

**Mongrel Media**

Presents

# **GROWN UP MOVIE STAR**

Written & Directed by Adriana Maggs

Starring Tatiana Maslany, Julia Kennedy, Jonny Harris,  
And  
Shawn Doyle

(95 min., Canada, 2009)

Distribution



1028 Queen Street West

Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M6J 1H6

Tel: 416-516-9775 Fax: 416-516-0651

E-mail: [info@mongrelmedia.com](mailto:info@mongrelmedia.com)

[www.mongrelmedia.com](http://www.mongrelmedia.com)

Publicity

Bonne Smith

Star PR

Tel: 416-488-4436

Fax: 416-488-8438

E-mail: [starpr@sympatico.ca](mailto:starpr@sympatico.ca)

High res. stills may be downloaded from <http://www.mongrelmedia.com/press.html>

From film and television writer Adriana Maggs comes the heartbreaking drama *Grown Up Movie Star*, featuring acclaimed actor Shawn Doyle (“Big Love”/HBO) alongside rising star Tatiana Maslany (“Heartland,” *Eastern Promises*).

*Grown Up Movie Star* tells the story of disgraced NHL star Ray (Doyle) and his precocious daughters Ruby (Maslany) and Rose (Julia Kennedy). Once the town hero, Ray has returned home to Newfoundland from the US following a drug conviction, only to have his wife Lillian leave him for another man and aspirations of stardom. With Lillian gone, Ray flails from woman to woman trying to find a replacement for her, while struggling against a growing awareness of his homosexuality. At loose ends for lack of guidance, Ruby in turn is becoming increasingly curious about her own sexuality and, in a desperate plea for attention, putting herself in increasingly risky situations. She begins spending more and more time with Ray’s best friend Stuart, confined to a wheelchair following an accident that involved Ray. When Stuart finds himself attracted to Ruby, he leads the three of them towards a heartbreaking conclusion.

The richly textured and uncompromising script is penned by first-time helmer Maggs; Doyle, Maslany and Kennedy are joined by an eclectic cast of local performers including Jonny Harris, Steve Cochrane, and east coast icon Andy Jones.

The film was shot entirely on location in Newfoundland, production design is by Shelley Cornick, costumes are by Charlotte Reid, and Jason Tan lenses on the RED CAM.

*Grown Up Movie Star* is produced with the participation of Telefilm Canada, the Newfoundland and Labrador Film Development Corporation, and the Harold Greenberg Fund. Mongrel Media has Canadian distribution rights.

## **LOG LINE**

When one-time NHL star Ray finds himself the sole caregiver for his two daughters after his wife Lillian leaves him for Hollywood, life begins to unravel. Ray and Ruby struggle simultaneously with very different sexual awakenings and with each other. While Ray is consumed by a secret that won't go away, Ruby finds the attention she craves from desperately lonely Stuart, a man her father paralyzed in a hunting accident years before.

## **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Once the town hockey hero, Ray has returned home to Newfoundland from the US following a drug conviction, only to have his wife Lillian leave him for aspirations of stardom. Ray flails from woman to woman trying to replace her, while struggling against a growing awareness of his homosexuality. At loose ends for lack of guidance, Ruby attempts to follow her mother's starlet dreams with make up and sexual behavior. She ends up putting herself in increasingly risky situations, spending more and more time with Ray's best friend Stuart, a photographer who confined to a wheelchair following a hunting accident involving Ray. When Stuart finds himself attracted to Ruby, dangerously motivated by fear and anger, he leads the three of them towards a heartbreaking conclusion.

## **LONG SYNOPSIS**

Grown Up Movie Star tells the story of disgraced NHL star Ray and his precocious daughters Ruby and Rose. Once the town hero, Ray has returned home to Newfoundland from the US following a drug conviction, only to have his wife Lillian leave him for another man and aspirations of stardom. With Lillian gone, Ray flails from woman to woman trying to find a replacement for her, while struggling against a growing awareness of his homosexuality. At loose ends for lack of guidance, Ruby attempts to follow her mother's starlet dreams with make up and sexual behavior, and in a desperate plea for attention, begins putting herself in increasingly risky situations. Ruby begins spending more and more time with Ray's best friend Stuart, confined to a wheelchair following an accident involving Ray. When Stuart finds himself attracted to Ruby, dangerously motivated by fear and anger, he leads the three of them towards a heartbreaking conclusion.

## **The power of a great story**

Every once in a while a story comes along that takes hold of everyone who comes across it. For reasons that are difficult to articulate, its characters reach out and grab you and won't let you go, because they dare to pull back the veil of some hard-won truth about the frightening vulnerability and dangerously haphazard nature of the human condition.

This was how actor Shawn Doyle felt when he first read the script for *Grown Up Movie Star*. “You just don't see scripts that are this strong coming at you everyday – from either side of border. I was floored by its daring portrayal of a family in crisis. It never turns away from these people, it doesn't diminish them in any way, and it is beautifully true to its setting,” comments Doyle.

Written by film and television writer Adriana Maggs, *Grown Up Movie Star* is a Newfoundland-set story of an emotionally ill-equipped father, Ray, left to care for his two young daughters when his wife leaves him to pursue ill-gotten dreams of stardom in Hollywood. Daughters Ruby and Rose tramp around in their mother's ironically glamorous hand-me-downs and try to take care of each other with their mother gone and Ray struggling with his responsibilities; Ruby nurtures her own dreams of wanting to get out of town and become a star. The story parallels Ray's growing acceptance of his long-suppressed homosexuality with his 14-year-old daughter Ruby's discovery of her own sexuality and a seductiveness that can bring her the attention she has long been craving.

