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Presents

# Thanks For Sharing

**A film by Stuart Blumberg**  
**(110 min., USA, 2012)**  
**Language: English**

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## Synopsis

From Academy Award®-nominated screenwriter and first-time director Stuart Blumberg (THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT), **THANKS FOR SHARING** is a sharply comic and deeply moving look at a new kind of modern family, as a group of friends in recovery learns to face life together with heart, humor and humility. Academy Award-nominee Mark Ruffalo, Academy Award-winner Tim Robbins and Broadway star Josh Gad (“The Book of Mormon”) anchor a stellar ensemble that includes Academy Award-winner Gwyneth Paltrow, Joely Richardson, Patrick Fugit and pop star Alecia Moore (“Get the Party Started”) in her first film role.

On the surface Adam (Ruffalo), an over-achieving environmental consultant, Mike (Robbins), a long-married small-business owner, and Neil (Gad), a wisecracking emergency-room doctor, have little in common. But all are in different stages of dealing with addiction. Confident and successful in his career, Adam is afraid to allow love back into his life, even if that means losing a chance to start over with smart, beautiful and accomplished Phoebe (Paltrow); Mike’s efforts to control his wife, Katie (Richardson), and son, Danny (Fugit), as tightly as he does his impulses are tearing the family apart; and Neil is still deeply in denial when befriended by Dede (Moore), who has just begun to take her own small steps back to health.. As they navigate the rocky shores of recovery, Adam, Mike and Neil become a family that encourages, infuriates and applauds each other on the journey toward a new life.

Lionsgate Presents An Olympus Pictures Production A Class 5 Films Production. A Film By Stuart Blumberg. **THANKS FOR SHARING** Mark Ruffalo Tim Robbins Gwyneth Paltrow Josh Gad Joely Richardson Patrick Fugit with Carol Kane and Alecia Moore. Casting By Avy Kaufman, C.S.A. Music Supervisor Robin Urdang. Original Music By Christopher Lennertz. Costume Designer Peggy Schnitzer. Editor Anne McCabe, A.C.E. Production Designer Beth Mickle. Director of Photography Yaron Orbach. Executive Producer Edward Norton. Produced By William Migliore David Koplán Leslie Urdang Dean Vanech Miranda de Pencier. Written By Stuart Blumberg & Matt Winston. Directed By Stuart Blumberg.

## About The Production

Stuart Blumberg's inspiring and wryly funny new film, **THANKS FOR SHARING**, brings together three disparate characters who are learning to face a challenging and often confusing world as they struggle together against a common demon: sex addiction. Blumberg and co-screenwriter Matt Winston offer a hopeful and revealing story of new beginnings, as Adam, Mike and Neil overcome their myriad differences to forge a tightly bonded community of three.

Blumberg previously won acclaim for his Oscar®-nominated screenplay for **THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT**, another unconventional story that reinvents the concept of family. Like **THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT**, **THANKS FOR SHARING** combines colorful, endearing characters and sparkling wit to raise provocative questions about human connections.

"**THANKS FOR SHARING** is about the unexpected bond these guys find," says Blumberg. "Each of them has his own unique issues, but together they reach a point of togetherness and connection that gives them a better chance of getting through the hardest times."

Adds Winston: "We really wanted to shine a light on the idea that sometimes the only solution to brokenness is to be broken with each other. That's something that resonates with a lot of people."

The screenwriter compares Mike, Adam and Neil to a multi-generational family. "The spine of the story is how they become each other's lifelines. When the characters are not connecting to each other, that's when things in their lives begin to go wrong."

Blumberg and Winston wrote together via Skype over the course of nine months, and the resultant screenplay soon won over the production team at Class 5, the company in which Blumberg is partnered with Edward Norton and William Migliore.

The delicate subject matter gave them pause only momentarily, recalls Migliore. "Stuart told me that they had started working on a new script, set in the world of recovering sex addicts. My one comment to him was, 'Please find the humor'—which I think they've done incredibly well.

“What struck me about the script is that it is very much about the universal need to connect. Like *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT*, it’s about the relationships we all share and the challenges of maintaining them in today’s world.”

Blumberg was gratified by his colleagues’ support. “Bill Migliore is the most driven producer I’ve ever seen and he brought along David Koplan, who line-produced *LEAVES OF GRASS*. These guys helped me make this movie in every way. They’ve just been incredible champions of this story,” he says.

Soon after, Olympus Pictures came on board with producers Leslie Urdang, Miranda de Pencier and Dean Vanech bringing their experience in supporting strong, fresh voices in contemporary cinema. “Olympus has got a great track record and they really care about their movies,” says Blumberg. “They were always striving to give us the best tools to make the movie, which made this an amazing experience.”

All of the filmmakers knew the distinctively funny-tough tone of the screenplay would demand complex, humor-laced, yet emotionally transparent performances, so casting the one-of-a-kind roles would be the next vital step.

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At the heart of **THANKS FOR SHARING** is the story of Adam, a quintessential Type-A personality with five years in recovery, who remains afraid to put himself to the test with a real-world relationship. It’s a nuanced, shifting role and Stuart Blumberg had long envisioned versatile leading man Mark Ruffalo—who garnered critical acclaim and an Oscar nomination acclaim for *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT*—bringing it to life.

“Because Adam is a character who has been through a lot, we needed an actor who could really convey depth,” observes the writer-director. “Mark does that, but he is also really, really accessible. It’s challenging subject matter and Mark had to go an intense place. But once he commits, he really jumps in. He is amazing to watch.”

Ruffalo says his reaction to the script was similar to what he felt when he first read *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT*. “First, it made me laugh and then I was moved. I really like movies that mix uncomfortable comedy with serious drama. I

call it ‘one foot on a banana peel and the other foot over the grave,’” he quips.

