


**And you
thought
you had
issues.**



BELLO PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS
"DOING THERAPY" STARRING JOE GIACOBELLO AND BARBARA WINTERS
ALSO FEATURING DAVID DIETZ, TOM INTERVAL, AND JACKSON KERNION
WRITTEN, PRODUCED, AND DIRECTED BY JOE GIACOBELLO

DOING THERAPY

www.bellofilms.com

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DOING THERAPY

An insanely funny romantic comedy about a high-class Hollywood actress and a no-class Pittsburgh shrink, stuck together in therapy and driving each other absolutely crazy.

Doing Therapy is a lighthearted romantic comedy set in modern-day Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Humorous, silly, and even suspenseful at times, it is a heartwarming tale with the sincerity and simplicity of a black-and-white 1950s melodrama.

In the middle of a highly successful film career, Diane Rischar, a famous Hollywood actress, suddenly develops a problem while onstage. She is stricken with frightful, paralyzing panic attacks that begin to affect her job and her personal life.

In an effort to help her, her family seeks out the best anxiety specialist in the country—an offbeat psychologist (Joe Giacobello) working out of a clinic in Pittsburgh.

To avoid the media attention, Diane goes to Pittsburgh, and the unlikely couple is stuck together for an entire month in extensive 24-hour-a-day therapy. As they work together to figure out her problem, Diane reveals that she has been harboring a

secret—a man has been stalking her.

The psychotic predator soon surfaces, once again posing a threat to her physical and mental well being. Through therapy, both patient and doctor learn a great deal about themselves and each other. Struggling with his own "ghosts" from the past, Joe fights his feelings for Diane.



Eventually, Diane puts her new skills to the test as she shoots a major scene for an upcoming

movie. In an action-packed climax, the stalker appears on the set and attempts to kill her. In the end, both Joe and Diane must face their greatest fears, head-on, in a struggle for life, love, and sanity. Can they come to terms with their issues without driving each other completely insane?



As with many low-budget movies, much of the action in this film is centered around one simple but effective location—Joe's apartment. To get the right look, I needed to create a sloppy, run-down, one-bedroom bachelor pad with clothing and trash scattered everywhere. I converted my own living space into a "pig pen"; and, during the entire year of shooting, I was not able to touch or move a single piece of garbage. Since I was working a full-time corporate job at the time, we were limited to rehearsing and shooting mainly on weekends. The challenge was to keep the acting fresh, month after month, and to keep in mind that, at some point in the distant future, this project will be completed!



During the directing process, I tried to stay open to any new ideas that might improve or enhance the script. When I brought on a local Pittsburgh actress named Barbara Winters to play the role of Diane Rischard, a collaborative spark was ignited that resulted in fresh insights, revisions, and even new scenes being added. Winters was cast in the role for three reasons: I needed an actress who could naturally fit the "high-maintenance" profile, show a lot of emotion, and whole-heartedly believed in the project. Needless to say, she fit the bill and soon brought to life the quirky, emotionally distraught character that I had once only imagined.



Acting and directing simultaneously was a challenge, but I think the underlying sense of stress only worked to enhance the somewhat disheveled, distracted character that I was playing. The overall tone of this story walks a fine line between comedy and tragedy. I wanted to keep a constant air of "silliness," yet maintain an underlying sense of impending doom just beneath it all. I think it was the mounds of garbage and the crooked lampshade in my living room that kept us firmly grounded in our "silly" mode.

Pittsburgh weather was very unpredictable throughout the process. On nearly every shoot date, we had tumultuous thunder-showers—except for the day that we needed showers for the rain scene. We ended up improvising with a garden hose and spigot.

This movie truly was a grass-roots, "guerilla filmmaking" effort involving a limited budget, simple sets, and a group of creative, enthusiastic actors and crew members pulling out all stops.

