

Somebody's Basement
Sketch Comedy Troupe



In 2010, Cricket Feet launched Somebody's Basement, a web distribution channel founded by casting director, author, and producer Bonnie Gillespie; actor, writer, producer Keith Johnson; and producer, manager Ryan Basham.

Somebody's Basement is a grassroots web network that features premiere content developed and collaborated upon by the best of the emerging independent web community. **Somebody's Basement:** *Where everybody goes to jam.*

In 2007, Cricket Feet created an actors' showcase that yielded performances by 211 actors in scenes written by 64 writers for audiences comprised of hundreds of representatives from agencies, management firms, casting offices, production houses, networks, and studios. We quickly outgrew the Promenade Playhouse, and then the Colony Theatre, filling all 268 seats plus standing room only for three nights of fast-paced laughs (and dinner and drinks too)! Deals were made, careers were advanced, fun was had!

Here's where those two Cricket Feet "babies" merge. Our showcases are on hiatus. Bonnie has been celebrating web content via the "Self-Produced Clip of the Week" feature at her weekly column since 2009. There is much online content being created and exhibited by indie actors, writers, and producers worldwide, and that means it's a great time to rock indie content out! But it's all about *where*. Post on YouTube and hope to be found amongst millions of bits of content. Post on your own site and hope your self-promotion efforts get you seen. Ah, but premiere on Somebody's Basement and go up on IMDb.

We're specifically seeking comedic scenes (2-4 characters) that clock in around four minutes. Sure, we'll look at work that falls outside that framework, but keep in mind this is a grassroots effort and if you're specializing in special effects, we may not be a good fit. Yet. We're not offering any pay at this point, but you do retain all rights to your original material and are free to sell and resell it to as many buyers as you can find! (Meanwhile, if you happen to get some heat as a result of your experience with Somebody's Basement, we hope you'll let us know, so we can celebrate with you!) Priority consideration goes to Straitjacket Society-affiliated content. Be sure to let us know if you're an SJSer (but we love you all).

Your Name: _____

Scene Title: _____

Author Credit (if different from Your Name): _____

Scene Length: _____

Your Email Address: _____

Please submit this cover page, your completed and signed MATERIAL RELEASE (page two of this document), and your scene (in Final Draft, Microsoft Word, or PDF) to submissions@somebodysbasement.com. Thank you so much for your interest! We'll get back to you soon. And, of course, we look forward to reading (and hopefully producing) your badass work!

MATERIAL RELEASE

1. _____ (the "Grantor") grants to CRICKET FEET, INC., the non-exclusive right to produce a scene (the "Scene") based upon the material currently entitled " _____ " (the "Work") written by _____, attached hereto, and to publicly perform, distribute, exhibit, or exploit said Scene in all media now known or hereafter devised, by any title, in perpetuity, and throughout the universe. Grantor hereby grants to Cricket Feet, Inc., any further rights, under copyright or otherwise, which Cricket Feet, Inc., may need to effectuate the above made grant, including but not limited to all rights necessary to adapt the Work for the Scene and to use the name of the author in connection with the exploitation of the Scene.
2. Grantor warrants the Grantor is the sole owner of all rights of copyright or otherwise in the Work, and that Grantor has the full and sole right and authority to convey the same; that the Work is wholly original with Grantor and that Grantor is the author thereof; that neither any incident contained in the Work nor any part thereof was taken from or based upon any other literary, dramatic or musical material; that the exercise or use of any of the rights herein granted will not in any way infringe upon or violate any rights of any person, firm or corporation whatsoever, including but not limited to rights of privacy and publicity; that the rights herein granted are free and clear of any litigation pending and are not encumbered in any way that would interfere with Cricket Feet, Inc.'s full enjoyment of any rights granted herein; and that Grantor shall not do any future act which will or may impair Cricket Feet, Inc.'s full enjoyment of any rights granted herein.
3. Grantor agrees that Cricket Feet, Inc., and any of its licensees or assigns shall have no obligation to pay any monies in respect to the exploitation of the Work hereunder. Nothing herein shall require Cricket Feet, Inc., to promote, distribute, or otherwise exploit the Scene. Cricket Feet, Inc., has made no representation or warranty of the manner in which the Work will be used and nothing will require the Work's use at all.
4. Grantor agrees that the rights granted hereby shall commence when the Grantor executes this Agreement.
5. Grantor acknowledges that Cricket Feet, Inc., will incur expense and undertake commitments and otherwise proceed in express reliance on this Agreement and rights hereunder.
6. Grantor agrees to indemnify and hold Cricket Feet, Inc., and Cricket Feet, Inc.'s successors, licensees and assigns free and harmless from any and all claims, liabilities, costs, losses, damages, or expenses including but not limited to all attorney's fees and costs reasonably incurred in connection therewith, which in any way result from or arise out of any breach or alleged breach or failure of any covenant and warranty of Grantor contained in this Agreement.
7. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of California applicable to agreements executed and to be wholly performed therein. Grantor agrees that this document constitutes the entire agreement between the parties superseding any previous agreements written or oral. Grantor further agrees that any modification must be in writing and signed by both parties hereto.
8. This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their respective successors, assigns, next of kin, heirs, administrators, executors, officers, and agents, as the case may be.

AGREED TO AND ACCEPTED:

Grantor (Printed)

Grantor (Signature)

Date

