



Interesting Facts About JUPITER LANDING

- In 2002 director David Winkler (FINDING GRACELAND) originally optioned JUPITER LANDING, with the intent of directing it himself. However, one of his other film projects got funding first, so his JUPITER LANDING option expired and the rights went back to screenwriters Stacy Dymalski and Zack Van Eyck. David said he could renew the option, but that the script would probably sit in a drawer for another year due to his other film commitments. Still confident that JUPITER LANDING would make a good movie, David encouraged Stacy and Zack to produce the movie themselves. As a result, Stacy formed a production team in February of 2004 that went out and found the money needed to make the movie, with Stacy directing. Within six months principle photography started, and a year later post production was complete.
- In July 2004, Michael Brodie of the Sundance Institute informed Stacy that JUPITER LANDING had been chosen by the Sundance Institute selection committee to enter into the next round of the application process for the 2005 January Sundance Institute Filmmakers Lab. Stacy, however, chose to respectfully pull JUPITER LANDING from consideration, because she and the JUPITER LANDING production team were able to raise the money to film JUPITER LANDING in the summer of 2004. Just in case JUPITER LANDING didn't make the final cut for the 2005 Sundance Filmmaker's Lab, Stacy and her team didn't want to postpone production.
- JUPITER LANDING was shot in 24p anamorphic squeeze format on a Panasonic DVX-100a. At the time, the camera was so new, the only other feature length movie that had been shot on it was NOVEMBER (starring Courtney Cox, cinematography by Nancy Schreiber). Editing for JUPITER LANDING was done on Final Cut Pro HD, color correction was done on a daVinci Resolve digital mastering suite, and the upconvert was done on a Teranex. The color correction and upconvert were done by Flying Spot, Inc., a post house in Seattle, WA. The master for JUPITER LANDING is on a Sony HD tape. When shown on digi-beta in widescreen (anamorphic 16:9), the quality is so good it looks like high def film. Experts have been hard pressed to tell it's not 35mm film.
- After we cast Connie Young as LaVonna in May 2004, she unexpectedly got pregnant. By the time we started shooting in August, her tummy was bigger, which posed a problem since LaVonna runs around in skimpy lingerie. Fortunately our costume designer Haley McMahon and cinematographer Eric Ristau were skilled enough to hide Connie's little bundle. (Although they couldn't do anything for her morning sickness.)
- JUPITER LANDING was shot in the same house in Salt Lake City that was used in the feature film Halloween 5.
- JUPITER LANDING was shot in 20 days in Salt Lake City in August 2004 during record summer heat in a 125-year old house that did not have air conditioning.

- The opening shot of JUPITER LANDING is a two-minute steadycam shot that took all day to choreograph and shoot. After 27 takes in 103 degree weather we had only three takes that we liked. Our DP Eric Ristau had over 70 pounds of steadycam equipment and camera strapped to his body as he followed Catfish down the street.
- The dead gold fish shown in the bathroom scenes and on the JUPITER LANDING movie poster is a real dead fish. In fact, we had to use several look-alike dead fish, as they decompose after two days (especially under hot lights). We received a steady stream of dead gold fish from a local Petco and Walmart and kept them in a refrigerator on the set.
- Producer Billie Harsch (a woman) had to wrangle the dead fish used in the bathroom scenes because the DP Eric Ristau and all of his cinematography crew (four men) were too creeped out to handle a dead gold fish.
- JUPITER LANDING was produced under the WGA lowbudget agreement and the SAG Limited Exhibition Agreement.
- First assistant cinematographer Damon Ristau had to sit in a stinky dumpster full of trash (with a closed lid) in 102 degree weather for 25 minutes to get the 4-second shot of Catfish throwing his alumni magazine away.
- Actor Tod Huntington (Catfish) does not have one real tattoo on his body. Make-up artist Harmony Hamill spent hours putting semi-permanent tattoos (they last about a month) all over Tod's body, including on his rear end (for nude scenes). Every morning, Tod had to come to the set a couple of hours early so that Harmony could touch up his tattoos with a tiny paintbrush. Tod could not take a bath or shower for the entire length of the shoot (20 days).
- JUPITER LANDING is listed on the internet under both IMDB.com and FILMFINDERS.com.