



TRIBECA FILM in partnership with AMERICAN EXPRESS presents

a MARLBORO ROAD GANG production

THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS

Written and Directed by Edward Burns

Select Theatrical Release:

November 18, 2012
November 28, 2012
December 7, 2012
December 7, 2012
December 14, 2012
December 14, 2012
December 14, 2012
December 14, 2012

Baltimore, MD
Stamford, CT
New York, NY
Huntington, NY
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Lake Park, FL
Daytona Beach, FL
Coral Gables, FL

Sunday Cinema Club
Avon Theatre
Village East Cinema
Cinema Arts Centre
Cinema Paradiso
Mos'Art Theatre
Cinematique of Daytona
Cosford Cinema

Available on VOD November 21, 2012

Run Time: 103 Minutes

Rating: Not Rated

Press Materials can be downloaded at:

http://www.tribecafilm.com/festival/media/tribeca-film-press/The_Fitzgerald_Family_Christmas.html

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FEATURING

KERRY BISHÉ *as Sharon Fitzgerald*

EDWARD BURNS *as Gerry Fitzgerald*

HEATHER BURNS *as Erin Fitzgerald*

MARSHA DIETLEIN BENNETT *as Dottie Fitzgerald*

CAITLIN FITZGERALD *as Connie Fitzgerald*

ANITA GILLETTE *as Rosie Fitzgerald*

TOM GUIRY *as Cyril Fitzgerald*

ED LAUTER *as Jim Fitzgerald*

MICHAEL MCGLONE *as Quinn Fitzgerald*

NICK SANDOW *as Corey*

NOAH EMMERICH *as FX*

CONNIE BRITTON *as Nora*

JOYCE VAN PATTEN *as Mrs. McGowan*

DARA COLEMAN *as JJ*

BRIAN D'ARCY JAMES *as Skippy*

MALACHY MCCOURT *as Father*

DANIELLA PINEDA *as Abbie*

JOHN SOLO *as Johnny Esposito*

MICHELE HARRIS *as Quinn's Assistant*

KEVIN KASH *as Brian*

SYNOPSIS

With *The Fitzgerald Family Christmas*, Burns returns to the working-class, Irish-American roots of *The Brothers McMullen*. Reuniting with *McMullen* co-stars Connie Britton (“Friday Night Lights”), and Michael McGlone, along with Noah Emmerich (*Little Children, Beautiful Girls*), Kerry Bishé (*Argo, Red State*) and Caitlin FitzGerald (*Damsels in Distress, Newlyweds*) Burns seamlessly weaves an ensemble story of adult siblings dealing with the desire of their estranged father (Ed Lauter, *The Artist, The Longest Yard*) to return home for Christmas for the first time since he walked out on his family 20 years ago. Family rifts emerge, and like with any family, Christmas brings a mixed bag of complicated emotions and dynamics. Alliances form, old wounds are reopened or glossed over, and the possibility for a new hope and forgiveness emerges.

ABOUT THE FILM

DIRECTOR’S STATEMENT – Edward Burns

After taking my last two films, NICE GUY JOHNNY and NEWLYWEDS, on the festival circuit, I kept hearing from fans that they were hungry for another look into the Irish Catholic/working class milieu that I had explored in my first two films, THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN and SHE’S THE ONE.

Given that it has been over 15 years since those first two films, I was eager to dive in, so I sat down and wrote my most personal film to date, which turned into, THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS. I took a look at my extended family and my close friends and our experiences growing up in large, tight-knit, Irish-American families. I explored how seven siblings, all having grown up under the same roof, could have such different memories, points of view, and opinions about their experiences in the house. And now as adults, they are forced to come to terms with the damage that was caused when their father walked out on the family 20 years earlier and their mother was forced to raise them alone.

And while these themes connected to audiences in my first films with success, I focused on a deeper and more dramatic tone for FITZGERALDS.

