

CODE NAME: THE CLEANER

Cedric the Entertainer, Lucy Liu and Nicollette Sheridan team up in the fast-paced action comedy, *Code Name: The Cleaner*.

Cedric the Entertainer stars as Jake, a seemingly regular guy who wakes up in a hotel room with a bump on his head next to a dead body and a briefcase containing \$250,000 in cash. As if that wasn't enough of a predicament, Jake can't remember how he got there or who he is. The beautiful and mysterious Diane (Nicollette Sheridan) shows up on the scene and claims to be Jake's wife, taking him to a magnificent mansion that she says belongs to Jake. When Jake discovers that Diane is trying to drug him for information, he escapes and seeks refuge in a local diner, only to run in to Gina (Lucy Liu), a waitress who claims to be his girlfriend. She tells him that in reality he's a maintenance worker for a video game manufacturer, but Jake becomes convinced he is really an undercover agent for the CIA – his code name: "The Cleaner" – and sets out to prove it.

Soon Jake and Gina are being followed by FBI agents, as well as Riley (Will Patton), an employee of the video game company who tells Jake that he has hidden away a high-tech device that could incriminate Hauck (Mark Dacascos), the CEO of the company who is the key player in a huge arms deal about to go down. And throughout all of this, Jake is experiencing flashbacks of being in a war zone and assembling a weapon. It's up to Jake to not only figure out who he really is, but also try to uncover the true identities of those surrounding him.

Cedric the Entertainer (*Barbershop*, *Johnson Family Vacation*, *Be Cool*) plays Jake, the amnesiac who thinks he's a CIA agent, code name, "The Cleaner." Lucy Liu (*Charlie's Angels*, *Kill Bill*) plays Jake's waitress girlfriend who helps him piece together his life and Nicollette Sheridan (*Desperate Housewives*) is a blond seductress who may or may not be Jake's wife. The film also co-stars Mark Dacascos and Will Patton.

New Line Cinema presents, in association with FilmEngine, a Rat Entertainment/A Bird & A Bear Entertainment/FilmEngine production, *Code Name: The Cleaner*. The film is directed by Les Mayfield and written by Robert Adetuyi and George Gallo. The

producers are Jay Stern, Eric Rhone, Brett Ratner and Cedric the Entertainer. The executive producers are Toby Emmerich, Mark Kaufman, Matt Moore, Anthony Rhulen, A.J. Dix, William Shively and Lucy Liu.

The behind-the-scenes production team includes director of photography David Franco, production designer Douglas Higgins, costume designer Jenni Gullett, editor Michael Matzdorff and composer George S. Clinton.

New Line Cinema will release *Code Name: The Cleaner* (rated PG-13 by the M.P.A.A. for “sexual content, crude humor and some language”) nationwide on January 5th, 2007.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

When New Line Cinema presented Robert Adetuyi's original screenplay of *Code Name: The Cleaner* to producers Jay Stern and Brett Ratner, principals of Rat Entertainment, they immediately recognized it was a great idea for a movie. A few drafts later, Cedric the Entertainer came aboard to star as well as produce along with his producing partner Eric Rhone. During the period of script rewrites by George Gallo, Cedric helped to shape his character into a role tailor-made for his comedic talents.

"What I like to do as a comedian is try and identify with the 'Everyman'," says Cedric. "Just imagine being a regular worker, a guy who wakes up in the middle of some big government operation. Your immediate feeling would be, 'I am not prepared for this!' But in your mind, you believe that you can handle the job, so you just do what you gotta do in a very common man kind of way. I think it shows there is a greater hero in all of us if given the right opportunity."

"Also, I liked the idea of playing a comedic version of *The Bourne Identity*, a guy who's a fish out of water who believes he's living in the big world of spies and espionage," continues Cedric.

Adds producer Eric Rhone, "In our collaboration, Cedric and I were able to bring many of our own ideas to the table. For instance, we suggested many of the flashback moments to help fill in Jake's storyline and the specific events which ultimately lead up to his current predicament – memory loss, mistaken identity, espionage, danger and beautiful women."

During this period, Les Mayfield signed on to direct, followed soon after by Executive Producers A.J. Dix and Anthony Rhulen, heads of FilmEngine, who agreed to partner with New Line Cinema to finance the film, with New Line retaining domestic distribution rights and FilmEngine in charge of foreign sales.

"It's a comedic approach to the 'who-am-I?' film genre, using *The Bourne Identity* as a template," says director Les Mayfield. "We set out to make it very real, and with Cedric as the centerpiece, we decided it would be fresh, interesting and funny to try and turn

this genre on it's head. Basically the fun of the story is watching Jake struggle to determine who he is. He believes at one point he's an operative, an undercover CIA agent. He equally believes that he's also a janitor, so he struggles between these two different identities as we watch him piece together his identity from scratch."

Adds producer Jay Stern, "The comedy within this *Bourne Identity* context is relatable for everyone, and there's nobody better to play the lead role of Jake than Cedric the Entertainer. He's our 'Everyman'. We worked together to tailor the role for him."

"Depending on what perspective you take," continues Stern, "Jake is either a James Bond-like secret agent or a special forces commando type like Rambo. Or he's a janitor. And we go back and forth thinking he's one or the other. What's interesting is that we watch as Cedric's character actually tries to create his own identity out of clues and dreams. The identity he invents is somebody who's great – a hero type. And that's something everyone can identify with because everybody has some kind of wish to be great."

Notes producer Eric Rhone, "What makes this film project so fun is the combination of comedy, suspense, action and, of course, beautiful women who are smart, sexy and tough. The action elements take Cedric into a new genre in which he capitalizes on his everyman appeal and his own agility. Jake is such a likeable character who daydreams about being a hero...a concept that most of us can relate to. The loss of his memory lends itself perfectly to his fantasies as he's now forced to recreate his own life from bits and pieces of his flawed and overly creative memory."

"Cedric is a true comedic genius," proclaims producer Brett Ratner. "And Les Mayfield is the perfect director to give him the freedom to create great stuff. Cedric offers so many different choices, the director's job is to keep the tone consistent. It's tough to choose what's funniest. What separates Cedric from other comedians is a presence which really translates to the big screen."

"Les is a great director in that he understands comedians," says Cedric. "He's a fan of the comic mind. His good nature and sense of humor really motivate comedians to do

their best work. At the end of the day, the director is the one putting all the pieces of the puzzle together. You just want to give him great pieces.”

Says Jay Stern, “Cedric not only brings amazing comedic chops to the plate, he also brings a great deal of warmth and humanity – he’s more than just an incredibly funny guy.” Executive producer A.J. Dix concurs, “I’ve always been a fan of Cedric’s. He brings a realistic comedy to this thriller. And Les Mayfield really knows how to please an audience. The combination of Cedric and Les makes for a funny and smart action comedy.”

Eric Rhone adds, “Cedric’s comedic strengths, versatility, and his appeal to the everyday hardworking man shine through here as he takes the audience on this journey.”

With Cedric in place, the rest of the cast soon followed, with Lucy Liu signing on to play his waitress girlfriend. “I don’t have the opportunity to do comedy a lot, but when I do, I enjoy it more than anything, especially when you get to combine it with action,” says Liu.

