Press Kit

CHASING THE GREEN

A feature film directed by Russ Emanuel
Starring Jeremy London, Ryan Hurst, Heather McComb, William Devane, Robert Picardo, Chris Gunn, Patricia Rae, Dan Grimaldi, Larry Pine, Vinny Vella, Howard Nash

http://www.chasingthegreen.com

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CHASING THE GREEN

SYNOPSIS – 1 Line

Two young brothers become millionaires, almost losing it all to an over-zealous bureaucrat.

SYNOPSIS – 3 Line

"Chasing the Green" tells the true story of two young brothers, Adam and Ross, who become millionaires. Their drive leads them into conflict with FTC officials trying to destroy them. Adam tries to reconcile this with his personal life, ultimately wondering what his true passion is.

SYNOPSIS – Short (100 Word)

"Chasing the Green" is a true story of two brothers, Adam and Ross, who became millionaires while still in their 20's. They were among the first to market electronic terminals for credit card transactions in the 1990s. They were confident, bold, and thus ignored warnings by the government to "respond" to numerous complaints regarding their practices. Ultimately, they were nearly destroyed by the FTC, who sought to demolish their company at the behest of their competitors in the industry. Adam tries to reconcile this with conflicts in his own relationships, making him wonder what his true passion is.

SYNOPSIS – Long (150 Word)

'Chasing the Green' is a true story of two brothers, Adam and Ross, who became millionaires while still in their 20's. They were among the first to market electronic terminals for credit card transactions. They were confident, bold, and thus ignored warnings by the government to 'respond' to numerous complaints regarding their practices. Ultimately, they were nearly destroyed by the FTC, who sought to demolish their company at the behest of their competitors in the industry. Adam, the cautious brother, tries to reconcile this with conflicts in his own relationships, making him wonder where his own passions truly lie.

"Chasing" is a film about young ambition; it is also about two independent, intensely driven men unready to accept the importance of working in an interdependent world. They learn, late in the game, that when we refuse to acknowledge the demands of others more powerful, we do so at our peril.
STATEMENT FROM THE DIRECTOR – Russ Emanuel

After completing my first feature “P.J.” I was ready to tackle a more complex feature script: one with diverse locations and a much larger cast. That script turned out to be “Chasing the Green”, an original script I could clearly relate to.

I felt I could easily relate to these two 20-something brothers, Adam and Ross; I could relate to their drive, and their passion to succeed. For such is the case with my own career: I shot “Chasing the Green” while celebrating my 30th birthday, and felt it was my own drive and passion that got me there.

While still in my 20s, I had already directed two shorts, “Her Knight” and the award-winning “Girl With Gun”, before attempting my first feature, “P.J.” With each succeeding film, I attempted to "up the ante", that is, create something that would be much bigger in scope. “Chasing the Green” more than does that, as you will see when you have the opportunity to screen the movie.

I also had the opportunity to cement my relationships with such incredible people like producer Howard Nash, with whom I teamed up with to bring “P.J.” to life and who recommended me for “Chasing the Green”; Craig Frankel, who was Executive Producer on “P.J.”, and who had the confidence in me to direct his life story, and with consummate actors Patricia Rae and Robert Picardo from “P.J”, both of whom I thoroughly enjoyed working with.

In addition to Nash, Rae, and Picardo, I was able to work with other notable actors such as Jeremy London, Ryan Hurst, Heather McComb, William Devane, Dan Grimaldi, Larry Pine, and Vinny Vella. Such a wonderful ensemble ensured that the filming process would be a true success story that would indeed bring together the various elements in the script (written and adapted by “P.J.” screenwriter Emilio Iasiello).

Further assisting in the production process are dazzling cinematography by Seth Melnick (whom I also worked with on “P.J.”), 1990s clothing by costume designer Lisa Faibish (another "PJ" alumnus), an inventive production design by the talented Sergio Levitas, and a gracefully paced edit by Josh Summers.

A seamless collaboration between cast and crew to say the least, “Chasing the Green” was truly a magical experience. That said, I hope you will enjoy the film and my second foray into feature filmmaking.