The story evolved over many years for writer/director Adriana Maggs before it made it to the page, first in the form of a short film. “*Grown Up Movie Star* was really a story that had been growing inside me for a long time, as a lot of different ideas,” says Maggs. “I always wanted to tell a story that reflected real

life as I knew it, and that really lived in the gray area that I think life tends to be centered in. I wanted to tell a story where nobody was clearly evil, because I don't know any evil people. I know a lot of people who are the product of their circumstances.”

Emerging producer Jill Knox-Gosse heard a reading of the short film that would become *Grown Up Movie Star* back in 2006, and approached Maggs about expanding it. “There was the seed of something bigger in it and I had been looking for something that grabbed me to pursue as my first feature as a producer,” says Knox-Gosse. She approached Maggs and found that they came together easily around a shared interest in common themes. “We sat down at the kitchen table and talked about growing up, about certain characters that were familiar to both of us from Newfoundland, and specifically about the idea of girls being raised without a female influence and the potential impact of that. There were a lot of ideas that we both gravitated towards,” remarks Knox-Gosse.

Knox-Gosse's support carried Maggs back to the script, and she found its universal themes easily translated into a feature-length screenplay.

“The film is ultimately about people on different sides of their dreams,” says Maggs. “Ray's dreams were crushed when he was ousted from the NHL, but he pursues another one when he embraces his sexuality. Ruby is confusing a dream she has of going to Hollywood with her dream of having a mother. The decisions she makes trying to get to Hollywood are not logically going to get her there. But they do get her a friend and some attention, which is probably all she wants. Stuart's future was taken from him when he lost his legs and his dreams of having a woman to love him have devastating consequences. Because he wants it so badly, he starts to believe it might happen with Ruby, who is a child. The film is about what drives us as individuals and how sometimes when you get a bunch of people together, a family for example, who

are just trying to rectify their lost dreams, the only way they can think of, they can forget about each other - and this can cause chaos.”

The theme of the pursuit of lost dreams to the exclusion of others is carried to its limit when Ruby is molested by her father’s best friend Stuart.

“Ruby and Stuart’s relationship is complicated because Ruby doesn’t know the power of her own sexuality. It’s almost like she discovered that she has a superpower, like she can shoot fire out of her fingers or something, and she can’t help burning down a few sheds,” says Maggs. “Stuart seems like a safe place to put this new sexual energy, and it gets her the attention she’s lacking from her father. She trusts him, he is her father’s best friend, and he’s in a wheelchair so he’s not going to grab her out of the bushes, so to speak. Stuart sees Ruby as a little girl at first but Ruby has grown up. He forgets himself and falls in love, in a way. But when Ruby puts their relationship in perspective and it’s clear there is no future there, Stuart gets desperate and this is when the anger he has at Ray rears its head.”

Like all of the relationship dynamics in the film, the relationship between Ruby and Stuart is very bravely situated in a moral gray zone, in which Stuart’s actions, while clearly inappropriate, are not without motivation or some measure of empathy.

“While Stuart is very clearly in the wrong, what gives the script a lot of power is that it dares to empathize with him,” says actor Jonny Harris, who portrays Stuart. “He’s not coming from a malicious place - he’s in love with the girl. She’s too young for him to be in love with, and that’s ultimately wrong and unforgivable, but we do empathize with him. When Ruby shows him a glimmer of returned interest he deludes himself into believing that she is his only chance at being loved.”

Ultimately, the threads of all the characters in *Grown Up Movie Star* knit together through the theme of how people in close proximity can cause accidental harm to each other while in the single-minded pursuit of their own needs. This theme is revealed in the parallel of Ray and Ruby's search to find themselves through their sexuality. Comments Doyle, "To me the film really centres on the parallel journeys of Ray and Ruby's sexual awakenings. Ray's journey is a move to salvation and Ruby's is towards a darker, more dangerous course that she ultimately has to be rescued from. However in this rescue, Ruby finds her own love and salvation with her father."

## **Assembling the cast**

At the heart of *Grown Up Movie Star* are the characters of Ray and Ruby, a father and daughter unlike any others, who are on parallel journeys headed in tragically different directions.

In a conference call almost a year before the film went into production, the question was raised of who could pull off the required intensity of the tough, angry and emotionally illiterate Ray, while infusing the role with sufficient vulnerability.

“I wasn’t aware of Shawn at the time and when we were getting close to finishing the second draft we were on a conference call. Adriana was in Toronto, Paul Pope and I were in St John’s and Jamie from Telefilm was in Halifax,” says producer Jill Knox-Gosse. “Jamie had asked if we had thought about who the lead should be and everyone at the same time exclaimed, Shawn Doyle! And I’m sitting in the room thinking ‘who is Shawn Doyle?’ So I went and looked at a few things he had done and yes, he just fit the bill.”

Director Adriana Maggs adds, “The character of Ray had to be very traditionally masculine and we needed an actor who would also really be willing to risk going to dangerous places emotionally. I never wanted anyone else to do it and I don’t know if this movie would have gotten made if he hadn’t said yes.”

In addition to being an actor known for his intense commitment and rugged good looks, what most do not know about Shawn Doyle is that he is in fact a Newfoundlander. While many actors might have been daunted by the character’s homosexuality or his sometimes neglectful attitude towards his children, returning home to play an honest-to-God Newfoundlander was what actually intimidated Doyle the most.

