

DROPPING



THE
DON WIMMER
STORY

A Film By Matthew Manus

PRESS KIT

CONTACT:

David Klane
Cynthia Klane
Dropping In, LLC
7515 Remmet Ave.
Canoga Park, CA 91303
(818) 999- 9079 phone and fax
droppinginllc@sbcglobal.net



www.droppinginmovie.com

SYNOPSIS

Dropping In: The Don Wimmer Story is a documentary-style narrative that follows first-time filmmaker JP Parcel (Christopher Manus) and his self-unaware subject Don Wimmer (David Klane). Don has passionately recommitted himself to his long-abandoned childhood dream of becoming a professional skateboarder. Never mind that he's 42 years old, more than twice the age of the average pro skater, and forget the fact that he can't skate well, which is probably made worse by his constant drinking and smoking... these are minor details. Triumph or train-wreck, this determined former CPA talks others into aiding his cause while talking himself through the best and worst of situations. All the while, aspiring filmmaker JP believes that completing the film will mark the realization of both their dreams. Even though their stories nosedive one after the other from optimism to the brink of defeat, Don and JP pull together to achieve a surprisingly happy and altogether appropriate outcome.

Nominated for:

The Maverick Film Makers Award (Method Fest 2009)

Best Break Through Performance - David Klane (Method Fest 2009)



ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

The story was conceived in early 2004 shortly after writer-director Matthew Manus' brief stint as a receptionist at the talent agency where writer-producer-actor David Klane is VP of operations. Klane had been an avid skateboarder in his youth, and he'd recently rediscovered skating as a nostalgic way to get some much needed exercise. He shared with Manus some stills and digital video of himself skateboarding at a local skate park and shortly thereafter Manus hatched the idea for a feature faux-documentary about a middle-aged executive who endeavors to become a pro skateboarder. The idea resonated with Klane for obvious reasons and the two developed the idea and beat out a rough script of about 55 pages. Dialogue would be improvised. Klane would play the lead character. Dan Steller, a film student graduate and former classmate of Manus, joined the team as editor and cameraman. The movie was shot on Mini-DV over the course of three years on weekends and holidays while Klane's future wife, Cynthia, rode herd on the entire micro-budgeted production. It is the first feature film for all involved.

The faux-documentary genre has been perfected by the likes of Ricky Gervais (*The Office*), Christopher Guest (*A Mighty Wind*, *Best In Show*, *Waiting For Guffman*) and Zack Penn (*Incident At Loch Ness*) and the genre well served the story of *Dropping In*. The inclusion of the character of JP Parcel as the "documentary filmmaker" made for a particularly interesting exercise in narrative POV theory. Also, the idea of a documentary filmmaker confronted with a particularly difficult and mostly uncooperative subject provides for much thematic grist. The more Don spirals down and away from his goal, the more JP is drawn into the story as a player pushing events forward. As JP states in the epilogue, "When it comes to someone's life, it's impossible to be just an observer." Finally, when Don has completely run out of enthusiasm to go forward, it's JP who must convince Don to keep pursuing his goal. Besides, if Don doesn't get back on track, JP's goal will not be realized either.

In the end, for those involved with the production, the film became entangled with reality. As producer Cynthia Klane put it: "[Making the movie] was like trying to live with Don Wimmer for three years." Week after week, month after month, the production dragged on while seeming to mimic the ups and downs of Don and JP's story. For three years the *Dropping In* crew sought to finish a film that, at one point or another, made almost everyone wonder, "why even bother?" But as JP did for Don, someone was always there to stand up and push everyone forward. Behind the camera, just as in front, our cast and crew became a tight-knit group that accomplished together something none could do alone.



DON TOWN

THE GROWING WORLD OF DON WIMMER

IN PRINT



ON THE WEB

**SPEED BOARDER OF THE YEAR
(APRIL FOOL'S EDITION)**



www.silverfishlongboarding.com
(featured article, CANADA)

**"I WANT TO BELIEVE...
CHEERS FROM PARIS!"**

www.longskate.fr
(FRANCE)

EDITORIAL



Don Wimmer contemplates whether to drop in or drop out. Photo: Gia Canali

DROPPING OUT vs. DROPPING IN

We're facing some challenging times here on planet earth. Every day it seems like we are bombarded with depressing news: the economy, the environment, wars, crooked politicians and human rights abuses. As things lurch from bad to worse, it can get mighty depressing. Many of us just throw our hands up and tune out, hoping that it will all blow over. It will, but the antidote is not to ignore what's happening — don't drop out of what's going on. Engage in something that is positive and makes a difference and if that revolves around skateboarding, well, that's even better.

