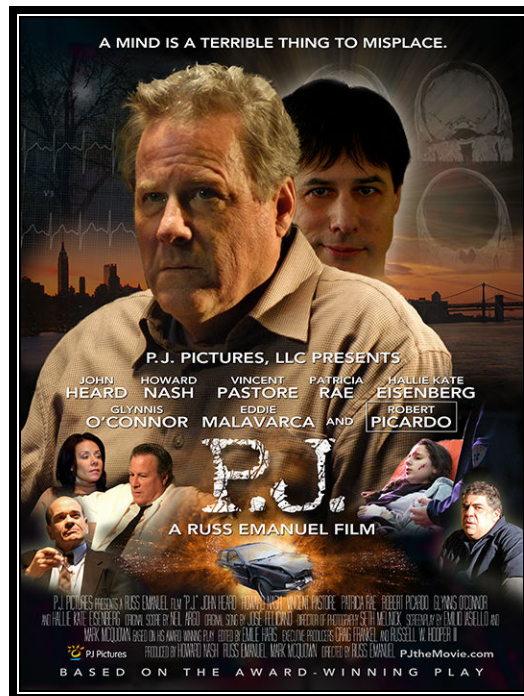




## Press Kit

**P.J.**

**A feature film directed by Russ Emanuel**  
 Starring John Heard, Howard Nash,  
 Vincent Pastore, Patricia Rae, Robert Picardo,  
 Hallie Kate Eisenberg, Glynnis O'Connor



**USA: 2007: HD Digital: Color: 91 mins**

<http://www.pjthemovie.com>

**For further information, contact:**

**Russ Emanuel**  
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**Howard Nash**  
[cinemade@aol.com](mailto:cinemade@aol.com)



## **SYNOPSIS – 1 Line**

A patient witnesses a horrific accident, bringing his psychiatrist to question his own faith.

## **SYNOPSIS – 3 Line**

P.J. witnesses a horrific accident and subsequently retreats within himself. It's up to his psychiatrist to get through to him. All the while, the doctor is fighting his own personal demons, which will bring him to a crossroads involving medicine and faith.

## **SYNOPSIS – Short (100 Word)**

A man (P.J.), has witnessed a horrific accident and subsequently retreats within himself. He barely talks, and doesn't even know who he is. He is brought to a hospital where the resident psychiatrist (Dr. Shearson) tries to get through to him with the help of P.J.'s bitter ex-girlfriend. All the while, the doctor is fighting his own life's demons, and an out-of-touch supervisor who wants P.J. permanently committed.

Relevant questions of God and faith are tackled in this dramatic, yet inspiring film based on Mark McQuown's award-winning play.

## **SYNOPSIS – Long (150 Word)**

Who are you..? Who am I..?

A man who calls himself P.J. (played by Howard Nash), has witnessed a horrific accident and subsequently retreats within himself. He barely talks, and doesn't even know who he is. He is brought to a state-run hospital in Brooklyn, New York, where the resident graveyard shift psychiatrist (Dr. Alan Shearson played by John Heard) tries to get through to him with the help of his assistant (Vincent Pastore) and P.J.'s bitter ex-girlfriend (Patricia Rae).

All the while, the doctor is fighting his own life's demons involving his family (including his wife Evelyn played by Glynnis O'Connor), and an out-of-touch supervisor (Robert Picardo) who wants P.J. permanently committed.

Relevant questions of God and faith are tackled in this dramatic, yet inspiring film based on Mark McQuown's award-winning play.



## STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR – Russ Emanuel

For me, “P.J.” was a labor of love, the next logical step in my filmmaking career. Being my first feature film effort after my two shorts, “Her Knight” and the award-winning “Girl With Gun”, I wanted to show that I had grown as a filmmaker, putting together a production that was more intricate and complex. I also wanted to show that I indeed had the “chops” to work with and direct such luminaries as John Heard, Robert Picardo and Vincent Pastore.

