

WINNER
BEST COMEDY - FEATURE
Action On Film Int'l Film Festival

WINNER
BEST COMEDY
Movieville Int'l Film Festival

WINNER
OUTSTANDING CAST PERFORMANCE
Action On Film Int'l Film Festival

WINNER
AUDIENCE CHOICE
All Sports Film Festival

WINNER
BEST FEATURE - BRONZE
All Sports Film Festival

WINNER
FILMMAKER OF THE YEAR
Action On Film Int'l Film Festival

WINNER
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
Indie Fest

WINNER
SILVER REMI - BEST TRAILER
WorldFest Houston

WE'VE GOT BALLS

"I was hooked on this movie from scene one."
Leslie Gornstein, Yahoo! Entertainment News

"We've Got Balls' is comedy at its best.
A perfect score!"
Michael Gellman, The Second City

"Cherie Kerr keeps her screwball comedy
out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big
screen strike with 'We've Got Balls.'"
Matt Coker, OC Weekly



A quirky town, a crooked mayor, and one whacked-out bowling showdown!

REE-INVENT FILMS PRESENTS A WHITE KNUCKLE PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH TIGA ENTERTAINMENT AND THE CAMBRENSA COMPANY

A CHERIE KERR FILM "WE'VE GOT BALLS" GARY AUSTIN ANDREW DICKLER ERIC SATTERBERG ERIC HALASZ DANE POSEY

TONI ALEXANDER AND TYLER STRATEMAN PRODUCED BY CHERIE KERR ASSOCIATE PRODUCERS SHANNON DUGGER ERIC ANDERSON AND WILL GARRISON MUSIC BY LOU CARLOZO

EDITED BY JOHN PRIMM DIRECTORS OF PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS WARREN BOBBY BRAGG JOHN PRIMM SUPERVISING PRODUCER THERESA JOSEPH WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CHERIE KERR

WeveGotBallsMovie.com



What They're Saying About the Film

“I was hooked on this movie from scene one. It's got a heart as big as a bowling alley, a cast full of characters you can't help but root for...and, yes, really...big...balls.”

Leslie Gornstein
Yahoo! Entertainment News

“Cherie Kerr’s film *We’ve Got Balls* is comedy at its best. As they say in bowling: a perfect score!”

Michael Gellman
The Second City

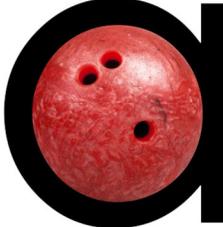
“Cherie Kerr keeps her screwball comedy out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big screen strike with *We’ve Got Balls*.”

Matt Coker, Staff Writer
OC Weekly

“*We’ve Got Balls* is the funniest movie I’ve seen all year, filled with madcap hijinks and side-splitting laughs. It’s a film the entire family can enjoy. A big tip of the hat to writer and director Cherie Kerr. ”

Eric Anderson, Supervising Producer
The Biography Channel

More quotes to come!

We've
Gt
Blls

**REE-INVENT FILMS presents a WHITE KNUCKLE PRODUCTION
in association with TICA ENTERTAINMENT and
THE CAMBRENDA COMPANY**

a CHERIE KERR film

**starring: GARY AUSTIN, ANDREW DICKLER, ERIC SATTERBERG,
ERIC HALASZ, DANE POSEY, TONI ALEXANDER, and TYLER STRATEMAN**

**associate producers: SHANNON DUGGER, WILL GARRISON
and ERIC ANDERSON**

music by LOU CARLOZO

editing by JOHN PRIMM

directors of photography: CHRIS WARREN, BOBBY BRAGG, JOHN PRIMM

**supervising producer: THERESA JOSEPH
unit production manager: SHADIA SEPEHRNIA
line producer: KENNETH DUCHAMP**

written & directed by CHERIE KERR



Production Notes

A founding member of the L.A. Groundlings (among the first 12), Cherie Kerr went on to found a spin off group, the Orange County Crazies, that has received rave reviews for its many sketch and improv comedy shows for the past 23 years. A few years before she conceived the idea for the Crazies, she gave birth to her youngest son, Drake Doremus, who she trained on her stage from age six. He went on to become the youngest to date to be accepted at AFI (and youngest to graduate from there), and who also won the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance in 2011 for *Like Crazy*.

After having written more than 400 sketches and producing dozens of comedy shows and film shorts, Kerr decided to live a dream she'd had for years and that was to take on a feature film. In making that life-changing decision, Kerr picked up the phone and called her former comedy partner, and the creator and founder of the L.A. Groundlings, Gary Austin. There was no hesitation when she asked if he would take on the co-starring role in her first film. He said he would love to play the crooked mayor in *We've Got Balls*.

Once referred to as "indefatigable" by the *L.A. Times*, it was no surprise that Kerr was doing the casting (with Austin and others). She also took on the tasks of producing, writing and directing the film.

In addition to Gary Austin, Kerr assembled a wacky roster of eight lead performers, 12 supporting cast members and more than 150 background players. Some were former L.A. Groundlings, some OC Crazies, and others... well...some were friends, family; most background players were found on Craigslist!

In March of 2012, she lined up three days to shoot a pitch trailer. Kerr fed the actors most of the lines in quick bites; others were improvised with Kerr setting the framework for the scene. Shortly after that shoot, she wrote the screenplay. The most notable highlight of the story was a bowling tournament, but Kerr did not want a ho-hum one—instead she created the "over the shoulder, under the arm," move for the competition (bowlers have to do this maneuver, spin twice, and then send the ball down the lane with their back to the pins—not an easy feat, but by shoot time all actors had it down.)

She pitched. She waited. And she waited some more. But by summer, she decided she would have to take on the project herself, financially, or abandon it. She took the plunge. She lowered her budget expectations (\$2-million) and forged ahead.

She shot for six weekends and a few weekdays at six borrowed locations. Some days all hands were on deck starting at 5:30 in the morning, which included nine main characters, 12 supporting ones and 153 background actors.

As with most film projects, *Balls* had its share of nail-biting moments: Austin was forced to undergo open-heart surgery in mid-July so the schedule had to be rearranged around his scenes; an entire day of footage was lost; bowling balls went missing; it took hours for Leonard the dog (played by Lenard the dog) to eat an edible cocktail napkin contract; one actor threw his one-of-a-kind jacket away (he was so upset that two of the characters had sniveled on the sleeves of it—called for in the scene) which caused a major continuity issue so scenes had to be reshot; and, the editor's hard drive crashed a week before a festival deadline. Kerr thought he had backed it up. He hadn't. It took 10 days and numerous prayers to determine whether or not the film could even be retrieved. It finally was, in the nick of time.

How ironic since the underlying tone of the film is that of vulnerability and good winning out, despite appearances to the contrary. And, like the story in the film, the making of it did have a true Hollywood ending. The film exists! It also has received high praise at the early stage from those who have seen it. made its world debut at the 2013 Newport Beach International Film Festival. It has since gone on to become an Official Selection at the Action on Film and Movieville International Film Festivals, and the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival. At AOF, Kerr took home awards for "Filmmaker of the Year," "Best Comedy – Feature," and "Outstanding Cast Performance." The film also was first runner-up for the "WithoutABox.com Best In Show" award there. The film also won "Best Comedy" at the Movieville event in September 2013 and *Balls* won two additional awards "Audience Choice" and "Best Feature-Bronze" at the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival in November 2013. During Indie Fest 2013 the film earned the "Award of Excellence" for a feature film and in 2014 the 47th WorldFest-Houston International Film & Video Festival racked up an eight honor for the film "Silver Remi" for best trailer.



Synopsis

We've Got Balls is a quirky, family-friendly comedy that offers a good many laughs as it imparts a tender and important social message. The film's premise centers around the concept that what may mean nothing to one person may mean everything to somebody else. It keys in on the proverbial David and Goliath scenario when a filthy-rich land developer, Vivian Brechner, decides not to renew the land lease on a bowling alley in a small town, so that together with a local avaricious tribal Indian chief, she can tear it down to make way for a gambling casino.

But what happens when the 52 people in Fountain Springs learn that Fountain Bowl — the “only thing they've got” — is teetering on the brink of destruction? Their community lifestyle, as they have known it, is about to come to an abrupt and tragic end.

When the townsfolk get word of it in the *Fountain Spray* newspaper, suddenly all hell breaks loose!! Herman Pritzloff, who inherited the bowling alley from his late father (and runs the establishment with his inept twin sons, Irwin and Simon) is faced with having to raise nearly \$500,000 to exercise his first right of refusal to buy the land on which the bowling alley sits once the 25-year lease expires. While he intends to save it, he can only secure a loan for half of the needed funds.

When Brechner's son, Alexander, is sent to face Fountain Springs' Mayor Dawson Dinwitty, and city councilman George Pandick (who also serves as the alley's bowling instructor), we learn that both the mayor and the city council will have to vote in favor of the demo for it to go forward. So, what happens when greed gets the better of the mayor? We see Dinwitty play both ends against the middle, outwardly supporting the town, while allowing Vivian Brechner to wine, dine and golf him to win his vote.

The situation takes a critical turn when Irwin and Simon Pritzloff soon befriend Vivian's son, Alexander Brechner, who is sent to act as her intermediary with the “city government.” The twins get drunk with Alexander in the bowling alley's lounge, and before the night is out, the bet is on: They entice Alexander into a deal in which they agree to bowl against him and his well-to-do Newport Beach buddies in Fountain Bowl's annual “Over the Shoulder, Under the Arm,” tournament for a sum of \$250,000. If Brechner loses he has to pony up the money which will allow the Pritzloffs to buy the land on which Fountain Bowl sits. If the twins lose...well they have nothing to lose.

It's a two-out-of-three day contest. Anyone can win. The townspeople are all in: Craig Cramer, the lounge's Karaoke singer (and alley maintenance man); standup comic, Chris Haig; attorney, Saul Sandowitz; notary public, Charlie Pratt; bartender, Fred Kincaid; Tinker Belle (the youngest of all who Pandick says is too small to bowl in the tourney); and also “Big Bowling Paul,” whose girth nearly spreads across an entire bowling lane.

Fate begins to move in a new direction when Tyrone, one of the demolition workers slated to destroy the bowling alley, shows up to check out the building. Inside, he catches Karaoke wanna-be Craig Cramer in the act of taking on his first rap song. A friendship is forged which changes the game on night three of the tourney when Tyrone and his pals step in on the town's side.

And then of course there is a twist with Craig Cramer's dog, Leonard: Was he the last to see the contract between Alexander the twins?

And let's not forget Grandma Jean, Tink's caregiver, who home-schools Tink and a few other local children: Her secret 'garden' changes the game entirely.

And to complicate matters even further there is the beautiful young gal at the front desk, Melanie. Alexander is smitten with her, but then...so is George Pandick and the Pritzloff twins.

How could the fate of something as simple and innocent as a bowling alley get so complicated? Well, it just does. The story gets messy, tense, suspenseful and, at the same time, funny. And, the finale? It won't surprise you, it will shock you! In the end, we learn who will win, who will loose, and who's got balls!!



Screenings and Awards

Awards & Nominations

<i>Best Comedy</i>	Movieville International Film Festival, September 2013
<i>Filmmaker of the Year Award</i>	Action On Film International Film Festival, August 2013
<i>Best Comedy—Feature</i>	Action On Film International Film Festival, August 2013
<i>Outstanding Cast Performance</i>	Action On Film International Film Festival, August 2013
<i>WAB Best In Show</i>	Action On Film International Film Festival (first runner-up)
<i>Audience Choice</i>	All Sports Film Festival, November 2013
<i>Best Feature—Bronze</i>	All Sports Film Festival, November 2013
<i>Award Of Excellence</i>	Indie Fest, 2013
<i>Silver Remi—Best Trailer</i>	WorldFest Houston, May 2014

Festival Appearances

- Official Selection: All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival—Los Angeles, CA, November 2013
- Official Selection: Movieville Film Festival—Sarasota, FL, September 2013
- Official Selection: Action On Film International Film Festival—Monrovia, CA, August 2013
- Official Selection: Newport Beach Film Festival—Newport Beach, CA, April and May 2013











Technical Specifications

Running Time: 93 Minutes
Country of Production: U S A
Year of Completion: 2013
Format: Digital
Sound Specification: Stereo Mix L-R
Aspect Ratio: 1.78:1
Color
Language: English

Contact

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Fax (714) 271-2140
Email cherie@kerrpr-execuprov.com

www.wevegotballsmovie.com

www.ree-inventfilms.com

facebook.com/wevegotballsmovie



Cast

Lead Cast

Gary Austin.....Mayor Dawson Dinwitty
Andrew Dickler.....George Pandick
Tyler Strateman.....Alexander Brechner
Toni Alexander.....Vivian Brechner
Eric Halasz.....Herman Pritzloff
Dane Posey.....Irwin Pritzloff
Eric Satterberg.....Simon Pritzloff

Supporting Cast

Craig Nelson.....Craig Cramer
Dave Osborn.....Fred Kincaid
Tamar Stevens.....Melanie Smith
Paul Maher.....Paul Preston
Kylie Rogers.....Tinker Belle Hanley
Tony La Hood.....Saul Sandowitz
Barry Weisenberg.....Charlie Pratt
Phyllis Katz.....Chris Haig
Patrick Downey.....Ty-Rone
Jose Valdez, Jr.....Chief Bogus
Lynne Stewart.....Grandma Jean
Gary Forman.....Demolition Company Owner
David Goldman.....Barney
Nick Dopuca.....Wally
Jay Abdo.....Abdo
Lew Crouse.....Voice of Fountain Bowl



Crew

Supervising Producer
Theresa Joseph

Unit Production Manager
Shadia Sepehrnia

Line Producer
Kenneth Duchamp

Directors of Photography
Chris Warren
Bobby Bragg
John Primm

Music
Lou Carlozo

Make-Up Department
Key Make-Up: Francesca Beniquez
Andy Calero

Editing
John Primm

After Effects Artist
Alan Primm

Title Design
DV Post

Sound Mix
John Primm

Grip and Electric Department
Key G&E: Dan Friedman
Spencer Smith
Alonso Manrique

Production Assistants
Peter A. Schuster
Anthony Chamberlain
Yvonne Yu
Jared Snyder
John Nguyen
Kimball Theoret
David Fant
Cole Garrett
Keegan Duncan
Marco Marzola

Dog Handler
Ryan Nelson

Catering
Chef Jamie
Robert Carasco
Rosie Carasco
Martinez Santa Ana
Leonardo Pinchardo

Legal Counsel
Law Firm of Biesty, Garretty & Wagner
Jim Biesty, esq.

