

PRESS KIT

JSOK FILMS Presents

MR. BROOKLYN

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PRODUCTION INFORMATION

Original

Production Format: HD (B&W and COLOR)

Total Running Time: 13 min. 55 sec

Aspect Ratio: 16:9

Genre: Drama

Official Website: <http://www.MrBrooklynMovie.com>

Available

Screening Formats: DVD, Mini DV, DV Cam, Beta SP, Digi Beta, HD CAM, Pal and NTSC

SYNOPSIS / HOOK / LOGLINE

TAGLINE

For a man with nothing, honor is everything.

LOGLINE

Nearing the end of his days Philly Weinstein (Mr. Brooklyn) is a relic of the simple, yet unforgiving Brooklyn docks, but when "old world values" clash with "new world morality", Mr. Brooklyn is the ultimate scholar.

SYNOPSIS

Nearing the end of his days on the unforgiving docks of Brooklyn, Philly Weinstein (Mr. Brooklyn) is a relic of the past. Always balanced on the tightrope of expendability, Philly is a man with holes in his boots, calluses on his hands, and lint in his pockets. But sometimes, for a man with nothing, honor is everything. Complicated by the world that has "evolved" around him (a world without tolerance of Philly's simple one), he makes a final stand when a strange woman enters his life--and teaches the "men" around him the true meaning of honor. The Brooklyn streets teach hard lessons, but when "old world values" clash with "new world morality", Mr. Brooklyn is the ultimate scholar.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Based on a true story, *Mr. Brooklyn* is a tale of morality, ethics and honor.

The film is a tribute to my grandfather, Philly Weinstein. After serving in WW II, my grandfather spent the rest of his life working at the Hunts Point Terminal Market, notoriously known for crime and corruption. He stood out from the crowd. He never stole a dollar and always came to the rescue of a person in need. He stood 6' 4" and weighed 260 pounds, much larger than other men of his time. An ex-military police officer and football player, he wasn't your typical Jewish guy of the 1940's.

He was from a generation when men knew what it meant to be men . . . a time when men held the door for a lady . . . a time when men wore ties to baseball games . . . a much simpler, uncomplicated time.

Philly left for work every night at 8 PM and returned home at 8 AM. He was a family man who always found the time to take me to school in the morning and pick me up in the afternoon. He taught me about loyalty, respect, standing your ground, and always doing the right thing. His teachings are major influences in my life; and the qualities that he lived by, I try to live by today.

My grandfather passed away many years ago and I often wonder what he would have thought of the world we now live in. That is why I set the story in modern day New York.

Even though the original story took place in the Bronx, my grandfather was from Brooklyn. I visited the Hunts Point Terminal Market and it just didn't have the same old school charm that **existed** when my grandfather worked there. After visiting Red Hook, I knew it was the perfect place to set my story because the neighborhood still had the original architecture from the 1800's.

I find story to be the most important part of any film and along with this personal tribute to my grandfather I always keep the audience in mind too. The core of this story is the fight scene, which actually happened. As a result of his fight, my grandfather was paid a visit by the Mafia. He turned them down yet won their respect . . . and they dubbed him "Philly Weinstein - The Big Jew".

As the film ends, I explore the existential void we create whenever we make a decision. It's a choice we make every day in life whether intentional or not. Its the NOT knowing what tomorrow will bring, but if what we choose is moral, we should sleep easy at night . . . because Mr. Brooklyn would consider that action commendable.

-- JSOK

CAST and CREW

JSOK (Director/Writer)

