

{ MOVIES }



Funny Guy

With a beautiful wife, a hit show and impending movie stardom, **CHRIS PRATT** ^A has a lot to laugh about.

{ BY SONA CHARAIPOTRA }

CHRS PRATT HAS THAT CERTAIN something that draws people in. For proof, look no further than the way he got into acting. “I was working in a restaurant in Maui and this director came up to me and said, ‘You’re cute. Do you want to act?’” he remembers.

Audiences, too, have long been privy to Pratt’s charms, thanks to his swoonworthy turn as Bright Abbott on *Everwood*. But what people may not have realized was just how funny Pratt is — that is, until he started stealing scenes on NBC’s *Parks and Recreation*, now in its third season. This month, Pratt shows off more of his silly side in the big-screen comedy *Take Me Home Tonight*.

“It’s very much an ’80s movie with the bad music, the bad haircuts — all of it,” says the 31-year-old Minnesota native. “I grew up with that, so for me, it’s classic. And this is the movie I met my wife on, so it holds a

special place in my heart.”

His wife is actress Anna Faris, who has tickled funny bones in *The House Bunny* and the *Scary Movie* franchise. But finding quality time together while balancing his TV gig and their dual moviemaking careers hasn’t been easy. “One week you’re home; the next you could be in Bulgaria,” says Pratt, who films *Parks and Recreation* in L.A. when he’s not off shooting movies like the September baseball drama *Moneyball*. Luckily for the couple, they’ve occasionally been able to work together, as they did on *Tonight* and again on *What’s Your Number?*, which will hit theaters this fall. Pratt says the experience of shooting *Number*, in which he dons a fat suit, was eye opening for his wife.

“It was six hours in the makeup chair,” he says of the transformation. “Anna got to see what she has to look forward to. She’s still sticking around, though. That’s saying a lot.”

The Write Stuff

Landing his first acting gig may have been easy for Chris Pratt, but selling his first screenplay has been considerably tougher. “I’ve written four or five, none of which have sold,” he says. “It’s truly a hard thing to do.” Pratt offers aspiring screenwriters his advice on how *not* to sell a script. — S.C.

1 HAVE AN AIR OF CONFIDENCE

“When you’re working as an actor, there’s less necessity to sell something,” Pratt says. “I’m not quite as desperate as my writer counterparts.”

2 BE BUSY

“Shooting a TV show is intense,” he says. “I haven’t put in the necessary time to write screenplay after screenplay.”

3 BE IMPATIENT

“If it takes you 30 years to get good at screenwriting, that’s okay,” he says. “There’s more longevity in writing [than in acting].”