“I think all my reservations about playing Ray stem from the fact that I’ve haven’t played a Newfoundlander since I was 19 years old. It’s the notion of being accepted as a Newfoundlander again, because I spent so much time not feeling like a Newfoundlander as a kid and I kind of ran away at sixteen. I grew up in Wabush Labrador, an ore-mining town, and I always wanted to get away, which is such a central theme to this movie. The notion of wanting or needing to be somewhere else because you feel your life will be fulfilled in a more complete way elsewhere. And so I kind of ran away from my heritage in a lot of ways. I ran away from any trace of Newfoundlander in me and became something else, some sort of a bastardized hybrid of a Canadian/ Ontario/ Newfoundlander. I had a lot of resistance and fear about coming back and playing a Newfoundlander. I’ve been offered a number of films here over the years and my fear has always been stronger than my desire to do the projects. Until this one,” says Doyle.

Doyle put his apprehension about going back home aside, however, after reading Maggs’ richly imagined script. “Once I read the script I was so blown away by it that I handed it to my wife and made her read it right away. I asked her what she thought and she said that it may have been the best script she had ever read, which reinforced what I was feeling, but was almost reluctant to believe. I knew this script was finally going to get me back to Newfoundland. The reason the script is so good is because it has such detail and specificity to the characters and life in Newfoundland, but the themes are so universal. We all go through these things. The sense of loss, of sexual awakening, of frustration and loneliness, of pain and repression and joy - it just had everything.”

Fortunately, Doyle found he was able to put aside all his concerns about playing a Newfoundlander after the first day of shooting. “My first day of work I had to be a hockey player, a gay hockey player, and speak with a

Newfoundland accent. I was terrified,” says Doyle. “First of all you have all the boys watching you and they’re all hockey players. You know they’re thinking ‘Ok, here’s a fella,’ and they’re not quite sure if I’m from around here originally, they just know that I’m some guy who lives in Los Angeles. So I start this scene where I’m playing hockey with Rose and I get over my fear of shooting the ball and the scene goes fine and my accent is feeling comfortable enough that I’m not self-conscious about it. And as I’m doing the first few takes, phrases from my childhood start to just pop right out of me. Things like ‘come back here you big suck’ (pronounced sook)! I haven’t said that in thirty years! And then one of our crew members pulled me aside when our DP, who’s from Ontario, was doing something and he nudges me and says, ‘He’s from Ontario eh?’ So at that point I realized they were seeing me as a Newfoundlander. It was amazing.”

The role of Ruby proved a greater challenge to cast as they needed an actress who could play a fourteen-year-old, but who also had the professional ability and emotional maturity to handle the difficult subject matter in the script.

A few years prior, Doyle had worked with twenty-three-year old actress Tatiana Maslany in the television movie *The Robber Bride*. However, when presented with the idea of Maslany playing Ruby, Doyle had immediate reservations about her age. “Tatiana and I have the same agent and she tried to press it for a while and then finally took the hint that she just wasn’t appropriate age-wise. But as we got close to casting, Tatiana put herself on tape and sent it in, and it was very clear right away that she possessed extraordinary ability as an actor and that she could convincingly play a girl in her early teens. We knew she would be compelling enough to carry a movie like this. Because ultimately, the story is a parallel journey between a father and a daughter, but if the balance of the movie rests on one side or another it’s with Ruby. And while we had hoped to find someone from Newfoundland, at the end of the day when you’re

making a movie with this kind of emotional scope you really need to find an actor that can access as many colours as possible. It became very clear that that needed to be the priority.”

Maggs adds, “When we went down to Toronto to audition her, she used the entire room. In my memory there isn’t a corner that she wasn’t in. I’ve never seen an audition like that before. People come in and sometimes they nail it but still they’re nervous and they stay put, but she just really knows how to own a space.”

For Maslany, the role of Ruby was the opportunity of a lifetime. While daunting, the chance to portray the range of emotions that Ruby traverses as the lead in such a complex story enthralled her.

“Ruby is a bit of a mess. She’s dealing with a lot of things that a child of her age doesn’t know how to process and she takes on a lot of things as being her fault. When a parent leaves or when divorce happens in a family there’s a lot of residual guilt that kids take on, and Ruby has a lot of that guilt and the feeling that she’s not worth enough for her mom to stay. She acts out a lot of these confusing feelings through her blossoming sexuality, which isn’t blossoming in the healthiest way. And she has the weight of her father’s problems on her as well - it’s so much to deal with. Ruby fights so hard to survive and fights so hard to find people who believe that she’s special. She needs it so badly, that affirmation that she’s something important. She’s the greatest character. I love her so much.”

For the role of Rose, the filmmakers were thrilled that they were able to find an actress from the island to fill her shoes in the young Julia Kennedy. An extraordinary new talent, Kennedy impressed the filmmakers with her amazing ability to play the difficult emotions in the film, though she herself is truly a carefree, happy thirteen-year-old.

Comments Maggs, “She’s actually not like Rose at all. The minute the cameras cut she’s talking a mile a minute and singing and jumping around. Then the camera starts rolling and she just gets back into this character and it’s almost too much to expect from someone her age. She’s like a Culkin.”

“What’s extraordinary about her is that her experiences have lead her to understand how she really works as an actor,” adds Doyle. “So you have this young girl who comes in who has to do this highly emotional scene and she’s able to access that stuff in a way that I couldn’t access until much further on in my career.”

