



THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY

**LEE DANIELS'**  
**THE BUTLER**  
Production Notes



Publicity materials are available at:  
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**Running Time:** 132 mins  
**MPAA Rating:** PG-13

*In Theatres August 16<sup>th</sup>*

## SHORT SYNOPSIS

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER is set against the tumultuous political backdrop of 20<sup>th</sup> century America. Academy Award® nominated director Lee Daniels' (PRECIOUS) epic drama tells the story of fictional White House butler Cecil Gaines (Forest Whitaker), who serves during seven presidential administrations between 1957 and 1986. The film is inspired by Wil Haygood's 2008 *Washington Post* article "A Butler Well Served by This Election" which chronicled the real life of former White House butler Eugene Allen. The film begins in 1926 and follows a young Cecil as he escapes the tyranny of the fiercely segregated South in search of a better life. Along his arduous journey to manhood Cecil learns invaluable skills that ultimately lead to an opportunity of a lifetime: a job as a butler at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. There, Cecil becomes a firsthand witness to history and the inner workings of the Oval Office as the civil rights movement unfolds. At home, his loving wife Gloria (Oprah Winfrey) raises their two sons, and the family benefits from a comfortable middle-class existence enabled by Cecil's White House position. But Cecil's commitment to his "First Family" fosters tensions at home, alienating Gloria and creating conflict with his anti-establishment son (David Oyelowo). Through the eyes and emotions of the Gaines family, Daniels' film follows the changing tides of American politics and race relations; from the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, to the Freedom Riders and Black Panther movements, to the war in Vietnam and the Watergate scandal, Cecil experiences the effects of these events as both an insider and a family man. With an incredible supporting cast that includes Yaya Alafia, Mariah Carey, John Cusack, Jane Fonda, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Terrence Howard, Elijah Kelley, Minka Kelly, Lenny Kravitz, James Marsden, Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Redgrave, Alan Rickman, Liev Schreiber and Robin Williams, LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER is a story about the resilience of one man, the growth of a nation, and the power of family.

## LONG SYNOPSIS

Set against the tumultuous political backdrop of 20<sup>th</sup> century America, Academy Award® nominated director Lee Daniels' (PRECIOUS) epic drama LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER tells the story of Cecil Gaines (Forest Whitaker), an African American butler who serves at the White House during seven presidential administrations between 1957 and 1986.

Inspired by Wil Haygood's 2008 *Washington Post* article "A Butler Well Served by This Election" about the real life of former White House butler Eugene Allen, LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER traces the dramatic civil rights struggles that ultimately made it possible for an African American to rise to the highest position in the White House with the election of Barack Obama in 2008.

Opening in the fiercely segregated South in 1926, young Cecil Gaines works with his family in the cotton fields of Macon, GA. The tragic death of his father at the hands of his employer opens up unexpected opportunities for a young and impressionable Cecil, who is then taught the duties of a house servant under the critical eye of the plantation's white matriarch. Armed with these new skills and concerned for his own life, Cecil sets out for a better life as a young man.

Struggling outside of the confines of the plantation, an act of desperation introduces Cecil to a much-needed father figure, who provides guidance and a job at a local hotel. Thriving under his tutelage, Cecil is encouraged to move to Washington, DC, to take a position at an elite hotel. Excelling there, Cecil is noticed by a White House administrator, who gives him the chance of a lifetime: a job as a butler at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, insuring a comfortable middle-class life for Cecil's wife Gloria (Oscar® nominee Oprah Winfrey) and sons Louis (David Oyelowo) and Charlie (Elijah Kelley), far from the cotton fields of the South.

While Presidents come and go, from Eisenhower through Reagan, Cecil and the rest of the butler staff remain, serving in the background as firsthand but silent witnesses to history and the inner workings of the Oval Office while the civil rights movement unfolds. Regardless of his personal opinions, Cecil remains fiercely committed to his duties at the White House, but tensions grow at home as his sons become affected by the social and political upheaval that characterized the 1960s and 70s. Louis chooses to attend college in the South so that he may become an active part of the burgeoning civil rights movement, participating in department store sit-ins and freedom rides - putting him in physical danger and widening his rift with Cecil. Charlie instead elects to work for change from within, enlisting to fight for his country in Vietnam. Facing these disruptions to her family, as well as Cecil's neglect as he tends to his First Family, Gloria turns to alcohol and the embrace of a neighbor. As he grapples with his family's actions and his own conscience, Cecil finds himself at the crossroads of previously unimaginable social change.

Through the eyes and emotions of the Gaines family, Daniels' film follows the changing tides of American politics and race relations; from the assassinations of John F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King, to the Freedom Riders and Black Panther movements, to the war in Vietnam and the Watergate scandal, Cecil experiences the effects of these events as both an insider and a family man. Drawn into conflict with his headstrong sons, eager to forge their own paths in a rapidly transforming world, Cecil's story is as universal as it is extraordinary, speaking to the way each generation attempts to define the American Dream.

With an incredible supporting cast that includes Yaya Alafia, Mariah Carey, John Cusack, Jane Fonda, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Terrence Howard, Elijah Kelley, Minka Kelly, Lenny Kravitz, James Marsden, Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Redgrave, Alan Rickman, Liev Schreiber and Robin Williams, LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER is a story about the resilience of one man, the growth of a nation, and the power of family.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

In 2008, during the weeks leading up to the historic election of Barack Obama, *The Washington Post* writer and former foreign correspondent Wil Haygood made a mission for himself: to find an African American who had worked in the White House and witnessed the Civil Rights movement from behind the scenes. After countless phone calls, Haygood discovered the person he was looking for right under his nose in Washington, DC. His name was Eugene Allen, he was 89 years old, and he had served under eight presidents from the 1950s through the 1980s. Meeting with Allen and his wife Helene for a number of hours, the writer was able to profile a man whose firsthand access to some of the nation's most pivotal events – and the men in power behind them – was unprecedented.

Sony Pictures Entertainment co-chairman Amy Pascal originally read the interview with Allen in the *Washington Post* and brought the material to the attention of producer Laura Ziskin. *The Post* ran the story on the Friday following Obama's victory. Ziskin, the powerhouse behind such hits as *PRETTY WOMAN*, *AS GOOD AS IT GETS*, and the *SPIDER-MAN* franchise, immediately agreed that Allen's story had extraordinary potential to be made into an epic film. Despite being approached by several other producers about the rights to Allen's story, Haygood was convinced that Ziskin's passion and vision for the project were unmatched and agreed that they should get the ball rolling on making the film as soon as possible.

Sony optioned rights to the project, with screenwriter Danny Strong – most recently the writer of HBO's critically acclaimed film *GAME CHANGE* – in charge of creating a fictional story inspired by Haygood's article. Ultimately Sony chose to not move forward with the film. This left Ziskin, whose passion for the project was unflagging, to return to the drawing board and round up funding independently. In hunting down potential investors, Ziskin looked to approach business people and film enthusiasts who were particularly dedicated to arts projects with a social message, like BET co-founder Sheila Johnson. Eventually, others such as Michael Finley and Buddy Patrick came on board. Ultimately, it would take a village to get this movie off the ground with several different financing entities committing to bring this project to the finish line, also including Earl Stafford, Harry I. Martin, Jr., Charles Saveur Bonan, Film Partners and AI Film.

Ziskin had her eye on Lee Daniels to direct the project, who was fresh from his tremendous success with the Oscar-winning *PRECIOUS*. When the film that Daniels was attached to at the time, *SELMA*, ended up not getting off the ground, he was able to sign on with Ziskin instead. His expertise in the independent film world also proved helpful in raising money for the production. Daniels and Ziskin along with her producing partner, Pam Williams, worked closely together developing the project, even as she became more and more ill with cancer. With Ziskin's sad and untimely death in June 2011, Williams took the reins on getting the rest of the film in place.

Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey were next to sign on in the lead roles of Cecil and Gloria Gaines. David Oyelowo, who worked with Daniels in *THE PAPERBOY*, also signed on to play Louis, their headstrong activist son. Soon came a list of confirmed all-star talent, including Yaya Alafia, Mariah Carey, John Cusack, Jane Fonda, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Terrence Howard, Elijah Kelley, Minka Kelly, Lenny Kravitz, James Marsden, Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Redgrave, Alan Rickman, Liev Schreiber and Robin Williams. Many of the actors signed on with such a love for the project, they agreed to accept far less pay than usual; some even were willing to cancel previous engagements and tour dates to take part in the filming. Daniels shot the film in New Orleans, during the summer of 2012, over the course of 41 days – a relatively tight period of time considering the historical scope of the production and the size of its cast. In September of that year, while still in production, The Weinstein Company acquired U.S. distribution rights to the film.

## **A DISCUSSION WITH DIRECTOR LEE DANIELS**

***Tell us a little about the genesis of the film and about working with producer Laura Ziskin.***

I received the script for the film from a producer who I held in high regard named Laura Ziskin, who's now passed. I loved her and I loved the idea of Wil Haygood's *Washington Post* piece, which Amy Pascal at Sony had bought the rights to. I was excited, as it was post-PRECIOUS and I loved working with Laura. It was between me and another very famous director to direct the film, and she wanted me. She understood me – few people can understand my wavelength, and she did, and so I really fell in love with her.

Laura would call me at 3am giving me notes on the script. At the time we were developing for Sony. When we brought the script to Amy Pascal, she loved it. I could tell she was passionate about me and about the film, but at the end of the day the money there didn't add up. Laura had never gone into the world of raising money for films since she'd been at studios forever. I said, "I come from the indie world; I'll show you how." Then we went off to get funding for the film.

During that time, Laura became sick. She was flying back and forth helping me with the creative side and also helping me raise money. She flew out to New York one week to meet with me. We worked from her hotel on the Upper East Side because she was too ill to go out. By the next Tuesday, she was back home in Santa Monica. She had found this black woman who had just won the lottery and wanted to invest in the film. I said to Laura that day, "How do you do this? I just saw you a couple days ago, and here you are finding yet another investor. You're a gangster!" She told me she was just learning from me. Several days later she went into a coma, and that was it. She passed away Sunday evening.

This movie is for her. She believed in me more than I believed in myself. I didn't think I could do something this grand. It's a very big movie. It's multiple generations of the civil rights movement. No studio wanted to do this movie, even after the success of PRECIOUS and all the money that film had made, but Laura really knew that we could pull it off. Pam Williams, who ran Laura's company, helped me finish raising money.

***Why did you want to make this film? What made the story important to you?***

The story was important to me because I'd never seen a film that chronicled the civil rights movement, from the beginning into the Obama administration, through the eyes of a father and son. This film puts a perspective on things that people went through, even in my lifetime, so that we could do things like vote. It goes beyond black and white, which was important to me, because it's a father-son story on top of being a civil rights story. It transcends race, it transcends America – it's universal. It's not just a history lesson, but rather the story of a family.

What I also loved about this story was that the father was a lot like my dad. This man, Cecil, sees his father shot on a plantation post-slavery. He has a different understanding of how to communicate with white people, like my dad did. He goes into the White House to work as a butler because he feels he can serve his country that way. He is proud of his job and proud to work to support his family, but his son is embarrassed by it. This butler has seen his father killed for speaking up to a white man, and so he doesn't know anything different than to be subservient and to serve. His son, on the other hand, thinks there's a different way of living. He begins passively with Martin Luther King, marching for the right to vote. Then MLK is killed and he realizes that passive isn't the way that will work. So he becomes more militant, going to Malcolm X and

then the Black Panthers. All the while, his father is disapproving because not only is he working for the white man, he's working at the White House for the President of the United States.

The question is raised of who's right and who's wrong. Is it by serving the presidents and serving passively? By getting white people to embrace and trust you, are you advancing people of color? Or is it the right thing to march, speak out, and be willing to die for what you believe in? It's these questions that make Cecil and his son butt heads in the film, and that element made me want to jump into this story with all the heart that I jumped into PRECIOUS with.

***This is different than any other film you've ever made. Are there differences in how you approached this material versus the other material you've worked with in the past?***

This is the hardest movie I've ever directed. I realized early on that the way I view the world and the way the average person views the world is different. There's no sexual content, little profanity and the violence is at a minimum, though we're dealing with a very violent period in time. And so as a filmmaker I really had to restrain myself, and I'm proud of that. I had a great crew, great partners in producer Pam Williams and screenwriter Danny Strong, and an incredible group of actors that helped me help myself because they know I'm a free spirit. I embrace people who embrace me and the way I think and work. It's hard to do a PG-13 movie being Lee Daniels, but we did it.

***What was it like working with Forest Whitaker?***

I think the people who have done this forever and the people who are secure in themselves are actually the most humble. Forest, in particular, is probably the most humble actor I've ever worked with in my life. How many Oscar winners are willing to come and audition for you? He also did exactly what I would ask for. That's how you know you have an actor who's confident – they do what you ask with no questions. A lot of actors don't realize they have to render themselves to the director. It's a rare gift.

He and Oprah were magical as Cecil and Gloria. Forest brought elegance, class, and vulnerability to the character of Cecil that I don't think anyone else could have managed. He had an ability to make Cecil change, grow, and see the light.

***Tell us a little bit about Oprah's character, Gloria Gaines, who is Cecil's wife.***

I love women. They're so complicated and beautiful to study. Black women are fascinating to study in how they've been able to evolve from slavery and adapt. We needed the black woman's voice in this film, and we needed a complicated woman like my mom, or my aunts, or neighbors that took care of us growing up. That's why Oprah's character, Gloria, is complex. She might have an affair on her husband, Cecil, because he's not there, she might drink too much, she might smoke too many cigarettes. But I think that complexity is what makes life interesting and a story interesting. The Gaineses are not the Huxtables. Not that the Huxtables are bad, but these are complicated people because they come from slavery. Race is complicated.

Cecil and Gloria have two sons in the film. One, Charlie, is in Vietnam and is serving our country in that way. The other, Louis, is working with MLK, Malcolm X, and the Black Panthers. The film explores how the Gaines family is affected by these circumstances. The mother, Gloria, spins a bit out of control because both of her sons are at war – one internally, and one out of the country.

***What was it like getting Oprah back into acting, after such a long absence?***

She had worked with me on PRECIOUS as an executive producer. I told her after that film that I wanted to work with her again, only as an actor because I think she's an incredible talent. I wanted her do something that would shake it up, so to speak. When I told her about this film, she liked the idea and so I went ahead with developing the character specifically for her, with the voices of the women I grew up with and know so intimately, breathing life into Gloria.

When you're working with an actor, you have to have an unequivocal trust. I can't shoot a scene unless I have the trust of the actor. It's an art form, like creating a dance or painting a portrait. With Oprah in particular, she hadn't worked as an actor in a long time, so it was nerve-racking to carry the burden of making her as good as she was in THE COLOR PURPLE. She was genius in that film. But on her first day on set, she came out with guns blazing. It was beautiful. She stands in line like everyone else for catering, she doesn't hold herself any differently than any other actor. She's a billionaire but she didn't act like one on set. She arrived every day on her own, without an entourage, and was very supportive to the entire process. She was there as a hired gun and she came to serve the character of Gloria as an actor. I look forward to working with her again.

***What was it like working on a film with such a large cast?***

Working on this was hard because normally I make a film that's a moment in time – a summer, or a year, and that's it. This one, on the other hand, was decades. There was one star after another. We start off with Robin Williams, and we move on to Vanessa Redgrave, and then to Mariah Carey and Lenny Kravitz and Cuba Gooding Jr. and Oprah Winfrey and Forest Whitaker and Terence Howard. To get performances from people, you have to spend time with them. You have to be not on the same page, but on the same syllable. Time is money and money we didn't have a lot of, so it was very difficult. But the actors really had a love affair with the film and I'm excited about every one of them. I think Jane Fonda is wonderful as Nancy Reagan, I think Alan Rickman is incredible as Ronald, as are Alex Pettyfer and David Banner.

Casting the presidents was the tricky part, because I didn't want an audience to be like, "Look at John Cusack playing President Nixon, or look at Robin Williams playing Eisenhower, or James Marsden playing Kennedy." You had to make them disappear, and to do that you had to not make them caricatures but instead just have them be human. My take on them was to approach them as just men. As an audience, I want people to feel how the weight of the world is on these men as presidents, whether you're republican or democrat, and whether you like them or not. These were men doing the best they could to serve our country. Kennedy was good and bad. Nixon was good and bad. Everyone's good and everyone's bad. I try to convey that idea in all of my films, including with these presidents. There's a grey area we all live in, and that's where the magic is at when you're telling a story.

