

Movie News & Gossip

Gunning for SUNDANCE

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The working title of this in-production Ohio feature-length drama is WHERE THE SUN SETS IN PURGATORY, the initial seed money is a ten thousand dollar bank loan and the goal is to get into the 2010 Sundance Film Festival. Welcome to the basics of [THE ROAD TO SUNDANCE: ON A SHOESTRING BUDGET](#), a new mockumentary web series that has a certain ragtag charm.

There are currently five episodes posted online, and things really start cooking in Episode Two when a one-eyed cameraman comes along to help shoot a script put together by former SAVED BY THE BELL scribe C.S. Nash. Even the comments posted at press time on the series' promotional [MySpace page](#) are strictly tongue-in-cheek, topped off by a couple of requests from those seeking to be cut out of the production.

Cleveland resident Bobby Thomas stars as [George Lucas](#) Palmer, a man with a dog named Chewey (after the STAR WARS character Chewbacca) and a modest dream of making a movie. In short order, he recruits a film student Assistant Director, Parker, and shows a fondness for making ridiculous story and dialogue suggestions.

The series is being produced by [Red Duck Pictures](#), a company created in 2004 by THE ROAD TO SUNDANCE co-star Matt Pallotta (he plays lead actor Tryst Valentine (pronounced Va-len-teen)). Pallotta [tells](#) the Aurora Advocate newspaper that the current first-phase plan is to make 20 episodes, and given a two-weeks-for-each-episode production schedule, that would put this crew on target for a fall 2009 pre-Sundance end date. And again, though [Christopher Guest](#) and [Eugene Levy](#) have nothing to worry about, THE ROAD TO SUNDANCE has enough going for it - including the leading man's online homage to [Tom Cruise](#)'s infamous Scientology interview - to warrant check-back-for-more-episodes viewing. (Richard Horgan)

More on: [Eugene Levy](#), [George Lucas](#), [Christopher Guest](#), [Tom Cruise](#)