– Russ Emanuel
For Release: January 15, 2004

Federal Trade Commission Garners $23.5 Million In Settlement of Certified Merchant Services Case

Final Order Contains Provisions Related to Corporate Business Practices

The Federal Trade Commission has accepted $23.5 million to settle charges that Certified Merchant Services (CMS) violated the FTC Act while providing merchants with credit-card payment services. The payment to the FTC came from a forced sale of CMS’s assets, and the parties agree that it will provide full redress to merchants. The sale was part of a stipulated final judgment and order which also permanently bars the defendants from falsifying merchants’ signatures; altering or adding to signed documents relating to merchant accounts; certain billing and debiting practices; and misrepresenting the savings that merchants would achieve by doing business with CMS. The restrictions of these practices have been in effect since December 30, 2002, but the FTC collected the judgment recently and could not disclose it until ordered by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas on January 6, 2004.

The stipulated final judgment and order settled the FTC’s first-ever complaint against an Independent Sales Organization (ISO) for practices related to the marketing of credit- and debit-card merchant accounts to small businesses nationwide.

The FTC filed its complaint in February 2002 against Certified Merchant Services, Ltd.; Certified Merchant GP, Inc.; Certified Merchant Services, Inc., and CMS-LP (collectively CMS); and Jonathan Frankel, Craig Frankel, and Randall Best of Plano, Texas. The companies also did business under the names Transaction Merchant Services (TMS), Transaction Merchant Services.com, and Electrocheck. Jonathan Frankel and Craig Frankel were both officers and directors of CMS. The Commission amended its complaint in June 2002. Defendant Best settled the Commission’s amended complaint separately. In both settlements, the defendants neither admitted nor denied the allegations of the amended complaint.

The Commission’s amended complaint alleged that CMS and the individual defendants contacted small business owners throughout the United States to induce them to establish merchant accounts and, in the process, violated the FTC Act by unfairly and deceptively: 1) modifying customer contracts; 2) debiting customer accounts without authorization; 3) making misrepresentations regarding various goods or services offered; and 4) failing to disclose various charges or fees.

The CMS corporations, Jonathan Frankel, and Craig Frankel agreed to a stipulated final judgment and order which settles all Commission charges against them. The order contains both injunctive and monetary provisions. Under its terms, in connection with the advertising, promotion, offering, or sale of goods or services in commerce, the defendants are permanently barred from falsifying signatures and from altering or adding to — or assisting others in altering or adding to — signed documents relating to merchant accounts without the consent of these merchants. This prohibition covers any changes made to the material terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, increased rates and added fees and expenses.

In addition, in connection with providing card processing or check conversion processing, the defendants are permanently barred from debiting, billing, or receiving money, or assisting others in doing the same: 1) from merchants before the defendants have provided the merchants with the promised card processing services or goods; 2) from merchants for check conversion processing before the merchants have signed up for and activated such services; and 3) from merchants for services or goods after the merchants have cancelled in writing. If the defendants cannot defer automatic debiting, the order requires them to reimburse any debits that fall into the categories above.

Further, the order permanently bars the defendants from making, or assisting others in making any misrepresentation of material fact, including, but not limited to the following claims: 1) if merchants buy the defendants’ services, they will save money on their business expenses, including their card processing expenses; 2) if merchants are dissatisfied with any services or misrepresentations made by the defendants, they can cancel or transfer to another card processor at any time without further obligation; 3) there is no monthly minimum fee or expense associated with merchant accounts or the services offered by the defendants; 4) there are no fees or expenses in addition to the discount rate and per-transaction fee agreed to by the merchants; 5) if merchants are charged cancellation fees by prior credit card processors, the defendants will reimburse the merchants; and 6) if merchants have an existing equipment lease, the defendants will buy the remainder of the lease. The order also bars the defendants from failing to disclose, clearly and conspicuously either orally or in writing, any material fact relating to fees, as detailed in its provisions.