I thought Christmas would be the perfect time to set the film, when families come together, old wounds are either glossed over or exposed, and hopefully forgiveness and a new hope can emerge. And like many Christmas films, the movie aims to resonate with audiences who want to look at their families with a fresh sense of appreciation, in spite of past challenges.

And speaking of family, I thought it was important for me to bring back some of the cast from those early films, whom I consider my filmmaking family, including Connie Britton, Mike McGlone, Anita Gillette and Malachy McCourt. I have added some new siblings into the mix as well, rounding out the cast with actors who have appeared in my most recent films, like Kerry Bishé, Caitlin FitzGerald, Marsha Dietlein Bennett, Nick Sandow, Kevin Kash, John Solo, Daniella Pineda, Michele Harris and Heather Burns.

ABOUT THE CAST

KERRY BISHÉ (Sharon Fitzgerald)

Kerry Bishé is a theatre, film and television actor. She can be seen in the upcoming films *ARGO*, directed by Ben Affleck. She also appears in Ed Burns' *NEWLYWEDS* and *NICE GUY JOHNNY*. Kerry starred in the critically acclaimed film *RED STATE*, directed by Kevin Smith and is currently in production on the new film *GRAND PIANO*, directed by Eugenio Mira. She made her Broadway debut as Clara in the Roundabout Theatre's production of *Pygmalion* opposite Jefferson Mays and Claire Danes. Prior to that, Bishé performed the title role in Minetta Lane's production of the one woman play *My Name Is Rachel Corrie* directed by Alan Rickman.

Bishe's film and TV credits include Lucy in the ABC series "Scrubs," *MESKADA*, opposite Nick Stahl, Rachel Nichols and Kellan Lutz, *ICELAND*, directed by Will Gluck, *SEX AND THE CITY: THE MOVIE*, *TURKEY BOWL*, *THE UNDERSTUDY*, *THE LUCKY ONES*, *MOTHERHOOD*, *THE WOMEN*, "Life on Mars," "Royal Pains," *NIGHT LIFE*, and *VIRTUALITY*.

Kerry is a graduate of Northwestern University.

HEATHER BURNS (Erin Fitzgerald)

HEATHER BURNS burst on to the scene in Nora Ephron's *YOU'VE GOT MAIL* and has been busy ever since. With her first feature film, Burns set a trend – those who work with her almost always work with her again. She more recently appeared in Ephron's *BEWITCHED*, starring opposite Nicole Kidman and Will Ferrell.

Burns also reprised her role as Miss Rhode Island from *MISS CONGENIALITY* in *MISS CONGENIALITY 2: ARMED AND FABULOUS*. The actress previously worked with Sandra Bullock and writer/director Marc Lawrence in *TWO WEEKS NOTICE*.

Burns graduated from the Atlantic Theater Company Acting School, through Tisch School of the Arts NYU, and has since returned with *ALL THINGS CONSIDERED*, directed by David Pittu and *WRITER'S BLOCK* directed by Woody Allen. Burns has worked with writer Kenneth Lonergan in *Lobby Hero* directed by Mark Brokaw at Playwrights Horizons and John Houseman Theatre; in London's West End production of *This Is Our Youth* at the Garrick Theatre directed by Lawrence Boswell; and currently in the Signature Theatre's *Medieval Play* directed by Lonergan. She returned to Playwrights Horizons in 2006 as Mia Farrow's daughter in James Lapine's *Frans Bed*, and in 2008 appeared in the Roundabout Theatre Company's production of Christopher Durang's *The Marriage of Bette and Boo*. More recently, Burns was seen in Will Eno's *Middletown* at the Vineyard Theater.

Burns has been seen in features such as *THE GROOMSMEN*, written and directed by Edward Burns, *CHOKE*, winner of the 2008 Sundance Special Jury Prize for Best Ensemble Cast, with Sam Rockwell and Anjelica Houston, Daryl Wein's *BREAKING UPWARDS*, *ASHES* which she also wrote and produced and most recently in *WHAT'S YOUR NUMBER?* with Anna Faris and Chris Evans.

