



THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

BEGIN AGAIN

Production Notes



Publicity materials are available at:
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Running Time: 104 Mins
MPAA Rating: R

SYNOPSIS

The latest film from writer-director John Carney (ONCE), BEGIN AGAIN is a soul-stirring comedy about what happens when lost souls meet and make beautiful music together. Gretta (Keira Knightley) and her long-time boyfriend Dave (Adam Levine) are college sweethearts and songwriting partners who decamp for New York when he lands a deal with a major label. But the trappings of his new-found fame soon tempt Dave to stray, and a reeling, lovelorn Gretta is left on her own. Her world takes a turn for the better when Dan (Mark Ruffalo), a disgraced record-label exec, stumbles upon her performing on an East Village stage and is immediately captivated by her raw talent. From this chance encounter emerges an enchanting portrait of a mutually transformative collaboration, set to the soundtrack of a summer in New York City. The film is produced by Anthony Bregman at Likely Story, Tobin Armbrust of Exclusive Media and Judd Apatow at Apatow Productions.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

“If music be the food of love, play on,” wrote William Shakespeare over 400 years ago, reminding us of the way that music can inspire and speak to our emotions and connections in a deeper and more profound way than simple words. It’s no wonder, then, that the cinema has embraced the power of music to capture and enhance the screen’s powerful connection to the human spirit. No one knows that better than filmmaker John Carney, whose 2006 film *ONCE* went from being the find of the Sundance Film Festival to winning the Independent Spirit Award for Best Foreign Film, earning a Grammy nomination for its soundtrack, and winning the Best Original Song Academy Award for the romantic ballad “Falling Slowly” (composed and performed by the film’s stars, Glen Hansard and Marketa Irglova.) The stage play based on the film then went on to win the Tony Award for Best Musical.

Now, Carney has brought his unique perspective to New York City for another film that documents the power of music as it changes the lives and fortunes of two struggling souls. In *BEGIN AGAIN*, past-his-prime record executive Dan Mulligan (played by Mark Ruffalo) is facing a failing marriage, a career he can’t keep up with, and a daughter he can’t connect to. But at his most desperate moment, he hears a powerful song by Gretta (Keira Knightley), an unknown musician on the brink of giving up her musical dreams after unexpected heartbreak and frustration. An unlikely pair who are brought together by equal parts inspiration and desperation, the film follows them as their musical partnership develops into a deep friendship, and their lives take unexpected turns.

For Carney, the idea for the film originated in the relationship between Gretta and her musician boyfriend Dave (played by Adam Levine of “The Voice” and Maroon 5). “I wanted to do something with the idea of a couple who work together in the same area of the arts, and what happens to the relationship when the playing field stops being level and one of them takes off. What happens to intimacy and trust and loyalty when fame comes along?” At the same time, Carney drew upon his own past as a professional musician to flesh out the story’s possible complications. “I got to see that whole world of A&R and publishing first hand before I left that world and got into film and TV,” he explains. “So I started to think – where are those A&R guys now? The ones in Ireland in the 1990s who were looking for the next U2 – where are they now that the industry has changed so much? Let’s find one of those guys and see where he is now, what happens when the jaded music executive of the nineties meets the young optimistic girl from now who can record and mix her album on her computer.”

“John is a really gifted director,” says Oscar nominee Ruffalo. “I loved *ONCE* and was thrilled to talk to him about this film. He does such a beautiful job of mixing music into the world of the film without it being a traditional musical. He’s like the John Cassevetes of cinematic musicals.”

Co-star Knightley admits she is best known for her costume dramas and period films. “My character has pretty much died in everything I’ve done for the last five years,” she jokes. “I decided I’d like to do something where I didn’t have to go through heavy emotional turmoil and die, if at all possible. There’s a touch of emotional turmoil in this, but in the end I found it to be incredibly hopeful. It’s rare to find pieces of work that are so full of hope.”

The relationship between Dan and Gretta is complex. Dan is still trying to work out his marriage to Miriam (Catherine Keener), while Gretta is still hoping that her relationship with the suddenly successful Dave will survive his newfound life in the spotlight. Rather than have Dan and Gretta make

the predictable journey from friends to lovers, *BEGIN AGAIN* insists on making their connection intense and life-changing in surprising ways. Bound together by their mutual determination to bring Gretta's music to life by recording her songs outdoors – with the sounds and rhythms of New York City as a sonic backdrop – they ultimately find themselves enmeshed in one another's emotional lives, unsure of how the boundaries between friend, partner, and potential lover are supposed to be drawn. "It's an odd-couple type of relationship," observes Knightley. "These aren't necessarily two people who would find each other, but this happens at a very strange moment in their lives, and they end up being exactly what the other needs."

With a strong and uniquely powerful script, Carney was able to attract a compelling mixture of newcomers and seasoned veterans from many walks of the entertainment industry. "What we have is an incredible mix," observes producer Anthony Bregman. "In addition to Mark Ruffalo and Catherine Keener, who have been working for decades, and Keira Knightley who has done Oscar-nominated work and the *PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN* movies, we also have Hailee Steinfeld from *TRUE GRIT*; we have James Corden from British TV who just won a Tony Award; and people from the music industry like Adam Levine from Maroon 5, CeeLo Green and Yasiin Bey (also known as Mos Def.) It's very rare to have that combination of actors from so many different disciplines in one movie."

Indeed, the challenge of casting actors like Knightley not known for their singing talents, and singers (like Levine and Green) who have very little experience acting, might have been daunting to many filmmakers. But cast and crew alike agree that the combination and collaboration has proved productive, if not magical. "I've never done anything like this," admits Knightley. "A lot of the music wasn't finished until I got to New York. I had been working with a vocal coach to find a sound that would work for the character, but two or three of Gretta's songs were just handed to me on the day we recorded them, so there was been a bit of flying by the seat of our pants and hoping for the best. There's an old stage saying: 'It'll be all right on the night.' So far, it all seems to have gone all right." Her modest impressions of her own talent are playfully contradicted by her costar: "Keira is fantastic," says Ruffalo. "She's fun and game for anything and a talented singer."