Adam, he says, has shut himself down to love because of his fears about losing control. “It’s a minefield for him. He’s just met this incredibly hot, smart, successful woman and they are hitting it off, but he doesn’t know how to relate to her sexually. Things are very lighthearted and romantic between them, but it’s not perfect, because he keeps being forced to face his own fallibility. But that’s one of the beautiful things about the movie: each of these characters gets another chance—and none of them is able to do it alone.”

Ruffalo attended a number of 12-step meetings during his preparation and was impressed by what he saw. “One thing that’s great to see as an actor is all the honesty in those rooms,” he observes. “Everyone is just being very bare and real in that world and a lot of beautiful things happen, from heart-wrenching sadness to gut-busting humor.”

To play Adam’s sponsor, Mike, the filmmakers turned to Oscar-winner Tim Robbins, known for a wide range of indelible performances including Dave Boyle in MYSTIC RIVER, Andy Dufresne in THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION and Nuke in BULL DURHAM. The esteemed elder statesman of a tight-knit recovery community, Mike is also a vulnerable husband and father grappling with unresolved family issues of his own.

“Tim is really smart. He’s an intellectually and physically imposing person. He knows what he wants and he knows it well—and I think there is a lot of that in Mike,” observes Blumberg. “He doesn’t suffer fools gladly, but he’s also the big papa bear who you want to have hug you. Tim really had access to a certain part of himself that made that real.”

Robbins, who is an accomplished filmmaker in his own right, says the script stood out. “It’s rare to find a film that brings this kind of humor to a serious adult subject matter,” he comments. “I liked that the ending is hopeful and offers some real solutions.”

Mike is both the linchpin of the support group and as capable of collapsing as anyone else. “He’s managed to become a mentor to others, but at the same time he’s still susceptible to the weaknesses that brought him here in the first place,” Robbins notes.

Much of Mike’s vulnerability revolves around his own family problems,

particularly with his son Danny, an apple who has fallen not far from the tree. “I think the most difficult thing a parent has to face is wondering how much they had to do with their children’s failures,” he says. “That’s the big unspoken thing for Mike. We all hope our mistakes are not visited upon our children.”

While Robbins could relate to Mike as a parent, learning about sex addiction required a bit of research. “I read recovery books and I went to a meeting,” he says. “At first I had a bit of cynicism about sex addiction, thinking that it’s just an excuse. But when I went to the meeting, I realized it’s a real thing. People really screw up their lives with this addiction. I had nothing but admiration for the courage that was expressed in that room.”

The third member of the trio, and the one who least thinks he needs help, is Neil. An emergency-room resident whose shocking misbehavior on the subway resulted in a court order to join the program, Neil refuses to take the recovery process seriously. Aply handling the role’s sharp, 180-degree turn when Neil eventually commits himself to change, is Josh Gad, who recently made a splash playing Elder Arnold Cunningham in the Broadway hit “The Book of Mormon.”

“Neil is one of those characters that audiences find unlikeable at first and then find themselves rooting for,” notes Blumberg. “I didn’t know Gad’s work that well until people educated me about him. This guy is a comic force. And Gad is Neil in this movie. He was so enthusiastic and fun and committed. It was really enjoyable to work with him.”

With a resume that includes a stint as correspondent on “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart,” as well as creator and one of the stars of the sitcom “1600 Penn,” Gad knows comedy. But he found the script more than simply funny. “There’s an unbelievable humanity to Stuart’s characters,” he remarks. “**THANKS FOR SHARING** continues in that tradition of THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT by being an amazing window into the lives of people who are just like everybody else, except for a problem many people consider shameful. They each express that in different ways.”

Like Robbins, Gad was surprised and intrigued when his research forced him to consider the dark side of human desire. “It was an exploration of something that I’ve scoffed at,” he admits. “I’ve always thought, well if you’re

addicted to sex, isn't that just a human quality? Aren't we all? But when you really hear what people go through, it opens your eyes to a real disease that isn't well understood."

Neil undergoes a dramatic transformation over the course of the film. "When we meet Neil, he is still in the throes of his addiction," Gad explains. "He goes to extreme lengths, even creating a shoe camera to look up women's skirts. But it all catches up with him. When he's faced with losing everything he's worked so hard for, he has to look at himself in the mirror and say, 'Is this who I want to be?' That begins an incredible journey for him."

As Adam, Mike and Neil learn how to be there for one another, they still have to deal with family and friends who have an imperfect understanding of what they are up against. Adam's new girlfriend, Phoebe, begins the relationship without any clue about his addiction. It isn't until she has already fallen for him that she learns the truth, and it is a struggle to accept it. Academy Award-winner Gwyneth Paltrow, who plays Phoebe, was intrigued by the character and the screenplay.

"I'm always looking for interesting roles and this was so well written and so funny," she explains. "And the cast they assembled was amazing. Stuart got the drama and the comedy so right. It didn't feel forced or melodramatic. It was very personal and I laughed out loud many times."

Says producer Migliore of Paltrow: "Her combination of charm, beauty and strength drives Phoebe's rapport with Adam. You really root for their relationship."

Creating that link was made easier by a natural chemistry between Paltrow and Mark Ruffalo. "Mark is a very confident, easy-going, lovely actor," says Paltrow. "He has this incredible likeability and depth, but there's also a real sweetness to him which I think is why women go gaga for him in the movies. His niceness is palpable, and it really comes through."

While Adam's initial lack of transparency is a red flag for Phoebe, she comes to recognize similar impulses in herself as a perfectionist and obsessive exerciser. "I think Phoebe projects onto Adam some of her own self-judgment, which is interesting, because it causes her to realize she may need to make some changes in herself," observes Paltrow.

