

**DARK SKY**  
**FILMS**

PRESENTS

# UNCLE NICK

A FILM BY CHRIS KASICK

Press Notes

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## **SYNOPSIS**

### **NOTHING RUINS CHRISTMAS LIKE FAMILY.**

Lewd, drunken Uncle Nick (Brian Posehn, Mr. Show, The Sarah Silverman Program) stumbles his way through his brother's cookie cutter-family's annual Christmas gathering in the hopes of scoring with a super-hot party guest. But the arrival of his equally crass sister coupled with Nick's liquor-fueled faux pas cause family secrets to bubble to the surface that might spell disaster for the whole clan before the night is over.

Presented by Errol Morris, UNCLE NICK is a raucously funny comedy of inappropriate behavior, uncomfortably interrupted trysts, and a monumental overserving of ten-cent beers.



## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

I grew up in Cleveland and have seen the city struggle with sports curses and memories of past prosperity. During the holidays, I experience the warm Christmas traditions of my family juxtaposed over a city that feels cold, dark, and grim. This is the genesis of my film UNCLE NICK.

On the surface, the character Uncle Nick is a jovial, lewd houseguest on a mission to cause havoc. He is the Anti-Santa Claus.

The film plays as an over-the-top party romp, but there's a parallel undercurrent.

Told through the story of 10 Cent Beer Night, in which a riot overtook a Cleveland Indians baseball game, the film chronicles an evening of alcohol, anger, and heartbreak. Nick becomes Cleveland personified, struggling with memories of love and success.

My favorite films are sick, sad, & funny – a genre I fell in love with working alongside documentarian Errol Morris. With fellow Clevelander and screenwriter Mike Demski, our goal was to construct a film that was sick, sad, and funny in equal measure.

In a sense, UNCLE NICK is a film about the layers of Christmas: family, tradition, love, death, comedy, memory, and the idea of facing our demons before the start of the New Year. It's a combination of lowbrow / highbrow. And in the end, the film is like Christmas itself – a day full of surprises.

-Chris Kasick, Director / Producer

## CAST + CREW BIOGRAPHIES

### **CHRIS KASICK (Director)**



Born and raised in Cleveland Ohio, Chris Kasick began his career working as a researcher and creative collaborator to Errol Morris (Fog of War, First Person). He's worked alongside Errol on set and in advertising for over 15 years. Chris went on to become the head writer and comedy sketch director for NBC Universal's Attack of the Show, starring Chris Hardwick and Olivia Munn. He currently resides in Los Angeles, directing commercials and branded entertainment for Digital Kitchen. Uncle Nick is his first feature film.  
(chriskasick.com)

### **REBECCA HAMM & LESLIE LUCEY (Producers)**



Rebecca and Leslie are award winning Producers who met at Digital Kitchen, working together to produce, TV shows, Multi Media projects, Documentary Series, and Commercials. They have been producing projects with Director, Chris Kasick, over the past five years. In addition to Uncle Nick, Leslie also produced Malta's first official Oscar selection in 2015. This is Rebecca's 3rd independent feature film.



## **STARRING**

### **BRIAN POSEHN as UNCLE NICK**



Comedian/actor/writer Brian Posehn played Brian Spukowski on Comedy Central's popular show, "The Sarah Silverman Program" and has been seen on tour as one of the original members of the "Comedians of Comedy". Besides writing and performing on HBO's acclaimed "Mr. Show", he has appeared in sitcoms such as "Just Shoot Me", "Seinfeld", "NewsRadio", "Everybody Loves Raymond", and "Friends". Brian has also appeared in several movies, including Rob Zombie's "The Devil's Rejects" and "Fantastic Four: Rise of the Silver Surfer", "Sex Drive", "Surfs Up", "Lloyd the Conqueror" and "5 Year Engagement.

### **PAGET BREWSTER as SPOHIE**



Paget Brewster is the star of the hit show "Criminal Minds" and has appeared in the television series "Huff." Her other credits include the television movie "A Perfect Day," the series "Andy Richter Controls the Universe," "The Trouble with Normal," "Love & Money" and guest-starring roles in "Two and a Half Men", "Stacked" and "Friends." Her voice can be heard in the animated series "American Dad" and "Harvey Birdman, Attorney at Law." Brewster's feature film credits include "Unaccompanied Minors," "Hospital," "My Big Fat Independent Movie," "Man of the House," "Eulogy," "The Specials," "The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle," "Desperate but Not Serious" and "Let's Talk About Sex." Her theater credits include "Tartuffe," "Four Dogs and a Bone," "Chapter Two" and "Pack of Lies."

