

Talking with PAUL GLAZIER



His Character: Zack Dupree – the bike mechanic of his own dreams. He’s got style, grace, a fixed gear bike and an attitude. He owns the road and is always at the ready to defend his right to ride any road, any time, even if it’s a dead end.

Prior to “The Bicyclist”: Paul studied improv at The Groundlings School in Los Angeles, and has appeared in numerous stage productions, indie films and industrials in Portland. The show’s

most accomplished cyclist, Paul rides a brakeless ‘05 chrome Pista and an ‘07 Lemond Sarthe.

Have you always wanted to be an actor?

I was always good at performing, but an experience I had in high school really locked it in for me. I knew I had found the thing I could do over and over again and not feel like a robot chimp being controlled by a really boring evil scientist – the kind that always wants to make you go to work every day yet only gives you one week’s paid vacation every year. Also, I’m kind of an insecure guy and, *well*, love validation.

How long have you been biking?

I’ve been riding since I was 4. When I was 16, when I should have had a driver’s license, I hitchhiked everywhere in my home town of Nevada City, CA. And I didn’t really need a driver’s license. All my friends drove. Then when I moved to Portland, there were like buses and bikes everywhere. It wasn’t until my wife and I moved to Los Angeles that if I wanted to get work, it’s

too spread out for me to ride everywhere. So I finally got a license at 24 – but only because I lived in L.A.

How much did you ride in SoCal?

I rode every day in L.A. with my crew Yosi, Tim, Dylan, Dee Dee and Rachel, and we mobbed with lots of others, but that was the core. Shout out to The Bike Kitchen and Orange 20. I still sport my bandannas! But the second Friday of every month about 1500 bicyclists show up in costumes, and we just start rocking it. We just take off and ride all over downtown. We had so many bicyclists that the first maybe 20 people ride into the middle of the intersection and block it off. And then all the other cyclists go through. People are freaking out in their cars!!

Have you had any dangerous incidents on the road?

I've been cut off, run off and flipped off by drivers. I have been hit three times and been threatened, done stupid things, and lived through stupid drivers. I have ridden brakeless in Portland, Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles city traffic. My life flashes before my eyes at least once a week.

So why put yourself through the terror of riding brakeless?

Because it's really, really fun to ride.

So how do you handle hills, which PDX has plenty of?

Push really hard, pedal your butt off. You learn how to stop by skidding and power sliding. I've got really strong thighs, because of how much biking I do.

Tell us about your character in the "The Bicyclist."

I play this sort of jocky, jerk-off Casanova bike mechanic.

Have you been recognized on the street yet?

Once I was standing outside of work and this kid on tour with his band from San Diego walked by and said, "Hey, I just watched your show my friends and I love it." And I was at the Hand Built Bike Convention with my buddies from Oak-town, and this guy made me look like a complete bad-ass by coming up and saying, "Dude, Zack I feel like I know ya, man. When's the next episode coming up?" Oh I could get used to this!

