

= Jon Cryer =

Jonathan Niven " Jon " Cryer (born April 16 , 1965) is an American actor , screenwriter , television director , and film producer . Born into a show business family , Cryer made his motion picture debut as a teenaged photographer in the 1984 romantic comedy No Small Affair ; his breakout role came in 1986 , playing " Duckie " Dale in the John Hughes @-@ written film Pretty in Pink . In 1998 , he wrote and produced the independent film Went to Coney Island on a Mission from God ... Be Back by Five .

Although Cryer gained fame with his early film roles , it took several years to find success on television ; none of his star vehicles , including The Famous Teddy Z , Partners , and The Trouble with Normal , lasted more than 22 episodes . In 2003 , Cryer was cast as Alan Harper on the CBS sitcom Two and a Half Men , for which he won two Primetime Emmy Awards in 2009 and 2012 . Cryer received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame for Television in 2011 .

Cryer 's other film appearances include Hiding Out (1987) , Hot Shots (1991) , Tortured (2008) , Shorts (2009) , and Hit by Lightning (2014) . He also has a recurring role in the CBS drama series , NCIS , playing Dr. Cyril Taft .

After appearing on the podcast Crime Writers On ... it was announced Cryer is joining the team at the Undisclosed podcast for their second season .

= = Early life = =

Cryer was born in New York City , New York . His mother , Gretchen Cryer (née Kiger) , is a playwright , songwriter , actress , and singer ; his father , Donald David Cryer , is an actor and singer who originally studied to be a minister . Cryer 's paternal grandfather , Rev. Dr. Donald W. Cryer , was a well @-@ known Methodist minister . He has two sisters , Robin and Shelly .

When Cryer was twelve years old , he decided that he wanted to become an actor . When his mother heard this , she thought he should have a backup plan , and joked : " Plumbing is a pretty good career . " Cryer attended Stagedoor Manor Performing Arts Training Center for several summers as a teenager , and is a 1983 graduate of the Bronx High School of Science . He was classmates with screenwriter and film director Boaz Yakin . To his mother 's " great disappointment " , Cryer skipped college and went to study acting at the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art (RADA) in London , United Kingdom .

= = Career = =

Cryer 's first professional acting effort was as David in the Broadway play Torch Song Trilogy , replacing Matthew Broderick , whom he " closely resembled " . Cryer was later an understudy and replacement for Broderick in Neil Simon 's Brighton Beach Memoirs in 1989 .

At age 19 , Cryer appeared in the 1984 romantic comedy film No Small Affair , in the lead role as Charles Cummings , after the original production with Matthew Broderick was shut down due to a heart attack by director , Martin Ritt . He went on to have small roles in films and television movies , and he made his breakthrough as Phil " Duckie " Dale in the John Hughes @-@ scripted film Pretty in Pink . In an interview with the Daily News , Cryer 's mother said that after Pretty in Pink , she started getting calls from teenage girls from all over the world , who would leave hysterical , giggling messages on her answering machine . In 1989 , he got the lead role in the TV comedy series , The Famous Teddy Z. His performance gained poor reviews and the show was canceled after the first season .

A year later , he starred with Charlie Sheen in the Jim Abrahams comedy Hot Shots ! , which was received very positively . Cryer is frequently linked to the Brat Pack . In a March 2009 interview on Anytime with Bob Kushell , Cryer stated that he had auditioned for St. Elmo 's Fire but was not cast in a role . In 1993 , he was asked to audition for the role of Chandler Bing on Friends , while doing a play in London . His reading was videotaped by a British casting agent but the tape failed to arrive in the U.S. before the network had made its final decision .

In 1995 , he was cast as Bob in the sitcom Partners , which , like his prior show The Famous Teddy Z , was canceled after its first season . In an interview with Time Out New York he stated , " Hey , every show I 'm in goes down . Think about this : George Clooney was in 28 pilots , or something . It means nothing " . After guest starring on shows such as Dharma & Greg and The Outer Limits , he successfully wrote and produced the film , Went to Coney Island on a Mission from God ... Be Back by Five . It debuted in 1998 at the Los Angeles Film Festival and gained positive reviews from critics . Leonard Maltin from Playboy Magazine called it " A breath of fresh air " . In 2000 , he was cast as the lead in a comedy series called The Trouble With Normal . For the third time , Cryer starred in a show which was canceled after its first season .