***Was there a particular scene that was particularly challenging to shoot, or that stands out to you?***

There's a scene where Oprah sits at the vanity and she's putting on lipstick. She's drunk and she wants her husband to make love to her. I was so nervous about shooting it. I thought to myself, "How do I get the world to not recognize her as Oprah? She's Oprah Winfrey! How do I get her to disappear?" In it she talks about Jackie Kennedy and about how many pairs of shoes Jackie owns. She is resentful that her husband is in the White House tending to Jackie instead of tending to his own wife. When we went to shoot it, I was terrified because it's intimidating to critique her.

She was magical though, and she met me head to head with the character we had created for her. It's one of my favorite scenes in the film.

***Did you have any moments in shooting this film where you felt especially close to the subject matter?***

My "aha" moment when I realized what my parents and grandparents had gone through happened when we were shooting the Freedom Riders bus scene. I was directing the scene on the bus. It was hot. There was no air conditioning because we were using an actual period bus that props had provided. I also had to direct the KKK clan outside the bus. I saw this angry group of a hundred mob people in KKK garb, and yelled "Cut!" but they just kept coming at the bus because they couldn't hear me. It was in that moment that I suddenly realized what it must have felt like to be one of the kids on those Freedom Rider buses years ago.

***What do you want audiences to take away from the film?***

Directing this film is the most important thing I've ever done in my career in cinema. It's an incredible task to take on a historical epic and it's terrifying because as a filmmaker, you want to make sure that you do it accurately. I hope people walk away with a sense of not forgetting what happened. We should remember that people died for our country and that there are heroes who aren't taught about in school. Those people are the reason Obama is in office.

## **A DISCUSSION WITH SCREENWRITER DANNY STRONG**

### ***How did you originally become involved with the project?***

I was originally approached by the late great producer Laura Ziskin to write the script. Along with Sony Pictures, she had optioned the fantastic Wil Haygood profile on Eugene Allen and felt that I would be the right screenwriter for the project. I was incredibly flattered that she approached me and I thought there could be an amazing movie in telling the story of a White House butler. However, it was also an extremely daunting task trying to figure out what the 'story' would be. The film spanned so many presidencies and so much US history, I had no idea how I going to narrow it down into a two hour movie. The real breakthrough for me was when I decided that I wanted to make the film the story of the Civil Rights movement. This would give the script a clear spine that I could center every era on. I'm also very passionate about this particular chapter of US history. I had written a script about Thurgood Marshall and his quest to end legalized segregation that hadn't been made (it still hasn't), and I was determined to get a movie made that covered this important and dynamic era.

### ***This film is inspired by a 2008 Washington Post article about real life White House butler Eugene Allen. How did you strike a balance between paying homage to Eugene's story and creating a new world within the film?***

There was a tremendous amount of research involved in writing the script, and a great deal of information came from interviewing former and current members of the White House staff. Hearing story after story from these White House employees and also reading various memoirs from people who worked at the White House or lived through these eras, I realized that I wanted to be able to use as many of these stories as possible. This is how Cecil Gaines and the Gaines family came to be. They are composite characters based on numerous White House employees and their families. I felt by combining all of these different stories I would be able to create a more universal experience for the audience of what it meant to be a member of the White House staff during these extremely tumultuous times. The Gaines family took on a life of its own in which I was hoping to dramatize the American experience during the Civil Rights Movement through their eyes.

### ***This is a very ambitious film, both in terms of the scope of history it covers and the number of characters involved. What was the most challenging aspect of writing the screenplay?***

This is without a doubt the most difficult script I've ever written. Taking characters through so many eras of US history was a daunting and complicated task that required an enormous amount of research because I had to have an in depth understanding of the Civil Rights Movement, the policies of each presidential administration and the general culture of the country through all these decades. I spent six months researching the film before I even wrote a single word and then the research never ended through out the entire writing process. One of the most challenging aspects was the time span of the events of the film. Going from administration to administration without the film feeling episodic or repetitive was quite difficult. It was also important to me that the film never felt like a history lesson, and yet there was a tremendous amount of history that was going to be dramatized. I wanted to make sure that the movie always stayed emotional and dramatic and that Cecil had a clear arc that would clearly evolve over the decades.

### ***Some of the most acclaimed, iconic actors of our time are part of the film's cast. Were there any characters or scenes that you wrote with a specific actor in mind?***

I always imagined Forest Whitaker as the Butler. He's one of the great American actors of our times and he's able to exude such depth and soul without saying a word. One of the primary challenges of the film was going to be getting the audience to feel the emotions of a character who is by his nature, passive and quiet. There were very few actors that I thought could pull this off and Forest was always at the top of the list. I almost fell out of my chair when I found out he was going to play the part. It was a truly thrilling moment for me.

***Your last screenwriting project was for HBO's GAME CHANGE, based on John McCain and Sarah Palin's 2008 presidential campaign. What is it about politics that appeals to you when choosing to take on a screenplay?***

I love political films because the stakes are incredibly high for the characters and the events of the story have such an enormous impact on our country. It makes for an incredible compelling movie (when it's good). That's why movies like ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN and ARGO are so fantastic, they deal with issues that are truly profound, but are also extremely exciting and dramatic. When political films work, they are riveting because the issues being dealt with are so important. They are also a great way to talk about important social issues without being preachy or boring.

***This is a film that examines some of the most pivotal events in American history, and at the same time also is a story about family. What do you hope that audiences take away from it?***

I want the audience to have a better understanding of the history of race in this country. I think if people knew and understood our past better, then I believe race relations would improve at a faster pace. I also think this film celebrates how much we've grown as a nation. When you see the events of the Civil Rights Movement dramatized beat by beat, and then you see the election of the first African-American president, it allows us all to be incredibly proud of how far we have come as a nation.

## **A DISCUSSION WITH STAR FOREST WHITAKER**

***This film simultaneously covers a large span of American history and tells a father-son story, as played by you and David Oyelowo. Tell us a little about that dynamic.***

I think what Lee Daniels did with this film is pretty powerful because he dealt with the civil rights movement through the characters of me (Cecil) and my son (Louis). My son's an activist first in college, and then working with Martin Luther King and eventually Malcolm X. It's a broad scope of individuals in that particular movement. At the same time, you see me in the White House during those periods where decisions were being made behind the scenes with Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Reagan, and so forth. They were shaping the face of civil and human rights in the country – and, in effect, the world.

It's also a father-son story. My character represents the old school and the old guard. He is changing opinions by his mere presence in the White House, by his behavior and his acceptance. In a sense, I humanize the black community because the Presidents and staff have to deal with me on a human level. Then you have my son addressing those same issues in the streets with the civil rights movement, through things like marches and sit-ins. The conflict is between us and our different generations. All I want is my son to be safe and have a good life; that's what I think I'm doing in discouraging his activism. The growth for me is to realize that I deserve certain rights too, and it's through my son that I come to understand that.

***As White House butler, Cecil develops personal relationships with Presidents and First Ladies. What positive effect do you think that has in the bigger picture?***

We have all these individuals, like Colin Powell and Condoleezza Rice, who were in powerful positions preceding President Obama. I don't think Obama would be president without the movement of those others and people understanding, and accepting, that there were African Americans in positions of power. These individuals shifted the public opinion, even if it was just subconsciously. I believe Obama was destined to take his position and I'm really happy he did. But destiny has its movement and things build up to a moment until, as Malcolm Gladwell would say, a tipping point occurs.

In this sense, I think the character of Cecil is a good example of an individual contributing towards shifting larger opinions on race. In the film, Kennedy's tie and Johnson's clip are the two gifts Cecil gets and keeps. Both of those Presidents shifted policy for civil rights in the country, with Kennedy starting first before being assassinated. Johnson was sometimes called a racist and was vilified for his position on Vietnam, but he also did things that were monumental for human rights in the US and getting laws passed through.

***Cecil gets upset when his son says Sidney Poitier is just a black man acting like a white man wants him to. How do you interpret that?***

Cecil gets angered because in his mind, Sidney Poitier is an activist and a trailblazer. Movies like A PATCH OF BLUE and BROTHER JOHN were impossible for black men to be in before he came along. The roads he paved are still being walked today; the work and access he created were unprecedented. When Cecil's son argues that this man should be disrespected, Cecil wants to be cordial as a father, but it's too much for him to bear.

That said, what Lee does with the film that's really great is that he explores "Uncle Tom-ism." My character's son, Louis, looks at me in some ways as an Uncle Tom. In fact, he's sometimes embarrassed of me. Martin Luther King tells him my position in the White House is in fact very

important. People like Bill “Bojangles” Robinson and Louis Armstrong were considered for a period of time as Uncle Toms. But before them, African American people didn't perform in certain venues or go into certain rooms because they weren't allowed. They were activists and treading roads that weren't tread before for others to be able to walk through. If you go through a jungle and you're using a machete to get past the vines in front of you, know that the person who chopped the vines down before you paved a road for you to move forward.

***Tell us about working with all these other actors who were portraying US Presidents in the film.***

It was fantastic because I was sort of the common link. That's the thing about workers in the White House – it's their house in a way. When I spoke with some of the real life butlers who had been employed there, they would say that they were there for years and would see presidents come and go, yet they would stay working behind the scenes.

While filming, it would be a new experience with each new actor playing a president. John Cusack plays a sort of mad Nixon. I was thrilled to work with him, as he's a great actor. The scene where he's in the middle of Watergate, playing the tapes over and over, was exciting to do. James Marsden brought relaxation and comfort to the Kennedy role. I loved working with him. His character is very linked to mine. I'd worked with Robin Williams before. I enjoyed his stillness and simplicity in the role of Eisenhower. It was very delicate. He did a beautiful job of portraying pain and contemplation.

***This is Oprah's return to acting. What about this film in particular do you think convinced her to come back?***

She had a relationship with Lee of course from producing PRECIOUS and trusted him as a filmmaker. She and I have had a long relationship and had wanted to work together for a while. I think mainly though, what the story is telling historically and showing America through those eyes was important to her. I also think she was interested in exploring family and love. One thing that our characters have as husband and wife throughout the film was a deep bond of love through all the strains, through her character's alcoholism, and all else. I think as an artist she must have been intrigued by this character because it's powerful and complex, and she does an amazing job. I'm really happy I got to do the film with her – I can't imagine having done it with anyone else.

## ABOUT THE CAST

### **FOREST WHITAKER (CECIL GAINES)**

Forest Whitaker is a distinguished artist and humanist. He is the founder of PeaceEarth Foundation, co-founder and chair of the International Institute for Peace and is the UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation. Whitaker is also a talented, versatile performer and one of Hollywood's most accomplished figures. He has received prestigious artistic distinctions including the 2007 Academy Award® for Best Actor for his performance in *The Last King of Scotland* as Ugandan dictator Idi Amin. He has also received the BAFTA Award, SAG Award, and Golden Globe® for Best Actor. In addition, Whitaker received the Best Actor for *Bird* at the Cannes Film Festival.

Whitaker has dedicated most of his time to extensive humanitarian work over the past decade. His social awareness has compelled him to seek ways of using the film medium as a means to raise peoples' consciousness. He produced the award-winning documentary *Kassim the Dream*, which tells the poignant story of a Ugandan child soldier turned world championship boxer, *Rising From Ashes*, which profiles Genocide survivors of the Rwandan war who have risen from wooden bicycles to competing in the Olympics, *Serving Life*, which focuses on hospice care for prisoners at Louisiana's Angola Prison, and the Emmy nominated and Peabody Award-winning *Brick City*, which takes a look at inner-city life in Newark, New Jersey.

In 2007, Whitaker received the Cinema for Peace Award for his selfless and ongoing advocacy for child soldiers, as well as his work with inner-city youth. He was also awarded the Humanitas Prize in 2001. In 2008, he served as a member of the Urban Policy Committee and currently sits on the board of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH). Whitaker serves as a Senior Research Scholar at Rutgers University, and a Visiting Professor at Ringling College of Art and Design. In 2011, Whitaker was designated as a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and Reconciliation. In this role, he works towards global peace building through anti-violent education, research, training and community building. In recognition of his commitment as UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador and for his outstanding contribution to the work of the Organization, Whitaker received in December 2012 the United Nations Correspondents Association Advocate of the Year Award. In 2013, Boston University's Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center appointed Whitaker as a Martin Luther King Jr. Fellow.

### **OPRAH WINFREY (GLORIA GAINES)**

Through the power of media, Oprah Winfrey has created an unparalleled connection with people around the world. As host and supervising producer of the top-rated, award-winning "The Oprah Winfrey Show," she entertained, enlightened and uplifted millions of viewers for 25 years. Her accomplishments as a global media leader and philanthropist have established her as one of the most respected and admired public figures today.

In 1984, Oprah moved to Chicago to host WLS-TV's morning talk show, "AM Chicago." In less than a year, the show expanded to one hour and was renamed "The Oprah Winfrey Show." It entered national syndication in 1986, becoming the highest-rated talk show in television history. In 1988, she established Harpo Studios, making her the third woman in the American entertainment industry to own her own studio.

In 2008, Oprah and Discovery Communications announced plans to create OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, the first and only network named for, and inspired by, a single iconic leader. Oprah's heart and creative instincts inform the brand - and the magnetism of the channel.

Oprah provides leadership in programming and attracts superstar talent to join her in primetime, building a global community of like-minded viewers and leading that community to connect on social media and beyond. OWN is a joint venture between Harpo, Inc. and Discovery

Communications. The network debuted on January 1, 2011 and is available in 85 million homes. The venture also includes the award-winning digital platform Oprah.com. Effective July 2011, Oprah assumed the positions of Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Creative Officer for the network.

In April 2000, Oprah and Hearst Magazines introduced "O, The Oprah Magazine," a monthly magazine that has become one of today's leading women's lifestyle publications.

Through her company's film division, Harpo Films, she has produced projects based on classic and contemporary literature that have garnered the highest industry honors for quality acting and production. Telefilms under the "Oprah Winfrey Presents" banner have included the award-winning "Tuesdays With Morrie," "Their Eyes Were Watching God," and "Mitch Albom's For One More Day". In 1998, Harpo Films produced the critically acclaimed "Beloved," a Touchstone Pictures feature film based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Toni Morrison, which co-starred Oprah Winfrey and Danny Glover and was directed by Jonathan Demme. In 2007, co-producers Harpo Films and The Weinstein Company released "The Great Debaters," which was directed by Academy Award®-winner Denzel Washington who also stars in the film with Academy Award®-winner Forest Whitaker. "The Great Debaters" received a Golden Globe® nomination for Best Motion Picture. In fall 2009, Oprah Winfrey and Tyler Perry supported Lionsgate's distribution of "Precious," based on the novel by Sapphire.

Oprah made her acting debut in 1985 in Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple," for which she received both Academy Award® and Golden Globe® nominations. Other acting credits include made-for-television movies "Before Women Had Wings" (1997), "There Are No Children Here" (1993), and "The Women of Brewster Place" (1989). She also has lent her voice to animated feature films, including "Charlotte's Web" (2006), "Bee Movie" (2007) and "The Princess and the Frog" (2009). Oprah made her Broadway debut as a producer for the Tony Award®-winning hit musical "The Color Purple," which opened on December 1, 2005 at the Broadway Theatre in New York City.

Oprah.com is a premier women's lifestyle website, offering advice on everything from the mind, body and spirit to food, home and relationships. It provides comprehensive resources related to OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network, "The Oprah Winfrey Show", "O, The Oprah Magazine", and "Oprah Radio."

With a winning track record of syndicated television programs including "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "Dr. Phil," "Rachael Ray," and "The Dr. Oz Show," Oprah owns the most successful production company in daytime talk.

Through a joint venture, Oprah launched "Oprah & Friends" satellite radio channel in September 2006, which was renamed "Oprah Radio" in 2009, and airs on SiriusXM Radio.

### **MARIAH CAREY (HATTIE PEARL)**

Mariah Carey is the best-selling female artist of all time with more than 200 million albums sold to date and a ground-breaking career total of 224 #1 Billboard hits including eighteen Billboard #1 singles (seventeen self-penned), more than any solo artist in history. With her distinct five-octave vocal range, prolific songwriting, and producing talent, Carey has defined the modern pop performance. As a singer/songwriter/producer, she has been recognized with five Grammy Awards, nine American Music Awards, Billboard's "Artist of the Decade" Award, the World Music Award for "World's Best Selling Female Artist of the Millennium," and BMI's "Icon Award" for her outstanding achievements in songwriting, to name a few.

