

= Jason Beghe =

Jason Beghe (born March 12 , 1960) is an American film and television actor . As a young man , he attended the Collegiate School in New York City , where he became best friends with John F. Kennedy , Jr . , and David Duchovny . Beghe is married and lives in Los Angeles , California .

Beghe starred in the 1988 George A. Romero film *Monkey Shines : An Experiment In Fear* , playing a quadriplegic in a performance that was positively received . He appeared as a police officer in the film *Thelma & Louise* , and played Demi Moore 's love interest in *G.I. Jane* . Beghe starred opposite Moira Kelly in the television series *To Have & to Hold* , and has had recurring roles on *Picket Fences* , *Melrose Place* , *Chicago Hope* , *American Dreams* and *Cane* , as well as parts on numerous other television programs . He currently stars in the TV series *Chicago P.D.* ..

He began taking Scientology courses in 1994 , and later appeared in a Church of Scientology advertising campaign and in promotional videos . According to Beghe , Church of Scientology head David Miscavige even referred to him as " the poster boy for Scientology " . Beghe left Scientology in 2007 and began publicly speaking out about his experiences within the church in April 2008 . An on @-@ camera interview with Beghe about his experiences in Scientology conducted by Xenu TV founder and journalist Mark Bunker was published to the video site YouTube and later Vimeo . Marina Hyde of The Guardian newspaper called Beghe a Scientology celebrity whistleblower for his actions .

= = Early life = =

Beghe was born March 12 , 1960 , in New York City , and has three siblings . He attended the Collegiate School , a private preparatory school for boys located in New York City . While there , he became best friends with John F. Kennedy , Jr. and actor David Duchovny . Kennedy and Beghe often hung out together outside the Metropolitan Museum of Art and in Central Park , and were monitored by Kennedy 's Secret Service detail . As a teenager , Beghe attended summer camp with Erik Rush , now a conservative columnist and author .

Influenced by Beghe , Kennedy became involved in the theater program at Collegiate . Beghe later also persuaded Duchovny to pursue work in acting . Duchovny had planned to write and become a professor , but halfway through work on his Ph.D. dissertation , Beghe convinced him to audition for television commercials .

= = Acting career = =

Prior to his acting career , Beghe worked as a model in Europe . He had his feature film debut in the 1985 film *Compromising Positions* , starring Susan Sarandon , and in 1986 had his first recurring role on television on the HBO situation comedy series *1st & Ten* . He starred alongside O. J. Simpson and Sam J. Jones in HBO 's sequel to *1st & Ten* titled *Training Camp : The Bulls Are Back* , and John Voorhees of The Seattle Times wrote : " The cast , which includes O.J. Simpson , Sam Jones and newcomer Jason Beghe , is first @-@ rate . "

In 1988 , he starred in the film *Monkey Shines : An Experiment In Fear* , directed by George A. Romero . He portrayed Allan Mann , a law student made quadriplegic when hit by a truck in the opening credits of the film . The Philadelphia Inquirer gave a positive review of Beghe 's performance in *Monkey Shines* : " Acting only with his face and voice , Jason Beghe is terrific at conveying the mounting anger and rage of an active man made passive " . David Foil of The Advocate described Beghe 's performance as " remarkable simply for meeting the demands of the character " .

Beghe played an ice hockey star in the Perry Mason TV film *The Case of the All @-@ Star Assassin* , an NBC @-@ TV telefeature broadcast November 19 , 1989 . In 1991 he played a State Trooper in the film *Thelma & Louise* (reuniting him with Sarandon , with whom he 'd appeared in *Compromising Positions*) , and was Demi Moore 's love interest in the 1997 film *G.I. Jane* . He had recurring roles on *Picket Fences* and *Melrose Place* , and became a cast member of *Chicago Hope*

in 1997 , portraying electrician Danny Blaines opposite romantic interest Dr. Austin played by Christine Lahti . In a 1997 interview in The Boston Herald , Beghe spoke about his respect for his fellow cast members in Chicago Hope : " I think it 's the best cast assembled that I 've ever seen . One for one , they 're incredible . And to work with Christine Lahti ? I 'd drop a lot of things for that . She 's so good and smart and dedicated . I 've become a better actor just for working with her . " He commented on his character on Melrose Place , a closeted military officer who had feelings for Matt , played by Doug Savant : " I thought we should kiss , but it was too much . TV is a very specific medium , and you 're naive if you think that everything is just based on artistic decisions . If it prevents them from selling some products , that 's a major consideration . But I 'm an actor . I 'll do whatever it takes . "