Sound
Aaron Gray and Michael Faner



Biography

“It seems every time Cherie Kerr launches another project; whether it’s a book, a school, an Improv troupe or a company she graces us all with yet another gift the world seems to truly need. This time she has directed her first film: “We’ve Got Balls.” Go see it and receive your gift.”

*- Michael J. Gellman
Senior Faculty, Second City Training Center*

CHERIE KERR Executive Producer / Writer / Director

Cherie Kerr, a founding member of the world-famous L.A. Groundlings, and founder of the Orange County Crazies sketch and improvisational troupe in Santa Ana, California, released her first film in May of this year. *We've Got Balls*, a family-friendly comedy, made its world debut at the 2013 Newport Beach International Film Festival. It has since gone on to become an Official Selection at the Action on Film and Movieville International Film Festivals, and the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival. At AOF, Kerr took home awards for “Filmmaker of the Year,” “Best Comedy – Feature,” and “Outstanding Cast Performance.” The film also was first runner-up for the “WithoutABox.com Best In Show” award there. The film also won “Best Comedy” at the Movieville event in September 2013 and *Balls* won two additional awards “Audience Choice” and “Best Feature-Bronze” at the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival in November 2013. During Indie Fest 2013 the film earned the “Award of Excellence” for a feature film and in 2014 the 47th WorldFest-Houston International Film & Video Festival racked up an eight honor for the film “Silver Remi” for best trailer. Kerr is currently in pre-production on her next feature-length project, *Small Claims*, a mostly improvised comedy.

Kerr has won numerous accolades and rave reviews for her work over the years as producer/writer/director and has now parlayed her expertise and creativity into the genre of film. Having produced a number of comedy shorts for the O.C. Crazies over the past 23 years, Kerr founded Ree-invent Films in 2011 for the purpose of furthering her career interests and expanding her efforts from comedy shorts to full-length feature films.

Kerr, named one of the “Top Ten Most Sensational People in Orange County” by *Orange Coast* magazine, has also been highly lauded for her work as a comedy writer/director, having garnered “Best Sketch of the Year” from the *Los Angeles Times* for her quirky sketch, “Too Much Shoulder Pad.” Founder of three businesses, Kerr brings tremendous acumen and savvy to the table along with an abundance of her unique, enviable, and highly original sense of creativity. She is accustomed to mobilizing teams, utilizing the best resources, pumping out excellent products, and garnering results that translate into strong bottom lines.

Kerr is the mother of filmmaker Drake Doremus (*Like Crazy*, winner of the 2011 Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize, and *Breathe In*, and *Equals*). She taught and directed him on her stage at the De Pietro Performance Center in Santa Ana, Calif. as a member of the O.C. Crazies for 16 years before sending him off to the American Film Institute. Kerr was instrumental in guiding Doremus with many of his stage and film projects.

She is the author of 12 books; *Charlie's Notes* having recently been named a winner in the New York Book Festival. Two of her books include forewords by fellow Groundling alums and SNL players, Phil Hartman and Julia Sweeney.

Over the years, Kerr has written more than 400 sketches, three screenplays, one full-length Broadway musical, and directed dozens of sketch and improv comedy shows. She also has starred in her own one-woman show, *Out of Her Mind*. In addition, she has won awards as a lyricist and journalist, and her long-standing public relations firm, KerrPR, has also won awards for its work. She started ExecuProv in 1983, a company that teaches improv comedy techniques to Fortune 100 and 500 companies, which continues to thrive.

Kerr is currently underway with her next project, a full-length comedy feature, *Small Claims*.

Kerr’s mission with Ree-invent Films is to provide full-length feature comedies that offer not only laughs, but moral/satirical messages that leave audiences thinking long after the laughter subsides.



Theatrical Resume

CHERIE KERR

Overview:

Founding and performing member of the Los Angeles Groundlings (1972 to 1975). Produced, directed, performed in various alternate format shows and served on the Groundlings alumni committee intermittently (1983 to 2005).

Thirty-five years of experience and extensive background in performing, writing, story editing, as well as theatrical/improv/sketch/short film and feature film producing, writing, and directing.

Founder (1990 to present) and head writer/artistic director/producer of the Orange County Crazies, an improv comedy and sketch organization. Has written more than 400 sketches.

Named one of the “Top Ten Most Sensational People” in Orange County by *Orange Coast* magazine along with Michael Eisner.

Produced, directed and wrote various video pieces for the OC Crazies for 23 years, including parodies of music videos and the lifestyle and neuroses of the Orange County yuppie and spoofs on global events.

Member (since 1983): ASCAP - American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers.

Member: Women In Film Los Angeles.

Among the winners of the 2011 New York Book Festival for *Charlie's Notes: A Memoir*.

Writer of “Too Much Shoulder Pad,” named as best comedy sketch of the year by the *Los Angeles Times*.

Wrote, directed and starred in *Out of Her Mind*, a one-woman show (1997).

Producer/Writer/Director of *We've Got Balls*—full-length feature film—which made its World Debut at the 2013 Newport Beach Film Festival, and was selected for the 2013 Action On Film International Film Festival and the 2013 Movieville Film Festival.

Mother of Drake Doremus—winner of the 2011 Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize (*Like Crazy*—purchased by Paramount/Indian Paintbrush); named in *Forbes* and *The Hollywood Reporter* among top 30 under 30 (2011).

Writing/Directing/Performing/Producing Credits:

2008 to present

FILM PROJECTS

- WINNER: “Silver Remi—Movie Trailer”: Houston International Film Festival, May 2014
Small Claims— a full length independent feature film—due out in Spring 2015
We've Got Balls – full length independent feature film – due out 2013
Official Selection: All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival, November 2013
WINNER: “Best Feature—Bronze”: All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival, November 2013
WINNER: “Audience Choice”: All Sports Film Festival, November 2013
WINNER: “Award of Excellence”: Indie Fest 2013
WINNER: “Best Comedy”: Movieville Int'l Film Festival, September 2013
Official Selection by Invitation: Movieville Int'l Film Festival, September 2013
WINNER: “Filmmaker of the Year Award”: Action On Film Int'l Film Festival, August 2013
WINNER: “Best Comedy—Feature”: Action On Film Int'l Film Festival, August 2013
WINNER: “Outstanding Cast Performance”: Action On Film Int'l Film Festival, April 2013
Official Selection: Action On Film Int'l Film Festival 2013
Official Selection: Newport Beach Film Festival 2013

Co-founder Ex-Serp Productions – producing reality series/PSA's/sizzle reels

Consulting story editor – *The Bum* feature film by director Drake Doremus

Consulting story editor – “Turns,” short feature by director Drake Doremus
IN DEVELOPMENT/PRODUCTIONS

Co-creator/Executive Producer – “Last Chance Bootcamp”
Co-creator Executive Producer – “Ad Wars”
Co-creator/Executive Producer – “Resort Guru”
Consulting Producer – *Hollywood Celebrity Divorce* – E! Entertainment

SCREENPLAYS

2013 *Small Claims*
2011 *We’ve Got Balls*
2012 *Hype* – full-length dramedy feature
Losing Your Marbles – full-length dramedy feature

1990 to present **COMEDY FILM SHORTS**

“Hype” – nominated for “Best Comedy Feature” at 2014 Action on Film International Film Festival
“Background Check” – runner-up for “Best Comedy Scene” at 2014 Action on Film International Film Festival
“Popstars” – comedy short sendup of the show “Popstars”
“Inmates” – comedy short lampooning “The Bachelor”
“Embedded” – send up of reporters embedded in OC venues
“Hardly Copy”
“Loud Man”
“Publisher’s Clearing House” (This winner had the entire contents of her home removed)
(many others)

MUSIC VIDEO SPOOFS

“When a Man Loves a Beamer”
“I Will Always Screw You”
“Had” (take off on Jackson’s “Bad”)
“Achy Breaky Cart” – grocery store spoof
“Coca-cabana” – Cocaine in OC
(many others)

Theatrical/Entertainment:

1990 to Present Writer / Director Orange County Crazies Main Company – all improv show

IMPROVISATIONAL COMEDY SHOWS

1990 to 2010 Artistic Director of weekend shows for:
Orange County Crazies – Mixed Nuts
Orange County Crazies -- Main Company
Orange County Crazies – Crazies Plus
Orange County Crazies -- Crazie Beez
Orange County Crazies – Crazies-in-Training

SKETCH COMEDY SHOWS (writer/producer/director)

2001 to 2006 “Orange Lang Syne”

2005	“The Eternal Sunshine of the Orangeless Mind”
2001	“2001: An Orange Odyssey”
1998	“Law Revue ‘98”
1997	“Law Revue ‘97” “Out Of Her Mind”
1996	“You’ll Never Work In This Orange Again” “Law Revue ‘96” “The OrangeCracker”
1995	“Orange Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest” “Orange Side Story” “Gone With the Orange”
1994	“OrangeFeld” “Orangethelo” “Romancing the Orange”
1993	“Orange Trek: The Lost Generation” “As The Orange Turns” “The Orange, The Bad & The Ugly”
1992	“Orangelahoma” “TGI/Orange” “Ahh...Those Lounge Swingin’ DuBois Sisters!” (Full-length musical) “The Wizard of Orange” “Raiders of the Lost Orange”
1991	“Don’t Cry For Me Orangentina” “Ahh...Those Lounge Swingin’ DuBois Sisters!” “Orange On A Hot Tin Roof” “LizAnne Live...Alone At Last”
1990	“It’s Not Easy Bein’ Orange” “Behind The Orange Curtain” “This Is Orange County”
1987	“Confessions Of A Studio Musician” starring Tommy Tedesco “Top Finalist/Lyric Division” American Songwriter Contest
1985	“The Groundlings’ Tenth Anniversary Reunion Show” (Producer) “First Place Winner/Lyric Competition” American Songwriter Contest

Additional Comments:

Author of 13 books, among them: *Build to Laugh: How to Construct Sketch Comedy With the Fast and Funny Formula* and “*Who’s There?*” *the Sketch and Improvisational Player’s Guide to Conceiving, Creating and Developing Original Characters* (both books used at Second City as training manuals)

Produced, directed and wrote many comedy industrials including those for Jack in the Box, the American School Food Service Association, Foothill Capital, the State Bar of California and Kawasaki.

Winner of the Music City Song Festival 1985 lyric competition for “I’m Me;” runner up 1987; top 25 winners in the same contest in 1984.

Creator of ExecuProv’s HTVL (Humorous Training Video Library) comedy training shorts used by Toyota, SCE, FedEx and many others.

Founder of KerrPR, an award winning 35 year old public relations firm based in Santa Ana, CA.

Founder of ExecuProv – offering presentation and communication skills to Fortune 100/500 companies using the rigors of improv comedy as the basis for teaching techniques.

Creator of ExecuProv's HTVL (Humorous Training Video Library) comedy training shorts used by Toyota, SCE, Fed Ex and many others.

Also founder of KerrPR, an award winning 37 year old public relations firm based in Santa Ana, CA

Also founder of ExecuProv—offering presentation and communication skills to Fortune 100/500 companies using the rigors of improv comedy as the basis for teaching techniques

We've
Got
Balls

Press Coverage

See *We've Got Balls* in Director Cherie Kerr's Own Intimate Santa Ana Theater SATURDAY

By [Matt Coker](#) Fri., Nov. 7 2014 at 6:00 AM



Ree-Invent Films

No false advertising here: They do indeed got balls.

The founder of the OC Crazies did not have to go far for a venue for a benefit screening of the crazy indie comedy film she wrote, produced and directed. It's in the same Santa Ana theater where Cherie Kerr's comedy improv classes and productions are held.

We've Got Balls, which was mostly shot at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley and premiered at the 2013 Newport Beach Film Festival, is about bowlers, employees and assorted wacky characters trying to save a small-town alley from the wrecking ball.

The cast includes: Andrew Dickler (and his long beard), who edited *Spooner* and was the lead in *Douchebag*, which were both directed and co-written by Kerr's son Drake Doremus; and Lynne Marie Stewart, who was Pee-wee Herman's Miss Yvonne and came up with Kerr in the Los Angeles improv troupe The Groundlings.

Saturday's 3 and 7 p.m. screenings are at Kerr's De Pietro Performance Center, 809 N. Main St., Santa Ana, where her 92-minute, family friendly feature will play on the newly installed mini-cinema screen. She explains the screen was recently added to the black-box venue that is known for stage plays, small concerts and standup-comedy shows to make the space more versatile.

Funds raised from the \$20 donations being asked benefit post-production costs. Kerr says she'll stick around after each screening for audience Q&A's that will include some cast members. Many roles in *We've Got Balls* were filled by comics, actors and trainees with ties to OC Crazies.

