

# Boston Psychiatric Productions

Presents

BOSTON PSYCHIATRIC



- PRESS KIT-

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BOSTON PSYCHIATRIC PRODUCTIONS

## STORY

A young, hot-shot psychiatrist turned corporate executive risks his marriage, fortune and sanity when he accepts tainted start-up money to bring his new psychiatric drug to market. After serving a year in jail, he is offered early parole if he will work at the free psychiatric clinic run by the zany and unconventional Dr. Murphy.



Raj Jaiswal (Dr. Raj, at left) and Rich Gustus (Dr. Murphy)

### **RUNNING TIME**

80 mins

### **RATING**

TBC

### **RELEASE DATE**

TBD

### **TAGLINE**

A story about love, redemption and crazy people!

### **GENRE**

Comedy / Drama

## CAST

Rich Gustus of Needham, Mass.; Raj Jaiswal of New York, N.Y.; Harry Gordon of Cambridge, Mass.; Steve Duval of Mansfield, Mass.; Chance Langton of Quincy, Mass.; Marie Gallagher of Revere, Mass.; Paul Moylan of Dorchester, Mass.; Bill Farrell of Holbrook, Mass.; Janet Cormer of Jamaica Plain, Mass.; Sarah Blodgett of Chestnut Hill, Mass.; Shawn Doherty of Boston, Mass.; Chrissy Kelleher of Marshfield, Mass.; Jennifer Vaughn of Merrimack, N.H.; Jason Turk of Hobe Sound, Fla.; Shawn Robbins of San Francisco; and J. Brian Turk of Nashua, N.H.



Janet Cormer (Nurse Janet) and Steve Duval (Dr. Hodgkins)

## CREW

**Director / Producer**

J. BRIAN TURK

**Writers**

J. BRIAN TURK  
RAJ JAISWAL

**Editors**

J. BRIAN TURK  
DANIELLE STATUTO  
JIMMY CRAIG  
CRAIG MURRAY  
JACK WILSON

**DOP / Line Producer / Casting**

J. BRIAN TURK

## SYNOPSIS

Dr. Raj (Raj Jaiswal), a young clinical researcher, quickly loses sight of his notable goal to bring his new psychiatric drug to market when he accepts tainted start-up money – a desperate act that lands him in jail.

After serving a year in prison, Dr. Raj is offered early parole if he will work at the free psychiatric clinic run by the goodhearted but wacky Dr. Murphy (Rich Gustus), who is always struggling to maintain a qualified staff.

Can Dr. Raj deal with the insanity of the patients and staff, or will he end up committing himself?



Raj Jaiswal (Dr. Raj, at left) and Rich Gustus (Dr. Murphy)

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

When J. Brian Turk began writing his screenplay three years ago, he embraced the universal themes of love and redemption. What more appropriate setting for a comedic drama incorporating these expressions of humanity, he wondered, than a psychiatric hospital?

Although filming took place in Boston and Seattle, the movie is largely shot on-location in the real-life Codman Square Health Center in Dorchester, Mass. Turk received permission to film in non-patient areas on weekends from Bill Walczak, who founded the Codman Square Health Center and has served as its chief executive officer since 1980. In fact, Walczak is the inspiration behind the character of Dr. Murphy, who struggles to keep Boston Psychiatric open for the benefit of the needy patients it serves.

“I support independent film making, which I believe is critical to the creativity of the film industry, but I also like the concept of this particular film,” Walczak said. “I’ve spent my entire career helping people get access to quality health care they couldn’t otherwise afford. So that’s why this film, which brings attention to someone donating his time to help others in need, is so close to my heart.”

Turk said the concept of “Boston Psychiatric” came to him “almost in a flash” as he and Boston comedian Rich Gustus were taking a break from acting in a small political satire film. “We were telling jokes and trying to top one another when I realized that with his quick wit and Jesus-like look, Rich would be excellent as a zany doctor struggling to keep his free psychiatric clinic open to help the needy – similar to Bill Walczak’s work at the Codman Square Health Center,” Turk said. “I pitched the idea to Rich on the spot. To his credit, he said, ‘Sure I’ll do it. Sounds like fun.’”