Mariah Carey exploded upon the scene with the debut of her self-titled album in 1990, combining angelic allure and a vocal intensity never heard before. The critically acclaimed album spawned an extraordinary four #1 singles. Carey continued her early success with a series of hit singles from her subsequent albums; Emotions (1991) and MTV Unplugged (1992) that would secure her place at the top of the charts and pop culture.

With the release of Music Box (1993), Carey produced her most commercially successful album selling an astounding 30 million units. In 1994, Carey released the classic holiday album, Merry Christmas which features her original timeless holiday hit "All I want for Christmas is you." In 1995, Mariah became the second artist in history and the first female performer to have a song debut at #1 with the smash single, "Fantasy" off her hit album, Daydream. "Fantasy" helped define a new genre of music with the surprising hit collaboration with rap group Wu-Tang Clan's O.D.B. She produced a second #1 debut single off Daydream with the Boyz II Men collaboration "One sweet day" which subsequently became the 90's song of the decade. She followed with the hip-hop and R&B-infused Butterfly (1997), a natural progression to "Daydream", which introduced a new chapter in her career and life, again working with the hottest names in the music business including Sean Combs and Missy Elliott.

In 1998, eight years after her debut, Carey released #1's, a compilation of her chart-topping hits. The album also included a new song, "When You Believe" (from the Dreamworks film, The Prince of Egypt), a duet with Whitney Houston that paired two of the most successful female recording artists in pop history. The song went on to win the 1999 Academy Award for "best original song."

"Heartbreaker," the first single off of her landmark album, Rainbow (1999) led Carey to become "the first artist to top the charts in each year of the 1990s." Consequently, the record also pushed her ahead of The Beatles as the artist with the most cumulative weeks spent atop the Hot 100 singles chart. Mariah Carey subsequently sparked the interest of Universal Music Group's Island Def Jam Records, which signed her to an exclusive recording contract in May 2002. Later that year, she made her label debut with the release of the multi-platinum Charmbracelet.

Evoking a nickname used by those closest to her, The Emancipation of Mimi marked Mariah Carey's tenth studio album with its release in April of 2005. The album, which features Billboard song of the decade, "We belong together" earned three Grammys following a string of wins at the Vibe Awards, the American Music Awards and Billboard Music Awards. Mimi was the biggest selling album of the year.

In 2008, the first single off E=MC<sup>2</sup>, "Touch my body" became Mariah's 18th Billboard #1 single, surpassing the longstanding record for most #1 singles by a solo artist, held by Elvis Presley with 17. To celebrate this monumental achievement, the world famous Empire State building lit the tower in Mariah's favorite colors, pink yet lavender.

In the thirteen songs on her spellbinding album, Memoirs of an imperfect Angel, released in 2009, Mariah explored the aspects of our shared humanity with a rare depth, honesty and open-heartedness: it's one of the strongest statements in her long, distinguished career. With just one exception, Carey wrote and produced the entire album in collaboration with The-Dream and Tricky Stewart. Mariah scored another #1 club hit with "Obsessed," the lead single from Memoirs. The video, directed by Brett Ratner was a huge success and a comedic triumph.

Merry Christmas II You, Mariah's thirteenth studio album and second holiday album was released in November 2010. In addition to traditional yuletide, Merry Christmas II You also contained original songs composed by Mariah, "Oh Santa!" and "All I Want For Christmas Is You" among them. Merry Christmas II You made chart history when Mariah became the first artist to claim the

top two spots on Billboard's Holiday Digital Songs chart, "Oh Santa!" debuting at #1, in front of the new recording of her all-time standard, "All I Want For Christmas Is You" at #2. Mariah rounded out her chart-topping success with a #1 debut on Billboard's R&B/Hip-Hop albums Chart.

Mariah Carey's ongoing impact transcends the music industry to leave an indelible imprint upon the world at large. Recently, she's made a substantial mark in film with her critically acclaimed role as a social worker in *Precious*, the 2009 film based on the novel *Push* by Sapphire. A Congressional Award recipient, Carey has generously donated her time and energy to a range of philanthropic causes near to her heart including Save the Music, The Make-A-Wish Foundation, World Hunger Relief, and the Elton John Aids Foundation, among many others. A tremendous supporter of children's charities, both domestic and international, Mariah Carey, in partnership with the Fresh Air Fund founded Camp Mariah, a retreat for inner city children to explore career development.

Mariah is currently in the studio, writing, recording and executive-producing her next album for Island Def Jam Music Group, Carey also made worldwide headlines last summer with the exciting news that she joined the judges' panel of season 12 of FOX's *American Idol* in 2013. Her latest single, "#Beautiful" a collaboration with Miguel has won critical raves and is already #1 in over 30 countries and a certified radio smash.

### **JOHN CUSACK (RICHARD NIXON)**

John Cusack first gained the attention of audiences by starring in a number of 1980s film classics such as "The Sure Thing," "Say Anything" and "Sixteen Candles."

Last year, Cusack was seen in Lee Daniels' highly anticipated drama, "The Paperboy." He starred opposite Nicole Kidman, Zac Efron and Matthew McConaughey. Most recently, Cusack reunited with Nicolas Cage to film the psychological thriller, "The Frozen Ground," which is scheduled to release in Fall 2013. Cusack will also appear in the upcoming films "Adult World," "The Numbers Station," and "No Somos Animales."

In 2012, Cusack was seen in the independent thriller "The Raven." He starred in the 2010 comedy "Hot Tub Time Machine," along with Rob Corddry, Craig Robinson and Clark Duke. Cusack produced the film through his New Crime Productions banner. He also starred in Roland Emmerich's apocalyptic thriller, "2012." Released in November 2009, the international blockbuster went on to gross more than \$766 million worldwide.

In 2008, Cusack starred, wrote and produced the political satire, "War Inc." The film also starred Joan Cusack, Marissa Tomei, Hilary Duff and Sir Ben Kingsley. His voice was also featured in MGM's animated feature, "Igor" in 2008. In 2007, Cusack starred in "Grace Is Gone," which premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival and was recognized with the "Audience Award." That same year, Cusack starred in the romantic comedy "Martian Child." He also starred in the box office hit thriller "1408."

In 2005, Cusack starred opposite Billy Bob Thornton in the dark comedy, "The Ice Harvest." The previous year in "Runaway Jury," he starred opposite Hollywood legends Gene Hackman and Dustin Hoffman. In 2003, Cusack joined Amanda Peet, Alfred Molina and Ray Liotta in the thriller "Identity."

Cusack starred in the controversial film, "Max," directed by Menno Meyjes in 2002. The film, which Cusack also produced, garnered strong reactions at the 2002 Toronto Film Festival. In 2001, Cusack was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for *Best Performance by an Actor in a*

*Motion Picture – Comedy or Musical* for his role in the feature version of Nick Hornby's English novel, "High Fidelity". In addition to starring in the film, Cusack also co-produced and co-wrote the script.

In 1999, Cusack starred in the dark comedy "Being John Malkovich". Cusack's performance earned him an Independent Spirit Award nomination in the category of *Best Actor*. That year, Cusack also co-starred in "Cradle Will Rock," an ensemble drama written and directed by Tim Robbins. He also starred with Billy Bob Thornton, Angelina Jolie and Cate Blanchett in Mike Newell's comedy "Pushing Tin." In the same year, he starred in HBO's "The Jack Bull." He served as executive producer on this film.

In 1998, Cusack appeared in the World War II combat epic, "The Thin Red Line," with ensemble cast included George Clooney, Woody Harrelson, Nick Nolte, Gary Oldman, Sean Penn, Bill Pullman and John Travolta. In 1997, he produced, co-wrote and starred in "Grosse Pointe Blank" which he received rave reviews for. That year he also starred with Nicolas Cage, John Malkovich and Steve Buscemi in blockbuster "Con Air". Later that year he starred with Kevin Spacey in the "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" directed by Clint Eastwood. Additionally, Cusack lent his voice to the animated feature, "Anastasia."

In 1995, Cusack starred opposite Al Pacino in the political thriller, "City Hall." In 1994, he re-teamed with Woody Allen, who cast him in the 1991 film "Shadows and Fog," in the acclaimed "Bullets Over Broadway". Some of his other feature film credits include "The Road to Wellville," "True Colors," "Broadcast News," "Stand By Me" and "Better Off Dead." Cusack has also starred in several romantic comedies, including "Serendipity" and "America's Sweethearts."

Currently, Cusack is in production on David Cronenberg's latest film, "Maps to the Stars." He will star opposite Julianne Moore, Robert Pattinson and Mia Wasikowska. Next, he will begin production on "Love and Mercy," in which he will play iconic Beach Boys songwriter and musician Brian Wilson opposite Elizabeth Banks and Paul Giamatti.

Cusack divides his time between Los Angeles and Chicago.

## **JANE FONDA (NANCY REAGAN)**

Jane Fonda was born in New York City in 1937, the daughter of Henry Fonda and Frances Seymour Fonda. She attended the Emma Willard School in Troy, New York, and Vassar College. In her early twenties, Fonda studied with renowned acting coach Lee Strasberg and became a member of the Actors Studio in New York.

Fonda's work on stage and screen has earned numerous nominations and awards, including Oscars (Best Actress in 1971 for *Klute* and in 1978 for *Coming Home*) and an Emmy for her performance in *The Dollmaker*. Along with starring roles in dozens of highly acclaimed productions, Fonda also took on responsibilities as a film and television producer. Her credits include *Coming Home*, *The China Syndrome*, *Nine to Five*, *Rollover*, *On Golden Pond*, *The Morning After* and *The Dollmaker*.

In 2008 Fonda received an Honorary Palme d'Or from the Cannes Film Festival, one of only three people ever to be granted this honor until then.

Fonda returned to Broadway in March, 2009 and received a Tony Award nomination for her role in Moisés Kaufman's *33 Variations*. In February 2011 she reprised her Tony-nominated role in *33 Variations* at The Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles.

Fonda revolutionized the fitness industry with the release of *Jane Fonda's Workout* in 1982. She followed with the production of 23 home exercise videos, 13 audio recordings, and five books – selling 17 million copies all together. The original *Jane Fonda's Workout* video remains the top grossing home video of all time.

In May 2005, Random House published Fonda's memoirs, *My Life So Far*, which immediately went to #1 on The New York Times Best Sellers list. That same spring *Monster-in-Law*, her first film in 15 years, also became the #1 box office hit making Fonda the first person to simultaneously have a #1 book and #1 movie.

Her latest book, *Prime Time*, released in 2011, offers a comprehensive guide to living life to the fullest, particularly beyond middle age.

2009-2010 was an incredible year for Fonda; she released a set of Fitness DVDs under her new label *Prime Time*, aimed at the boomer/senior generation and released by Lionsgate. Additional fitness *Prime Time* DVDs were released in 2011.

In 2011, Fonda appeared in *Et Si On Vivait Tous Ensemble*, a French comedy (in French), followed by *Peace, Love & Misunderstanding*, co-starring Catherine Keener. She will next appear with Olivia Wilde and Sam Rockwell in *Better Living Through Chemistry*.

In addition to her tremendous success as a stage and screen actress, Fonda focuses much of her time on activism and social change – with much of her work devoted to the program she founded in 1995, the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention (G-CAPP). Fonda now serves as Chair Emeritus of this statewide effort to reduce the high rates of adolescent pregnancy in Georgia through community, youth and family development, training of professionals who work with adolescents, and legislative advocacy.

Fonda has long been known for activism and advocacy on environmental issues, peace, and the empowerment of women and girls. She is on the board of the Women's Media Center, which she co-founded in 2004 with Gloria Steinem and Robin Morgan; she sits on

the board of V-Day: Until The Violence Stops, a global effort to stop violence against women and girls begun in 1998 by Eve Ensler, author of "The Vagina Monologues."

At the Emory School of Medicine, Fonda established the Jane Fonda Center for Adolescent Reproductive Health which engages in research, curriculum development and trainings that broaden understanding of adolescent development and reproductive health and enhance service delivery to children, youth and families. In addition, her gift has endowed a faculty chair in the Department of Gynecology and Obstetrics in Emory University School of Medicine named the Marion Howard Chair in Adolescent Reproductive Health.

In 1994, Fonda was named Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Population Fund.

Fonda is an avid reader, writer, hiker, fly fisherwoman and meditator. She currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **CUBA GOODING, JR. (CARTER WILSON)**

Cuba Gooding Jr is best known for his Oscar-winning portrayal of the charmingly arrogant pro football player Rod Tidwell in Cameron Crowe's *Jerry Maguire*. Gooding was born in the Bronx and moved to Los Angeles at the age of 4.

In 1991, he received critical acclaim his portrayal of Tré Styles in John Singleton's coming-of-age classic *Boyz in the Hood*, which earned him ShoWest's Newcomer Award. He followed this success with roles in numerous critically acclaimed major films, such as *As Good as It Gets*, *What Dreams May Come*, and the Oscar-nominated *A Few Good Men*.

In 1997, Gooding was honored with the Academy Award for Best Actor in a Supporting Role for his performance in *Jerry Maguire*. In addition to the Academy Award, Gooding was presented with the Screen Actors Guild Award, the Broadcasters Film Critics Award, the Critics Choice Award and the Chicago Film Critics Award.

Gooding's versatility as an actor is exemplified by the diversity of the roles he has played. His repertoire has grown to include major roles in numerous critically acclaimed films including *Men of Honor*, *Pearl Harbor*, *Radio*, *American Gangster*, *Shadowboxer* and the George Lucas-helmed *Red Tails*.

He has also appeared in award-winning movies for television including *Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* and *Firelight* – the highest-rated Hallmark Hall of Fame movie ever.

Gooding will next be seen on the big screen in Joseph Gordon Levitt's directorial debut, *Don Jon's Addiction* and Robert Rodriguez's sequel to *Machete*, *Machete Kills*.

Gooding has also explored other aspects of filmmaking – in 1993 he co-produced and starred in the well-received thriller *A Murder of Crows*. His film company, Dudley Pictures, is currently involved in several projects in development for film and television.

In 2002, Gooding received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame honoring his extraordinary achievements.

## **TERRENCE HOWARD (HOWARD)**

The multi-talented Terrence Howard is best known for his Golden Globe and Academy Award nominated work in *Hustle & Flow*, as well as for his supporting role in *Crash*, for which he received a National Board of Review Award for Best Breakthrough Performance. Born in Chicago, IL, Howard began his acting career as Jackie Jackson in the ABC miniseries *The Jacksons: An American Dream*, which was quickly followed by several notable TV appearances on shows such as *Living Single* and *NYPD Blue*. He made his film debut in 1993 in *Who's the Man?* which he followed with the role of Cowboy in the period saga *Dead Presidents*. In 1995 Howard was noticed for his role as a star high school athlete in *Mr. Holland's Opus*, and soon after was offered a lead role in the UPN TV series *Sparks*. In 1999, Howard was honored with the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Supporting Actor, an Independent Spirits Award nomination and a Chicago Film Critics Association Award nomination for his role as Quentin in *The Best Man*.

Howard is known as one of the most prolific actors of his generation; his feature film credits include diverse roles in the Academy Award nominated *Ray*, *Pride*, *The Brave One*, *August Rush*, and *Iron Man*. Not only is Terrence a star on the "Big Screen," he is also a highly regarded talent on the *Great White Way – Broadway*. In 2008, Terrence realized his childhood dream of seeing his name "up in lights" when he combined his talents with the legendary James Earl Jones, in Debbie Allen's Broadway revival production of Tennessee Williams' "*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof!*"

A self taught musician, Howard plays both the piano and the guitar. He displays his musical talents in *Ray* as Ray Charles' one-time guitarist Gossie McKee, and in *Hustle & Flow* as the rapper Djay. For the movie, Howard performed all the tracks for his character, including "It's Hard Out Here For A Pimp," which won the Academy Award for Best Original Song.

Howard was recently seen in *Law and Order: Los Angeles*, where he won an NAACP award for best supporting actor in a drama series. The show had a limited run, but Terrence's character garnered a great deal of praise from critics and fans of the show.

Howard recently starred alongside Cuba Gooding Jr. and Bryan Cranston in George Lucas' *Red Tails*. He also was seen playing Nelson Mandela alongside Jennifer Hudson in the film, *Winnie*. Last year Howard appeared in *On the Road* alongside Garrett Hedlund and Vigo Mortensen and in Robert Redford's, *The Company You Keep*, alongside Shia LaBeouf and Susan Sarandon. Earlier this year Terrence starred alongside Colin Farrell and Noomi Rapace in the crime thriller *Dead Man Down*, as well as in *House Of Bodies* along with Queen Latifah and Peter Fonda, *Lullaby* along with Garrett Hedlund and Jennifer Hudson, the Farelly Brothers comedy *Movie 43* with Gerard Butler, and Hugh Jackman and *Breachers* alongside Arnold Schwarzenegger and Sam Worthington. It was recently announced that Terrence Howard will star in the upcoming thriller *A Girl And A Gun*.