Mike's loyal wife Katie is played by British actress Joely Richardson, recently seen in *THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO* and the Showtime series "The Tudors." Though Blumberg had some initial doubts about casting an Englishwoman as a Brooklynite, Richardson's unique combination of fragility and boldness seemed perfect for the character.

"I see her as the still water in a story where most of the characters are fighting against themselves," says Richardson. "She has the ability to stay calm with all this turbulence around her. But she also overcompensates because she has been stuck in this triangle with Mike and their son Danny for years. She so desperately wants her family to be happy."

Playing Danny is Patrick Fugit, who came to the fore as the star of Cameron Crowe's *ALMOST FAMOUS*. Tim Robbins had a hand in this serendipitous bit of casting. After Robbins ran into Fugit bicycling in Venice Beach, he decided they could conceivably play father and son, and arranged to have the script sent to Fugit.

"I read the script on a plane and I was laughing out loud and then crying," Fugit recalls. "It's not exactly a drama or a comedy. It encompasses three life stories that are very genuine."

The actors both starred in HBO's "Cinema Verite," but had no on-screen interaction, so Fugit was thrilled to have a chance to work so closely with Robbins. "I've loved Tim since I was young, so I was stoked to work with him," he says. "It was great exploring this relationship with him. There is constant tension between Danny and Mike until they have it out. Tim really brings his heart to everything he does."

Playing Dede, the woman who becomes a life-altering encounter for Neil, is Alecia Moore, better known as Grammy<sup>®</sup>-winning recording artist Pink, who makes a stunning acting debut as the tough and tender hair stylist. Moore accepted the role after learning that it was in part inspired by her public persona.

"When we were writing the story, Dede's voice was such a strong and funny one that for some reason the idea of Pink came into my head," recalls Blumberg. "She has the image of that lovable tough girl with a soft center. We thought, we'd write it for her, even if she probably would never do it."



Adds Migliore: “Alecia pushed herself in every way from day one and showed a remarkable commitment to the film. I think it’s going to be very exciting for audiences to see her in this role.”

Moore describes Dede as a girl who has hit rock bottom and is finally ready to reach out. “She wants to get better. She wants to connect. And when she meets Neil, there’s a chance for each of them to have their first healthy, real relationship.”

And it is relationships, no matter how rocky, that are the foundation of **THANKS FOR SHARING**, says Moore. “All of the characters in the movie are trying to rebuild the bridges they’ve burned,” she notes. “I think they come to realize that all there really is in life is these lasting relationships. I find that very endearing and hopeful.”

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Stuart Blumberg always believed that the humor in **THANKS FOR SHARING** would help draw audiences into a very intimate story. The mixture of comedy and reality interlaced throughout the script is how he envisioned his visual approach to the film as well.

“I wanted the film to feel heightened enough that these are not just characters, but real people that you can relate to,” he explains.

He gathered a crack technical crew to help him realize his vision, including cinematographer Yaron Orbach (**OUR IDIOT BROTHER**), production designer Beth Mickle (**DRIVE**), costume designer Peggy Schnitzer (“**Californication**”) and editor Anne McCabe (“**The Newsroom**”).

“Yaron was amazing at helping me achieve the naturalistic look I wanted to balance the drama and comedy,” says Blumberg. “Beth can work on a shoestring to make things beautiful. Overall, we had an amazing team.”

It might have been Blumberg’s first directorial outing, but the transition from tapping out a story from behind the keyboard to making one come alive in the director’s chair felt seamless to those around him.

“Stuart possesses a fantastic combination of knowing exactly what he wants and being incredibly open to the element of surprise. So we had a lot of happy accidents while making this film,” notes Migliore. “He excels in tonal

shifts, finding the humor in any given situation, then turning that on a dime into something quite heartfelt.”

When asked about making a movie with a first-time director, Urdang said, “It’s always a leap of faith, but Stuart is deeply intuitive, driven and an incredibly fast learner. He understands that interdependence is fundamental to our lives and that it is the combination of singular efforts that make for something bigger. Stuart values community and we bet on that part of him that would allow for collaboration and for bringing out the best in everyone on his team. It was a good bet.”

Blumberg says he hopes that mix of emotions the film evokes adds up to a sense of possibility—even for those who seem lost. “I think we revel in watching other people struggling and trying to be better human beings,” he concludes. “This is a story that explores the idea that the best way to get through this struggle is with other people, and how sometimes admitting your limitations is the only way to find the hope to overcome them.”

## ABOUT THE CAST

**MARK RUFFALO (Adam)** is an Academy Award–nominee and one of Hollywood’s most sought–after actors. Easily transitioning between stage and screen, he has worked with such directors as Ang Lee, Martin Scorsese, Michael Mann, Spike Jonze, David Fincher, Fernando Meirelles and Michael Gondry.

Ruffalo was last seen in the surprise hit NOW YOU SEE ME, in which he stars opposite Morgan Freeman, Woody Harrelson and Jessie Eisenberg. The film, directed by Louis Leterrier, follows FBI agents tracking a team of the world’s greatest illusionists, who pull off bank heists during their performances.

Next for Ruffalo is CAN A SONG SAVE YOUR LIFE? The story follows an aspiring female singer (Keira Knightley) whose life takes a turn for the better when she is discovered by a down–on–his–luck record producer (Ruffalo). Written and directed by John Carney, the film is being produced by Anthony Bregman and Judd Apatow. Ruffalo also stars opposite Channing Tatum, Steve Carell and Sienna Miller in Bennett Miller’s forthcoming drama FOXCATCHER, the tragic true story of Olympic wrestling champion Dave Schultz.

