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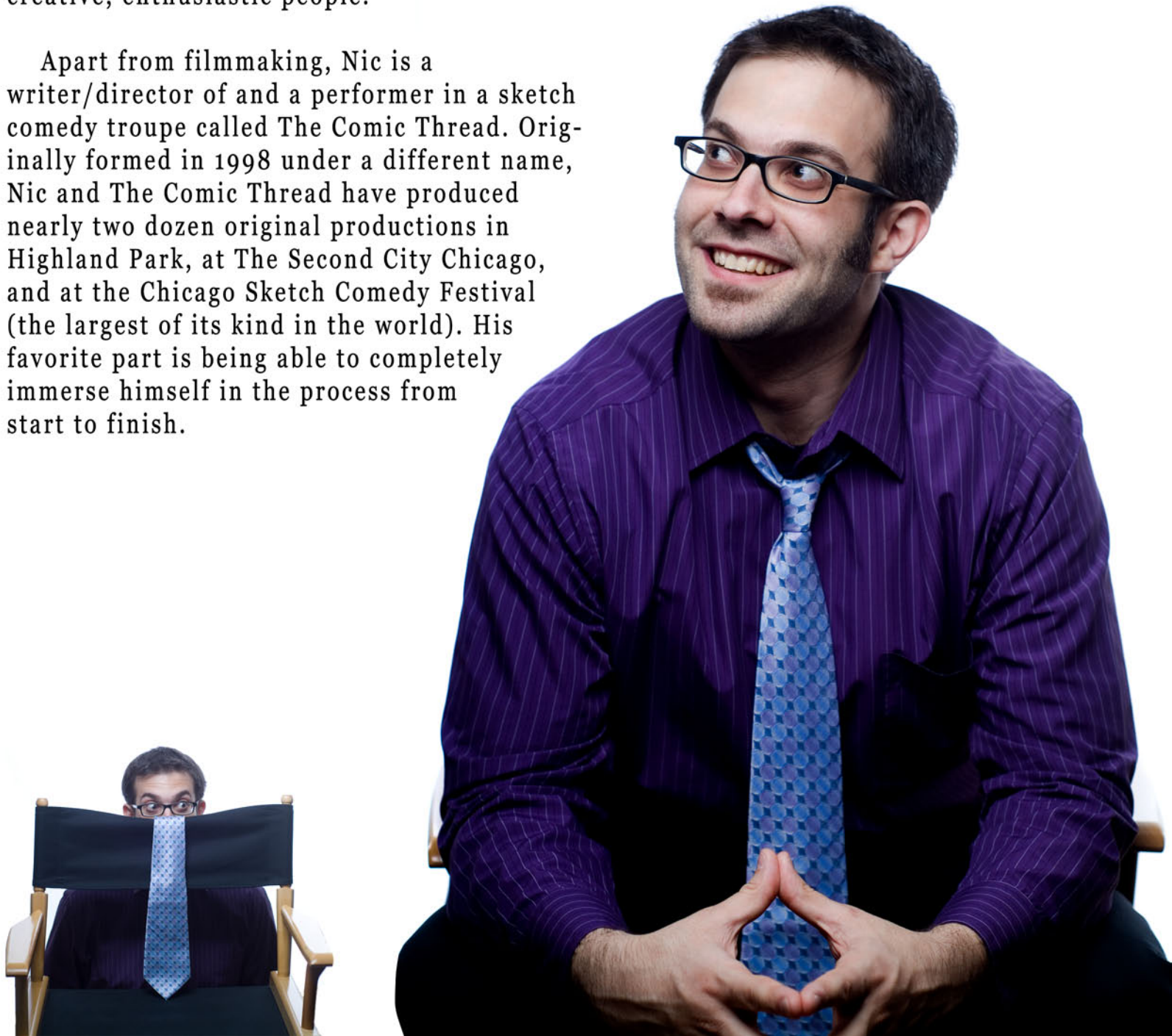
*“I recommend without hesitation that you do business with
Bitter Jester and benefit from the personal relationship
that is sure to come with as well.”*

**-Jim Rosas
Co-Owner/Founder
Business Development Gurus, LLC.**

NICOLAS DeGRAZIA: Co-Owner & Creative Director

As Creative Director, Nicolas oversees and facilitates a smoothly functioning production team from concept through completion. Nicolas primarily focuses his time and talent on the people in front of the lens. His expertise lies in getting the best out of other people when the lights are on and the cameras are rolling. On set he is the guy conducting the interviews or directing the actors. Nicolas loves being immersed in a production – collaborating with a team of professional, creative, enthusiastic people.

Apart from filmmaking, Nic is a writer/director of and a performer in a sketch comedy troupe called The Comic Thread. Originally formed in 1998 under a different name, Nic and The Comic Thread have produced nearly two dozen original productions in Highland Park, at The Second City Chicago, and at the Chicago Sketch Comedy Festival (the largest of its kind in the world). His favorite part is being able to completely immerse himself in the process from start to finish.