"Keira brought an extra dimension to the script," says Carney. "We suddenly had an English-American relationship which added a dimension of charm, and allowed us to have a very different tone from a cast of all Americans or all New Yorkers. In a way it reminded me of old films like *CHARADE*, where those two cultures meeting is part of the story's appeal. I think as a filmmaker I need to play to the strengths of the actors, so Mark and Keira really shaped the film. As a director, I use the skills the people have, rather than what I wrote. Not to take advantage of that is a crime."

Although he's no stranger to the camera, having been a coach on the NBC show "The Voice" for several seasons, music star Levine had never tried dramatic acting until he was approached by Carney about playing the part of David. "I was honored just to be asked, and right off the bat I fell in love with the script. To have John believe in me is really exciting," he says today. "John saw something in me that was this character – whether that is flattering or not, I can't tell, but I would not have considered doing a film unless I was really connected to the material. I love John's tone – he is a musician, and I think his sensibilities are those of a musician so we get along famously."

"The music was easy," admits Levine after shooting. "That's kind of my wheelhouse, I guess, but the acting has been quite a challenge in a really great way. The only thing people said to me was 'know your lines' and 'don't act, just listen and react,' and that was great advice. I've also found that being comfortable and receptive to direction makes it a lot easier. It was daunting going into this new world,

but everyone was so sweet and made me feel comfortable and at home, so I felt like I was doing my best even though I had relatively little experience.”

“Performing music and acting are similar,” says industry veteran Green, another veteran of “The Voice” who plays the part of Trouble Gum, one of Dan’s former success stories who helps his old friend out by lending a hand to produce Gretta’s album. “In either case, you reenact the emotion of the experience when you are in the studio or on the set. There is a rhythm to the way that you walk, the way that you talk, the way that you react. It’s all poetry in motion. They are very kindred.” As for his own work, Green is cautiously optimistic that he can believably play a hip-hop star: “I can’t tell if they acted like I was doing a good job or if I really was,” he says with a smile, “but they are making me feel very comfortable. Mark Ruffalo said I did okay, so I think I’ll be all right.”

British-born stage and TV actor Corden, who plays the part of Steve, a friend of Gretta’s from back home who is also on hand to help her record, offers perhaps the most astute summary of his cast mates of various backgrounds. “Actors and musicians are similar,” he explains. “I think all actors secretly harbor a dream to be a musician, and all musicians want to be an actor one day. I’m not sure why, but it’s true of every actor I’ve met and every musician I’ve met. I think it’s because musicians see actors and say, ‘wouldn’t it be great to be someone else for a day?’ And actors see musicians and think, ‘wouldn’t it be great to just walk out as yourself and have that freedom to perform as yourself?’” As for his own limited experience with music, Corden is a bit less profound: “I’d tried to learn the guitar, and I’d never even picked one up,” he admits sheepishly. “Most of my preparation was just trying to look like a musician, because John is so insistent that all the music be played by the actors whenever possible.”

Also learning guitar is Steinfeld, who earned an Oscar nomination for her scene-stealing role in the Coen Brothers’ TRUE GRIT opposite Jeff Bridges and Matt Damon. Wisely deciding to only pursue roles that will offer her a challenge and not interfere with her everyday teenage life, Steinfeld was excited to be part of BEGIN AGAIN. “There was never a minute when I felt bored. It’s not easy to find a group of people like that,” she says. “John really helped me out – when you see your director speak so highly of what you are doing, it’s really great.”

Steinfeld also picked up some guitar to play the part of Violet, who moves from being a sullen teenager to mending bridges with her father thanks to the kinship she forges with Gretta. “Music is important in this film,” says Steinfeld. “And music is a very big thing in my life. It really came in handy with the work that I did in the film. The vibe was just so great.”

Making Gretta’s dream come to life meant composing a number of original songs that not only reflected several different genres of contemporary popular music, but also reflected the inner emotional state of the characters. It also meant writing songs for Gretta that would inspire Dan to consider recording them outdoors in New York City. These couldn’t just be typical love ballads or tunes with a danceable beat. They needed to suggest the atmosphere and pulse of America’s most vibrant metropolis. “John feels as comfortable telling a story through music as he does through dialogue,” explains producer Tobin Armbrust. “I think he’s a brilliant director whether the scene has music or not, but John has a special connection.”

Although it might seem counter-intuitive, Carney actually held off on writing the songs for as long as possible, wanting to establish his characters through dialogue and action so that the film’s story would stand on its own before adding music that would complement and support the screenplay. That

meant that most people working on the film read a script that merely indicated where songs would be placed and how they would function – without actually having any lyrics or melody to go by. “There’s a certain ‘trust me’ element to writing that way,” admits Carney. “You can only describe a song so well on the page. I think because we won the Oscar for ‘Falling Slowly’ from ONCE, people sort of trusted me. After the script was finished, I spoke to loads of recording artists. I wanted the music to be different from ONCE – even though Glen did end up writing one song for us. But I thought, what if Gretta was less folksy and more pop-oriented, more Burt Bacharach? Eventually, Simon Carmody connected me with Gregg Alexander, who was from the band New Radicals. Gregg produced some wonderful songs, and it turned out to be a great process.”

“We felt confident we had a filmmaker who knew music,” says producer Tobin Armbrust. “I’ve never worked on a film that has this much music in it. It has to be done with such precision. We had to do live music on the set mixed with prerecorded music, so we needed music supervisors and sound people who are ready to go each day. Recording outdoors, you’re trying to get both the sound and the performances right.” The production managed to record many of the pre-recorded tracks in one of the city’s most famous studios. “The most fun was going into the studio and hearing the development of the songs that John and Gregg Alexander had put together,” Armbrust explains. “We were recording in Electric Lady Studios, so we had this great history and an extra bit of soul built in,” he says of the renowned Greenwich Village facility built by Jimi Hendrix, where rock legends from AC/DC to Frank Zappa have recorded in the last 45 years.