So things are little crazy out there — what about the state of skate? I believe the act of skateboarding is probably pretty healthy right now. There are literally hundreds of incredible skateparks. There are dozens of contests and more media coverage than at any other time in history. There are also lots opportunities to try different types of skateboarding and the internet provides a great way to communicate with fellow skaters. At the same time, the business of skateboarding is going through some convulsions. We've discussed the rampant myopia that has clouded many in the skate industry. The focus on one type of skateboarding and one type of skater has meant that a lot of

companies have put all their eggs (wheels?) in one basket. Now that street skateboards have become pretty much a commodity, it's doubtful they'll turn the opposite way.

Like many of you I have found that skateboarding has pulled me through some difficult times. It's been a long winter and going several months without the ability to skate outside warmed by the sun can take its toll — even on folks like me who are surrounded by skateboarding. When you take all the depressing news and couple it with "cabin fever" it can be a recipe for disaster. March is a cruel month, no doubt!

Thankfully, there's always humor to bring you back from a semi-catatonic state. With that in mind, I proud to present to you Don Wimmer — the skater you see pictured in the above photo. Don has a new movie coming out called "Dropping In." The teasers on the website (droppingmovie.com) are sure to put a smile on your face. You'll be learning more about Don's quest to become a pro skater (at the age of 42) in our upcoming issue but for now, don't drop out, drop in!

Enjoy this issue,

Michael Brooke,
Publisher/Editor

20 CONCRETE WAVE SPRING 2008

"I watched a bit of Dog Town and the Z Boys last night. The more I watch it, the more relieved I am that there are people like Don in the world."

www.middle-age-shred.com
(UNITED KINGDOM)

"Mr. Wimmer may be fictional but he's pretty real in the practical world...I need to get out and skate more."

www.fuel.tv/SouthoftheNorth/blogs
(Colin Bane, USA)

C A S T

DON WIMMER	DAVID KLANE
JP PARCEL	CHRISTOPHER MANUS
JASON KLUGMAN	TIM BANNING
ANITA KLUGMAN	LAURA LANG
SHELLY HOPE	KATIE HOOTEN
HOWARD HOPE	GEORGE LINDSEY, JR.
WALTER WIMMER	BARRY LYNCH
PEGGY KENNEDY	CYNTHIA KLANE
N. MIKE ELBERGER	JIM FRY
MAXINE HOPE	MAXINE KLANE
LIZA HOPE	LIZA KLANE
JP'S ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	MATTHEW MANUS
SOUNDMAN	JJ MASLEY
CAMERAMAN 1	DAN STELLER
CAMERAMAN 2	BOB OEDY

C R E W

DIRECTED BY	MATTHEW MANUS
WRITTEN BY	MATTHEW MANUS
	DAVID KLANE
PRODUCED BY	MATTHEW MANUS
	DAVID KLANE
	DAN STELLER
	CYNTHIA KLANE
EDITOR	DAN STELLER
MUSIC	CARLOS JOSÉ ALVAREZ
MUSIC CONSULTANT	KEITH C ANDERSON
SOUND EDITOR / MIXER	JOEL CATALAN
COLORIST	MATT DOANE
STUNT COORDINATOR	IAN EYRE

"TIME TO GO (PART 1)"

**Written by Carlos José Alvarez and
Josh Johnson**

**Performed by Josh Johnson, Mike
Dobson, Braden Kimball**

**Produced by Carlos José Alvarez
Published by Carlos Alvarez Music
(BMI)
& NexuSeven (BMI)**

"TIME TO GO (PART 2)"

**Written by Carlos José Alvarez and
Josh Johnson**

**Performed by Josh Johnson, Mike
Dobson, Braden Kimball**

**Produced by Carlos José Alvarez
Published by Carlos Alvarez Music
(BMI)
& NexuSeven (BMI)**

"ANYTHING"

Written by Josh Johnson

**Performed by Josh Johnson, Mike
Dobson, Braden Kimball**

**Produced by Carlos José Alvarez,
Josh Johnson
Published by NexuSeven (BMI)**

"FOR TOO LONG"

Written by Josh Johnson

**Performed by Josh Johnson, Mike
Dobson, Braden Kimball**

**Produced by Carlos José Alvarez,
Josh Johnson
Published by NexuSeven (BMI)**

"DROP IN"

**Written by Ryan Perez-Daple and
Colin Simson**

**Performed by Ryan Perez-Daple
and Colin Simson**

Published by Daple Music (ASCAP)

DROPPING

IN THE
DON WIMMER
STORY

WWW.DROPPINGINMOVIE.COM

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DON WIMMER
STORY



DROPPING IN LLC. Presents A Film By MATTHEW MANUS CHRISTOPHER MANUS TIM BANNING LAURA LANG DAVID KLANE
DROPPING IN: THE TRUE STORY OF DON WIMMER Music By CARLOS JOSE ALVAREZ Edited By DAN STELLER Produced By MATTHEW MANUS
CYNTHIA KLANE DAN STELLER DAVID KLANE Written By MATTHEW MANUS & DAVID KLANE Directed By MATTHEW MANUS
www.droppinginmovie.com