Beghe co -@-@ starred with Moira Kelly in the 1998 CBS television drama series To Have & to Hold , where he played police officer Sean McGrail . Mike Duffy of The Detroit Free Press wrote : " There is an affectionate romantic sizzle between the ruggedly handsome Beghe (" G.I. Jane ") and the dark @-@ haired , unconventionally attractive Kelly (" Little Odessa ") . " Kinney Littlefield of The Orange County Register said that " Beghe and Kelly have charm . "

Beghe appeared in acting roles on Numb3rs , CSI : NY , Everwood , Criminal Minds , Veronica Mars and Cane . Beghe portrayed exorcist Ray Purvis in the 2008 horror film One Missed Call . In 2009 , Beghe had a guest @-@ starring role on the television show Californication . He played the character novelist Richard Bates , a friend of character Hank Moody (played by David Duchovny) . " Bates , played by Jason Beghe , made for an interesting character and the fact that he didn 't get as much screen time as some of the other characters is a shame , " wrote Danny Gallagher of TV Squad . In October 2009 , Beghe was in Pittsburgh , Pennsylvania for the filming of the movie The Next Three Days , directed by Paul Haggis . The film was released in 2010 and starred Elizabeth Banks , Russell Crowe , Brian Dennehy , and Olivia Wilde .

In December 10 , 2013 , it was announced on the official Facebook page for the upcoming traditionally animated feature film Dawgtown , that Beghe is signed to voice Mauler in the film .

Since 2014 , Beghe has starred in Chicago P.D. , a spin @-@ off of Chicago Fire , where Beghe had a recurring role .

= = Scientology = =

= = = Early years and decision to leave = = =

In 1994 , Beghe was in an acting class taught by Scientologist Milton Katselas , and decided to take some Scientology courses . Fellow acting student Bodhi Elfman gave him a book about Scientology from which Beghe was introduced to the idea that " technology " developed by L. Ron Hubbard could yield superhuman abilities . Beghe helped promote a " What is Scientology ? " exhibition which was part of a Church of Scientology national television advertising campaign in Britain in 1999 . He appeared in Scientology promotional videos in 2005 . In an interview with Fox News , Beghe told Roger Friedman that the head of the Church of Scientology , David Miscavige , referred to him as " the poster boy for Scientology " . He reached the level of OT V within Scientology , and is a trained Auditor . His wife also took Scientology courses and rose to the level of OT V. He estimated he gave the Church of Scientology USD \$ 1 million over a 12 @-@ year period .

In 2007 , Beghe made the decision to leave Scientology , and began to publicly criticize the Church of Scientology in April 2008 . One of the first people he went to see after leaving Scientology was his friend David Duchovny . Beghe discussed the Xenu space opera with Duchovny , and both found the story to be funny . While active in Scientology , Beghe 's relationship with Duchovny suffered , and Duchovny was referred to as a " Suppressive Person " , someone believed to be working against the Church of Scientology and not to be associated with .

= = = Public criticism = = =

After leaving Scientology , Beghe contacted Andreas Haldal @-@ Lund , founder of Operation Clambake , who convinced him to meet with journalist and Scientology critic Mark Bunker . Haldal @-@ Lund and Bunker went to Beghe 's house , where Beghe participated in an interview about his experiences as a Scientologist . Bunker published a three @-@ minute portion of the three @-@ hour interview to YouTube in mid @-@ April 2008 , and in the video Beghe calls Scientology " very dangerous for your spiritual , psychological , mental , emotional health and evolution . " The interview closes with Beghe stating , " I don 't have an agenda . I 'm just trying to help . [...] I have the luxury of having gotten into Scientology and after having been in it , been out . And that 's a perspective that people who are still in and not out do not have . "

When asked in an interview in The Village Voice if he thought his public criticism of Scientology would hurt his acting career , Beghe joked , " I ? m probably not going to be doing any movies for United Artists any time soon . " (United Artists was revamped as a joint venture with Scientologist Tom Cruise , his business associate Paula Wagner , who is chief executive of the company , and Metro @-@ Goldwyn @-@ Mayer .) Marina Hyde of The Guardian called Beghe a Scientology celebrity whistleblower .

The video was taken down from YouTube on April 17 , 2008 but was reposted by multiple other YouTube users shortly thereafter . By April 18 , 2008 , at least 45 users had reposted the video interview using their own YouTube accounts . Bunker 's account was also canceled on April 17 , and he believed this was due to copyright issues stemming from clips of The Colbert Report that he had uploaded to YouTube . Although the issues have since been resolved , Bunker initially thought that his account had been banned and the video made inaccessible due to pressure on YouTube staff from the Church of Scientology ; claims which were not confirmed or denied by YouTube representative Ricardo Reyes , who referred to YouTube 's policy of not commenting on individual videos . On April 21 , 2008 Mark Bunker posted the video footage of the entire interview with Jason Beghe ; as Bunker 's YouTube account was suspended , the full interview footage was instead hosted on Vimeo and Blip.tv.