And happily, the two girls developed a genuine chemistry on and off the screen. Says Maggs, “They are hilarious, actually. Tatiana just mauls Julia. She’s all over her and pushing and pulling her and they are like real sisters. Honestly, I think if I didn’t call cut they would start fighting like real siblings.”

For the pivotal role of Stuart, Ray’s best friend with burgeoning feelings for Ruby, Maggs and Knox-Gosse both had the same actor in mind, another Newfoundland local, Jonny Harris. However they had to convince Doyle, who was concerned that Harris was too young to play his best friend.

“I came here at Christmas to do some casting and one night we all went out for dinner and they invited Jonny, and clearly they were bringing Jonny along so I could meet him,” says Doyle. “But I was concerned that since Jonny is visibly younger than I am, the audience wouldn’t believe we could be such old childhood friends.”

“But then he read for us and his reading was just amazing. What that character needed was vulnerability, so that an audience can have some sympathy for him and not just see him as a predator. In the end, that’s not

what the character's about at all. He's a lonely man who somehow deludes himself into believing that this is a true romantic relationship he has with this young girl. And Jonny came in and completely blew me away with his sensitivity and I just said, clearly that's the guy we need."

While many actors may have shied away from such an unsettling character, Jonny saw Stuart as a huge opportunity. "You could go your whole life and not get a role like this, where you really have to try and balance the terrible thing he does with some humanity. Hopefully the audience will be able to have empathy for Stuart, see where he's coming from, and maybe even hurt for him a little bit. This is a real challenge for an actor. I was thrilled when Adriana told me I was being considered for the role."

For her part, Maggs was overjoyed with Harris' unique ability to make Stuart a character that isn't easy to marginalize.

"He brings a huge soul to somebody who is trapped," she says. "A person who has lost the use of his legs but could have a normal relationship if anyone would just look at him. But this girl is the only one who does and he loses himself. I don't think that he's evil, and I wonder if anyone else inhabiting the role would have been able to make us see him the way that Jonny does."

## ***Newfoundland***

At the heart of this film, the spirit and landscape of Newfoundland is no less a character than any other in *Grown Up Movie Star*. One of the most beautiful, challenging, and distinctive places in the world, the people and culture of Newfoundland are explored through the film in a myriad of ways.

Like most of the cast and crew, Maggs, a displaced Newfoundlander, was dedicated to rendering the unique beauty and culture of her hometown as authentically as possible in the film. “Writing a script that truly communicated Newfoundland culture, dialect, the strength of the people, the challenges that they face – this was all very important to me. There is something so incredibly special about this place. It is one of the most beautiful landscapes in the world, but it is isolated and so many people here wrestle with ambitions to leave. I hope to capture as much of this as I can in the film,” says Maggs.

One of the central themes to the story - learning to be comfortable in your own skin and in the place you are at in your life - is examined through the inherent isolation of the small east coast province and the natural desire of its locals to leave for perceived greener pastures. “I think it’s true of most people who grow up in small towns, that at some point you want to leave and believe that you can only actualize your dreams elsewhere. Obviously, as an actor who left Newfoundland for Toronto and eventually Los Angeles, I can relate to this,” comments Doyle. “However, ultimately you need to be able to come home again and accept where you came from, and thereby yourself. It’s amazing really that Ray experiences this psychologically, while I go through it personally, coming back to Newfoundland to make this film.”

And while the film does showcase some of Newfoundland’s beautiful coastline, the landscape of *Grown Up Movie Star* is drawn more from the people than the shores. Maggs’ distinct and specific rendering of Newfoundland’s people and

culture held strong appeal for Doyle, who could recognize these characters from his own past.

“When people make movies here - especially when they are not from the province - they all seem to shoot the same things: the seagulls flying against the rocky cliffs and the beautiful green coastline. And while that’s accurate, what makes Adriana’s writing so incredible is the detail and specificity of the characters and life in Newfoundland,” says Doyle. “I spent my summers on the Port au Port Peninsula and have very specific memories of it. In considering doing *Grown Up Movie Star*, I watched one of her short films, *I Dare Not Go*, and her choice of images was much of what I remembered from my childhood. Kids outside in their rubber boots skipping in puddles or people putting their garbage in old deep freezes by the side of the road. All these details. This is why I felt I could come back here – I recognized it. I got it. I wasn’t going to have to pretend because I know what this is.”

Part of what Doyle may have recognized in these characters and this story was the inclination to process difficult experiences through humour, a quality Maggs identifies as at the core of the Newfoundland spirit, and which enabled her to tell such a challenging story in the quixotic and darkly-comic way that she did.

“Newfoundland is a place where humour and pain go hand-in-hand. It’s a culture where people laugh at tragic things to take away their power. Maybe that’s what it’s like to be a Newfoundlander. To laugh it away...”

## Cast

**SHAWN DOYLE (Ray/Producer)** is a favourite and familiar face to audiences, turning out critically acclaimed performances on both the big and small screen. Doyle has appeared in several acclaimed network series, including “Desperate Housewives,” “24,” “C.S.I.” and the ABC hit “Lost.” He can currently be seen on HBO’s “Big Love.”

In Canada, Doyle starred in the critically acclaimed Canadian series “The Eleventh Hour,” for which he received the 2002 ACTRA Award for Outstanding Male Performance in a Series. Doyle has also received numerous Gemini nominations for his work on “The Eleventh Hour,” the gritty series “The City,” and the miniseries “Verdict In Blood.” In 2007 Shawn appeared in the acclaimed television adaptation of Margaret Atwood’s “The Robber Bride,” with Mary Louise Parker, a role for which he was awarded a Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Lead Role Gemini Award.

