

ORLANDO STYLE

EVERYTHING LUXURY WHO'S WHO AND WHAT TO DO[©]

5
VALUABLE
TAX TIPS

**AQUA
LUX**
SWIM FASHION

**FACE
2008**
CONTEST

WINES WITH
ALTITUDE

**FRAMING
CELEBRITIES**
OLIVER PEOPLES
SUNGLASSES
TURNS 20

**WRONGFUL
DIET?**
THE SECRET
TO AVOIDING
COLON
CANCER

**PET
FASHION
WEEK**
LE CHIEN
CHIC

**GET RID
OF IT!**
5 MISTAKES
ANXIOUS
HOME SELLERS
MAKE

**YES, IT'S
JAYDE**

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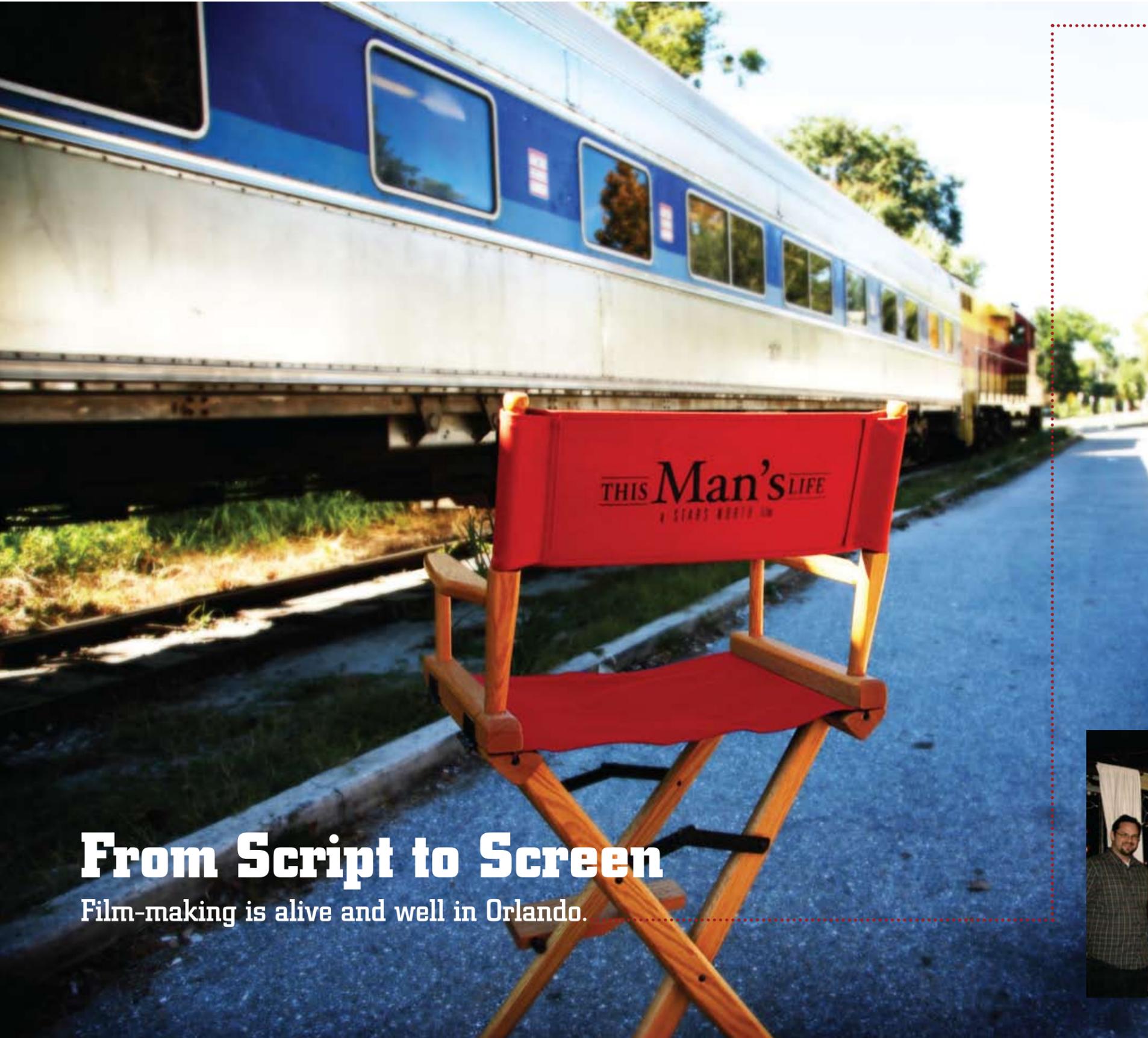
SWIMSUIT ISSUE

CONSUELO BELLINI :: DAVID MAUS :: THIS MAN'S LIFE :: ANDREA & BETSY MELOTTI :: AGUA BENDITA
LUXURY :: FASHION :: BEAUTY :: HEALTH :: TRAVEL :: MONEY :: FOOD & WINE :: SHOPPING :: ARTS :: PEOPLE

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From Script to Screen

Film-making is alive and well in Orlando.

