

SPACE AVAILABLE



Where actors meet characters.®

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Logline

A mockumentary about struggling actors at a low-budget rehearsal studio.

Premise

Space Available is a character-driven comedy about struggling actors and artists who rent from a shady rehearsal studio in New York City, as seen through the lens of a self-entitled film student.



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Synopsis (I)

Space Available is a character-driven comedy set in one of New York City's many rehearsal studios. Shot as a mockumentary, it follows the lives and struggles of actors and other artists who patronize the studio, as seen through the lens of maverick film student, Jeremy Freeman. Jeremy, who happens to be studio owner Howard Khan's stepson, also has the ulterior motive of exposing the illegal activities his stepfather runs at Space Available, with the hope of bringing Howard's illicit business empire to ruin.



Each episode highlights the particular struggle of one of the principal characters. At the same time, Jeremy's documentary camera peels away at the façade of Space Available itself, gradually exposing the illegal underground world that Howard has created. For both the individual characters and the studio itself, hidden realities behind public façades are revealed.

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Synopsis (II)

Space Available is a character-driven original series set in one of New York City's many rehearsal studios. Shot as a mockumentary, it follows the lives and struggles of actors and other artists who patronize the studio, as seen through the lens of



maverick film student, Jeremy Freeman. Jeremy, who happens to be studio owner Howard Khan's stepson, also has the ulterior motive of exposing the illegal activities his stepfather runs at Space Available, with the hope of bringing Howard's illicit business empire to ruin.

The first season of **Space Available** consists of six episodes, ranging from 4 to 12 minutes in length. In true mockumentary style, Jeremy's camera provides the lens through which the audience observes both the colorful characters of Space Available and the legitimate and not-so-legitimate activities that transpire behind the studio's doors. Far from being just another rehearsal studio, Space Available is a vibrant microcosm of the city in which it is located - a place where the lives of struggling actors and other artists intersect with the lives of those of an illicit, underground world, every public persona masks a private secret, and one never knows what they may find behind a closed rehearsal room door. Each episode chips away at the façades: "The Yoga Room," "Acting Class," and "Chad," reveal personal truths behind public masks; "Skob," "Relaxation Technique," and "All In," reveal what unexpectedly goes on behind some closed doors. Together, Jeremy's camera shows the audience that, indeed, "not everything is as it seems."

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Space Available draws stylistic inspiration from the series, *The Office*, and the mockumentary films of Christopher Guest (*Best In Show*, *For Your Consideration*). Similar to *The Office*, **Space Available** is both the title and setting for the show. In addition, **Space Available** is in effect one of the characters, non-speaking but omnipresent. While the main stories center around those who utilize Space Available, the studio is implicated in every plot twist and turn.

The mockumentary style of the show seeks to create an intimacy with viewers, allowing them to step behind the public personas of performing artists to view the complex realities of their very human lives lying behind those façades.

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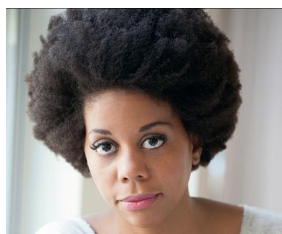
Who's Who at Space Available



Patrick Avella “*Matthew Stonehill*” - Creator, Producer, Writer, Director - Patrick is the visionary behind *Space Available Original Series*. As writer, producer, director, and recurring character, he is involved in all aspects of the series. On camera, Patrick has appeared in *Cop Doc*, *Subway*, *Adult-ish*, *Fatal Encounters*, *Monumental Mysteries*, and *Scorned: Love Kills*. On stage, he has appeared with Chelsea Rep, Manhattan Rep, and Variations Theatre Group. [more](#)



Rosa Rodriguez “*Virginia Garcia*” - Producer - Rosa's film and TV credits include *Cop Doc*, *Adult-ish*, *Mariposa*, *Subway*, and *Volar*. She is also an active voice over and commercial actress. On stage, she has appeared with Chelsea Rep and Irondale Theater. She is a resident artists at the chamber music theater company Core Ensemble, having directed a number of their shows, as well as toured the country as *Frida Kahlo* on their show *Tres Vidas*. Rosa is scheduled to appear as *Violeta Parra* in Core Ensemble's upcoming show *Azucar y Raices*, which she is currently helping develop. [more](#)



Ravin Patterson “*Valerie Douglas*” - Producer - Ravin most recently appeared in Shakespeare & Company's production of “*Red Velvet*.” She has also appeared with Chelsea Rep, Target Margin Theater Company and several other indie theater productions. As a playwright, her play, “*Monk and the Man*,” was accepted into the NYC Int'l Fringe Festival. She is one of the producers of *Space Available* original series. [more](#)