In addition to television, Doyle has amassed quite a pedigree in film starring in such feature films as “Sabah,” “The Majestic,” “Don’t Say A Word,” “Cletis Tout,” “Frequency,” “Knockaround Guys,” “Long Kiss Goodnight,” and “Papertrail.” This fall Doyle will be seen in the Warner Brothers release “Whiteout” with Kate Beckinsale.

**TATIANA MASLANY (Ruby)** is one of Canada’s confirmed rising stars. Recently seen on the breakaway hit “Flashpoint,” in a dramatic guest-starring role opposite Peter Stebbings, Tatiana can currently be seen as a series regular on CBC’s “Heartland.” Previous television roles include a series regular on “Instant Star,” and leading roles “Sabbatical” for CTV and “Incredible Story Studio” on YTV.

Maslany's television film roles include "An Old Fashioned Thanksgiving," which she is currently shooting for Hallmark, and a previous pairing with Shawn Doyle in the critically acclaimed adaptation of Margaret Atwood's "The Robber Bride."

Feature film credits include supporting roles in the NFB's "Late Fragments," George Romero's "Diary of the Dead," and "Flash of Genius" opposite Greg Kinnear.

**JULIA KENNEDY (Rose)** is an emerging young actress from St John's, Newfoundland who is quickly becoming known as a talent to be reckoned with. Films credits for Kennedy include "The Magnificent Molly McBride" in which she plays the lead of the title, "Ten Days," "The One that Got Away," "Behind the Wall" and "Here On In." A triple-threat with skills in acting, singing, and dance, Kennedy recently won first place awards in three categories at the 2008 Kiwanis Music Festival; for Musical Theatre Duet, Musical Theatre Solo, and Traditional Folk Song Solo.

**JONNY HARRIS (Stuart)** is a graduate of Sir Wilfred Grenfell College's School of Fine Arts. He has extensive experience in both classical and contemporary theatre; his select credits include Edmund in "King Lear" and Hal in "Proof." His first one-man show, "Out Of The Bog," directed by CODCO's Andy Jones, led to several solo comedic performances such as CBC Radio's "Madly Off In All Directions" and currently his comedic commentary can be heard on CBC Radio's "Definitely Not the Opera." Jonny has appeared several times on "The Halifax Comedy Festival," in 2005 wrote for, and hosted, the 20th anniversary Newfoundland Arts Awards. Jonny was a founding member and continues to perform with the St. John's sketch comedy troupe "The Dance Party of Newfoundland."

On camera, Jonny has contributed as a staff writer on “This Hour Has 22 Minutes” and “Hatching, Matching and Dispatching” both on the CBC, the later in which he appeared as the series regular Troy Furey alongside Mary Walsh, Shaun Majumder and Mark McKinney. Thereafter he was cast as Billy Head in Mary Walsh’s feature directorial debut “Young Triffie.” In 2008 Jonny will return as the clumsy yet lovable Constable Crabtree in season 2 of the “Murdoch Mysteries,” which airs on City TV.

**MARK O’BRIEN (Will)** has built an impressive resume over the last few years and is proving himself daily as a talent to watch in this country. O’Brien began his career in film and television as a host of “Kids’ CBC.” Other television credits include “You’re It” for the CBC, “Above and Beyond” for the CBC and directed by Sturla Gunnarson, and the upcoming series for the CBC “The Republic of Doyle.” Film credits include “Cut from the Same Cloth” directed by Roger Maunder and “Heartless Disappearance Into Labrador Seas” directed by Justin Simms.

**STEVE COCHRANE (James)** is another rising star in the Canadian acting landscape. Hailing from St John’s, Newfoundland, Cochrane’s credits include the feature film “If Wishes Were Horses,” the sketch comedy show “Sketch with Kevin McDonald” of Kids in the Hall fame, the series “Rabbittown,” “Above and Beyond” directed by Sturla Gunnarson, and he has also appeared in episodes of the beloved “Corner Gas” and CBC’s hit “The Border.”

**SHERRY WHITE (Lillian)** is both an iconic east coast performer as well as one of the country’s top television scribes. White both wrote and starred in the recent feature film “Down to the Dirt,” with Hugh Dillon and Robert Joy; she also wrote and starred in the 2003 feature “The Breadmaker” with Jonathan Torrens. White also starred in Mary Walsh’s “Young Triffie” with *Grown Up Movie Star* co-stars Andy Jones and Jonny Harris.

For television, White has written and starred in the CBC series “MVP” and “Hatching, Matching and Dispatching.” She also recently wrote one episode of the current CBC hit “Sophie.”

Also an accomplished stage actress, White’s theatre credits include leading roles in “Salvage,” “Top Girls,” “Rocky Horror,” “Chekov Variations,” and “Blue Blazes” directed by Andy Jones.

