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from **October 20, 2005**

## Burns celebrates "Fashion Man" Vincent Falk in debut documentary from her Zweeble Films

✉ EMAIL this article to a friend

When she saw "Fashion Man" Vincent Falk running toward the middle of the State Street bridge before a tour boat passed on the river below, Jennifer Burns knew she'd found the subject of her first film.

"He had to get there in time to do his show," Burns recalled. "He had this huge smile on his face. Whatever you have to say about this guy, he does what makes him happy. I want the film to convey the pure joy of living."

Falk's show is a performance for passing tour boats, showing off his array of brightly colored suits and running through a stylized ritual of movements.

"First he waves, then he does several spins, takes off his suit coat and twirls it around his head," Burns said.

The as-yet untitled documentary is the inaugural production from Zweeble Films, the production company founded by Burns, who has been a stage and film actor for nine years.

Burns is shooting Falk's performances through the end of boating season in October. "He's got close to 100 suits I guess, he claims not to know how many," Burns said. "We want to see every one of his suits."

Falk, who appears Friday mornings on the Ch. 5 news, is a computer programmer for Cook County who has been legally blind since birth.

"When I tell people he's legally blind, they don't believe it, when they see the suits he picks out and the way he moves," Burns said.

"He walks at quite a clip—it's one of the biggest challenges for my DP Pat Russo to keep up with him. But I've been to Vincent's eye doctors with him, and it's true. He's never allowed his disability to hold him back in any way."

Burns is aiming her doc for the festival circuit and is confident the film can reach its "built-in Chicago audience" and beyond.

"It's as much about Chicago as it is about Vincent," Burns said. "I see him as an icon of the city. He's so cinematic. I want the film to be as visually compelling as he is."

Burns is a founding member of the improv troupe pH Productions, which performs regularly at Stage Left Theatre. She was a member of Low Sodium Entertainment and has performed with Infectious! Productions, Phoenix Ascending, Tri-Arts Productions, Lid Productions and Fervent Theatre.

She has acted in films by A Seizure/Prism Studio, Cinebug Productions, Rodkirk Films, Girly Girl Productions, and in David McQuillen's "The



"Fashion Man" Vincent Falk

DATEBOOK

TODAY IS MARCH 14, 2008

**MARCH 15 • CHICAGO FILM ARCHIVES** and Willie Dixon's Blues Heaven Foundation presents the film, "Singing Streams: The Roots of Gospel and Blues. At Chess Records old recording studios, 2120 S. Michigan, 7-9 p.m., \$5. Call 773/478-3799 or see [chicagofilmarchives.org](http://chicagofilmarchives.org).

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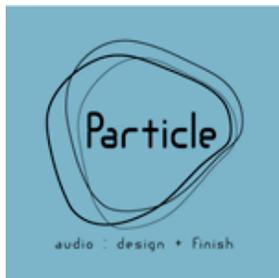
Materialists,” which screened on the Sci-Fi Channel’s “Exposure.”

Email [jen@whatisph.com](mailto:jen@whatisph.com) or see [www.vpfalk.net](http://www.vpfalk.net). —Ed M. Koziarski

Ed M. Koziarski is in post-production on the feature film “The First Breath of Tengan Rei.” Email: [Ed M. Koziarski](mailto:Ed M. Koziarski)



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## BACKTALK for this Article

I asked my wife what was her favourite moment in Chicago during a five day holiday there, she replied the walk along Lake Michigan between the Field Museum and the City. She then asked me what was mine, that was easy, without question it was when the tourboat guide said the words “Ladies and Gentleman, I give you Riverace” and we all spun around and here was this character in a tangerine suit spinning on the bridge.

Buildings I can see anywhere but for this I must come back to Chicago. Weeks later home in Australia I still chuckle at the memory. —Gary Venables

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I'm so glad to hear someone doing a film on Vincent and his “uniqueness.” He puts a smile on my face everytime I see him spinning like a model out of the movie “Zoolander.” How can ya not like the guy. Jennifer, thanks for choosing Vincent. I like what you said, how he conveys the “pure joy of living.” That, he does. —Sharon Czalowski, unemployed flight attendant at the moment

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Share your great ideas, opinions, rants, whatever. This space is for you. Do it while you think of it.

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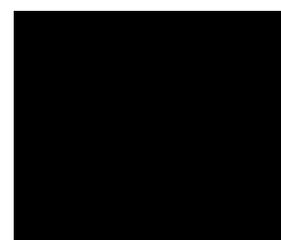
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film, video, interactive  
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**L.A.-based Windward to shoot daring single-take kidnap thriller here; stars "Spy Kids" Alexa Vega**