The order states that if the defendants obtain the signature of any merchant on a contract pertaining to the sale of any goods or services, they are barred from failing to provide the merchant – at that time – with a copy of the executed document. The order also requires the defendants to take “reasonable steps” to monitor the conduct of their “agents, representatives, employees, or independent contractors” in complying with the terms of the order, and requires them to file compliance reports with the FTC for five years.

Finally, the order required the defendants to undertake all reasonable efforts to sell the corporate assets to an unrelated third party to pay the judgment amount. This provision resulted in the payment to the FTC of $23,575,488 for use in providing redress to merchants and to cover administrative costs. The order includes specific compliance and monitoring terms as well.

The stipulated final order was filed by Judge Paul Brown of the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas, Sherman Division, on December 30, 2002. On January 27, 2003, the court made public a partially sealed version of the order. The judgment amount remains under seal; however, on January 5, 2004, the court ordered that the payment made to the FTC to satisfy the judgment was not covered by the seal and could therefore be made public.

NOTE: Stipulated orders are for settlement purposes only and do not constitute an admission or denial of law violations. Stipulated orders have the force of law when signed by a judge.

Copies of the redacted stipulated final order are available from the FTC’s Web site at http://www.ftc.gov and also from the FTC’s Consumer Response Center, Room 130, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20580. The FTC works for the consumer to prevent fraudulent, deceptive and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint, or to get free information on any of 150 consumer topics, call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357), or use the complaint form at http://www.ftc.gov. The FTC enters Internet, telemarketing, identity theft and other fraud-related complaints into Consumer Sentinel, a secure, online database available to hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies in the U.S. and abroad.
CHASING THE GREEN

BIOGRAPHIES

Russ Emanuel
DIRECTOR

Originally from San Francisco, Russ grew up in both Japan and the United States, garnering an international viewpoint of the world throughout his childhood. After graduating from the University of Southern California to study Cinema-Television, International Relations and Japanese, and gaining more production experience at the UCLA Extension Program, he founded Russem Productions in 2002 to promote his shorts films including HER KNIGHT (2003) and the award-winning GIRL WITH GUN (2005). He also produced several shorts including MAVET (2004), the zombie-flick THE DIARY (2004), and most recently vampire film PERFECT RED (2006). Presently, P.J. and CHASING THE GREEN marks Emanuel's first foray into feature filmmaking.

Howard Nash
PRODUCER/ACTOR – “BOB PRINTUS”

Acting since the late 1970s, Howard Nash starred in numerous independent films, notably THE MEETING in 2004. However, he is best known as an independent filmmaker, having co-produced the cult film CHILDREN OF THE NIGHT for Columbia Tri-Star in 1991. He also produced SLEEPLESS NIGHTS (MTI, 2002), which is available in most video stores throughout the US and Canada. In 2005, he completed TRACKS (where he appears in a cameo alongside CHASING THE GREEN actor Chris Gunn), which also starred John Heard, along with Ice-T. He also produced the television special FELLICIANO, THE LEGEND (for PBS) starring the legendary singer, Jose Feliciano, and has produced promotional videos for the Beijing Circus, Cirque du Soleil, and the original members of the Electric Light Orchestra (ELO II). Most recently, he produced/starred in Russ Emanuel's P.J.

Craig Frankel
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER/STORY /SCREENPLAY

Residing in Texas, Craig Frankel has always been interested in films. CHASING THE GREEN marks his second foray into feature filmmaking, his first being Russ Emanuel's P.J.. He also has cameos in both films.
**EMILIO IASIELLO**

**SCREENPLAY**

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

**SANDY WEISER**

**LINE PRODUCER/UPM**

Sandy Weiser is a veteran in the industry. He's worked on numerous films as a line producer/unit production manager, including *TRACKS* (2005) with producer Howard Nash and actor Chris Gunn.

