



TRIBECA FILM in partnership with AMERICAN EXPRESS presents  
and THE BUREAU OF MOVING PICTURES

## HIGHLAND PARK

A film by Andrew Meieran

Available on VOD March 26, 2013

Run Time: 83 Minutes

Rating: Not Rated

Press Materials can be downloaded at:  
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**FEATURING**

BILLY BURKE

KIMBERLY ELISE

JOHN CARROLL LYNCH

ROCKMOND DUNBAR

DEBORAH ANN WOLL

HAAZ SLEIMAN

WITH

PARKER POSEY

AND

DANNY GLOVER

**SYNOPSIS**

Highland Park follows the fortunes of an impoverished city's high school faculty as budget cuts eliminate most of their jobs. After decades of an endless downward spiral this close knit group of friends pools their money and puts their faith in one last luck of the draw for a record lotto jackpot and a chance to turn their lives around. Emboldened by the possibility of sudden wealth they explore the roots of their city's decline, from corruption to the loss of hope and faith in themselves and their community. Against almost insurmountable odds they discover that luck is actually in the eye of the beholder.

## DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

I've always been fascinated by urban decay. Abandoned spaces have an emotional resonance, an innate sense of story. How do once grand places—the finest theaters, the most elegant restaurants, the monuments to culture and industry—often fall into ruin? One sees massive abandoned buildings and immediately forms a narrative in their head—who created these places? What took place within their walls over the decades they remained in use? And then we try to imagine what must have happened to end it all. Some form of massive upheaval? A war perhaps?

In America the unfortunate reality is that there was no monstrous upheaval. No specific moment of tragedy. The narrative is less defined, more drawn out. We did this to ourselves over a long period of time as we abandoned our past in search of a brighter future. We created the Urban Ghost Town. For we had the wealth and prosperity to deem our past disposable and move on to greener pastures. With the film Highland Park I wanted to follow a small group of lifelong residents of the quintessential Rust Belt town as they confront the potential death of their community. Positioned at the pivotal moment in the community's history, they are confronted by a final, unavoidable choice: abandon their homes in search of opportunity and allow their neighborhood to die-- or take a stand to change things.

I didn't want to make a treatise on urban decay or the socio-economic dynamics that guide the fate of the inner city. Instead I wanted to create an ensemble piece about a group of close friends who make very human mistakes while they stumble towards helping save their community. They confront the dynamics that have wrecked most similar communities: corruption, mismanagement and an almost insurmountable apathy. But most importantly they confront their own values and sense of worth.

I interjected the lottery as a metaphor for the hand of fate so many look to when things go wrong. It's endemic in our culture to look for shortcuts to prosperity and success. A bailout, a jackpot, instant fame or some other windfall-- people often look outside themselves for quick solutions to their problems. But as our characters find out, that rare windfall often fails to do anything to fix the underlying problems. Instead, the capricious hand of fate intervenes in unexpected ways, challenging people to find their own personal path to success and revealing surprising new opportunities.

From farmland to birthplace of the American Dream and back to farmland again in a mere hundred years, no place could be more emblematic of the rags to riches to rags saga of the American city than Highland Park, Michigan. Henry Ford chose it as the location of the world's first modern assembly line and sparked an Industrial Revolution that transformed this community (and Detroit surrounding it) into one of the wealthiest places in history within a mere decade. The ruined landscape left behind when prosperity moved on is striking. It sets a visceral, gritty, emotional tone that underscores the loss our characters have suffered and their desperate need to stop their community's spiral towards oblivion. We see the grand decay that envelopes their lives and feel a palpable sense of desperation. This is not just the story of our protagonists, it is something we have all witnessed and felt. If it could happen here, to the wealthiest, most advanced place on the globe, it could happen to us. It is potentially our story. As an audience we are left with the questions, what would I do? And importantly, what will I do?