“Lucy Liu’s name came up early on,” recalls Cedric, who is also a producer of the film. “I was excited about that choice. From being in the *Kill Bill* and *Charlie’s Angels* movies, she has an edge about her and a different kind of sexiness that we thought was necessary to make her believable – someone who would date this guy and at the same time be hiding her true identity.”

Liu thought it would be fun to do a comedy, particularly one opposite Cedric the Entertainer. “I think Jake and Gina have a fun chemistry with each other, which is why I signed on for this movie, because I like Cedric so much. He brings a warm, wonderful energy that draws you in and I just love his generous spirit.”

“Gina’s a very colorful character,” continues Liu, whose combined experience of scooping ice cream at age 12 and cooking breakfast omelets along with her fighting skills from previous action films allowed her to slip into her dual role as waitress and undercover FBI agent with ease. “Gina’s from Queens in New York, so I brought a bit of an accent and some attitude, since that’s where I’m from.”

In the true spirit of collaboration, Liu, who also serves as an executive producer, brought some of her own ideas to the table in terms of character and costumes during the development stage. During the shoot she also contributed several improvisations to her character's dialogue and action. "Les Mayfield was really open to many ideas about Gina, making her more colorful than she was on the page and having her be more involved," says Liu.

Les Mayfield says of Liu, "As Gina, Lucy plays Jake's confidant. She takes him under her wing and tries to help him piece together his life."

"There's a whole identity twist in Lucy's character. While Cedric is saying, 'I'm James Bond on Red Bull,' she's saying 'no, no – you're a janitor.' And we then find out she is playing something different from what she is as well," says producer Jay Stern.

Nicollette Sheridan gives new meaning to the phrase, "Desperate Housewife," by taking on the role of the blond bombshell pretending to be Jake's wife. She's on a mission for the bad guys to find out where Jake's hidden an elusive high-tech device – a tough assignment, as Jake has no memory.

"Nicollette is Diane, who works for the heavies in the film, is in charge of security at the high-tech company DART (Digital Arts Research & Technology). She is also trying to gain Jake's confidence, but for the wrong reasons – to help the villains by returning this device to them," says Les Mayfield.

"Along with the script, the main attraction to the project for me was Cedric," says Sheridan. "He's just brilliantly talented and a wonderful, physical comedian. Les has a wonderful sense of comedy and timing and is a pleasure to work with. It was a thoroughly enjoyable experience playing a heavy with this colorful cast of characters."

Sheridan describes her character: "Diane is a woman of mystery. She's a married woman – the mystery is to whom. She's not what she appears to be at first glance. She is a high-ranking executive at DART, in charge of security. She's a smart, tough woman set on getting what she wants. Diane's trying to retrieve something that has been stolen

and she'll do almost anything to get it back. She's a very strong character, she's sexy, she's a villainess and she surprises you."

Producer Jay Stern agrees, saying "Nicollette's a powerful woman. She brings great power, beauty and sexiness to her part. What everybody's after in the movie is this high-tech device that everyone thinks Jake has hidden, which he actually has hidden, but he doesn't remember hiding it because he has no memory. In Hitchcock terminology, the device is the classic 'McGuffin' of this movie."

Says Cedric the Entertainer, "Nicollette's energy brings another level to the comedy as well as solidifying the storyline. She is part of the group of people that's confusing me. It's rare to have two beautiful women as your costars, but both Lucy and Nicollette have been amazing."

Producer Eric Rhones adds, "Lucy Liu and Nicollette Sheridan not only bring beauty and great sex appeal to the film, but also contribute an authenticity and believability to the action sequences. Off screen, both Lucy and Nicollette were pleasures to work with and their on-screen performances are just great."

Other notable cast members include Callum Keith Rennie (*Memento*), Will Patton (*Remember the Titans*), comedian DeRay Davis (*Barbershop*) and Mark Dacascos (*Brotherhood of the Wolf*), a huge European star, better-known to the movie-going public for his fighting skills. "Mark's playing a more dramatic role than people are used to seeing him play," notes producer Jay Stern.

"The character I play, Eric Hauck, is an extremely smart, aggressive alpha male to whom money and power means more than anything," says Dacascos. "He's a bad guy who's a legitimate threat to Cedric." Director Les Mayfield wanted that threat to be very real, so when the audience sees Hauck on screen, they sense danger.

Danger manifests itself between the two women when their characters collide in a fistcuffs. Sheridan, who did double duty, commuting between *The Cleaner* set in Vancouver and the "Desperate Housewives" shoot in Los Angeles, says "There is an unusual 'love triangle' with the three of us... but nothing is as it appears to be. There is a

viscous, skilled fight that takes place with my character and Lucy Liu's. Cedric had this idea to combine it with his male fantasy of us playing in a big bubble bath and inviting him in. After a little cajoling, we agreed to shoot it," laughs Sheridan. I like to do my own stunts. I've always been athletic and am somewhat versed in martial arts."

Notes executive producer A.J. Dix, "Nicollette's just a physical woman. She's always working out, which makes her character Diane tough and convincing. She amped up the fight and at the same time, made it really funny."

"What's really fun about this movie is that Jake has these fantasy moments, and the fight scene between Diane and Gina is one of them," says Lucy Liu, who insisted that the fight look authentic. "I wanted the punches and the kicks to land so it looked like we were really duking it out," she says.

"I liked the combination of action and comedy. This was an opportunity for me to be in some fight scenes, run and be in a kind of espionage high tech world," says Cedric, who has previously acted mainly in non-action comedies.

The comedian reveals that he used to slap box, a prelude to some of the martial arts moves he had to learn for his part in *Code Name: The Cleaner*. But as producer Jay Stern points out, "If Cedric's playing Everyman, how does he have the skills to be able to actually take anybody out? So he ended up with one great 'signature move' derived from the urban warfare video game which he enacts in front of a mirror."

Recalls co-star Mark Dacascos, a world martial arts champion, "When I auditioned for this role, after my reading, Cedric wanted to spar. I've never gone to an audition before and have the lead actor ask me to spar with him to see how I moved. That guy has amazingly fast legs. You wouldn't expect it. Bop! Snap! Cedric! My guess is he'd be a good match for Jet Li or Jackie Chan."

In keeping with Hitchcock's style of combining comedy with suspense, director Les Mayfield set out to keep the movie grounded and real, allowing Cedric inside this very real environment to be very funny. "We're trying to anchor this in a kind of real world, and so have stayed away from the cartoony," says producer Jay Stern.

Director of Photography David Franco says, “We’re taking a very naturalistic approach. To keep things grounded in reality, we’re trying to avoid making the camera a part of the story and not emphasize camera movement and lighting.” This approach was reflected in the subdued color palette, which becomes brighter as colours begin to pop out when Jake gets closer to remembering who he is.

The production also acknowledges the video game world and how important it is to pop culture. “We use the video game world as the playground to realize our story. It’s a very fertile playground. As Seattle is the high-tech hub of United States, that’s where we set the movie,” explains Les Mayfield.