On the small screen, Burns was a series regular in the NBC series "Twenty Good Years" opposite John Lithgow and Jeffery Tambor. She was last seen as Zach Galifianakis' girlfriend, Leah, in HBO's "Bored To Death."

CONNIE BRITTON (Nora)

Three time Emmy nominated, Connie Britton, is an actress who continually receives accolades for her work in television and film. After stand-out roles on series such as “Spin City,” “24,” and “The West Wing,” she starred in one of the best reviewed shows on television, NBC’s “Friday Night Lights” created by Peter Berg, for which she received an Emmy nomination in 2010 and then again in 2011.

Britton will return to the small screen this fall starring in ABC’s highly anticipated drama, “Nashville,” in which she plays Rayna James, a legendary country music superstar. Britton most recently starred as the female lead in “American Horror Story,” Ryan Murphy and Brad Falchuk’s Golden Globe and Emmy nominated series for FX for which she received her third Emmy Nomination. She recently completed production on the film, THE HAND-JOB alongside Andy Samberg. She also appeared in this summer’s SEEKING A FRIEND FOR THE END OF THE WORLD with Steve Carrell and Keira Knightley.

Britton received two individual nominations from the Television Critics Association and “Friday Night Lights” was the organizations most nominated show in its first season and won Outstanding New Program of the year in 2007 and won the award for Program of the Year in 2011. It won the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award for broadcasting excellence .The American Film Institute also named the show one of the ten best TV shows of the 2006-2007 season and it received Teen Choice Award nominations two years in a row. Connie was also nominated for a Women’s Image Network Award (WIN), which honors work that features female protagonists.

Britton starred in ABC’s award-winning comedy “Spin City” opposite Michael J. Fox for five seasons. Her other television credits include a recurring role in the highly-acclaimed drama “The West Wing,” as well as, FOX’s popular “24.”

Britton received accolades for her starring role in Edward Burns’ acclaimed independent film, THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN. This popular low-budget film went on to win the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival. Some of her other feature credits include Michael Bay’s A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET, Edward Burns’ NO LOOKING BACK, LOOKING FOR KITTY and THE LATHER EFFECT, and the critically acclaimed, independent feature THE LAST WINTER opposite Ron Perlman which received a Gotham Award nomination for Best Ensemble Cast.

DARA COLEMAN (JJ)

Dara Coleman was born in County Wicklow, Ireland. He landed in New York City in 1994. Studied acting with William Esper and then went on to appear in a number of well received New York City Off-Broadway plays. In film, he has worked with Award winning Directors like Oliver Stone (WORLD TRADE CENTER), Edward Burns (ASH WEDNESDAY), Roland Emmerich (THE PATRIOT) and Tom Hooper (JOHN ADAMS).

BRIAN D’ARCY JAMES (Skippy)

Brian d’Arcy James is often recognized for his role on NBC’s “Smash.” Brian plays Frank Houston, Debra Messing’s husband in a cast that includes Anjelica Huston and Katharine McPhee. The second season of “Smash” is set to air on NBC next year. Brian most recently starred in a recurring role on the third season of Showtime’s “The Big C” starring Laura Linney.

He also appeared in the pilot episode as Assistant District Attorney Wheeler in the J. J. Abrams–produced “Person of Interest,” which began airing in September 2011 on CBS.

On the stage, Brian most recently earned rave reviews in the Broadway play *Time Stands Still* by Donald Margulies, starring alongside Laura Linney, Christina Ricci and Eric Bogosian at the Cort Theater. Brian originated the role of ‘Dan Goodman’ in the Pulitzer Prize–winning *Next To Normal* at Second Stage Theater and reprised his role in the Broadway production in the summer of 2010. He was nominated for a Tony in 2009 for his performance of ‘Shrek’ in *Shrek the Musical*. He also won the Outer Critics Circle and the Drama Desk Award for that role.

