

# JESUSCAT

## (or How I Accidentally Joined a Cult)

*A vlogger, a cat, a cult, and the second-coming of Jesus Christ*

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### **JESUSCAT (OR HOW I ACCIDENTALLY JOINED A CULT)** **OFFICIAL SELECTION 9<sup>TH</sup> ACTION ON FILM INT'L FILM FESTIVAL**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE -- Infinite Pictures is proud to announce that their first feature film, *JesusCat (or How I Accidentally Joined a Cult)* is an official selection at the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Action on Film International Film Festival in Monrovia, California and will be screening to the public on Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 9:00pm. *JesusCat* is an improvisational mockumentary created by Julia Morizawa and Shaina Vorspan, about a vlogger, a cat, a cult, and the second-coming of Jesus Christ. This will mark the film's second festival appearance, following its premiere at the Los Angeles Comedy Festival in May.

Elle (Julia Morizawa) is an amateur documentary filmmaker. Charlotte (Shaina Vorspan) is the self-proclaimed leader of the religious group, "The Movement for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ through the Seven Prophecies Which Must be Completed in Some Way Before the Evolution of Jesus Back into Man." As Elle documents the rituals of Charlotte and her followers, she struggles to retain her sanity when she realizes that she may have accidentally joined a cult.

A true example of low-budget, independent filmmaking, *JesusCat* began as a side-project for two actors wanting to create work for themselves. A general story outline was created, with the intent that the ensemble cast would improvise the bulk of the dialogue. Principal photography began in September 2011. The official wrap date was November 1, 2012. Production was stretched out for so long for two primary reasons: 1) Due to the improvisation, a large majority of the film needed to be edited first to determine if there were any gaps in the storyline that needed to be filled in before continuing to the last few shoot days, and 2) Everyone was working on a volunteer basis, so scheduling the cast together around their day jobs and other projects was a continuous challenge. Over 12 hours of improvised footage was recorded, which was slowly edited down to approximately 85 minutes. And what was initially just a side-project suddenly became an entertaining, hilarious and marketable feature film.

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*JesusCat (or How I Accidentally Joined a Cult)* marks the second creative collaboration between Julia Morizawa and Shaina Vorspan. They previously co-produced and starred in the original play *Twenty-Two*, which premiered at the Knightsbridge Theatre in Los Angeles in 2010. Julia is primarily an actor and has performed in over 100 film, theatre, television and internet productions throughout her career. Highlights include the feature films *Judas Kiss* and *Tied Up* (awarded Best Supporting Actress at the Denver Underground Film Festival, 2004), *Lewis Black's The Root of All Evil*, the webseries *Star Trek: Odyssey* and *Frontier Guard*; and the stage play *Masha No Home* at East West Players. Shaina earned her B.A. in theatre from the University of California, San Diego and has performed in and helped produce a number of stage productions. Feature film highlights include *Redemption*, *Gone Doggy Gone*, and *Nancy Drew*.

Infinite Pictures was founded in 2005 by Julia Morizawa for the production of the short film *Sin & Lyle*, which earned her a Best Female Filmmaker nomination at the Action on Film International Film Festival in 2007.

The 9th annual Action on Film International Film Festival runs August 16-24, 2013. Founded and directed by Del Weston, it was named "One of the Top 25 Festivals Worth the Fees" by MovieMaker Magazine, and "Aims to promote artistically and culturally significant film arts through education and exhibition in an atmosphere of unity for the entire AOF family of filmmakers and writers. We do this to enrich the life of the community, filmmakers and of course individuals who pursue careers in front of and behind the camera." More information, including a complete festival schedule, can be found at [www.aoffest.com](http://www.aoffest.com).

The screening of *JesusCat (or How I Accidentally Joined a Cult)* will be on Tuesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00pm at the Krikorian Premiere Theatre, 410 S. Myrtle Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016. The film will share the screening block with the TV pilot, *Don't Take This the Wrong Way*. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door, and can be purchased online at [www.aoffest.com](http://www.aoffest.com) or by calling 323-878-5522. Complimentary tickets can be arranged for members of the press by emailing a request for passes on press letterhead to: [media@aoffest.com](mailto:media@aoffest.com) (attn: Nick or Theresa).

Additional information about the film, including video, photos, and an official press packet can be found at: [www.jesuscatmovie.com](http://www.jesuscatmovie.com).

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