Making the film look as good as it sounds proved to be an equally daunting challenge. “New York is a huge character in the film, so it was interesting scouting locations and figuring out where we wanted the band to record the songs,” explains production designer Chad Keith. “We wanted to show New York as differently and as real as possible, so we needed a combination of both epic scenery and interesting sound.”

Executive Producer Sam Hoffman continues: “We would go location scouting, and we’d find a place and I’d think it was great. And John would say, ‘you’re doing it again, you’re scouting with your eyes? What is it about this place that would make you want to record an album here?’ We had to scout with our ears, which is something a director has never asked of me before.”

“The film is a love letter to New York City, written by an Irishman who lives in Dublin,” says producer Anthony Bregman. “In the original script, that affection and appreciation for New York was on every page. However, coming to New York and living here – having an actual knowledge of particular locations, how you get from one place to another – becomes apparent. And the evolution of the script came about as a result of choosing the locations, and John bicycling around the city, trying to get to know better what he had already fallen in love with.”

“Mark Ruffalo’s character is a real New Yorker,” adds Sam Hoffman. “And Keira’s character is someone who comes to New York. I think John Carney now embodies both of those perspectives; first he had that vision of the city as a tourist, and now he’s become a real New Yorker in the past few months and seems himself more as a resident.” Jokes Anthony Bregman, who has made dozens of films in and around the Big Apple: “He’s had all of the requisite experiences. He’s been in a bike accident, and yesterday he was pooped on by a pigeon, so he’s a New Yorker.”

The cast was equally thrilled about getting to work on the streets of New York City. “I love working there and how unpredictable it is,” says Ruffalo. “It has a life of its own, and if you try to fight

it, it will kill you. But if you go with the flow, magical things can happen. It's an amazing place to be an artist, and amazing place to fall in love, so it was a great backdrop for the story."

"It was hot and humid, but we had a good time," says Levine, who grew up in Southern California and has based his career there. "Previously, I'd never really gotten along with New York City," he admits. "I've always wanted to have that quintessential New York experience – shooting the movie was the longest I'd been here, and now I feel like I've had that experience. I can honestly say I had the time of my life, and it made me think, 'Well, maybe I could do this again!'"

"I'd never really filmed on city streets before," offers Steinfeld. "And for this part, my wardrobe wasn't really the most appropriate for a teenage girl. I kept getting looks on the street that were priceless. I'd see mothers with kids in strollers, and want to say to them, 'Don't look at me, this isn't the real me, I promise!'"

Corden, who won his Tony Award for Best Actor shortly before he was cast in the film, had more of a chance to acclimate to New York and was equally enthused to be making a film there. "It was just a thrill for me," he says. "I'm one of New York's biggest fans. I love so many films that are set in New York. I've been there a while and seen people filming stuff, and I thought, 'that just must be the coolest thing ever.' I'm pleased to say I wasn't let down. It was a dream come true for me."

The special location, great characters, and talented ensemble made BEGIN AGAIN a unique production experience for all concerned. But for many of the cast and crew, their passion for the project comes back to that special connection they each have with the power of music to change one's life and inspire greatness in both spirit and deed. "My older brother brought me to a Rolling Stones concert when I was young," remembers Chad Keith. "The first song they played was 'Start Me Up' – now every time I hear it I think about that idea of being introduced to music, something that has stayed with me the rest of my life."

"I'm a sucker for a heartbreaking song," says Corden. "I have so many different songs that as soon as I hear them, I am transported. That's the great thing about music. So many times you feel that if your heart is broken or you're lost and no one could feel like that, music helps you realize that someone you've never met is having those exact same feelings."

Producer Tobin Armbrust adds, "You're always looking for a film that will emotionally resonate, and it's almost impossible to tell from the script. Is the chemistry going to be right? Will it be edited correctly so that people will experience genuine emotion when they see it? This film laid out such a great framework for that emotional experience. It's a movie about two people who are lost and come together and heal each other. The music that is in the DNA of these characters is what fixes them. People may look for the traditional love story, but they're going to find something deeper and more human; the kind of love story that isn't necessarily romantic, but has a very soulful appeal."

With two soulful films featuring a creative and innovative use of music behind him, Carney reflects on the genre that he seems to be reinventing. "I loved musicals when I was young. I loved the joy of those movies," he remembers. "That is harder to achieve in cinema these days. The industry leans towards making big event movies which tend to be universal and non-specific...all very well and good, but at the expense of a huge audience who want something else, who don't only want to see Batman or Transformers. The musical is right in between. You can have a more romantic feeling as a crowd, and the story doesn't matter in the same way. It can be more about interesting and specific

things. Music is the universal element that connects and brings in the audience. You want that crowd experience without totally compromising your own aesthetic.”

Perhaps it is Levine, no stranger to the power of music, who captures the spirit of the film when he observes: “Everybody – if they have a soul – has music that they connect to. For me, it was a Pearl Jam song called ‘Elderly Woman Behind the Counter in a Small Town’ – that song always made me cry when I was a kid. Being young sucks, and it helped me get through a tough period.”

“It might sound heavy to say,” concludes Levine, “but the film asks the question: can a song save your life? I do believe that the energy you feel when you hear a song that you respond to emotionally – it *can* change your life, and maybe save it in a way. Music saved my life, because I love it so much that I don’t know what I would do without it.”

ABOUT THE CAST

KEIRA KNIGHTLEY (Gretta)

Keira Knightley earned Academy Award and Golden Globe Award nominations for her portrayal of Elizabeth Bennet in Joe Wright's "Pride & Prejudice," based on Jane Austen's novel. Two years later, she was a Golden Globe and BAFTA Award nominee for her performance as Cecilia Tallis in "Atonement," again directed Wright and based on the novel by Ian McEwan. In 2012, she starred in the title role of Anna Karenina, where she reunited with Mr. Wright, based on the novel by Leo Tolstoy and adapted by Academy Award winner Tom Stoppard.

The U.K. native made her television debut at the age of six in the telefilm "Royal Celebration." Her subsequent television credits include such telefilms and miniseries as "The Treasure Seekers," "Coming Home," "Oliver Twist," "Doctor Zhivago" and "Princess of Thieves," starring as Robin Hood's daughter.