Brian can be seen as Ted Frank in the HBO film *GAME CHANGE* with Julianne Moore as Sarah Palin and Ed Harris as Senator John McCain. Brian also appears in the feature film *FRIENDS WITH KIDS*, written and directed by Jennifer Westfeldt starring Jon Hamm, Kristin Wiig, and Megan Fox. He can also be seen in *GHOST TOWN* with Ricky Gervais as Irish Eddie, a tattooed gangster. Brian has appeared in the ABC series “Cashmere Mafia,” and FX’s “Rescue Me.”

A Broadway veteran, Brian received a 2002 Tony nomination, a Drama Desk nomination, an Outer Critics Circle nomination and a Drama League Honor for his star turn as Sidney Falco in *Sweet Smell of Success*. For his performances Off-Broadway, he received a 2000 Drama Desk Award nomination for Outstanding Actor in a Musical and a Drama League Award Nomination for *The Wild Party* at Manhattan Theatre Club. He also received a 2001 Obie Award, Drama Desk Award nomination, Outer Critics Circle Nomination, Backstage Garland Award, and LA Weekly Award for his solo performance in Conor McPherson’s *The Good Thief*.

Brian received rave reviews for the Atlantic Theater Company’s production of *Port Authority*, his second Conor McPherson play. For his role, Brian was nominated for a Lucille Lortel award for Outstanding Lead Actor and a Drama Desk Award nomination for Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play for the 2009 season.

Brian started his illustrious career on Broadway when he appeared in *Blood Brothers* in 1993, taking over the lead role of Mickey for a limited time before leaving to join Nicholas Hytner’s acclaimed production of *Carousel* at Lincoln Center. He continued with strong performances in *Titanic* in the standout role of Barrett the Stoker, for which he received his first Drama League Nomination and a FANY Award.

2007 was a busy year on Broadway for Brian. He originated the role of Brendan in Martin McDonagh’s Tony and Drama Desk nominated play *The Lieutenant of Inishmore*, starred with Kristen Chenoweth in the Roundabout Theatre Company’s revival of *The Apple Tree*, and starred with Keith Carradine in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* as the scene-stealing, crude con-man Freddy Benson.

He has appeared in the plays *The Pavilion*, *Flight*, *Ancestral Voices* at Lincoln Center and *Public Enemy* by Kenneth Branagh. He starred in the Encores production of *Pardon My English*, and appeared in the original companies of *Floyd Collins* for Playwrights Horizons and Irving Berlin’s *White Christmas* in San Francisco, Boston and Los Angeles.

MARSHA DIETLEIN BENNETT (Dottie Fitzgerald)

THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS marks Marsha’s third collaboration with Edward Burns. She also co-starred in his film *NEWLYWEDS* and *NICE GUY JOHNNY*. Her other film credits include, *LITTLE CHILDREN*, *BOILER ROOM*, *WINTER OF FROZEN DREAMS*,

UNBREAKABLE, and the cult classic RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD: 2. Her short film MY BLIND BROTHER premiered at the Cannes Film Festival.

Her numerous television credits include several pilots for various networks, recurring roles on "Gossip Girl," "Without a Trace," and guest star roles on "Law and Order," "Law and Order: Special Victim's Unit," "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," "Ed," "Third Watch," and many more. Marsha also has a great love for theater and has starred Off-Broadway in Nicky Silver's *The Food Chain*, Michael Cristofer's *Amazing Grace*, and Joe DiPietro's *Over the River and Through the Woods*. She also performed in numerous productions in the Los Angeles area including *The Wood Demon* at the Mark Taper Forum and *Woman in Mind* (with Helen Mirren) at the Tiffany Theater.

Marsha lives in NY with her husband and two children.

NOAH EMMERICH (FX)

Noah Emmerich's breakout performance was in Ted Demme's cult hit BEAUTIFUL GIRLS (Natalie Portman, Uma Thurman, Matt Dillon). His next role, opposite Jim Carrey in Peter Weir's Academy Award nominated THE TRUMAN SHOW, established Mr. Emmerich's powerful presence and outstanding talent.

