

CIRCUS TEMPS

Poor Fishy Films

PRESS KIT



FREAKS

GEEKS

ICE CREAM

POOR FISHY FILMS

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Running Time: 8 min. 58 sec.

Date Completed: May 8, 2010

Directed by ~ Paul J. Boresky

Written by ~ Ken Turner

"Ken Turner and Paul J. Boresky are like the Cohen Brothers of Hamilton."

~Nathan Fleet (Director of the Hamilton Film Festival)

SYNOPSIS



Mr. Anderson (Ben Herbert), Assistant Deputy Director of Unsolicited Employment Relations and Personnel at Circus Temps, a temporary employment agency for circus performers, is having just another typical day at work. That is until he meets Mr. Dingles (James

Knowles). Mr. Dingles is a clown who is anything but clowny; He can't juggle, has no idea what a unicycle is, the only balloon animal he can make is a snake, and he has a habit of liberally dispensing open-handed chops to the neck whenever he feels it's necessary. Mr. Anderson does everything he can to maintain order, but despite his best efforts, things quickly begin to spiral out of control.

About the Production

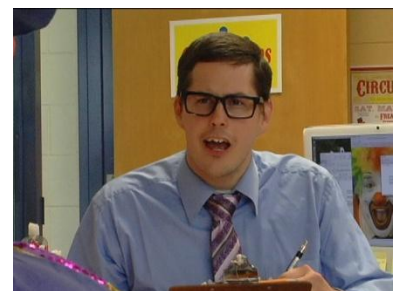
Like most of the films in the Poor Fishy Films catalogue, *Circus Temps* originated as a simple a germ of an idea. The initial thought came from Paul J. Boresky, co-founder of Poor Fishy Films – “What if there was a temp agency for circus performers?”. From there the idea grew into a further developed plot and finally Ken Turner sat down to write the script.

Originally, Mr. Dingles was just an average clown, rather polite and apologetic if somewhat unskilled in the clownly arts. But after much bantering and a lot of laughing between Paul and Ken, the character grew more and more ridiculous. Mr. Dingles became gruff and tough, a clown from the wrong side of the tracks, and Mr. Anderson, though always dweeby and meek, became a little more desperate, having sat through one bad interview after another.



Mr. Dingles is played by James Knowles. No stranger to performing for an audience, Knowles works in the film industry as a background actor and is also a professional musician. It was his dynamic personality that brought Mr. Dingles, who apparently hails from either Brooklyn or the Bronx, to life. “I love this stuff,” says Knowles. “This role was tailor made for me”.

Mr. Anderson, the hapless victim of Mr. Dingles, is subtly yet brilliantly played by Ben Herbert. Though not an actor by trade, Herbert is a natural in comedy and has quickly become an integral player in Poor Fishy Films. Herbert and Knowles have a history of playing opposite one another as they both starred in another Poor Fishy Films production, *The Yard Sale*, which won the Hamilton Film Festival's Audience Choice Award in 2009.



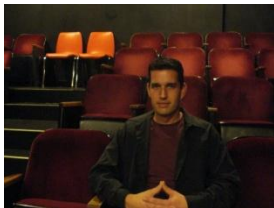
Rounding out the cast is Beth Duncan as Ms. Cuthbert, the put-upon receptionist who clearly dislikes her job; Writer Ken Turner plays a juggler with a voracious appetite for chocolate chip muffins; and newcomer Ann Cognito is the visually-impaired Bearded Lady.

“The best part of making short films,” says Turner, “is that you get to create this little sliver of a world and then run around in it for a little while.” But seeing the words on the page is one thing. Seeing them come alive is something else. “James and Ben really brought those characters to life,” Boresky concludes. “Without them, it’s just scribbles on paper.”

Circus Temps was filmed on location at The Dundas Valley Montessori School in Dundas, Ontario, Canada on May 8, 2010. More than a few takes were disrupted and thus ruined due to the riotous laughter on set that day, whether it was James’ over-the-top riffing as Mr. Dingles or Ben’s geeky awkwardness as Mr. Anderson.

Perhaps the funniest moment that day took place during lunch break. Every pizza delivery guy has ‘a story’. On that day, the Pizza Guy no doubt thought he was just making a routine delivery. Little did he realize just what he was getting himself into. The look of puzzled confusion on his face when The Bearded Lady approached him was funny enough, but it was the sheer terror that struck him as James, dressed as a giant, terrifying clown, stepped into the corridor. The poor Pizza Guy almost panicked as he desperately made good his escape, much to the amusement of those on set. While everyone felt a little bad about the poor guy’s nerves, it was unanimously decided that the story the Pizza Guy got out of the delivery was well worth the severe emotional trauma.

About the Filmmakers



Paul J. Boresky works in the film industry as a professional background actor and stand-in. He has worked on several high profile TV shows such as *Flashpoint*, *Fringe*, and *The Murdoch Mysteries* and has appeared in such films as *Survival of the Dead*, *Harriet the Spy*, and *Kick Ass*.

Ken Turner is a published author (*Realm of the Vermilion King: The Tick-Tock People*), writer, artist and teaches English and Film Studies at King’s Christian Collegiate in Oakville, Ontario. His work has been featured in *Wizard Magazine* and *The Hamilton Spectator*, among other notable publications.



Boresky and Turner have been making short films together since 2005. Their forte is comedy, beginning with the 1950s sci-fi spoof *It Came from Uranus*. Next came *Fishy*, followed by *Unexplained Mysteriousnesses* (a parody of the 80s TV show *Unsolved Mysteries*), and *Tobacc-Os* (a 1950s commercial for a tobacco-based breakfast cereal). Boresky and Turner took a brief foray into the realm of the supernatural thriller with *Abattoir*, but quickly returned to their tried and true comic roots with *The Yard Sale* and *The Umbrella*, a follow up to *Fishy*. Poor Fishy Films was also invited to begin the experimental JUXT project for the 2009 Hamilton Film Festival, in which a different filmmaker will create a segment each year, eventually creating a feature-length film. Their submission was a 1920s silent film entitled *Splits-Ville*.

Poor Fishy Films has been featured on *CHTV in Hamilton*, *Cable 14 Hamilton*, *The Hamilton Spectator*, *The Glanbrook Gazette*, and has been featured at Hamilton Place as part of *The Phill Botting Band's* stage show.

Credits

Mr. Dingles James Knowles
 Mr. Anderson Ben Herbert
 Ms. Cuthbert Beth Duncan
 Bearded Lady Ann Cognito Juggler
 Ken Turner

Written by Ken Turner
 Directed by Paul J. Boresky
 Assistant Director Phil DelVecchio
 Edited by Ken Turner
 Produced by Paul J. Boresky and Ken Turner
 Music by Kevin MacLeod (incompetech.com)
 Make-Up by Ken Turner
 Camera Panasonic DVX 100

Special Thanks

Danica and Michael Picyk
 Dundas Valey Montessori School
 The Pizza Pizza Guy



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CIRCUS TEMPS

Mr. Dingles (James Knowles) and Mr. Anderson (Ben Herbert) discuss the fine art of making balloon animals in this short comedy about a very unclowny clown trying to get a job at a temporary employment agency for circus performers.