Knightley landed her first feature film role at the age of ten, in "Innocent Lies." She then starred in "The Hole," "Pure," and appeared alongside Natalie Portman in George Lucas' "Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace." Her breakout movie role was in "Bend It Like Beckham," for which she won the London Critics' Circle Film Awards' British Newcomer of the Year prize. Audiences worldwide then took notice of her as the heroine Elizabeth Swann in "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl," directed by Gore Verbinski, in which she starred with Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom, and Geoffrey Rush. She then reteamed with the film's producer Jerry Bruckheimer on Antoine Fuqua's "King Arthur;" and was part of the ensemble cast of Richard Curtis' "Love Actually." She next starred opposite Adrien Brody in "The Jacket," directed by John Maybury, and as real-life bounty hunter Domino Harvey in Tony Scott's "Domino," before reuniting with the "Pirates of the Caribbean" team on two sequels, "Dead Man's Chest" and "At World's End."

Her subsequent movies have included "The Edge of Love," which was scripted by Ms. Knightley's mother Sharman Macdonald; "Silk;" "The Duchess," for which she earned a British Independent Film Award (BIFA) nomination for Best Actress; Mark Romanek's "Never Let Me Go," for which she was again a BIFA Award nominee; "Last Night;" "London Boulevard;" David Cronenberg's "A Dangerous Method," in which she starred as real-life psychoanalyst Sabina Spielrein; and, the comedy "Seeking a Friend for the End of the World," in which she starred opposite Steve Carell.

In December 2009, Knightley made her West End theatrical debut in Martin Crimp's translation of Molière's comedy The Misanthrope, staged by Thea Sharrock at the Comedy Theatre in London. She received an Olivier Award nomination as well as an Evening Standard Award nomination for the Natasha Richardson Award. In January 2011, Ms. Knightley returned to the Comedy Theatre and starred in Lillian Hellman's The Children's Hour, staged by Ian Rickson.

MARK RUFFALO (Dan)

Academy Award nominee Mark Ruffalo is one of Hollywood's most sought-after actors, easily moving between stage and screen and working with directors including Ang Lee, Martin Scorsese, Michael Mann, Spike Jonze, David Fincher, Fernando Meirelles and Michael Gondry.

Ruffalo was recently seen in Marvel Enterprises' international box office hit, THE AVENGERS, in which he portrayed Bruce Banner and his alter ego the Incredible Hulk, and in NOW YOU SEE ME starring opposite Morgan Freeman, Woody Harrelson and Jessie Eisenberg.

Ruffalo earned nominations for an Academy Award, Screen Actors Guild Award, BAFTA Award and Independent Spirit Award for his performance in Focus Features' THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT, directed by Lisa Cholodenko. He was also honored with the Best Supporting Actor Award by the New York Film Critics Circle.

He also recently starred in THANKS FOR SHARING, written and directed by Stuart Blumberg, co-starring Gwyneth Paltrow and Tim Robbins and will return as the Incredible Hulk in THE AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON.

In 2011, Ruffalo made his directorial debut with SYMPATHY FOR DELICIOUS, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival on January 23, 2010 and went on to win the Special Jury Prize for dramatic film. The film starred Orlando Bloom, Laura Linney, Juliette Lewis and Ruffalo in a story about a Los Angeles DJ who finds that he has the power to heal. He previously executive produced Warner Independents' WE DON'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE where he co-starred opposite Naomi Watts, Peter Krause and Laura Dern.

Ruffalo first earned critical recognition in 2000 for his role in Kenneth Lonergan's YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, opposite Laura Linney and Matthew Broderick. His other credits include SHUTTER ISLAND, ZODIAC, 13 GOING ON 30, ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND, IN THE CUT, THE BROTHERS BLOOM, MARGARET, BLINDNESS, JUST LIKE HEAVEN, RESERVATION ROAD, ALL THE KING'S MEN, WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU, MY LIFE WITHOUT ME, THE LAST CASTLE, opposite Robert Redford and James Gandolfini, WINDTALKERS, XX/YX, COMMITTED, RIDE WITH THE DEVIL, STUDIO 54, SAFE MEN, THE LAST BIG THING, FISH IN THE BATHTUB and LIFE/DRAWING.

In 2006, Ruffalo made his Tony Award-nominated Broadway debut in the Lincoln Center Theater's revival of Clifford Odets' Awake and Sing! The original cast included Ben Gazzara, Zoe Wanamaker and Lauren Ambrose. Ruffalo's acting roots lie in the theater, where he first gained attention starring in the off-Broadway production of This is Our Youth; written and directed by Kenneth Lonergan, for which he won a Lucille Award for Best Actor. Ruffalo has won several awards for other performances, including a Dramalogue Award and the Theater World Award. In 2000, Ruffalo was seen in the Off-Broadway production The Moment When, a play by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award winner James Lapine.

Having trained with Joanne Linville at the distinguished Stella Adler Conservatory, Ruffalo made his theater debut in Avenue A at The Cast Theater. A writer, director and producer, Ruffalo co-wrote the screenplay for the independent film "The Destiny of Marty Fine," which was the first runner-up in the 1995 Slamdance Film Festival in Park City, Utah. Additionally, he has directed several plays and one-acts. In 2000, he directed Timothy McNeil's original play Margaret at the Hudson Backstage Theatre in Los Angeles. Ruffalo resides in New York.

HAILEE STEINFELD (Violet)

Just a few weeks after her 14th birthday, Hailee Steinfeld received an Oscar nomination for her scene-stealing feature film debut performance in the Coen Brothers' acclaimed TRUE GRIT, where she appeared opposite Jeff Bridges and Matt Damon. The role of Mattie brought her more than a dozen awards from national and regional film critics associations. Since then, the Southern California native

has carefully selected her roles with the savvy expertise of a veteran. She appeared as Juliet in the latest film version of *ROMEO AND JULIET*, written by Julian Fellowes (“Downton Abbey”) and directed by Carlo Carlei; and the long-awaited *ENDER’S GAME*, based on the fantasy novel and co-starring Harrison Ford, Ben Kingsley, and Viola Davis.