“Our clever production designer Doug Higgins transformed a former iron foundry (circa 1920) into a bombed out air strike zone of destruction through which Jake (as Col. Bowman) leads a crack unit of special ops in pursuit of the drug lord. It’s a very impressive recreation of this urban war zone.”

Created specially for the film, this urban warfare video is one of Jake’s favorite games before he loses his memory. Once he gets the knock on the head, he becomes convinced by the images in his dreams that he’s actually Col. Bowman.

Covering a city block, the war-zone set was the largest in the film, and was thoroughly researched by the Art Department who investigated footage and photos from war zones in Bosnia, Chechnya, Northern Ireland and Mogadishu.

“Utilizing the existing brick buildings, we decided to set it in some unknown town in Eastern Europe that’s going through turmoil,” says Art Director Ross Dempster whose department also researched military units, their look, how they operate and what types of guns and gadgets they utilize. For extra authenticity, the weapons wrangler supplied an arsenal of guns such as AK-47 rifles, M-4 assault rifles and nine-millimeter Berettas, all real weapons converted to fire blanks only.

To complete the urban landscape, the scene of desolation was littered with overturned flaming vehicles, the remains of buildings, rubble, scattered chunks of concrete, burnt

timbers and barbed wire in addition to dangling clothes, children's toys and pieces of furniture. "We saw some pretty horrific things going around the world during our research," says Dempster. "This is the least comic scene of the film because it's all in Jake's head, and he's mixing the reality of his hobby of game playing with everything that's going on around him – he's inside this game that he's normally playing at home."

To authenticate DART as a video game company, Dempster visited Vancouver-based Electronic Arts, one of the biggest game developers in the world, to view their motion capture stage. Here, real players are filmed to get their exact movements down to inches for the ultimate video game, set against blue backgrounds with grids to scale off actors standing next to them. Dempster used this motion capture stage as the basis for the game set, taking a few artistic liberties with blue Lego bricks, where Jake finally remembers where he has hidden the device.

DART's Zen-like minimalist offices on stage were married to a downtown high-end office building overlooking Vancouver's picturesque harbor; Lucy Liu's apartment took into account her duality as waitress and undercover FBI agent, balancing masculine and feminine elements to convey an attractive character who is romantically involved with Jake but who can also spring into action, shoot a gun and take control of a situation. The audience sees Jake's apartment when he still thinks he's a special ops guy, so elements of cleaning projects are there, but are not obvious. The piece de resistance was Jake's floor buffer, which in his dream sequences, appears to be a weapon. Elements of modern weaponry were adapted to change a floor cleaner into something more like a weapon.

"Every actor had input in their costumes to help develop their characters to supplement the director's vision," says Costume Designer Jenni Gullett.

Lucy Liu wanted a "blue-collar, street, fun and funky look," says Gullett. "The look came from the way she wanted to play the character, which was street – cropped pants, tight T-shirt, gold jewelry, tailored vest and knee-high lace-up boots. A leather hoody was added for the fight between her and Nicollette Sheridan. Liu wanted the waitress uniform to be cute and traditional. Both contrasting looks are undercover outfits. Liu finishes the film in her FBI conservative black suit, no longer under cover.

Cedric the Entertainer wanted a cool look that wouldn't come across as goofy. "As we don't know who he is at the beginning, the challenge with Cedric was to find a non-specific look for him to take him through three-quarters of the movie, so one believes he could be a rich man or a CIA agent," says Gullett. She garbed Cedric in a black collared LaCoste golf shirt and tan cargo pants "which were functional, allowed him to do stunts, suited the summer season and allowed us to fool the audience. He looks cool but scary as Col. Bowman, a fantasy role he derives from a DART video game."

"We nailed Nicollette's three looks in one day," says Gullett, who went shopping in Los Angeles with Sheridan. "As the executive chief of security for DART, Nicollette needed to wear an outfit in which she'd be respected but yet be extremely sexy, which wasn't hard to do because Nicollette oozes sexiness," smiles Gullett. Sheridan's key outfits are a cream Dolce & Gabbana suit, a gray cashmere Ralph Lauren suit with pewter belt and a tailored blue shirt and trousers, which became a functional outfit for the "kick-ass" scene with Lucy Liu.

ABOUT THE CAST

Cedric the Entertainer (Jake)

Cedric the Entertainer is best known for his crowd-pleasing roles in the recent hit films *Barbershop*, *Be Cool* with John Travolta, the animated feature *Madagascar*, *Intolerable Cruelty* with George Clooney and *The Original Kings of Comedy*, an MTV documentary feature directed by Spike Lee. Additionally, in April 2004, Cedric was star and producer of the box office hit *Johnson Family Vacation* (ranked the #1 comedy in America for two consecutive weeks).

On the big screen, Cedric has also been seen in *The Honeymooners* (in which he starred as Jackie Gleason's famed character "Ralph Cramden"...with thumbs up from Roger Ebert), *Lemony Snicket* with Jim Carrey, *Man of the House* with Tommy Lee Jones, *Barbershop 2*, *Big Momma's House* with Martin Lawrence, *Kingdom Come* with Whoopi Goldberg, *Serving Sara* with Matthew Perry, as well as displaying tremendous vocal talent in *Dr. Dolittle 2* and *Ice Age*.

Cedric has celebrated many career successes spanning television, live performances and film. Some notable accolades include nabbing The AFTRA Award of Excellence in Television Programming for his Fox Television series "Cedric the Entertainer Presents..."; a record-breaking (4) consecutive NAACP Image Awards for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Comedy Series for his portrayal of the lovable "Coach Cedric Robinson" on the WB's #1-rated "The Steve Harvey Show," which ran for six seasons. His first comedy book, *Grown-Ass Man*, was released in January of 2002 and sold out across the country. In 2001, a viewing audience of over 144 million saw Cedric star in the Bud Light commercial that landed in the #1 spot during the Super Bowl broadcast (subsequently, USA Today dubbed him "Madison Avenue's Most Valuable Player"). And, in 1994, Cedric received The Richard Pryor Comic of the Year Award from Black Entertainment Television for his ground-breaking work as host of Def Comedy Jam and BET's Comic View (1994-95 season).

Now helming his own production company, A Bird and a Bear Entertainment, Cedric will develop and produce feature films. *Johnson Family Vacation* was the first feature under the new company.

As a philanthropist, Cedric founded The Cedric "The Entertainer" Charitable Foundation which provides scholarships and outreach programs to enhance the lives of inner-city youth and their families in his hometown of St. Louis, Missouri. He plans to extend the foundation nationally.

Lucy Liu (Gina)

A native New Yorker, Lucy Liu attended NYU and later received a Bachelor of Science degree in Asian Languages and Cultures from the University of Michigan. During her senior year at Michigan, she auditioned for a student theater production of Andre Gregory's adaptation of "Alice in Wonderland." Hoping to be cast in a supporting role, Liu was instead cast as the lead. Her acting career was born.

Liu's blossoming film career was thrust into over-drive when she starred with Cameron Diaz and Drew Barrymore in Columbia Tri-Star's blockbuster hit, *Charlie's Angels*, and its sequel, *Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle*. Liu's career was further solidified when she starred opposite Uma Thurman in Quentin Tarantino's critically acclaimed film for Miramax, *Kill Bill: Volume I* and in the second installment, *Kill Bill: Volume II*.