Last summer, Ruffalo co–starred in Joss Whedon’s mega–blockbuster THE AVENGERS, playing Bruce Banner (aka the Incredible Hulk) alongside Samuel L. Jackson, Robert Downey Jr., Scarlett Johansson, Jeremy Renner, Chris Hemsworth and Chris Evans. For his performance as Paul in THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT (2010), Ruffalo earned a number of Best Supporting Actor bids including Oscar, SAG, BAFTA and Independent Spirit Award nominations. He was also honored by the New York Film Critics Circle with their prize for Best Supporting Actor.

The actor’s directorial debut, SYMPATHY FOR DELICIOUS, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and Ruffalo won a Special Jury Prize in the dramatic film category. This indie drama starred Orlando Bloom, Laura Linney, Juliette Lewis and Ruffalo in a story about a Los Angeles DJ who finds that he has the power to heal.

In 2010 Ruffalo was seen opposite Leonardo DiCaprio and Ben Kingsley in the harrowing thriller SHUTTER ISLAND, directed by Martin Scorsese. The previous year he starred in Rian Johnson’s THE BROTHERS BLOOM, an international conman adventure co–starring Adrien Brody, Rachel Weisz and Rinko Kikuchi.

Previously, Ruffalo appeared in David Fincher's ZODIAC, opposite Jake Gyllenhaal and Robert Downey Jr.; Michael Mann's COLLATERAL, with Tom Cruise and Jamie Foxx; WE DON'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE (also executive producer), opposite Naomi Watts, Peter Krause and Laura Dern; 13 GOING ON 30, alongside Jennifer Garner; Charlie Kaufman's ETERNAL SUNSHINE OF THE SPOTLESS MIND, with Jim Carrey and Kate Winslet; Jane Campion's IN THE CUT, alongside Meg Ryan; and Spike Jonze's WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, with Catherine Keener.

Ruffalo earned critical recognition for his role in Kenneth Lonergan's YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, opposite Laura Linney and Matthew Broderick. Produced by Martin Scorsese, the film won both the coveted Grand Jury Prize and the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award at the 2000 Sundance Film Festival.

Other film credits include MARGARET, BLINDNESS, JUST LIKE HEAVEN, RESERVATION ROAD, ALL THE KING'S MEN, WHAT DOESN'T KILL YOU, MY LIFE WITHOUT ME, THE LAST CASTLE, WINDTALKERS, XX/XY, COMMITTED, RIDE WITH THE DEVIL, STUDIO 54, SAFE MEN, THE LAST BIG THING, FISH IN THE BATHTUB and LIFE/DRAWING.

Ruffalo's acting roots lie in the theater, where he first gained attention starring in the Off Broadway production of Kenneth Lonergan's "This is Our Youth." For this performance, he won a Lucille Lortel Award for Best Actor. Ruffalo has won several other awards for his stage work, including the Drama-Logue and Theater World awards.

Additional stage credits include the Off Broadway production "The Moment When," written by Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award®-winner James Lapine, and the Lincoln Center Theater's revival of Clifford Odets' "Awake and Sing!" for which he received a Tony nomination. Ruffalo has also directed several plays and one-acts. In 2000 he directed Timothy McNeil's "Margaret" at the Hudson Backstage Theatre in Los Angeles.

Ruffalo trained with Joanne Linville at the distinguished Stella Adler Conservatory. He made his theater debut in "Avenue A" at the CAST Theater. Ruffalo co-wrote the screenplay for the indie THE DESTINY OF MARTY FINE, which was the first runner-up in the 1995 Slamdance Film Festival.

Ruffalo currently resides in New York.

**TIM ROBBINS (Mike)** is an award-winning actor and director whose performance in MYSTIC RIVER won an Oscar and the Golden Globe Award® for Best Supporting Actor. He may be best known for his role in THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION, for which he earned a SAG Award nomination. Robbins was recently seen on the small screen in HBO's "Cinema Verite," opposite Diane Lane and James Gandolfini, and Sundance Channel's "Portlandia," with Fred Armison and Carrie Brownstein.

After breaking out in the cult classic TAPEHEADS, opposite John Cusack, Robbins followed up with the critical and commercial hit BULL DURHAM, alongside Susan Sarandon and Kevin Costner. Robbins was nominated for a Golden Globe for his performance in BOB ROBERTS, a mockumentary about a right wing, folk-singing politico, which he also directed. He won the Golden Globe for Best Actor for THE PLAYER, Robert Altman's classic satire of Hollywood.

Additional film credits include THE HUDSUCKER PROXY, WAR OF THE WORLDS, HIGH FIDELITY, ARLINGTON ROAD, SHORT CUTS and JACOB'S LADDER.

Robbins' work behind the camera on *Dead Man Walking*, which he also wrote, earned him an Oscar nomination for Best Director. He has been honored at numerous film festivals including Venice, Berlin, Cannes and Sundance. Robbins is also one of the founders and the artistic director of the Actors' Gang experimental theater group.

**GWYNETH PALTROW (Phoebe)** is one of today's most prolific and celebrated actors in both television and film. Paltrow's role in John Madden's SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE catapulted her into awards stardom with Best Actress honors at the Golden Globes, SAG Awards and Academy Awards. In 2011 she also won the Emmy Award® for Guest Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as substitute teacher Holly Holiday on the hit Fox series "Glee."

Paltrow recently reprised her role as Pepper Potts in IRON MAN 3, opposite Robert Downey Jr. Up next is 33 DÍAS, a Pablo Picasso biopic in which she stars opposite Antonio Banderas.