ADAM LEVINE (Dave)

As the front man of Grammy Award-winning recording artist Maroon 5, Adam Levine has left an indelible mark on popular music. Born and raised in Los Angeles, California, Levine first connected with Maroon 5 members Jesse Carmichael and Mickey Madden while attending Brentwood School in Los Angeles. The band has since gone on to have massive critical and commercial success worldwide. Capturing their first of three Grammy Awards as “Best New Artist” of 2005 and going on to sell more than 17 million albums, Maroon 5’s releases have gone gold and platinum in over 35 countries. Maroon 5 won over fans and critics alike with the hybrid rock/R&B sound they introduced on their debut album, *Songs About Jane*, and followed it up with the double platinum album, *It Won't be Soon Before Long*, which included hits like “Makes Me Wonder” and “If I Never See Your Face Again.”

In September 2010, the band released their third studio album, *Hands All Over*, which also recently went platinum. The album featured two hit singles including the Hot AC smash “Misery” and the anthemic “Moves Like Jagger,” which climbed to the #1 spot on the Top 40 and Hot AC charts and also claimed the #1 spot on the Billboard Hot 100. Both singles received Grammy Award nominations in the category of “Best Pop Performance By A Duo Or Group With Vocals,” marking the group’s eighth nomination overall and fifth in that category. With the success of “Moves Like Jagger” on the Hot 100 chart, Levine became the first artist in the chart's 53-year history to reach #1 as part of a group and enter the Top 10 at the same time as a soloist, as he is also featured on Gym Class Heroes’ “Stereo Hearts.” Summer 2012 saw the release of Maroon 5’s fourth album, *Overexposed*, which has already sold over 500,000 copies in the U.S.

In addition to his work with Maroon 5, Levine is in his fifth season as a coach on the #1 NBC hit series “The Voice.” The show has dominated ratings since 2011, and the fifth season is set to premiere on NBC this fall. Adam made his small screen acting debut on the hit FX Drama “American Horror Story” in 2012. Levine has also collaborated with various musical acts including Kanye West, Alicia Keys, Natasha Bedingfield, Slash and K’naan. Levine has also made several appearances on television, including “Saturday Night Live,” “30 Rock,” “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart” and Comedy Central's “Night of Too Many Stars.”

JAMES CORDEN (Steve)

James Corden’s work in theatre includes *One Man, Two Guvnors* at the National Theatre and Broadway (for which his performance was awarded the 2011 Tony Award for Best Leading Actor); *The History Boys* at the National Theatre, Broadway and international tour; *A Respectable Wedding* at the Young Vic; and *Martin Guerre* in the West End. His television roles include The Brit Awards (2009 and 2011), “A League of Their Own,” “James Corden’s World Cup Live,” “Gavin and Stacey” (BAFTA Award for Comedy Performance and British Comedy Award for Best Newcomer), “Horne and Corden,” “Little Britain,” “Fat Friends,” “Cruise of the Gods,” “Dalziel and Pascoe,” “Judge John Deed,” “Jack and the Beanstalk,” “Teachers,” “Hollyoaks,” “Boyz Limited,” and “The Vicar of Dibley.” His film roles include “Three Musketeers,” “Gulliver’s Travels,” “Lesbian Vampire Killers,” “Telstar,” “How to Lose Friends and Alienate People,” “Where Have I Been All Your Life,” “Pierrepont,” “Starter for Ten,” “The History Boys,”

“Heartlands,” “All or Nothing,” “Whatever Happened to Harold Smith,” and “Twentyfourseven.” He will also star in the upcoming film “One Chance.” He is co-creator and co-writer of “Gavin and Stacey” (BAFTA Award for Television Programme of the Year, British Comedy Award for Best New Scripted Comedy, Writers Guild of Great Britain Award for Comedy Writer of the Year, South Bank Show Award for Comedy, Tric Award for Best Comedy, National Television Award 2010 for Best Comedy) and “Horne and Corden.” He is also co-creator and co-writer of the forthcoming BBC series “The Wrong Mans.”

YASIIN BEY (Saul)

Previously known as Mos Def (as a musician) and Dante Beze (as an actor), Yasiin Bey is an activist, entertainer, and entrepreneur whose talents have permeated nearly all facets of American Popular Culture over the last 15 years. Born Dante Terrell Smith, the Brooklyn native began his solo music career appearing alongside hip-hop artists like De La Soul and Da Bush Babees. As half of the group Black Star, he established himself as one of hip-hop’s most innovative and influential artists, aggressively mixing genres and working with artists from all areas of the music scene. Over the years, his collaborators have included Kanye West, Stephen Marley, the Roots, the Black Keys, members of Bad Brains and Living Colour, and Somali rapper K’naan.

Bey has been acting professionally since the age of 14, when he appeared in a television movie with Mare Winningham. He then went on to earn recurring roles in the series “You Take the Kids” with Nell Carter and “The Cosby Mysteries” with Bill Cosby. He also had guest-starring roles on the 1990s shows “Here and Now,” “Brooklyn South,” “Spin City,” and “NYPD Blue.” His later big screen roles include Spike Lee’s Bamboozled, the critically acclaimed Monster’s Ball, THE ITALIAN JOB, THE HITCHHIKER’S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY, BE KIND REWIND, 16 BLOCKS, CADILLAC RECORDS (as Chuck Berry), and NEXT DAY AIR. Recent television roles have included recurring appearances on Showtime’s “Dexter,” “The Boondocks,” and “Chappelle’s Show,” as well as guest-starring on “House M.D.,” “The Wayne Brady Show,” “Yo Gabba Gabba,” and “My Wife and Kids.” He also appeared in the made-for-television films SOMETHING THE LORD MADE (for which he received an Emmy, Golden Globe, and Image Award nomination for Best Actor in a Miniseries) and LACKAWANNA BLUES. Next year he will be seen with Jennifer Aniston, Dennis Quaid, John Hawkes, and Ty Burrell in an as-yet-untitled project based on a novel by Elmore Leonard.