**SETH MELNICK**

**DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY**

Already having shot Russ Emanuel's first feature *P.J.*, Seth Melnick is an accomplished Director of Photography and a business-oriented producer. Originally a technical consultant he managed projects with budgets of several million dollars and dozens of people such as Iwon.com and the first Internet ISP in Brazil, IG.com. Seth co-created SLM Production Group LLC with Lauzanne Nel as a venue to produce original and provocative works. As a production company they have been involved in the production of over a dozen feature films, many shorts, videos, trailers and animations. He is currently deep into post-production on *AMERICAN STANDARD*, a clever comedy based on a never been done before concept. He is one of the producers and the director of photography for the project.

**SERGEO LEVITAS**

**PRODUCTION DESIGNER**

Currently residing in New York City, Sergio Levitas brings his own artistic style to every film he works on including the feature film *AMERICAN STANDARD* (2007), along with Director of Photography Seth Melnick. He also was production designer on the shorts *EUTHANASIA* (2005) and *MUTATIONS* (2006), and the features *ALL SCREWED UP* (2007) and *DOORMAN* (2007).
Lisa Faibish, a native of San Francisco, has currently been residing in NYC for the last 10 years. She also is a costume historian and a stylist, having worked at The Costume Institute and The Metropolitan Museum of Art for 8 years. Along with this film, she worked with Russ Emanuel on his first feature P.J. (2007).

Josh started his editing career 10 years ago by working for a small independent network station in Phoenix, run by the Phoenix Fire Department. After work, Josh would spend hours working and refining his skills on their Avid editing system. There he learned the in’s and out’s of editing and creating music videos, learning how to capture and create dynamic video content. From this point, Josh took his skill and started his own business at the age of 19 creating industrial videos for local companies in Salt Lake City and California. Over the next 6 years he expanded his clientele over the region focusing on editing as well as took part in directing a project for AT&T wireless. His drive for filmmaking never left him, and he soon realized that he needed to make the move to California. While living here, Josh continued to grow his business, working commercially with such clients as CASINO MORONGO, THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM, LEIGH ADAMS, and THE KEYCLUB HOLLYWOOD to name a few.

As a composer and conductor, Jason Livesay, along with his twin brother Nolan, is currently scoring feature films, writing commissioned works, and musical directing and conducting theatrical productions. They both hold conducting positions with the Golden State Pops Orchestra, and have composed for Dreamworks, Paramount Pictures, Columbia Pictures, MGM, Warner Brothers, FoxFaith Films, Nickelodeon, CBS, and MTV, earning Gold Classic Telly Awards for their work in television. They have premiered original concert works with the Lake Avenue Chamber Orchestra, the Sonus Quartet, the Golden State Pops Orchestra, the APU Symphony Orchestra, and the Michael Skidgel Singers. Among over 40 film and television credits, recent projects include the HARRY POTTER AND THE GOBLET OF FIRE DVD video game, the original score for the feature film western BOUNTY, original music for the film series 36 PARABLES, original music for the award-winning documentary DEAR FRANCIS, and additional music arranging and orchestration for J.A.C. Redford's epic score for the feature film ONE NIGHT WITH THE KING starring Peter O'Toole.
CHASING THE GREEN

BIOGRAPHIES (CONT.)

JEREMY LONDON
ACTOR – “ADAM FRANKLIN”

Jeremy Michael London, was born in San Diego, California on November 7, 1972 to Frank London, a construction worker, and Deborah Osborn, a waitress. Jeremy and his identical brother, Jason London, started venturing into acting at a young age. His first major role was that of Griffin in the hit TV series PARTY OF FIVE, becoming a household name. Jeremy also got a role in 7TH HEAVEN as Dr. Chandler Hampton. He has also starred in numerous feature films including MALLRATS, GODS AND GENERALS, and most recently CHASING THE GREEN.

RYAN HURST
ACTOR – “ROSS FRANKLIN”

Ryan D. Hurst is an American actor who perhaps most notably starred as Gerry Bertier, an All-American linebacker in Disney's REMEMBER THE TITANS and as Alison's brother, Michael in the show MEDIUM. He also played the role of doofus football player Lump Hudson in THE LADYKILLERS, appeared in the movie WE WERE SOLDIERS as Sgt. Savage, and starred in the TNT show WANTED. Hurst was born in Santa Monica, California, the son of Candy Kaniecki, an acting coach, and Rick Hurst, an actor. Hurst attended the Santa Monica High School. He recently formed his production company Fast Shoes, which is handling post-production on CHASING THE GREEN.