"Since the film was shot entirely on location in Orange County, we hope that people in the OC will come and support us," Kerr says. "*Balls* is a quirky, little fun film with a heartwarming message and a good many laughs."

Call (714) 550-9890 or email Michael@kerrpr-execuprov.com to reserve tickets. You can also call (714) 550-9900 or email Cherie@kerrpr-execuprov.com if you're interested in booking the new screening room.



WALL STREET JOURNAL

By MIRIAM JORDAN and ERICH SCHWARTZEL Monday May 12, 2014

LOS ANGELES—Long before he got to Hollywood in 2012, Jihad Abdo was already a bankable star.

Over a 30-year career, he had been featured in hundreds of TV episodes, 43 movies and 21 plays set in modern and ancient times. In roles as varied as villain, military officer and prince, He couldn't walk the streets in his hometown without being hounded by fans pleading for a picture with him. "Going shopping was a nightmare," he recalls.

But all that fame and fortune came his way in Syria, far from the Hollywood spotlight. When he arrived here, as a refugee from his war-torn homeland, Jihad became "Jay" and turned into something very familiar here: an out-of-work actor. The closest he came to celebrity was his job with French Florist; the self-styled Los Angeles flower delivery choice for the entertainment industry and stars."

Then, in an only-in-the-movies twist of fate, opportunities to act in movies starring Nicole Kidman and Tom Hanks came knocking. So, maybe he is on his way to stardom in his adopted country, too.

"I'm a natural optimist," says the 51-year-old actor, smiling broadly. "I knew the day would come when I would get my break."

His path to Tinseltown began when civil war in Syria escalated in 2011. Mr. Abdo failed to accept official invitations to participate in rallies and TV talk shows to back the embattled regime of Bashar al-Assad. Threats followed; his car windows were smashed. Mr. Abdo decided to temporarily leave behind that "huge mountain of fame, stability and very good living," he says, thinking, "I'll go improve my English and come back."

He moved to Minneapolis, where his wife, Fadia Afashe, had been studying. There he auditioned, without success, for local theater productions from late 2011 to April 2012. "In the Middle East, I was always saying no to lead roles," he says. Now, "I felt like a plant pulled from its soil and transplanted in the wrong place."

Hollywood had never been a goal, he says. But with the situation in Syria worsening, "I told Fadia, if we are going to stay in the U.S., it's L.A. for the acting business."

Once here, without a credit history or secure jobs, they lived for months in a motel favored by prostitutes. Finally, an elderly Jewish woman agreed to rent the Muslim couple a one-bedroom apartment. They also befriended a neighboring Orthodox Jewish family, with whom they began to exchange recipes. Ms. Afashe, who studied public policy, applied for jobs at nonprofits. Mr. Abdo signed with an agent.

He worked Hollywood much as any other unknown seeking stardom might do. He volunteered to be in movies made by film students in order to compile his demo reel. A minor role in a reality TV series, "Repo Show," earned him \$240.

To pay bills, Mr. Abdo did minimum wage work delivering pizza and flowers and waited tables in an Italian restaurant. "My problem was, I couldn't memorize all the menu," he recalls. "So many cheeses, pastas and toppings." To work on his accent, he posted an ad on Craigslist: "Married Middle Eastern man seeks work with elderly people to engage them in conversation." There were no takers, he says.

In late 2012, he starred alongside an ad executive and members of a local band called B Funk'n in "We've Got Balls," a 93-minute campy comedy about the destruction of a bowling alley. Mr. Abdo played a burler who is mule for much of the film, which director and producer Cherie Kerr termed a "trismus-microbudget film."

For all Ms. Kerr knew, Mr. Abdo was a recent immigrant with a polished style and double takes that reminded her of the late comic legend Sid Caesar. When Mr. Abdo told her he was famous in the Middle East, she recalls responding, "Wow, Jay, I'm so honored you were in my small little indie film."

Says his wife, "When I saw him in the movie, I was crying. I was used to him in major roles."

"I know [that line] was hard on him, but you would have never known it," says Craig Siles, a screenwriter who befriended Mr. Abdo at a gym. "The guy did it with high spirits."

Mr. Abdo recalls of that period, "Every night I would put my head on the pillow and smile thinking about the day I'll get my break."

The break came last fall, when acclaimed film director Werner Herzog learned about him from Nick Rasan, a producing partner on his film "Queen of the Desert." The forthcoming biopic stars Ms. Kidman as Gertrude Bell, a British writer and archaeologist who helped map the Middle East. Others in the cast include James Franco and Robert Pattinson.

Mr. Rasan, who moved to the U.S. from Syria as a teenager in the early 1980s, had met Mr. Abdo at a breakfast party thrown by a mutual friend. He introduced him to Mr. Herzog, who after watching his clip reel, asked him to audition.

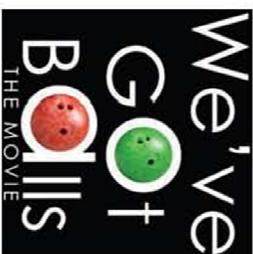
The "audition"—20 minutes of conversation and violin-playing—put Mr. Abdo on track for the role of Fadhul, the guide who accompanies Ms. Bell on her exploits. When filming began a few months later, he tallied the most screen time in the film after Ms. Kidman.

Producers on the "Queen of the Desert" describe Mr. Abdo as a pro, unfazed by sandstorms or a camel's whistling as he recited his lines. He did need a bit of instruction on modifying his acting, says Mr. Rasan, from the more over-the-top style favored in the Middle East to "the American way," as he puts it.

"I can't praise him enough as an actor and a man," Ms. Kidman said of her co-star in a statement. "He gave me the confidence to get on the camel!" For his part, Mr. Abdo carries pictures on his iPhone of them together. "We became friends in five minutes," he says.

Mr. Herzog says he understood the Syrian actor's fame only "acoustically" until they visited a Marrakesh souk, or market, together during filming in Morocco. "Everyone wanted a photo with him," recalls Mr. Herzog. "The merchants in the souk gave us everything for half price."

Recently, Mr. Abdo was back in Los Angeles, a legal U.S. resident and a working actor again. His latest production, playing the doctor Tom Hanks visits in a Saudi hospital in "A Hologram for the King," Directed by Tom Tykwer, the drama about a failed American businessman is based on a novel by Dave Eggers. "Finally, I am where I belong. This is my place," said Mr. Abdo, his eyes twinkling. "I didn't think of it before, but it's every actor's dream to be in Hollywood."



August 29, 2013

California BOWLING NEWS

REE-INVENT FILMS SNAGS TOP HONORS AT MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA'S ACTION ON FILM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**"We've Got Balls" wins "Best Comedy - Feature" and "Outstanding Cast Performance" awards,
as well as two additional nominations**

SANTA ANA, CA—*We've Got Balls*, a quirky comedy that centers on the potential demise of a cherished bowling alley in a small town (52 people), to make way for a casino, won two top honors on Saturday evening, August 24, 2013, when it was named "Best Comedy – Feature" and also "Outstanding Cast Performance." The film was also nominated for Without a Box's coveted "Best in Show Award," and Cherie Kerr, producer/writer/director of *Balls* was also singled out as a nominee for "Filmmaker of the Year."

"We are overwhelmed at having won such great honors," Kerr says of her first indie feature film. "Del Weston, head of AOF, and his staff, really put on an incredible festival and are so supportive of emerging filmmakers. I am honored to have been among them."

Although Kerr has run both a public relations firm, KerrPR, and a communication skills training company, ExecuProv, for nearly 40 years, she also has spent the better part of her adult life performing, directing and writing sketch and improv comedy. In 1990, Kerr founded the Orange County Crazies, similar to the L.A. Groundlings, of which she was a founding member. She has received rave reviews for her comedic works. She also is the author of 11 books and 45 movie shorts.

Balls debuted last spring when it was chosen as an Official Selection in the Newport Beach Film Festival. Kerr's film sold out the first day tickets went on sale. Its April 29, 2013 screening necessitated an additional screening on May 2 since all 265 seats were sold out. With the AOF screening August 17, 2013, *Balls* sold out as well. In total, the film has sold roughly 750 seats in only three screenings.

In sum, the tagline for the film captures its essence: *A quirky town, a crooked mayor, and one whacked-out bowling showdown.*

A year ago, Kerr began shooting her first indie comedy in Orange County. The film co-stars Gary Austin, founder of the L.A. Groundlings and Andrew Dickler (*Douchebag*, 2010), in addition to a formidable cast, many of whom are Kerr's Groundlings and OC Crazies chum alums. "We had little money, but a lot of heart and determination," Kerr quips. "Looking back, I see it as an absolute miracle that we were able to bring it to fruition!"

Set against the backdrop of Fountain Bowl, in the fictitious town of Fountain Springs, the story is about a filthy rich female land developer and her Indian Chief cohort who team up with Fountain Springs' crooked mayor in an attempt to demolish Fountain Bowl in order to build a gambling casino. The small town's population shows up for a tense and life-altering bowling tournament, the outcome of which determines the fate of both the bowling alley, and the quality of life of its townspeople.

Kerr is the mother of Drake Doremus, who won the Grand Jury prize at Sundance in 2011 for his film *Like Crazy*, with supporting actress Jennifer Lawrence. Doremus studied improv comedy under his mother's tutelage from the age of six until she sent him off to AFI at age 19 when he was chosen for its directors program. Doremus debuts a new film in theaters next month, *Breathe In*, which stars Amy Ryan, Felicity Jones, and award-winning actor Guy Pearce.

Kerr intends to showcase *We've Got Balls* at other prominent film festivals before year's end and prior to inking a film distribution deal.

Kerr has already garnered impressive reviews for her first indie film including one from *OC Weekly's* Matt Coker, who says, "Cherie Kerr takes her screwball comedy out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big screen strike." Michael Gellman, legendary director at The Second City in Chicago (who performed with John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Gilda Radner and Bill Murray, and who taught and mentored John Candy and Chris Farley) says "*We've Got Balls* is comedy at its best, a film with heart and an insane bowling tournament that racks up a perfect score." Yahoo! also gave the film a perfect score as writer Leslie Gornstein stated, "I was hooked on this movie from scene one."

Kerr announced last week that she and Ree-invent Films are in the pre-production stages of *Small Claims*, a new indie feature scheduled to be completed by late summer, 2014.

For more information on *We've Got Balls* those interested may visit www.wevegotballsmovie.com or www.ree-inventfilms.com.

August 15, 2013



Life's an Improv: Groundling Directs Her 1st Movie

Grounded in comedy, Cherie Kerr finally gets her directing career going.

By Peter Larsen

If it had gone according to plan, Cherie Kerr's directorial debut would have glided smoothly from start to finish, like a bowling ball rolling down the alley.

She would have raised the \$2 million she needed to make her bowling-theme independent comedy, "We've Got Balls." Her lead actors all would have stayed healthy. And her editor would absolutely, positively have backed up a copy of the film's final cut.

But once you hurl that ball down the lane, its fate is out of your hands.

Sometimes, instead of a strike, life gives you the 7-10 split.

And so it was that Kerr's fund-my-movie Kickstarter project collected one-thousandth of its initial goal – about \$2,000.

And after one day of shooting, one of her lead actors underwent open-heart surgery.

And then, days before the movie's scheduled premiere at the Newport Beach Film Festival, her editor's computer crashed, leaving Kerr with no usable cut of her movie.

"That's kind of how this whole project went," she says. "Heart Attack City."

So, as a first-time filmmaker, how did Kerr handle the hurdles?

She did what she's done – literally – much of her life.

She improvised.

•••

At age 4, Kerr was performing impromptu stand-up to entertain her jazz musician father and her mother. As a third-grader, she performed as the Blessed Virgin Mary in a play at her Catholic school.

She went onstage, felt the buzz of performing, and was hooked.

"That did it for me."

For years, as a kid, the El Sereno native took acting classes at the Pasadena Academy of Drama. But in high school she drifted away from the theater. By 20 she was married; by 24 she was a divorced mother of two. Then, needing to support her family, she talked her way into a public relations job with an Orange County homebuilder and moved to Huntington Beach.

Through it all, she says, her heart was in performing.

"I had auditioned for 'Laugh-In' and was very, very close to getting the part to replace Goldie Hawn," Kerr says. Adrift after that missed opportunity, a friend of a friend suggested she check out the improvisational comedy classes taught by actor Gary Austin in a small L.A. theater called The Cellar.

"I had these two kids," Kerr says. "I'd work all day as a copywriter. ... And drive up to L.A. a couple of nights a week to Gary's classes. It was ridiculous."

Eventually, Austin and his students decided to invite some friends to watch a workshop.

"The response was phenomenal," Kerr says. "So we started doing showcases on Friday nights.

"(Austin) was the smartest person I've ever known in comedy," she adds.

By 1974, the group had a name – the Groundlings – and they became huge.

Then life intruded again. Kerr married again, started her own PR agency and, in the late '70s, left the Groundlings. That marriage didn't last, and neither did a third, though the latter brought another son.

Her PR firm spun off a second business, teaching improv to help business leaders improve as public speakers.

By the end of the 1980s, Kerr was keen to get back on stage. She called Tom Maxwell, who'd succeeded Austin as artistic director of the Groundlings, to suggest he open an Orange County branch.

You do it, and I'll help, Maxwell told her. So with an assist from friend and fellow Groundling Kathy Griffin, Kerr held auditions. In 1990, she picked the 12 best to debut as The Orange County Crazies.

"The Crazies were my salvation," Kerr says. "I finally felt like I was doing what I should be."

•••

Two years ago, Kerr threw a party to celebrate the fact that her youngest child, filmmaker Drake Doremus, 30, had a movie, "Like Crazy," win the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. During the party, someone asked Kerr what she was working on and, in a moment of pure improv, she blurted this:

"I'm going to do a movie!"