Even though the film is a comedy, its central theme of redemption is serious. When the main character of Dr. Raj falls from grace, Dr. Murphy offers him a chance to redeem himself by treating needy psychiatric patients – something Dr. Raj would never have previously considered. The film also demonstrates how staff members and patients rise to the occasion to help one another – thereby growing in the process.

“Most of all,” Turk said, “I want ‘Boston Psychiatric’ to convey the message that everyone deserves a second chance – and the world can become a better place as a result.”

## ABOUT THE CAST

**RICH GUSTUS (Dr. Thomas Murphy)** is a renowned Boston comedian who has performed stand-up for more than 20 years. He has opened and performed with some of the best comedians in the country, including Bill Mahar, Kevin Nealon, Tom Kenny (Sponge Bob), David Cross and Louis CK. In the Comedy Central television show “Dr Katz, Professional Therapist,” Rich starred with Wanda Sykes in the “Your Belinda” episode.

Rich is also a highly sought-after stand-up comedy instructor. He has trained numerous comedians throughout the years, including Shane Mauss who recently won best stand-up comic at the prestigious HBO US Comedy Arts Festival.

**RAJ JAISWAL (Dr. Rajiv Jaiswalker)** is a talented actor with an extensive background in theater. He was a member of the world-famous Oxford University Drama Society, where he performed with Britain's finest actors. Raj's performance as Archbishop Thomas Becket in T.S Eliot's “Murder in the Cathedral” earned him great reviews and a nomination for best actor.

Raj was invited to tour Asia with the Shakespeare Theatre company in London. He has appeared in several short films and has worked with directors from London, New York, Boston and Mumbai.

Raj was invited to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival with the Oxford Revue, the comedy troupe started by members of Monty Python. An accomplished writer, he co-wrote “Boston Psychiatric.”

**HARRY GORDON (Sidney / Sid)** got his start professionally with Boston's Comedie du Jour and got his chops at Improv Asylum. Boston Globe's Nick Zaino describes him as "flat out one of Boston's best comic actors and improvisers."

Harry is currently starring on the ImprovBoston Mainstage. You can also see him in ImprovBoston's own live and online weekly BostonNewsNet. He's featured in the 2008 NBC Comedy Short Cuts Best Film “Strange Faculty” and in the action-comedy “Hit or Miss” which won the 2007 SunDeis Best Picture Award. Harry's also online in a commercial parody as ambulance-chasing attorney “Joey Franks.”

Harry has been in many improv troupes including The Menace, Deep Dish and co-wrote and starred in the holiday show “Harry and Sara's Chanukah

Extravaganza.” He is also a noted instructor and director of Improv scene and character work.

**STEVEN DUVAL (Dr. Steven Hodgkins)** made his hilarious film debut in “Boston Psychiatric” and is currently working on and starring in his second comedy, “Swear to Mom.” He began his acting career in community theater and has starred in productions of “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,” “A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum,” “Pajama Game,” “Sweet Charity” and “Damn Yankees.” Steven studied improv comedy at Improv Asylum in Boston and scene study courses at Boston Casting.

**CHANCE LANGTON (Chance O’Brien)** is a New England comedy legend who has appeared in concert with Jay Leno, Rodney Dangerfield, Dionne Warwick and many other stars. He has appeared in 16 national TV spots, such as “Evening at the Improv” and on Showtime. *The Boston Herald* said, “Chance has witty, sassy jokes with deadly musical satire....” Chance’s hit CDs include “I’m Better Than Them,” currently airing on XM and Sirius radio.