Mr. Emmerich's versatility as a character actor in combination with his leading-man charisma has led to appearances in a wide array of acclaimed films and roles. The New York Times said of his work in Gavin O'Connor's PRIDE & GLORY (Edward Norton, Colin Farrell, Jon Voight), "Mr. Emmerich steals the movie".

Film work includes Todd Field's Academy Award nominated LITTLE CHILDREN (Kate Winslet), Doug Liman's FAIR GAME (Sean Penn, Naomi Watts), MIRACLE (Kurt Russell), FREQUENCY (Dennis Quaid), BEYOND BORDERS (Angelina Jolie, Clive Owen), WINDTALKERS (Nicolas Cage), LIFE (Eddie Murphy, Martin Lawrence), COP LAND (Sylvester Stallone, Robert DeNiro, Harvey Keitel), J.J. Abrams' SUPER 8 (produced by Steven Spielberg), Mark Ruffalo's directing debut SYMPATHY FOR DELICIOUS (Orlando Bloom, Juliette Lewis), David Schwimmer's TRUST (Clive Owen, Catherine Keener), and Gavin O'Connor's WARRIOR (Tom Hardy, Nick Nolte), also marking his fourth collaboration with Mr. O'Connor.

Mr. Emmerich appeared to great acclaim on television this season as "Dr. Jenner" in Frank Darabont's record-breaking hit "The Walking Dead." He was last seen onstage opposite Patricia Clarkson in the Kennedy Center's production of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and at the Cherry Lane Theater in Stephen Belber's *Fault Lines*, directed by David Schwimmer.

Mr. Emmerich studied filmmaking at New York University, where he wrote and directed the short THE PAINTER, which won the Cine Award and the International Film Festival of Spain. His second film, THE DATE, won the Golden Bear at the Houston Film Festival.

Mr. Emmerich received an honors degree in history from Yale University. He was born and raised in New York City, where he currently lives.

CAITLIN FITZGERALD (Connie Fitzgerald)

Caitlin FitzGerald next appears in the upcoming Showtime series "Masters of Sex," opposite Michael Sheen and Lizzy Caplan. She broke out in Universal's IT'S COMPLICATED, in which

she played Meryl Streep and Alec Baldwin's eldest daughter and John Krasinski's fiancé. In Edward Burns' film NEWLYWEDS (Tribeca Film), she starred as Katie, a young wife whose blissful marriage is disrupted by family drama. She also appeared in Whit Stillman's DAMSELS IN DISTRESS for Sony Pictures Classics and in Ang Lee's TAKING WOODSTOCK for Focus Features.

ANITA GILLETTE (Josie Fitzgerald)

Feature film credits include: MOONSTRUCK, SHALL WE DANCE, BOYS ON THE SIDE, BOB ROBERTS, LARGER THAN LIFE, HIDING VICTORIA, THE LAST ADAM, SHE'S THE ONE, THE GURU, SUMMER OF BEN TYLER, A CHRISTMAS MEMORY, THE GREAT NEW WONDERFUL, BUM RAP, CHARLIE HOBOKEN, HIDING VICTORIA and THE LAST ADAM

Television credits include: "30 Rock (As Liz Lemon's (Tina Fey) Mom)," "CSI (As Marg Helgenberger's Mom)," Disney's "Shake It Up," "The War at Home," "Normal Ohio," "Frasier," "Almost Grown," "All That Glitters," "Women's Murder Club," "The Baxters," "Mad About You," "Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice," "Marathon," "Brass, Me and The Chimp," "The Ed Sullivan Show," Johnny Carson's "The Tonight Show," "Bell Telephone Hour."

Game Shows "Pyramid," "I've Got a Secret," "To Tell The Truth," "What's My Line," "Password," "Match Game."

Broadway credits include: *Chapter Two* (Tony Nomination and LA Drama Critics Award), *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Jimmy*, *Guys & Dolls*, *All American*, *Mr. President*, *Don't Drink The Water*, *Kelly*, *Cabaret*, *Carnival*, *Gypsy*, *The Great Waltz*, *Knickerbocker Holiday*, *Sweet Bird Of Youth*, *Pocahontas* (London's West End), *Encores! Bloomer Girl* and *70, Girls, 70*.

