

## In touch with Ivan

**JEZEBEL:** So, Ivan, in addition to acting, is it true you produce and direct? **Ivan Sergei:** I do. I have more of a passion to do that because it's less focused on me, and it's more focused on the script. Being an actor, you have to watch how your face looks, your body looks, and it's not really something that I'm into at all. [Producing] is very difficult, but it's something that I'm passionate about.

**JEZ:** What are you working on now?

**IS:** I recently finished doing the series "Hawaii." I'll be shooting a movie in Chicago later this month with Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn called "The Break Up," and I am producing an independent film.

**JEZ:** What's been your favorite role so far?

**IS:** "Triangle," a pilot I worked on, was great. I also did a half-hour comedy with John Cleese and Ed Begley Jr. that was really fun. It was a really great way to live life as an actor. I was done at 3 p.m. and I was laughing all of those hours that I was working. But "Triangle" was more of a 14 hour-a-day, you're in every scene, every shot. That was a different kind of fun.

**JEZ:** Most people don't understand the number of hours it takes to do a one-hour television show.

**IS:** And six-day work weeks, too. Only one day off. It was really grueling. So there are different kinds of fun. Having time off and being able to spend it with your wife and feeling like you're still working and not being lazy, that's great. I think the reason why we become actors is to fill something that's missing inside, so when you're really working and you're accomplishing something, that's great.

**JEZ:** You have the versatility in doing TV and movies, so which one do you prefer?

**IS:** I'm liking TV because it allows you to have a home. I'm married and I have dogs. I would actually like to do it all—comedy, drama, etc.—but TV has been good to me; it's a good home.

**JEZ:** If there was one person you could co-star with, who would it be?

**IS:** There's a few. I like Denzel Washington a lot. I was just watching "Man on Fire." I'm a big fan of his. I'd like to work with Patrick [Dempsey] again, too.

**JEZ:** Who inspires you the most?

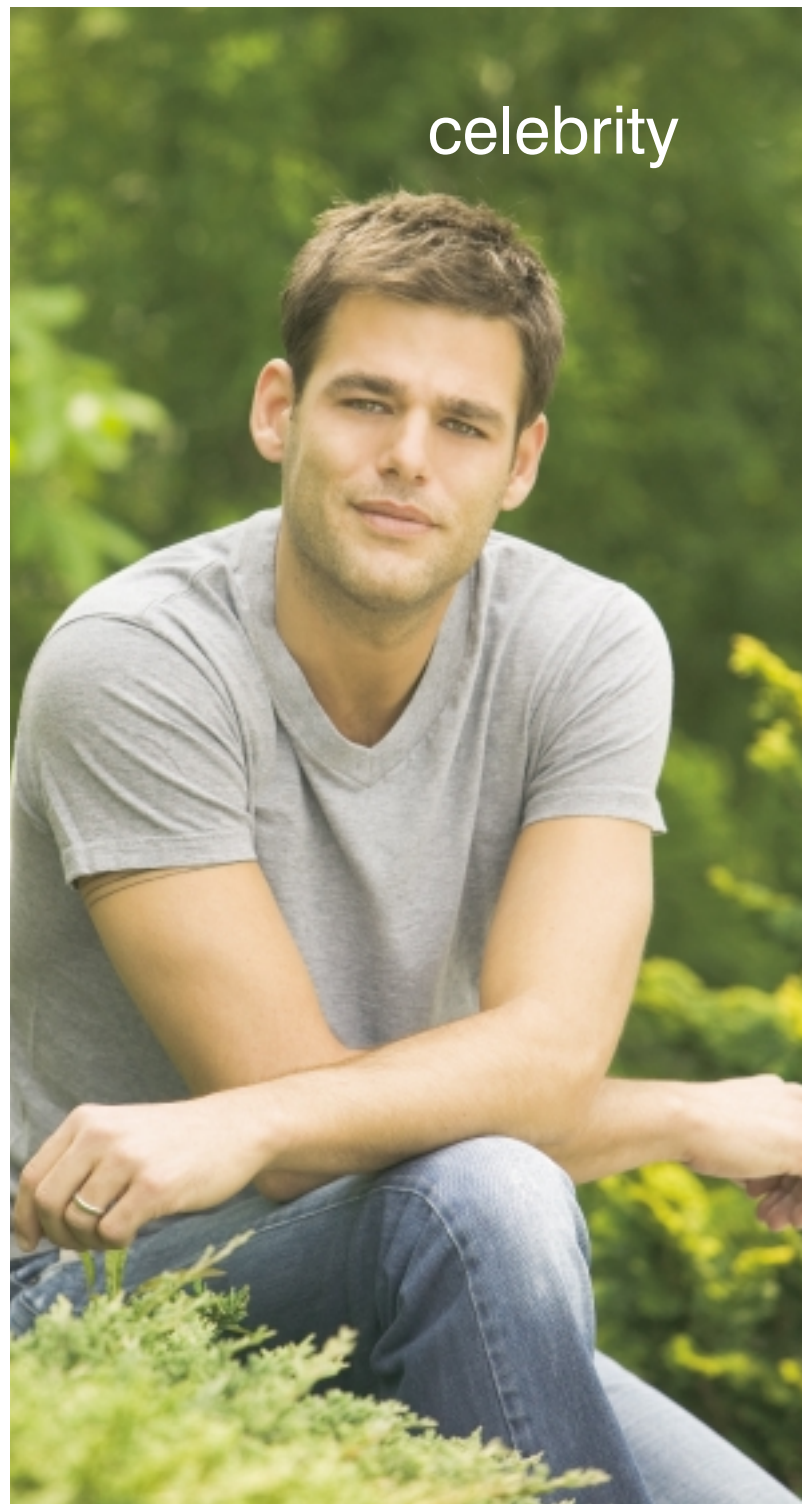
**IS:** I like the way Brad Pitt handles his career because he can basically do any film that he wants, and it seems to me that he takes his time and he tries to stretch himself. Whether he does it successfully or not is only a matter of opinion. But I like that he doesn't do the same stuff. He's producing now, he's doing architecture, and I like all of those things. I really want to do more than acting.

**JEZ:** What other types of things are you interested in?

**IS:** We just remodeled our house. I was involved with all of the implementation just because it was such a tedious project and you have to be involved. But the design is what I like. It's creative. I also enjoy photography, painting, editing, all that kind of stuff.

**JEZ:** How often do you come home to Atlanta?

**IS:** I come here when I really want to lay around in my mom's backyard, not answer the phone and just do nothing.



**JEZ:** It must be nice to come to a place and just be yourself.

**IS:** That's absolutely why I want to do other things [besides acting]. I think other people are better built to handle the kind of attention success brings. But even here, because we're doing all of these benefits, I'm constantly doing work now when I come here. But I love coming home, and what Dare to Share has been able to do here is amazing.

**JEZ:** Your mom (Francine Boudewijn) is quite a woman.

**IS:** It's all her. She has a board and they help her, but the amount of work that she puts in is incredible. I get a lot of sense of accomplishment from that because I was there when she was just trying to start this little thing, trying to help some police officers get some bulletproof vests. In the same community, this will be the sixth or seventh one that she's done. That speaks for itself, that the same people want to keep coming and spending their money.