Previously, Paltrow was seen in Marvel's smash hit THE AVENGERS, Steven Soderbergh's CONTAGION and Shana Feste's COUNTRY STRONG. Paltrow also recorded original music included on COUNTRY STRONG'S Academy Award-nominated soundtrack.

Additional film credits include James Gray's TWO LOVERS, brother Jake Paltrow's THE GOOD NIGHT, John Madden's PROOF (for which she received a Golden Globe nomination), Ryan Murphy's RUNNING WITH SCISSORS, Douglas' McGrath's INFAMOUS, Neil LaBute's POSSESSION, Wes Anderson's THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS, the Farrelly brothers' SHALLOW HAL, Alan Cumming and Jennifer Jason Leigh's THE ANNIVERSARY PARTY, father Bruce Paltrow's DUETS, Anthony Minghella's THE TALENTED MR. RIPLEY and Andrew Davis' A PERFECT MURDER.

Paltrow's first role was a remarkable performance in the critically acclaimed FLESH AND BONE, opposite Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid. She then played notable roles in such films as Douglas McGrath's EMMA and David Fincher's SEVEN. In collaboration with friend Mary Wigmore, Paltrow also co-wrote and co-directed the short film Dealbreakers.

Last spring, Paltrow published her debut cookbook, My Father's Daughter. She continues to develop her passion project, GOOP.com. Paltrow first established her credibility in the culinary field when she co-wrote Spain... A Culinary Road Trip with acclaimed chef Mario Batali.

Born in Los Angeles, where she spent the first 11 years of her life, Paltrow hails from a close-knit family deeply entrenched in the entertainment industry. Her father, Bruce Paltrow, was a highly successful producer ("St. Elsewhere," "The White Shadow") and her mother is the award-winning actress Blythe Danner. Paltrow and her younger brother Jake spent their early childhood in Los Angeles, where she attended St. Augustine by the Sea (now known as Crossroads).

Paltrow currently resides in New York City and London.

**JOSH GAD (Neil)** brings wit, humor and depth to his roles on both the silver and small screens. He voices the character of Olaf in the forthcoming animated film FROZEN, alongside Kristen Bell and Jonathan Groff. Gad will soon be seen as prankster Steve Wozniak in the biopic JOBS, which chronicles Steve

Jobs' ascension from college dropout into one of the most revered creative entrepreneurs of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The actor was recently seen in Shawn Levy's THE INTERNSHIP, opposite Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson, and Ed Zwick's LOVE & OTHER DRUGS, alongside Jake Gyllenhaal, Anne Hathaway, Judy Greer and Hank Azaria.

Gad writes, executive-produces and stars in "1600 Penn," a comedy series that follows the Gilchrist family as they try to have a normal life while balancing the responsibility of being the First Family of the United States. Also on the small screen, Gad lends his voice to Woodie on MTV's animated series "Good Vibes" and plays the title role on BBC Worldwide's "Gigi: Almost American." He has guest-starred on hit series such as "The New Girl," "Bored to Death," "Californication" and "Modern Family."

Additional film credits include Shawn Levy's THE ROCKER, alongside Rainn Wilson; 21, opposite Kate Bosworth, Lawrence Fishburne and Kevin Spacey; CROSSING OVER, with Harrison Ford, Sean Penn, Ray Liotta and Ashley Judd; and the animated smash ICE AGE: CONTINENTAL DRIFT.

Gad starred in the blockbuster Broadway production "Book of Mormon," co-written by "South Park" creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone. Gad garnered a 2011 Tony nomination for Best Lead Actor in a Musical and the show won the Tony for Best Musical.

In a Tony-winning production of "The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," Gad received rave reviews. Other stage credits include "All in the Timing" (Elephant Asylum), "The Crucible" (PPT), "Skin of our Teeth" (CMU) and "Axis of E" (The York Theatre).

After graduating from the Carnegie Mellon School of Drama, Gad began his career in the theater. He then turned his sights to comedy, joining the famed Groundlings Improv troupe and founding his own company, The Lost Nomads Comedy Troupe.

**JOELY RICHARDSON (Monica Hansen)** was recently seen playing the young Queen Elizabeth I in Roland Emmerich's film ANONYMOUS. She also co-starred in David Fincher's THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO, alongside

Daniel Craig and Rooney Mara, and RED LIGHTS, opposite Robert De Niro and Sigourney Weaver.

For six seasons Richardson starred on the FX series “Nip/Tuck,” earning two Golden Globe nominations for her performance as Julia McNamara. Other television credits include Ken Russell’s “Lady Chatterley’s Lover,” “Wallis & Edward,” “Lies My Mother Told Me” and “The Tudors.”

Previously, Richardson was seen in such films as EVENT HORIZON, co-starring Laurence Fishburne, Sam Neill and Jason Isaacs. She also appeared in Peter Greenaway’s DROWNING BY NUMBERS and Stephen Poliakoff’s THE TRIBE.

Richardson made her film debut in Sir David Hare’s WETHERBY. Other film credits include 101 DALMATIANS, THE PATRIOT, MAYBE BABY, SISTER MY SISTER, AFFAIR OF THE NECKLACE and UNDER HEAVEN.

Richardson trained at RADA. Her first professional job came in a production of “Miss Julie” at Liverpool Playhouse. Other stage credits include a season at the RSC, “Beauty and the Beast” at the Old Vic, “Saxon Shore” at Almeida Theatre, “Lady Windermere’s Fan” at Theatre Royal Haymarket, “Madam Melville” at New York’s Promenade Theater and “Steel Magnolias” in the West End.