When not acting, Howard has involved himself in a great deal of other projects. He is a self-taught musician, philanthropist, and father of three. Terrence has become an Ambassador for Stand Up To Cancer and the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF). Howard has been very involved in cancer research, and done many public service announcements for the cause. Earlier this year South Carolina State University conferred an honorary doctorate upon Dr. Terrence Dashon Howard.

### **LENNY KRAVITZ (JAMES HOLLOWAY)**

Regarded as one of the preeminent rock musicians of our time, Lenny Kravitz has transcended genre, style, race and class into a 20-year musical career, one which revels in the rich influences of '60s and '70s soul, rock and funk.

Kravitz's talents as a writer, producer and multi-instrumentalist have resonated through nine studio albums into a timeless catalog. He has won four consecutive GRAMMY Awards, setting a record for the most wins in the "Best Male Rock Vocal Performance" category. Additionally, Kravitz has also been nominated for six other GRAMMY awards. Kravitz's appeal has also been recognized by his peers; his collaborative efforts are as varied as his own influences, having worked with Madonna, Slash, Aerosmith, Jay-Z, N.E.R.D., Mick Jagger, P. Diddy and Alicia Keys.

Having sold over 38 million albums worldwide, Kravitz's musical success has afforded him many opportunities to fulfill his creative vision beyond the recording industry. The artist appeared in a supporting role in the critically-acclaimed film *Precious*, and the box office smash film *The Hunger Games*, as Cinna. He will reprise this role in the second film.

In 2003 he launched a creative firm, *Kravitz Design Inc.*, which undertakes various high-concept projects with commercial, residential and product design. The firm partnered with *Swarovski*, to contribute two chandeliers to its 'Crystal Palace Collection.' Kravitz Design also conceived the environment and identity for the Florida Room lounge at the *Delano for Morgans Hotel Group* and is responsible for the luxury recording studio located in *The Setai Resort & Residences* in Miami Beach. The firm headed up the creative for the 47-story condominium project, *Paramount Bay* in Miami and partnered with the *SLS Hotel in South Beach* to create an exclusive bungalow and penthouse suite for the luxury hotel.

In 2009, the 20th anniversary deluxe edition of Kravitz's debut, *Let Love Rule*, was issued. The project was followed by the release of his most recent studio album *Black and White America*.

### **JAMES MARSDEN (JOHN F. KENNEDY)**

Having appeared in a wide range of films over the course of his still young career, James Marsden continues to carve out a distinctive place in Hollywood.

Marsden just wrapped production on Universal's film "Two Guns" for director Baltasar Kormakur opposite Mark Wahlberg and Denzel Washington. The film focuses on a Navy SEAL and DEA Agent played by Wahlberg and Washington who both work together undercover, not knowing about the other's government affiliation. The two are tasked with stealing millions from the CIA, and discover that they've both been double-crossed. Marsden will play a naval commander who orders undercover Navy SEAL Wahlberg around. The film is slated for Summer 2013.

Marsden can currently be seen in Jack Schreier's critically acclaimed "Robot & Frank" opposite Frank Langella, Liv Tyler and Susan Sarandon. He also stars in the hit comedy "Bachelorette" opposite Kirsten Dunst, Isla Fisher and Adam Scott for director Leslye Headland which will be released in theaters September 7. The film was released on iTunes and VOD on August 10 quickly went to #1 on iTunes. Both "Robot & Frank" and "Bachelorette" were well received at this year's Sundance Film Festival. Marsden recently completed production on the thriller, "Loft," with Wentworth Miller, Eric Stonestreet and Karl Urban. An adaptation of the 2008 Belgian thriller, "Loft" follows five friends who share

a loft for their extramarital affairs begin to question one another after the body of an unknown woman is found in the property. He completed production on "As Cool As I Am," written and directed by Max Mayer, co-starring Claire Danes.

Marsden appeared in Sony Screen Gems' remake "Straw Dogs" for director Rod Lurie opposite Kate Bosworth. He also starred in Universal/Illumination's box office hit "Hop" with Russell Brand. The film has grossed over \$180 million worldwide. In 2011, Marsden was honored with the "Spotlight Award" at the Savannah Film Festival alongside fellow honorees, Oliver Stone, Lily Tomlin and Ellen Barkin.

On the small screen, Marsden appeared in NBC Universal's hit comedy, "30 Rock," for a multi-episode arc, as Tina Fey's love interest.

In 2010, Marsden appeared in Neil LaBute's "Death at a Funeral." Previously, Marsden starred opposite Cameron Diaz in Richard Kelley's psychological thriller, "The Box." And in 2008, he appeared alongside Katherine Heigl in the box office hit "27 Dresses."

In 2007, Marsden received rave reviews for his singing and dancing range in both the box-office smash "Enchanted" opposite Susan Sarandon, Amy Adams and Patrick Dempsey for Disney and in Adam Shankman's box-office hit musical "Hairspray" opposite John Travolta, Queen Latifah, Michelle Pfeiffer and Christopher Walken. Marsden played Corny Collins, the host of the TV dance show. Marsden was also seen in "Superman Returns" for director Bryan Singer. Marsden's additional, diverse film credits include Cyclops in the X-men trilogy, the Nick Cassavetes romantic drama "The Notebook," "Sex Drive," "Disturbing Behavior," "10th and Wolf," and "Sugar and Spice."

Marsden currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **DAVID OYELOWO (LOUIS GAINES)**

David Oyelowo (pronounced – "oh-yellow-oh"), a classically trained stage actor who is working successfully and simultaneously in film, television and theater, has quickly become one of Hollywood's most sought-after talents. He graduated from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), and received the "Scholarship for Excellence" from Nicholas Hytner in 1998.

Oyelowo wrapped production on *NINA*, a biographical drama focused on late musician, Nina Simone (played by Zoe Saldana) and her relationship with her manager, Clifton Henderson (Oyelowo). He also stars in the upcoming thriller, *DEFAULT*. Directed by Simon Brand, the film follows an American news crew whose plane is hijacked by Somali pirates.

Most recently, Oyelowo was seen in Steven Spielberg's Oscar nominated drama *LINCOLN*, with Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field and Tommy Lee Jones. The film received countless accolades including nominations for "Best Picture" at the most recent Oscars, Golden Globes and SAG Awards, in addition to many others. He also starred in the critically acclaimed independent drama, *THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE*, which earned rave reviews at the 2012 Sundance and Toronto Film Festivals. Oyelowo received nominations for "Best Supporting Actor" at the 2013 NAACP Image Awards and Independent Spirit Awards for his work in the film. Last winter, he was also seen opposite Tom Cruise in *JACK REACHER*, a drama based on a book in Lee Child's popular crime series. The film tells the story of a homicide investigator who digs deeper into a case involving a trained military sniper who has shot five random victims. Last fall he co-starred in Lee Daniels' *THE PAPERBOY*, opposite Nicole Kidman, Matthew McConaughey and Zac Efron. The film

received a standing ovation following its premiere at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival. On television, he starred in the British made for television movie, *COMPLICIT*, which aired in the UK last winter.

Additional film credits include George Lucas' produced bio-pic, *RED TAILS*, which won "Best Motion Picture" at the 2013 NAACP Image Awards, *RISE OF THE PLANET OF THE APES*, alongside James Franco and Frieda Pinto, the Academy Award nominated drama *THE HELP*, *96 MINUTES*, which premiered at the 2011 SXSW Film Festival, Kevin MacDonald's *THE LAST KING OF SCOTLAND* opposite Forest Whitaker and James MacAvoy, *WHO DO YOU LOVE*, in which he played the iconic Muddy Waters, *A SOUND OF THUNDER* for Warner Bros, *DERAILED* for Miramax, *THE BEST MAN* for Redbus, and his most challenging screen role to date, the acclaimed BBC2 film *SHOOT THE MESSENGER*.

Oyelowo first impressed audiences on the stage when he starred in *THE SUPPLIANTS* at the Gate Theatre playing King Palasgus, for which he received the Ian Charleson award commendation. Following this he played the title role of *HENRY VI<sub>2</sub>*, becoming the first black actor to play an English king for the RSC (Royal Shakespeare Company). The role won him The Ian Charleson Award and an Evening Standard award nomination. Other theatre credits include an acclaimed performance in Richard Bean's *THE GOD BOTHERERS* at the Bush Theatre and the title role in Aeschylus' *PROMETHEUS BOUND*, which was off-Broadway for which Oyelowo received rave reviews.

Beyond theatre, Oyelowo starred in the BAFTA award winning series *SPOOKS/MI:5* playing Danny Hunter. *MI:5* also aired in the US on BBC America. Additionally, he won the Royal Television Society Award for Best Actor and was also nominated for a BAFTA for the same role for his work on *SMALL ISLAND*. Oyelowo also starred in the BBC1 original television movie *BORN EQUAL* opposite Colin Firth. As well as ABC's 2008 production of *A RAISIN IN THE SUN* alongside Sanaa Lathan and Sean Combs.

Oyelowo made his US debut in two HBO productions. First starring in the Kenneth Branagh directed *AS YOU LIKE IT* in which he played Orlando opposite Bryce Dallas Howard, which aired in August 2006. In October of the same year he was again seen on HBO as the lead in the mini-series *FIVE DAYS*, for which he won the Satellite Award for Best Actor in a Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television for his performance. In 2008, Oyelowo starred in the acclaimed adaptation of the Alexander McCall Smith novel *THE NO.1 LADIES DETECTIVE AGENCY* directed by the late Anthony Minghella.

Oyelowo currently resides in Los Angeles, CA.

#### **VANESSA REDGRAVE (ANNABETH WESTFALL)**

Vanessa Redgrave was Guest Director of the Brighton Festival 2012. During the Festival she directed and narrated a play with Nadim Sawalha and Najla Said, based on the memoir *Wadad Makdisi Cortas*. This was presented at the Theatre Royal, Brighton in May 2012.

In June 2012 in Dublin, Vanessa recited the Seamus Heaney poem *The Republic of Conscience* for the Amnesty International Concert for Aung San Suu Kyi, who received the Ambassador of Conscience Award from Bono.

Vanessa was last on Broadway in the 2010/2011 season with James Earl Jones & Boyd Gaines in the play *DRIVING MISS DAISY*, written by Alfred Uhry and directed by David Esbjornson.

In the 2007 season she was seen in Joan Didion's play THE YEAR OF MAGICAL THINKING directed by Sir David Hare.

Vanessa recently appeared in UNFINISHED SONG, which co-starred Terence Stamp and Gemma Arterton, as well as CORIOLANUS , the film starring and directed by Ralph Fiennes. Some of her favorite roles are in LETTERS TO JULIET, directed by Gary Winnick, and in THE WHISTLEBLOWER with Rachel Weisz.

In September 2012, Vanessa received UNICEF Germany's Award for Children's Rights in Frankfurt. She has been a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador since 1995 and a UNICEF-UK Special Representative from 1993-1995.

### **ALAN RICKMAN (RONALD REAGAN)**

Alan Rickman recently wrapped filming CBGB, in which he stars as Hilly Kristal, founder of the legendary New York punk-rock club.

He made his feature film debut in DIE HARD. Last year he starred in DEATHLY HALLOWS, PART TWO, the culmination of the HARRY POTTER series, in all of which he appeared. His other film credits include the upcoming GAMBIT, with Colin Firth and Cameron Diaz for director Michael Hoffman from a script by Joel and Ethan Cohen, Tim Burton's ALICE IN WONDERLAND and SWEENEY TODD, SNOWCAKE, BOTTLE SHOCK (Seattle Film Festival Award), NOBEL SON, THE HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY as the voice of Marvin, PERFUME, LOVE ACTUALLY, PLAY, BLOW DRY, GALAXY QUEST, DOGMA, DARK HARBOR, JUDAS KISS, ROBIN HOOD: PRINCE OF THIEVES, for which he won a BAFTA Award, SENSE AND SENSIBILITY, MICHAEL COLLINS and TRULY, MADLY DEEPLY, for all three of which he received BAFTA nominations, AN AWFULLY BIG ADVENTURE, BOB ROBERTS, MESMER(Montreal Film Festival Award), CLOSE MY EYES, for which he received the Evening Standard Award, QUIGLEY DOWN UNDER, CLOSETLAND and THE JANUARY MAN. Rickman directed the feature film adaptation of THE WINTER GUEST, starring Emma Thompson and Phyllida Law. The film was honored with the CinemaAvvenire Award and the OCIC Award at the Venice Film Festival and it won Best Film at the Chicago Film Festival.

Rickman most recently starred on Broadway in Theresa Rebeck's SEMINAR. For his performance he won the Best Actor Award from both Broadway World and Broadway.com and was nominated for a Drama League Award.

Rickman's theater credits include Tony nominated performances in the Royal Shakespeare Company production of LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES, which he performed in London's West End and on Broadway; and PRIVATE LIVES, which he also performed both in London's West End (Variety Club Award and Olivier Nomination) and on Broadway. Additional theater credits include JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN at The Brooklyn Academy of Music and Dublin's Abbey Theatre, ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA at the National Theatre, HAMLET at the Riverside Studios, TANGO AT THE END OF WINTER at the Edinburgh Festival and in London's West End (Time Out Award), MEPHISTO, AS YOU LIKE IT, TROILUS AND CRESSIDA, LOVE'S LABOURS LOST, THE TEMPEST, CAPTAIN SWING for the Royal Shakespeare Company, THE LUCKY CHANCE, THE GRASS WIDOW, THE SEAGULL at the Royal Court, THE LAST ELEPHANT, COMMITMENTS at the Bush Theatre, THE DEVIL HIMSELF at the Lyric Studio, BAD LANGUAGE at the Hampstead Theatre and THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV at the Edinburgh Festival.

For the theater, he directed CREDITORS at the Donmar Warehouse and the Brooklyn Academy of Music, MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE at the Royal Court, in the West End and in New York (Theatregoers' Award), WAX ACTS in the West End and THE WINTER GUEST at the West Yorkshire Playhouse and Almeida Theatre.

Most recently for television, Rickman starred with Emma Thompson in the BBC Two screen adaptation of THE SONG OF LUNCH. For HBO, Rickman starred in the title role in RASPUTIN, winning Emmy, Golden Globe and SAG awards for his performance, as well as SOMETHING THE LORD MADE, for which he received an Emmy nomination. His additional television credits include FALLEN ANGELS, REVOLUTIONARY WITNESS, SPIRIT OF MAN, BENEFACTORS, BUSTED, THE BARCHESTER CHRONICLES, THÉRÈSE RAQUIN and ROMEO AND JULIET.

### **LIEV SCHREIBER (LYNDON B. JOHNSON)**

Heralded as "the finest American theater actor of his generation" by the New York Times, Liev Schreiber's repertoire of resonant, humanistic and oftentimes gritty portrayals have garnered him praise in film, theatre and television.

Schreiber is currently starring opposite Woody Allen and Sofia Vergara in a comedy written and to be directed by John Turturro. Schreiber most recently wrapped HBO's *Clear History* directed by Larry David and stars opposite Kate Hudson and Jon Hamm. Schreiber also stars in Mira Nair's *The Reluctant Fundamentalist* opposite Kate Hudson and Kiefer Sutherland, which premiered at the 69th Venice International Film Festival and screened at the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival.

On the small screen, Schreiber stars in the title role in Showtime Network's *Ray Donovan* alongside Jon Voight and Elliott Gould, which will debut in 2013. The family drama centers on Ray (Schreiber) as L.A.'s best professional fixer -- the go-to guy in Hollywood who deftly solves the complicated, controversial and confidential problems of the city's elite.

Schreiber's many feature credits include *Goon* with Jay Baruchel and Seann William Scott, *Salt* with Angelina Jolie; *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*; *Defiance* with Daniel Craig; *Repo Men*; *The Painted Veil*; *The Manchurian Candidate* opposite Meryl Streep and Denzel Washington; *The Sum of All Fears*; *Ang Lee's Taking Woodstock*; *Kate & Leopold*; *Every Day*; Michael Almereyda's *Hamlet*; *Spring Forward*; *The Hurricane*; *A Walk on the Moon* with Diane Lane; *The Daytrippers*; *Nora Ephron's Mixed Nuts*; and Wes Craven's *Scream* trilogy.