Off Broadway & Regional include: *The Big Meal* (Lortel Nom.) *John Guare's Rich & Famous*, *Travesties*, *Flamingo Court*, *The Seagull*, *My Fair Lady*, *Skin Of Our Teeth*, *Juno*, *Moving Targets*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Bus Stop*, *The King & I*, *Remembrance*, *Mornings' At Seven*, *Road Show*, *How The Other Half Loves*, *Shirley Valentine*, *The Importance Of Being Earnest*, *Irene*, *The Winslow Boy*, *South Pacific*, *Greetings*.

THOMAS GUIRY (Cyril Fitzgerald)

Thomas Guiry's film credits include MYSTIC RIVER, BLACK HAWK DOWN, THE SANDLOT, STEEL CITY, U-571, and YONKERS JOE among others. Television credits include a series regular on NBC's "The Black Donnellys," various "Law and Orders," "CSI Miami" and numerous movies of the week. Theatre credits include *Sarah and Abraham*, *The Tempest*, and *A Christmas Carol*.

ED LAUTER (Jim Fitzgerald)

In a film career that has extended for over four decades, Ed Lauter has starred in a plethora of film and television productions since making his big screen debut in the 1971 western DIRTY LITTLE BILLY. Lauter has portrayed an eclectic array of characters over the years, including (but not limited to), authority/military figures, edgy villains, and good-hearted heavies. Many will remember him for his appearance as the stern Capt. Wilhelm Knauer in 1974's THE LONGEST YARD (Lauter also made a cameo in the 2005 remake.) Lauter has also worked with Alfred Hitchcock, Lee Marvin, Burt Lancaster, Jim Carey, Ed Burns, and Liam Neeson and just finished a starring role in Clint Eastwood's new baseball film TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE

due out Sept 21st 2013. With a face that seems to pop up everywhere, Lauter has remained in demand for roles on both television and film. Ed's most recent film of note is THE ARTIST which won the Oscar for Best Picture.

MICHAEL MCGLONE (Quinn Fitzgerald)

THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS makes the third feature film Michael McGlone has appeared in with Edward Burns which he is delighted to see premiere at the 2012 Toronto International Film Festival.

Other notable 2012 events include McGlone's return as Detective Szymanski on CBS's hit show "Person of Interest," now in its second season as well as his much awaited special guest star appearance on USA's "Psych," which he just returned from shooting in Vancouver, BC.

The release of two other independent films, A GUY NAMED RICK and THE LITTLE TIN MAN are also looked forward to this year.

Michael McGlone began his career on the screen with a critically acclaimed performance in the 1995 Sundance Film Festival Best Film Award Winner THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN. Other film credits include SHE'S THE ONE, ONE TOUGH COP, THE BONE COLLECTOR, DINNER RUSH and Paramount Pictures' HARD BALL.

In addition to his ongoing career as an actor, Michael McGlone is a singer/songwriter, novelist and performer, with three albums and five books to his credit.

For more information as to any and all of the above please visit **MichaelMcGlone.com**.

DANIELLA PINEDA (Abbie)

Daniella Pineda was born in Oakland, California. She studied journalism and sociology at Mills College with the hopes of becoming a war correspondent, and she worked for a short time as a public radio reporter upon graduation. She then came to New York City in 2010 to pursue a writing career. In her first audition as a writer-host, she was discovered by a manager/producer and thus began her acting career.

Daniella has been making YouTube videos that have created media buzz on sites like the Huffington Post and Jezebel. She has worked with Ed Burns on numerous films, including NEWLYWEDS and DOGGY BAGS. In 2012 she booked her first pilot, NBC's "Midnight Sun." She has also starred in several College Humor videos, in addition to other credits for Comedy Central, TNT and MTV.

She is currently in pre-production for a feature called, COCAINE SLEEPOVER – a dark comedy horror she is writing, producing, and will also star in.