Richardson returned to the New York stage in Michael Weller’s “Side Effects” at the Lucille Lortel Theatre, receiving rave reviews. At the start of 2012 she delighted audiences with her portrayal of Ellida in Ibsen’s “Lady from the Sea,” at The Rose Kingston.

**PATRICK FUGIT (Danny)** was recently seen in HBO’s “Cinema Verite” alongside James Gandolfini, Diane Lane and Tim Robbins. The movie told the behind-the-scenes story of the groundbreaking 1973 PBS documentary series “An American Family.” He was also reunited with ALMOST FAMOUS director Cameron Crowe for WE BOUGHT A ZOO, in which the actor co-starred with Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson and Thomas Haden Church.

Fugit was born in Salt Lake City. His mother Jan was a dance teacher and steeped her children in dancing and performing from a very young age. Fugit credits his mother with developing his early interest in the dramatic arts. He began studying the craft of acting in theater school during summer vacations



and made his stage debut in a seventh-grade production. Throughout his teens, he played several guest roles in locally shot TV episodes.

When he was 16, Fugit made his Hollywood movie debut in Cameron Crowe's 2000 coming-of-age tale *ALMOST FAMOUS*, co-starring Billy Crudup and Kate Hudson. Discovered in a national casting search, Fugit became widely known for playing William Miller, a young rock fan-turned-reporter. Already a classic, the film is often touted as one of the 10 best movies of the decade spanning 2000-2010.

Fugit later played a sweetly geeky aspiring comic-book artist in the 2002 drama *WHITE OLEANDER* and a naive drug addict in the dark indie comedy *SPUN*. His next film, *SAVED!* was a satirical look at the religious right in high school that co-starred Jena Malone. In 2007 he starred in *WRISTCUTTERS: A LOVE STORY*, alongside Shannyn Sossamon. In 2009 Fugit played Evra the Snake Boy in *CIRQUE DU FREAK: THE VAMPIRE'S ASSISTANT*, with John C. Reilly.

Additional film credits include *HORSEMEN*, *DEAD BIRDS* and *THE AMATEURS*.

**ALECIA "PINK" MOORE (Dede)** is an award-winning recording artist whose sixth studio album, "The Truth About Love," was certified double platinum and became the sixth-best-selling album of 2012. The first single "Blow Me (One Last Kiss)" went platinum and two more singles hit the Top 10 of the *Billboard* Hot 100 Chart.

Pink voiced the character of Gloria in *HAPPY FEET TWO* and appeared as herself in *GET HIM TO THE GREEK*. Additional film credits include *CHARLIE'S ANGELS: FULL THROTTLE*, *CATACOMBS* and *ROLLERBALL*.

Since her debut in 2000, Pink has sold more than 32 million albums, 65 million singles (nearly 20 million digital tracks) and one million DVDs worldwide. The artist has had 11 singles in the top 10 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 Chart. In addition, 15 of her singles have reached No. 1.

Pink has received three Grammy Awards, two Billboard Music Awards, five MTV Video Music Awards, two MTV Europe Awards, two People's Choice Awards and many other honors.

Pink's studio album "Funhouse" debuted at No. 2 on the *Billboard* Top 200 chart and topped the charts in the U.K., Australia, Netherlands, New Zealand and Switzerland. The album produced the smash single "So What," which marked Pink's second No. 1 single on the *Billboard* Hot 100 (after "Lady Marmalade"). "Greatest Hits So Far..." debuted in the Top 10 in more than 13 countries and spawned the hit singles "F\*\*ckin Perfect" and "Raise Your Glass."

**EMILY MEADE (Becky)** recently starred in the independent film GIMME SHELTER, with Vanessa Hudgens. Other recent films include the comedy SIN BIN, with Bo Burnham, and a supporting part in Jason Reitman's YOUNG ADULT, opposite Charlize Theron. Up next is ARE WE OFFICIALLY DATING? co-starring Zac Efron, Miles Teller and Imogen Poots.

Previously, Meade starred in two Joel Schumacher films, TRESPASS, starring Nicolas Cage, and TWELVE, opposite Chase Crawford and Curtis "50 Cent" Jackson. Meade also played the recurring role of "Pearl" on HBO's "Boardwalk Empire."

Meade's other film and television credits include MY SOUL TO TAKE, directed by Wes Craven; ASSASSINATION OF A HIGH SCHOOL PRESIDENT, starring Bruce Willis; BURNING PALMS, with Dylan McDermott and Rosamund Pike; THE HOUSE IS BURNING, executive produced by Wim Wenders; the CBS television pilot "Back," opposite Skeet Ulrich; a guest spot on the FOX series "Fringe" and numerous episodes of the "Law & Order" franchise.

Her theater credits include "The Puberty Club," "Waiting for the Light to Change" and "Sleep Away," all for the 24\*7 Theatre Company at the Cherry Lane Theatre in New York.

Born and raised in Manhattan, Meade is a graduate of the LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts.

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

**STUART BLUMBERG (Director and Co-Writer)** co-wrote Lisa Cholodenko's acclaimed dramedy *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT* (2010), starring Annette Bening, Julianne Moore and Mark Ruffalo. Blumberg's Oscar-nominated script won Independent Spirit and New York Film Critics Circle awards while receiving nominations Golden Globe, BAFTA and Broadcast Film Critics awards, among many other honors.

Previously, Blumberg wrote and produced *KEEPING THE FAITH*, starring Edward Norton and Ben Stiller. He also wrote *THE GIRL NEXT DOOR*, starring Emile Hirsch and Elisha Cuthbert. In 2009 Blumberg produced the HBO documentary "By the People: The Election of Barack Obama."