**ANDY JONES (Bill)** has been a professional writer and actor for over thirty years. He has written five critically acclaimed one-man comedy shows: “Out of the Bin,” “Still Alive,” “King O’ Fun,” “To The Wall,” and “An Evening with Uncle Val.” He has extensively toured, to critical acclaim, across Canada, the UK, and Ireland. This December, Andy launched his very successful CD “Letters From Uncle Val” with Rattling Books. Jones was recently nominated for a Gemini for his performance in “To The Wall” on CBC Television's *Opening Night* series, as well as winning ‘Best Performance’ at the Atlantic Film Festival in Halifax. In September 2006, a film version of his one-man show “King O’ Fun” premiered on BRAVO! and also played at The Atlantic Film Festival. He is well known in Canada as one of the groundbreaking Newfoundland comedy troupe CODCO, in both its theatrical and television incarnations. He has performed across Europe with The Madhouse Company of London, in England with The Ken Campbell Roadshow, and across Canada in theatre productions including “The Time and Place” (Theatre Smith-Gilmour, Toronto), “Pilk’s Madhouse” (Second Stage, Halifax), “Love and Anger” (Alberta Theatre Projects, Calgary), “Pope Joan” (Nightwood Theatre, Toronto), “The Postal Show” (Theatre P.E.I., Charlottetown), and “Bloomsday” (Anna Livia Productions, Toronto). In television he has co-written and performed in “Kids in the Hall,” “Dooley Gardens,” “The Cathy Jones Special,” and “Nasty Habits.” In film he played principal roles in “Rare Birds,” “Brain Candy,” “Extraordinary Visitor,” “A Secret Nation,” “Paint Cans,” “Life With Billy,” “Coleslaw Warehouse,” and “The

Adventure of Faustus Bidgood” (which he also co-wrote and directed). Andy’s numerous awards include two Gemini awards, five Gemini nominations, two Emmy nominations, two Genie nominations, election to the Newfoundland Arts Council Hall of Honour, The Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council’s Award of Excellence, and the ACTRA Award of Excellence for Lifetime Achievement. This winter watch for Andy as "Father Sand" in a new TV Pilot called “The Altar Boy Gang,” and as "Reverend Pottle" in the new feature film “Young Triffie.”

## **Crew**

**ADRIANA MAGGS (Writer/Director)** is the executive producer, co-creator and head writer of the 2009 Gemini Winning series “Three Chords From the Truth.” Adriana has most recently written on the TMN series “Call Me Fitz” starring Jason Priestly. She was the head writer on “The Wilkinson’s” and wrote the episode that garnered the Gemini Award for best individual performance in a comedy. Adriana won awards in Canada for her two short films including the Outstanding Writer’s award at the Atlantic Film Festival in 2004. She created the series “Rabbittown” for CBC with Sherry White and was a contributing writer and actor in the award winning series “Hatching, Matching and Dispatching” for CBC. She wrote and directed *Grown Up Movie Star*, it is her first feature film.

**JILL KNOX-GOSSE (Producer)** lives in Newfoundland and started her producing career in 2006. She operates her own production company, Odd Sock Films Inc. and owns Opportunity Knox Inc.

*Grown Up Movie Star* is Knox-Gosse’s first feature film with Paul Pope (Pope Productions). Knox-Gosse is currently in development on another feature film, “Mundy Pond” a first time feature film for Roger Maunder and Knox-Gosse is also currently in development with producer Lynne Wilson (Pearl Productions) on “We The Jury,” a six part interactive TV crime series, with writer Justin Simms and Kerri MacDonald.

In 2007, Knox-Gosse directed her first film through the NIFCO First Time Filmmakers Program, along with the support of the NFB. “The Great Sock Escape” is a live action/animated short film and is currently in post

production. Also in 2007, Knox-Gosse produced her first short film “Furs” with award winning director Sabah Hadi. “Furs” is currently in post production.

She is also a member of the Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Cooperative (NIFCO) and the Canadian Film and Television Producers Association (CFTPA).

**PAUL POPE (Producer)** is an accomplished producer, based on the east coast of Canada, whose credits include the recent television features “Diverted” starring Shawn Ashmore and “The One That Got Away,” the television series “Life With Derek,” the critically-acclaimed CBC mini-series “Above and Beyond” directed by Sturla Gunnarsson, the CBC television feature “Heyday!” written and directed by Gordon Pinsent, the feature film “Rare Birds” (also with Gunnarsson) and the poignant documentary “My Left Breast.” As an assistant director, Paul had the pleasure of working on the critically acclaimed “The Shipping News” starring Kevin Spacey. Paul is the founder of Pope Productions, a Newfoundland company involved in the development and production of innovative media projects.

**JASON TAN (Director of Photography)** studied film production, history and theory at York University where he earned a BFA Honours degree. Over the last 12 years Jason has honed his craft working on commercials, music videos, features and shorts in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver and Los Angeles. Along the way, he has garnered numerous awards including a Gemini nomination and several awards from the Canadian Society of Cinematographers. Tan shot and co-directed the documentary “Flyerman” which premiered at TIFF 2004. Other credits include the feature films “DoUlike2watch,” “Prey,” and “Hayseed” (TIFF 1997,) and the “Life and Times” documentary “Road Songs: A Portrait of Robbie Robertson,” directed by Bruce MacDonald.