The Pitch

"A bitter doctor takes a train ride home to claim his estranged father's inheritance when he encounters a mysterious stranger who seems to know everything about his dark past."

The log line for the next big budget Hollywood blockbuster? Not quite. In fact, this film barely had enough financing to cover food for its volunteer cast and crew. But that didn't stop Orlando-based Stars North™ from making a movie. The award-winning, boutique production company just wrapped shooting the third installment in their series of four short films, and what follows is an up close, personal look that proves there's no business like show business!

The Stars Shine on Orlando

You've heard their names and you definitely recognize their faces—Michael Rooker (Days of Thunder, JFK), Betsy Brantley (The Princess Bride, Deep Impact) and veteran actor Bill Cobbs (Night at the Museum, That Thing You Do!) All three arrived in town late in the day Sunday, December 3rd. They were met by a small team of volunteer talent drivers and escorted to Orlando's flagship hotel, the Grand Bohemian, who graciously provided the actors with rooms during their stay.



Michael Rooker



Bill Cobbs



Betsy Brantley

Last Supper

Monday, December 4th—A little good cheer and exquisite cuisine the eve before production. Screenwriter, Pete Raymundo, K Restaurant owner, Dan Francoforte, actress Betsy Brantley, writer/producer/director Todd Thompson, Orlando Style founder Sven Bode, actors Michael Rooker and Bill Cobbs and producer, Smithy Sipes pose during a cast and crew kick-off celebration hosted by K Restaurant and Wine Bar in historic College Park.



By filmmaker Todd Thompson

Photos by Todd Anderson & Olga Diaz
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comments & suggestions to:
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Day 1 of 5
Cinematographer, Marty Mullin, adjusts his lens and gets ready for the first day of shooting. Call time each morning was 6:30 a.m., and days lasted as long as 14 hours. Definitely not your average 9-to-5 day at the office.

The Thespians
The script to "This Man's Life" was written three years ago and went through fourteen drafts before cameras were ready to roll. Both Rooker and Cobbs had their hands in several of the rewrites leading up to the shoot.

Scene 8
Director Todd Thompson looks on as his actors prepare to rehearse a scene that takes Michael Rooker's character back to his first day of medical school.



Role Clarification
Just what does a producer do? Schedules, budgets, location permits...and a whole lot of wheeling and dealing. Producer Smythy Sipes overseeing production.



On Location
Who said filmmaking was glamorous? Director Todd Thompson and about 80 members of the cast and crew cram on board the Inland Lakes Railway in Mt. Dora.

Going for the Close Up
Cinematographer Marty Mullin pulls focus on actress Betsy Brantley who plays a key role in unlocking actor Michael Rooker's dark past.



Pictures Up
Crew member Charles Kelly prepares to slate for camera surrounded by 50 female actresses.



A Cast of the Young & Young at Heart
"This Man's Life" called for a cast of almost 500 actors from as far west as California and as far north as the Carolinas. They played parts ranging from schoolboys and old sweethearts to med students and conventioners; and they varied in age from infancy through age 85.





Star Struck
 Actor Bill Cobbs began his career at age 36 and has since starred in over 120 feature films and television shows. And at 73, there's no slowing him down. Except, of course, to sign an autograph for an admiring fan.

The Martini Shot
 Saturday, December 8 and that's a wrap! Two locations, five days of shooting and over 12 hours of footage...all for a short film that will run less than 30 minutes. Filmmakers Smithy Sipes, Todd Thompson and actor Michael Rooker pose for one last shot.



All Work and No Play
 What's the best part about making movies? The wrap party! Cast, crew and a select few reigned on the home of director Todd Thompson and his wife, photographer Olga Diaz just hours after production wrapped. It was the perfect ending to a perfect shoot and a great way to say 'thanks' for a job well done.

About "This Man's Life"
 This Man's Life is the third in a series of four short films from the award-winning, Orlando-based production company, Stars North™. Written and directed by Todd Thompson, the film tells the magical tale of a man traveling home to claim his estranged father's inheritance when he encounters a peculiar stranger that seems to know everything about his life. The film stars Michael Rooker (Days of Thunder, JFK), Bill Cobbs (Night at the Museum, That Thing You Do!) and Betsy Brantley (The Princess Bride, Deep Impact).

Produced by Todd Thompson and Smithy Sipes, along with a production team of industry professionals, local film school students and independent film-enthusiast volunteers, This Man's Life was filmed over a period of 5 days (December 4-8, 2007) in and around the Mt. Dora / Orlando area. Upon

completion, the film will be distributed on the international film festival circuit.

About Stars North™
 Stars North™ is an independent movie production company based in Orlando, Florida. The company produces commercially appealing, quality films with memorable characters, engaging plots and redeeming messages. Stars North™ is committed to developing and producing projects in Florida that employ local cast and crew for worldwide distribution. For more information, contact Stars North™ at (407) 363-5269, or visit the company's Web site: www.starsnorth.com. ♦