She'd written a couple of scripts. And she had an idea she'd been pondering for years, shoving it aside for husbands, kids and jobs.

"I began to look back ... and thought, 'What did I do with my life?' " Kerr says.

Her idea was this: In the fictional town of Fountain Springs, life for its 52 residents centers on the town's bowling alley, which is endangered when a ruthless developer wants to build a casino on the property.

Kerr's first challenge was to find an O.C. bowling alley that could double as a movie set. Most alley owners thought she was nuts. But in late 2011 she met Dave Osborn, co-owner of Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley, who agreed to let her use it.

Kerr's first trailer for the movie was largely improvised, with a cast that included Groundling founder Austin, as well as other Groundlings and Crazies. Osborn even gets a role, playing the bowling alley bartender.

The cast's common denominator? The willingness to work for little or nothing.

Kerr finished her script, put the trailer and pitch on Kickstarter, and sat back and waited for the \$2 million to come in. When she fell \$1,998,000 short, she had a decision: move forward as a micro-budget movie, or risk losing the cast and crew she'd lined up.

"So I made the decision to borrow the money" – about \$165,000 – "from myself."

At the end of July 2012 she started shooting. After Day One, Austin needed heart surgery.

He came back quickly, but a few crew members slipped away. The next crisis came when the editor's work vaporized in a computer glitch 10 days before deadline for the Newport Beach Film Festival.

"That's pretty much when I had my nervous breakdown," Kerr says.

"I was in deep, deep prayer. I had everybody Kumbaya-ing."

Prayer and computer repair worked.

"We've Got Balls" debuted in April in Newport Beach. It plays Aug. 17 at the Action On Film Festival in Monrovia, and Kerr hopes to find some kind of distribution deal this fall.

She feels, among other things, proud.

"I did prove that I can do something I've dreamed about. I'm going to be 70 in October, and I've started a new career. And I'm going to keep doing it as long as I can."

August 13, 2013

Pasadena Star-News

Arcadia native returns to San Gabriel Valley with first feature film

By Sarah Favot, sarah.favot@sgvn.com, [@sarahfavot](https://twitter.com/sarahfavot) on Twitter

At an age when most people are thinking about retirement, Cherie Kerr has added a new job title to her long resume — filmmaker.

Kerr, an Arcadia High School graduate Class of 1961, is returning to the San Gabriel Valley to screen her first feature film, “We’ve Got Balls,” at the Action on Film International Film Festival in Monrovia, where it is the festival’s “Official Selection.”

“I think I would be very satisfied to just be able to write and direct and make films,” said Kerr, who started her production company Ree-invent Films two years ago.

“I don’t want to go camping. I don’t want to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. I don’t want to travel the world. I, artistically, just want to do as much as I can.”

“We’ve Got Balls” is a quirky, dark comedy about a rich developer who wants to bulldoze the only thing the fictional city of Fountain Springs, population 52, has — a bowling alley — to make way for a casino.

The film culminates in a dramatic three-day “Over the Shoulder, Under the Arm,” bowling tournament where the owners of the bowling alley bet the developer’s son enough money to buy back the land where the bowling alley sits.

Kerr said while the film aims to entertain with its simple, wacky, satire, it also has a message: what might mean nothing to one person, might mean everything to someone else.

“To me, I really wanted to make a commentary on society with whatever film I make,” she said. “Not necessarily in a derogatory way, but like a slap-in-the-face-wake-up call, ‘Hey, everybody, let’s pay attention to how we treat everybody else’.”

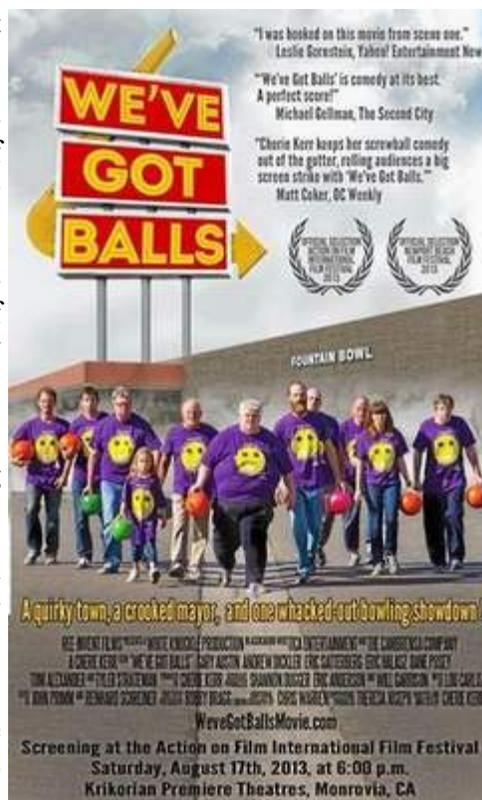
Kerr’s knack for comedy started early. Her parents told her she started doing stand-up at age 4 and improv skits a couple years later.

Her love of writing came from her junior year English teacher, Miss Davis, at Arcadia High School. After that class, she said she went from a D-minus student and the class clown to an A-student.

Although new to the silver screen, Kerr has had a long career on the stage.

She was a founding member and performer of improvisation and sketch comedy club the L.A. Groundlings. In 1989, she founded the Orange County Crazies, an improv troupe inspired by the L.A. Groundlings.

She also founded and is president of a public relations company, KerrPR, and ExecuProv, a company that teaches presentation and communication skills using improv comedy. She has written books, screenplays, a Broadway musical and more than 400 comedy sketches.



Directing has been a goal of hers since the mid-1990s, but she was busy raising her children as a single mother and running her companies. More recently, she was focused on helping her son, Drake Doremus, with his own film, "Like Crazy," which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival in 2011.

"I thought if I don't do it now, I'll probably never do it," she said. "What the hell, it's on my bucket list, so I'll just give it a shot."

The \$165,000-budget film was self-financed. She used union actors as well as people who never have been on screen before.

Gary Austin, who founded the L.A. Groundlings and has worked with Kerr since 1974, stars as the city's white-suit-and-black-string-tie-wearing crooked mayor.

He said loved that Kerr was willing to rewrite the script during filming. She created a supporting role, "Big Bowling Paul," for a person who had never acted before and who showed up on set to be an extra.

Kerr said she saw something special in Paul Maher's sweet and dull demeanor.

Austin credited Kerr's background in improv in being willing to do so.

"That's what we do," he said. "We go with what works. We're not stuck. We're flexible."

Del Weston, founder of Action on Film, said he chose Kerr's film as the festival's "Official Selection" because of her back story.

"Cherie represents a demographic of filmmaker that is very, very rare and that's someone in her age group who's risking a brand new career in film," said Weston.

"She shows people that you can make a film that any age and make a good effort as long as the passion is there. The passion she has is unmatched."

The film will be screened Saturday at 6 p.m. at the Kri-korian Premiere Theatre, 410 S. Myrtle Ave., in Monrovia.



Writer, director, producer Cherie Kerr with Gary Austin, who plays the crooked mayor in Kerr's first feature film "We've Got Balls" screening at the Action on Film International Film Festival in Monrovia Aug. 17.



Comedic Filmmaker Returns to Her San Gabriel Valley Roots

Cherie De Pietro Kerr, an Arcadia High School and Citrus College graduate, will screen her quirky comedy "We've Got Balls" at Monrovia's Action on Film Festival.

By Hazel Lodevico-To'o (Editor), July 15, 2013 at 01:50 pm

San Gabriel Valley native Cherie De Pietro Kerr has worn many hats in her career, from running a public relations firm and a communication skills training company, to performing, directing and writing sketch and improv comedy as the founding member of the comedy troupe L.A. Groundlings.

Now Kerr, who graduated from Arcadia High School and Citrus College before embarking on a 40-plus career in comedy, is returning to her San Gabriel Valley roots with the screening of her first feature length independent comedy, "We've Got Balls" at the Action on Film International Film Festival Aug. 17 in Monrovia, Calif. The film has been chosen as the festival's Official Selection.

The quirky comedy starring Gary Austin and Andrew Dickler, tells the story of the small town of Fountain Springs and its 52 residents who are determined to save its beloved bowling alley from a filthy rich land developer and the town's corrupt mayor from being bulldozed to the ground.

The fate of the bowling alley ultimately lies in the outcome of a tense bowling tournament. The film has generated rave reviews and has also been chosen as an Official Selection at the Newport Beach Film Festival.

Kerr said she is thrilled to see her film screened in the San Gabriel Valley.

"It feels like coming home," said Kerr who now lives in Orange County. "I have many incredible memories of growing up in the San Gabriel Valley, which shaped most of my career goals. It's such a joy to come full circle and return 'home' to showcase my work."

Following graduating from Arcadia High School and Citrus College where she majored in Humanities, Kerr established herself firmly in the Southern California comedy scene. Kerr's comedy troupe L.A. Groundlings included well-known comedians Will Farrell, Phil Hartman, Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph and Kathy Griffin. In 1990, Kerr founded the Orange County Crazies. Kerr is also an author of 11 books and was named Ten Most Sensational People in Orange County" by Orange Coast magazine.

Kerr plans to showcase "We've Got Balls" in film festivals through the end of the year before seeking film distribution. She is currently working on her next film, "Small Claims."

"We've Got Balls" will screen at the Action on Film International Film Festival 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17 at the Krikorian Premiere Theatre in Monrovia.

Tickets for the film are currently available at www.AOFest.com.

OCWEEKLY

The Cokscars?

**Or: The Awards the Newport Beach Film Festival Didn't Hand Out
For your consideration, 16 commendations that really matter**

By MATT COKER *Thursday, May 9 2013*

Un Plan Parfait (Fly Me to the Moon), a romantic comedy that was the 2013 Newport Beach Film Festival's (NBFF) French Spotlight picture, was the big winner of jury awards dished out by Orange County's pre-eminent cinextravaganza, taking Best Picture, Actress, Director and Screenplay.

Thirty-five of the more than 350 films screened at NBFF 2013 received awards this year. There are so many awards for films these days. All the hip kids are doing it. I want to give out awards, damn it. So last year on the *Weekly's* Navel Gazing blog, I did, although I couldn't decide whether to call them the Matties, Shmatties or Cokscars.

Whatever you call 'em—a cab, perhaps?—here they are:

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A BOWLING ALLEY

Fountain Bowl, *We've Got Balls*

The first and last voice you hear in Cherie Kerr's screwball comedy is that of the Fountain Valley bowling alley, which performs under its given name but has the acting range to make audiences believe it's in a fictional town called Fountain Springs (population 52). Local bowlers will recognize the lanes, the bar's karaoke area and bowling legend Barry Asher's Champions pro shop.

BEST MISS YVONNE MOMENT

Lynne Marie Stewart, *We've Got Balls*

Kerr, the Orange County Crazies improv-troupe founder who has a theater and business in Santa Ana, was an early member of the legendary Los Angeles improv troupe the Groundlings. So was Lynne Marie Stewart, who later joined another Groundling, Paul Reubens, in stage, television and film productions centering on his most famous character, Pee-wee Herman. Stewart played Miss Yvonne, "The Most Beautiful Woman in Puppet Land," and her Grandma Jean character in *We've Got Balls* saves the day.



Local Landmarks Star in Film Debuting at Newport Film Festival

The quirky black comedy "We've Got Balls" was shot in Fountain Valley and Newport Beach and will debut at the Newport Beach Film Festival, which begins tonight.

April 24, 2013

Cherie Kerr was a founding member of the Groundlings comedy group and established a successful public relations firm, but she calls debuting her first movie in the Newport Beach Film Festival, which starts Thursday, her ultimate accomplishment.

Kerr's 93-minute comedy, "We've Got Balls," is about a town of 52 people -- Fountain Springs -- and its battle against a greedy developer and Indian tribal chief who want to plow over the community's bowling alley for a casino.

"It's a quirky, dark comedy for the whole family," Kerr said.

It has a deeper message woven into the hijinks, she added.

"What can seem like absolutely nothing to one person can mean everything to somebody else," Kerr said. "This bowling alley is all this town has. It means everything to them and to this greedy developer, she could care less."

Everyone, "has a tendency to blow things off that don't mean much to them," but it doesn't mean it's not significant to others, Kerr said.

The film climaxes with an "over-the-shoulder, under-the-arm bowling tournament," and the stakes are the bowling alley's future, Kerr said.

For one of her lead roles, she cast fellow veteran Groundling Gary Austin as the town's crooked mayor trying to play both sides to his benefit.

"I said, 'Hey, Gary, would you be in my movie?' And he said, 'I'd love it.' It's Gary's first feature film," Kerr said.

The movie is a little bit "Little Miss Sunshine," "Raising Arizona," and "Napoleon Dynamite," Kerr said.

Most of the movie was shot at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley, Kerr said.

"I went around to several bowling alleys to ask if we could shoot and everybody said no, and when we went to them they were so gracious and terrific," Kerr said.

A man working in the pro shop was a consultant on the 1998 comedy "The Big Lebowski," which bowling figured heavily in, Kerr said.

Orange County residents will also recognize Fashion Island and other landmarks in the movie, Kerr said.

Its debut will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Triangle Square Cinemas in Costa Mesa. The screening is sold out, so a second was scheduled for May 2, Kerr said.

Kerr's son, filmmaker Drake Doremus, is expected to attend. He's got his own budding career with "Like Crazy," the Grand Jury Prize winner at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, and "Breathe In," which will be in theaters this fall.

Kerr said she sent festival organizers a rough cut of her film, hoping to be accepted, and thought, "'Wouldn't it be great if they accept us?'"

The acceptance "was the biggest honor," Kerr said.

The film festival will begin Thursday night with the screening of "Broadway Idiot," a documentary on the making of the Broadway musical based on pop-punk band Green Day's album, "American Idiot."