**Elliott BROOD (Composer)** is a three piece Alt-country Rock band from Toronto, consisting of songwriters Casey Laforet, Mark Sasso and Stephen Pitkin. The band have earned a reputation amongst connoisseurs and critics alike with their atmospheric and richly crafted releases; 2004's "Tin Type" EP, 2005's "AMBASSADOR" and 2008's "Mountain Meadows." In the process they've made a name for themselves worldwide by presenting raw and energetic live shows. In 2006, Ambassador earned The BROOD a Juno nomination for best Roots/Traditional album and their live show won the band the 2006 Galaxy Rising Star Award for Best New Artist in Canada, landing them on Best of Lists from The Globe & Mail to CBC Radio 3, and netted them a four-star review from British music magazine UNCUT. Their album AMBASSADOR kept them on the college radio charts in Canada for over 17 weeks straight. In June, 2008 Elliott BROOD released Mountain Meadows. Mountain Meadows lasted 21 weeks in top 50 college radio, peaking nationally at number 3 (Earshot) and number 1 (CBC R3-30). The album captured its share of year-end accolades, earning the band a second Juno nomination for Roots/Traditional Album of the Year and one for CD Artwork/design. The band also snagged the Number 1 spot on Exclaim Magazine's Wood, Wires and Whisky Reader's Choice award. 2008 was a banner year for the BROOD, they graced the cover of Exclaim! magazine in July and both Uncut and Q magazine each awarded Mountain Meadows generous 4-star reviews in the UK. Scoring a more recent goal, their ukelele driven "The Valley Town" was featured on Hockey Night in Canada's Stanley Cup Playoffs intro. More recently Mountain Meadows has recently been Short Listed for the 2009 Polaris Music Prize for best Canadian Album. The BROOD are gearing up for their first release in the USA, with Mountain Meadows unleashing south of the border in October, 2009 through Ryko/ADA. The band has had a great deal of experience lending its music to soundtracks but *Grown up Movie Star* is a first for the group in that the band was allowed to write and perform original score for the project.

**SHELLEY CORNICK (Production Designer)** is one of the east coast's most respected art directors and production designers. She began her career as a scenic artist on such projects as "The Boys of St Vincent," "The Divine Ryans," and "Rare Birds." Following painting she moved into art direction on film and television projects including "The Bread Maker," "Hatching, Matching & Dispatching," "The Shipping News," Gordon Pinsent's "Heyday!," and the recent "Diverted." Recent Production Design credits include "Stealing Mary," "Rabbittown," and Sherry White's "Crackie."

**CHARLOTTE REID (Costumes)** was trained at Dalhousie's Costume Studies Program and has worked in the Film and Television industry across Canada since 1997. She designed Season 3 of "Trailer Park Boys" before returning home to St. John's to launch a line of recycled accessories, Charlottestreet.ca in 2004. More recently credited for Costume Design on Justin Simm's "Down to the Dirt" and "Crackie" by Sherry White.

**STEVEN PHILLIPSON (Editor)** is a Picture Editor, Filmmaker and Artist from Toronto. After graduating from the film program at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in 2001, Stephen studied editing at the Canadian Film Centre. Since then, he has edited many award-winning short films, including "Can You Wave Bye Bye?," which won Best Canadian Short Film at the 2008 Worldwide Short Film Festival and was recently nominated for a Genie award. He has also edited numerous TV series including the Gemini-nominated series "Three Chords from the Truth," "The Smart Woman Survival Guide," and the Gemini award winning series "The Wilkinsons." In 2008, he edited the feature documentary "Prom Night in Mississippi" (starring Morgan Freeman), which premiered at Sundance, screened on HBO, and recently won Best Documentary at the AFI-Dallas Film Festival. His most recent work, the Telefilm-funded features "The Wild Hunt" and *Grown Up Movie Star*, premiered

at the Toronto International Film Festival and the Atlantic Film Festivals respectively. Stephen is also finishing his fifth short film as a director entitled "The Twilight Express."

**“GROWN UP MOVIE STAR”**  
**ONSCREEN CREDITS**

**Opening Titles:**

1. (Mongrel Media card)
2. SHAWN DOYLE
3. TATIANA MASLANY
4. JONNY HARRIS
5. GROWN UP MOVIE STAR
6. JULIA KENNEDY
7. STEVE COCHRANE  
MARK O'BRIEN
8. SUSAN KENT  
SHERRY WHITE
9. and ANDY JONES
10. Production Designer SHELLEY CORNICK
11. Editor STEPHEN PHILLIPSON
12. Music by Elliott BROOD
13. Director of Photography JASON TAN csc
14. Producers JILL KNOX-GOSSE  
PAUL POPE  
SHAWN DOYLE  
ADRIANA MAGGS
15. Written and directed by ADRIANA MAGGS

**Closing credits:**

1. Produced with the participation of



2. Produced with the participation of



3. Produced with the participation of  
THE HAROLD GREENBERG FUND (LOGO) from web site

4. Produced with the participation of



5.	Cast of Characters	
	Ray	Shawn Doyle
	Ruby	Tatiana Maslany
	Rose	Julia Kennedy
	Stuart	Jonny Harris
	Ben	Andy Jones
	Will	Mark O'Brien
	James	Steve Cochrane
	Laura	Maggie Meyer
	Dara	Mary Lewis
	Lillian	Sherry White
	Jennifer	Susan Kent
6.	Barry	Sean Panting
	Krista	Sarah Small
	Chad	Joel Thomas Hynes
	Julie	Deidre Gillard Rowlings
	Older Cop	Jerry Doyle
	Female Cop	Melanie Caines
	Judge	Kevin Lewis
	Guy In Car	Chris MacCarthy
	Hockey Player	Jeff Conway
	Old Man	Mack Furlong
	Boys	James Hawksley
		Nick Burry
		Scott Yetman
7	Production Manager	Jill Knox-Gosse
	First Assistant Director	Paul Pope
	Second Assistant Director	Noel Harris

