brierley Ralph Dianne Chapman Dianne Ellis Robinson Ellis Virato Narrator Sophia Tager Sophia

Jack Legwin
Chusy
Randy Wells
Crazzy Keith
Barkeep
Glenda McDowell
Gene Hampton
Al Al Ingram
Jonathan Lucas
Boy in Bookstore
Randy Wells
Barkeep
Glenda
Gene
Al Al Al
Tooth Fairy

Éowyn Lucas

Waitress

EXTRAS Anne Batchelder

Holly Baungartner

Anne Fitten Glenn

Éowyn Lucas

Sequoia Rose Baumgartner

Dave Bragg

### ANYWHERE USA Press Notes CREDITS (CONT'D)

EXTRAS (CONT'D) Paula Cooper **Hedy Fischer** Chusy Lauren Fortuna Brandon Goodwin James Graziano Dave MacDonald Jennifer MacDonald **Andrew Moore** Debbie Morrow **Robert Morrow** Andy O'Neil Jack Ramshaw Patrick Rousseau Perla Santiago Jesus Cerecedo Tellez

Julian Vorus

Casting Jennifer MacDonald

**Assistant Casting** Lauren Fortuna & Emily Maynard

Lila Zimmerman Costumes

Perla Haney-Jardine

Co-producer Andy O'Neil Associate Producer Joshua Tager

Dave Bragg Asst. Director Scott Reese

Dave Bragg Camera Operator **B-Camera Operator** Shane Peters

Asst. Camera Jack Ramshaw Grip/Electric Tony Holderfield Grip/Electric Meiklejohn "Emjay" Pate Sound Recordist Brandon Goodwin

**Boom Operator** Jon Orr

Producer's Assistant/Doc Sabrina Hilario ANYWHERE USA PRESS NOTES/PAGE 12

# ANYWHERE USA CREDITS (CONT'D) Press Notes

Art Director
Product Design
Assistant Art Dept.

Laura Reese Bob Zimmerman Jack Ramshaw

FX Make Up and Makeup

Rob Edmonson Amy Kobos Satori Kirsch Monica Nolan

Still Photographer Digital Photographer Pilar Belmonte Steve Mann

Weapons/Stunts Radio Control Stunts Special Rigging Script Supervisor/Props Pat Donovan Steve Conner

Gene Loden & Wendi McEachern

**Andrew Moore** 

Catering

Traci Taylor Margaret Lauzon Ginger Hebeisen

Key PA PAs/Runners

Jeremiah Brennan Jerry ter Horst Aaron Saenger Greg Hudgins Margaret Lauzon Dustin Cassels Katie Kasben Nathan Hall

Music Supervisor Original Music Chusy Arizona

Juan Benavides Holiday Childress

Chusy Bryan Rhuede Chris Rosser Jason Smith

# ANYWHERE USA CREDITS (CONT'D) Press Notes

Music Performers Ashley Chambliss

Joe Ebel

River Guerguerian Maria Marquez Chris Rosser Manuela Soler Eliot Wadopian Holiday Chiildress

Chusy

Post Production Optimus

Post Supervisor Gretchen Praeger

Post Prod. Technical Director

Colorist

Flame Artist

Audio Engineer

Foley Artist/Audio Assistant

Ken Winke

Ken Wald

Greg Huber

Joel Anderson

Ryan Cybul

Additional Visual Effects
Asst. Editor
ADR/Foley
Bruce Sales
HD Consultant
Harmony Interiors

HD Editing System Supplier Advanced Data Network Solutions

BetaCam SP Transfer See No Evil Films, Asheville

Production Legal Smith Dornan & Dehn John Anderson

LLC Legal Henry Ward
Dick Lupo
Chad Warpula

Tax Consultant Guy Clerici

Accounting Cindy Amiot

Brad Burlingham

Payroll Services McBee Payroll

#### CREDITS (CONT'D)

Distribution Advisor Distribution Legal Services PR

Grip & Electric Rental Generator Expendables Camera Supplier

Production Insurance Workers' Compensation

Very Special Thanks

Josh Braun/Submarine Entertainment

Roger E. Kass

Murphy PR/John Murphy & Jessica Edwards

Silver Hammer Studios, Charlotte, NC Sunbelt Rentals, Charlotte, NC Hollywood Rentals, Charlotte, NC WH Platts, Charlotte, NC

Film Emporium, NY

Insurance Services of Asheville

Steve Wilmans Jennifer Wilmans Pete Wilmans Nick & Joey

Phillip Broughton & David L. Smith

Minda Burroughs Karen & Guy Clerici Hedy Fischer Garth Franklin **David Goldring** Pilar & Tom Hartmann Giselle Kovac

Tom Kilby & Monica Nolan

Rob Pulleyn

Cherry Lentz Saenger Paul Lentz Saenger Marcy & Scott Sirkin Randy Shull Marvin Slosman Joshua Tager Seth Tager

Robert Zimmerman

Special Thanks Anne Batchelder Chris Cassels

Andrew Glasgow Carl Haney Richard Haney Virgil Haney

# ANYWHERE USA CREDITS (CONT'D) Press Notes

Special Thanks (cont'd)

JD Kramer (Octane Crew)
Erika Landolfi
Dr. No No
Frank Marshall
Sarah Moessner
Neal Reed
Sweet Biscuit Inn
Erica Sandin
Arturo Smith
Scott Varn

Andrew Wagner

Panasonic (Jan M. Crittenden)
Big Bridge (Stephen Lutz & Shawn Peters)
Fine Arts Theatre, Asheville
Charlotte Street Computers
NC Film Commission (Aaron Syrett)
WNC Film Commission (Mary Trimarco)

Thank you to all the local business of Asheville, NC that donated their time, money, and food.

For a complete list of these businesses, please visit our website at www.anywhereusathemovie.com.

PRESS QUOTES SUNDANCE 2008

Press Notes

"...there might just be some genius there. God help us."

Moriarty
Aint It Cool News

"Haney-Jardine's film mixes striking still photos, text overlaid the images on the screen, a wry sense of the absurd in the everyday, the capacity to see the banal in the extraordinary, and the capacity to find the extraordinary in the everyday."

> James Rocchi Cinematical

"Haney-Jardine has a rich sense of the absurd."

James Rocchi Cinematical

"...a quirky regional comedy that doesn't quite resemble anything else you've seen."

Stephen Farber Hollywood Reporter

"...points for wackiness and sheer insane glee."

Stephen Farber Hollywood Reporter

"...easily the funniest movie of the festival that skewers NASCAR and pistachio nuts with oddball aplomb."

CanWest Katherine Monk

"High Art crashes into THE DUKES OF HAZZARD...the most unusual of the dramatic competition films at this year's SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL."

Steve Ramos indieWIRE

"...very strange and very funny."

Moriarty
Aint It Cool News