Steve Rosansky, president of the Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce and a former city councilman, said he was looking forward to opening night, which will include a party afterward at Fashion Island.

The festival "provides a big economic boost to the city," with visitors filling up hotel rooms and spending money at city stores, Rosansky said.

Just as important, however, is the value it brings to the city aside from the dollars, Rosansky said.

"It builds the brand of Newport Beach," of being a "fun and vibrant place to be," Rosansky said.

- City News Service

Locals have their moment at the Newport film fest

O.C. filmmakers and students look forward to seeing their work on the silver screen.

By [RICHARD CHANG](#) / ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

April 24, 2013

Catherine Jayasuriya had a dream.

She dreamed that one day, she'd climb to the top of Mt. Kinabalu, the highest point on the island of Borneo, Malaysia. She dreamed she'd be accompanied by a bunch of others wearing red shirts with white print and holding banners, and they would be raising money and awareness for Duchenne, a fatal type of muscular dystrophy that robs boys of their ability to walk, breathe, eat and speak.

Jayasuriya's son, Dusty, has the disease. He was diagnosed at 6½ years old, and now he's 20. He can't walk. He gets around in a wheelchair, and can only consume liquids. His mind is totally healthy, unaffected physically by Duchenne.

Not only did Jayasuriya's dream come true, but she directed a documentary on the climb, "Dusty's Trail: Summit of Borneo," which will have its West Coast premiere at 6 p.m. Friday at the Regency Lido Theatre.

"I feel really honored, I really do," said Jayasuriya, a Newport Beach resident whose family originally comes from Borneo. "It's a great legacy for Dusty. Newport Beach is the only place in the whole world where I can feel very proud. He's a really great citizen of Newport, he really is."

Jayasuriya is one of dozens of local filmmakers participating in this year's Newport Beach Film Festival. Every year, hundreds of students, amateur filmmakers and professionals submit their work to the fest, and every year, many get to see their hard work materialize on the silver screen.

"To be able to have my film here, in my own backyard, is probably the biggest honor I've ever had," said Cherie Kerr, director, producer and writer of "We've Got Balls," a bowling comedy that was entirely shot in Orange County. The film will have its world premiere at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Starlight Cinemas at the Triangle.

"It's a fun, little family film," Kerr said. "We took all the profanity out of it."

Other films by or about Orange County residents in the festival include "Discovering Mavericks," which features Newport Beach resident Peter Mel, who's a champion in big wave surfing; "Touchdown Newport," a historical documentary about the Newport Harbor High School football team; and "The Signal Hill Speed Run," an action sports documentary about skateboard racers who zoomed down Signal Hill in Long Beach. Many of the racers and champions are Orange County residents.



The cast of "We've Got Balls" includes, from left, Eric Satterberg, Dane Posey, Eric Halasz, Kylie Rogers, Dave Osborn, Paul Maher, Andrew Dickler, Toni LaHood, Craig Nelson, Tamar Stevens and Barry Weisenberg.



Newport Beach Film Fest returns for more fun

The 14th annual Newport Beach Film Festival opens with a documentary, 'Broadway Idiot,' for the first time.

[By RICHARD CHANG](#) / ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

April 24, 2013

Doug Hamilton wanted to help his friends in the theater out. Little did he know that he'd wind up helping himself out in the process.

Hamilton's documentary, "Broadway Idiot," is the opening night film of this year's Newport Beach Film Festival, which starts Thursday and runs through May 2. The movie, making its West Coast premiere, screens at 7:30 p.m. at Edwards Big Newport. An outdoor gala featuring "American Idol" winner Taylor Hicks will follow at Fashion Island.

It's the first time a documentary has opened the 14-year-old film fest, which has grown to become a well-attended and respected gathering for film buffs and for movie industry folks who want to get out of Hollywood for a day, two or three.

"It's kind of amazing, actually. It feels great," said Hamilton, 52, a broadcast journalist who enjoys shooting photographs and video of the theater in his spare time. A group of his theater friends, who were producing the musical version of Green Day's "American Idiot," asked Hamilton to shoot some video of the production for them for promotional purposes.

The project grew and evolved into Hamilton's own documentary, which focuses on Green Day lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong, who goes through an unexpected journey in helping transform a Grammy-winning rock/punk album into a Broadway musical, which he played a lead role in for more than two months, or more than 56 performances.

"It's not really a making of 'American Idiot.' It's a story of an artist who's trying something totally different," Hamilton said of his documentary. "It really is a personal story about Billie Joe Armstrong, and it really gets inside the creative process."

Hamilton and members of the band Green Day are among scores of filmmakers, special guests and film fanatics planning to descend on Newport Beach over the next eight days. More than 350 films from 50 countries are scheduled during Orange County's largest and longest-running film festival.

At least 15 world premieres are in the works, including "And Now A Word From Our Sponsor," starring Parker Posey and Bruce Greenwood (8:30 p.m. Saturday at Island Cinema, Fashion Island, with another screening at 3:15 p.m. May 2); "The Golden Scallop" (7:30 p.m. Sunday and 8:15 p.m. Tuesday at Island Cinema); "I am I" (8 p.m. Saturday at Starlight Cinemas at the Triangle); "In Security," starring Michael Gladis, Alan Arkin, Ed Begley Jr. and Ving Rhames (8:15 p.m. at the Regency Lido Theatre); and "A Fish Story" (2:30 p.m. Saturday at Island Cinema).

"This is the biggest professional accomplishment in my life," said Cherie Kerr, writer, director and producer of "We've Got Balls," a comedy that makes its world premiere during the festival at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Starlight Cinemas. Another screening will occur at 5:30 p.m. May 2 at the same theater.

"I cannot even tell you how honored, when we submitted there, that we got accepted," said Kerr, a longtime Santa Ana resident who may be better known as a founding member of the Orange County Crazies comedy troupe. "How fun is it to have it screened in our own backyard where we shot the whole thing? Everyone could be there for the celebration."

SOME CHANGES THIS YEAR

Organizers of the film fest have tweaked the gathering a bit this year, reducing the total number of films by nearly 100 and offering more time in between screenings. That way, patrons get more time to eat and travel in between venues.

"The biggest thing we always try to look at is, how do we make this a better experience for both our audience and for our filmmakers," said Gregg Schwenk, CEO and executive director of the festival.

"People really want to go to multiple events and multiple screenings. The hardest part they found was getting from the Lido over to Fashion Island or to one of our other locations, and having only 15

Continued...

minutes to do that."

Schwenk said the weekday schedule has been tightened up as well, with the majority of weekday films not screening until 5 p.m. or later.

But some things don't change. As in previous years, spotlight series are focusing on action sports, the environment, music, art, architecture and design, family friendly flicks and short films.

A free seminar series is planned at the Port Theater Saturday and Sunday. Topics will include film music, screenwriting and film editing.

The festival will continue its tribute to John Wayne with "The Searchers," the 1956 Western directed by John Ford. The movie will screen at noon Saturday at Island Cinema, and tickets are only \$5.

At 7 p.m. Sunday, the festival will host "Another Evening of Disney Rarities" with producer Don Hahn and Disney creative director Dave Bossert. These animation veterans pull extremely rare stuff out of the Disney Studios vaults and present it with insightful stories. Tickets are \$14.

Remember Adam Brody? He played Seth Cohen in the Fox TV series, "The O.C." Well, he's coming back to the O.C. with two films in the festival: the West Coast premiere of "Some Girl(s)" at 8:15 p.m. Friday at Starlight Cinemas; and the world premiere of "Welcome to the Jungle" at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Lido. The comedy also stars Jean-Claude Van Damme, who's expected to attend.

INTERNATIONAL REACH

One of the Newport film festival's strengths continues to be its international "spotlight" films. On Sunday, Irish film "The O'Briens" will screen at 5:30 p.m. at Edwards Big Newport, accompanied by an Irish short, "Barry's Bespoke Bakery." Tickets are \$20.

A Pacific Rim Showcase on Monday night will feature Australian film "Drift" at 7:30 p.m. at the Lido; and three Asian movies at Big Newport: "Key of Life" from Japan at 7:15 p.m.; "One Mile Above" from China at 8 p.m.; and "A Werewolf Boy" from South Korea at 7:30 p.m.

A European Showcase Tuesday night at Big Newport will include "The Hypnotist" from Sweden at 7:45 p.m., "Fly Me to the Moon" from France at 7:30 p.m., and "Immature: The Trip" from Italy at 8 p.m.

A Latino Showcase Wednesday will spotlight "Cinco de Mayo" from Mexico at 7:30 p.m. (Lido), "Here I Am, Here I'm Not" from Chile at 8 p.m. (Big Newport) and "Tropicália" from Brazil at 7:45 p.m. (Big Newport).

The closing night film will be "The Way, Way Back," a coming-of-age comedy/drama starring Steve Carell, Toni Collette, Allison Janney, AnnaSophia Robb, Sam Rockwell, Maya Rudolph, Liam James and Amanda Peet. A closing night party will follow at the Via Lido Courtyard. Tickets are \$70 for film and party, \$40 for party only.

Tickets for general festival screenings are \$14, \$10 for seniors and students. The opening night film and gala is \$175, while closing night is \$70 for film and party, \$40 for party only. Tickets for foreign "spotlight" films (except Irish) are \$40 for the film and after-party, \$18 for film only, \$30 for party only. An all-festival pass is \$500. For tickets and information, visit newportbeachfilmfest.com.



Local Films Get Their Due at NBFF

Works by Cherie Kerr, Joseph Armario, Doug Penikas, among others, make appearances alongside Jon Carnoy and Michael Horelick's skateboard doc

By MATT COKER Thursday, Apr 18 2013

I haven't seen any of the locally made or -tinged Newport Beach Film Festival (NBFF) entries I'm about to throw down, but don't let that stop you from checking them out. Some have stories about their making that sound worthy of turning into their own films.

Take Cherie Kerr's zany first film, *We've Got Balls*, making its world premiere during the 14th NBFF, which runs April 26 to May 2. She's the founder of the Orange County Crazies comedy-improvisation troupe and one of the original Groundlings of Los Angeles. She's also the mother of Drake Doremus, whose first full-length feature, *Spooner*, followed its Slamdance world premiere with a slot at NBFF 2009, as his follow-up *Douchebag* did at NBFF 2010 after miraculously making the U.S. Dramatic competition shortlist at Sundance 2010. (Doremus claimed that prize in 2011 with *Like Crazy*, and his latest, *Breathe In*, won worldwide theatrical distribution shortly after playing Sundance last January.)

The plot thickens: *We've Got Balls*—think David vs. Goliath if Goliath were a greedy developer and David an Everyman trying to save a small-town bowling alley—stars Andrew Dickler, the *Spooner* editor who was tapped to play the lead in *Douchebag*, his first acting gig. Give it up to the guy: He really did convince you he was a douchebag in that flick. This time, Dickler's stepping into the role of hero (or would-be hero—don't want to give anything away).

Filmed at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley and locations nearby, *We've Got Balls* is, according to Kerr, "a quirky comedy that imparts a tender message." Amanda Salazar, the NBFF programming director con-Kerrs: "It's a charming little film," she told me. "We're really excited about it."

"Very cool for Cherie," reacted Ben York Jones, when asked what he thinks of Kerr's film getting a NBFF nod. "She's done a lot for the world of comedy and the arts in OC, and that she continues to expand her reach makes me really happy."

As a young teen, Jones worked with Doremus on original youth-theater productions in the OC Crazies theater space in Santa Ana. They also made short films they'd later project onto a wall of the Corona del Mar home of Jones' grandparents for potential "investors" so they could cover festival entry fees. Doremus later went off to the American Film Institute in LA and Jones to the Chapman University film school. They later reunited, with Jones essentially being an extra on *Spooner*, playing the co-lead little bro in *Douchebag*, and co-writing with the director *Like Crazy* and *Breathe In*.

Jones also directed music videos in Los Angeles with a fellow film-school classmate, Joseph Armario. He was a producer on Armario's 11-minute film *NSFW*, which plays before the documentary *Terms and Conditions May Apply* at NBFF 2013. *NSFW* is about 12 people unwittingly divulging their addictions on their mobile devices and the Internet before a visionary hacker untethers them all at once.

"Playing NBFF is a homecoming for both of us," says Jones, who now resides in Echo Park. "I can't wait to be home for it. I'll be wearing my Ducks jersey all festival long."

Another Chapman alum who shot a full-length feature in Orange County picked up by NBFF programmers is Doug Penikas. In *Blood Type: Unknown*, a college freshman wants to write novels, but her parents are pushing her to follow daddy's

continued

footsteps and become an accountant. After getting in a heated discussion during her creative-writing class with a popular bad boy, her life changes forever. Seems the chap is much, much older than he appears.

As much as I want to check out *We've Got Balls*, *NSFW* and *Blood Type: Unknown*—watch what comes back when you type *that* into a search engine—the film with local goodness that really has me psyched is action-sports entry *The Signal Hill Speed Run*. Jon Carnoy and Michael Horelick's new documentary focuses on the short-lived, annual, Long Beach-adjacent event that drew crowds of more than 5,000 people and national television coverage from 1975 to '78. Egged on by the Guinness World Records TV show, skateboard promoter James O'Mahoney found daredevils willing to hurl themselves down a steep street track—until one stuntwoman nearly died in a 60 mph crash. How is this for local ties? The 1975 champion, Guy Grundy, grew up in Huntington Beach, where '77 champ Dave Dillberg rode the pier surf breaks after returning from Vietnam. Roger Williams, the '78 crown winner, also lived in Huntington Beach. Racer Herb Spitzer is from Anaheim Hills, which is where many competitors practiced, including Chuy Madrigal.