Jason Sokoloff, is a native New Yorker who grew up against the gritty urban backdrop of Brooklyn/Queens in the 1970's and 80's. A one time graffiti artist, successful art director and seasoned veteran of the city's infamously tough stand-up comedy circuit, Jason draws the core of his inspiration from a rich childhood, spent between the city's best museums and it's most seedy racetracks. Jason has over ten years of experience in the entertainment industry, with an emphasis on art direction, production, and marketing. He has produced advertisements and other collateral materials tailored to clients in the publishing, music, film, and advertising industries. His production credits include over 200 live comedy shows. His monthly comedic storytelling show, "Urban Myth", co-produced with DC Benny, has received extensive press coverage and attracts great talent to the stage that includes Jim Norton, Dave Chapelle and Jim Gaffigan. Jason was also the producer and co-director of a short comedy pilot that was featured in the Montreal Comedy Festival and his short film "Treasure of Riverside Park" was recently featured at Lincoln Center, Channel 13 PBS-NY and has currently been played at 17 festivals in the states and abroad. Most recently Jason was the line producer on the feature film "Heterosexuals". As a strong proponent of independent filmmaking and comedy, Jason's spirit carries many. He is currently working on several short films, and feature scripts while pursuing his M.F.A. at New York University's graduate film program.

Josh Hetzler (Producer)

Before arriving at NYU, Josh was a professional fundraising consultant, and has over five years of NYC non-profit fundraising experience. Clients include the prestigious Maysles Films, Halal Films, Synapse Productions, and Theater Askew. Josh was the principal NYC fundraiser for producer Sandi Dubowski for the feature-length documentary *A Jihad for Love*, which premiered this year at Toronto. Josh is a co-founder of Broken Robot Films, where he produced and wrote the film *This is not my Beautiful Life*, that premiered at the New Filmmaker's Series at Anthology Film Archive, and was acquired for distribution by CinemaNow. As an independent producer, Josh has produced the new short films *And the World Goes Round* and *Mending Fences*, directed by Heather Murphy, both premiering in 2008. As an MFA candidate producer, Josh has produced five short films, including the work of award-winning directors Micah Schaffer, Lily Greenfield-Sanders, and Jason Sokoloff. Josh also produced the multimedia film and theater festival *IGNITE* for Synapse Productions, in partnership with the Culture Project. Josh's undergraduate degree is in Dramatic Writing from NYU, and he was a recipient of a level-one scholarship award from the National Foundation For Advancement in the Arts. His writing has been published in the Reykjavik Grapevine, Nth Position, and Altar Magazine, and he was a finalist for the 2007 Iowa Review Poetry prize. Currently Josh Hetzler is an MFA Candidate in Film at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and is the first MFA producing concentrate for the new dual-degree MBA/MFA partnership with the Stern School of Business.

Joseph Lutton (Associate Producer/ Assistant Director)

Joseph's debut feature film *Fishing*, won ~ Best of the Fest ~ at the Great Lakes Film Festival in Pennsylvania, where the Times gave it a three and a half star review. *Fishing* also received the Grand Prize for ~ Best Directorial Debut ~ at the Rhode Island International Film Festival (one of the Top Ten Film Festivals in the world). The film was Produced, Written and Directed by Joseph. (Information on this movie can be found at www.fishingthemovie.com).

Joseph recently shot a trailer for the new psychological thriller Counterpart by Peter Loffredo. This film has been optioned as is awaiting pre-production.

As an actor, Joseph won the Manchester Theatre Awards ~Best Actor~ for his portrayal of Buddy Holly in The Buddy Holly Story. He was nominated against Albert Finney and Tom Courtney.

Mikey Reyes (Cinematographer)

Michael Reyes was raised on the border city of El Paso Texas. After finishing High school Michael attended the University of Texas at Austin where he received a BS in Radio, TV, and Film. After graduating from college Michael shot several successful independent shorts and worked on several feature films in the Austin area. Hoping to make a career out of directing films, Michael moved to the center of independent filmmaking-New York City. Michael now attends one of the most prestigious Graduate Film Schools in the world-NYU.

Frank Page (Philly Weinstein, Mr. Brooklyn)

A native New Yorker, Frank Page has called the set and stage home for over twenty-five years as both a professional actor and celebrity bodyguard. Discovered while serving as a security specialist in a chance on-set encounter (with writer/director Larry Cohen); Frank took quickly to the acting experience and found himself as comfortable on-camera, working alongside some of the most talented actors in the business, as he was off-camera working for them. He has treasured every moment spent behind the lens as an extraordinary opportunity to watch and learn from the best. Frank has striven to channel and apply that same passion, focus and unique perspective into each and every one of his performances.

