

Catching up with Actress Chelsea Ricketts

Seven Lakes graduate shares about life on the silver screen

Written by Curtis Fluitt and Mary Hogan



With small screen roles on shows like *CSI: Miami* and *Grey's Anatomy*, Katy actress Chelsea Ricketts has also been making waves in Hollywood on the silver screen with her recent films *Crooked Arrows* and *Chasing Shakespeare*. “Going to the first premiere of *Crooked Arrows* was very surreal,” she shares. “It was my first leading role in a feature film, so it was a little crazy to see myself on the big screen. I was so nervous. It was an amazing experience.” With several projects in the mix, Ricketts’ repertoire has grown a lot since *Katy Magazine* first featured the Seven Lakes High School graduate in our spring 2010 issue. We catch up with the local celebrity to talk about life on the big screen, her love of acting, and growing up in Katy.

Tales of Staying True to Yourself

A family sports film, *Crooked Arrows* follows the journey of members of an underdog Native American team beating the odds and fulfilling their dreams. Along with the chance to experience a new and different role, Ricketts’ favorite part

of the experience was working with the talented cast. “I had an absolute blast filming that movie and became very close to all the actors,” she shares. Ricketts plays Nadie Logan, a strong, tough girl who knows exactly what she wants and how to get it. “She is very determined and passionate; definitely a good role model,” says Ricketts.

At the heart of *Chasing Shakespeare*, which recently debuted earlier this year, is a tale of forbidden love.

Ricketts enjoyed working with talented director Norry Niven, and was greatly inspired by the film’s script and her character, Venus. “Venus

is an amazing spiritual woman, who follows her heart in everything she does,” shares Ricketts. “She’s a very determined young woman.”

While different in many ways, both of Ricketts’ films touch on the subject of breaking tradition, but staying true to who you are. “Both characters were very strong and independent women,” she explains. “I hope fans can take away from both films that if you believe in yourself and follow your heart, you can achieve anything you want.”

Feeling at Home on Set

Ever since growing up in Katy, acting has been Ricketts’ absolute passion. After getting her start modeling for companies like Osh Kosh and Foley’s, she began filming commercials. From there, her love of acting blossomed into what has become a full-time career. “I love everything about it,” she shares. “When I’m on set, I feel more like myself than I do anywhere else.”

She recently finished filming a

“When I’m on set, I feel more like myself than I do anywhere else.”

-Chelsea Ricketts

recurring role on AMC's *The Killing* in which she plays Tina. While the series wasn't picked up for a third season, the crime drama allowed Ricketts to develop a different aspect of her acting. "Tina was definitely very different from who I am, so it was a challenge," Ricketts says. "That was really fun for me."

Currently, she is filming a new recurring role on ABC Family's *The Secret Life of the American Teenager*. With all of her recent success, she encourages others to pursue their love of acting, but only if they're prepared to work hard. "It's a very hard business, and you have to be in it for the right reasons," she explains. "Be in it for the love of the craft, and you will always find a way to achieve what you want."

Finding Inspiration and Encouragement

With a variety of characters ranging in personality and motives, Ricketts finds much inspiration just from watching other movies. "I love to watch and study other actors that I admire," she says. "It inspires me to work harder to achieve what I want."


She relies on her passion for acting to keep her motivated throughout auditions and the time it takes to prepare for each new project. "I think sometimes, people don't realize how much competition there is," says Ricketts. "It's not all glitz and glamour. It takes a lot of hard work to prepare for a role and to film a movie."

In between her busy and sometimes hectic schedule, Ricketts looks to her family and friends for support and encouragement. "My family has always been a constant support throughout my career," she shares. "I'm the luckiest girl in the world to have such a great, supportive family." Her parents and brother, Brandon, still live in Katy and her best friend, Sarah, lives in the Houston area, as well. "I come back to visit as much as I can!" she says. **KM**

CURTIS FLUITT is a Katy High School graduate, who has served honorably in the U.S. Air Force. He is also a graduate of the University of Houston, with a bachelor's in psychology.



MARY HOGAN enjoys being associate editor of Katy Magazine and is always inspired by those who pursue their dreams.



Catch Chelsea Ricketts in These Shows

Movies
Chasing Shakespeare
Crooked Arrows

TV Roles
Big Time Rush
CSI: Miami
Grey's Anatomy
Hot in Cleveland
Lincoln Heights
Melrose Place
10 Things I Hate About You

INSURANCE EXCELLENCE



Your best source for Insurance Coaching, growing relationships in Katy for 30 years.

Your Insurance Advocate -
Business Growth
Family's Security
Vehicles
Property
Investments

Ask Thom
281 394 0058

22214 Highland Knolls Drive, Katy, TX 77450
www.polvogtinsurance.com



Nationwide, the Nationwide framework and On Your Side are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company.