His portrayal of Orson Welles in Benjamin Ross' *RKO 281* brought Schreiber Emmy and Golden Globe Award nominations. His other telefilm credits include George C. Wolfe's *Lackawanna Blues* and John Erman's *The Sunshine Boys*, opposite Woody Allen and Peter Falk. As one of the documentary medium's foremost narrators, he has lent his voice to such works as *Mantle*, *:03 from Gold*, *A City on Fire: The Story of the '68 Detroit Tigers*, *Nova*, and *Nature*.

In 2010, Schreiber received his third Tony nomination for his role in Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge* alongside Scarlett Johansson. His performance as Ricky Roma in the 2005 Broadway revival of David Mamet's *Glengarry Glen Ross*, directed by Joe Mantello, earned him his first Tony Award. He was again a Tony nominee for his portrayal of Barry Champlain in the 2007 Broadway revival of Eric Bogosian's *Talk Radio*, directed by Robert Falls. Other stage work includes the Public Theater's Shakespeare in the Park production

of *Macbeth*, in the lead role opposite Jennifer Ehle, directed by Moisés Kaufman; *Iago*; *Hamlet*; *Henry the V*; and *Cymbeline*.

In 2005, Schreiber made his feature directorial debut with *Everything is Illuminated*, which he also adapted from Jonathan Safran Foer's best-selling novel of the same name. The film, starring Elijah Wood and Eugene Hutz, was named one of the year's 10 Best by the National Board of Review.

### **ROBIN WILLIAMS (DWIGHT EISENHOWER)**

Academy Award® winning actor and multiple GRAMMY® winning performer Williams recently completed production on Dito Montiel's *Boulevard*, as well as *A Friggin' Christmas Miracle*, opposite Joel McHale and Lauren Graham, and *The Angriest Man in Brooklyn*, opposite Mila Kunis, Peter Dinklage, James Earl Jones and Melissa Leo. This September he returns to television starring opposite Sarah Michelle Gellar and James Wolk in David E. Kelley's *The Crazy Ones* on CBS.

Williams began his career in stand-up comedy and, in April 2012, he was honored with the Stand-Up Icon Award at the 2012 Comedy Awards. In late 2008, Williams returned to his roots as a stand-up comedian with his critically acclaimed, sold-out, *Weapons of Self Destruction* comedy tour. Previously, Williams' 2002 comedy special entitled *Robin Williams: Live On Broadway* became the highest-grossing comedy tour ever and was nominated for five Emmy® Awards.

Williams first captured the attention of the world as 'Mork from Ork' on the hit series *Mork & Mindy*. Born in Chicago and raised in both Michigan and California, he trained at New York's Julliard School under John Houseman. Williams made his cinematic debut as the title character in Robert Altman's *Popeye*. Additional early motion picture credits include Paul Mazursky's *Moscow on the Hudson* and *The World According to Garp*.

Williams is perhaps most widely revered for his performance in Gus Van Sant's *Good Will Hunting*. His performance earned Williams an Oscar® and Screen Actors Guild award. The Academy previously nominated Williams for Best Actor in *The Fisher King*, *Dead Poets Society*, and *Good Morning Vietnam*. Williams also garnered a special honor from the National Board of Review for his performance opposite Robert De Niro in *Awakenings*. In 2004, Williams received the prestigious Career Achievement Award from the Chicago International Film festival and, in 2005, the HFPA honored him with the Cecil B. DeMille Award for outstanding contributions to the world of entertainment.

Williams' filmography includes a number of blockbusters, including *Mrs. Doubtfire*, *The Birdcage*, *Jumanji*, and *Hook*. He later starred in *Patch Adams*, and in the family film, *Flubber*. In 2006, Williams appeared opposite Ben Stiller in the hit comedy, *Night at the Museum*, reprising the role in 2009's *Night at the Museum 2: Battle of the Smithsonian*.

In addition, Williams' lent his award-winning vocal talents to the animated film, *Happy Feet*, which won the Academy Award® for Best Animated Feature Film. He reprised that role in 2011 for *Happy Feet Two*.

In a departure from the usual comedic and family fare he is best known for, Williams collaborated with two accomplished young directors on dramatic thrillers. For Christopher Nolan, he starred opposite Al Pacino in *Insomnia*. He also starred in Mark Romanek's *One Hour Photo*. In 2009, Williams starred in Bobcat Goldthwait's *World's Greatest Dad*. The film premiered to raves at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival and

Williams' performance was touted as one of the best of his career.

Using only his voice, Williams created one of the most vivid characters in recent memory - the 'Blue Genie of the Lamp' in Disney's Aladdin. Audio versions of his one-man shows and the children's record "Pecos Bill," have won him five GRAMMY® Awards. Williams also lent his vocal talents to the blockbuster hit animated feature Robots.

Williams has also appeared in several stage productions, most recently making his Broadway debut in 2009 in Rajiv Joseph's Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo. His performance earned him critical praise and a nomination for the Drama League's Distinguished Performance Award. Williams' additional stage credits include a landmark production of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, directed by Mike Nichols and co-starring Steve Martin, and a short run in San Francisco of *The Exonerated*.

### **YAYA ALAFIA (CAROL HAMMIE)**

New York born-and-bred Yaya Alafia began her professional acting career starring in Liz Friedlander's *Take the Lead*, opposite Antonio Banderas. This was followed by a lead role in John Sayles' *Honeydripper*, in which she played opposite Danny Glover and Charles S. Dutton. Alafia then reunited with Mr. Dutton in the telefilm *Racing for Time*, which Mr. Dutton also directed. In 2009, she appeared in Oren Moverman's acclaimed *The Messenger* with Ben Foster and Academy Award® nominee Woody Harrelson, followed by appearances in Lisa Cholodenko's Oscar-nominated *The Kids Are All Right*, opposite Mark Ruffalo; Joseph Kosinski's *Tron Legacy*, Andrew Niccol's sci-fi thriller *In Time*, opposite Amanda Seyfried and Justin Timberlake, and Terry George's Irish comedy *Stand Off*, as Brandon Frasier's Ethiopian immigrant love interest. In 2013, Alafia appears in Neil Drumming's *Big Words* and Andrew Dosunmu's *Mother of George*.

Alafia's television work includes a notable story arc in the final season of *Ugly Betty*, portraying the duplicitous daughter of Whilemina (Vanessa Williams), a recurring role on the daytime drama *All My Children*, as well as appearances on *House*, *Body of Proof*, *Army Wives*, *Mercy*, *Law and Order SVU*, and *Eve*.

Alafia's theater work includes a passionate portrayal of Olivia in the Sonnet Repertory Theater's production of *Twelfth Night*, and a co-starring role with Leslie Uggams in The Signature Theater Company's revival production of Leslie Lee's *The First Breeze of Summer*, directed by Ruben Santiago-Hudson. For her performance, Alafia was honored with a Vivian Robinson/AUDELCO Recognition Award for Excellence in Black Theatre.

In addition to acting, Alafia does speaking engagements at colleges on subjects ranging from environmentalism to women's issues. She holds a BA in International Relations and Africana Studies from Brown University.

### **COLMAN DOMINGO (FREDDIE FALLOWS)**

Tony, Drama Desk and DramaLeague Award nominee, Colman Domingo is recently remembered for opening the Academy Award winning Steven Spielberg film *Lincoln* opposite Daniel Day Lewis as Private Harold Green. Domingo has been honored with some of the highest honors of the American stage as the winner of OBIE, Lucille Lortel, GLAAD, Connecticut Critics Circle, and Bay Area Theater Critics Circle Awards. Colman has starred on Broadway in the Tony Award winning musicals *Passing Strange* and *Chicago*. Mr. Domingo has a steady roster of films that will open this fall, including *Almost Christmas* directed by Phil Morrison, *Hairbrained* directed by Billy Kent and *Newlyweeds*

directed by Shaka King. Domingo garnered critical acclaim for his work in Spike Lee's films *Red Hook Summer* and *Passing Strange*. Domingo's other notable film credits include *True Crime* directed by Clint Eastwood, *Miracle at St. Ana* directed by Spike Lee and *Freedomland* directed by Joe Roth among others.

**NELSAN ELLIS (MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.)**

Nelsan Ellis can currently be seen on the hit HBO vampire series "True Blood," directed by Alan Ball. He was most recently seen on film in "The Help" for DreamWorks, based on the best-selling novel. Other recent credits include Disney's "Secretariat" opposite Diane Lane and John Malkovich, "The Soloist," opposite Robert Downey Jr., Jamie Foxx and Catherine Keener, and "The Express" for Universal Pictures. He recently wrapped production on "Gods Behaving Badly" opposite Edie Falco, Christopher Walken, and Sharon Stone, as well as "The Reluctant Fundamentalist" opposite Kate Hudson, Kiefer Sutherland, and Liev Schreiber.

Ellis' television credits include the Fox television series "The Inside" produced by Brian Grazer and the HBO film "Warm Springs," opposite Kenneth Branagh, Cynthia Nixon and Kathy Bates.

While studying at Julliard, Ellis wrote a semi-autobiographical play called "Ugly," which was not only performed at the school, but he received the Martin Segal Award by Lincoln Center. Further productions of "Ugly" were performed at the Fringe Festival, Storm Theatre and the Santa Monica Playhouse. He also wrote and directed the short film "Page 36," which aired on HBO.

Ellis was born in Chicago and raised in Alabama. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

**MINKA KELLY (JACKIE KENNEDY)**

A stunning and talented young actress, Minka Kelly distinguishes herself with powerful performances and a natural ease on both the small and big screens.

Kelly is most-known for her portrayal as the spirited and conflicted cheerleader 'Lyla Garrity' on NBC's critically acclaimed series *Friday Night Lights*. She was also seen starring on NBC's *Parenthood* opposite Peter Krause and Lauren Graham.

Kelly recently starred in the highly anticipated reboot of the iconic series, *Charlie's Angels* on ABC as 'Eve French' opposite Annie Ilonze and Rachael Taylor.

On the big screen, Kelly was recently seen starring opposite Leighton Meester in the Screen Gems film, *The Roommate*. The film revolves around college student Sara (Kelly) who finds her safety jeopardized after she's assigned to a dorm room with a new roommate, Rebecca (Meester.)

Kelly will also be seen in the independent film, *Searching for Sonny*. The film tells the story of several friends who come together for their high school reunion, but quickly become part of the wackiest murder case on record when Eden's (Kelly) husband is found dead.

Her other film credits include Mark Webb's *500 Days of Summer* opposite Zooey Deschanel and Joseph Gordon Levitt and Peter Berg's drama *The Kingdom* opposite Jamie Foxx and Jennifer Garner.

Kelly also starred as herself on the season 7 finale of *Entourage*.

### **ELIJAH KELLEY (CHARLIE GAINES)**

Elijah Kelley exploded on the big screen in the highly anticipated New Line musical *Hairspray!* in 2007. Kelley played the lead role of 'Seaweed J. Stubbs' opposite Queen Latifah, John Travolta, Amanda Bynes and Michelle Pfeiffer. With the success of *Hairspray!*, Kelley earned a Critics Choice Award for Best Ensemble in a Motion Picture, as well as a SAG Award Nomination for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture. He was last seen in the George Lucas produced film, *Red Tails* about the famed Tuskegee airmen opposite and all-star cast that includes Terrence Howard, Cuba Gooding Jr, Method Man and Ne-Yo. He has also recently finished filming *The Boys of Abu Ghraib*, an independent film starring Sean Astin about an American soldier deployed at Abu Ghraib who finds himself behind the walls of the infamous Hard Site.

Kelley is no stranger to the silver screen, he can be seen in Newline's *Take the Lead*, and as well as *28 Days*, *Heaven's Fall*, *Rome And Jewel* and *Fled*.

Kelley's television credits include CBS' "Numb3rs" directed by Jerry Bruckheimer, UPN's "Everybody Hates Chris," FX's "The Shield," HBO's "A Lesson Before Dying" and CBS' "Mama Flora's Family."

The truest example of a triple-threat, Elijah Kelley is also a professional dancer and singer. He is currently writing and recording his own album.

From LaGrange, Georgia, Kelley currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **AML AMEEN (YOUNG CECIL GAINES)**

Aml Ameen is an up and coming British talent, perhaps best known in the UK for playing the role of "Trife" in the cult classic British indie film *Kidulthood*, as well as the audience favorite role of "Lewis Hardy" in the hit series *The Bill*. The role garnered him the 2007 Screen Nation Award for Best Actor. On a visit to LA, Ameen auditioned and was offered the series regular role of "Malcolm" on the David E. Kelley series, *Harry's Law*. He then starred opposite Rahda Mitchell and Stephen Moyer in the indie film *Evidence* which was recently picked up for distribution at the SXSW Independent Film Festival. Ameen recently scored the role of "Alby" in the upcoming Fox film *Maze Runner* from director Wes Ball. He launched a film production company, Ameen Dream, and lives between Los Angeles and London.

### **ALEX PETTYFER (THOMAS WESTFALL)**

Alex is currently shooting *ENDLESS LOVE* with Shauna Feste for Universal. He starred alongside Channing Tatum in Steven Soderbergh's *MAGIC MIKE*, which has grossed over \$160,000,000 worldwide. He also was seen opposite Justin Timberlake and Amanda Seyfried in the New Regency feature *IN TIME*.

### **CLARENCE WILLIAMS III (MAYNARD)**

Born in New York, Williams began his career in a production of *DARK OF THE MOON* directed by Vinette Carroll. Williams has appeared on Broadway in *THE GREAT OUTDOORS* opposite Geraldine Page. He starred in *SLOW DANCE ON THE KILLING GROUND* for which he received a Tony nomination and a Theatre World Award. Also on Broadway he co-starred with Maggie Smith in Tom Stoppard's *NIGHT AND DAY*. He worked extensively at Joseph Papp's NY Shakespeare Festival. Under Mr. Papp's

direction he starred in KING JOHN at the Delacorte Theatre.

Williams is widely recognized for portraying the role of Linc Hayes in the cult classic television series MOD SQUAD.

During Williams' film career he had a long collaboration with John Frankenheimer starting with film 52 PICKUP, followed by AGAINST THE WALL, GEORGE WALLACE and REINDEER GAMES. He also appeared in THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER, PURPLE RAIN (as Prince's father), SUGAR HILL, HALF BAKED, DEEP COVER, HOODLUM, LIFE, and AMERICAN GANGSTER. Independent films include THE BRAVE, Johnny Depp's directorial debut, HAPPY HERE AND NOW for Michael Almercyda and the costume drama THE LEGEND OF 1900 directed by Giuseppe Tornatore.

### **JESSE WILLIAMS (REV. JAMES LAWSON)**

A native of Chicago and graduate of Temple University, Williams began his professional career teaching American, African and African-American History in low income Philadelphia public charter schools. From there Williams moved to New York City and, after working at a law firm, began his professional acting career, performing off-Broadway at The Cherry Lane Theatre, under the direction of award-winning playwright Edward Albee in "The Sandbox." This year Williams enters his 5th season as Dr. Jackson Avery in ABC's hit series "Grey's Anatomy." His feature credits include "Brooklyn's Finest", "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants 2" and "The Cabin in the Woods."

Williams performed in two festival bound short films this summer: the comedy RICH GIRL PROBLEMS with Ellie Kemper and the western THEY DIE BY DAWN, with Michael K Williams, Rosario Dawson, Erykah Badu and many more. The film enjoyed its world premiere at the 2013 South By Southwest Film Festival.

Williams founded the production company, farWord Inc. with his wife Aryn Drakelee-Williams out of a desire to examine and affect the relationship between historical/cultural comprehension and the ways in which media content influences our [collective and individual] health and behavior. Through the development of valuable curriculum, literary, film/TV and new media projects, farWord Inc. is dedicated to developing an honest and innovative presence necessary for cultural leadership, creative and psychological independence.

Williams is an executive producer of Question Bridge: Black Males, a transmedia and video installation that is being exhibited in museums nationwide as well as the Sundance Film Festival & Los Angeles Film Festival. A free curriculum and website are currently in development and will launch as a 24-hour dialogue hub, facilitating exchanges around identity among a critical mass of American Black men, before welcoming nationwide interaction among and across all demographics.