During his twenty years as a Screen Actors Guild member, Frank has had the incredible fortune to perform under the direction of: Paul Haggis ("The Black Donnelly's" Pilot), Ron Howard ("The Paper"), Luc Besson ("The Professional") and Larry David ("Sour Grapes"). He has been paired on-screen alongside such true professionals as Adrian Brody ("Ten Benny"), Al Pacino ("City Hall"), Bruce Willis ("Hudson Hawk") and Bette Midler ("The First Wives Club"). In addition to numerous feature film roles and recurring television appearances, he has also starred in various national and regional commercials, as well as having been credited for lead stunt work.

Today, Frank continues to expand his horizons and has most recently achieved initial success in both the voice and video gaming markets. "Mr. Brooklyn" represents another major milestone marking his first time cast to the lead and title role of a film. While representing a departure from previous character types, Frank found a more personal connection to the role of Phil Weinstein sharing like-minded convictions and a strong, silent approach to defending honor, respect, and dedication to professionalism.

Frank Page is proud to call himself an actor and still, after decades of work, gets his biggest kicks when cast to share scenes with one of his security clients!

Al Thompson (Clarence)

In his 21 years, Harlem native Al Thompson has already appeared in numerous films and television series.

Thompson was most recently seen in the films The Royal Tenenbaums alongside Gene Hackman and Angelica Houston, A Walk to Remember starring Mandy Moore and Shane West and the ESPN movie A Season on the Brink: A Year with Bob Knight and the Indiana Hoosiers, which is based on the best-selling book by John Feinstein. Thompson also starred in two films screened at the Sundance Film Festival: 3D and Muse 6.

On the small screen, Thompson has guest-starred in Sidney Lumet's critically acclaimed A&E series 100 Centre Street. In his spare time, Thompson enjoys playing basketball and supports the NBA Entertainment League, a league for celebrities, with fellow actors Ethan Hawke and Ice Cube, to name a few.

Currently you can catch Al in four other films this year "The Tested", "Dumping Lisa", "You're Nobody 'til Somebody Kills You", and "Over da Rainbow".

Quinton Aaron (Jefferson)

Quinton Aaron was born August 15, 1984, in Bronx, New York. He was raised by a single parent. Mother and Author L. A. Aaron, also with a younger brother, illustrator and actor Jarred D. Aaron. At the tender age of four, Quinton took a real interest in singing and acting. Quinton studied drama in High School and completed other acting classes and workshops, seminars in Augusta, Georgia and New York during the years of 1999 till 2007.

He has portrayed lead and supporting roles in director and writer Jomo Kellman's plays. "The Grunch That Stole Kwanzaa" and "The Altered Ego" in 2004 to 2006. He was a vocalist in the Christmas film 'Feliz Navidad'. He also attended 'Bob Lambert's Soap Opera classes etc. He has appeared in two episodes of 'Law and Order' on NBC, 2007. He also appeared background on SVU ABC, 2008.

He's credited as "Q" in "Be Kind Rewind", 2008 by Michel Gondry, currently on pay per-view and rental. Currently he portrays the Perp in the upcoming film, "The Ministers" by Franc Reyes, 2008. He was also credited as Spider's Bodyguard in the upcoming feature, "Righteous Kill" 2008. Directed by Jon Avnet and he is credited as a Street Vendor in the upcoming film "Fighting" 2008. By Dito Montiel. Quinton did a short horror flick Psychotic Convict Misunderstood, 2008.

Quinton's dedication builds stronger everyday for his craft by the grace and kindness of God as he devotes a hundred and ten percent to any roles cast. His goals are to pursue lead and supporting roles in film and regular Character roles, on any TV series with a wonderful agent pushing his future success.

