

PRESS KIT

“Absolutely ridiculous while at the same time way too real for words.” — StileFotoCibo

“Be sure to behave yourself in your next Lyft or Uber ride”
— DNAinfo Chicago

rideshare

Season 2

SPACE CAMP PRODUCTIONS presents a web-series by KATIE HUNTER, JEFF IRLBECK, and IAN MICHAEL SMITH “RIDESHARE” starring ELISABETH DEL TORO, LAUREN BAKER, LEAH MORROW, RYAN JOZAITIS and CHRIS FOWLER

ABOUT

WHAT IS RIDESHARE?

"You're a stranger, so who are you going to tell?" RideShare explores what happens when you actually talk to your Uber driver.

RideShare is a new web series that takes you inside the car and inside the world of driving for ridesharing services. Created by real-life drivers and passengers, each episode is completely improvised by Chicago comedians. Meaningful human connection can happen in unexpected ways and in unexpected places. Especially in the digital era where it is so easy to forgo any and all direct contact with other people, our show is a reminder that when you let someone in, even for five minutes, it can change your life.

A NOTE FROM KATIE (show-runner, co-creator)

I was sitting on Jeff Irlbeck's back porch one night when I revealed to him that I hate talking to Uber drivers. Jeff is a real-life Uber driver, and he immediately assembled the deck chairs into a car formation and told me to get in the "backseat". Jeff said "I'll get you to talk, and you'll like it". I did.

A month later we convinced our improv friends to sit in a car with Jeff for 20 minutes while we filmed them. When we reviewed the footage, we discovered the stories that expanded in ways we never could have imagined. That's how we made RideShare. Enjoy!



CAST & CREW



CAST

Driver: Jeff Irlbeck
Taylor Walsh: Elisabeth Del Toro
Charlie Frye: Chris Fowler
Lena Sparks: Leah Morrow
Paige Johnson: Lauren Baker
Dog: Leia Jozaitis

CREATIVE

Co-Creators: Katie Hunter & Jeff Irlbeck
Producers: Katie Hunter, Jeff Irlbeck, Ian Smith
Writers: Katie Hunter & Ian Smith
Director: Katie Hunter
Editors: Katie Hunter & Ian Smith
Animal Handler: Ryan Jozaitis

BIOS



Elisabeth Del Toro is delighted to be a part of the second season of RideShare. Her Chicago theater credits include Parachute Men, El Stories: Holiday Train, Water Children, and Big Fish: The Musical. Elisabeth can also be seen performing with improv teams Betsy and Talking Birds. More about Elisabeth's production history and updates can be found at elisabethdeltoro.com.

Chris Fowler is the Director of Playwright Outreach for Chicago-based theatre company, The New Colony. Recent TNC world-premiere roles include: KinFolk, The Terrible, Goodbye Night, Twain's World, and reWILDing Genius (U/S). Chris has worked with First Floor Theatre, Red Theatre Chicago, Strange Bedfellows, and Forget Me Not Theatre and plays as a lead ensemble member in Revry TV's original show Gayborhood.



Leah Morrow joins the second season of Ride Share after working with Producer Katie Hunter on the critically acclaimed theatrical production of The Producers at Mercury Theater Chicago. Leah is a Jeff-Nominated theater actress in Chicago and has appeared in several commercials and print ads. Proud member of Actors Equity Association, represented by Shirley Hamilton in Chicago.

Lauren Baker is a native Iowan but has made Chicago her home for the last 5.5 years. During those years (and the decade before) she's been in numerous theatrical productions ranging from Shakespeare to Sondheim. Favorite roles include Rona Lisa Peretti in "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee" (Up and Coming Theatre Co.), Mary Bailey in "Burn the Black Dog" (Wayward Theatre Co.), and Cobweb/ Hermia u/s in A Midsummer Nights Dream with Riverside Theatre as an acting intern. This project was a real trip and is her first foray into film. Thanks to Jeff for being an excellent chauffeur and to Katie for making it all happen.



