

IMTA ALUM JEREMY LUKE IN *DON JON*



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Don Jon opens nationwide Friday, September 27th

“A lot of people just look at acting as a quick fix – they don't have a work ethic. This is a job; it's not all margaritas on the beach.” – Jeremy Luke

When actors talk about being typecast, they usually think of it as a bad thing. But if you ask IMTA alum Jeremy Luke, who is getting a lot of buzz for his role as Danny in Joseph Gordon-Levitt's directorial debut, *Don Jon*, being typecast does have an up side. “Typecasting is a good and a bad thing,” Luke said in an interview with the Huffington Post. “I get type-casted to play characters that are all, ‘Who's got the money?’ *BOOM! SLAP!* ‘Joey's got the money!’ But it gave me an angle. It gave me a way to work.” He added, “But then again, I can do more than that; I've been acting for 15 years.” Hopefully, opportunities for Luke to expand his range of role will be coming. But for the time being, typecasting as a Jersey boy seems to be working well for Luke, who is currently filming a starring role in Clint Eastwood's big-screen project of the stage musical *Jersey Boys*, which is due out next year. He also played up the typecasting in last year's SyFy Channel cult-favorite TV movie, *Jersey Shore Shark Attack*.



Luke, who attended IMTA's New York 2000 Convention with Tomorrow Talent, is philosophical about getting to where he is today. “Honestly the real influence in my life was my acting coach in New York who gave me the inspiration to go out here to LA; it was not easy. I worked selling tickets for Dodger Stadium, I delivered pizza, I did every job under the sun. It's the part that sucks as an artist. But I've learned at the end of the day you just have to enjoy your life.”

About his role in *Don Jon*, Luke said his character is basically a womanizer. “We go out, we objectify women, we go out and we're not really there yet as far as maturity goes. But we're getting there and I think Joe[s character] is the one to come around. And basically, Joe's character, his M.O. is that he's a modern-day Don Juan. He gets all the 9's and the 10's. And I go for the 2's and the 3's.” The 35 year old Luke said his inspiration for the role was himself when he was younger. “To be honest, I looked at myself when I was 21, 22 years old. I'm sure there is a piece of that guy in all of us. Going out, objectifying women. Every guy has done it. It's a part of growing up.” *Don Jon* tells the story a New Jersey guy who is dedicated to his family, friends, and church, but who has developed unrealistic expectations from watching porn and works to find happiness and intimacy with his potential true love. As well as directing the film, Gordon-Levitt also stars, along with Luke, Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore, Tony Danza, Brie Larsen and Rob Brown.



In addition to *Jersey Boys*, Luke has several other upcoming projects in the works. He has a role in the Asian-American independent romantic comedy *Wedding Palace*, which coincidentally opens in select theatres on the same day as *Don Jon*. He has been filming a role in the independent drama *The Fix*, and will play Danny Fishmonger in the Fox Digital Studio's Sci-Fi feature *ETXR*, the story of a DJ who comes into possession of a Telescope, Nikola Tesla's legendary invention, which he claimed was capable of receiving signals from Extra Terrestrial worlds.