HEATHER MCCOMB
ACTRESS – “LYNN”

Heather McComb is an American actress. Heather started acting at age 2 in a commercial for Publisher's Clearing House. When she appeared in the telefilm GENERATION X in 1996, she became the first actress to portray the X-Men character Jubilee on screen. Heather joined the cast of PARTY OF FIVE in 1998, working alongside fellow CHASING THE GREEN actor Jeremy London, playing the part of Maggie. She became the wife of actor James Van Der Beek on July 5, 2003.
WILLIAM DEVANE

ACTOR – “VICTOR GATLING”

William Devane is an American film and television actor. Devane is perhaps most widely recognized for his ten years as the villainous Greg Sumner on the drama series KNOTS LANDING, and his role as President Kennedy in the TV film THE MISSILES OF OCTOBER, about the Cuban Missile Crisis. Devane has also appeared in such films as McCabe & Mrs. Miller (1971), Family Plot (1976), Marathon Man (1976), Rolling Thunder (1977), Testament (1983), Forgotten Sins (1996), Payback (1999), and Space Cowboys (2000). Devane has played members of the United States Cabinet on two different evening dramas. In 2004, he guest-starred as United States Secretary of State and potential vice-presidential nominee Lewis Berryhill on The West Wing. In 2005, he joined the cast of 24 as United States Secretary of Defense James Heller in the show’s fourth season.

ROBERT PICARDO

ACTOR – “DAVE FOXX”

A graduate of Yale University, Robert Picardo made his Broadway debut in the comedy hit Gemini in 1977 with Danny Aiello and also appeared in Bernard Slade’s Tribute, and The Normal Heart for which he won a Drama-Logue Award. Then, he became involved in television, where he soon was nominated for an Emmy award for his role as Mr. Cutlip on the series The Wonder Years (1988). In 1995, he got the role as "The Doctor" on Star Trek: Voyager (1995) where he also directed two episodes. He also got movie roles in various films including Innerspace (1987), China Beach (1988) (TV), Gremlins 2: The New Batch (1990), as well as a cameo in Star Trek: First Contact (1996). More recently, he starred in Russ Emanuel's first feature film P.J. (2007) alongside John Heard, Vincent Pastore, and Chasing The Green actress Patricia Rae.

PATRICIA RAE

ACTRESS – “MONA BEADS”

Actress Patricia Rae is active in film, television and theatre. Her recent film credits include Russ Emanuel’s P.J. (2007), Chris Fisher’s horror film Nightstalker, which appeared at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival, and Maria Full of Grace (2004) (which was nominated for an Oscar, and which Rae was nominated for an IMAGEN Award). Rae has acted in several television dramas and comedies, including Malcolm in the Middle, Law & Order: CI, and Law & Order: SVU. Rae’s most recent stage credits include the one-woman show Under Construction, The Making of Patricia Rae which made its world premiere at the Stella Adler Conservatory in New York, directed by Robert Covarrubias. Currently, she is co-starring with Stephen Baldwin in the soon to be released Midnight Clear, and is starring in the LA premiere of Stephen Adly Guirgis’ play In Arabia We’d All Be Kings. Rae studied at the Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute and Chicago City Limits, both in New York City.

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**Dan Grimaldi**
*Actor – “Peter Allen”*

Dan Grimaldi is an American actor who is known for his roles as Philly and Patsy Parisi on the HBO TV series, **The Sopranos**. Other credits include, most notably as mother-fixated pyromaniac Donald 'Donny' Kohler in the 1980 slasher film **Don’t Go In The House**, and some guest TV appearances, including several episodes on **Law & Order**. He also voices 'Frank' for the bestselling computer game **Mafia**.

