

Sharanya Manoharan Bharatnatyam CJ Jones Deaf Hollywood Actor-Producer-Director-Writer



An unstoppable force within Hollywood, CJ Jones, the deaf actor, producer, director, writer, and entrepreneur, can be best described as a valiant person, who not only embraced his physical shortcoming, but used it as an asset in the entertainment industry, thereby showing way to millions of physically handicapped people, how to make a life a success!

CJ was born to deaf parents in St. Louis, MO. He was only seven when he contrived spinal meningitis and subsequently lost his hearing. However, CJ was a tough child who refused to succumb to his shortcoming. With his residual hearing still good enough for him to qualify for MSD, he got admission in an all deaf school. The school provided him a communication rich environment that helped him transform from a shy boy into a deaf leader. He was class president, a cub scout, varsity football

quarterback, a state pole vault record holder, and voted class valedictorian.

Always interested in acting, CJ ventured into this field at an early age. He played Joseph in the 2017 summer hit "Baby Driver", directed by Edgar Wright and co-starring Ansel Elgort. The role proved to be a turning point for him as he emerged as the first black deaf actor in an international blockbuster. In 2017 he played Uriah in the indie horror film "Door in the Woods" directed by Chase Goforth.

Multi talented as he is, he has developed three one-man shows showcasing them in the US, Japan, Sweden, Australia, Ecuador, and Canada. He has even co-written and directed six classic fairy tales for children's television in a series called "Once Upon A Sign". CJ produced the International Sign Language Theater Festival, which hosted theatre artists from all over the US, Russia, and Mexico. CJ's perseverance and talent makes him ready to tackle any role.

CJ is a legend in the deaf world, acclaimed for his humor and inspiration. He has done it all: TV, movies, educational films, and theater. He has toured with his stand up comedy all over the world. He continues to use his never-ending passion in acting, producing, and directing to give back to the deaf and sign language community.