CEELO GREEN (Troublegum)

CeeLo Green is a five-time Grammy Award Winning singer-songwriter-producer, television personality, actor, entrepreneur, and pop culture & fashion icon. In 2001, CeeLo received five Grammy nominations for his worldwide hit “Forget You” (aka “F—k You”), winning the category for “Best Urban/Alternative Performance.” In October 2012, CeeLo will release a new Christmas album as well as a solo album in 2013 entitled “Everybody’s Brother”. He’s made memorable appearances on “Saturday Night Live,” “Oprah,” presented at the ESPYs and Kids’ Choice Awards, and has dazzled in television performances at the Super Bowl with Madonna, the Grammy Awards with the Muppets, Brit Awards, Billboard Music Awards, Soul Train Awards, and BET Awards. He has achieved such mainstream status that even Gwyneth Paltrow covered “Forget You” on the hit series “Glee.” CeeLo has also landed the cover of Fast Company’s 2012 “Most Creative People in Business” issue, Rolling Stone and Jet.

In addition to his success as a recording artist, CeeLo completed three seasons as a mentor/ judge on NBC’s hit show “The Voice,” alongside Christina Aguilera, Adam Levine and Blake Shelton, and will return to the show in the fall after a one-season hiatus. He has also made guest appearances on NBC’s popular

show "Parenthood," FOX's "American Dad," Nickelodeon's "How To Rock," and also hosted his own talk show "CeeLo Green Talking to Strangers" on FUSE TV. CeeLo is also transitioning into acting, starring in "Sparkle," which hit theaters on August 17th, 2012 and is Whitney Houston's last film. He is also the voice of "Murray the Mummy" in the upcoming Sony animated film "Hotel Transylvania," which co-stars the voices of Adam Sandler, Selena Gomez and Andy Samberg. Currently, CeeLo is gearing up for his new Las Vegas show, "CeeLo Green is Loberace" at Planet Hollywood which will run in the Spring of 2013.

As a businessman, CeeLo was appointed Chief Creative Officer of Primary Wave Music, the management company he signed with in 2010, one of the largest independent music publishing, marketing and talent management companies in the US. He is co-owner of a premium Sake brand TY KU; the voice behind the NFL's new "Thursday Night Football" theme song; remixed the iconic Meow Mix jingle; became the face of ad campaigns such as 7UP and Las Vegas Tourism; and has a book slated for release in 2013.

CeeLo Green first came onto the music scene as a member of the southern hip-hop group Goodie Mob along with Big Gipp, T-Mo and Khujo, who have reunited and will release their new album "Age against the Machine" in 2013. The new album will feature the new Goodie Mob single "Fight to Win," which they performed on "The Voice" as well as the Billboard Music Awards. Goodie Mob released their 1st album "Soul Food" in 1995, launching them to the top of the emerging Southern rap scene. The group then released two more albums "Still Standing" (1998) and "World Party" (1999). After CeeLo's success with Goodie Mob, he reinvented himself and formed Gnarls Barkley with deejay-producer Danger Mouse to release the 2006 worldwide hit "Crazy," which reached #1 in various singles charts worldwide and #2 on the Billboard Hot 100. Following Gnarls Barkley, CeeLo put his time back into his solo career and released the 2010 album "The Lady Killer."

On a personal note, CeeLo Green grew up in Atlanta, GA. Both of his parents were ordained ministers and he started his music career in church. His father died when he was just two years old and his mother, Sheila J. Callaway, a volunteer firefighter, was in a fatal car accident and died when he was 18. His mother and grandmother were both very involved in various philanthropic efforts and to continue his family legacy, CeeLo and his sister Shedonna launched GreenHouse Foundation in August 2012, a non-profit organization with a mission to help make "green education" easier and accessible to students in underserved school districts.

CATHERINE KEENER (Miriam)

An accomplished actress at once vibrantly potent and firmly grounded in her roles, Catherine Keener continues to be a dominant force on screen. Keener recently appeared in the animated adventure THE CROODS, for Dreamworks Animation, CAPTAIN PHILLIPS for Sony, directed by Paul Greengrass and co-starring alongside Tom Hanks, A LATE QUARTET with Philip Seymour Hoffman and Christopher Walken, and MALADIES with James Franco.

Other recent credits include such varied films as PEACE, LOVE, AND MISUNDERSTANDING, directed by Bruce Beresford and co-starring Jane Fonda; the dramedy THE ORANGES, co-starring Hugh Laurie, Oliver Platt and Allison Janney; the thriller TRUST alongside Clive Owen and Viola Davis; the family film PERCY JACKSON AND THE OLYMPIANS; and the dark comedy CYRUS with John C. Reilly and Jonah Hill. She has also worked several times with acclaimed independent director Nicole Holofcener, most recently in PLEASE GIVE with Oliver Platt and Rebecca Hall, and previously in FRIENDS WITH MONEY, LOVELY AND AMAZING, and WALKING AND TALKING.

Other recent credits include THE SOLOIST with Robert Downey, Jr. and Jaime Foxx; Spike Jonze's WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, and Showtime's "An American Crime" opposite Ellen Page, for which Keener earned both a Golden Globe and Emmy nomination. Previous roles include her Oscar-nominated roles in Charlie Kaufman's BEING JOHN MALKOVICH and Bennett Miller's CAPOTE (as novelist Harper Lee); Barry Levinson's WHAT JUST HAPPENED, Andrew Fleming's HAMLET 2, Sean Penn's INTO THE WILD, Judd Apatow's THE 40 YEAR OLD VIRGIN, Sydney Pollack's THE INTERPRETER with Sean Penn and Nicole Kidman, Rebecca Miller's THE BALLAD OF JACK AND ROSE, opposite Daniel Day-Lewis, Spike Jonze's ADAPTATION, Andrew Niccol's S1M0NE, Steven Soderbergh's FULL FRONTAL and OUT OF SIGHT, Danny DeVito's DEATH TO SMOOCHY, Neil LaBute's YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS, and the screen adaptation of Sam Shepard's SIMPATICO. She also appeared in four films by Tom DiCillo: BOX OF MOONLIGHT, JOHNNY SUEDE, LIVING IN OBLIVION, and THE REAL BLONDE.