John Austin Wiggins “*Albert Finley*” - Producer - John's on-camera credits include *Top Five*, *Delivering the Goods*, the upcoming *Maggie Black*, as well as over 30 indie features, shorts, and student films, including 2013 Student Academy Award Finalist, *Caught*. On stage he has appeared with the Movement Theatre Company, {your name here} Theatre Company, and Chelsea Rep. He is also one of the producers of *Space Available* Original Series. [more](#)

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Isaac Rathbone - Writer - Isaac numerous plays include *Captain Ferguson's School For Balloon Warfare*, *Breakfast For Dinner*, *The System*, *Jon Katsberg*, *Bensonhurst*, *Undeclared History*, and *Little Eva*, and have been performed at theaters and festivals throughout NYC and the US, as well as the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He is co-founder of Oracle Theatre Inc., and a member of the playwriting collective *Lather, Rinse, Repeat*. [more](#)



Adam Sasso - Writer/Producer. Adam was born and raised in New York, he received a BS in Business Administration from the State University of New York at Albany with a Marketing/Management concentration. He worked on Wall Street, and later as a Sales Trader in San Francisco during the dot-com boom in the late 90's. He now focuses on writing screenplays, short stories and other fiction as well as learning the art and craft of filmmaking. Adam's idea of a dream job is collaborating with creative, inventive people on artistic projects that tell good stories and make people feel as well as think.



Saro Varjabedian - Director of Photography - Saro has been cinematographer on dozens of features, short films, industrials, and music videos, most notably *Eliot Loves* (Audience Award - Miami Gay & Lesbian Film Festival; Best of Festival - Indianapolis LGBT Film Festival), *Jesus Loves Yusef* (Best Student Cinematography - Palm Springs International Film Festival), *After Water There Is Sand*, and the upcoming *There Is Another Sky*. [more](#)



Victor Verhaeghe "*Howard Khan*" - Victor is currently shooting a recurring role as Antonio in the upcoming Amazon series, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*. Other film/TV work: Steven Spielberg's *Bridge of Spies*; recurring role in the HBO mini-series, *The Night Of*, starring John Turturro; recurring role of Damien Fleming in the HBO series *Boardwalk Empire*; featured role on the NBC Pilot *Allegiance*; guest-starring roles on *Elementary*, *Person of Interest*, *Blue Bloods*, *The Good Wife*, *Fringe*, and *Law & Order*. [more](#)

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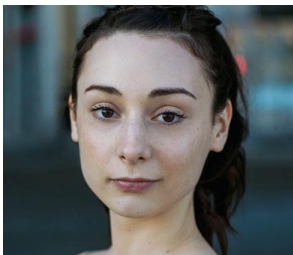
Gregory James Cohan “Chad Holbrook” - Greg’s recent film credits include *The VelociPastor*, *A Little Water*, *Where There's Smoke*, *Six Windows*, *My Dirty Little Secret*, *Team Umizoomi*, *Child’s Play*, *Nothing Personal*, and *@ War*. As a member of New Light Theater Project, he is credited in several main-stage productions, including the New York premiere of *Picture Ourselves in Latvia* (Ross Howard). [more](#)



Courtney Anne Doody “Rachel Somers” - Courtney is currently filming *Crack in Everything* with James Cromwell. She played Beth in the Broadway and National Tour Productions of *Little Women*. She has also performed at La Mama, Here Space, the New Jersey Theater Festival, and the Denver Theater. On camera, she appeared in *Refractions*, *Crossing the Bar*, *Thief*, and the NYU Grad Thesis film, *Silent*. [more](#)



Joe Boover “*Christopher Haden*” - Joe appears in the upcoming films *Alina*, *April Flowers* (with Arrow’s Celina Jade) and *Tell You Something*, and also appeared in *Cop Doc* and *Brazzaville Teen-Ager*. He has appeared as Elvis Presley in numerous regional theatre productions of *Million Dollar Quartet*, and also with Workshop Theater Company, in Abingdon Theatre’s Sunday Series, and in the 2014 NYC Fringe Festival in *Door Men Warriors*, co-created with fellow Space Available cast member, Victor Verhaeghe. [more](#)