**SARAH BLODGETT (Nurse Sarah)** is one funny honey. Her unique form of self-involved humor is a tell-it-like-it-is story of her own life experiences, as she carefully hides her intelligent observations behind her bubbly, blonde personality. She was the only stand-up comic in the 2006 Miss Massachusetts Pageant. Sarah competed in the 2008 Boston Comedy Festival and is a regular contributor to *The Comedians Magazine*. An actress and model as well, Sarah performs stand-up comedy throughout New England, and is a regular at comedy clubs in Boston.

**SHAWN DOHERTY (Security Guard Shaw)** found his love of acting in the 1980's TV show “The Fall Guy” and on the set of the 1980's hit TV show “Spencer for Hire.” Inspired, he continued working on numerous films, obtaining his SAG/AFTRA memberships. His most recent credits are in Martin Scorsese’s “Shutter Island,” Mark Ezovski’s indie “Across Dot Ave” and Mathew C. Dummond’s “The ID Proxy.” Shawn is currently working on “Longwood,” as well as a comedy and other action films.

**JANET CORMIER (Nurse Janet)** is a Boston comedian who has been described as an edgy, thinking person’s comic. She produces and hosts her own weekly show, “Cormier’s Comedy Madness,” which has been running for more than five years. Janet also stars in “Art at SCAT,” a Somerville, Mass.-based cable television program. She appeared in Mel Watkins’ African-American humor show “From Slavery to the Present.” Janet has entertained audiences at the Comedy Studio, Comedy Connection, Tommy’s, the Vault and Jimmy Tingle’s Off Broadway Theater. She has also performed for the Audre Lorde Breast

Cancer Survivor Celebration and Tina's Heart Breast Cancer Survivor Celebration fundraisers.

**ANNETTE POLLACK (Woman Patient)** is a comedian, comedy producer and actress. She has performed throughout New England and in Florida, Arizona, Las Vegas, California and London. Annette appeared on the sitcom “Just Shoot Me” with David Spade. Her latest role is as a concentration camp prisoner in Martin Scorsese’s upcoming film, “Shutter Island.”

**JASON TURK (Jake)** is a gifted actor who made his first Indy film appearance as the notorious financier in “Boston Psychiatric”. He will be starring in crime drama “Paulie O’Neil” as the boss of an Irish Boston neighborhood. Jason is also the co-author of the hilarious comedy “Swear to Mom” which is in production in Boston.

**BILL FARRELL (Security Guard Bill)** made his film debut in Boston Psychiatric and is currently working on his second film Swear to Mom. In 2011, he will be starring in the Boston crime drama “Paulie O’Neil” as Detective Brian McCafferty. Bill has been performing stand-up comedy for the last three years and is a sought-after opening act at many comedy clubs in Boston



## ABOUT THE FILMMAKER



**J. BRIAN TURK**  
DIRECTOR / PRODUCER

Developing stories for the screen that not only entertain but also inspire us to improve ourselves and our society is the passion that drives J. Brian Turk to craft his unique and remarkable films.

His acclaimed film, “Boston Psychiatric” – a comedy/drama – highlights the achievements one can inspire through the simple act of offering someone a second chance. Similarly, Turk’s film, “Swear to Mom,” denotes the bond of brotherhood that takes root between two estranged brothers who are down on their luck. His latest film, “Paulie O’Neil,” currently in production, deals with the pain of sacrificing oneself for the betterment of his community.

Through his films, Turk reaches for the best in all of us and brings our finest qualities to the silver screen – not only to salute our humanity, but to encourage us all to be better than we are.

In addition to producing and financing his own independent films, Turk has authored major projects for Hollywood. A well-known star has recently optioned one of his multi-million dollar action adventures.

Turk was trained in the Stanislavski acting method and directing at Harvard University in Cambridge, Mass. He received his improvisational comedy training from Improv Asylum in Boston’s North End. Turk holds a bachelor’s degree from St. Louis University and a master’s degree from the University of South Dakota.