On April 28 , 2008 , Beghe posted online a letter to Church leader David Miscavige , requesting the confidential confessional files that Scientology compiles during Auditing sessions . In a message posted to the Operation Clambake website , Beghe wrote : " As the Church of Scientology carefully monitors all anti @-@ scientology websites , I am posting the letter here , on xenu.net , to assure that it be received by the C of S . " He had previously contacted the President 's Office at The Church of Scientology Celebrity Centre International who " refused to directly respond " to his request , and a letter to David Miscavige sent through the Church communication system was also refused . Beghe told The Village Voice that these confidential files are also kept on actor Tom Cruise as well as other celebrity Scientologists . " More people have left Scientology than are currently in it . And yet they maintain these files about what people have said to them in private sessions . Why would you want these people to hold onto this stuff ? " said Beghe to The Village Voice . Beghe believes that Scientology 's practice of disconnection is still in place , and in an interview with Tony Ortega of The Village Voice cited his four @-@ year @-@ old son being kicked out of a Scientology school as an example of disconnection .

A portion of Beghe 's criticism of Scientology originally uploaded to YouTube by Mark Bunker was shown on Nightline in a piece about David Miscavige 's niece , Jenna Miscavige Hill , and her criticism of Scientology . Beghe has turned down television appearances to speak about his experiences , stating : " I just wanted to make sure that the story isn 't about me . It ? s not about me . It ? s about helping others who are still lost in the cult , or toying with the idea of getting involved . "

On May 29 , 2008 , Beghe attended a protest against the Church of Scientology held outside the Scientology building on East 46th Street in New York City . He addressed the 50 protesters gathered across the street from the Scientology building , and told them : " What you guys are doing means so much to me , and so much to these people ... It just kills me . It makes me want to cry . You don 't know what kind of good you 're doing . " He then walked across the street in an attempt to enter the Scientology building , but was prevented from entering by three hired private security guards . He returned to the group of protesters and tried to phone the president of the

Church of Scientology of New York , John Carmichael : " I called and asked for John Carmichael and said I was Jason Beghe . Then they hung up . "

In September 2008 , Beghe traveled to Europe where he spoke with government officials in Hamburg , Germany about his experiences as a Scientologist . He had been invited by Germany ' s Department of Interior Affairs to speak at a panel organized by Ursula Caberta on Scientology titled : " That is Scientology ! Reports from the USA " . Beghe suggested that governments put up a warning sign , similar to warnings placed on packs of cigarettes , and the next day a member of Germany ' s Interior Department told him such a sign was placed outside a Church of Scientology building in Berlin . Beghe said that Scientology hired private investigators to follow him to Europe .

Beghe was a guest in May 2009 on the BBC World Service radio program World : Have Your Say , where he discussed his views on what he thought of Scientology when he first joined : " I thought that it was something that was going to deliver miracles , and that it was the most selfless group of people that were totally dedicated to helping mankind , and I wanted to be part of it . " He was also critical of the Scientology organization leadership , including its head David Miscavige : " I think that there are probably things of Scientology that are valuable and that can help people - my main issue is not with Scientology per se , it is with Scientology the organization - it is a corrupt I believe and probably a criminal endeavor , and that has to do with people who are in charge of Scientology mainly David Miscavige ... "

In September 2010 , Beghe took part in a BBC News Panorama documentary , The Secrets of Scientology , in which he spoke about his decision to leave the organization . He said his time with the organization had cost him " a million dollars " and hinted that the religion was a racket . Beghe also appeared in the 2015 HBO documentary Going Clear , based upon the book of the same name by Lawrence Wright .

= = Personal life = =

Beghe ' s sister , Francesca Beghe , is a singer / songwriter who released a self @-@ titled album in 1991 with SBK Records . His great @-@ grandfather was Charles S. Deneen , a two @-@ term governor of Illinois and one @-@ term U.S. Senator in the early 1900s .

He and David Duchovny remain close friends , and he was best man at Duchovny ' s wedding to actress Téa Leoni . He lives with his family in Nichols Canyon , Los Angeles , California .

Beghe was in an automobile accident in 1999 . He said , " I was intubated , and I kept pulling this tube out of my throat . " This has left him with a voice described as " gravelly " .

Beghe married Angie Janu in 2000 .

= = Filmography = =

= = = Film = = =

= = = Television = = =