## **MISSI PYLE as MICHELLE**



Missi Pyle co-starred in *Bringing Down the House*, *Galaxy Quest*, *Josie and the Pussycats*, *Big Fish*, *Along Came Polly*, *Meet Market*, *50 First Kisses* and *Soul Plane*. Born in Texas and raised in Tennessee, Pyle developed a passion for acting and comedy at the prestigious North Carolina School of the Arts, and after graduation, she moved to New York to pursue a theater career. One of her first roles was opposite John Malkovich in Steppenwolf Theater Company's *The Libertine*. After moving to Los Angeles, Pyle guest starred on television shows such as *Mad About You*, *The Drew Carey Show* and *Friends*, and then she

landed a featured role in the film *As Good as It Gets*. In 1999, Pyle played the comic role of an alien in the sleeper hit *Galaxy Quest* opposite Tim Allen, Sigourney Weaver and Tony Shalhoub. She also starred in *Snow Days* before landing the role of the scheming villain Alexandra Cabot in *Josie and the Pussycats* in 2001. She was a series regular on the ABC variety show, *The Wayne Brady Show* and has since guest starred on *Ally McBeal*, *Roswell*, *Philly* and *Frasier*. Pyle continues to be a member of the all-female comedy sketch group, *Bitches Funny* and regularly performs stand-up at such venues as *The Comedy Store*, *The Improv* and *Area 51*.

## **SCOTT ADSIT as KEVIN**



American actor, writer and improvisational comedian. He is best known for co-starring as Pete Hornberger in the NBC comedy *30 Rock* and in the Adult Swim stop-motion animation programs *Moral Orel* and *Mary Shelley's Frankenhole*. Scott Adsit performed on the main stage of Chicago's *Second City* between 1994 and 1998 and, alongside "Saturday Night Live"'s Rachel Dratch and Tina Fey, was one of the driving forces behind such groundbreaking revues as "Pinata Full of Bees" and "Paradigm Lost". An in depth look at his craft is available in the PBS documentary "Second to None". He

transitioned from stage to screen with a handful of appearances on HBO's *Mr. Show with Bob and David* and went on to take on guest roles on several TV shows, including *Friends* and *Curb Your Enthusiasm*. He also appeared in a number of animated and live-action projects including *The Informant*, *The Music Never Stopped*, and *Arthur*.

### **JOE NUNEZ as LUIS**



Actor and comedian most notable for his recurring role as Manche Sanchez on the show Prison Break. He also played a cleaner in The 40-Year-Old Virgin, and the man who ran over Chris Gardner in The Pursuit of Happyness. He first appeared in the 1999 film Serious Business and gradually landed more roles in The 40 Year Old Virgin, Domino, School for Scoundrels, Let's Go to Prison, The Pursuit of Happyness, Weather Girl, and Funny People, just to name a few. On the small screen, Nunez is best known for playing Manche Sanchez, a recurring character on the FOX action-drama

Prison Break. He has also guest-starred on Arrested Development, Derek and Simon: The Show and Players. In 2010, he joined the cast of the FOX short-lived comedy Running Wilde as Migo Salazar.

### **BEAU BALLINGER as CODY**



Beau Ballinger is an Executive Producer on Uncle Nick, in addition to playing the role of Cody. Beau recently appeared in the film Nowhere Girl and can regularly be seen in sketches alongside Late Late Show comedian Josh Robert Thompson. Beau fist started producing films in the Philippines, working alongside Roger Corman. Beau currently spends his time between Austin TX and Los Angeles CA.

**MELIA RENEE as VALERIE**



Melia Renee, is an up and coming young actress who has been seen on Ladies' Man: A Made Movie Jill, The Most Girl Part of You (short), Meet Jane (TV movie), All Ages (short), We Are the Mods, Without a Trace, Better Angels, The Greatest Show Ever.

**And Introducing JACOB HOUSTON as MARCUS**