In smaller release, Liu will also next seen in *3 Needles*, due out in December and in the Sebastian Gutierrez supernatural thriller *Rise*, co-starring Michael Chiklis. Liu has also lent her voice to the DreamWorks animation film *Kung Fo Panda* set for a 2008 release. Lucy has also been signed on to star in *Beautiful Asian Brides* and will also produce the film with Imagine Entertainment's Brian Grazer and Ron Howard. Liu recently completed production on *Watching The Detectives*, a romantic comedy co-starring Cillian Murphy.

Liu recently made her debut as producer with *Freedom's Fury*, a documentary on the 1956 Olympic semifinal water polo match between Hungary and Russia. Held in Australia, the match occurred as Russian forces were in Budapest, stomping out a popular revolt. She has also signed a deal to executive produce and star in a contemporary big-screen version of *Charlie Chan* for Twentieth Century Fox.

Liu's recent film credits include *Lucky Number Slevin* opposite Josh Hartnett and Ben Kingsley and Tony Scott's *Domino*. Other credits include roles opposite Jackie Chan in

Universal's hit comedy *Shanghai Noon*; opposite Mel Gibson in *Payback*; opposite Antonio Banderas and Woody Harrelson in Touchstone Pictures' *Play It To The Bone*; another role opposite Banderas in the action-thriller *Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever*, and a cameo role in the Oscar-winning film, *Chicago*.

On television, Liu appeared as the unforgettable 'Ling Woo' in the hit Fox series, "Ally McBeal," a role for which she scored an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Comedy Series, as well as a Screen Actors Guild Award nomination for Best Actress in a Comedy Series. She guest-starred on HBO's "Sex & the City" as well as on "Joey" and has lent her voice to such animated series as "The Simpsons," "Futurama" and "King of the Hill."

In 2005 Lucy Liu was appointed U.S. Fund for UNICEF Ambassador. Her devoted work with UNICEF has taken her to the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan to visit with survivors of the October 8, 2005 earthquake. To witness the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and communities, Lucy traveled to Lesotho in August 2005. Lucy continues to lend her time and name to the cause.

Nicollette Sheridan (Diane)

Having first won a worldwide audience for her starring role on the long-running CBS drama series "Knots Landing," Nicollette Sheridan has exploded back on the small screen with her Golden Globe-nominated role of Edie Britt, the serial divorcee whose romantic conquests keep the neighborhood buzzing, on ABC's "Desperate Housewives." Sheridan was recently honored in her native England, receiving the 2006 Women of the Year Award for Best U.S. TV Actress, adding to her back-to-back 2005-2006 Screen Actors Guild Awards.

Born and raised in England, Sheridan discovered a passion for ballet as a small child and studied furiously, broadening her love of the arts as a student at the Arts Educational School in London. In addition to the theatre, she nurtured her talents as an avid equestrienne along with a rigorous thirst for reading and a love of Shakespeare.

Moving to Los Angeles and being courted to explore her talents was a natural progression. Sheridan became a household name portraying the beautiful, powerful and

manipulative Paige Matheson on “Knots Landing.” This led to a myriad of other roles including those in “The People Next Door” with Faye Dunaway, “A Time To Heal”, “Indictment: The McMartin Trial” opposite James Woods and “Dead Husbands” with John Ritter, along with a special guest appearance on the season finale of “Will & Grace.”

Sheridan was first introduced to film audiences in Rob Reiner's *The Sure Thing* opposite John Cusack, going on to appear in other film comedies such as *Noises Off* opposite Michael Caine, *Spy Hard* opposite Leslie Nielsen and *Beverly Hills Ninja* with Chris Farley and Chris Rock. With an affinity for the animated world, she has brought her English accent to the Disney animated series “Tarzan and Jane” and will soon be heard as a Russian fly in the animated feature *Fly Me to the Moon* with Tim Curry, Kelly Ripa, Christopher Lloyd and Buzz Aldrin.

Generous with her time, Sheridan has lent her devotion and star presence to philanthropic causes including those focused on cancer, women and children at risk and natural disaster relief as well as such organizations as the Red Cross, Humane Society, Wildlife Waystation, Starkey Hearing Foundation, Make-A-Wish Foundation and Walter Reed Hospital.

Having found much success in front of the camera, Sheridan has more recently turned her attention behind the scenes and is developing projects for film and television.

Mark Dacascos (Eric Hauck)

Actor-martial artist, Mark Dacascos, whose film roles have taken him around the world, has a few major projects set for release in 2006 including: *Nomad* and *Only the Brave*. He appears in the epic period picture *Nomad*, which was filmed entirely on location over six months time in Kazaksthan, starring opposite Jason Scott Lee as “Sharish, the leader of a powerful warrior tribe. The ambitious picture which was produced by the legendary Milos Forman, is scheduled for a spring 2007 major theatrical release by The Weinstein Company. It was directed in tandem by Ivan Passer and Oscar winning Russian auteur, Sergei Bodrov.

Dacascos and Lee, both Hawaiian boys, worked together again on *Only the Brave*, directed by Lane Nishikawa. The powerful independent picture recounts the heroic story of the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team - comprised of Nisei (Hawaiian-Japanese-Americans) - who sacrificed their lives to rescue the Texas 141st Regiment known as the Lost Battalion during World War II. Also upcoming in 2006 are another 20 episodes of the Food Network cooking show, *Iron Chef America*, on which Dacascos serves as the "Official Chairman."

Dacascos was initially spotted by a producer in San Francisco and, promptly cast as the romantic lead opposite Chinese star Joan Chen in Wayne Wang's picture, *Dim Sum*. Prompted to pursue a film career full time, and he starred shortly thereafter in *American Samurai*, filmed on location in Israel. Since then he has consistently impressed critics and audiences alike starring in a wide variety of film roles his credits include the romantic Japanese anti-hero in the classic *Crying Freeman* to, the ex-con looking for a new start in the award-winning *Boogie Boy*; from the mysterious stranger in *Junior Pilot*, to the seasoned hero in *Crash Point* and *The Hunt for Eagle One*, both of which were filmed back-to-back on location in the Philippines in 2005. In 2003, Dacascos starred in the Warner Bros. release, *Cradle to the Grave*, and in 2000 he commuted between France and China to star in the international French hit, *Brotherhood of the Wolf* for filmmaker Christophe Gans. He starred in *China Strike Force*, shot on location in Shanghai, and the cult favorite *Drive* continues to garner awards at sci-fi convention and festivals to this day. The Fox release, *Only the Strong* remains a family favorite. He also continues to be widely recognized for his starring role in the popular syndicated series "The Crow: Stairway to Heaven."

Born in Hawaii, Dacascos was raised in Colorado and Germany. A student of varying styles of martial arts for more than 30 years, he also excels in gymnastics. A dedicated student, Dacascos has long been coached by Royal Academy Shakespearean notable, Patsy Rodenburg. The multi-lingual Dacascos who is fluent in French and German, also speaks a smattering of various Chinese dialects and plays the guitar and drums in his spare time.