Teaming up with Howard Nash (who plays P.J. in the film), we successfully raised the required money, thus making the production of “P.J.” possible.

Working with such a wonderful cast that included John Heard, Howard Nash, Vincent Pastore, Patricia Rae and Robert Picardo had also provided me with the impetus to make a successful film. The ensemble of actors is an absolute pleasure to watch: taking the story elements by Mark McQuown and screenplay by McQuown and Emilio Iasiello, and making it their own. The actors are able to tackle such complexities of character with such grace, you believe them in their dark moments in the film as well as the lighter ones.

Their complexities hit close to home for me, for aren’t we all human, with our own human frailties and “inconsistent” behavior? Take Shelly, Patricia Rae’s character, for example: when she reunites with Howard Nash (P.J.) after their bitter breakup, she not only shows feelings of bitterness toward him, but also of love – the love/hate relationship that is in essence illogical, but a quite normal human feeling. It’s like she says in the film – “I loved to see him in the beginning, and I loved to see him go at the end.”

Further assisting in the production process are an exquisitely paced edit by Emile Haris, outstanding cinematography by Seth Melnick (who made effective use of our beautiful New York skyline), and a well-composed, orchestral score by Neil Argo.

With this incredible collaboration between cast and crew, “P.J.” has now attained final completion. That said, I hope you will enjoy the film and my first foray into feature filmmaking.

– Russ Emanuel

# P.J.

## BIOGRAPHIES



**RUSS EMANUEL**  
**PRODUCER/DIRECTOR**

Russ Emanuel marks his professional feature film directorial debut with **P.J.** Originally from San Francisco, he grew up in both Japan and the United States, garnering an international viewpoint of the world throughout his childhood. He wrote his first screenplay in 1993. He then went to the University of Southern California in Los Angeles to study Cinema-Television, International Relations and Japanese. More recently, he wrote a 10-part fantasy saga and a science fiction trilogy, worked as the "Assistant to the Producer" on **THE FAILURES**, and founded his production company Russem Productions in 2002, **HER KNIGHT**, **MAVET**, and presently **GIRL WITH GUN** and **PERFECT RED** being the first films under its banner. Currently, he is working on his second feature film, **CHASING THE GREEN**.



**HOWARD NASH**  
**PRODUCER/ACTOR – "CHARLES AKA P.J."**

An actor since the late 1970s, Howard Nash has starred in numerous independent films, notably **THE MEETING** in 2004. However, he is best known as an independent filmmaker, having co-produced the cult film **CHILDREN OF THE NIGHT** for Columbia Tri-Star in 1991. He also produced **SLEEPLESS NIGHTS** (MTI, 2002), which is available in most video stores throughout the US and Canada. In 2005, he completed **TRACKS** (where he appears in a cameo), which also starred John Heard, along with Ice-T. He also produced the television special **FELICIANO, THE LEGEND** (for PBS) starring the legendary singer, José Feliciano, and has produced promotional videos for the Beijing Circus, Cirque du Soleil, and the original members of the Electric Light Orchestra (ELO II).



**MARK MCQUOWN**  
**PRODUCER/STORY /SCREENPLAY**

Mark McQuown, the original playwright/writer of **P.J.**, is an Award Winning/Produced playwright, an Award Winning/Optioned/Produced screenwriter with many finished scripts listed in InkTip.com. Mr. Mc Quown has been honored with winning at the 1997 Santa Clarita International Film Festival, Animation Division with **THE ROCKING HORSE CHRISTMAS**, the 2000 Telluride Independent Film Festival with **THE TAHOE SIGNAL**, the 2002 Telluride Independent Film Festival with **DOT GONE** and the 2002-2003 Key West Independent Film Festival with **PIER 21**. Most recently Mr. Mc Quown was a Finalist, along with co-writer Donna Lizzio, in The International Family Film Festival, Animation genre with **THE CAT AND THE RAT**, 2005 at The Universal Sheraton Hotel in Universal City.