NICK SANDOW (Corey)

Nick Sandow's extensive resume spans film, television and theater. Soon to be seen in Edward Burns' new feature film, THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS alongside Connie Britton. Other film credits include THE SITTER, THE ACCIDENTAL HUSBAND, LIVING OUT LOUD, SWIMFAN, RETURN TO PARADISE, CONNIE AND CARLA, and RESURRECTING THE CHAMP.

Television credits include recurring roles on “Boardwalk Empire”, “Blue Bloods”, “How to Make It In America”, and “Third Watch.” Other highlights from Sandow’s television credits include “Unforgettable,” “CSI: Miami,” “Nurse Jackie,” “Mercy,” “Six Degrees,” “Law & Order,” “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit,” “Law & Order: Criminal Intent,” “NYPD Blue,” as well as the made for television movies “Mitch Albom’s For One More Day” produced by Oprah Winfrey and Sydney Lumet’s “Strip Search” for HBO.

Sandow’s theater credits include *Late Fragments* and *Baptism By Fire*, Nick also directed *Henry Flamethrowa*, *Ponies*, *Dark Yellow*, *Chicken* and *Riverdale to Riverhead*.

His feature film directorial debut PONIES premiered in the summer of 2012, with the New York Times calling it “...a riveting piece of work.”

JOHN SOLO (Johnny Esposito)

John Solo began his acting career by appearing in the critically acclaimed feature film BLACKOUT produced by and starring Tony Award winner and Oscar nominated actor Jeffrey Wright, and Zoe Saldana. The film went on to premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2007. From there, John went on to appear on several prominent television shows including: “All My Children,” “Law & Order,” and most notably recurring as Bazooka on FX’s new series “Lights Out.”

In 2011, John appeared in the soon - to - be released feature film, MAN ON A LEDGE, starring Sam Worthington and Edward Burns. Switching gears, John produced his first feature film LOVE MAGICAL where he also stars alongside Keith Sweat and Craig “Mums” Grant. John is currently filming the feature film *'79 Parts*.

John has studied with some of the industry’s leading professionals, including actor Vincent D’Onofrio. Theater credits include MTC’s *Gentlemen of Corona*, starring alongside television and film veteran Reggie Vel Johnson.

JOYCE VAN PATTEN (Mrs. McGowan)

Recent film appearances include PEACE, LOVE & MISUNDERSTANDING, THIS MUST BE THE PLACE and GROWN UPS; in addition to many other films including MAME, BAD NEWS BEARS and ST. ELMO’S FIRE. She has appeared on Broadway in *People in the Picture*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *I Ought to be in Pictures*, *Rumors*, *Jake’s Women*, *Taller than a Dwarf*, *More to Love* and *Ring Around the Moon*. In addition to Joyce’s film and theater credits, she has appeared on many television shows over the years.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKER

WRITER/DIRECTOR/ACTOR – Edward Burns (Gerry Fitzgerald)

Lauded by critics and audiences alike, Ed Burns gained international recognition for his first feature film THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN, which premiered in competition at the 1995 Sundance Film Festival, winning the Grand Jury prize. The film, which Burns wrote, directed and starred in, was shot on a budget of only \$25,000 and went on to gross over \$10 million at the domestic box office, making it the most profitable film of 1995. The film also won "Best First Feature" at the 1996 Independent Spirit Awards.

Burns' second film, the romantic comedy SHE'S THE ONE starring Jennifer Aniston and Cameron Diaz, reinforced Burns' versatile talent as a writer, director, and actor able to simultaneously and successfully wear multiple hats.

His 11th feature film as a writer, director and actor is the drama THE FITZGERALD FAMILY CHRISTMAS, which had its world premiere at the 2012 Toronto Film Festival, and stars Kerry Bishé, Connie Britton, Ed Lauter, and Michael McGlone.