Joe Giacobello



An Additional Note from Actress Barbara Winters

After a phone call from Joe, with the amazing news that the film was now complete, I sat back in a quiet, reflective celebration-me, a bottle of Merlot, and my two cats, Maxwell and Milo, by my side. Somewhere in the midst of the dutiful purrs and my second glass of wine, my mind went through a brief, yet vibrant, whirlwind of all that has happened to get to this point. But the one thing that kept re-entering my mind was the fact that, for the entire one year plus, throughout all of this craziness, Joe Giacobello has lived in a state of complete discomboomeration, all for the sake of his movie-



something that would have driven me to the brink of insanity within the first month. The project took over his entire life, which included his living in extreme clutter for over a year, scouting for actors, exploring locations, and even taking on a new roommate, a red-eared sliding turtle, which appeared in two scenes. He truly put his heart and soul (and sanity) on the line for his project. I have never seen anyone so focused, so driven, nor so frustrated, at times, as I've seen him. Nor have I ever seen a look of artistic satisfaction in one's eyes, as I had, many times, in Joe's. This was a mad artist obsessed and consumed by his work, and it was quite inspirational.

When Joe and I first met, and I auditioned for him in the storage space of a club in downtown Pittsburgh, I would've never dreamed that that night would have led us to this accomplished piece of work. From the joyous moments, to the bitching and moaning, to the spurts of hysteria, to the brainstorming sessions, to the unbelievable 'end of the road'.....to you, Joe Giacobello, and to the journey you've allowed me to take with you.....one I will never forget.

Barbara Winters

In September of 1989, as I stood onstage in front of a sold-out audience at the Erie Playhouse, a feeling came over me—a feeling that started me on a fascinating journey that would prompt me, 17 years later, to write a screenplay called *Doing Therapy*. That night, I was playing the part of George Gibbs in a beautifully orchestrated rendition of *Our Town*, when, in the middle of a key scene, I began to feel "out of control." It started slowly, and then snowballed. Disoriented and drenched with sweat, I steadied myself by clinging to a chair and tried desperately to keep the scene moving. In my peripheral, I could see stagehands motioning in the wings, trying to prompt me on the lines. I wasn't forgetting my lines, and I wasn't sick. I was having a panic attack. And so it began.



When I first started writing the storyline, I could think of no current movies—drama, comedy, or other—that truly embraced the theme of anxiety and panic in a realistic way that people could relate to. I wanted to create a film about letting go of fear, beating your anxieties, and starting over; but at the same time, I wanted it to be a romantic comedy. I started with the idea of two opposites being "stuck" together in a twist of fate, added some suspense and a climactic ending, and came out with an odd little tale that—like life—seems to shift between light and dark...between funny and downright tragic.

In creating the characters, I tried to stay within subject areas that I know. Since I enjoy acting and psychology, I decided to match up an actress and a psychologist. It is important to note that, from the beginning, neither character is emotionally stable.



Each suffers with his/her own set of problems, and each possesses a certain sense of desperation or vulnerability. And, in perfect romantic fashion, it is only when the two opposites come together that they can truly be strong or complete. At first, the focus is on Diane's problems and her therapy; but as the story progresses, we find that Joe is also being "healed" by the experience.

Trying to come up with interesting character names can be difficult, and I often find myself searching through phone books for hours. For the male lead, I went with my own name, simply because I can't imagine finding a more unique and fitting name for this character. The story itself can seem a bit surrealistic or even far-fetched at times, but that only adds to the fun. Once disbelief is suspended, anything can happen (and it does). It is, all in all, a silly comedy, a heartwarming romance, and a suspenseful, psychological drama.

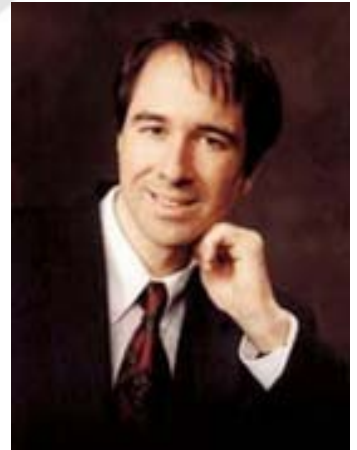
In these troubled times of anxiety, uncertainty, and broken dreams, I hope that many people will find *Doing Therapy* to be the perfect prescription. A few laughs, a little romance, and a happy ending—it's just what the doctor ordered!

