

## ITVfest / PopConLA - FILMMAKER INTERVIEWS

A Q&A with Jeremiah Kaynor from the Comedy “The Divine Marigolds”



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**So, Jeremiah, your background, where are you from and what motivated you to do a Comedy?:**

I am from Seattle WA, and the motivation behind this show was the lives that two of my producing partners had grown up in. One of them had grown up in a large Irish family that was all about the fun, dancing, raising a glass to your family and embracing the ridiculous drama that came with six siblings. The other producer married into a family that was just as crazy. So I guess you can say that real life is what inspired this comedy. Some great movies pull off the ever so difficult style of combining great drama with amazing comedy and that is what we are striving for in a television series. So far it has been a great collaboration of writing between the producers and lead writer. After we got the first season written, I just found that I personally loved writing comedy. It comes easy to our team considering there is a wide range of humor in our group.

**And your role with in “The Divine Marigolds” ?**

I am a creator and executive producer on the project. I also write some of the material out and then it gets handed off to the lead writer, but for the most part I stick with producing. I kind of take on a lot of roles in the company, as do we all. I think UPM and Locations is a big part of my on-set job. I also deal a lot with the marketing and PR for the show.

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**How would you best describe you Comedy?**

That is a good question. I have had many, many people tell me it is like the Cosby Show meets Parenthood and Arrested Development, but with an Irish Family... I think what is amazing about the project is that it does have that Cosby type feel. Back in the day, the Cosby Show was loved because they didn't play off of being an African American family, but because they just were and average American family and no more. That's all they needed to be and everyone could relate to that family. The Divine Marigolds are the same way but with a little more updated modern humor. The one thing I hear the most from people is, "The Marigolds reminds me of my family. I love it!"

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### **What was the best moment, for you in creating "The Divine Marigolds"?**

Our company holds a very high standard for film making. If it weren't for the very talented and flexible producers in the company, I don't think we could have made the Spec Pilot, The Divine Marigolds, at such a professional level with next to no budget. Also, the people that we work with are the leaders in the industry here in Washington state. We all work as a perfectly greased machine. It is amazing to stand on a small set and see the 45 plus crew and 11 talent working together like clockwork. Our team never ceases to amaze me. I think the best moment in the creating this project was on the last day of filming. We were on our 15 hour that day (after a 16 hour day before) when we were shooting one of the last scenes and I was watching the monitor with the director. It was a very touching scene with a Cora Marigold (big sister) and Chris Marigold (24 year old OCD brother who never got any credit in the family for all his hard work). The actors pulled it off perfectly with no dialog and it made me feel the moment. I turned around after the director call cut and saw the whole crew (48 people that day) was standing behind us in the attached rooms looking over each other's shoulders. Not one of them had a dry eye.

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### **And the worst moment?**

Oh that one I know... It was the day after filming and I was doing the final walk through on the set (a large B&B in West Seattle). Everything was back to 1 and you couldn't even tell that anyone had been there. There was not one thing showing that there had been a cast and crew of 50 plus people there for three long days of filming. The home owner looked at me and said "I am going to miss you guys. That was the most fun I have ever had watching you guys work." When I got home, there was an email from an actor that simply said "I already miss my Marigolds family".

That is what pushes us to get the show picked up, I have over 50 people that put their hearts into this project. This is their big break if we can get this picked up for them.

**If you had one message to get across to the WORLD with “The Divine Marigolds”**

**– What would that message be?**

No matter how hard life gets, there is always family. No matter how crazy they may be....

That and our tagline “What doesn’t kill ya, makes you Irish!”

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**Everyone that enters a Festival wants to win an Award,**

**What about your project makes it stand out?**

It is unique and mixes the perfect amount of comedy with drama. It is what the average US family is craving. A good family comedy that everyone can relate to.

That and the characters are so well developed and the production is so well done. We really put in the time with development over the year before moving into production. We wanted to give a little glimpse of what Seattle was able to produce. I feel that we did our job well.

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**and What is next for you?**

We will keep pitching the show until we get it picked up. The cast and crew put in their best work, now we owe it to them to not drop the ball and get the show on TV.

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**Thank You, Jeremiah Kaynor**

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**Any last words or something I forgotten to ask you?**

I just want to let all the independent film makers out there know, never give less than 110% to your films. Always strive to be the best. If we all do that, then we raise the expectations for independent filming and storytelling.

Blessings to you all

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## **What are the credits for The Divine Marigolds?**

### **Cast:**

Paul Eenhorn (Patrick Marigold aka Pops)

Lorraine Montez (Ruby Marigold aka Mom)

Simon Hamlin (Kelly Marigold)

Alder Sherwood (Cora Marigold)

Lisa Coronado (Bridget "Marigold" Widget)

Josh Truax (Chris Marigold)

Teru McDonald (Mackenzie Marigold)

Greg LoProto (Joe Widget)

Andy Kastelic (Craig)

Erwin Galan (Theo)

Townsend Cannon (Father Seamus)

Jake Podany (Jack Widget)

Nylah Watson (Ellie Widget)

Tom Ricciardelli (cab driver)

**Produced by:**Corwood Productions and Corvus Eye Production.

**Executive Producers:** Jeremiah Kaynor, Willard C Chase, Alder Sherwood, Lisa Coronado

**Co-Producers:** Ben Andrews, Lorraine Montez, Ben James

**Associate Producer:**Jordin Paul Mitchell

**Creators:** Jeremiah Kaynor, Willard C Chase, Alder Sherwood, Lisa Coronado

**Director:** Francisco Menendez

**Cameras:** Red Epic

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\*\*\*– Where and When is “The Divine Marigolds”?

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Divine-Marigolds/159491694090979>

Web Site: <http://www.thedivinemarigolds.com/>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/#!/divinemarigolds>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SgE8UwOA3gA>

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/29006496>

Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/26142539>