

How Bruce Bellocchi Rose From The Ashes

A Story of Redemption



California, Los Angeles, May 31, 2021 (Issuewire.com) - Bruce Bellocchi is proof that dreams come true if you work hard enough and never give up. He had been around the Hollywood game for a number of years with moderate success. A few writing gigs, a few acting gigs, and a few famous friends but there was nothing memorable to put him on the Hollywood map. Bellocchi even went to school with Doug Ellin, the well-known creator of HBO's mega-hit, "Entourage" but Ellin wasn't calling him for work. As a matter of fact, nobody was.

Bellocchi bounced around Hollywood for years taking whatever jobs he could get his hands on. From bodyguard to bartender he did it all and the other thing he did was continued to write. Even when his life imploded in 2014 and he found himself incarcerated for three years he never stopped writing. "It's what saved me," Bellocchi told Esquire Magazine in a recent interview. "I lived inside the stories. At one point in my life, it's all I had. I remember getting arrested and sitting in a transport van for thirty-two days. The first thing I did was write a screenplay in my head which ultimately became, Strong Island". While incarcerated Bellocchi wrote his first book called, "Strong Island". A gangster novel set in 1980's Long Island and according to Bellocchi is based on a true story.

"Prison is a lonely place. It's what you see in movies magnified by a hundred. On my very first day inside an inmate gave me a book by Truman Capote. Four hours later he hung himself. A few days after that someone was murdered in front of me. It's a place I knew I didn't belong but at the time, I was personally broken, and looking back it was one of the best lessons of my life." Bellocchi says, he wrote for twelve hours a day. "There was a time I didn't go outside for over a year. Didn't see the sun. Didn't see the grass. Just sat inside at a metal table and wrote. Everyone knew to leave me alone". Bellocchi made the most of his time by completing a novel and several screenplays. One of those screenplays being, "The Legend of Jack and Diane".

After his release on Friday the 13th in 2017, Bellocchi made his way back to Hollywood and the grind began all over again. "Sometimes you simply have to believe. Even when you can't see the light in front of you. There were many days I had to fight through the tears and the darkness but I always believed in my stories. To me, they come from a beautiful place and it's a place people can relate to. Hopefully, "The Legend of Jack and Diane" is the one because I have so many more".

"The Legend of Jack and Diane" has sparked interest in Hollywood and according to different sources, there are several streaming services interested as well as major studios. Filming begins in late August. It will be Bellocchi's directorial debut.

For media-related questions please contact: Mike Hellerman

You can learn more about Bruce Bellocchi by visiting the link below.

[Bruce Bellocchi Filmography](#)

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