**MATT WINSTON (Co-Writer)** has amassed acting credits that include memorable roles in *LITTLE MISS SUNSHINE*, *ABOUT SCHMIDT* and *FIGHT CLUB*. He continues to guest-star on television and his series credits include "2 Broke Girls," "Raising Hope," "Castle," "Desperate Housewives," "Men of a Certain Age," "Scrubs" and "Six Feet Under."

Winston is the son of special-effects wizard Stan Winston and grew up in a world of character makeups and creature effects. While in high school, he began working at Stan Winston Studios (SWS), making molds, running foam, seaming, patching and learning the FX ropes. This led to puppeteering work on projects that would become iconic cinema classics: James Cameron's *ALIENS* and Steven Spielberg's *JURASSIC PARK*.

After graduating from Yale University, Winston returned to his father's workshop to learn CGI in the fledgling SWS digital department. While the elder Winston's early ambitions as an actor led him to character-effects makeup work, his son took the opposite path and after working in effects to begin his career, turned to developing characters as an actor and later as a screenwriter.

**WILLIAM MIGLIORE (Producer)** founded Class 5 Films alongside Edward Norton and Stuart Blumberg. There, he received an Emmy nomination for producing the HBO documentary "By the People: the Election of Barack Obama,"

directed by Amy Rice and Alicia Sams. Migliore and Class 5 also produced Tim Blake Nelson's LEAVES OF GRASS, starring Edward Norton, Keri Russell, Susan Sarandon and Richard Dreyfuss, and DOWN IN THE VALLEY, a Cannes Film Festival selection starring Edward Norton and Evan Rachel Wood.

Upcoming projects include the HBO miniseries "Undaunted Courage," and the film adaptations of Jonathan Lethem's Motherless Brooklyn and Lanford Wilson's "Burn This."

Prior to Class 5, Migliore produced LET IT SNOW, a Sundance Film Festival selection released theatrically in 2000.

**DAVID KOPLAN (Producer)** has produced nearly a dozen films over the course of his career. Most recently, he served as co-producer on *Paradise*, the feature-film directorial debut of Academy Award-winning screenwriter Diablo Cody (*Juno*, *Young Adult*). The film stars Julianne Hough, Russell Brand and Octavia Spencer.

Previously, Koplan executive-produced Tim Blake Nelson's LEAVES OF GRASS, which premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in 2009. It stars Nelson, Edward Norton, Susan Sarandon, Keri Russell and Richard Dreyfuss. Koplan worked with Pulitzer Prize-nominated playwright Adam Rapp to produce WINTER PASSING, starring Ed Harris, Will Ferrell and Zooey Deschanel, which made its premiere at TIFF in 2005.

Koplan's other producing credits include Ray McKinnon's CHRYSTAL, starring Academy Award-winner Billy Bob Thornton. The film premiered in dramatic competition at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival.

Under his Timbergrove Entertainment banner, Koplan produced film-noir thriller THE LAST LULLABY, directed by Jeffrey Goodman; and RANDY AND THE MOB, written and directed by Ray McKinnon, starring McKinnon, Walton Goggins and Burt Reynolds.

Koplan is a graduate of the University of Virginia and serves on the board of the Virginia Film Festival.

**LESLIE URDANG (Producer)** is a producer and the president of Olympus Pictures, a production company chaired by Dean Vanech that finances, develops and produces films of all sizes.

Olympus' first feature was *ADAM* (2009), starring Hugh Dancy, Rose Byrne, Peter Gallagher, Frankie Faison and Amy Irving. *RABBIT HOLE*, starring Nicole Kidman, Aaron Eckhart, Dianne Wiest and Sandra Oh, was directed by John Cameron Mitchell from David Lindsay-Abaire's Pulitzer Prize-winning play. The film netted Kidman a 2011 Oscar nomination for Best Actress.

Next was *BEGINNERS*, written and directed by Mike Mills and starring Ewan McGregor, Christopher Plummer and Mélanie Laurent. The film earned numerous awards and nominations including a Gotham Award for Best Picture as well as Best Supporting Actor wins at the Golden Globes, SAG Awards, BAFTA Awards and Oscars (Christopher Plummer).

Other Urdang and Olympus releases include Andrew Adamson's *MR. PIP*, an official selection of the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival, and Julian Farino's *THE ORANGES*, starring Hugh Laurie, Catherine Keener, Leighton Meester, Allison Janney, Adam Brody, Alia Shawkat and Oliver Platt.

Projects in development include *FAMILY FANG*, a project that reunites Olympus with the *RABBIT HOLE* team of Nicole Kidman, Per Saari and David Lindsay-Abaire; *PEONY*, an adaptation of a Pearl S. Buck novel; *SPIN*, based on a sci-fi novel; and *WENDY AND THE LOST BOYS*, a romantic comedy.

Urdang's other producing credits include *A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM*, starring Michelle Pfeiffer, Kevin Kline and Stanley Tucci; *ME AND VERONICA*, starring Elizabeth McGovern and Patricia Wettig; *PEOPLE I KNOW*, an Independent Spirit Award nominated film starring Al Pacino; *12 AND HOLDING*, directed by Michael Cuesta and starring Jeremy Renner; *THE GREAT NEW WONDERFUL*, starring Maggie Gyllenhaal; *GAME 6*, starring Michael Keaton and directed by Michael Hoffman; and *THE NARROWS*, directed by François Velle.

Previously, Urdang was a producer for Robert Redford's company, Wildwood Enterprises, and Gary Ross' *Larger than Life*. Walter Salles' acclaimed drama *MOTORCYCLE DIARIES* was among the projects she developed.

In the theater world, Urdang founded and continues to be a producing director of New York Stage and Film. For more than 20 years the company has

developed and produced new works by hundreds of artists, both for Broadway and theaters throughout the country. These productions include the Tony Award-winning plays "Side Man," "Tru" and "Doubt."