## BIOGRAPHIES (CONT.)



**EMILIO IASIELLO**  
**SCREENPLAY**

Currently residing in Washington D.C., Emilio Iasiello is originally a political speechwriter. He recently turned to screenwriting, writing the script for the feature film **SAINT CHRISTOPHER** (2002). Due to this success, Howard Nash approached him about writing the screenplay for **P.J.**



**SETH MELNICK**  
**DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**

Seth Melnick is an accomplished Director of Photography and a business-oriented producer. Originally a technical consultant he managed projects with budgets of several million dollars and dozens of people such as Iwon.com and the first Internet ISP in Brazil, IG.com. Seth co-created SLM Production Group LLC with Lauzanne Nel as a venue to produce original and provocative works. As a production company they have been involved in the production of over a

dozen feature films, many shorts, videos, trailers and animations. He is currently deep into post-production on **AMERICAN STANDARD**, a clever comedy based on a never been done before concept. He is one of the producers and the director of photography for the project.



**SARAH KIRCHNER**  
**PRODUCTION DESIGNER**

Sarah Kirchner is a graduate of NYU Tisch's Department of Design for Stage and Film, where she received her MFA in Set Design. She has designed for student, community, and summer stock theatre. Favorite designs include **CATCH ME IF YOU CAN** (Allenberry Theatre, Boiling Springs, PA), **OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS** (Barnstormers' Theatre, Tamworth, NH) and **UNCLE VANYA** (Tisch Graduate Acting Program). Besides **P.J.**, she

has also designed numerous short films.



**JOHN-ERIC SCHUMAN**  
**STUNT COORDINATOR**

A resident of both Los Angeles and New York, John-Eric Schuman has worked on many productions as a stunt coordinator. His credits include: **THE TOURNAMENT** (2005), **GHOST DANCE** (2005), **BUILDING GIRL** (2005), **A VERY SERIOUS PERSON** (2006), **MR. GIBB** (2006), **BERNARD AND DORIS** (2007), and **AFTERMATH** (2007). He also has co-produced **RACING DAYLIGHT** which is currently in post-production (he also was a stunt

coordinator on that film).



## BIOGRAPHIES (CONT.)



**EMILE HARIS**  
**EDITOR**

A graduate in both Writing and Film from Long Beach State, it's all about making movies for this enthusiastic individual. Haris, together with Yos Park produced the sci-fi short **FRAKIE DIED** (2000), which they put under their production company, Atomicgum Productions. Next, he teamed up with USC graduate Russ Emanuel and created **HER KNIGHT** (2003), a contemporary romance with strong fantastical as well as historical elements. His editing credits include: **MAVET** (2004) which he also wrote / directed, and most recently **GIRL WITH GUN** (2005) and **PERFECT RED** (2007).



**NEIL ARGO**  
**COMPOSER**

Classically trained, Neil Argo's dramatic and provocative scores have been heard all over the world. From the TV series **WILD AMERICA**, **THE NEW MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE**, and **BEVERLY HILLS 90210** among others, he has composed for many noteworthy projects. More recently, he teamed up with director Russ Emanuel, composing scores for his films **HER KNIGHT** and **GIRL WITH GUN** (which he and Emanuel both shared a Silver Music For Excellence Award at the Park City Film Music Festival). He also won 2 Emmy awards for the **SURVIVORS OF THE SKELETON COAST** National Geographic episode and **A COMMUNITY OF CARING** documentary for the Directors Guild of America.

## BIOGRAPHIES (CONT.)



**JOHN HEARD**  
ACTOR – “DR. ALAN SHEARSON”

A prolific actor since the 1970s, in 1979 John Heard played Arthur Dimmesdale in a television production of **THE SCARLET LETTER**, and the male lead in the film *Head Over Heels*. By 1981, he was starring in the film **CUTTER'S WAY**. In 1990, he was featured in the hugely successful comedy **HOME ALONE** (and also starred in its 1992 sequel, **HOME ALONE 2: LOST IN NEW YORK**). He played next to Samuel L. Jackson in 1997's **ONE EIGHT SEVEN**. He also had TV roles on **THE SOPRANOS** as crooked cop Vin

Makazian, **CSI: MIAMI** as Kenwall 'Duke' Duquesne, father of Calleigh Duquesne, and **PRISON BREAK** as Frank Tancredi, Governor of Illinois and father of Sara Tancredi.