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### LEE DANIELS (DIRECTOR/PRODUCER)

Lee Daniels is perhaps best known for his Academy Award winning film PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL PUSH BY SAPPHIRE. The film was adapted from the New York Times-bestselling novel Push by Sapphire (a.k.a. Ramona Lofton). PRECIOUS was nominated for six Academy Awards, including nominations for Daniels in the category of "Achievement in Directing" and "Best Motion Picture of the Year," and wins in the categories of "Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role" and "Best Writing, Adapted Screenplay."

Daniels was the first African American to be nominated for a Director's Guild of America Award for "Outstanding Directorial Achievement in Feature Film" on behalf of PRECIOUS. The film won both the Grand Jury Prize and Audience Award in the U.S. Dramatic Competition at the 2009 Sundance Film Festival, only the third film in Festival history to do so. It was also nominated for three Golden Globe awards including "Best Picture Drama," and was nominated for eight NAACP Image Awards, six of which it won, in categories including "Outstanding Motion Picture" and "Outstanding Directing in a Motion Picture, Theatrical or Television." The film also garnered a total of five 2010 Independent Spirit Awards, including "Best Feature" and "Best Director."

Daniels' production company, Lee Daniels Entertainment, made its feature film debut with MONSTER'S BALL, making Daniels the sole African-American producer of an Oscar®-winning and Oscar®-nominated film. Daniels also produced THE WOODSMAN which was nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards. The film received the CICAE Arthouse Prize at the Cannes Film Festival, the Jury Prize at the Deauville International Film Festival, and Special Mention for Excellence in Filmmaking from the National Board of Review.

SHADOWBOXER marked Daniels' directorial debut. Following the film's world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, Daniels was also nominated for the New Directors Award at the 2006 San Sebastian Film Festival.

Most recently, Daniels wrote and directed THE PAPERBOY, which he also produced. The film, which stars Matthew McConaughey, Zac Efron, John Cusack, and Nicole Kidman, is based on the 1995 novel by Pete Dexter that centers on a reporter (McConaughey) and his younger brother (Efron), who investigate the events surrounding a murder to exonerate a man on death row (Cusack). The film premiered at the 2012 Cannes Film Festival, and was released by Millennium Entertainment in 2012.

### DANNY STRONG (SCREENWRITER)

As an award-winning filmmaker, Danny Strong is attracted to powerful and inspiring events that examine and expose the political, social, and cultural fabric of the world we live in. Strong's recent work with some of today's most influential creators further showcases his ability to bring complex characters to the fore with his writing.

Most recently Strong wrote and executive produced GAME CHANGE, the HBO film based on the bestselling book of the same name by John Heilemann and Mark Halperin, which chronicles the historic events of the 2008 U.S. presidential election. The film reunited Strong with RECOUNT director Jay Roach, and stars Julianne Moore, Woody Harrelson and Ed Harris. Tom Hanks, Gary Goetzman and Jay Roach executive produced the film alongside Strong, which debuted in March 2012. The film went on to win five Emmys®, including two individual wins for Strong in the categories of Outstanding

Miniseries or Movie and Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or a Dramatic Special categories. Strong and his fellow producers also shared the Golden Globe win for Best Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television, The Producers Guild of America Award for Television Producer of the Year in Long Form, and the Peabody Award. Strong also won the Writers Guild of America Award for Television Long Form Adapted Screenplay.

Strong is currently writing the highly anticipated two-part finale to THE HUNGER GAMES trilogy, MOCKINGJAY Part 1 and MOCKINGJAY Part 2. The films will be released in November 2014 and 2015 respectively, by Lionsgate. Strong is also in the process of adapting GARO for Disney, which tells the inspiring true story of Miami Dolphins kicker Garo Yepremian who helped the 1972 Miami Dolphins become the only NFL team to have a "perfect season." In addition, Strong is working on adapting the best-seller A CONSPIRACY OF PAPER, a murder mystery set in 1719 London that ties into the financial crisis of that period, which Ridley Scott is producing for Warner Bros

Strong is set to make his directorial debut with THE CRUSADERS. The project, about Thurgood Marshall and the historical 1954 Brown v. Board of Education case, is set up at HBO with Gary Ross, Allison Thomas and Bob Cooper producing. Strong will also produce the upcoming Sugar Ray Robinson biopic SWEET THUNDER starring David Oyelowo.

His first script, RECOUNT, starred Kevin Spacey, Laura Dern, Tom Wilkinson, John Hurt and Denis Leary and premiered to great acclaim on HBO in May 2008. Directed by Jay Roach and produced by Sydney Pollack and Paula Weinstein, the film took an intimate and insightful look at the 2000 U.S. presidential election. Strong won his first WGA Award for RECOUNT, and received his first Emmy® nomination in the Outstanding Writing for a Miniseries, Movie or Dramatic Special category. The film earned a total of 11 Emmy® nominations, and won three, including Outstanding Made for Television Movie. Additionally, the film was nominated for the following awards: SAG, PGA, DGA, Broadcast Film Critics, as well as five Golden Globe Awards®, where it garnered one win.

In addition to his thriving career as a screenwriter, Strong is also an actor with extensive credits in film, television and theater, and has appeared in many of the most famous television shows of the last two decades. He was most recently seen in Season 4 and 6 of MAD MEN, as Danny Siegel, the first Jewish ad man at Sterling Cooper Draper Pryce. Strong is best known for the five years he played 'Jonathan Levinson' on the landmark television series BUFFY THE VAMPIRE SLAYER, for which he was named One of the Top Ten Scene Stealers on Television by the San Francisco Chronicle. He is also widely recognized for his four seasons as 'Doyle' on GILMORE GIRLS.

#### **PAMELA OAS WILLIAMS (PRODUCER)**

Pamela Oas Williams is a film and television producer. She partnered with Laura Ziskin in 2001 launching Ziskin's television company while overseeing her film company based at Sony Pictures. There, she oversaw LZP's film and television slate developing projects such as THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, THE BUTLER, PIONEER WOMAN, THE SPELLMAN FILES, HOW TO BE GOOD and MALIBU COUNTRY.

Recently Williams launched Pam Williams Productions and is also partnering with Dave Stewart (Eurythmics) to oversee his film and television unit at WEAPONS OF MASS ENTERTAINMENT. Multiple feature and television projects are currently in development including the Paramount Studios feature, A HOLE IN THE FENCE, created by Dave Stewart & Ringo Starr, and ZOMBIE BROADWAY, a high-concept, genre-bending musical conceived by Dave Stewart and envisioned for the screen by award-winning director

Jonas Akerlund. Williams and Stewart Executive Produced the sitcom *Malibu Country* for ABC last year which was created by Dave Stewart & Dave Harris.

Williams was a producer on the 2007 and 2002 ACADEMY AWARDS® produced by Ziskin. Collectively, the two broadcasts were nominated for 17 Emmy Awards.

Also in 2007, Williams was part of the team that launched STAND UP TO CANCER. She Executive Produced the 2008 and 2010 multi-network and cable events which aired in over 170 countries and featured over 100 celebrities. To date, STAND UP TO CANCER has raised over \$260 million dollars for cancer research. Williams also wrote and produced the 2010 Marc Webb-directed PSA "Change the Odds" featuring young Hollywood talent.

Prior to partnering with Ziskin, Williams ran George Clooney's television company, Maysville Television, based at Warner Bros. There, she Executive Produced with Clooney and Ziskin the live television film FAIL SAFE, which garnered multiple Emmy awards as well as Golden Globe and Golden Laurel nominations for Best Telefilm Of The Year. While at Maysville Television, Williams also produced the George Clooney scripted half-hour pilot KILROY for HBO.

Williams began her producing career as a producer on the hit television series THE FRESH PRINCE OF BEL AIR.

#### **LAURA ZISKIN (PRODUCER)**

Laura Ziskin was one of Hollywood's leading independent producers and studio executives with a passion for discovering new talent.

Well known for her work producing the Spider-Man franchise, Ziskin oversaw one of the most successful film franchises in history. *Spider-Man* and *Spider-Man 2* have grossed more than \$1.5 billion worldwide and *Spider-Man 3*, which broke box office records worldwide, has become the highest grossing film in Sony's history.

In 2007, Ziskin produced the Academy Awards® for the second time and instituted the first ever "Green" Oscar ceremony. The show was nominated for 9 Emmy Awards. In March 2002, she produced the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Academy Awards® (the first woman to produce the awards solo). The show was nominated for eight Emmy Awards including Outstanding Variety, Music or Comedy Special.

In 1984, Ziskin partnered with Sally Field in Fogwood Films and produced *Murphy's Romance*, which yielded an Academy Award® nomination for James Garner as Best Actor. She also produced *No Way Out* starring then newcomer Kevin Costner and Gene Hackman. In 1990, she was Executive Producer of *Pretty Woman*, which remains one of the highest grossing films in Disney's history.

In 1991, Ziskin produced two films, the comedy hit *What About Bob?*, from a story by Ziskin and Alvin Sargent, starring Bill Murray and Richard Dreyfuss and the critically acclaimed *The Doctor* starring William Hurt and Christine Lahti under the direction of Randa Haines. In 1992, Ziskin produced *Hero*, which was also from a story by Ziskin and Sargent, directed by Stephen Frears and starring Dustin Hoffman, Andy Garcia, and Geena Davis. In 1994, she produced *To Die For* starring Nicole Kidman (who won a Golden Globe as Best Actress – Musical or Comedy) and directed by Gus Van Sant. She also developed and

served as Executive Producer of Columbia Pictures' *As Good As It Gets*, which garnered Academy Awards® for stars Helen Hunt and Jack Nicholson.

In 1994, Ziskin was named President of Fox 2000 Pictures, a newly formed feature film division of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. Under her stewardship, Fox 2000 released such films as *Courage Under Fire*, *One Fine Day*, *Inventing the Abbotts*, *Volcano*, *Soul Food*, *Never Been Kissed*, *Fight Club*, *Anywhere But Here*, *Anna and the King* and *The Thin Red Line*, which garnered seven Academy Award® nominations including Best Picture.

In 2000, just after stepping down from Fox 2000 Pictures, Ziskin teamed with George Clooney and Pam Williams to produce the live television movie *FAIL SAFE*, directed by Stephen Frears. It was the first television movie to be aired live in over 35 years. It was nominated for six Emmy Awards as well as a Golden Globe nomination for Best Television Movie. It also received PGA and DGA nominations.

Ziskin also Executive Produced the Norman Jewison-directed HBO Film *Dinner With Friends* written by Donald Margulies from his Pulitzer Prize-winning play and starring Dennis Quaid, Andie MacDowell, Greg Kinnear and Toni Collette. The film was nominated for two Emmy Awards, including Outstanding Made for Television Movie.

Ziskin was actively involved in issues that concerned health, the environment, and families, having served on the board of Americans for a Safe Future, the National Council of Jewish Women and Education First. In addition she was honored by Senator Barbara Boxer as a "Woman Making History" and by the City of Hope as "Woman of the Year." She was also honored with Premiere Magazine's "Women in Hollywood" award, the Big Sisters of Los Angeles Sterling Award, Women's Image Network Award, Women In Film's Crystal Award, the Israel Film Festival's Visionary Award, The Wellness Community's Human Spirit Award, and The Producers Guild of America's David O. Selznick Award as well as the Visionary Award. Ziskin was a 1973 graduate of the University of Southern California USC School of Cinematic Arts where she returned to teach the first class in the Peter Stark Producers program. She received the Mary Pickford Alumni Award from USC in 1999.

In 2008 Ziskin, along with like-minded women in the entertainment industry with a similar desire to make a real impact in the fight against cancer, founded Stand Up To Cancer. Ziskin executive produced along with her partner Pam Williams the historic *Stand Up To Cancer* (SU2C) televised event, simulcast on all three major networks on September 5, 2008 to raise awareness about cancer and funds to support groundbreaking cancer research. The one-hour special, which combined entertainment, education and musical performances, was the first ever "roadblock" event raising money to proactively combat a major public health threat (the only previous roadblocks had been in response to 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina). Over 100 celebrities donated their time to appear in the show and in public service announcements promoting it, including Academy Award-winning actors Halle Berry, Josh Brolin, Morgan Freeman, Sidney Poitier, Susan Sarandon, Meryl Streep, Hilary Swank, Tilda Swinton, Charlize Theron and Forest Whitaker. *Stand Up To Cancer* is one of only eight programs from 2008 honored by the Academy of TV Arts & Sciences for having made "a significant impact on the viewing audience concerning vital issues." The SU2C initiative, which aims to accelerate the pace of cancer research in order to get more effective treatments to patients faster, awarded the first installments of over \$70 million worth of three-year grants to a number of interdisciplinary, multi-institutional *Dream Teams* of researchers in 2009, one year after the initiative's launch. The second *Stand Up To Cancer* televised event aired on all four major networks and

over a dozen cable outlets, including HBO, Showtime and Discovery Health. Over 100 celebrities and musicians donated their time once again to promote the initiative, including Academy Award-winning actors Denzel Washington, Gwyneth Paltrow, George Clooney, Michael Douglas, Sally Field, Renee Zellweger and Kathy Bates as well as Grammy-winning artists Stevie Wonder and Lady Antebellum. Ziskin was a founder of SU2C and a member of its Executive Leadership Committee.

Sadly, Ziskin passed away in June 2011. She was 61.

### **BUDDY PATRICK (PRODUCER)**

Buddy Patrick is the Founder and President of Windy Hill Pictures. A New Orleans native, Patrick received a Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Mississippi in 2008 where he studied corporate finance. In 2011, he earned a Juris Doctor from Loyola Law School, receiving a certificate in civil law. He is licensed to practice law in the state of Louisiana.

Upon graduation from law school, Patrick recognized the rising number of motion picture productions coming to Louisiana. After negotiating several film finance deals, he started Windy Hill Pictures to make capital investments, produce motion pictures, and continue the growth of projects in Louisiana.

Since his involvement in *The Butler*, Patrick has continued to stay involved in the film industry. He is the Producer of *"Reach Me,"* a film starring Sylvester Stallone and the Executive Producer of *"Hateship, Loveship,"* a film starring Kristin Wiig and Guy Pearce. He is also writing a script called *"Cul De Sac,"* which will shoot later this fall in New Orleans.

### **CASSIAN ELWES (PRODUCER)**

Cassian Elwes began his producing career with 1983's *"Oxford Blues"* starring Rob Lowe and Ally Sheedy and quickly went on to make another 29 films, including *"Men At Work,"* with Emilio Estevez and Charlie Sheen, and *"The Chase"* with Sheen.

In 1995, Elwes joined William Morris and headed William Morris Independent for 15 years. His first effort was the long stalled project *"The English Patient"* which won best picture that year. He financed such indie hits as *"Slingblade"* and *"The Apostle,"* both of which were nominated for multiple Oscars. *"Monster's Ball"* was their follow up, which won the Oscar for Halle Berry.

Elwes is considered an expert in the field of arranging financing and distribution for independent films having done so for 283 films during his tenure at William Morris Independent.

The Hollywood Reporter recently said that Elwes was "involved in a virtual who's who of every great independent film of the last ten years" with films such as *"Thank You For Smoking,"* *"Half Nelson,"* and *"Frozen River"* (the last two of which garnered Oscar nominations for Ryan Gosling and Melissa Leo respectively). "What people lose sight of," Elwes recently said to Screen International, "is that these films cost a tenth of the films that they competed against at the Academy Awards. The privilege was the recognition."

Since leaving William Morris Independent three years ago, Elwes has been involved in arranging financing and distribution for 24 films including *"Lawless,"* directed by John Hillcoat (*"The Road"*), starring Shia LaBeouf and Tom Hardy, and the thriller *"The Paperboy,"* directed by Lee Daniels (*"Precious"*), starring Matthew McConaughey and

Zac Efron. Additionally, he is also producing "Dallas Buyers Club" starring Matthew McConaughey and Jennifer Garner, "Ain't Them Bodies Saints" starring Rooney Mara, Casey Affleck and Ben Foster, and "Hateship, Loveship" which stars Kristen Wiig, Guy Pearce, Hailee Steinfeld and Nick Nolte.

#### **MICHAEL FINLEY (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)**

Michael Finley was born and raised in Maywood, Illinois and became a standout basketball player at Proviso East High School. Finley later attended the University of Wisconsin, where he majored in business and averaged over 20 points per game. He finished his career as the all time leading scorer in Wisconsin history, with over 2,100 points. Finley was drafted in the first round of the 1995 NBA Draft by the Phoenix Suns. Finley also played for the Dallas Mavericks, San Antonio Spurs and Boston Celtics. He was named to the First Team All-Rookie squad following his rookie year with the Suns. Finley is a two time NBA All-Star and won the 2007 NBA Championship as a member of the San Antonio Spurs. Finley played professional basketball for 15 years and retired in 2010.

