

TORONTO

# metro

## Wall held up dreams of production

**Just two years ago, Ieden Wall had a dream — to make the dreams of others come true.**

Now, paired with a camera and a chauffeur, Wall mixes raw earnestness and nerves of steel to explore the paths to dreamers' secret ambitions.

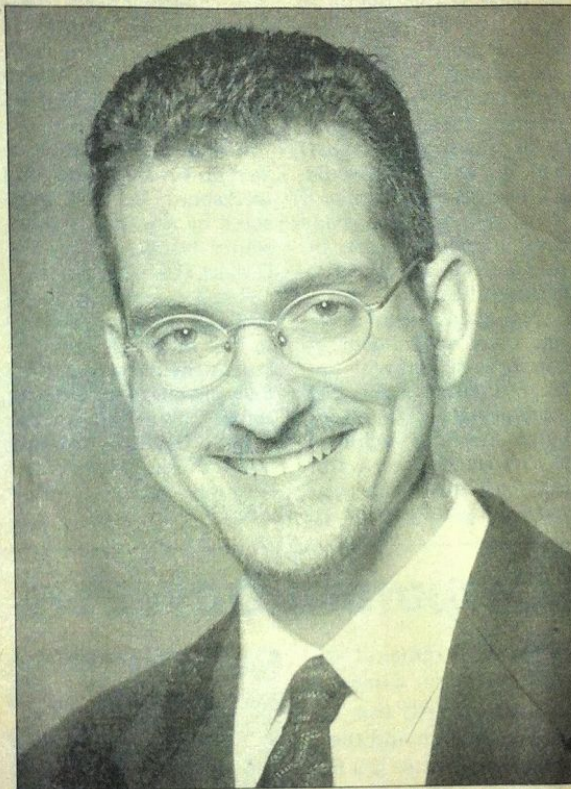
The result is a bare-bones production called *The Dream Chaser* — a maverick approach to the “man on the street” where Wall uses massive doses of chutzpah to help unknown dreamers chase their life-long dreams.

The segments are unscripted, and offer audiences a rare fusion of slick, wry humour and in-your-face gritty human drama on the streets of Toronto. His goal? To show that anything is possible.

There are two aspects Wall says are equally fulfilling to hosting an independently-run show.

“Being able to step into someone’s life at a low point or moment of vulnerability and motivate them to go the distance, and to create a show that flies in the face of convention using humour to inspire others to chase their dreams with a greater tenacity,” says the 30-year-old Wall, who also does some stand-up comedy.

American audiences have turned the charismat-



*Ieden Wall says he wants to help people realize their dreams through his production, *Dream Chaser*.*

ic talk-show renegade into a campus cult favourite. His show was a smash hit at Penn State, Pittsburgh U, UCLA and Stanford.

Wall has been nurturing his networking and interviewing skills since he was just 15, when he would interview celebrities on camera and then have a public screening of the interview.

Wall also did a brief stint as host of his own show on cable television.

The sometimes-edgy show keeps its groove by constantly refreshing the roster of “dream” segments. Wall has helped a waitress become a cover model; a fledgling chanteuse audition for a Broadway show; and helps a veteran subway

singer to chase his dream of becoming a recording artist for a major label.

Plans are also being made for Wall to take the show to the Orient. But when he began, however, naysayers tried to deter him.

“Everybody we spoke to told us the concept was unrealistic. But now tens of thousands of people are writing letters and e-mails and want their dreams fulfilled,” says Wall.

His partner, Brian Korson, has helped the dreamers too, by loaning more than a half-million dollars worth of digital equipment, and hundreds of hours of his time, risking his own safety, to shoot and produce six dream chaser pieces.

To add an air of elegance, Wall also uses a chauffeur to shuttle himself and the dreamer on their quest. The *Dream Chaser* segments are eventually aired on big screens at live shows, in informal cafe-like environs.

*Dream Chaser* will be showing this fall at the Toronto International Film Festival. In that episode, Wall helps someone escape from a mental institution to pursue their dream as an actor. For more information, visit the Web site [www.thedreamchaser.com](http://www.thedreamchaser.com).

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