Joe Giacobello

JOE GIACOBELLO (DIRECTOR/WRITER) • JOE

Joe Giacobello began the writing of *Doing Therapy* more than three years ago. Since that time, he has produced, directed, edited, and even acted in the film. We asked this theatrical jack-of-all-trades which aspect of production was his favorite, and his answer was simple: "Oh, definitely the acting!" Joe's experience began in community theater, where he played a wide variety of mostly comic roles at the Erie Playhouse, the Roadhouse Theater, and other popular Erie venues. A natural-born comic, he has performed stand-up routines and improvisation at such comedy clubs as The Funny Bone and The Improv. Eventually, Joe took an interest in film and began writing scripts for personal and industrial video productions. In 1998, after launching Bello Productions, he wrote, directed, and starred in *Mr. G.*, a local sitcom that followed the zany adventures of an offbeat schoolteacher in and out of the classroom. Filmed and aired on Pittsburgh Cable Television (PCTV), the show drew excellent reviews from local publications and became a favorite of community access TV viewers everywhere. Always reaching beyond the surface, Joe describes his work as "comedy that makes you think." Whether he's writing or acting, Joe's offbeat sense of humor has kept people laughing—and thinking—for more than 20 years.

Learn more about Joe at www.bellofilms.com.

**BARBARA WINTERS • DIANE RISCHARD**

Barbara Winters has worked primarily in the television and radio commercial arena for the past three years, performing on-camera and in voice-over. She is currently working in the independent-film industry (on camera and writing/developing) and can be seen in a new short, titled, *The Bar is a Beautiful Place* (produced by Rue Snider of Ambulance Films) as a drug-addicted bride. She won critical acclaim for her portrayal of a French maid in the role of Mignonette in the comedy, *The Happy Time*. Under the guidance and instruction of her teacher and mentor, voice-over legend, Jeff Bergman, she has developed a wide range of character voices (commercial, animated, and impersonated) and has begun a working relationship with United Stations, New York, as a freelance voice talent. She is currently creating a children's show and is in the final stages of completion with her first poetry anthology. Barbara and Joe are in the developmental phase of their next project.

Learn more about Barbara at www.geocities.com/barbwinters2005.



DAVID DIETZ • *CRAZED STALKER*

David Dietz has been working steadily throughout south-western Pennsylvania as an actor, playwright, screenwriter, and director for more than 12 years. His list of stage credits includes appearances with the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, Open Stage Theatre of Pittsburgh, Carlow College, and Washington & Jefferson College's Center Stage Players. His voice can be heard in radio spots for Lukoil, Station Square, and the Original Fish Market, and he has appeared in various commercials and industrials. During the 2004 season, the South Park Theatre of Pittsburgh successfully produced two plays that David wrote: *The Celestial Social Service* (a world-premiere mainstage production) and *The Three Wishes of Aladdin* (a comedy for children). Currently, he is working on *Close to Closure*, a docu-drama featurette about the disappearance of Amelia Earhart; *Die Laughing* (working title), an independent horror film to be distributed by Troma Entertainment; and *Loonacy*, an independent feature in which he plays, of all things, another crazed psychotic!

Learn more about David at www.dietzthethird.com/actor.html.