Keener's television credits also include HBO's critically acclaimed anthology, "If These Walls Could Talk," directed by Nancy Savoca, and a notable guest appearance on "Seinfeld." On stage, she starred opposite Edward Norton in the Signature Theater Company's critically acclaimed off-Broadway revival of Langford Wilson's Burn This.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

JOHN CARNEY (Writer / Director)

Dublin based writer-director John Carney came to the world's attention following the box office hit and critically acclaimed musical feature film ONCE which scooped up a number of awards at the Independent Spirit Awards, Sundance and Raindance. In a previous life, John had been a bassist in the Irish rock band The Frames which is where he met Glen Hansard, who he of course later collaborated with on ONCE. These musical roots continue to be evident in John's work; he is writing and will direct later this year SING STREET with U2's Bono and The Edge contributing music and is developing a feature adaptation of M.R. James' chilling short story *Casting the Runes* for Barbara Broccoli & Michael G Wilson.

ANTHONY BREGMAN (Producer)

Anthony Bregman's films include the Academy Award-winning ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND, FRIENDS WITH MONEY, OUR IDIOT BROTHER, SYNECDOCHE, NEW YORK, PLEASE GIVE, THE TAO OF STEVE, LOVELY & AMAZING, HUMAN NATURE, THE EXTRA MAN, THUMBSUCKER, THE SAVAGES, THE ICE STORM, THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN, TRICK, DARLING COMPANION, LAY THE FAVORITE, THE ORANGES, and ENOUGH SAID. Upcoming releases include Bennett Miller's FOXCATCHER (starring Steve Carell, Channing Tatum, and Mark Ruffalo) and Amy Berg's EVERY SECRET THING (starring Diane Lane, Elizabeth Banks, Dakota Fanning, and Danielle Macdonald). Projects currently in production include Nima Nourizadeh's AMERICAN ULTRA (starring Jesse Eisenberg and Kristen Stewart), and Courtney Hunt's THE WHOLE TRUTH (starring Daniel Craig).

In the Fall of 2006, Bregman founded the New York City-based production company Likely Story, which he currently runs with Stefanie Azpiazu. Prior to Likely Story, Bregman was a partner at This is That for four years, and spent ten years as head of production at Good Machine, where he supervised the production and post-production of over thirty feature films, including SENSE AND SENSIBILITY, EAT DRINK, MAN WOMAN, WALKING & TALKING, WHAT HAPPENED WAS..., THE WEDDING BANQUET, and SAFE. Bregman teaches producing at Columbia University's Graduate Film School and is Chairman of the Board of the IFP, the nation's oldest and largest industry association for independent filmmakers, which also sponsors the annual Gotham Awards. Bregman's movies have won numerous awards at the Oscars, Golden Globes, BAFTAs, Gothams, Indie Spirits, and Cannes, Berlin and Sundance Film Festivals, among others. In 2010 Roger Ebert named SYNECDOCHE, NEW YORK the Best Film of the Decade.

TOBIN ARMBRUST (Producer)

Tobin Armbrust is President of Worldwide Productions and Acquisitions of Exclusive Media, one of the industry's leading independent production, sales, and distribution companies. Most recently Armbrust executive produced Ron Howard's epic action thriller RUSH, starring Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl, PARKLAND starring Paul Giamatti, Billy Bob Thornton, and Zac Efron, the box office hit END OF WATCH starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Michael Peña, the fast paced thriller SNITCH starring action superstar Dwayne Johnson and Academy Award® winner Susan Sarandon, and the action romantic comedy HIT AND RUN starring Dax Shepard, Kristen Bell and Bradley Cooper.

Upcoming films from Exclusive Media produced and/or executively produced by Armbrust are A WALK AMONG THE TOMBSTONES starring Liam Neeson, Hammer's THE QUIET ONES, starring Jared Harris and Sam Claflin; and the follow up to THE WOMAN IN BLACK, THE WOMAN IN BLACK: ANGEL OF DEATH.

Other films Armbrust has produced include THE WOMAN IN BLACK starring Daniel Radcliffe, Matt Reeves' LET ME IN, THE RESIDENT starring Hilary Swank, and Peter Weir's THE WAY BACK. For Exclusive Media's documentary feature label, Spitfire Pictures, Armbrust produced AMAZING JOURNEY: THE STORY OF THE WHO, LAST PLAY AT SHEA and GUYS AND DIVAS: BATTLE OF THE HIGH SCHOOL MUSICALS.

Prior to joining Exclusive Media, Armbrust served as a producer at Thunder Road, a production company with a first look deal at Warner Bros. Armbrust oversaw over thirty projects in various stages of development, and Co-Produced Firewall starring Harrison Ford and Paul Bettany.

Before joining Thunder Road, Armbrust spent seven years at Intermedia serving under Co-Founders Nigel Sinclair and Guy East. At Intermedia he held positions as both a VP of Business Development as well as a VP of Production. During his tenure, he helped oversee several feature films including K-19 starring Harrison Ford, BASIC starring John Travolta, THE WEDDING PLANNER starring Jennifer Lopez and Matthew McConaughey, ADAPTATION starring Nicolas Cage, NATIONAL SECURITY starring Martin Lawrence, and WELCOME TO MOOSEPORT starring Gene Hackman and Ray Romano, and K-PAX starring Kevin Spacey.

Armbrust began his career in the film industry as Head of Acquisitions at The Steel Company, a Los Angeles based agency which represented some of the largest film distributors in the world, including Canal Plus, Samsung, and Pony Canyon.

Armbrust received his Bachelor's Degree in Political Science at UCSB and a Rotary Scholarship to study Business at the University of Munich, Germany.

JUDD APATOW (Producer)

Judd Apatow is considered one of the most sought-after comedy minds in the business and has been closely associated with many of the biggest comedy films and hit TV shows worldwide.