Callum Keith Rennie (Shaw)

Callum Keith Rennie was born in Sunderland, England, raised in Alberta, Canada and was first struck with the passion to act while living in Edmonton. Starting out in university radio and working his way to the renowned Shaw Festival, Callum moved to Vancouver and quickly caught the eye of producers and directors.

Further to his many television appearances, Callum landed his first independent feature film role in director Mina Shum's *Double Happiness* for which he garnered a Best Supporting Actor Genie Nomination.

Callum continued to star in many Canadian films including *Curtis's Charm*, *Men With Guns* and Bruce MacDonald's critically acclaimed *Hard Core Logo*. Concurrently he starred on several television series including "My Life As A Dog" (winning a Best Actor Gemini Award), "Twitch City" and "Due South."

Mr. Rennie went on to star in many other feature films including Christopher Nolan's *Memento*, David Cronenberg's *eXistenz*, Lynne Stopkewich's *Suspicious River*, his second feature film with filmmaker Bruce McDonald *Picture Claire*, and *Last Night* directed by Don McKeller, which earned Callum a Best Supporting Actor Genie Award.

Films released in 2003 included the critically acclaimed *Flower & Garnet* and *Falling Angels* starring opposite Miranda Richardson. Both films attended the Toronto International Film Festival, as has virtually every Canadian feature film he has starred in the past.

In 2004/2005 Callum was seen in Daniel MacIvor's "Wilby Wonderful," Stephen King's mini series "Kingdom Hospital" directed by Craig R. Baxley and David Goyer's *Blade Trinity*. He will also be seen opposite Jon Voight in the mini-series "Five People You Meet In Heaven." Callum also worked in South Africa on Harry Hooks' *Whiskey Echo*, opposite Ving Rhames and Freddie Prinze Jr. on Keoni Waxman's *Shooting Gallery* shot in New Orleans and in 2006 he worked opposite Sigourney Weaver, Alan Rickman and Carrie-Anne Moss in *Snow Cake*.

Callum's television credits continue to grow with recent additions including "Painkiller Jane," "The L Word," "Supernatural," and "Smallville" and he is completing production on

the exciting third season of the critically acclaimed hit series "Battlestar Galactica" reprising his infamous Cylon role of 'Leobon.'

Callum has five feature films currently set to release in 2007 including David Goyer's *The Invisible* opposite Marcia Gay Harden for Touchstone and Spyglass Entertainment, *Silk* starring Keira Knightley, *Butterfly on a Wheel* with Pierce Brosnan and, finally the Paramount Pictures thriller *Case 39* starring Renee Zellweger.

Callum resides primarily in Vancouver, Canada.

Will Patton (Riley)

Will Patton has worked extensively in the theatre and in film. Most recently he was directed by Michael Winterbottom in the film *A Mighty Heart* starring Angelina Jolie which was filmed entirely on location in India. He was seen starring with John Travolta and Thomas Jane in the Lions Gate feature based on Marvel Comic's *The Punisher* as well as *Road House II*. He has also had memorable roles in such features as *The Mothman Prophecies* and *Remember the Titans*. His other feature credits include *Armageddon*, *Gone In 60 Seconds*, *Entrapment* and *The Postman* as well as *Trixie*, *Breakfast Of Champions* and *Jesus's Son*. Will was directed by Martin Scorsese in *After Hours* and Nicholas Roeg in *Cold Heaven*.

He has starred in several independent films that have enjoyed success at the major film festivals. Some of them include *The Rapture*, *In The Soup*, *The Paint Job*, *Toll Booth* and *The Spitfire Grill* which won the Audience Award at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival. In 1998, Will won the award for Best Actor at the Newport International Film Festival for his work in *OK Garage* (aka *All Revved Up*).

Will has blended appearances in these smaller pictures with major studio releases such as *Inventing The Abbotts*, *The Client*, *Fled*, *Copycat*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, *A Shock To The System*, *Everybody Wins* and *No Way Out*. Will also starred for two seasons in the highly acclaimed television series, "The Agency" on CBS. He was also seen in *Steven Spielberg's* "Into The West" on TNT. Will has recorded over forty three audio books, the latest being Charles Frazier's "Thirteen Moons". No stranger to the theatre, Will played the leading role in Sam Shepard's "A Lie Of The Mind" and his

performances in Richard Foreman's "What Did He See" and Mr. Shepard's "Fool For Love" earned him two prestigious Obie Awards as Best Actor. He starred in the world premier of Don DeLillo's play, "Valparaiso" at the ART in Boston and he was also seen heading an ensemble cast in Denis Johnson's play, "Shoppers Carried By Escalators Into The Flames" at the Vineyard Theatre in New York.

DeRay Davis

DeRay Davis recently created and starred in the Comedy Central pilot "The DeRay Way" and can be seen in the upcoming feature films *License to Wed* (WB) and *Reno 911: Miami*(Fox). DeRay is a series regular on the hit MTV series "Wild N Out" and wrote/performed the comedy skits on Kanye West's LPs "Late Registration" and "The College Dropout." His past credits include *School For Scoundrels*, *Scary Movie 4*, *The Fog*, *Barbershop 1 & 2*, *Johnson Family Vacation* and "Entourage."

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Les Mayfield (Director)

Les Mayfield is a graduate of the USC film school. He started his career working with Steven Spielberg directing one-hour documentaries for network television. His “making of” specials on *Empire of the Sun*, *Who Framed Roger Rabbit*, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* were all primetime specials on CBS.

Mayfield was invited to the 1991 Cannes Film Festival to screen *Hearts of Darkness: A Filmmaker's Apocalypse*. He co-produced the multiple award-winning film chronicling Francis Ford Coppola's struggle to make *Apocalypse Now*.

Mayfield's feature film directing career began with casting a then unknown Brendan Fraser in the hit comedy *Encino Man* (known as *California Man* internationally). *Miracle on 34th Street* was the first of two films Mayfield directed for writer/producer John Hughes. This remake of the Christmas classic starred Dylan McDermott and Lord Richard Attenborough.

Robin Williams starred in Mayfield's second collaboration with Hughes, the international blockbuster *Flubber* (based on the 1961 Disney classic *The Absent-Minded Professor*). Mayfield next teamed up with Martin Lawrence for the hit action/comedy *Blue Streak*. Columbia has a sequel deal in place for *Blue Streak II*. Shortly after, Colin Farrell starred as a young gun in *American Outlaws*, which was directed by Mayfield for Warner Brothers.

Most recently, Mayfield directed the action/comedy *The Man*, starring Samuel L. Jackson and Eugene Levy, which released in September, 2005 from New Line Cinema.

Robert Adetuyi (Writer)

Following his graduation from York University in Toronto, Robert went on to study at Norman Jewison's renowned Canadian Film Centre.

In Los Angeles, he continued his mentorship under Norman Jewison, while developing the screenplay “High Chicago” for Norman Jewison's Yorktown Productions.

Robert made his feature film directing debut with *Turn It Up* in 2001, starring Pras, Ja Rule and Jason Statham.