	Third Assistant Director	Shannon Hawes
	Production Coordinator	Jacqueline Hynes
	Production Accountant	Lynne Wilson
	Assistant Accountant	Lori Van Thiel
	Post Production Accountant	Jill Knox-Gosse
	Script Supervisor	Lyly Fortin
	Location Manager	Cara Powell
	Location PA	Andrew Pyne
	St. John's Casting	Maggie Keiley
	Toronto Casting	Lewis Kay Casting
8	Camera Operator	Jason Tan, csc
	First Assistant Camera	Brent Robinson
	Second Assistant Camera	Mark O'Neill
	Camera Trainee	Adam Penney
	Digi Tech	Dave Cox
	Sound Recordist	Harvey Hyslop
	Boom Operator	Mark Neary
		Elsa Morena
	Gaffer	Bob Petrie
	Best Boy	Andrew Best
	Generator Operator	Tim Murphy
	Key Grip	Sean Doran
	Best Boy Grip	Jason Andrews
	Dolly Grip	John Roche
9.	Set Decorator	Lori Ann Benson
	Set Dresser	Richard Kelloway
	Property Master	Geoff Youngusband
	Props Daily	Debbie Vatcher
	Costume Designer	Charlotte Reid

	On Set Dresser	Shara King
	Key Makeup Artist Makeup Daily	Daphne Thomas Andrew Squires
10.	Publicity Coordinator	Suzanne Cheriton
		Maggie Keiley
	Stills Photography	Dave Cox
	Drivers	Rick Gosse
		Barry King
		Tom Webber
	Security	Dolores Curran
		Colin Hanames
		Nick Jewczyk
		Brian Roberts
		Richard Scheller
		Kevin White
	Craft Service Catering	Jenny Rockett L & G Catering
11.	Post Production Supervisor	Lori Van Thiel
	Assistant Picture Editor/Dailies	Edward Tanasychuk
	Digital Effects	Peter Evans
	Sound Editor	Lori Clarke
	Assistant Sound Editor	Mark Neary
	Dialogue Editor	Harvey Hyslop
	Foley Recordist	Mark Neary
	Foley Artist	Lori Clarke
	Foley Editor	Lori Clarke
	Re-recording mixers	Harvey Hyslop
		Lori Clarke
	On-Line Editor and Colourist	Steve Cook

	Assistant Online Editor	Edward Tanasychuk
12.	Cameras	PS Toronto
	Lighting and Grip Equipment	Atlantic Studios Co-operative
		PS Atlantic
	Banking Services	Royal Bank of Canada
	Insurance Brokers	Fraser & Hoyt
	Payroll Services	EP Canada Inc.
	Script Clearances	Eastern Script
	Online Video and Re-recording studios	Newfoundland Independent Filmmakers Cooperative

13.	"31 Years"	"Dust Bowl"
	Written by M. Sasso, C. Laforet, S. Pitkin	Written by M. Sasso, C. Laforet, S. Pitkin
	Performed by Elliott BROOD	Performed by Elliott BROOD
	Published by Town of Machine Publishing (SOCAN)	Published by Town of Machine Publishing (SOCAN)
	Courtesy of Six Shooter Records	Courtesy of Six Shooter Records
	"Johnny Rooke"	"The Body"
	Written by M. Sasso, C. Laforet, S. Pitkin	Written by M. Sasso, C. Laforet, S. Pitkin
	Performed by Elliott BROOD	Performed by Elliott BROOD
	Published by Town of Machine Publishing (SOCAN)	Published by Town of Machine Publishing (SOCAN)
	Courtesy of Six Shooter Records	Courtesy of Six Shooter Records
	"Miss You Now"	"Time For Change"
	Written by M. Sasso, C. Laforet, S. Pitkin	Written by Joel Stewart
	Performed by Elliott BROOD	Performed by Joel Stewart
	Published by Town of Machine Publishing (SOCAN)	Published by Joel Stewart (SOCAN)
	Courtesy of Six Shooter Records	Courtesy of Joel Stewart

14.

"Love Conquers Nothing"

Written by Philip Winters

Performed by Philip Winters

Published by Philip Winters

Courtesy of Philip Winters

"Frank Russo"

Written by Joel Stewart

Performed by Joel Stewart

Published by Joel Stewart (SOCAN)

Courtesy of Joel Stewart

"Stars Brightly Shine"

Written by Sherry White

Performed by Glen Downey

Published by Sherry White

Courtesy of Streely Maid Films

"Gates Of Graceland"

Written by Joel Stewart

Performed by Joel Stewart

Published by Joel Stewart (SOCAN)

Courtesy of Joel Stewart

"Hooked"

Written by Everything all the time

Performed by Everything all the time

Published by Everything all the time

Courtesy of Everything all the time

Take Stock"

Written by Everything all the time

Performed by Everything all the time

Published by Everything all the time

Courtesy of Everything all the time "

Lipstick Traces"

Written by Everything all the time

Performed by Everything all the time

Published by Everything all the time

Courtesy of Everything all the time

"Hair In My Eyes Like A Highland Steer"

Written by Corb Lund

Performed by Corb Lund and the Hurtin' Albertans

Courtesy of Stony Plain Records

Special Thanks To:

The Town of Flatrock, NL

A1 Automotive Ltd.

St. John's Fire Prevention

St. John's Regional Fire Department

The Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

Filmed on location  
in Flatrock, NL and St. John's NL, Canada

The settings, events and characters depicted are entirely fictitious  
and are not intended to bear any resemblance to actual places,  
events or persons living or dead.

No animals were harmed in any way in the making of this film.

This motion picture is protected under the laws of Canada,  
the United States of America and other countries. Unauthorized duplication,  
distribution or exhibition may result in civil liability and criminal prosecution.

16.

(logos)  
ACTRA, DGC, WGC, ASCO, IA 667, IA 849, NIFCO)

17.

Grown Up Movie Star

©2009 Movie Star Productions Inc.