



WORK HARD, PLAY HARD

PRODUCER SUNIL PERKASH PUTS IN THE WORK AND HUSTLE, BUT ALSO DECOMPRESSES ON A NIGHT OUT WITH FRIENDS AND A SPREAD OF CHEAT-DAY FOOD.

Sunil Perakash is a Stanford University grad with a degree in economics and communications, two of many things that are very helpful to a Hollywood producer.

He got his start by working as a production coordinator on Guillermo del Toro's feature directorial debut *Cronos*. From there, he hit the ground running, working on a mix of big-banner titles and indie pics including *Blast From the Past*, *Premonition*, *Enchanted*, *Salt* and *The Divorce Party*. Most recently, he added the postapocalyptic indie thriller *Last Survivors* to his resume. Coming up next for Perakash is the sequel to *Enchanted*, the appropriately titled *Disenchanted*, which sees the return of Amy Adams as the fairy-tale heroine. Needless to say, Perakash is a busy guy. He shared what a typical day looks like for him, which includes a full plate of work—and a full plate of nachos.

6:30 a.m.

I wake up early every morning to ensure I can get done all I need to. There is such a wonderful fresh energy in the early morning. I start my day with 100% free-range farmers market eggs cooked in grass-fed ghee. I put them on Ezekiel muffins and eat breakfast without my computer or cell phone to set the vibe for the day. I love a great, healthy breakfast! So important to orient your mind, readying for the game play of the day!

9:00 a.m.

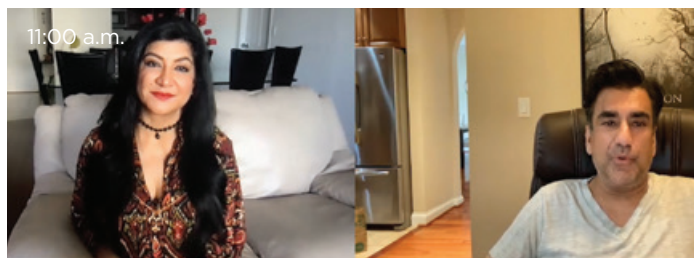
I have coffee with my producing partner, Drew Van Acker. He produced and starred in our just-released film, *Last Survivors*, with Alicia Silverstone and Stephen Moyer. We are going over the next round of films we are putting together, specifically discussing an offer we just made to a major star on our up-



coming film *Back Home*. Then we discuss a project we are working on with Alan Ritchson. We then go over recent press on *Last Survivors*.

11:00 a.m.

A Zoom interview with Showbiz India, one of the largest English-language entertainment shows in the world. One of our other producers, Akaash Yadav, and I are discussing what it means to be Indian and navigating the complex waters of Hollywood.



1:00 p.m.

Time for a quick change to get ready for lunch with a vice chairman of a major film conglomerate. The CEO also joins us at the Palm in Beverly Hills. We are discussing a potential new project to do together. We share some laughs about the world, musing over whether theatrical film will ever return to what it once was. We all believe the communal experience to see movies will bring audiences back once COVID is truly behind us.



4:00 p.m.

Back at my desk to shoot off a bunch of emails. I'm trying to lock in a star on one project, financier on another, and a director on another. Polite emails nudging everyone to pay attention to your projects is an integral part of every day!



5:00 p.m.

Take a break and go to the gym. Working out is a daily necessity for me to keep my mind clear and focused. Today it's 30 minutes HIIT on the elliptical.



7:00 p.m.

I meet a fellow filmmaker for a drink at the Pendry Hotel rooftop. It's outdoors and very relaxing as we look at gorgeous city views. So happy we are back to being able to meet in person—producing is about personal connection more than just strict business transactions.

9:00 p.m.

Meet a friend for some really unhealthy but delicious food at Barney's Beanery. Who doesn't love nachos?! I usually stay in five nights a week, eat super healthy and get to bed early, but I allow myself two nights a week to break the routine and have some fun!



11:00 p.m.

Back home and shoot off a last round of emails I neglected at dinner. I take a moment to process what occurred during the day and what I need to mentally prepare for tomorrow ... and then it's lights out. ■