In January 2007, he will see the release of both *Code Name: The Cleaner* and *Stomp The Yard*, a dance drama for Sony/Screen Gems. The film stars Meagan Good, Columbus Short, Neo and Chris Brown, and is directed by Sylvain White.

Robert may be the only African-American writer to have two films in wide release in the same month.

He is following up his recent successes with another film for Sony/Screen Gems. The new untitled project is a comedy. He has already completed the screenplay and will direct the film 2007. The film is being produced by Will Packer.

George Gallo (Writer)

George Gallo spent most of his youth writing and painting with equal fervor. He studied privately with landscape painter George Cherepov, who wrote several Watson-Guptil books on painting, and it was during his studies that he realized how much the arts of writing, painting, and music were intertwined.

In 1982, Gallo moved to Los Angeles from Mamaroneck, New York, with several screenplays under his arm and less than eight hundred dollars in his pocket. Four years later, his first script was produced. The film, *Wise Guys* starred Danny Devito and was followed up with the classic, *Midnight Run* with Robert De Niro and Charles Grodin. In 1990, he wrote and directed the critically acclaimed *29th Street* which starred Danny Aiello and Anthony LaPaglia. Among his other credits are the 1995 hit, *Bad Boys* starring Will Smith and Martin Lawrence and the 2001 film, *Double Take* starring Eddie Griffin and Orlando Jones, which he wrote and directed. He just finished directing the comedy concert/documentary film on actor/comic Eddie Griffin entitled *DisFunkcional Family*. He just finished writing the sequel to the Bruce Willis/Matthew Perry hit comedy, *The Whole Nine Yards*. He is gearing up to direct *Friends Again* and produce *Senior Skip Day* with Eagle Cove Productions.

Gallo has taught classes in both screenwriting and landscape painting at USC, UCLA and the Art Academy of Los Angeles. He recently received the Outstanding Contribution to Film Award from the Las Vegas Screenwriting Network.

His paintings are in numerous public places and private collections. He's had over a dozen one man shows, including three at Grand Central Art Gallery in New York City. He is an Artist Member of the California Art Club, Oil Painters of America and a recipient of the Arts of the Parks Top 100 Award. He is represented by the Thomas Moxley Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico and the Newman Gallery in Philadelphia.

Jay Stern (Producer)

Jay Stern is currently President of Rat Entertainment, where he is partnered with Brett Ratner, the director of *Rush Hour* and *Rush Hour 2*. Stern supervises the development and production of feature films, in addition to running the day-to-day operations of the company. He produced *Rush Hour 2*, which grossed \$226 million in its domestic release, as well as *After the Sunset*.

Before joining Rat Entertainment, Stern was Executive Vice President of Production at New Line Cinema. In his five years at New Line, he was Executive Producer of *Rush Hour*, *Love and Basketball*, *Money Talks*, and *Love Jones* among other feature films. Prior to joining New Line, he spent five years at the Hollywood Pictures division of the Walt Disney Company, leaving as Vice President of Production.

Stern started in the movie business as a production assistant and location manager in New York City, where he was born and raised. Jay graduated with a B.A. cum laude from Yale College in 1981. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Vicki and ten year-old son Eli.

Eric Rhone (Producer)

Eric Rhone is manager and producing partner for Cedric the Entertainer and oversees all business for the popular comedian. As president of their production company, A Bird and a Bear Entertainment, he directs all day-to-day operations. In that role, he has inked multi-million dollar production deals with major motion picture studios. Rhone produced the company's first release, the hit film *Johnson Family Vacation* which starred

Cedric, Vanessa Williams, Bow Wow and Solange Knowles. The film topped the box office for two consecutive weeks as the #1 comedy. He also produced Paramount Pictures *The Honeymooners*.

Rhone also produced the Fox Television sketch comedy and variety show “Cedric The Entertainer Presents...”, which won the 2003 AFTRA Award of Excellence in Television. Additionally, he produces Cedric’s national comedy tours and DVD releases including “*Cedric The Entertainer Presents: The Starting Line-Up*”, a performance series highlighting the best new comic across the country.

Through his St. Louis-based management firm, Visions Management Group, Rhone has sealed the deals on such projects as the phenomenally successful Kings of Comedy Tour (the highest grossing comedy tour in history... grossing over \$37 million) as well as the subsequent hit film, *The Original Kings of Comedy*. He has also negotiated multi-million dollar sponsorship deals with McDonald’s, Nike, and Anheuser-Busch, which include the award-winning Super Bowl ads for Bud Light.

Rhone has received numerous honors throughout his career. Most recently, he was named 2005 State of Missouri Entrepreneur of the Year (among his colleagues and friends he is fondly referred to as “The Master Mind”).

Brett Ratner (Producer)

In a very short time, Brett Ratner has established himself as one of Hollywood’s most successful directors. Ratner’s seven feature films have grossed over one billion dollars worldwide. At 26 years old he directed his first feature film, the surprise box office hit *Money Talks*, a comedy starring Charlie Sheen and Chris Tucker. His second film, the action comedy *Rush Hour*, starred Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker and earned \$250 million worldwide. He followed that success with the romantic fantasy drama *The Family Man*, a critical and box office hit starring Nicolas Cage and Tea Leoni. A year later, Ratner delivered Hong Kong-style action with Chan and Tucker in the hit sequel, *Rush Hour 2*, which grossed more than \$342 million worldwide. Ratner made his first foray into the world of suspense thrillers with his fifth feature film *Red Dragon*, the *Silence of the Lambs* prequel starring Edward Norton, Anthony Hopkins, Ralph Fiennes, and Emily

Watson. Ratner's sixth feature film, *After the Sunset*, starring Pierce Brosnan, Selma Hayek, Woody Harrelson, and Don Cheadle enjoyed success in theatres nationwide.

Ratner recently shattered several box office records with his latest release *X-Men: The Last Stand*, the third installment in the popular film series based on the X-Men comic books. The film opened with a staggering \$123 million in just four days. It was the biggest Memorial Day weekend in history, even exceeding the previous Memorial Day weekend benchmark, *The Lost World: Jurassic Park's* \$90.2 million in 1997. Its \$45.1 million opening day marked the second-biggest single day box office ever, and the film has grossed more than \$400 million worldwide thus far. Starring Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman, Ian McKellen and Halle Berry, the feature focuses on the ongoing war between the X-Men and the Brotherhood, a band of powerful mutants organized under Xavier's former ally, Magneto.

Ratner is currently shooting the third installment of the blockbuster *Rush Hour* franchise. *Rush Hour 3* sees Tucker and Chan reprise their roles as LAPD Detective James Carter and Royal Hong Kong Police Chief Inspector Lee and features an acclaimed international supporting cast that includes Hiroyuki Sanada (*The Last Samurai*), Max Von Sydow (*Minority Report*), Yvan Attal (*Munich*), Zhang Jingchu, Noemie Lenoir (*After The Sunset*) and Roman Polanski. The film is shooting in Paris and Los Angeles and is scheduled to be released August 10, 2007.