**DEAN VANECH (Producer)** is the chairman of Olympus Holdings, LLC, based in Morristown, New Jersey. Olympus Holdings is a private firm engaged in entertainment (Olympus Productions), the electric energy industry (Olympus Power) and merchant banking (Olympus Capital Investments).

Vanech serves on various non-profit boards including Citizens Schools New York (past chairman), The New York Stage and Film Company and The Sustainable Preservation Initiative.

Olympus Pictures (California) and Olympus Theatricals (New York) have emerged as leading production companies for stage and screen. Most recently, Olympus produced Andrew Adamson's first independent feature, MR. PIP, starring Hugh Laurie, and THE ORANGES, starring Laurie, Catherine Keener, Leighton Meester and Allison Janney.

Olympus Pictures' first feature, ADAM, was released by Fox Searchlight in 2009 after a successful screening at the Sundance Film Festival. Recent releases include RABBIT HOLE, starring Nicole Kidman and Aaron Eckhart, which garnered a 2011 Oscar nomination for Best Actress (Kidman).

BEGINNERS, starring Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer, earned numerous nominations and honors such as the Gotham Award for Best Picture as well as several Best Supporting Actor awards for Plummer (including Oscar and Golden Globe wins).

Olympus Theatricals has produced numerous plays and musicals in New York and London, including "Ghost: the Musical" (New York) and "The Sunshine Boys" (London). In 2010 Olympus won a Tony for best Musical Revival with "La Cage aux Folles."

**MIRANDA DE PENCIER (Producer)** has worked in film, television and theater for more than 20 years. Before becoming an independent producer in 2002, she was the director of development for Robert Redford's company, Wildwood Enterprises. De Pencier has produced numerous films including "Pu-

239” for HBO, executive produced by Steven Soderbergh and George Clooney; ADAM, starring Hugh Dancy and Rose Byrne; and BEGINNERS, starring Ewan McGregor and Christopher Plummer, with Plummer taking home the 2012 Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor.

De Pencier’s directorial debut, a short film entitled THROAT SONG, premiered at the Toronto Film Festival in 2011.

**EDWARD NORTON (Executive Producer)** has produced such films as KEEPING THE FAITH (which he also directed), DOWN IN THE VALLEY (Cannes Film Festival selection), THE PAINTED VEIL, LEAVES OF GRASS and the HBO documentary “By the People: The Election of Barack Obama” (a recipient of three Emmy nominations).

Norton is one of the world’s leading actors. Along with numerous other awards for his performances, he has been nominated for two Academy Awards (for PRIMAL FEAR and AMERICAN HISTORY X) and won a Golden Globe. Other film credits include EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU, THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT, ROUNDERS, FIGHT CLUB, KEEPING THE FAITH, THE SCORE, DEATH TO SMOOCHY, FRIDA, RED DRAGON, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> HOUR, THE ITALIAN JOB, DOWN IN THE VALLEY, KINGDOM OF HEAVEN, THE ILLUSIONIST, THE PAINTED VEIL, THE INCREDIBLE HULK, PRIDE & GLORY, LEAVES OF GRASS, STONE, MOONRISE KINGDOM and THE BOURNE LEGACY.

Norton founded and runs Class 5 Films in partnership with Academy Award-nominated screenwriter Stuart Blumberg and producer Bill Migliore. Class 5’s first two features, DOWN IN THE VALLEY and THE PAINTED VEIL, were released in 2006. Class 5 more recently produced LEAVES OF GRASS (written and directed by Tim Blake Nelson). The company is developing adaptations of Dan O’Brien’s Buffalo for the Broken Heart and Jonathan Lethem’s Motherless Brooklyn, for which Norton is writing the screenplay.

Class 5’s documentaries include Jim Norton’s THE GREAT RIVERS EXPEDITION and DIRTY WORK, a film by David Sampliner that premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Class 5 also collaborated with the Sea Studios Foundation on “Strange Days on Planet Earth,” a highly acclaimed, big-budget

series about earth system science. Norton hosted and narrated the series for National Geographic.

Class 5 is currently working in partnership with Brad Pitt's Plan B and National Geographic to produce an epic seven-part series for HBO based on Stephen Ambrose's acclaimed book Undaunted Courage, about the Lewis and Clark expedition. Norton and Pitt will executive-produce the series.

Norton is also a committed social and environmental activist.

**BETH MICKLE (Production Designer)** was named one of *The Hollywood Reporter's* 2007 "Production Designers to Watch." She was nominated for a 2010 BAFTA Award for her production design on AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK, starring John Hurt. She recently designed Nicolas Winding Refn's DRIVE, starring Ryan Gosling and Carey Mulligan, earning an Art Directors Guild Award nomination. After DRIVE wrapped, Mickle designed ARBITRAGE, starring Richard Gere and Susan Sarandon, which premiered at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival.

Most recently, Mickle again collaborated with DRIVE director Refn and Ryan Gosling on ONLY GOD FORGIVES. Shot in Thailand, the film is the most stylized production of her career. Up next is Baltasar Kormákur's action film 2 GUNS, starring Mark Wahlberg and Denzel Washington, which shot in New Orleans.

Mickle began her career as a production designer when in 2002 she designed her first feature film MADNESS AND GENIUS, directed by Ryan Eslinger. The film's success led to work on several more features including Ryan Fleck and Anna Boden's acclaimed HALF NELSON, winner of the Best Film prize at the Gotham Awards. Mickle then re-teamed with Fleck and Boden on their sophomore film, SUGAR, the story of an aspiring baseball player from the Dominican Republic.