**VINCENT PASTORE**  
ACTOR – “BURT”

Pastore was born in New Rochelle, New York, of Italian-American descent. He attended Pace University, went into club biz where he met the Dillons (Matt and Kevin) and then became an actor. He has made appearances in films ranging from **GOODFELLAS** (1990) to **SHARK TALE** (2004), but he is arguably best known for the role of Salvatore "Big Pussy" Bonpensiero on **THE SOPRANOS**. Pastore also hosts **THE WISEGUY SHOW** on Sirius Satellite Radio (Raw Dog, Channel 104).



**PATRICIA RAE**  
ACTRESS – “SHELLY”

Actress Patricia Rae is active in film, television and theatre. Her recent films credits include Chris Fisher's horror film **NIGHTSTALKER**, which appeared at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival, and **MARIA FULL OF GRACE** (2004) [which Rae was nominated for an IMAGEN Award]. Rae has acted in several television dramas and comedies, including **MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE**, **LAW & ORDER: CI**, and **LAW & ORDER: SVU**. Rae's most recent stage credits include the one-woman show **UNDER CONSTRUCTION, THE MAKING OF**

**PATRICIA RAE** which made its world premiere at the Stella Adler Conservatory in New York, directed by Robert Covarrubias. Currently, she is co-starring with Stephen Baldwin in the soon to be released **MIDNIGHT CLEAR**, and is starring in the LA premiere of Stephen Adly Guirgis' Play **IN ARABIA WE'D ALL BE KINGS**. Rae studied at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute and Chicago City Limits, both in New York City.

## BIOGRAPHIES (CONT.)



**ROBERT PICARDO**  
**ACTOR – “STAN JAMISON”**

A graduate of Yale University, Robert Picardo made his Broadway debut in the comedy hit **GEMINI** in 1977 with Danny Aiello and also appeared in Bernard Slade's **TRIBUTE**, and **THE NORMAL HEART** for which he won a Drama-Logue Award. Then, he became involved in television, where he soon was nominated for an Emmy award for his role as Mr. Cutlip on the series **THE WONDER YEARS** [1988]. In 1995, he got the role as "The Doctor" on **STAR TREK: VOYAGER** [1995] where he also directed two episodes. He also got movie roles in various films including **INNERSPACE** [1987], **CHINA BEACH** [1988] (TV), **GREMLINS 2: THE NEW BATCH** [1990], as well as a cameo in **STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT** [1996].



**HALLIE KATE EISENBERG**  
**ACTRESS – “PAULINE”**

Eisenberg made her feature film debut playing Marie in DreamWorks **PAULIE**. She portrayed Barbara in the Academy Award nominated film **THE INSIDER** starring Russell Crowe, and Little Miss in **BICENTENNIAL MAN** with Robin Williams. Eisenberg co-starred with Minnie Driver in **BEAUTIFUL**, directed by Sally Field. In **JESUS, MARY AND JOEY** she plays Melissa, a cancer patient. She played Erica in the recently released **HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS**. Eisenberg portrayed Helen Keller in the award-winning ABC movie **THE MIRACLE WORKER**. She appeared in three movies of the week: **NICHOLAS GIFT**, **BLUE MOON**, and **SWING VOTE**. She guest starred on the FOX series **GET REAL** and the CBS drama, **PRESIDIO MED**. Eisenberg co-starred in the 2004 remake of Neil Simon's **THE GOODBYE GIRL**. On HBO, she played Abby Mills on **Little Inside**. Eisenberg made her Broadway debut in the star-studded **THE WOMEN**. Commercial credits include promos for the Independent Film Channel and a four-year campaign as the spokesperson for Pepsi.