Ashley Trawinski “*Mary Beth Leonard*” - Ashley most recently appears with Stanley Tucci in the upcoming feature *Submission*, as well as in lead roles in the two Oscar-nominated student short films *The Girl in the Chair*, and *The Young Housefly* (with Alex Karpovsky of HBO’s *Girls*). She is a contemporary dancer which is featured in “*The Girl in the Chair*”, and has studied and practices mixed media art at Parsons School of Design. [more](#)

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Lisa Vacca “*Christine Fisher*” - Lisa has appeared in *Mystery Man*, *The Actress*, *Brothers*, and *For Reasons Unknown*. [more](#)



Mark Christopher Briggs “*Adam ‘Skob’ Skobinski*” - Mark makes his on-camera debut in *Space Available Original Series*. He is also a member of Chelsea Rep. [more](#)



Fellipe Cardoso “*Fernando Brito*” - *Space Available Original Series* marks Fellipe’s on-camera debut as an actor. He has appeared on stage with Chelsea Rep, and is also a fashion and commercial model. [more](#)



Peter Evangelista “*Joey K*” - Peter’s credits include: Broadway: *The Rascals: Once Upon a Dream* (Dir. Steven Van Zandt). Off-Broadway: *Men and Women Talking Love* and *Sex, Wild Children*. Regional: *12 Angry Men*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Film Credits: *Star Crossed Lovers*(2016), *Bully*(2017). [more](#)

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FAQ

What is *Space Available*?

Space Available is a character-driven original series set in one of New York City's many rehearsal studios. It follows a maverick film student, Jeremy, as he attempts to shoot a documentary about the studio, its patrons and staff, and most importantly, its seedy owner, Howard Kahn, who also happens to be Jeremy's stepfather. Jeremy's ulterior motive is to expose the vibrant underground world that exists at the studio, bringing down his stepfather's illegal "empire" along the way.

Space Available is also the name of the rehearsal studio itself, and, as Albert Finley cleverly puts it, may also refer to "the brains of some of the people who work there."

How did it all start?

Producers Patrick Avella, Ravin Patterson, and Rosa Rodriguez, originally met in an acting program held in Room 1209 of a popular rehearsal studio in New York City. In late 2013, they decided to form their own production company



Room 1209 Productions, with the mission of generating opportunity for themselves and fellow actors, writers, directors, and other artists, through the creation and development of original content telling personal stories set in urban environments like New York City. In early 2014, John Austin Wiggins became the 4th member of the team.

Patrick Avella conceived the show based on his experiences as a patron of, as well as a staff member for, a rehearsal studio in New York City. Drafts of the first season of episodes were already written when Room 1209 Productions was formed, and pre-production of ***Space Available*** began immediately.

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How much of the show is based on real life experiences and how much is embellished?

The show's creator, Patrick Avella, is quite familiar with the rehearsal studio culture both as an actor/patron, and as someone who for some time shared space with the administrative office of one of NYC's popular rehearsal studios. Inspired by those experiences, the environment and events of fictional Space Available are pretty accurate, general representations of legitimate, day-to-day studio happenings.

Many of the character types found on the show - actors, acting teachers, casting directors, yoga instructors, studio employees - would be found in any rehearsal studio, although the specific characters of **Space Available** are purely fictional and a little embellished.

As for the illegal, underground side of Space Available, that is purely a product of Patrick's imagination, and it is this "underground" world, and it's intersection with the legitimate world of Space Available that provides the show with some of it's funniest and most unexpected and memorable situations.



What would you say is the theme of the show?

The main theme of the show is "not everything is what it seems." Public personas vs. personal realities, secret double lives, and façades all come into play at one point or another. For some characters, these masks are deliberate strategies for hiding illicit activities. For others, they hide deep insecurities and loneliness, and as such become psychological and emotional obstacles that impede the realization of their dreams. Some manage to break down the façades. Others are not so lucky.

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The show has a large cast. How was the casting process, and did the actors have a say on how they would contribute to the storylines?

We are very proud of our cast, and so grateful to these talented, dedicated actors for making these characters come alive. Patrick wrote some of the characters with specific actors in mind, and we are fortunate that those individuals were available to be part of this project. We also know the work of many actors with whom we, as actors, have worked or studied, which facilitated the casting of some additional roles. For the remaining roles, auditions were held, introducing us to some wonderful actors who now appear in the show.

Patrick is very much a process-oriented writer, and so the scripts for individual episodes went through numerous rewrites up until production began, whereupon they provided the technical structure for the shooting schedule. For the actors, the script served as the anchor for the story we wanted to tell, but they were given a lot of freedom to make the lines their own, and were sometimes encouraged to improvise, as long as it served to move the story forward. We are fortunate that most of the actors in the show have solid training in Meisner Technique and experience in improvisation, which served to make the characters come organically alive, providing for some very unexpected, spontaneous moments! In fact, most of the show's trademark "talking head" sequences that appear throughout the series were improvised!