**Larry Pine**
*Actor – “Frank Daniels”*

Larry Pine is a film, television and theatre actor. He began his professional acting career Off-Broadway, then appeared in **Cyrano De Bergerac** at the Vivian Beaumont Theatre in 1968 as Fop. A founding member of the avant-garde theater company the Manhattan Project, Pine appeared with the group in **Alice In Wonderland**, directed by Andre Gregory, in 1970 (Manhattan Project 1973). He made his film debut in 1978 in James Ivory's **Hullabaloo Over Georgie And Bonnie's Pictures**, which was made for television, but later was released theatrically. Since then, he has performed in Louis Malle's **Vanya On 42nd Street**, Woody Allen's **Celebrity, Small Time Crooks, The Clearing** alongside Robert Redford, and **Melinda And Melinda**, among other films. And, he appears in the book **Are You Dave Gorman?** as the first actor encountered by the writer to have played a fictional Dave Gorman (in **The Ice Storm**).

**Chris Gunn**
*Actor – “Bert Tyler”*

Currently residing in New York, Chris Gunn is an up-and-coming actor. His major breakthrough role was that of Peter Madagin in the independent feature film **Tracks** (2005), starring alongside John Heard and Ice-T, a film that was produced by Howard Nash. Due to his incredible performance in that film, when he began producing **Chasing The Green**, he recommended Gunn for the role of Bert Tyler. Gunn also starred in the 1998 TV series **Homicide: Life On The Street** as Craig Halpern.
CREW LIST

Russ Emanuel | Director
Howard Nash | Producer
Craig Frankel | Executive Producer/Story/Screenplay
Emilio Iasiello | Screenplay
Richard Spitaleri | Associate Producer
Sandy Weiser | Line Producer/UPM
Seth Melnick | Director of Photography
Sergeo Levitas | Production Designer
Emile Hans | Editor
Josh Summers, Thomas L. Wentworth | Editor
Neil Argo, Jason Livesay | Composer
Lisa Faibish | Costume Designer
Lauzanne Nel | Key Makeup Artist
Andrew Prokopenko | Production Sound Mixer
Cole Summers | VFX Editor/Poster Artist
Sean Fahimian, Michelle Garuik | Post Sound Mixer
Sonia Malfa, Lesa Greenfield | Production Coordinator
Michael E. Goodin | 1st Assistant Director
Jeffrey Virchow | 2nd Assistant Director
Ken Greenblatt | Location Manager
Zaini Malcolm | Script Supervisor
Zeynep Oguz Catal | Key Gaffer
Luis Armada | Key Grip
Aileen Taylor | 1st Assistant Camera
Don Elmendorf, Joseph Notovitz | Still Photographer
Scott Brown | Documentarian

CAST LIST

Jeremy London | Adam Franklin
Ryan Hurst | Ross Franklin
Heather McComb | Lynn
William Devane | Víctor Gatling
Robert Picardo | Dave Foxx
Patricia Rae | Mona Beads
Dan Grimaldi | Peter Allen
Larry Pine | Frank Daniels
Chris Gunn | Bert Tyler
Vinny Vella | Vincent
Howard Nash | Bob Printus
Blake Young-Fountain | Carl
Lavinia Dowdell | Carol
Tim Cinnante | Tim
Jim Crosson | Tony
John DePrima | John
Mer Anthony | Bill
Prem Singh | Charles
Catherine Hyland | Adam & Ross’ Mom
John James Schaffer | Young Adam
Jared B. Kempner | Young Ross
“PETE RSON”

The character "Ted Peterson" continues director Russ Emanuel's tradition of using the Peterson name (also mentioned in his award-winning short film "Girl With Gun" (2006) as a business associate of character Dan Winters' and in his award-winning first feature film "P.J." (2007) as Dr. Peterson).

“FIRST TIME SINCE . . .”

This is the first time since the TV series "Party of Five" that Jeremy London (Adam Franklin) and Heather McComb (Lynn) worked together, albeit not as lovers as they are in this film! Regardless, the fact that they knew each other made it easier to make their relationship that much more believable.
PRODUCTION STILLS

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