Raised in Miami Beach, Ratner had dreamed of being a filmmaker since the age of eight. He enrolled in New York University's Tisch School of the Arts at age 16, becoming the department's youngest film major. While attending NYU Film School, he made *Whatever Happened to Mason Reese*, a short film starring and about the former child actor. The award-winning project received funding from Steven Spielberg's Amblin Entertainment. Ratner's big break came after he screened his film for hip-hop impresario Russell Simmons, launching a successful career in music videos. He has directed more than 100 videos since then, for artists including Madonna, Mariah Carey, Jessica Simpson, Jay-Z, Wu Tang Clan, D'Angelo, Heavy D, Mary J. Blige, Foxy Brown, Public Enemy, P Diddy and many others.

Ratner won the MTV Video Music Award for “Best Video for a Film” for Madonna’s “Beautiful Stranger” from the *Austin Powers* soundtrack. In addition, Ratner received an MTV Movie Award for Best Fight Sequence for *Rush Hour 2* as well as a TONY Award for producing “Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam” on Broadway. Ratner was the recipient of the Spirit of Chrysalis Award for his dedication and leadership in helping economically disadvantaged and homeless individuals change their lives through jobs. He is currently on the boards of Chrysalis and Best Buddies and serves on the Dean’s Council of the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

In addition to success in film and music, Ratner has also segued into the world of book publishing. He published the controversial book, Naked Pictures of my Ex-Girlfriends and authored Hilhaven Lodge: The Photo Booth Pictures, which was released in October 2003.

Brett has recently ventured into still photography and his photographs have appeared in Vanity Fair, and have graced the covers of Vogue Homme and V-Life. In addition, he has shot the fashion campaigns for Baby Phat and Jimmy Choo.

Brett Ratner currently resides in Beverly Hills.

Cedric the Entertainer (Producer)

See “About the Cast”

Anthony Rhulen (Executive Producer)

Anthony Rhulen is the CEO and co-founder of FilmEngine. Since founding the Company, Rhulen has played an integral role in financing and producing nine feature films and establishing key relationships with creative talent while directing the long term strategic vision of the Company. Such films include *Lucky Number Sleven, O*, and the *Butterfly Effect* franchise including two upcoming sequels and a television series on NBC’s Sci-fi channel. Rhulen is also producing *The Rum Diary* based on the late Hunter S. Thompson’s first novel, starring Johnny Depp.

Prior to founding FilmEngine, Rhulen worked for six years within the specialized insurance industry, as both an underwriter and vice president of strategic mergers and

acquisitions. During that time, Rhulen developed many of the financial and strategic planning skills he has since used to achieve significant commercial success for FilmEngine.

In addition, Rhulen owns Catskill Mountain Brewery Co. and a land development company.

A.J. Dix (Executive Producer)

A.J. Dix is the president of production of FilmEngine. Since the company's inception Dix and partner Rhulen have entered into various distribution deals with entertainment companies all over the world. FilmEngine has entered into a first look deal with New Line Cinema as the two companies have enjoyed much success together. Dix has helped the company bring many films including the 2004 Box office hit *The Butterfly Effect* to the big screen.

Before working with FilmEngine, Dix worked for New Line Cinema where he served as Manager of Administration, managing the company's overhead budgets and production deals for the Los Angeles office. He then ventured into the world of independent financing and international distribution at Shoreline Entertainment. There Dix was responsible for selling film titles overseas and domestically.

Dix is a graduate of the University of Florida with a degree in Journalism and Communications. Most recently he completed production on *Lucky Number Slevin* starring Josh Hartnett, Morgan Freeman, Bruce Willis, Ben Kingsley and Lucy Liu.

William Shively (Executive Producer)

Lucy Liu (Executive Producer)

See "About the Cast"

Robert Merilees (Co-Producer)

In the six years that Rob Merilees has been a partner at Infinity Features, he has co-created, along with William Vince, one of the most successful independent film companies in the market today.

Merilees has acquired a depth of understanding of film financing unique to the industry, bringing dozens of feature projects to completion and raising over \$160,000,000 in financing for features films and television. These include, from Infinity Features' slate, *Saved!* (MGM), *Evelyn* (MGM) and *Capote*(Sony).

In addition to financing, Merilees has been hands-on producing feature films for Infinity Features. One of the most ambitious film projects in Canadian history, *The Snow Walker* (Lionsgate), starring Barry Pepper and James Cromwell, was developed, financed and produced by Merilees. The film was shot over an entire year under the extreme conditions of Canada's high Arctic, and opened theatrically to four-star reviews and multiple awards.

Merilees brings additional value with his extensive technical knowledge of all phases of motion picture management including script development, financing, pre-production through to post, and the sale and revenue collection of completed films.

Merilees was also a producer on the romantic comedy, *Just Friends* (New Line Cinema), starring Ryan Reynolds, Amy Smart and Anna Faris.

John Cheng (Co-Producer)

John Cheng is the Head of Feature Film Development at Rat Entertainment. Rat Entertainment is Director/Producer Brett Ratner's feature film production company, which has a first look production deal with New Line Cinema. John has worked on projects such as *Rush Hour 1 & 2* (New Line Cinema), *The Family Man* (Universal) and *Red Dragon* (Universal). He co-produced the horror comedy *Santa's Slay* (2004) starring Bill Goldberg and Emilie DeRaven for Lionsgate Films. John started his career working under Emmy Award winning television producer David Gerber at All American Television. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley.

Brad Jensen (Co-Producer)

Brad Jensen is a producer at FilmEngine. Jensen started his career in the children's television world on Disney Channel's "Even Stevens" and "That's So Raven." While working on "Even Stevens," he produced a short film, *Let's Love Hate*, which was written

and directed by Shia Labeouf. He transitioned from television to film as a co-producer on the Hilary Duff feature *Raise Your Voice* and then Nick Cassavetes' *Alpha Dog* starring Bruce Willis, Sharon Stone and Justin Timberlake. Shortly thereafter, Jensen joined FilmEngine and began *Code Name: The Cleaner*. Currently, he just completed principal photography on the film *Ferris Wheel*, starring Charlize Theron, Nick Stahl, Woody Harrelson, Dennis Hopper and AnnaSophia Robb.

J. David Brewington Jr. (Co-Executive Producer)

David Brewington is currently Senior Vice President of Production for comedian Cedric The Entertainer's A Bird & A Bear Entertainment. He joined the company in June of 2004 from his previous post as Vice President of Production at New Line Cinema. He is currently overseeing development on the *Johnson Family Wedding*, the sequel to 2004's highly profitable Fox Searchlight family film *Johnson Family Vacation*. In addition, he is helping to develop *Club Deep* with MTV Films and the rest of the Bird/Bear film and television production slate.

While at New Line, Brewington served as Executive Producer of *Harold & Kumar Go To White Castle* and will take a producing role on its sequel, slated for production in January 2007. He also executive produced *The Highwaymen* and *King's Ransom* while at the studio, and continues to serve as an Executive Producer on several other films he purchased and developed that remain in the New Line pipeline.

