

ADAM BERTOCCI

SCREENWRITER

Adam Bertocci has been writing screenplays since sixth grade and good screenplays since college. His work has screened at New Filmmakers, the Tribeca Cinemas, the St. Louis International Film Festival, LA Shorts Fest and the Rhode Island Film Festival. He has garnered press from *Entertainment Weekly*, *USA Today*, *The New Republic*, *GQ*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *Back Stage*, *BroadwayWorld*, *Cinematical*, the *New York Press*, *E! Online*, *Maxim*, *IGN*, the *Chicago Sun-Times* and *Film Threat*.

A 2005 graduate of the film program at Northwestern University with a minor in English literature, he studied screenwriting with Michael Elyanow, directing with Michelle Citron and Oliver Hockenhull, creative writing with Brian Bouldrey and filmmaking by working on every student film in sight.

His own numerous student films were regulars on the festival circuit. His first big splash was the animated comedy *Run Leia Run*, an award-winning sci-fi spoof featuring the voice talent of Will Butler of the indie rock sensation Arcade Fire. Returning to his first love of live-action, he created two award-winning romantic comedies, *Love: The Movie* on a grant from the school's extracurricular film studio and *Pat Gets a Cat* as a thesis in the university's exclusive directing sequence.

Post-college, his writer-director output has averaged one short a year, most notably the award-winning *Brooklyn Force*—bringing *Star Wars* to the streets of a gentrified Brooklyn—and the multiple-award-winning American history send-up *James K. Polk Was @#!ing Awesome*.

His work writing for other filmmakers began as a co-writer for the children's comedy *Two Ugly Sisters* with director Daniel Viney (MTV's *Invincible*). For director Bryan Harley he wrote a short collegiate caper, *The Dingle*, which took top prizes at two California festivals. He continues to write comedic shorts for the Web on the side.

In 2007 he joined producer-director Michelle Goetsch to write the children's Christmas comedy *Wreck the Halls*, starring Hollywood legend Mickey Rooney and featuring child star Daeg Faerch. After a fruitful festival run it received a distribution deal from Ouat Media and a nomination from the Young Artist Awards for its leading actress.

For television, he co-wrote the reality / anthology pilot *Retro Video* for legendary producer and syndicator Sandy Frank.

In 2010, he became an instant viral sensation, an agency-represented author and a produced playwright—all at once—with his elaborate Internet joke *Two Gentlemen of Lebowski*. The play's off-off-Broadway premiere run sold out, extended, and then sold out again, garnering rave reviews from *Broadway World* and *Back Stage*. He subsequently developed the text into a densely annotated, surprisingly educational

Shakespeare paperback for publication by Simon & Schuster that fall. The book is now in its third printing.

In the realm of features, he writes both large-scale Hollywood-friendly spec scripts and low-budget projects for independent producers and directors, and eagerly awaits the ever-elusive green light. His specs have taken semifinalist status in Writers on the Storm and the Beverly Hills Film Festival's screenwriting competition.

His refreshing candor and his trademark self-deprecating humor make him a consistent hit with interviewers, at festival Q&A sessions and among his online fan base. He has been a featured speaker at the Anthology Film Archives and New York Comic-Con, and was interviewed for the documentary *Backyard Blockbusters*.

He is currently seeking representation as a screenwriter. As an author, he is represented by Lindsay Edgecombe of the Levine Greenberg Literary Agency.

He has never once felt the urge to "SMASH CUT TO:" anything.