Burns continues to write, direct, star in and produce his films, including the Paramount Classics relationship comedy SIDEWALKS OF NEW YORK, PURPLE VIOLETS, NICE GUY JOHNNY and NEWLYWEDS. In a groundbreaking deal, PURPLE VIOLETS was the first feature film to premiere exclusively on iTunes. Burns expanded on this new model of digital distribution to include cable Video on Demand to reach even wider audiences and successfully released two films, NICE GUY JOHNNY and NEWLYWEDS via these platforms in 2010 and 2011.

As an actor, Burns starred opposite Tom Hanks and Matt Damon in Steven Spielberg's critically acclaimed World War II epic SAVING PRIVATE RYAN. He also starred in the thriller 15 MINUTES opposite Robert De Niro, CONFIDENCE opposite Dustin Hoffman, and the 20th Century Fox romantic comedy hit 27 DRESSES opposite Katherine Heigl.

Burns will star opposite Tyler Perry and Matthew Fox in I, ALEX CROSS which is set for release in October 2012. His recent acting projects include FRIENDS WITH KIDS, with Jon Hamm and Jennifer Westfeldt and MAN ON A LEDGE, opposite Sam Worthington and Elizabeth Banks.

Ed Burns was born in Woodside, Queens and raised on Long Island. While at Hunter College in New York City, Burns switched his focus from English to filmmaking before quickly moving on to make THE BROTHERS MCMULLEN, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival.

He lives in New York City with his wife and two children.

CAST

KERRY BISHÉ	Sharon Fitzgerald
EDWARD BURNS	Gerry Fitzgerald
HEATHER BURNS	Erin Fitzgerald
MARSHA DIETLEIN BENNETT	Dottie Fitzgerald
CAITLIN FITZGERALD	Connie Fitzgerald
ANITA GILLETTE	Rosie Fitzgerald
TOM GUIRY	Cyril Fitzgerald
ED LAUTER	Jim Fitzgerald
MICHAEL MCGLONE	Quinn Fitzgerald
NICK SANDOW	Corey
NOAH EMMERICH	FX
CONNIE BRITTON	Nora
JOYCE VAN PATTEN	Mrs. McGowan
DARA COLEMAN	JJ
BRIAN D'ARCY JAMES	Skippy
MALACHY MCCOURT	Father
DANIELLA PINEDA	Abbie
JOHN SOLO	Johnny Esposito
MICHELE HARRIS	Quinn's Assistant
KEVIN KASH	Brian

CREDITS

Written and Directed by
Produced by

Executive Producer
Director of Photography
Editor
Music by
Supervising Sound Editor
Casting by
Co-Producer
Associate Producer
Production Sound Mixer
Sound Designer
ADR Recordist
Re-Recording Mixers

DI Colorist
DI Conform Editor
DI Producer
Title Design
Poster Design
VFX Artist
Assistant Editor
Additional Camera

Production Assistants

Casting Associate
Digital Intermediate
ADR Facility
Mixed at
Additional VFX

EDWARD BURNS
AARON LUBIN
EDWARD BURNS
WILLIAM REXER II
MIKE HARROP
WILLIAM REXER II
JANET GAYNOR
PT WALKLEY
GREGG SWIATLOWSKI
MARIBETH FOX
NICOLAS NEWBOLD
ZAK TUCKER
GREGG SWIATLOWSKI
BEN CHEAH
BRIAN GALLAGHER
MARTIN CZEMBOR
GREGG SWIATLOWSKI
ROMAN HANKEWYCZ
CHRIS FARFAN
RHONDA MOORE
SCOTT KAWCZYNSKI
NICOLAS NEWBOLD
MICHAEL GLEN
STEPH CHING
ADAM MILLER
NICOLAS NEWBOLD
RICHARD TEDESCO
PATRICK MCGLONE
NINA BRADDOCK
JODI ANGSTREICH
HARBOR FILM COMPANY
SOUND ONE CORP.
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COPA NY

Musical Score by PT WALKLEY

Fitz Waltz
Carol of the Bells
What Child is This
Oh Come Ye Merry Gentlemen
Oh Come Oh Come Emmanuel

Performed by
Nathan Shaw (piano)
David Eggar (cello)
Laura Sherman (harp)
PT Walkley (various)