Because Orange County is a mecca for action sports, you tend to find local hooks in many of the festival entries in that category. Newport Beach resident and big-wave surfing champion Peter Mel appears in Joshua Pomer's new documentary, *Discovering Mavericks*, about the pioneering riders of the legendary Bay Area break, while Costa Mesa action-sports lifestyle magazine *What Youth* and the like-minded San Diego-based brand Reef present Kai Neville and Victor Pakpour's *Anything Sing*, which allows Luke Davis, Nick Rozsa, Conner Coffin, Mick Fanning, Beau Foster, Ford Archbold and Shane Dorian to truly express themselves. Gnarly.

From action sports, you can run counter to a sport with action thanks to Randy Hamilton's *Touchdown Newport*, which shows how 26 years of football futility ended at Newport Harbor High School with the arrival of coach Ernie Johnson. Members of Johnson's 1970 squad, coaches and cheerleaders return to revel in their glory days as Sailors. By the way, did I mention NBFF chief executive Gregg Schwenk is a Sailor? His programmers made sure to tell me.

Touchdown Newport screens with *What It Takes*, Rick Davitt and Mark Powell's documentary on the water-polo program at Mater Dei High School in Santa Ana. How does the coach follow four consecutive state championships, an undefeated season and two team captains graduating? By sending his young players off for U.S. Navy SEAL leadership training. (Pity the opposing player who resembles bin Laden.)



April 15, 2013

"We've Got Balls," OC-Made Indy Feature to Debut at Newport Beach Film Fest

Videographer and editor, John Primm, a long-time member of MCA-I and proprietor of DV Post in Santa Ana, www.dvpostvideo.com proudly announced his involvement in a new feature film, **We've Got Balls**. "While the title sounds gross, it is a G-rated film," said Primm before adding, "It's really funny."

The film, premiering at Triangle Theater in Costa Mesa on Monday, April 29th at 7:30PM as part of the **Newport Beach Film Festival**, was shot in OC by 3 different DPs including MCA-I member, John Primm. He also shared editing duties with Reinhard Schreiner. John took the feature from rough cut to completion, which included the use of After Effects to change the color of some of the bowling balls, among other things.

Written, directed and produced by Cherie Kerr of the Orange County Crazies, an improv group located in Santa Ana, the film was shot mostly at Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley. Like many indie features, it was a labor of love for everyone. Most of the actors and crew donated their time. The credit roll lasts for 5 minutes and includes all the extras — even the data recovery people who were able to recover things from a 6TB crashed drive! Talk about deserving credits!

The film has it's own website at <http://www.wevegotballsmovie.com>.

The Newport Beach Film Festival (April 25th- May 2nd) website promotes the film's as:

*When a filthy-rich land developer decides not to renew the lease on a bowling alley in Fountain Springs, all 52 people in this small town do everything they can to save it. Fountain Bowl, described as the "only thing they've got" by the townspeople, is about to come to an abrupt and tragic end unless they intervene. **We've Got Balls** is a heartwarming, quirky dark comedy that offers many laughs as it imparts the tender message that what might mean nothing to one person may mean everything to another.*

The **We've Got Balls** will be shown at the Triangle Theater in Costa Mesa on Monday, April 29th at 7:30PM.

Tickets can be purchased at the theater before the show or at the Newport Beach Film Festival web site:

<http://www.newportbeachfilmfest.com/2013>

Carlozo scores L.A.-based writer's feature comedy

By Eric Kaplan | Apr 09, 2013

"We've Got Balls", the feature-length directorial debut from California-based writer Cherie Kerr, has a Midwest connection.

Reel Chicago contributor Lou Carlozo is scoring the film, a major coup after landing a remix in the 2011 Disney film "Prom," beating out such luminaries as Grammy winner Maurice Joshua.

"It was the right film at the right time," says Carlozo, co-owner of Kingsize Sound Labs recording studio (Wilco, Neko Case). "I was scared that when I got the screener that I wouldn't like it. Fortunately, I loved it. It's twisted and funny, yet sweet, the kind of film Hollywood has forgotten how to make."



Cast of "Balls," still from the movie

"We've Got Balls" revolves around the small town of Fountain Springs, where a greedy land developer is set to tear down the beloved local bowling alley to make way for a casino. It's a classic David-and-Goliath tale filled with hardcore laughs and a poignant message.

"I wanted to make a statement which was, what seems to mean absolutely nothing to one person can mean everything to somebody else," says Kerr.

Kerr finds that comedies "need to be outrageously funny or downright silly to make good box office these days." She believes that "it is our job as filmmakers to make a statement. We should always make people think."

Movie score challenges differ from albums



In addition to being an award-winning journalist, Carlozo's 2007 album, "Stick Figure Soul" was named a top local release of the year by the Illinois Entertainer.

Writing a score provides different challenges compared to an album, Carlozo says. "Many of the scenes are so short, a minute long or so, that you have to get in quickly and make your point very quickly."

Carlozo and Kerr became fast friends after working together previously on journalism-related projects and Carlozo was eager to learn more about Kerr's first film.

"She'd heard some of my music and asked me to contribute one song," explains Carlozo. "She loved that song so much that she soon asked me afterwards if I was interested in doing the score."

While having a heart, "We've Got Balls" is a comedy at its core, albeit a dark one. Citing "Raising Arizona" and "Little Miss Sunshine" as inspirations, Kerr is no stranger to darker shades of comedy.

Lou Carlozo, composer

"I tend to write dark humor," says Kerr. "I just love it. This film wasn't any different."

Check out the trailer at [We've Got Balls](#).

Eric Kaplan is a Chicago-based freelance writer focusing on music, film, sports and humor. Contact him at emk844@yahoo.com

Hollywood bowling

MOVIE: Fountain Bowl is the star of a new comedy movie titled, 'We've Got Balls'



Photo courtesy of Ree-Invent Films

That's Fountain Bowl co-owner Dave Osborn, fifth from left, in a scene from a new comedy movie filmed in Fountain Valley.

By **KRISTAL SEEDEN**
Fountain Valley Living Magazine

Fountain Bowl serves as the backdrop for lots of events—birthday parties, fundraisers, civic club meetings and Chamber of Commerce mixers to name a few.

It's also hosted the nationally televised Dick Weber Open Professional Bowling Association Tournament.

But next year, the popular bowling center takes on a new role: It's the focal point of an indie comedy movie titled "We've Got Balls."

The movie centers around the small, fictional town of Fountain Springs (pop. 52) in the middle of nowhere where a greedy developer has big plans to build a casino on the site of the townspeople's favorite

hangout spot—you guessed it, a bowling alley.

Cast members include L.A. Groundlings comedy troupe alumni, former members of the O.C. Crazies, and even a few familiar faces. Fountain Bowl co-owner Dave Osborn takes on the character of "Fred Kincaid," a "slightly dimwitted" bartender and bowling expert, and co-owner Gary Forman plays "Gary Forman," the "bullheaded" building demolition guy.

"When they first contacted us, I thought it was going to be a hokey thing, but it's really a great story and a great family movie," Osborn said. "I think everybody in Fountain Valley will be impressed."

Added Forman, "We really had a lot of fun filming the movie. We wish the producer much success."

"We've Got Balls" is being directed

by Cherie Kerr, a comedy sketch writer, producer, actress, original member of the L.A. Groundlings and the founder of the Orange County Crazies, the improvisational and sketch comedy group based in Santa Ana.

Kerr also wrote the movie's screenplay and founded its production company, Ree-Invent Films, in 2011.

"The takeaway message of this film is to consider that what may mean nothing to one person may mean everything to someone else," Kerr said in a press release, adding that the storyline also broaches the subject of big corporate versus small business.

"We've Got Balls" is expected to be released in the spring of 2013. You can read more about the plot, cast and crew, and check out a trailer at www.wevegotballsmovie.com.

Cherie Kerr, OC Crazies Founder, Bowls for Big Screen Strike and Fest Bid with *We've Got Balls*

By [Matt Coker](#) Mon., Dec. 24 2012

Spooner, the first feature film from Santa Ana and Newport Beach born and raised filmmaker **Drake Doremus** (*Douchebag*, *Like Crazy*), played at the Lido Theatre during the April 2009 Newport Beach Film Festival.

The director cut his incisors as a youth making original children's plays that he staged at his mother **Cherie Kerr's** Orange County Crazies comedy troupe stage in Santa Ana. Now, it's mom that's aiming to get her first feature film picked up by Orange County's most-established festival.

Kerr said last week she is this close (picture a pinch) to having a director's cut of her dark comedy *We've Got Balls* ready to submit to the Newport Beach Film Festival in time for a January submission deadline.

Shot over the summer in Irvine, Newport Beach but mostly at Fountain Bowl, the Fountain Valley bowling alley, the film from the original member of the Groundlings comedy troupe in Los Angeles stars people plucked from the Crazies as well as every-day folks and community leaders acting for the first time.



Photo by John Gilhooley/*OC Weekly*

[Still Crazies After All These Years](#)

Included in the cast are **Gary Austin**, the creator and founder of the Groundlings, who plays the two-faced mayor of mythical Fountain Springs, and **Andrew Dickler**, *Spooner's* film editor and *Douchebag's* titular character, starring here as a bowling instructor, councilman and hopeful savior of a bowling alley facing demolition because a greedy developer wants to build a gambling casino over it.

"The takeaway message of this film is to consider that what may mean nothing to one person may mean everything to someone else," explains Kerr.

It's amazing she has time for the project considering she runs both the Crazies, which teaches budding improvisational players, and ExecuProv, which trains business people to communicate using improv techniques, out of Santa Ana's DiPietro Performance Center, which she named after her parents.

Kerr told of burning the midnight oil getting her film color corrected and music added as that festival deadline nears. At least she can commiserate with Doremus, who is putting the finishing touches on his new film *Breathe In* before it premieres at the Sundance Film Festival next month.

Here's the trailer:



INTERNATIONAL **BOWLING INDUSTRY**

THE WORLD'S ONLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED EXCLUSIVELY TO THE BUSINESS OF BOWLING

OCTOBER 2012

FOUNTAIN BOWL GOES HOLLYWOOD

"What I really want to do is...act!" Owners and employees of Fountain Bowl in Fountain Valley, CA, have realized that wish whether they had considered it before or not. Ree-Invent Films has been periodically filming its current feature project, "We've Got Balls," within the center proper.

The story revolves around a small town, a bowling center and an avaricious land developer who wants to tear down the center to make way for a gambling casino. How do 52 people handle the prospect of the world as they know it coming to an end? Not well. According to director Cherie Kerr, "the story gets messy, tense, suspenseful and, oh, so very funny."

Possibly an even better question might be how bowling proprietors, managers and the employees handle the fame and fortune of Hollywood and still keep the lanes open. Both partners, Dave Osborn and Gary Forman, have found themselves playing roles. Osborn who has been recruited as the

bartender in the film said the whole



"We've Got Balls" hometown team members gear up for the three-day tournament to save their "alley and lifestyle."

project has been very positive. Kerr has

worked with the center using time that works well for both her crew and the center. Has it had a negative effect on business? No. Customers seem to enjoy the excitement and sometimes they are even brought into the mix as extras—background people.

Osborn feels the story is one to which everyone can relate: a present day David and Goliath.

It is a serious topic done in a funny way. "I have a good feeling. It's gonna be neat!"

[Go to www.wevegotballsmovie.com for a sneak peek, background on the cast and crew, and how you could be a part of this upcoming feature.]



October 8, 2013

Re: “We’ve Got Balls,” award-winning comedy, to screen at All Sports L.A. Film Festival

**AWARD-WINNING INDIE COMEDY CHOSEN OFFICIAL SELECTION AT ALL SPORTS LA
FILM FESTIVAL**

‘We’ve Got Balls’ to Screen on Veteran’s Day

Los Angeles, Calif.—Since its debut at the Newport Beach Film Festival on April 29 of this year, “We’ve Got Balls,” a quirky family-friendly comedy, continues to be named an official selection of other festivals and a festival award winner. According to Cherie Kerr, the writer/director of the 93-minute comedy, the All Sports L.A. Film Festival has tapped it to screen in competition. The festival begins Friday, November 8, 2013, and ends with an awards banquet on Monday, November 11, 2013.

This marks the fourth festival appearance in five months for “We’ve Got Balls,” which to date has won four awards including “Best Comedy” and “Best Comedy – Feature” at the Movieville International Film Festival and the Action on Film International Film Festival (AOF), respectively. It also won “Outstanding Cast Performance” at AOF and Kerr was named “Filmmaker of the Year” there, as well.

“We’ve Got Balls” is a quirky, family-friendly comedy set in the fictional town of Fountain Springs where its 52 residents wind up in a “whacked-out bowling showdown,” to save the town’s only centerpiece (Fountain Bowl). The bowl is slated for destruction by a greedy land developer who intends to build a gambling casino on the land on which it sits.

The film will screen at the landmark El Portal Theater at 5269 Lankershim Boulevard in the heart of North Hollywood (Los Angeles, Calif. 91601). Tickets may be purchased at <http://allsportslafilmfest.com>.

For more information on “We’ve Got Balls,” including a press kit, photos, and interview opportunities please call 714 550-9900. Those interested in getting a sneak peak at “We’ve Got Balls” may view the film’s trailer by visiting: www.wevegotballsmovie.com or contact Ree-invent Films at 714 550-9900.

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September 25, 2013

RE: “We’ve Got Balls” takes home “Best Comedy” award at Sarasota’s Movieville International Film Festival

‘WE’VE GOT BALLS’ TAKES HOME ‘BEST COMEDY’ AWARD
Sarasota, Florida’s Movieville International Film Festival salutes “We’ve Got Balls”

Santa Ana, Calif.—“We’ve Got Balls,” a quirky comedy, won top honors at the Movieville International Film Festival on Sunday evening, September 22, 2013, when it was named “Best Comedy,” according to the film’s director, Cherie Kerr, a founding member of the world-famous L.A. Groundlings.