Before arriving at New Line, David worked at Michael Ovitz's Artists Management Group, joining the firm at its inception. As a Literary Manager he represented a number of writers and directors and some actors. Prior to his tenure at AMG, David was a production executive at Warner Brothers, where he served as an executive on several films, including *City of Angels*, *The Devil's Advocate*, *Deep Blue Sea*, *Lost & Found*, *Any Given Sunday* and, finally, *Ocean's 11*.

Brewington began his professional career in New York City, where he served as a Financial Analyst at Goldman, Sachs & Co., working in the Investment Banking Division's Real Estate Department. He left Goldman to work as a Strategic Planning Consultant with Rush Communications/Def Jam, where he helped Chairman Russell Simmons and Rush President Carmen Ashurst further develop the Def Jam brand name

beyond the recorded music business. Relocating to California, he received his law degree then began his legal career as an entertainment litigation attorney at the Beverly Hills firm of Rosenfeld, Meyer & Susman. He left to join Warner Brothers as a creative executive in its Motion Picture Group.

Born and raised in Montclair, NJ, David attended Harvard College in Cambridge, MA before making his way out to California, where he attended law school at the University of California – Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law.

David Franco (Director of Photography)

David Franco has worked as the cinematographer on more than 30 productions. His most notable feature film credits include *3000 Miles to Graceland*, starring Kevin Costner directed by Demian Lichtenstein; *The Whole Nine Yards*, with Bruce Willis and Mathew Perry directed by Jonathan Lynn; *La Turbulence des Fluides*, directed by Manon Briand; *The Assignment* starring Ben Kingsley and Donald Sutherland, directed by Christian Duguay, *Long Day's Journey Into Night* directed by David Wellington who also directed *A Man in Uniform*, which was showcased at the Cannes Film Festival in the Director's Fortnight.

Among his television credits are the pilot of the ABC hit, "Desperate Housewives"; USA Network's "Call Me: The Rise and Fall of Heidi Fleiss"; HBO's "Earthly Possessions" with Susan Sarandon; HBO's "Vendetta" and CBS's "Last Don II."

Born in France, Franco was raised in Zaire where his father worked as a theatre director. After completing his schooling, Franco moved to Montreal to study communications at the University of Quebec, specializing in photography, planning to work as a war photographer. Instead he started his own production company to produce to shoot music videos, and segued into the feature film industry, making his cinematographic debut on *A Man in Uniform* which won him Best Cinematography Award, 38th Festival of Valladolid. Franco commutes between Toronto and Los Angeles, where he maintains residences.

Douglas Higgins (Production Designer)

Douglas Higgins, who has more than 60 productions to his credit, worked as production designer on such feature films as *The Butterfly Effect*, a sci-fi thriller starring Ashton Kutcher, Melonie Walters and Amy Smart directed by Eric Bress and J. Mackye Gruber, the Disney comedy *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, starring Hilary Duff, directed by Jim Fall; the horror film, *Wes Craven Presents: They*; and *Bones* with Snoopy Dog; *The Guilty*, *Masterminds*, *Alaska* and *Crying Freedman*, *Roommates*, and *The Omen*. Early in his career Higgins honed his craft as Art Director on *Dog Day Afternoon* and *Serpico*.

Most recently he designed the mini-series “Revelations,” a thriller, starring Bill Pullman and Natascha McElhone; “Jack” which earned Stockhard Channing an Emmy Award; the TV thriller “Five Days to Midnight” with Timothy Hutton, Randy Quaid and Kari Matchett; and the drama “The Book of Ruth” starring Christine Lahti and Nicholle Tom.

Among his extensive credits are the feature films *Needful Things* and *The Kidnapping of the President*, and the TV productions of “Mrs. Delafield Wants to Marry,” “Into Thin Air” and the pilot for “Cagney and Lacey” to name but a few.

Born in Toronto, Higgins obtained a BA from University of British Columbia in Theatre and Fine Arts followed by a Masters Degree in Design at Yale Drama School. He began his career designing sets in New York City on and off Broadway before segueing into film. He is based in Vancouver, B.C. where he relocated in 1975.

Jenni Gullett (Costume Designer)

Jenni Gullett began her career as assistant costume designer on “The X- Files” TV series in 1993 ending up as the costume designer on seasons two through five between 1995 and 1998.

Her more recent television credits include the sci-fi pilot “Painkiller Jane,” starring Emmanuelle Vauguier; the supernatural TV series “Point Pleasant,” starring Elizabeth Harnois; and the action-adventure series “Tru Calling” with Eliza Bushku. She also designed the costumes for the pilots “Tarzan,” “The Time Tunnel,” “Smallville” and James Cameron’s series, “Dark Angel.”

Among her feature films are *Thir13en Ghosts*, *Deadly Little Secrets* and *Beautiful Joe*.

Born in Calgary, Alberta, Gullett studied design at various colleges in Vancouver over a five year period. After entering the film industry in 1987 as a seamstress, she rapidly rose to become a costume designer. A member of the L.A. Costume Designer Guild, Gullett is based in Vancouver, B.C.

Michael Matzdorff (Editor)

Michael Matzdorff has been a film editor in Hollywood since 1990. His credits include: *Fight Club* and "Monk" (the television series). Michael has scored a film, acted on stage and directed a number of award winning short films. Michael's formal training includes photography, acting and music.

George S. Clinton (Composer)

George S. Clinton began his professional musical career as a songwriter, arranger, and session musician in Nashville, while earning degrees in music and drama at Middle Tennessee State University. The summer after graduation, George attended the Atlanta Pop Festival and, upon hearing Joe Cocker perform "With a Little Help from My Friends," left his native Chattanooga, bound for Los Angeles and ready to rock and roll.

Clinton became a staff writer for Warner Brothers Music, with songs recorded by such artists as Michael Jackson, Joe Cocker, and Smokey Robinson; continued arranging and session work; and, as a recording artist, did four albums for MCA, Elektra, ABC, and Arista. The critically acclaimed George Clinton Band attracted the attention of a movie producer, giving George the opportunity to score his first film, Cheech and Chong's *Still Smokin'*, and later, Cheech & Chong's *The Corsican Brothers*.

He developed his craft scoring "ninja" movies for Cannon Films, network and cable television movies and miniseries, writing for a wide range of genres and musical styles. The soulful, erotic jazz for Zalman King's Showtime anthology *Red Shoe Diaries* developed quite a following, and brought more public awareness.

His musical inventiveness and versatility in both orchestral and popular idioms have allowed him to contribute memorable scores to such diverse films as the hit comedy *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery* and its blockbuster sequels and the hit martial arts fantasy *Mortal Kombat* and its sequel. Other noteworthy projects include John Waters's *A Dirty Shame*; Disney's holiday hits *The Santa Clause 2: The Mrs.*

Clause; Tim Allen's poignant *Joe Somebody*; Kevin Costner's wild *3000 Miles to Graceland*; the scary *The Astronaut's Wife*, starring Charlize Theron and Johnny Depp; and the sexy thriller *Wild Things*.

Most recent projects include *Big Momma's House 2*, *The Santa Clause 3*, and *Deck The Halls*.

In addition, Clinton has written several concert works, three musicals, and is proud to serve as an advisor at the Sundance Composers Lab. Awards include a 2002 Grammy nomination and 6 BMI Film Music Awards.