BIOS



Katie Hunter is a writer, actress, and comedian who hails from Kansas City and pays rent in Chicago. Katie is the author of www.SelfStory.com (International Thespian Society Playworks Award, Young Playwrights Inc Write-A-Play Award). Other works include *Ghost Story* (Route 66 Test Drive Reading Recipient) *Innov* (University of Chicago), *In-Brain* (University of Chicago), *Going Up* (ATC), *LBVS* (ATC), and *Foreign Exchange* (OEHS). Katie's plays have been performed off-Broadway at the Cherry Lane Theater, published in *Dramatics* magazine, produced throughout the US and once in Morocco! Katie wrote for the American Theatre Company's BRIDGE project for two years, crafting plays based on the lives of Chicago high school students, and is the creator of the web series *RideShare*, debuting its second season this summer. Katie is an alumna of The Coterie Theatre's Young Playwright's Roundtable, a graduate of the University of Chicago, and a proud member of the 25th generation of Off Off Campus.

Jeff Irlbeck currently resides in Los Angeles, CA where he is currently looking for representation as a comic actor for the film and television industry. When he's not auditioning, you can find him building sets as a freelance carpenter and set dresser. His BA in Theatre, and improv background from Chicago area theatre's and troupes have sculpted him into a very flexible and easy to work with actor. He still does some rideshare driving for extra cash, meeting people, and learning the various areas of Los Angeles. Hopefully you'll see him driving around on his motorcycle, making his motovlogs, and in a few commercials and background roles on TV!



Ian Smith is an actor/writer/producer/sack of meatballs in a human suit, no sauce. You can find him resisting gummy worms, popcorn, and scaling buildings to avoid being confused for Spider-man. When he's not spending time...Spider-man does WHAT?! Either way, he would like to thank his Dad, Mom, Katie and brothers for their unwavering love and support. If you'd like to collaborate with said meatball you can find him (it?) at: ianmichaelsmith.wordpress.com

PRESS & PARTNERS

PRESS

"Awkward Uber, Lyft Rides Become Fodder For New Web Comedy Series"

by Tatiana Walk-Morris, DNAinfo Chicago, June 11, 2016

<https://www.dnainfo.com/chicago/20160711/andersonville/new-web-series-shin-awkward-uber-rides>

"RideShare, The All-Too-Real Web Series"

by Dannie Levine-Moore, Stile.Foto.Cibo, July 21, 2016

<https://stilefotocibo.com/2016/07/21/rideshare-the-all-too-real-web-series/>

"New Uber/Lyft Web Series Launches First Season"

TV News Desk, Broadway World TV, July 7, 2016

<http://www.broadwayworld.com/bwwtv/article/New-UberLyft-Web-Series-RideShare-Launches-First-Season-20160707-page2>

PARTNERS

We are currently seeking partnerships for upcoming individual episodes and full seasons. Please reach out to Katie Hunter at 913-271-1711 or mkatiehunter@gmail.com for more information.



FAQ



WHAT IS RIDESHARE?

We're an improv-based comedy show about a driver and the people he picks up/drops off.

IS IT REAL PEOPLE?

Jeff is a real driver, and some of the stories are based on real people Jeff meets, but no, we don't film strangers while Jeff is actually driving for Uber/Lyft. That would be creepy, and probs illegal.

HOW DO YOU FILM IT?

We stick a couple GoPros in strategic locations and hide some microphones in the seats.

WHAT IS SPACE CAMP PRODUCTIONS?

Space Camp is Katie Hunter and Ian Smith's production company. RideShare is our main focus right now, but we have lots of other ideas!

WHY IS IT CALLED SPACE CAMP?

We want every project we work on to feel like a fun adventure filled with learning and exploration into previously uncharted territory.

YOU MAKE ANY MONEY OFF THIS KIND OF THING?

Why? Do you have money? Do you want to give it to us? Contact Katie Hunter at 913-271-1711 or mkatiehunter@gmail.com to discuss giving us your money.

CONTACT



WEBSITE

www.spacecampproductions.com

YOUTUBE

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvIkYf7Gwg09aemyRmcRtDw>

FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/RideShareWebSeries/>

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