In 2003, Michael Finley founded The Michael Finley Foundation, a not-for-profit organization, for the sole purpose of supporting children and their families to reach their fullest potential through education, entrepreneurial mentorship, and other programs that emphasize improving the quality of life.

In 2009, Michael Finley started his film production company, Follow Through Productions, LLC. Finley is a financier and executive producer to several films, including SANCTUM (2011), LUV (2012) and THE DAY (2012).

Outside of the film business, Finley is an active real estate investor and venture capitalist who also enjoys playing golf in his spare time. Finley resides in Dallas, Texas, with his wife and three children.

#### **SHEILA C. JOHNSON (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)**

As CEO of Salamander Hotels and Resorts, a hospitality company she founded in 2005, Sheila C. Johnson oversees a growing portfolio of luxury properties, including three Florida golf and family resorts reaching from the Gulf to the Atlantic – Innisbrook Resort in Tampa Bay, Reunion Resort in Orlando, and Hammock Beach Resort in Palm Coast. Johnson's much anticipated, equestrian-inspired and luxurious Salamander Resort & Spa will make its debut in August 2013 in Middleburg, Virginia, right in the heart of Virginia's horse and wine country.

Johnson is Vice Chairman of Monumental Sports & Entertainment and President and Managing Partner of the WNBA's Washington Mystics. She is the only African-American woman to have ownership in three professional sports teams, including the NBA's Washington Wizards and the NHL's Washington Capitals. She also serves on the Executive Committee of the United States Golf Association.

Johnson is a partner in ProJet Aviation, a comprehensive aviation service company specializing in aviation consulting, aircraft acquisitions, management, and charter services. She is also a partner in Mistral, the makers of fine bath, body, and home products; and in November 2012 launched her own collection of luxury scarves, inspired by her travels around the world and manufactured in Italy. In 2013, in recognition of her entrepreneurial success, she was invited to serve as a judge for Ernst & Young's World Entrepreneur of the Year Award—the only judge on the international panel to represent the United States.

Johnson has long been a powerful influence in the entertainment industry, starting with her work as founding partner of Black Entertainment Television. She has served as executive producer of four documentary films, including *Kicking It*, which premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival; *A Powerful Noise*, which premiered at the 2008 Tribeca Film Festival; *She Is the Matador*; and *The Other City*, a critically acclaimed portrayal of the HIV/AIDS crisis in Washington DC, which premiered at the 2010 Tribeca Film Festival. A fervent supporter of education and the arts, she serves on the Board of Governors of Parsons The New School for Design in New York, and is a member of the Leadership Council at Harvard Kennedy School's Center for Public Leadership (CPL). She is also a board member of the Sundance Institute and the ANNIKA Foundation, as well as founder and chair of the Middleburg Film Festival, a celebration of independent film to be inaugurated in October 2013.

In May 2011, Johnson joined the AOL Huffington Post Media Group as Strategic Advisor for Multicultural and African-American Initiatives.

In 2006, Johnson was named global ambassador for CARE, a leading humanitarian organization that combats global poverty by empowering women. Since 2011, she has served as a member of Accordia Global Health Foundation's International Council, rallying support for the foundation's efforts to overcome the burden of infectious diseases in Africa. Johnson is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

An accomplished violinist, Johnson received a Bachelor of Arts in music from the University of Illinois, as well as honorary degrees from numerous other institutions. She lives in Middleburg, VA, is married to the Honorable William T. Newman, Jr., and has two children.

#### **DAVID JACOBSON (CO-PRODUCER)**

David Jacobson is most recently responsible for Co-Producing the high profile independent film *THE BUTLER*. He assisted in structuring and raising financing for the project, produced on-set through all of principal photography in Louisiana, and help manage post-production and delivery.

Jacobson was previously a Director of Development at Laura Ziskin Productions based at Sony Pictures where he supported a diverse slate of film and television projects. Prior to serving as an executive at the company Jacobson worked for 3 years as Laura Ziskin's assistant and worked alongside her on *THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN*, directed by Marc Webb and starring Andrew Garfield and Emma Stone. He also worked on the two groundbreaking Stand Up 2 Cancer telethons which aired on ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, HBO, Discovery, E!, Showtime and several other networks and helped raise over \$180 million towards accelerated cancer research.

#### **WIL HAYGOOD (ASSOCIATE PRODUCER)**

Wil Haygood wrote the front page story in the Washington Post in 2008 about Eugene Allen and the history of black servants in the White House that inspired *THE BUTLER* film. His original story was reprinted in newspapers all around the world.

Haygood is a prize winning writer for the Washington Post and an acclaimed author. He has written three iconic biographies - on Adam Clayton Powell Jr., Sammy Davis Jr., and Sugar Ray Robinson - that the Los Angeles Times called "culturally important" in American

letters. Haygood has also been a Pulitzer Prize finalist, a Guggenheim Fellow, and a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow.

### **ANDREW DUNN (DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY)**

Andrew Dunn is an award-winning cinematographer. He was born in London and educated at Christ's College. He has lensed a wide variety of feature films while working with many notable directors. Dunn has won three BAFTA awards and has been nominated five times. He won his first BAFTA in 1984 for *THREADS*, followed by another win for *EDGE OF DARKNESS*, directed by Martin Campbell. Dunn won his third BAFTA for his work on *TUMBLEDOWN*. He also earned nominations for his work on *THE MONOCLED MUTINEER* and *THE MADNESS OF KING GEORGE*, directed by Nicholas Hytner, for which he was also honored the prestigious London Evening Standard Award for Technical Achievement, as well as by his peers at the British Society of Cinematographers for their "Best Cinematography Award."

Making films at an early age, London-born Dunn began his career at the BBC as an editor, which also provided him the means to continue to develop, shoot, edit and dub his own projects. As a cinematographer he has worked with many of the industry's most respected directors, including Stephen Frears, Richard Eyre, Nicholas Hytner, Martin Campbell, Robert Altman, Mick Jackson, Bill Forsyth and Dennis Potter.

Dunn shot the Oscar nominated drama, *PRECIOUS*, in addition to other notable credits including: *LA STORY*; *THE BODYGUARD*; *THE CRUCIBLE*; *EVER AFTER*; *PRACTICAL MAGIC*; *THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO*; *GOSFORD PARK*; *SWEET HOME ALABAMA*; *STAGE BEAUTY*; *HITCH*; *THE HISTORY BOYS*; *MISS POTTER*; *CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE*; *THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER*; and *SUMMER IN FEBRUARY*. Dunn also lensed the soon to be released films *HELLO CARTER* and *EFFIE*.

### **RODRIGO LEÃO (COMPOSER)**

Rodrigo Leão is a Portuguese musician and composer. He was born in Lisbon in 1964. He became known for his musical compositions and participation in Portuguese bands such as *Madredeus* and *Sétima Legião*.

Leão was one of the musicians and composers behind the extraordinarily successful Portuguese ensemble *Madredeus*; he was in the band for nearly 10 years before leaving to focus on his own solo career.

In 1982, Leão was one of the founding members of *Sétima Legião*, one of the most influential rock bands in Portugal's mid-1980s indie scene thanks to their judicious use of Celtic influences. In 1986, he started *Madredeus* with Pedro Ayres Magalhães and *Sétima Legião*'s Gabriel Gomes as a sideline acoustic project – one that gained a life of its own and snowballed into international success. In 1993, Leão showed yet another side of his creativity by releasing a mostly instrumental solo album in a neo-classical, minimalist mode, titled "Ave Mundi Luminar." With *Sétima Legião* on a long break, in 1994 he left *Madredeus* to devote himself fully to his solo career; in it he explored the edges of modern classical music and contemporary pop, marrying electronics to string and horn sections, using a separate project, *Os Poetas*, to set to music words from some of Portugal's greatest poets.

But throughout all these roles two things kept reappearing in his work: film and songs. *Madredeus* had written the music for a Wim Wenders movie and many of his own instrumental pieces seemed like soundtrack music in search of a film; Leão 's 2004 album was called "Cinema", and from then on his backing group became the Cinema

Ensemble. And, as he moved further in his explorations of instrumental textures, he felt the need to return to the simplicity of the pop song.

Over the past ten years, Leão has invited others to lend their voices to his music. Portuguese stars such as The Giff's Sónia Tavares or alt-Fado singer Lula Pena; Brazilian up-and-comers Rosa Passos and Thiago Petit; and internationally acclaimed singers such as Beth Gibbons, Neil Hannon, Stuart Staples and, more recently, Joan Wasser (Joan as Policewoman) have enriched Leão's songs and taken his work on voyages to new and more exciting places.

Leão's discography includes:

With Sétima Legião - *A Um Deus Desconhecido* (1984); *Mar d'Outubro* (1987); *De um Tempo Ausente* (1989); *O Fogo* (1992); *Auto da Fé* (Live 1994); and *Sexto Sentido* (1999).

With Madredeus - *Os Dias da Madredeus* (1987); *Existir* (1990); *Lisboa* (Live 1992); *O Espírito da Paz* (Live 1994); and *Ainda* (soundtrack album 1995).

With Os Poetas - *Entre Nós e as Palavras* (1997).

Solo albums - *Ave Mundi Luminar* (1993); *Mysterium* (EP) (1995); *Theatrum* (1996); *Alma Mater* (2000); *Pasión* (Live 2001); *Cinema* (2004); *O Mundo* (compilation with new material 2006); *Portugal, um Retrato Social* (soundtrack album 2007); *A Mãe* (2009); *A Montanha Mágica* (2011); and *Songs* (2004- 2012 compilation with new material).

### **JOE KLOTZ (EDITOR)**

Joe Klotz is a leading editor who received an Academy Award nomination for his work on *Precious*, directed by Lee Daniels. He has cut dramas, comedies and documentaries. Most recently, Klotz has edited *The Paperboy*, also for Lee Daniels, which premiered in competition at Cannes. He also edited *Rabbit Hole*, directed by John Cameron Mitchell and starring Nicole Kidman, whose performance earned an Oscar nomination for Best Actress.

Klotz has completed work on *Violet and Daisy*, directed by Geoffrey Fletcher, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival.

In 2009 he edited *The Winning Season*, directed by James C. Strouse, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Other noteworthy film credits include *Choke*, directed by Clark Gregg, starring Sam Rockwell and Anjelica Huston; Strouse's *Grace Is Gone*, starring John Cusack; *The Living Wake*, for director Sol Tryon; and *Junebug*, for director Phil Morrison. This last film premiered at the 2005 Sundance Film Festival and won a Special Jury Prize for Amy Adams' outstanding performance.

Television credits include Comedy Central's "Chappelle's Show" and "Upright Citizens Brigade," among others.

### **TIM GALVIN (PRODUCTION DESIGNER)**

Tim trained as a stage designer and worked in theater before moving into films. He has served as the Production Designer, Art Director or Set Designer for more than thirty feature films.

Tim's film production designs include David Mamet's mystery "The Spanish Prisoner", Josh Klausner's thriller "The 4<sup>th</sup> Floor", Mills Goodloe's golf drama "A Gentleman's Game", Patrick Swayze's love story "One Last Dance", Wayne Beach's crime puzzle "Slow Burn", Zev Berman's true-horror thriller "Borderland", Tim Chambers' basketball comedy "The Mighty Macs", Mans Marling & Bjorn Stein's Appalachian mystery-thriller "6 Souls" and Lee Daniels' civil rights drama "The Butler".

Tim also designed the network television dramas "Hack" for CBS, "Kidnapped", "Parenthood" and "Prime Suspect" for NBC, and now "The Following" for FOX.

Tim's Art Direction efforts include favorites such as "Beloved", "Sleepers", "Quiz Show", "A League Of Their Own" "Philadelphia" and "The Silence Of The Lambs".

### **LYNN FAINCHEIN (MUSIC SUPERVISOR)**

Lynn Fainchtein has brought her music expertise to a range of media, including film, television, radio and journalism as well as recording. She has worked as music producer and supervisor on a number of films. She has worked extensively with acclaimed Mexican filmmaker Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu on his four films *Biutiful* (Academy Award nominee), *Babel*, *21 Grams*, *Amores Perros* (Academy Award nominee), also with Lee Daniels director of prestigious film "Precious" Sundance winner 2009. She supervised among many others "La Misma Luna", HBO Series "Capadocia" and "Sr. Avila", and films "Sin Nombre", "Miss Bala" and another Sundance winner, "Maria Full of Grace" by Joshua Marston (winner of the Audience Award).

Lynn regularly collaborates with Canana Films, the production company founded by Gael Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna, and has supervised music for all their titles including "Abel", "Deficit", "Chavez" and "Cochochi". Most recently she worked with directors Lee Daniels on "The Paperboy", as well as with Walter Salles on "On The Road", which both screened In Competition at Cannes 2012. Her current projects as music supervisor include Lee Daniels' "The Butler", Diego Luna's biopic of Cesar Chavez, another Canana Films production, and "Gimme Shelter" by Ron Krauss. Also, she is working on the mexican/colombian film "Que Viva La Música", and mexican films "Verdades Sospechosas", "El Charro Misterioso", "Paraíso" and "Tercera Llamada". She is also currently supervising the music for the documentary "Para Abrir Boca". She recently produced an animation film "El Santo vs La Tetona Mendoza", inspired by the characters of Jis and Trino and "Hecho en Mexico" a musical journey directed by Duncan Bridgeman from 1 Giant Leap.

She had previously been at MTV Latinoamerica, where she worked as Director of Music Programming, producer/writer/interviewer. In radio, she worked as a host, DJ, producer, programmer and director at a number of different Mexican stations, including Rock 101, Dimension 1380 and Espacio 59.

### **RUTH CARTER (COSTUME DESIGNER)**

Ruth Carter is a two-time Academy Award® nominated Costume Designer for Stephen Spielberg's *Amistad* and Spike Lee's *Malcolm X*, both period films. She is no stranger to period films having designed costumes others including, *What's Love Got to do with it*, *The Five Heartbeats*, *Cobb*, *Frankie and Alice*, *Black Dynamite*, *Sparkle*, and *Teen Beach Movie*. Her latest non-period film project is Spike Lee's film, *OldBoy*, a remake of the original Korean film. She holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Hampton University.

### **BILLY HOPKINS (CASTING DIRECTOR)**

Billy has cast such films as DESPERATELY SEEKING SUSAN and FATAL ATTRACTION to PRECIOUS and WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN. He is currently casting the film JANE GOT A GUN as well as short films directed by Georgina Chapman and Jamie Foxx for Project Imagination sponsored by Canon. Billy's television credits include ROSEANNE, SEX AND THE CITY and THE BRONX IS BURNING.

### **LEAH DANIELS-BUTLER (CASTING DIRECTOR)**

In 2001, Leah Daniels-Butler established LDB Casting; an agency that specializes in casting actors for television and film. The entertainment industry has come to know her as the casting director who is not afraid to take risks and will work tirelessly to find the ideal actor for each project and role.

Daniels-Butler started her career as a casting assistant in 1991, working for legendary casting director and mentors Jaki Brown and Kimberly Hardin. She worked her way up the ladder on films starring Chris Rock in "CB4," Larenz Tate in "The Inkwell" and Chris Tucker in the cult classic "Friday." With a few years of experience as a casting assistant, Daniels-Butler soon became the assistant to hire for urban films. Her reputation and work ethic quickly spread among black filmmakers and she became known as the "Casting Assistant to watch." Wanting to spread her wings and make a name for herself in television, Daniels-Butler left Jaki and Kim to pursue new career options.

In 1994, Daniels-Butler took on a casting position as the assistant to Leslie Litt at Warner Brothers Television, directly under Barbara Miller. WBTV offered many rewarding opportunities and within two years she was promoted from a casting associate to a casting executive. Daniels-Butler had the privilege of working on the Emmy Award-winning shows "Friends" starring Jennifer Aniston, and "Suddenly Susan" starring Brooke Shields. During her tenure at Warner Brothers, Daniels-Butler also cast "The Wayans Brothers" and "For Your Love" which was nominated for six Image Awards.

In 2001, Daniels-Butler left WBTV to start LDB Casting. As an independent Casting Director, she has worked in all genres of movies such as "2 Fast 2 Furious," "Shadowboxer," "ATL," and "The Paperboy." Daniels-Butler is also responsible for discovering such talented actors as Gabourey Sidibe, who starred in the Academy Award-winning film "Precious."