“We are so honored to have won this award,” Kerr says of her first indie feature film, which centers on the potential demise of a cherished bowling alley in a small town (52 people) to make way for a casino. “Alan Bailey and the whole Movieville festival family were so friendly and supportive, and we were so grateful not only to have been nominated, but to have won,” Kerr added.

Although Kerr has run both a public relations firm, KerrPR, and a communication skills training company, ExecuProv, for nearly 40 years, she also has spent the better part of her adult life performing, directing and writing sketch and improv comedy. In 1990, Kerr founded the Orange County Crazies, similar to the L.A. Groundlings. She has received rave reviews for her comedic works. She also is the author of 11 books and 45 movie shorts.

“Balls” debuted last spring when it was chosen as an Official Selection in the Newport Beach Film Festival. Kerr’s film sold out the first day tickets went on sale. The April 29, 2013 sellout screening necessitated an additional screening on May 2 where another 265 seats were sold. It then screened at the Action on Film International Film Festival on August 17, 2013, where it sold out as well, in addition to winning awards for “Filmmaker of the Year,” “Best Comedy – Feature,” and “Outstanding Cast Performance.” In total, the film has sold roughly 800 seats in only four screenings.

“We’ve Got Balls” will screen at other prominent film festivals before year’s end, including the All Sports Los Angeles Film Festival on November 11, 2013 at the historic El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood.

In sum, the tagline for the film captures its essence: *A quirky town, a crooked mayor, and one whacked-out bowling showdown.*

A year ago, Kerr began shooting her first indie comedy in Orange County. The film co-stars Gary Austin, founder of the L.A. Groundlings and Andrew Dickler (“Douchebag,” 2010), in addition to a formidable cast, many of whom are Kerr’s Groundlings and OC Crazies chum alums. “We had little money, but a lot of heart and determination,” Kerr quips. “Looking back, I see it as an absolute miracle that we were able to bring it to fruition!”

Set against the backdrop of Fountain Bowl, in the fictitious town of Fountain Springs, the story is about a filthy-rich female land developer and her Indian Chief cohort who team up with Fountain Springs’ crooked mayor in an attempt to demolish Fountain Bowl in order to build a gambling casino. The small town’s population shows up for a tense and life-altering bowling tournament, the outcome of which determines the fate of both the bowling alley, and the quality of life of the townspeople.

Kerr is the mother of Drake Doremus, who won the Grand Jury prize at Sundance in 2011 for his film “Like Crazy,” with supporting actress Jennifer Lawrence. Doremus studied improv comedy under his mother’s tutelage from the age of six until she sent him off to AFI at age 19 when he was chosen for its directors program. Doremus’s latest film, “Breathe In,” stars Amy Ryan, Felicity Jones, and award-winning actor Guy Pearce.

Kerr has already garnered impressive reviews for her first indie film, including one from *OC Weekly*’s Matt Coker, who says, “Cherie Kerr takes her screwball comedy out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big screen strike.” Michael Gellman, legendary director at The Second City in Chicago (who performed with John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Gilda Radner and Bill Murray, and who taught and mentored John Candy and Chris Farley), says “‘We’ve Got Balls’ is comedy at its best, a film with heart and an insane bowling tournament that racks up a perfect score.” Yahoo! also gave the film a perfect score as writer Leslie Gornstein stated, “I was hooked on this movie from scene one.”

Kerr announced last month that she and Ree-invent Films are in the pre-production stages of “Small Claims,” a new indie feature scheduled to be completed by late summer, 2014.

For more information on “We’ve Got Balls” those interested may visit www.wevegotballsmovie.com or www.ree-inventfilms.com.

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For Immediate Release

Re: Award-winning filmmaker screens at Movieville International Film Festival

**AWARD-WINNING ‘WE’VE GOT BALLS’ FEATURE COMEDY
TO SCREEN AT MOVIEVILLE**

Santa Ana, Calif.—Award-winning feature comedy “We’ve Got Balls,” a family-friendly 93-minute film that recently won “Outstanding Cast Performance,” “Best Comedy – Feature,” and “Filmmaker of the Year” awards at the Action on Film International Film Festival in Monrovia, Calif., and which was also an Official Selection at the Newport Beach Film Festival, in Newport Beach, Calif., is set to screen at the Movieville event, Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 3 p.m. at the Burns Court Cinema’s Theater 2, in Sarasota, Fla.

Cherie Kerr, a founding member of the world-famous L.A. Groundlings (Kristen Wiig, Will Ferrell, Phil Hartman, Lisa Kudrow, Maya Rudolph, Cheryl Hines and many more) will be on hand at Movieville for the four-day event, where the film has been nominated for “Best Comedy.”

“We are delighted to have been chosen to screen at Movieville,” says Kerr, who produced, wrote and directed the quirky comedy. “It’s such an honor to be part of such a fantastic event!”

“We’ve Got Balls” is set in the fictional town of Fountain Springs (pop. 52) where the film focuses on the efforts of the townsfolk when they learn their beloved bowling alley—“the only thing they’ve got”—Fountain Bowl, is threatened by a greedy land developer, who plans to tear it down in order to build a gambling casino with her Indian Chief business partner.

Kerr says the film’s tagline is “A quirky town, a quirky mayor and one whacked-out bowling showdown.” The film builds to the high-stakes contest of a bowling tournament—the town against the developer’s son and his friends—in the “Over the Shoulder, Under the Arm,” tournament where winner takes all.

“It’s fun for the whole family,” Kerr says.

Tickets are available at www.movievillefilmfestival.com. The film’s website is:

www.wevegotballsmovie.com.

For more information, please contact: 714 550-9900 or Movieville’s offices at the festival’s website.

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For Immediate Release

Re: Festival Bestows Third Honor on First-time Filmmaker

Contact: Jack Lindgren: 714-550-9900 or email Jack@kerrpr-execuprov.com

AWARDS ANNOUNCEMENT ERROR FAVORS ‘WE’VE GOT BALLS’ FILMMAKER
Cherie Kerr Takes Top Honor at Action on Film International Film Festival

Monrovia, Calif. (Sept. 3, 2013)—A fortuitous mistake at the Action on Film International Film Festival Awards ceremony turned out to be a stunning surprise and achievement for Cherie Kerr, a first-time filmmaker, who won the “Filmmaker of the Year” award at AOF for her family-friendly comedy, *We’ve Got Balls*, according to Theresa Joseph, supervising producer for the 93-minute feature film.

The error occurred when a guest presenter handed out the last of the awards, the most prestigious ones at the end of the Action on Film Awards ceremony held at the Pasadena, Calif. Hilton. Each presenter named a runner up prior to announcing the winner. When the “Filmmaker of the Year” award was given out, the name of the runner up was announced (though he was not in attendance). Kerr applauded enthusiastically for her fellow nominee, however, several days later, when the list of winners was released, it was Kerr’s name that was posted as the top-prize winner.

At first, Kerr thought the printed list must have contained an error so she called Del Weston, who heads AOF to ask for clarification. He texted her: “You Won!!” “Naturally, I was overwhelmed and unbelievably grateful to have received such an honor,” the first-time filmmaker said. “I was already extremely pleased to have won two awards that night, but learning that I had won yet another and that of ‘Filmmaker of the Year,’ well that took the cake! I remain deeply humbled.” Kerr added, “I’m so grateful to everyone at AOF.”

We’ve Got Balls debuted at the Newport Beach Film Festival in Newport Beach, Calif. last April, and will screen as an Official Selection at the Movieville International Film Festival on Sunday, September 22, 2013 in Sarasota, Fla.

We’ve Got Balls is a quirky comedy set in the fictional town of Fountain Springs where its 52 residents wind up in a “whacked-out bowling showdown,” to save the town’s only centerpiece (Fountain Bowl) from destruction by a greedy land developer who intends to build a gambling casino on the land on which it sits.

For more information on *We’ve Got Balls* visit: www.wevegotballsmovie.com or contact Ree-invent Films at 714 550-9900.



For: Immediate Release

Contact: Theresa Joseph or Jack Lindgren at theresa@kerrpr-execuprov.com or jack@kerrpr-execuprov.com or phone 714 550-9900

RE: *We've Got Balls* takes top honors at Monrovia's Action on Film International Film Festival as it receives two awards, four nods

REE-INVENT FILMS SNAGS TOP HONORS AT MONROVIA, CALIFORNIA'S ACTION ON FILM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
"We've Got Balls" wins "Best Comedy - Feature" and "Outstanding Cast Performance" awards, as well as two additional nominations

Santa Ana, Calif. (Aug. 29, 2013)—*We've Got Balls*, a quirky comedy that centers on the potential demise of a cherished bowling alley in a small town (52 people), to make way for a casino, won two top honors on Saturday evening, August 24, 2013, when it was named "Best Comedy – Feature" and also "Outstanding Cast Performance." The film was also nominated for Without a Box's coveted "Best in Show Award," and Cherie Kerr, producer/writer/director of *Balls* was also singled out as a nominee for "Filmmaker of the Year."

"We are overwhelmed at having won such great honors," Kerr says of her first indie feature film. "Del Weston, head of AOF, and his staff, really put on an incredible festival and are so supportive of emerging filmmakers. I am honored to have been among them."

Although Kerr has run both a public relations firm, KerrPR, and a communication skills training company, ExecuProv, for nearly 40 years, she also has spent the better part of her adult life performing, directing and writing sketch and improv comedy. In 1990, Kerr founded the Orange County Crazies, similar to the L.A. Groundlings, of which she was a founding member. She has received rave reviews for her comedic works. She also is the author of 11 books and 45 movie shorts.

Balls debuted last spring when it was chosen as an Official Selection in the Newport Beach Film Festival. Kerr's film sold out the first day tickets went on sale. Its April 29, 2013 screening necessitated an additional screening on May 2 since all 265 seats were sold out. With the AOF screening August 17, 2013, *Balls* sold out as well. In total, the film has sold roughly 750 seats in only three screenings.

In sum, the tagline for the film captures its essence: *A quirky town, a crooked mayor, and one whacked-out bowling showdown.*

A year ago, Kerr began shooting her first indie comedy in Orange County. The film co-stars Gary Austin, founder of the L.A. Groundlings and Andrew Dickler (*Douchebag*, 2010), in addition to a formidable cast, many of whom are Kerr's Groundlings and OC Crazies chum alums. "We had little money, but a lot of heart and determination," Kerr quips. "Looking back, I see it as an absolute miracle that we were able to bring it to fruition!"

Set against the backdrop of Fountain Bowl, in the fictitious town of Fountain Springs, the story is about a filthy rich female land developer and her Indian Chief cohort who team up with Fountain Springs' crooked mayor in an attempt to demolish Fountain Bowl in order to build a gambling casino. The small town's population shows up for a tense and life-altering bowling tournament, the outcome of which determines the fate of both the bowling alley, and the quality of life of its townspeople.

Kerr is the mother of Drake Doremus, who won the Grand Jury prize at Sundance in 2011 for his film *Like Crazy*, with supporting actress Jennifer Lawrence. Doremus studied improv comedy under his mother's tutelage from the age of six until she sent him off to AFI at age 19 when he was chosen for its directors program. Doremus debuts a new film in theaters next month, *Breathe In*, which stars Amy Ryan, Felicity Jones, and award-winning actor Guy Pearce.

Kerr intends to showcase *We've Got Balls* at other prominent film festivals before year's end and prior to inking a film distribution deal.

Kerr has already garnered impressive reviews for her first indie film including one from *OC Weekly's* Matt Coker, who says, "Cherie Kerr takes her screwball comedy out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big screen strike." Michael Gellman, legendary director at The Second City in Chicago (who performed with John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Gilda Radner and Bill Murray, and who taught and mentored John Candy and Chris Farley) says "*We've Got Balls* is comedy at its best, a film with heart and an insane bowling tournament that racks up a perfect score." Yahoo! also gave the film a perfect score as writer Leslie Gornstein stated, "I was hooked on this movie from scene one."

Kerr announced last week that she and Ree-invent Films are in the pre-production stages of *Small Claims*, a new indie feature scheduled to be completed by late summer, 2014.

For more information on *We've Got Balls* those interested may visit www.wevegotballsmovie.com or www.ree-inventfilms.com.

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For: Immediate Release

Contact: Theresa Joseph or Jack Lindgren at theresa@kerrpr-execuprov.com or jack@kerrpr-execuprov.com or phone 714 550-9900

Arcadia High School and Citrus College Grad Returns After 45 Years With Highly-Lauded Indie Comedy Feature Film "We've Got Balls" to screen at Action On Film International Film Festival in Monrovia

Santa Ana, Calif. (July 11, 2013) —Cherie De Pietro Kerr, who attended both Arcadia High School and Citrus College, will return to her home turf to showcase her first feature-length independent comedy, "We've Got Balls," at the Action on Film International Film Festival in Monrovia, Calif., on Saturday, August 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the Krikorian Premiere Theatre, where it has been chosen as an Official Selection, according to Del Weston, founder of the festival.

The film made its debut just this past April, when it was chosen an Official Selection at the Newport Beach Film Festival.

Although Kerr has run both a public relations firm, KerrPR, and a communication skills training company, ExecuProv, for nearly 40 years, she has also spent the better part of her adult life performing, directing and writing sketch and improv comedy. Kerr was a founding member of the world-famous comedy troupe the L.A. Groundlings—other alums include Will Farrell, Phil Hartman, Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph, Kathy Griffin and countless others. In 1990, she founded the Orange County Crazies, similar to the L.A. Groundlings, for which she has received rave reviews for her comedic works. Kerr, who is the author of 11 books, was named one of the "Ten Most Sensational People In Orange County" by Orange Coast magazine.