Cryer 's long run of unsuccessful TV projects finally ended three years later . Against the wishes of CBS executives (who were aware of his past failures) and due to a friendship with Charlie Sheen , he was cast in 2003 to portray Alan Harper on the hit comedy series Two and a Half Men . He has earned seven Primetime Emmy Award nominations and two wins for his acting work on the show . In a comment on the show 's high ratings , he said : " When you 're on a show that 's fighting for survival every week , you stop trusting your instincts , because you think , ' My instincts haven 't worked so far . ' But when people clearly like the show and are watching it in great numbers , it takes a huge amount of pressure off you . It allows you to trust your instincts and go with what has worked for you before . " After former co -star Charlie Sheen 's departure from the series , Cryer 's character became the show 's main protagonist (with Ashton Kutcher being cast as the co -star lead) throughout the final four seasons , mainly due to the show 's retooled plot . At the end of the series of Two and a Half Men , Cryer is the only actor to have appeared in every episode of the series , since Sheen was fired in March 2011 and his on -screen son Angus T. Jones left the series at the end of season 10 , after expressing the show as " filth " and that Jones is a " paid hypocrite " . All appeared to be forgiven , however , as Jones , contrary to Charlie Sheen , appeared to great applause in the finale . Before being cast for Two and a Half Men , Cryer auditioned for the role of Gaius Baltar on the Sci-Fi Channel 's reimagined Battlestar Galactica , but the role went to James Callis . In 2008 , Cryer appeared with Laurence Fishburne and James Cromwell in the film Tortured , and in 2009 co -starred with James Spader in the film Shorts .

Cryer made a guest appearance on the sitcom series Husbands in its second season . He was initially cast to voice the lead character in DisneyToon Studios ' animated film Planes , a spin-off of Pixar 's Cars franchise , but later dropped out and was replaced by Dane Cook . Cryer did however receive a credit on the film for " additional story material . "

In 2015 , Cryer released a book titled So That Happened , a breezy , often comic tale chronicling Cryer 's 30 -year career on stage , film and television .

Cryer currently appears in the highly popular CBS drama series , NCIS where he currently plays Navy Dr. Cyril Taft who treats NCIS Special Agent Leroy Jethro Gibbs (Mark Harmon) . Cryer had expressed a desire to appear in NCIS since it premiered on September 23 , 2003 .

Pursuing a passion for criminal justice Cryer joined the team of the popular podcast Undisclosed where he will be voicing the weekly addendum episode for the second season .

= = Personal life = =

Cryer married British actress Sarah Trigger in 1999 , with whom he has a son , Charlie Austin . The pair divorced in 2004 . In February 2007 , on an episode of The Tonight Show with Jay Leno , he announced that he would marry entertainment reporter Lisa Joyner ; the couple married in Mexico in June 2007 . On September 29 , 2009 , Jon and Lisa announced that they adopted a baby girl , whom they named Daisy .

When Pretty in Pink co -star Molly Ringwald told Out magazine in 2012 that she believed Cryer 's character was gay , Cryer defended Duckie and other " slightly effeminate dorks , " and said he has had to live with others ' " faulty " gaydar . Also in 2012 , Joyner told Jeff Probst that when she and Cryer started dating , she wondered if he might be gay because " he never kissed me . " Cryer was asked in 2014 if he was " mistaken for gay " ; he again called himself " an effeminate heterosexual dork " and cracked a joke about never being propositioned : " Fellas , you 're dropping

the ball . "

Prior to the 2008 presidential election , Cryer attended a fundraiser hosted by the McCain campaign and , according to news reports , endorsed Senator John McCain . When Cryer did not make a public endorsement for the 2012 race , his spokeswoman said that the 2008 report aligning him with the Republican Party was a " mistake " and that Cryer is " not really political . " He had attended events for both Republicans and Democrats " because he wanted to hear what both sides had to say . "

With regards to presumptive 2016 GOP nominee Donald J. Trump , Cryer shared his feelings on the May 5 , 2016 episode of the podcast Never Not Funny . Cryer stated , " I have been pointing out , and I have been screaming to the rooftops , that Donald Trump is the Charlie Sheen of politics . [...] I have to tell you , I love Charlie Sheen , I loved working with him when he was sober , but he was , he 's full of shit . He has been full of shit , you know , he has serious addiction . You know , his addiction is obviously serious , drugs , and , but , Trump is just addicted to feeling important . You know , and I think if anybody is under the delusion that he cares about , uh , uh , anybody in America besides himself , they are , they are stoned and need to rethink their priorities , ' cause he 's , you know , ' cause it 's just ridiculous that 's he 's gotten as far as he has . "

= = Filmography = =

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