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'Human Ken doll' seeks love on TV after Chicago move



Justin Jedica, who briefly lived in Chicago, appears on the premiere episode of "Million Dollar Matchmaker."

By Tracy Swartz · Contact Reporter
Chicago Tribune

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"Human Ken doll" Justin Jedica is known for his enthusiasm for plastic surgery - he claims he's had 360 cosmetic procedures -- but it's his love life under the microscope on Friday's "Million Dollar Matchmaker" series premiere.

Jedica, who recently relocated from Chicago to the Los Angeles area, asks for matchmaker Patti Stanger's help after splitting from his husband and moving out of their Trump Tower condo.

"I was open and receptive (to the process), but it wasn't the easiest," Jedica, 35, told the Tribune.

Jedica enrolled in Stanger's bootcamp at a Southern California resort, and the outspoken matchmaker was quick to point out his flaws after watching him go on a blind date--with a man who wore a blindfold so looks wouldn't be a factor.

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Jedica spent the date talking about his surgeries and rubbing the man's hand along his arm implants.

"There's only so much a person could take," Stanger told the Tribune in a phone interview.

Jedica, who counts Michael Jackson and Joan Rivers as his inspirations and designs his own implants, said he's found it difficult to find "quality people" to date after gaining fame through appearances on talk shows and the E! network plastic surgery show "Botched."

"I'm really bad at putting myself out there. I have a fear of rejection," said Jedica, who grew up in North Carolina and declined to talk about his marriage. Divorce paperwork was filed in January 2015, Cook County court records show.

On the show, Jedica tries to follow Stanger's advice to steer the conversation to his dates' interests, instead of his own.

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He goes on two fix-ups, and picks his favorite suitor. There is, of course, drama with Jedica's choice.

Stanger is in a new relationship of her own. She moved to WE tv after fixing up the wealthy lovelorn on eight seasons of Bravo's "The Millionaire Matchmaker."

Ashley Iaconetti, an alumna of "The Bachelor," and Jennifer Lopez's ex-husband Ojani Noa are among the clients Stanger works with this season.

"I just think that the new show is a departure in a good way from Bravo," Stanger said. "The audience wanted something deeper, and I think that they're going to be super happy about the show."

Jedica's episode is scheduled to air at 9 p.m.

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