Jon Freda (Kick Start Johnny)

Jon's recent principal roles have been in the Korean (SBS) TV series, THE LOBBYIST (Abdullah), and in the Lions Gate Films release of THE BROS (Les). Jon also appeared in the New York off-Broadway premiere of ON A DARKLING PLAIN (George) by Norman Beim. Other New York credits include FAMILY VALUES (Andrew) THE LOWER DEPTHS (Kostilyoff), and A HOMELESS ANGEL AT GROUND ZERO (Tony). In addition, Jon is the executive producer/writer of ALIEN ADVENTURE: THE ADVENTURE, an audio sci-fi comedy distributed by audible.com, and co-writer of the comedy feature, WHO WANTS TO MARRY MY HUSBAND, distributed by Echelon Entertainment. Jon is a proud member of AEA, SAG and AFTRA.

Douglas J. Aguirre (Silky Sal)

Douglas J. Aguirre studied acting at the Lee Strasberg Theater Institute in the late 1970's. Became a Police Officer and served the people of New York City for 15 years before he was forced to retire due to an on-the-job injury. After leaving the NYPD he was able to pursue his first love, Acting.

After studying for three years he decided to put his craft to work. His early career was in the theatre, he performed about 15 regional theatre productions and a couple of Off Broadway plays. He then decided to become a professional, did work on "Rescue Me" and joined AFTRA. Now as a member of SAG for three years his other credits include all of the "Law and Order", "CSI: NY", and "MONK" on television. His work has mainly been Feature films. Mostly featured parts, and under 5's.

His latest projects include parts on "All My Children", the upcoming Soderbergh film "Guerilla", and Tony Scott's remake "The Taking of Pelham 1:23". However, he really enjoys working on Independent Films because of the collaborative aspect behind these films, and the passion of the Directors.

Traci Hovel (Gloria)

Theatre: American Girls (45th Street Theatre- Jeff Cohen,Dir), Luck! (Bank St Thtre- Christopher Presley,Dir.), Couples (PSNBC), The Unknown Soldier (Actors Studio Free Space-Bryan Delate,Dir.), Miss Firecracker Contest (Queens Thtre in the Park), Best Little Whorehouse in Texas (Bleeker St Thtre), Gint (Regional Tour-Stuart Meltzer,Dir), Romeo and Juliet, King Lear, Comedy of Errors, Barefoot in the Park, Incredible Sex, Murdered By The Mob, Charlie Blake's Boat (MFA Thesis written by Graham Gillis).

TV: "30 Rock," "Law & Order," "Hope and Faith," "AMC," "The View," "As The World Turns" and Nat'l Commercial Campaigns (AT&T, Playtex, Bank of Am, H&R Block and Febreze). Film: Winter of Frozen Dreams, Immaculate Misconception, Wash Me Clean, Stir, Request (Sundance Finalist), Cowboy, Dressed Like a Hitman and upcoming Friendly Visit, Circus, Pinkle's Principles, Breakfast for Dinner, American Landscape and Flamingos. Graduate of the Actors Studio MFA Program from the New School. Thanks to Jeff for giving me the opportunity to help tell his story. I look forward to many more.

Brian Rogalski (Truck Driver)

As a member of Sag Brian started off his career as a professional wrestler. He has appeared on screen with Robert De Niro to Mel Brooks. His recent credits include, Rapturous, Law & Order: Special Victims Unit, Philadelphia, Brent, Lust, The Producers, Johnny Zero, No Good Deed, Analyze That, Oz, and Dream a Little, Dream of Me.

Norm Golden (Jimmy Grecco)

Anyone who has watched television over the last 6 months should immediately recognize Norm as the Father in the very popular "Citicard Norway" commercial. No, he isn't Norwegian. No, he isn't Swedish. And no, he didn't eat that very appetizing fish. He did stand on the edge of that precipitous cliff, 200 feet above the fiords. He has been seen on "Law and Order, CI", "Guiding Light", a slew of independent films most people never heard of including "Friends (with benefits)", "Urchin", "Hiding Divya", and "Madness and Genius". He hesitantly admits he appeared recently on "The Maury Show" recreating a sleazy voyeur/sexual predator. Last NY theatre showcase performances: "The Higher Education of Khalid Amir", "The Toymaker" reading at the York, "Keeping Abreast" and "To Kill A Mockingbird" (Atticus). Norm recently returned from the Sedona Film Festival where his starring turn in the short "No Worries" received great reviews. The same "No Worries" showed at The Breckinridge Fest and The LI International". Keep tuned for "50ToDeath.com" a terrific comedic webisode series about 50 pluses coping in the 21st Century debuting in September.