### **MATTHEW MUNGLE (PROSTHETICS MAKEUP DESIGNER)**

Academy Award winner Matthew W. Mungle is regarded as one of Hollywood's premier make-up special effects artists. With over 200 film and television projects to his credit, Mungle has earned accolades and recognition as one of the industry's top masters of makeup effects illusion.

Mungle graduated from Atoka High School in 1975. Although his sights were still on Hollywood, at his father's insistence, he applied and was accepted into Oklahoma State University as a theatre art major. Working with props and make-up for various productions, Mungle eagerly absorbed the educational tools being given.

Mungle finally arrived in Hollywood in 1977. In 1978 he applied and was accepted into Joe Blasco's Make-up Center - the premier academy responsible for training many of the film and television industry's elite make-up artists. "From the very beginning, Matthew showed exceptional talent!" claims Blasco, whose own career as a top make-up artist turned educator, has been instrumental in graduating Academy Award winners. "I instinctively knew that Matthew had what it takes to become a success in this business.

His dedication to the art form and rapid ability to master the craft led me to hire him as an instructor following his graduation from my school in 1978. He stayed on-staff until his own popularity as a working make-up artist became too demanding."

Mungle's professional career began on low-budget projects that taught him to think quickly on his feet. His first major success was on EDWARD SCISSORHANDS in 1990. Twenty-three years later, Mungle has accumulated an impressive list of credits and an equally impressive genre of box office successes including: BRAM STOKER'S DRACULA, earning him his first Oscar in 1992; SCHINDLER'S LIST, giving him another nomination in 1993; creating Arnold's pregnancy stomach in the comedy spoof JUNIOR; tackling special make-up effects for OUTBREAK, CONGO; PRIMAL FEAR, and aging James Woods to 72 in GHOSTS OF MISSISSIPPI, which earned him his 3rd Oscar nomination in 1996. His transformation of Glenn Close and Janet McTeer in "Albert Nobbs" earned him his fourth Oscar nomination in 2011.

Mungle's expertise in this highly-specialized area of make-up effects created a vast field of job opportunities in both film and TV --- HBO's CITIZEN COHN, starring James Woods and earning him his first Emmy in 1993. Another nomination followed in 1997 for MISS EVERS' BOYS. Two more nominations were earned in 1998 --- TNT's WALLACE and ABC's OLIVER TWIST and in 1999 for his work on TNT's HOUDINI. In 2000, Mungle was the recipient of his Local's first annual Local 706 Make-up and Hair Award for his work on ABC's THE BEAT GOES ON.

In 2000, Mungle was hired on X-FILES for special make-up and prosthetic designs. A coup to his already long list of credits, Mungle entered the show's 8th season and promptly won an Emmy in 2001 for the episode, DEAD ALIVE. Within weeks of the show's final airing (May, 2002), Mungle was hired to work on CBS's C.S.I. MIAMI and PRESIDIO MED. Even with a demanding schedule, he found time to work on TNT's DOOR-TO-DOOR, which earned him an Emmy in 2003. In 2006, Mungle took home his fourth Emmy for his work in HBO's final episode of SIX FEET UNDER. In 2008, he earned his fifth & sixth Emmy for TRACEY ULLMAN'S STATE OF THE UNION and JOHN ADAMS. To date Mungle has been honored with 26 EMMY nominations. With a full film and TV schedule, he continues his work on C.S.I. LAS VEGAS (CBS) and NCIS (CBS).

His impressive list of film credits include such box office hits as creating Brendan Fraser's many character looks in BEDAZZLED; PAY IT FORWARD with Kevin Spacey; RED DRAGON; Fox's DAREDEVIL; ANCHORMAN (DreamWorks), Warner Bros.; THE PUNISHER; Ovation Entertainment's HOUSE OF D with Robin Williams; SKELETON KEY, POLAR EXPRESS, THE OMEN, X-MEN: THE LAST STAND, MIDNIGHT MEAT TRAIN, THE BUCKET LIST, INCEPTION, THE TEMPEST, THE CHANGE-UP, WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING, ALBERT NOBBS with Glenn Close and Janet McTeer and "THE BUTLER" aging Forest Whitaker and Oprah Winfrey along with creating historical Presidents on well-known Actors.

One of Mungle's greatest challenges is with the hit Broadway show WICKED, creating the prosthetic face masks for the production's various characters. Balancing his film and TV projects, Mungle continues his work for the show's Broadway, U.S. tours and Japan productions.

#### **DOUGLAS NOE (MAKEUP ARTIST)**

Douglas Noe has served as a professional make-up artist for more than twenty five years. Beginning in theater, segueing into fashion, and landing in film, he has spent the last twenty three years creating characters for such features as *Takers*, *Angeles & Demons*,

*Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl, Planet of the Apes, Cheaper By The Dozen, Deep Cover, Fright Night, Charlie Wilson's War, Why Do Fools Fall In Love?, Seven Psychopaths, The Majestic, Spiderman 3, and The Butler* to name a few.

As prosthetic and character make-up is a specialty for Douglas, his awards include an Emmy for the television mini-series of *The Shining* and three Make-up Artists and Hairstylists Guild Awards for *Buffy the Vampire Slayer, A Lesson Before Dying, and Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl.*

## CREDITS

THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY PRESENTS

A LEE DANIELS Film

A LAURA ZISKIN Production

In Association with  
WINDY HILL PICTURES  
FOLLOW THROUGH PRODUCTIONS  
SALAMANDER PICTURES  
and PAM WILLIAMS PRODUCTIONS

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER

Directed by  
LEE DANIELS

Written by  
DANNY STRONG

Produced by  
PAMELA OAS WILLIAMS

Produced by  
LAURA ZISKIN

Produced by  
LEE DANIELS

Produced by  
BUDDY PATRICK

Produced by  
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Executive Producers  
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Executive Producers  
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ALLEN FREDERIC

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JULIA BARRY  
SIMONE SHEFFIELD  
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HORATIO BACON  
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ERIC FALKENSTEIN

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TIM GALVIN

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JOE KLOTZ, A.C.E.

Costume Designer  
RUTH E. CARTER

Music by  
RODRIGO LEÃO

Music Supervisor  
LYNN FAINCHEIN

Executive Music Producer  
DANA SANO

Casting by  
BILLY HOPKINS  
LEAH DANIELS-BUTLER

FOREST WHITAKER  
OPRAH WINFREY  
MARIAH CAREY  
JOHN CUSACK  
JANE FONDA  
CUBA GOODING, JR.  
TERRENCE HOWARD  
LENNY KRAVITZ  
JAMES MARSDEN  
DAVID OYELOWO  
ALEX PETTYFER  
VANESSA REDGRAVE  
ALAN RICKMAN  
LIEV SCHREIBER  
ROBIN WILLIAMS  
YAYA ALAFIA  
AML AMEEN  
LAVELL "BANNER" CRUMP  
COLMAN DOMINGO  
NELSAN ELLIS  
NEALLA GORDON  
ELIJAH KELLEY  
MINKA KELLY  
ADRIANE LENOX  
MO MCRAE  
PERNELL WALKER  
JESSE WILLIAMS

and  
CLARENCE WILLIAMS III

Inspired by the Article "A Butler Well Served By This Election" by Wil Haygood

Special Thanks  
BRUCE COHEN

"In loving memory of Laura Ziskin"

Unit Production Manager  
ADAM MERIMS

First Assistant Director  
LISA SATRIANO

Second Assistant Director  
PETER DRESS

Co-Editor  
BRIAN A. KATES, A.C.E.

CAST – IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE

Cecil Gaines  
FOREST WHITAKER

Earl Gaines  
DAVID BANNER

Cecil Gaines (8)  
MICHAEL RAINEY, JR.

Abraham  
LAJESSIE SMITH

Hattie Pearl  
MARIAH CAREY

Thomas Westfall  
ALEX PETTYFER

Annabeth Westfall  
VANESSA REDGRAVE

Cecil Gaines (15)  
AML AMEEN

Maynard  
CLARENCE WILLIAMS III

Mr. Jenkins  
JOHN FERTITTA

R.D. Warner  
JIM GLEASON

Gloria Gaines  
OPRAH WINFREY

Charlie Gaines (10)  
ISAAC WHITE

Louis Gaines  
DAVID OYELOWO

White Usher  
JOE CREST

Freddie Fallows  
COLMAN DOMINGO

Gina  
ADRIANE LENOX

Howard  
TERRENCE HOWARD

Elroy  
TYSON FORD

Carter Wilson  
CUBA GOODING, JR.

James Holloway  
LENNY KRAVITZ

Lorraine  
PERNELL WALKER

Sherman Adams  
JAMES DUMONT

Herbert Brownell  
ROBERT ABERDEEN

Dwight D. Eisenhower  
ROBIN WILLIAMS

Richard Nixon  
JOHN CUSACK

Olivia

OLIVIA WASHINGTON

Carol Hammie  
YAYA ALAFIA

James Lawson  
JESSE WILLIAMS

Woolworth Diner Patron #1  
MARGARET M. OWENS

Woolworth Diner Patron #2  
ERIC DUCOTE

John F. Kennedy  
JAMES MARSDEN

Jacqueline Kennedy  
MINKA KELLY

Caroline Kennedy  
CHLOE BARACH

Freedom Bus Journalist  
DANNY STRONG

Freedom Bus Rider  
CLARA HOPKINS DANIELS

Charlie Gaines (15-18)  
ELIJAH KELLEY

Lyndon B. Johnson  
LIEV SCHREIBER

Helen Holloway  
DANA GOURRIER

Malcolm X Goer  
SHIRLEY PUGH

Pastor  
BILL NEWMAN

Martin Luther King, Jr.  
NELSAN ELLIS

John Ehrlichman  
COLIN WALKER

Bob Haldeman  
ALEX MANETTE

Black Panther  
MO MCRAE

Ronald Reagan  
ALAN RICKMAN

Nancy Reagan  
JANE FONDA

Senator Robertson  
RUSTY ROBERTSON

Senator Kassebaum  
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DANNY COSMO  
TRACE CHERAMIE  
LUKE HAWX  
ALEX COKER  
DANNY EPPER  
NICK EPPER  
DANIEL NORRIS  
KORTNEY MANNS  
ARRON MATTHEWS  
MIKE SEAL  
TIERRE TURNER  
MADISON TURNER  
MEREDITH RICHARDSON  
KEVIN WATERMAN  
MATT THOMPSON  
LARNELL STOVAL  
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Prosthetics Makeup Designed by CLINTON WAYNE

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Prosthetic Makeup Artists

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Foley Recorded at C5

Re-Recording Mixers  
MICHAEL BARRY, CAS  
ROBERT HEIN

Re-Recording Assistants  
JOSH BERGER  
HARRY HIGGINS

Mix Engineer  
AVI LANIADO

Re-Recorded at HARBOR PICTURE COMPANY

Score Produced by RODRIGO LEAO and STEVE BARTEK

Arranged & Orchestrated by STEVE BARTEK

Conductor RICK WENTWORTH

Orchestrator EDGARDO SIMONE

Librarian DAVE HAGE

Music Editors  
SUZANA PERIC  
BEN SCHOR

Engineer NICK WOLLAGE

Orchestral Contractor ISOBEL GRIFFITHS

Music Coordinator LIBBY UMSTEAD

Music Clearance CELESTE CHADA

Score Recorded at

AIR STUDIOS  
LYNDHURST HALL  
ABBAY ROAD STUDIOS

Digital Intermediate and Optics by  
TECHNICOLOR  
POSTWORKS – NEW YORK

Digital Intermediate Colorist TIM STIPEN

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Digital Intermediate Editor ERIC LEVERENZ

Digital Intermediate Engineers  
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Digital Intermediate Scanning  
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Visual Effects Supervisor LUKE DITOMASSO

Visual Effects Executive Producer ANDREW BLY

Visual Effects Producer ANIELA SIDORSKA

Compositing Supervisor MARK FRIEDMAN

Lead Compositor AUSTIN MEYERS

Visual effects editor Charlotta Forssman

Visual effects coordinator Joshua Sacavage

Visual Effects by PIXEL MAGIC

Visual Effects Supervisor RAYMOND MCINTYRE, JR.

Production Supervisor Compositors

VICTOR DIMICHINA

JORDAN ALPHONSO

PATRICK TRAHAN

Archival Supervisor STEPHEN WINTER

Additional Archival Consultant PEARL LIEBERMAN

Title Design by RANDALL BALSMEYER, BIG FILM DESIGN / CINETITLE

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First Assistant Director RICHARD L. FOX

Second Assistant Director SETH HANSEN

Director of Photography RODNEY TAYLOR

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[SONGS & MUSIC LICENSING]

"Piano Concerto in A Minor Op. 54-1"

Written by Robert Schumann

Performed by The Moscow Philharmonic Orchestra

Conducted by Kenneth Klein; Gerald Robbins, Piano

Courtesy of MSR Classics

By Arrangement with Fine Gold Music

"I'm Determined"

Written by James Cleveland

Performed by The Meditation Singers

Courtesy of Concord Music Group, Inc.

"Hurts Me To My Heart"

Written by Rose Marie McCoy and Charles Singleton

Performed by Faye Adams

Courtesy of Cleopatra Records

By Arrangement with The Orchard

"Piano Sonata No. 16 in C Major"

Written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Arranged by Stefano Seghedoni

Courtesy of Chicago Music Library, LLC

"Ain't That A Kick In The Head"

Written by Jimmy Van Heusen and Sammy Cahn

Performed by Dean Martin

Courtesy of Capitol Records, Inc.

Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"Function At The Junction"

Written by Eddie Holland and Frederick Long

Performed by Shorty Long

Courtesy of Motown Records

Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"Variations for Piano on 'Ah, Vous Dirai-Je, Maman', K. 265"

Written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Performed by Walter Klien, piano

Courtesy of Countdown Media

"Piano Trio No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 49"

Written by Felix Mendelssohn

Arranged by Stefano Seghedoni

Courtesy of Chicago Music Library, LLC

"Babalu"

Written by Margarita Lecuona

"Tell Him"

Written by Carlton Black

Performed by Patty Drew

Courtesy of Capitol Records, LLC

Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"Bull Connor"

Music by Tom Phillips

Courtesy of WGBH Boston

"We Shall Overcome"

Musical and Lyrical adaptation by Zilphia Horton, Frank Hamilton, Guy Carawan and Pete Seeger.

Inspired by African American Gospel Singing, members of the Food & Tobacco Workers Union, Charleston, SC, and the southern Civil Rights Movement.

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"I'll Close My Eyes"

Written by Billy Reid and Buddy Kaye

Performed by Dinah Washington

Courtesy of Verve Records

Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"Out Of Sight"

Written and performed by James Brown

Courtesy of Universal Records

Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"In the Middle of the Night"

Written by Keith McMasters, Fantasia Barrino, Kassim VonRico Washington, and Abel Terry

Performed by Fantasia Barrino

Produced by Keith "Mack" McMasters

For Lil' Mack Productions, LLC

Fantasia performs Courtesy of 19 Recordings / RCA Records

"Party Is A Groovy Thing"

Written by Frankie Brunson

Performed by People's Choice

Courtesy of Philadelphia International Records and Sony Music Entertainment

By Arrangement with Sony Music Licensing

"You And I Ain't Nothin' No More"

Written, Produced, and Arranged by Lenny Kravitz  
Performed by Gladys Knight  
Courtesy of Miss Bessie Music  
Gladys Knight appears Courtesy of ShakeJi, Inc.

"Rondo No. 2 In C Major for Violin and Orchestra, K.373 Allegretto Grazioso"  
Written by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
Performed by Royal Festival Orchestra, Conducted by William Bowles  
Courtesy of Hindsight Records  
By arrangement with The Orchard

"Hail to the Chief"  
Performed by the DePaul University Brass Band  
Arranged by Will Schaefer  
Courtesy of APM Music

"J.S. Bach: 1. Praeludium [Partita No. 1 in B Flat, BWV 825]"  
Performed by Maria João Pires  
Courtesy of Deutsche Grammophon GmbH, Hamburg under license from Universal Music Enterprises

"Family Reunion"  
Written by Kenneth Gamble and Leonard Huff  
Performed by The O'Jays  
Courtesy of Philadelphia International Records and Sony Music Entertainment  
By Arrangement with Sony Music Licensing

Soundtrack Available on Decca Records

Production Legal Services IRWIN M. RAPPAPORT, P.C.

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David Ranes

Associate Producers  
Manos Gavras  
Bobby Sain

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