In 2012 Kerr, who has also made numerous comedy shorts, began shooting her first feature-length indie comedy in Orange County, where she has lived since 1968. The film co-stars Gary Austin, founder of the L.A. Groundlings, and Andrew Dickler ("Douchebag," 2010) in addition to a formidable supporting cast, many of whom are Kerr's Groundlings and OC Crazies chum alums. "We had little money, but a lot of determination," Kerr quips. "Looking back, I see it as an absolute miracle that we were able to bring it to fruition!"

The tagline for the film captures its essence: "A quirky town, a crooked mayor and one whacked-out bowling showdown."

Set in the fictitious town of Fountain Springs against the backdrop of the Fountain Bowl bowling alley, the story is about a filthy rich female land developer and her Indian Chief accomplice, who team up with Fountain Springs' crooked mayor in an attempt to demolish Fountain Bowl in order to build a gambling casino. The small town has a population of only 52 people, many of whom show up for a tense and life-altering bowling tournament, the outcome of which will determine the fate of both the bowling alley and the quality of life for its townspeople.

"It feels like coming home," Kerr says. "I have many incredible memories of growing up in the San Gabriel Valley, which shaped most of my career goals. It's such a joy to come full circle and return 'home' to showcase my work." Del Weston, founder of Action on Film, loved Kerr's film from scene one. "It's one of those quirky comedies that has something in it for everyone," he says. "It's filmmakers like Kerr that keep the industry moving and on its toes. We're extremely proud to have 'We've Got Balls' as part of our program."

In addition to graduating from Arcadia High, Kerr attended Citrus College where she was head song-leader and a Humanities major. Kerr also gave birth to two of her three children at Arcadia Methodist Hospital in the late 60s: Sean Kerr (manager of Sierra Auto Cars in Monrovia) and Shannon Kerr Dugger (whose husband serves as Head Athletic Director for the Colorado Rockies Baseball Club). Kerr is also the mother of Drake Doremus, who won the Grand Jury prize at Sundance in 2011 for his film "Like Crazy," featuring Oscar winning actress Jennifer Lawrence. Doremus studied improv comedy under his mother's tutelage from the age of six until leaving for AFI at age 19—where he was the youngest to attend and the youngest to graduate at that time. Doremus has a new film in theaters this fall, "Breathe In," which stars Amy Ryan, Felicity Jones, and award-winning actor Guy Pearce.

Kerr intends to showcase "We've Got Balls" at other prominent film festivals before year's end, and before seeking a film distribution deal. Her production company, Ree-invent Films, is currently in pre-production on Kerr's next film, the comedy "Small Claims."

Kerr has already garnered impressive reviews for her film including one from the OC Weekly's Matt Coker, who says "Cherie Kerr takes her screwball comedy out of the gutter, rolling audiences a big screen strike." Michael Gellman, legendary director at The Second City in Chicago (who performed with John Belushi, Dan Ackroyd, Gilda Radner and Bill Murray, and who worked closely with John Candy and Chris Farley) says "'We've Got Balls' is comedy at its best, a film with heart and an insane bowling tournament that racks up a perfect score."

Tickets for "We've Got Balls" are currently available at www.AOFFest.com.



For: Immediate Release

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“We’ve Got Balls” World Premier Sells Out
Newport Beach Film Festival Adds Second Screening for Quirky Family Comedy

Santa Ana, Calif. (April 18, 2013) —“We’ve Got Balls,” a quirky 93-minute family comedy feature film, has been tapped for a second screening, according to Cherie Kerr, producer/writer/director of the Newport Beach Film Festival Official Selection.

Festival representatives say the second screening will take place on Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at Triangle Square Cinemas, Costa Mesa, the same theater where it will debut on Monday evening, April 29, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. to a packed house of 265 filmgoers.

“We are really excited to see this film sell out its premier 10 days prior to its screening,” said Deona Hamilton, one of the programmers for the festival. “We are thrilled that it has attracted so much attention. We think audiences will truly enjoy it.”

“All of us on the ‘Balls’ team are very excited to be featured at a second screening,” said Kerr. “We had no idea our little film would be so well received.”

According to writer/producer/director Cherie Kerr, a founding member of the famed L.A. Groundlings, and the founder and Artistic Director of the Orange County Crazies, the film promises to bring many laughs along with a poignant message.

Starring in the film are: Gary Austin, co-founder and creator of the L.A. Groundlings, and a long time friend and former performing partner of Kerr’s; Andrew Dickler (“Douchebag” 2010); Toni Alexander; Tyler Strateman; Eric Halasz; Eric Satterberg; and Dane Posey. Actors in supporting roles include: Craig Nelson, Lynne Stewart, Phyllis Katz, Tamar Stevens, Paul Maher, Tony LaHood, Barry Weisenberg, Jose Valdez, Nick Dopuch, David Goldman, Dave Osborn, Jay Abdo, Patrick Downey, Bill Reed, Stanley Hendrickson, Gary Forman, Lew Crouse, and Kylie Rogers. Kerr also assembled a cast of background players numbering more than 150.

Associate Producers include Shannon Dugger, Will Garrison and Eric Anderson. Lou Carlozo, composed the original score for the film, with additional music provided by B-Funkin. Directors of photography for the shoot included Bobby Bragg, and second unit director of photography, Chris Warren. Editing was provided by John Primm and Reinhard Schriener. Line producer Ken Duchamp, supervising producer Theresa Joseph, and unit production manager Shadia Sepehrenia played a huge part in overseeing the production team. Francesca Beniquez served as head makeup artist.

Set in the fictional town of Fountain Springs (pop. 52), the film focuses on the reaction of the townsfolk when their beloved bowling alley – “the only thing they’ve got” – is threatened by a greedy land developer, who plans to tear it down in order to build a gambling casino with her Indian Chief business partner.

Orange County locations for the shoot included Fountain Valley’s Fountain Bowl, Newport Beach’s Fashion Island, and Santa Ana’s Double Tree Hotel, De Pietro Performance Center, River View Golf Course, and an historic Victorian home in French Park.

With its tender and relevant social message and family friendly laughs, the film is ideal for all audiences.

Filmmaker Kerr is the mother of filmmaker Drake Doremus, who performed with the O. C. Crazies sketch and improvisational comedy group from the time he was six years old until enrolling at AFI at the age of 19. Doremus went on to win the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance in 2011 for “Like Crazy.” His soon-to-be-released film “Breathe In” will hit theaters in the fall.

Newport Beach Film Festival website at www.newportbeachfilmfest.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

For more information, please visit: www.wevegotballsmovie.com or call 714 550-9900. KerrPR is happy to set up interviews.

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“We’ve Got Balls” to Make World Debut at Newport Beach Film Festival
Comedy Centers on Small Town Trying to Save Bowling Alley

Santa Ana, Calif. (April 1, 2013) —“We’ve Got Balls,” a quirky 93-minute comedy feature film, will make its world premiere as an official selection of the Newport Beach Film Festival on Monday evening, April 29, at 7:30 p.m. in the city of Newport Beach, Calif.

The location where the film will screen has not yet been determined, but movie fans may check the Newport Beach Film Festival website at www.newportbeachfilmfest.com for more information and to purchase tickets.

According to writer/producer/director Cherie Kerr, a founding member of the famed L.A. Groundlings, and the founder and Artistic Director of the Orange County Crazies, the film promises to bring many laughs along with a poignant message.

Starring in the film are: Gary Austin, co-founder and creator of the L.A. Groundlings, and a long time friend and former performing partner of Kerr’s; Andrew Dickler (“Douchebag” 2010); Toni Alexander; Tyler Strateman; Eric Halasz; Eric Satterberg; and Dane Posey. Actors in supporting roles include: Craig Nelson, Lynne Stewart, Phyllis Katz, Tamar Stevens, Paul Maher, Tony LaHood, Barry Weisenberg, Jose Valdez, Nick Dopuch, David Goldman, Dave Osborn, Jay Abdo, Patrick Downey, Bill Reed, Stanley Hendrickson, Gary Forman, Lew Crouse, and Kylie Rogers. Kerr also assembled a cast of background players numbering more than 150.

Associate Producers include Shannon Dugger, Will Garrison and Eric Anderson. Lou Carlozo, composed the original score for the film, with additional music provided by B-Funkin. Directors of photography for the shoot included Bobby Bragg, and second unit director of photography, Chris Warren. Editing was provided by John Primm and Reinhard Schriener. Line producer Ken Duchamp, supervising producer Theresa Joseph, and unit production manager Shadia Sepehrenia played a huge part in overseeing the production team. Francesca Beniquez served as head makeup artist.

“We have been working on the film for nearly 16 months,” says Kerr. “We are absolutely delighted to have it premier in our backyard. We were very honored to learn we had been chosen as an official selection for the festival.”

Set in the fictional town of Fountain Springs (pop. 52), the film focuses on the reaction of the townsfolk when their beloved bowling alley – “the only thing they’ve got” – is threatened by a greedy land developer, who plans to tear it down in order to build a gambling casino with her Indian Chief business partner.

Orange County locations for the shoot included Fountain Valley’s Fountain Bowl, Newport Beach’s Fashion Island, and Santa Ana’s Double Tree Hotel, De Pietro Performance Center, River View Golf Course, and an historic Victorian home in French Park.

With its tender and relevant social message and family friendly laughs, the film is ideal for all audiences.

Filmmaker Kerr is the mother of filmmaker Drake Doremus, who performed with the O. C. Crazies sketch and improvisational comedy group from the time he was six years old until enrolling at AFI at the age of 19. Doremus went on to win the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance in 2011 for “Like Crazy.” His soon-to-be-released film “Breathe In” will hit theaters in the fall.

For more information, please visit: www.wevegotballsmovie.com or call 714 550-9900. KerrPR is happy to set up interviews.

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Ree-invent Films Nears Completion of Post Production on Indie Feature Comedy Film “We’ve Got Balls”
Director to Announce Screening Soon

Santa Ana, Calif. (March 6, 2013) —“We’ve Got Balls,” a 93-minute independent full-length feature film is nearing completion and is in the final stages of post production with plans to screen soon, according to Cherie Kerr, Executive Producer of the movie.

In conjunction with White Knuckle Productions and TiCa Entertainment, Ree-Invent Films’ “We’ve Got Balls,” began production in March of 2012. Most of the film was shot by the end of October; the last piece of footage was shot over the Christmas holidays.

“We have been in post since last fall,” Kerr said. “We’re very pleased with how the film has come together. We’re now at the finish line incorporating the musical score into the film.”

Upon final completion, Kerr, who also wrote and directed the film, says the film will be submitted to various film festivals where she hopes it will receive exposure and recognition, and ultimately a sale.

Set in the fictional small town of Fountain Springs (pop. 52), the story centers around the fate of a bowling alley that is about to be demolished by a greedy female land developer so she and her Indian Chief cohort can erect a gambling casino on the land on which it sits. There are many twists and turns as the story unfolds, including the stakes of Fountain Bowl’s annual “Over-the-shoulder-under-the-arm” bowling tournament.

Kerr assembled a talented cast, many of whom were either colleagues from the L.A. Groundlings, or a similar organization Kerr founded in Santa Ana 23 years ago, the award-winning Orange County Crazies sketch and improvisational comedy group. (The stage at the Crazies is where her youngest son, 2011 Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize winning director, Drake Doremus, started performing improv at the age of six.) There are also performers in the film with no acting experience, but who stepped up and did a formidable job in their respective roles, she says.

The film includes some familiar faces such as Andrew Dickler, who plays George Pandick, the bowling instructor and who heads the city council. Dickler played a lead in the film, “Douchebag,” which was among the 2010 Sundance Film Festival top selections. Kerr also recruited her dear friend and former scene partner, Gary Austin, who plays Dawson Dinwitty, the town’s shifty mayor. Austin is the creator and co-founder of the L.A. Groundlings, which has gone on to spawn such talent as Will Farrell, Cheryl Hines, Kathy Griffin, Phil Hartman, Kristen Whig, Melissa McCarthy, Simon Helberg and many others, and of which Kerr is also a founding member. “It was such a blast and an honor to get to work with Gary again,” Kerr enthused. “We go back a long way.”

The film also stars, Dane Posey, Eric Satterberg, Eric Halasz, Phyllis Katz, Lynne Stewart, Dave Osborn, Craig Nelson, Tony La-Hood, Kylie Rogers, Barry Weisenberg, Patrick Downey, Gary Forman, Paul Maher, Lew Crouse, Nick Dupach, Toni Alexander Tyler Strateman, Bill Reed, Stanley Henderson, David Goldman, and Tamar Stevens.

“We are very grateful to those who made this film possible, Kerr said. “The kindness and generosity of Fountain Bowl was amazing,” she said. “Without their full-on participation this film would have never been made.”

The film was shot in Orange County at Fountain Valley’s Fountain Bowl, the River View Golf Course and the Doubletree Inn in Santa Ana. Other scenes were shot at the posh offices of Intercommunications in Fashion Island, the theater facility at the OC Crazies Santa Ana theater location, and at one of Santa Ana’s historic landmark Victorian homes in French Park owned by Coneybear, Inc. president, Vicky Betancourt.

While the film is intended to be a light-hearted, but quirky, comedy, ideal for family audiences, Kerr says the film imparts a very tender message. “The message in the story is something I hope people will remember long after they see the film,” she said.

Kerr says she expects that “We’ve Got Balls” will be ready for a preliminary screening by next month.

For more information, please visit: www.wevegotballsmovie.com or call 714 550-9900.

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