Care Cole (Composer)

Composer Caren Cole brings a rich and varied musical background to the world of film scoring. Educated classically from age 4 through the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto, Canada, Caren went on to the jazz program at York University, which also included studies in ethnomusicology and North American folk traditions.

As a pianist, guitarist and vocalist her work as a musician has taken her through television, film, theatre and years of live performance. As a songwriter Caren's songs have been featured in film, television and theatre.

A native of Canada, she came to New York in 1991 with the Broadway show "The Buddy Holly Story" as a keyboard player, vocalist/actress as well as the composer of "Sweet Love", the song that closed the first act. She is a three-time nominee for a MAC Award for Song of the Year and 2004 winner for "Kindness Makes Me Cry" (co-written with Maria Gentile).

While having written many theme songs and incidental pieces for film, TV and theatre, Caren's first feature score was the independent festival award winning film "Fishing" (www.fishingthemovie.com) for which she wrote the score and 2 of the songs.

Caren is currently performing in Los Angeles; on tour with the Broadway hit “Jersey Boys” while continuing to compose and record music for film projects thanks to the blessings of digital audio recording!

Carlos “Storm” Martinez (Creative Mixing)

As a small independent music & sound design company Storm can cover all of your audio needs. A one-stop shop for sound design, foley, ADR & VO to score, soundtrack & music supervision. Our engineers and sound designers have 15 yrs of music & recording studio business experience including a long list of Platinum & Gold awards, Grammy wins & nominations and a growing list of Film & TV awards.

CREDITS

Philly Weinstein	FRANK PAGE
Clarence	AL THOMSON
Jefferson	QUINTON AARON
Silky Sal	DOUGLAS AGUIRRE
Kick-Start Johnny	JON FREDA
Gloria	TRACI HOVEL
Truck Driver	BRIAN ROGALSKI
Jimmy Grecco	NORM GOLDEN
Satchel Page	DOMINIQUE DELEON
Homeboy French	MATTHIEU TAPONIER
Body Guard #1	CHRIS MERIDITH
Body Guard #2	JSOK
Written and Directed by	JSOK
Produced by	JOSH HETZLER
and	JASON SOKOLOFF
Associate Producer	JOSEPH LUTTON
Director Of Photography	MIKE REYES
Assistant Director	JOSEPH LUTTON
Sound Recordist	LAURA SINNOTT
Line Producer/UPM	JOSH HETZLER
AC	KATY SCOGGIN
Original Score Written & Performed	CAREN COLE
Score Mixed	DANNY COLOMBY
Freestyle Rap Written & Performed	DOMINIQUE DELEON
Boom Operator	EMILY CARMICHAEL
Script Supervisor	JAMAL CAESAR
Special Thanks	MATTHIEU TAPONIER
Dolly Grip	HARRY YCAZA
Key Grip	DOMINIQUE DELEON
Casting	JENNIFER LI
Production Assistant	ANDREW GODREAU
On set Photographer	RYAN MUIR
Production Assistant	MELANIE KLEIN
Stunt Coordinator	DREW LEARY
Hair and Make-Up	CHRISTINE HERBECK
All Sound Design and Audio Post	CARLOS "STORM" MARTNEZ for CreativeMixing.com
Special Thanks	NYU TISCH SCHOOL OF ARTS NYU GRADUATE FILM PROGRAM STEVES AUTHENTIC KEY LIME PIE RED HOOK BROOKLYN PEIR 41 ASSOCIATES GREGG OCONNEL

TONY JANNELLI
AMY FOX
BILL RILEY
PETER STEIN
JOE WARFIELD

Original Sore

Written and Performed by CAREN COLE