**GLYNNIS O'CONNOR**  
**ACTRESS – “EVELYN”**

Glynnis O'Connor is an American actress, perhaps best known for her work in the mid 1970s, including her lead actress role in the TV version of **OUR TOWN** [1977] and the film **ODE TO BILLY JOE** [1976], both of which co-starred Robby Benson. She also co-starred with John Travolta in the 1976 TV movie **THE BOY IN THE PLASTIC BUBBLE** and Michael Keaton in **JOHNNY DANGEROUSLY** [1984]. As of the late 1990s and continuing into 2004, she has had a recurring role as Anne Paulsen in the **LAW & ORDER** television series. She also more recently starred in various films including **NEW BEST FRIEND** (2002) and **GRADUATION** (2006), and has just finished shooting **THE TROUBLE WITH CALI** in Pennsylvania.



## CREW LIST

Russ Emanuel	Producer/Director
Howard Nash	Producer
Mark McQuown	Producer/Story/Screenplay
Emilio Iasiello	Screenplay
Craig Frankel	Executive Producers
Russell W. Hooper III	
Tomax Aponte	Associate Producers
Robert Kwartler	
Raz Cunningham	Unit Production Manager
Seth Melnick	Director of Photography
Sarah Kirchner	Production Designer
Emile Haris	Editor/Visual Effects
Neil Argo	Composer
Lisa Faibish	Costume Designer
Lauzanne Nel	Key Makeup Artist
Joshua Hilson	Production/Post Sound Mixer
John-Eric Schuman	Stunt Coordinator
Sam O'Brien	Production Coordinator
Pavel Ezrohi	1st Assistant Director
Kary Hyun-Jeong Rho	2nd Assistant Director/Still Photographer
Amy Williams	Location Manager
Jason Foulke	Script Supervisor
Zeynep Oguz Catal	Key Gaffer
Jason De Jesus	Key Grip
Aileen Taylor	1st Assistant Camera
Jeremy L. Luena	2nd Assistant Camera
Lisa Greenberg	Still Photographer
Joseph Notovtiz	Poster Artist/Still Photographer
Scott Brown	Documentarians
Patrick Molloy	

## CAST LIST

John Heard	Dr. Alan Shearson
Howard Nash	Charles aka P.J.
Vincent Pastore	Burt
Patricia Rae	Shelly
Robert Picardo	Stan Jamison
Hallie Kate Eisenberg	Pauline
Glynnis O'Connor	Evelyn
Eddie Malavarca	Alex the Bookie
Dina Kriger	Claire
Spencer Strumwasser	Young Charles
Lavinia Dowdell	Mariah
Tim Cinnante	Tony
Joseph Stramandi	Lombardi



## PRODUCTION NOTES/ANECDOTES

### “CROSS COUNTRY”

This film was made possible by people from many different places. Not only was it shot in three states (New York, New Jersey, and Los Angeles, CA), but the various cast and crew additionally hail from different regions. Director Russ Emanuel, writer Mark McQuown, actors John Heard, Robert Picardo and Patricia Rae are all from Los Angeles, whereas actors Howard Nash, Vincent Pastore Glynnis O'Connor (and DP Seth Melnick) are all from New York. Hallie Kate Eisenberg, lives and attends school in East Brunswick, New Jersey, whereas the other writer Emilio Iasiello lives in Washington D.C. Post-Production was completed in both Los Angeles and New York (editing and music in Los Angeles, the sound mix in New York ) and Executive Producers Craig Frankel and Russell W. Hooper III, respectively, reside in Texas, and Tennessee.

### “MOTHER AND DAUGHTER”

When we shot the café scene where Charles (aka P.J. and played by Howard Nash) and Shelly (played by Patricia Rae) meet, we were debating whether Shelly should have friends with her or if she should be eating alone. We opted for friends, including casting Sage Adorno as Shelly's friend. She also happens to be in real life, Patricia's daughter!

