



"Artistically revealing television"

**Documentary: During which we must conclude that 'less is much much more'.**

Clothing where none exists! That's the delightfully ironic illusion created by Jeff King and ensemble in their Hot Paint! competitions. And that's just the backdrop for a documentary in which transformation in its many forms and a clash of sensitive artist's and model's egos take centre stage. This colorful troupe hosts the world-sanctioned, national body painting festival and competition -- with fewer clothes yet *more truth* in the celebration of our humanity.

### **WHAT IT REALLY IS**

Although the expectation of nudity may entice viewers to HotPaint!, it is the magical transformation of paint that artfully covers more than just skin. Becoming a living breathing art form inspires the artist and transforms the model. We have adorned ourselves with make-up, tattoos, and paint and as a species ever since history was recorded. The very human underpinning to this unique circus reminds us of how far we have come and opens up limitless opportunities for the imagination.

Almost as compelling as the artfully decorated bodies is the constellation of characters orbiting around our central character, Jeff King. Jeff is the workingman's artist at first glance, but in every situation suddenly demonstrates he is not only a loose cannon, but a tragic figure. This is not sad, this is good. This is good because, as we know, no one wants to tune in and yawn, while watching 'The Valley of the Happy Nice People'. This is a show about real but unreal people for which they can blame no one but themselves for their uniqueness.

Jeff is a wild character who is terrified of success and is someone you definitely wouldn't want your daughter dating, but who is also struggling in his own way to evolve as a human being.

What it is -- it is a troupe of entertainers venturing well beyond their comfort zone, emotionally and geographically, led by an artistic genius with an alarming portfolio of shortcomings. Wearing his humanity on his sleeve as he does, Jeff King has attracted a corps of supporters who are loyal to a fault, even though they blame him for everything. Partner him with his seeming alter ego that he has known for years and trusts. Enter Dawn Tyndall, who has seen and believes in his genius. Dawn bucks and butts heads with Jeff every step of the way while working on his dream.



## ARCS, STORYLINES

**Hot Paint** pretends nothing. This is no mock documentary; this is no reenactment of entertainment history; these aren't the comic book antics of *The Trailerpark Boys*; these are the very real adventures of a local boy setting out with the dream of unifying a group of specialized artists and models into a nation-wide body art championship.

We find Jeff at work painting public murals in his home town of Nanaimo on Vancouver Island, where the first Canadian body painting competition took place. The event served as the training session for the next big national bodypainting competition with all the grace of a newborn colt learning to walk. It'll be a true reflection of their growth as artists and impresarios as, we see them strut their stuff with greater organization and panache.

The show has at least two distinct levels upon which certain types of storyline takes place.

The A-story is the in-your-face, bodypainting competition organization. Here, behind-the-scenes, backstage and in hotel rooms and taxis and elevators, we find Jeff & Co. in perpetual motion, constantly trying to right a sinking ship. These A-stories are the essence of **Hot Paint**. Some crises, unique to each artist, model or location, are resolved, but others, like the threats of bankruptcy, have greater staying power. the challenge to find models and artists, match them up, and mount the show. As titillating as the A-STORY is, it functions as the backdrop for the more meaningful melodramas playing out in our B-STORIES.

In the B-STORIES we get under the skin of a select few 'competitors' each week. These are sensible citizens like you and me, who are lining up to audition for a competitive spots in Hot Paint! One might expect this world to be filled with only the fringe characters of this world but doctors, lawyers, professional models, dancers and others volunteer to be the object of a work of art with the opportunity to perform.

Add to all of this the underlying stories about empowerment of men and women. Breast cancer survivors embrace this art form and volunteer to aid in the success of the bodypainting event. Tall or short, thin or heavy, male or female, each person painted ends up insisting the experience changed their lives.



## CHARACTERS



JEFF KING once received artistic and philanthropic recognition from marine idol, Jacques Cousteau. Why that didn't lead to instant fame and fortune Jeff still doesn't know - perhaps because he thinks of himself as more of a pirate in character and personality than philanthropist explorer. Jeff's shaved head, bedroom eyes and rough mannerism along with his lack of discipline adds to his often unlikeable yet charming character.

AMY HOULTON, the show's co-emcee, is an extremely clever, fast-talking, born-beautiful 26-year old, who was one of Jeff's first body-painting models. She spits out monologues that leave you breathless. Amy's main issue is her child, and her number one priority 'to be a good mom'. Says Amy, *"I may be the most messed up person on this whole crew."*



DAWN TYNDALL, former city councilor. Zen practitioner. Everyone leaves the business dealings in her capable, yet secretly stressed out, hands. Dawn avoids the party scene, 'which explains why she still has her dignity,' explains Amy. Dawn's too busy to party -- too busy worrying about the bottom line, resolving conflicts, soothing nerves and massaging egos. If you're the 'mom' type, you'll live vicariously through Dawn.

SEAN JONES, bodybuilder and model who loves to bake and decorate cakes with his own image. Sean was seen by the gang at the World Body Painting Festival in Austria while performing. While Dawn sees him as an opportunist but believes in win/win, the bonding between Jeff, Amy and Sean was instant. Jeff is entertained by him, and Amy just wants to pose with him – after all *limelight IS limelight*. It'll be fun watching the competition between Sean and Amy as they vie for attention from cameras, whether fast talking or posing.