DANIEL KULLMAN: CO-OWNER & DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

As Director of Photography, Daniel works on the technical side of each production. During the beginning stages of a project he works with Nicolas to determine how best to tell each particular story and what tools are needed to make it happen. On set he can be found adjusting the lights, operating a camera, or conferring with the other members of the crew on how to make the project look its absolute best. Daniel loves the process of creating with a team of energetic and like-minded individuals.

Apart from video production, Dan enjoys working on personal photo projects and is currently photographing the food and people surrounding Chicago's Community Sustainable Agriculture, a collective of local farmers who grow organic food. His favorite part is getting to eat tasty pulled pork nachos.



“I can’t imagine working with a production company other than Bitter Jester. The entire crew is brilliantly creative and highly professional. I knew immediately what the company valued: quality, humour, clarity, and contribution. This is great, but end results are critical. My video conveys exactly what I want it to and the response I get to it is exactly what I need.”

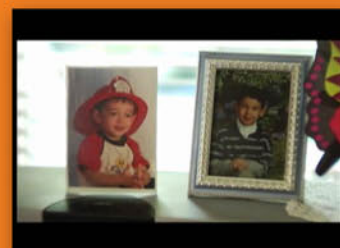
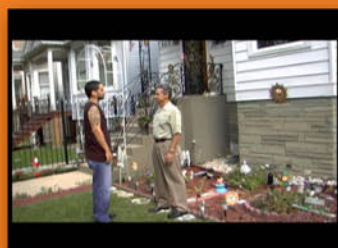
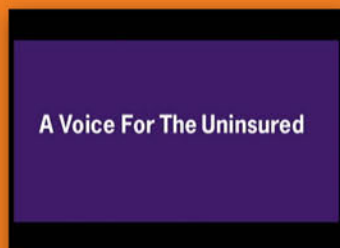
**-M. Nora Klaver, MA, MCC
Author, Speaker, & Master Coach**

CLIENT: The American Medical Association

PRODUCER: Lou Beres & Associates (A Chicago Based, National Ad-Firm)

EXPOSURE: www.voicefortheuninsured.org

GOAL: In 2008, the AMA launched the website voicefortheuninsured.org, bringing awareness to the plight of the uninsured and presenting the AMA's proposed solutions. The ad agency Lou Beres & Associates then brought BJC on board to create a handful of short online documentaries intended to take advantage of the increased web traffic. The clips BJC produced included many of the people featured in the ad campaign and allowed online visitors a more in-depth look at how lack of insurance affects the lives of ordinary people and those around them. BJC is honored to have been part of such a worthy cause and thankful to those who shared their stories with the camera.



CLIENT: Curad

PRODUCER: Lou Beres & Associates

EXPOSURE: National Television

GOAL: After years of minimal advertisement, Curad began a new sales push for products aimed at parents and their children. Working in conjunction with print advertisements (and featuring the same actors), the TV spots were designed to reinforce and strengthen the product role-out. Though not very long, the ten-second commercials immediately grab the viewer with adorable faces and a sense of fun. Lou Beres & Associates, a Chicago ad agency, hired BJC for the production of the spots which were shot at Essanay Studios – the production facility of the late, great Charlie Chaplin.



CLIENT: LEAD (Linking Efforts Against Drugs)

PRODUCER: LEAD & Bitter Jester Creative, Inc.

EXPOSURE: Internet, School Curriculum, DVD and Live Presentations

GOAL: IN 2008, LEAD contacted Bitter Jester Creative with a significant problem. Their local community had seen a startling rise in underage drinking. In an effort to educate parents about the issue, LEAD needed a powerful piece to open up the lines of communication within the community. The challenge was to create a piece that stood out amongst the many films already dealing with underage drinking. The answer: simplify and let the stories carry the film. Shot over several days against a black backdrop, BJC interviewed twelve people including a top researcher on brain development, an adolescent psychologist, a high school councilor, young adults who drink and those who don't, and two parents who have lost children to alcohol. The minimalist approach let their personal stories shine in a way that has allowed the film to take on a life of its own.

OUR STORIES:

The Underage Drinking Problem



Growing Up
Drinking

Parents who don't *prevent*
underage drinking
add to the problem
not the solution



Speak **UP!**



in
loving memory of
Jonathan & Mark



CLIENT: Latitude

PRODUCER: Don Shearn Marketing

EXPOSURE: Internet, Trade Show and the Home Shopping Network

GOAL: Latitude is a tool product-line aimed at the female market. The creators of Latitude tools were looking to sell their items over the Internet, through trade shows, and on the Home Shopping Network and QVC. As such, they needed a video more engaging than just a “talking head” - one that would also give potential buyers a look at the available products and their multiple uses. BJC worked with Don Shearn Marketing, Latitude’s ad firm, to develop a three-minute video showcasing the practical application of a few of their products.





"I'll have to build another shelf for the new awards and I better make room for more! When the finished production comes out it will win prizes on a continual basis. This video is going to be the role model for what creativity is all about."



*Jonas Gerard, Owner
Jonas Gerard Fine Art*



"I was excited (but not surprised) when our videos won a Telly. Potential new clients call our office having already hired us in their minds. All they want to talk about is the videos on our site!"



*Brad Ashman, Owner
Chicago Renovation & Development*