Apatow most recently produced *Anchorman: The Legend Continues*, the eagerly anticipated sequel to the 2004 cult classic, *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*. Currently, Apatow is in production of the Universal Pictures' comedy, *Trainwreck*, starring comedian Amy Schumer and Bill Hader, reinforcing his ingenuity in working with new, break out talent.

In 2012 Apatow wrote, directed and produced Universal Pictures' *This Is 40*, starring Paul Rudd, his wife Leslie Mann, Albert Brooks and his daughters Maude and Iris. He also wrote and directed the films *Knocked Up*, *Funny People* and *The 40 Year Old Virgin*.

His producing credits include *Superbad*, *Bridesmaids*, *Pineapple Express*, *Talladega Nights*, *Forgetting Sarah Marshall*, *Get Him To the Greek*, *Walk Hard*, *Stepbrothers* and *Anchorman*.

In television Apatow is the executive producer of HBO's *Girls*, a series from actress/director Lena Dunham that has recently earned him an Emmy nomination. He also wrote and directed for *The Larry*

Sanders Show, was the executive producer of *Freaks and Geeks*, created *Undeclared* and co-created *The Ben Stiller Show*.

YARON ORBACH (Director of Photography)

Yaron Orbach's previous credits include the films THANKS FOR SHARING, FUN SIZE, OUR IDIOT BROTHER, THE GOOD DOCTOR, THE WARD, PLEASE GIVE, THE JONESES, AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK, THE OPEN ROAD, BIRDS OF AMERICA and THE TEN. He's was also director of photography for the television pilot THE CARRIE DIARIES and the documentary UNMISTAKEN CHILD, and has lensed commercials for projects such as Wrangler, Pontiac, McDonald's, Cialis, and Majestic Apparel.

CHAD KEITH (Production Designer)

Chad Keith's most recent work includes the Warner Brothers film MIDNIGHT SPECIAL teaming again with director Jeff Nichols. TAKE SHELTER also directed by Nichols and released by Sony Pictures Classic premiered at Sundance in 2011 and went on to win the Critic's Week Grand Prix at Cannes the same year. MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE for director Sean Durkin and Fox Searchlight Pictures along with Andrew Maclean's ON THE ICE and Andrew Dosunmu's RESTLESS CITY all had premieres at Sundance in 2011 with MARTHA MARCY MAY MARLENE taking Best Director. GOODBYE SOLO, was an Official Selection at Toronto 2009, and won the FIPERESCI Award at the Venice Film Festival in 2008. Keith also designed the indie film THINGS PEOPLE DO which is the directorial debut of Terrence Malick's editor Saar Klein. Shot in New Mexico, it was produced by Sarah Green and Terrence Malick & premiered in Berlin & SXSW this year. Also premiering at Tribeca this year Keith designed the film GOODBYE TO ALL THAT, for director Angus Maclachlan. Chad collaborated with director Ramin Bahrani on GOODBYE SOLO, an Official Selection at Toronto 2009, and won the FIPERESCI Award at the Venice Film Festival in 2008. Also with Bahrani he designed PLASTIC BAG an official selection at the New York and Venice Film Festivals in 2009, and they most recently worked together on AT ANY PRICE starring Dennis Quaid which was released domestically by Killer Films.

ANDREW MARCUS (Editor)

Andrew Marcus began his editing career with Merchant Ivory Films. His films include MR. AND MRS. BRIDGE, HOWARD'S END, REMAINS OF THE DAY, SURVIVING PICASSO, and JEFFERSON IN PARIS. Marcus has also collaborated several times with director Kenneth Branagh on such films as Mary Shelley's FRANKENSTEIN and MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING. He was also the editor and second unit director of John Cameron Mitchell's HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH and Mary Harron's AMERICAN PSYCHO.

Other credits as editor include DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA YA SISTERHOOD, UNDER THE TUSCAN SUN, HOME AT THE END OF THE WORLD, EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED, and TENDERNESS. An avid surfer, Marcus is delighted to include the documentary THE BILLABONG ODYSSEY: THE QUEST TO SURF THE WORLD'S BIGGEST WAVE, a theatrical feature about tow surfing among his credits. Recently, Marcus edited the STEP UP 2 and STEP UP 3, as well as THE MOTHS DIARIES for Mary Harron.

ARJUN BHASIN (Costume Designer)

A resident of both New York and Bombay, Arjun Bhasin divides his energy between designing films and working in fashion. He studied film at New York University and worked in New York City for several years before returning to India to re-envision Bollywood. Today, Arjun shuttles effortlessly between the two,

crisscrossing sensibilities and ideologies. With his film work, Arjun has dressed Amitabh Bachchan and Kate Hudson, Aamir Khan and Keira Knightley, Hrithik Roshan and Tobey Mcguire. He has worked with directors Ang Lee and Mira Nair, Zoya and Farhan Akhtar. His costumes for the ballet Yo Cassanova received a standing ovation at the Acropolis in Athens and the same year, the film MONSOON WEDDING was awarded the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival.

In 2009, Bhasin joined Conde Nast as the Fashion Director at *GQ India*, launching the magazine in his unique and whimsical vision. His recent film work includes THE RELUCTANT FUNDAMENTALIST and THE LIFE OF PI.

GREGG ALEXANDER (Music by)

Gregg Alexander is an American singer/songwriter and producer, best known as the frontman of the New Radicals, who scored the international hit "You Get What You Give" in 1999 and critically acclaimed album went on to sell over 2 million copies worldwide. After disbanding New Radicals after the first album Gregg has gone on to write and produce multiple #1 hit songs for both international and domestic artists. Alexander has also netted numerous awards for songs he has written and produced including a Grammy in 2003 for "The Game of Love" by Santana featuring Michelle Branch, which also earned the coveted most played Song Of The Year Award from both BMI & ASCAP. Always dancing to the beat of his own drummer, Gregg has accomplished the rare feat of making pop music and commercial singles without artistic compromise that have driven sales in excess of twenty million albums.

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as Steve

YASIIN BEY

as Saul

CEE LO GREEN

as Troublelum

And

CATHERINE KEENER

as Miriam

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Music by
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