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What kind of a budget did you have for the first season? What is the source of your funding?

We were able to produce the first season of **Space Available** on a fairly small budget, and were fortunate that a lot of people volunteered time and services to help make it all happen. We are especially grateful to the actors! As you can see, we have a very large cast, which could have been a budget-breaker. We operated under a SAG New Media contract allowing us to defer pay if the actors agreed, which they all did. The non-union actors in the show, which was the majority of them, all became eligible to join SAG through their work on Space Available, and we are proud to have been able to offer them that opportunity.

The first two episodes of **Space Available**, released in the Fall of 2014, were self-financed, self-produced labors of love. As actors, we were fairly new to producing, so we wore many hats in order to learn all aspects of the production process, including budgeting and fundraising. Initially we considered doing a crowdfunding campaign upfront to finance production of the entire first season, but we ended up deciding to initially produce and self-finance only Episodes 1 & 2, and to use those episodes to promote a crowdfunding campaign to raise funds for completion of the season. Our Seed & Spark campaign in December/January was successfully funded, thanks to our generous contributors! We completed production of the remainder of Season 1 in March 2015, and released new episodes in September 2015!

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How have people responded to *Space Available Original Series* so far? What about the series stands out the most?

The reactions to the first episodes of ***Space Available*** praised the series for its quick, witty humor, and complex characters. We are very pleased that people are having those responses, and feel that it is in a large part due to the deft storytelling of the writers, Patrick Avella and Isaac Rathbone. Working from the idea that “not everything is what it seems,” Patrick and Isaac have created a world of façades, both for the characters and for the Space Available studio itself, in order to explore what secrets those façades may hide. They have taken what could have been a mundane setting typical to the lives of performing artists, peopled it with complex, nuanced characters played by superb actors, and then juxtaposed that world with another illicit, underground world with shadier characters. The intersection of these two worlds provide the situations - hilarious, human, and unexpectedly touching - that reveal complex stories of dreams, struggles, insecurities, and loneliness that lie behind the public façades: truly, not everything is as it seems

Where can we reach/see *Space Available*?

The main hub for ***Space Available Original Series*** is:
www.SpaceAvailableSeries.com

The full first season will be streaming in the Fall at:
www.gcflix.com

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Follow us on:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Space-Available-Webseries/259653624215845

Twitter: **[@SAWebseries](https://twitter.com/SAWebseries)**

Instagram: **[@spaceavailableseries](https://www.instagram.com/spaceavailableseries)**

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Trivia/Fun Facts

- The idea of the show first came to Patrick Avella a few years ago when he and his brother were seriously discussing the possibility of opening a rehearsal studio in New York City. The business never happened, but it sparked ideas for a show about two brothers who owned a crazy rehearsal studio in NYC. Ultimately, Patrick developed the idea into what we have today.
- The first drafts of the web series were written with a few of the current cast members in mind, including Victor Verhaeghe and John Austin Wiggins.

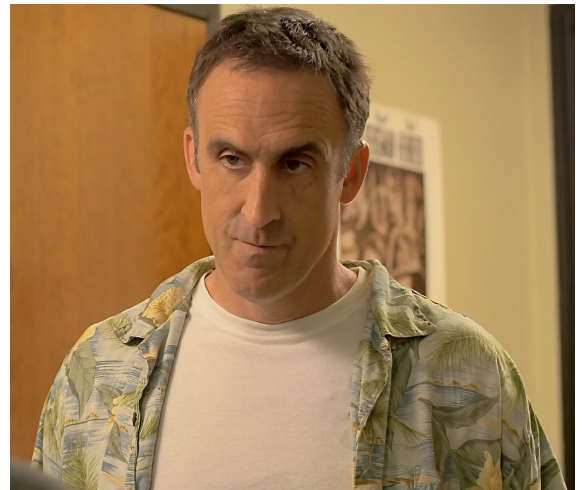


- The exploration and development of several of the ***Space Available*** characters came out of “talking head” interview sessions, during which the actors improvised answers to loosely-scripted questions. Many of the character details that came out of those sessions found their way into the relationships and events of the actual episodes.
- Producers Patrick Avella and Rosa Rodriguez are happily married. They met in acting class, at a rehearsal studio.

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