**TOM INTERVAL** • *DR. THOMAS WARNER*

Tom Interval has captivated audiences for more than 26 years. At the age of six, he developed a strong interest in magic and gave his first paid performance when he was 12. Since then, he has earned the title of Pittsburgh Magician of the Year and has entertained tens of thousands of people at both private and corporate venues. As a full-time magician at Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, Tom developed an interest in acting after having to portray a medieval conjurer, complete with a period costume and English accent. While his acting experience is not exhaustive, he had a small part in one other independent film, appeared on a television commercial for Busch Gardens, and promoted the park on several local TV talk shows along the East Coast. Before *Doing Therapy*, his most recent acting project was *Mr. G.* (Bello Productions, 1999), in which he played Mr. Woody. Already a published author and a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM) and Society of American Magicians (SAM), Tom is currently writing a magic book and continues to pursue other interests, including screenwriting, drawing, and web design.

Learn more about Tom at www.intervalmagic.com.



JACKSON KERNION • BOB THORTON

A ninth-grade student at North Allegheny Intermediate High School, Jackson Kernion has performed in many different venues, including four productions with the Pittsburgh Opera: The child lead of Willie Maurant in *Street Scene*, *Dead Man Walking*, *La Boheme*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Additionally, Jackson was cast in two Pittsburgh Opera Theater Company productions (*Summer And Smoke* and *The Magic Flute*). He also won roles in two Prime Stage productions, including the lead character, Jack, in *The Lord of the Flies*. Jackson has twice been a finalist in the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Shakespeare Monologue and Scene Competition. He also sings with the Junior Mendelsohn Choir of Pittsburgh.



Bello Productions Presents

Joe Giacobello
Barbara Winters
David Dietz

Written, Directed, and Produced by
Joe Giacobello

Editor
Joe Giacobello

CAST

Diane Rischard Barbara Winters
Joe Giacobello Joe Giacobello
Crazed Stalker David Dietz
Bob Thorton Jackson Kernion
Dr. Thomas Warner Tom Interval
George (Actor) Bill Leon
Director 1 Adam Kukic
Camera Man Bill Ehrin
Crew Man Todd Fair
Crew Man Patrick Quinn
Crew Man Jon MacDonald
Makeup Woman Michelle Beddard
Uncle Carl Edward Linder
Michael (Bodyguard) Jay M. Jamison
Frank Moon Frank Pirone
UPS Man John Paluka
Abducted Girl Sarah Craft
Fred (Therapy Leader) Mike Kerin
Richard Gunther Kusio
Marty Joe Grabowski
Connie Amy Marsalis
Stalker's Mother Rose Lidey
Young Stalker Keith Ramey
Stalker's Sister Kelsea Lidey
Diane (at age 3) Alex Campbell
Diane's Mother Janelle Fenoglietto
Diane's Sister Kara Fenoglietto
John Alec Silberblatt

Big Bully Roy Gloeckl
Bully #2 Michael Misko
Bully #3 Kristopher Eckels
Director 2 Randy Hischemellor
Prop Man Matt Silay
Phil (Actor) Jack Goodstein
Camera Guy Chris Sestric
Boom Guy Robert J. Jamison
Michelle Kristy Kessler
Joe's Mother Sue Smoyer

Extras, Therapy Patients:

Heather Tullis Edwin Schock
Amy Zierath Cheryl Schock

Extras, Students in Cafeteria:

Zach Jopling Laura Smith
Jillian Loadman Lauren LeJeune
Elizabeth Orsini Autumn Hyde
Jamie Bailey Ashley Norkevicus
Keith Bryan Gena Goodman
Alisa Vodzak Jessie Goodman
Dayna Welsh Autumn Zwibel
Amber Valdiserri John Gloeckl
Leah Boehler Nathan Gloeckl
Casey O'Bryan Dave "Roy" Lauterbach
Ben Langdon Adam Zettl
Charlette Ross Jim Smoyer
Brenda Paiz Neil Pegher
Dave Beddard Alex Eiben
Christa Peifer Nikki Trampusch
Kimberly Peifer Jacqui Farkas
Thomas Barone Jen Dorman
Nicholas Barone Nicole Arms
Luke Smith

Lunch Ladies:

Carrie Piasecki Leslie Wright
Diane Smith Helen Fix

Extras, News Reporters/Fans:

Anna Kate Babnik Christina Chickis
Patricia Burgess Heather L. Chickis
Daniel Wyse Dianne Stetzer

Kathy Leslie	Claire Stetzer
Karen R. Hanes	Brenan Stetzer
Kathleen Leadbitter	Charles Creager
Marilyn McClain	Larry C. Trombitas
Alexis Eichelsbacher	Jennifer Cagliuso
Teresa (Tracey) Stanisha	Dominique Cagliuso
David Bonta	Dannielle Cagliuso
Dayton Kessler	Ina L. Block
Minda Fisher	Mark August Spitznagel
Sandy Boggs	Irene Gade-Lilja
Adrienne Elion	John O'Neill
Dorothy M. Ruttle	Effie LaQuatra
Rich Neill	Emma Shaul
David Beddard, Sr.	Katie Alexander
Tony Beddard	Welkay
Eve Maloney	Elena LaQuatra
Raymond Maloney	Isabella LaQuatra

Production Assistant	Barbara Winters
Marketing Communications Specialist	Tom Interval
Consultant	Adrienne Wehr
Chief Cinematographer	Adam Taylor
Camera 1/Editing	Adam Taylor
	John Donaldson
	Jon MacDonald
Camera 2/Crew	Welkay
	Brad Morris
	Rob Furman
	Rik Bilok
	Alexander Andres
Casting Assistant	Barbara Winters
Crew Assistant	Tom Interval
Fight Choreography	John Donaldson
Storyboards	Gregory Lyons
Makeup	Laura Mushenheim
Barbara Winters' Hair Designer	June Mroz
Props/Location Assistance	David Fenoglietto
Creative Consultant	Tom Interval
Consultant	Christinna Rossi
Web Designer	Tom Interval
Production Assistance	David Dietz
	Shaun S. Orbin
	Connie Cannon
	Jamie Bailey

Creative Writing Assistant Susan Beals
Casting Assistance David Dietz
Props Victoria Voller
Eve Schaefer
Curt Reinhart
Graphic Designer Tom Interval
Promo Photographer Larry Rippel
Still Photography Barbara Winters
Editing Consultants John Donaldson
Brad Grimm
Nicholas Yost
Henry Tjernlund
Post-Production Assistance Bill Waddell

MUSIC

Music by Trudy Holler, Giallo, and M2H

"High-Maintenance Blues"

Written and performed by Trudy Holler and Steve Karl

Published by Trudy Holler - Steve Karl

"Jessica" and "The American Nightmare"

Written and performed by John Giacobello

Published by A Different Drum

"Stalker's Theme"

Written and performed by Giallo

"Romance on Cue"

Written and performed by Giallo

"I'll Always Love You"

Written and performed by Trudy Holler and Steve Karl

Published by Trudy Holler - Steve Karl

SPECIAL THANKS

MCA TV

3rd Millenium Productions

PA Fish Commission, for the use of Glade Run Lake

Ansoft Corp, Station Square

Carlow College Campus School

Concord Presbyterian Church, Carrick

DOING THERAPY

CREDITS *(Continued)*

Starbucks Coffee, Moon Township, PA
Mount Pleasant Twp Community Center, Hickory, PA
Bud Allison Memorial Theater
Interval Magic
Cards by Anne
Anne and Jack Kernion
Larry Rippel Photography
A, B and G Digital Productions
NovaCare Rehabilitation, Moon Township, PA
Old Schoolhouse Players
Burger King Restaurant, Robinson Township, PA
The Nicolia Prop Shop, Erie, PA
Linder Furniture Gallery, McKees Rocks, PA
Yoo Hoo Beverages
Lori Gloeckl
Robert Scott
Lori Maxwell
Jessica Conner

Bello Productions Website designed by:
Tom Interval

Filmed on location in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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DOING THERAPY

A FEW MORE SHOTS



To learn more about *Doing Therapy*, visit www.bellofilms.com.