### “FILM REFERENCES”

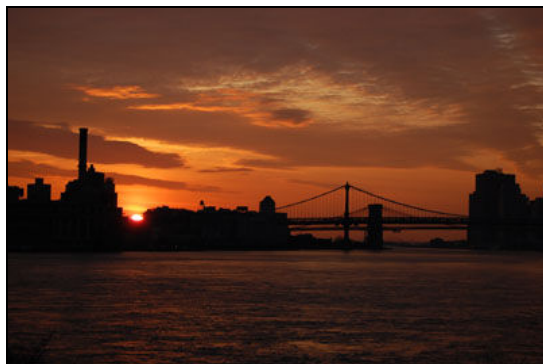
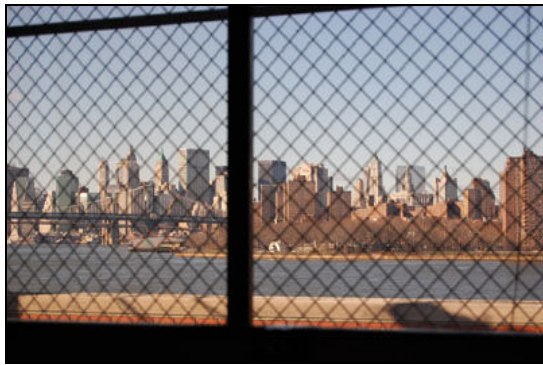
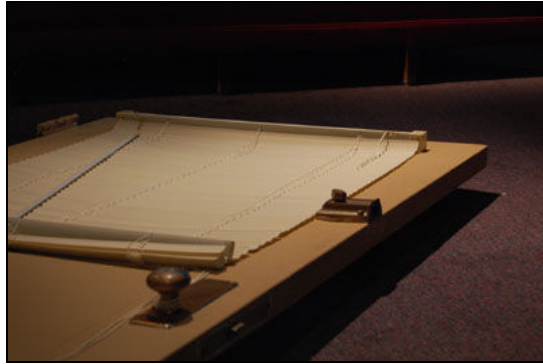
Director Russ Emanuel put various references from his previous film “Girl With Gun” into “P.J.” including: the mention of Nightingale (a horse mentioned by the Burt character in “P.J.”, the main character's name in “Girl With Gun”), the actress Tracy O'Connor (playing the Nurse on Intercom in “P.J.”, who was the Nightingale in “Girl With Gun”), and the mention of a Dr. Peterson in “P.J.” (also a name mentioned in “Girl With Gun”). Furthermore, Emanuel cast Dina Kriger to play the role of Claire in “P.J.” (she was also Lucy in “Girl With Gun”).

### “FIRST TIME SINCE . . .”

This is the first time since the TV series "The Sopranos" that John Heard and Vincent Pastore worked together. Not only that, this is the first time since one of the Pepsi commercials that Vincent Pastore and Hallie Kate Eisenberg worked together.

# P.J.

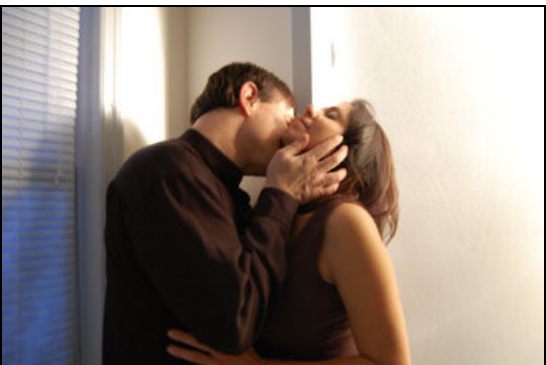
## PRODUCTION STILLS (CONT.)





# P.J.

## PRODUCTION STILLS (CONT.)



# P.J.

## PRODUCTION STILLS (CONT.)





# P.J.

## PRODUCTION STILLS (CONT.)