## **ABOUT THE CAST**

### **BILLY BURKE (LLOYD HOWARD)**

With an accomplished and diverse career spanning over 20 years, Billy Burke has established himself as one of Hollywood's leading men in film and television. He currently stars as Miles Matheson on NBC's #1 new drama "Revolution," a science-fiction series produced by J.J. Abrams and created by Eric Kripke. Later this year, Burke will also be seen in the films **HIGHLAND PARK** with Parker Posey and Danny Glover, and **JESUS IN COWBOY BOOTS** alongside Alicia Silverstone.

Most recently, Burke reprised his role as Charlie Swan in **THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN – PART 2**, the final installation of the **TWILIGHT** series, which grossed over \$292 million in the U.S. box office and \$537 million worldwide since its release on November 16, 2012.

Born in Bellingham, Washington, Burke developed a love of performing at an early age. He attended the drama program at Western Washington University where he cultivated and mastered his versatile acting skills. Burke made his feature film debut in the independent film **DAREDREAMER** in 1990 and moved to Los Angeles, California, to pursue a career in acting and singing.

He went on to appear in numerous television shows ranging from sci-fi and fantasy like in "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" to drama in "Party of Five." He received high acclaim for his memorable recurring role in Season 2 of the award-winning FOX hit "24." Other television credits include: "Gilmore Girls," "Monk," "The Closer," "My Boys," and "Rizzoli & Isles."

No stranger to the big screen, Burke has been seen on in feature films like **ALONG CAME A SPIDER** opposite Morgan Freeman; Touchstone Pictures' **LADDER 49** with John Travolta and Joaquin Phoenix; **FRACTURE** beside Anthony Hopkins and Ryan Gosling; and all five films in the multi-billion dollar **TWILIGHT** franchise. Additional film credits include **FEAST OF LOVE** alongside Morgan Freeman and Greg Kinnear; Tom Rosenberg's **UNTRACEABLE** with Diane Lane and Colin Hanks; and Leonardo DiCaprio's production of **RED RIDING HOOD**.

Burke resides in Los Angeles with his wife and his daughter.

### **KIMBERLY ELISE (TONI)**

Award winning and celebrated actress Kimberly Elise, a performer whose eyes seem able to peer directly into the souls of audience members, has garnered notable critical acclaim for her roles in such features as BELOVED, THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE and DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN.

Elise began acting professionally on the theatrical stages of her native town Minneapolis, a graduate of University of Minnesota with a degree in communications, she later attended the prestigious American Film Institute in Los Angeles as a directing fellow. Elise's feature debut was in the film SET IT OFF receiving critical acclaim for her performance. She followed up with and a Best Supporting Actress Cable Ace award for her work in THE DITCHDIGGER'S DAUGHTERS. Her performance in BELOVED opposite Oprah Winfrey and Danny Glover shortly thereafter garnered her several awards, including The Chicago Film Critic's "Most Promising Actress" Award, an NAACP Image Award nomination as well as the Best Supporting Actress Golden Satellite Award. In 2000, Elise stepped into the lead for the made-for-television feature "The Loretta Claiborne Story," playing the mentally and physically disabled athlete who made a name for herself by overcoming tremendous odds and becoming a competitor in the Special Olympics. Itching to return to the stage, Elise took on the role of Beneatha in A Raisin in the Sun at the Williamstown Theater Festival. Upon closing the play, lead roles in *Bait* with Jamie Foxx and *Bojangles* with Gregory Hines quickly followed. By the time she appeared in *John Q*, Elise had been singled out by many critics to be one of Hollywood's brightest young stars, and her strong performance in the film opposite Denzel Washington only helped to strengthen that sentiment and earn her two more NAACP Image Award nominations. In 2004, Elise would once again appear with Washington in the Jonathon Demme remake The Manchurian Candidate. Elise would next star in, the independent film WOMAN THOU ART LOOSED, where her performance earned her an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Actress and her fourth NAACP Image Award nomination. This was swiftly followed by Elise's powerhouse lead performance in, DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN a small independent film, opened at number one at the box office and went on to earn nearly 60 million dollars making Elise a rarity - an African American actress able to open a movie at number one. Her performance in DIARY garnered Elise the "Outstanding Lead Actress in a Theatrical Film" BET Comedy Award and the "Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture" NAACP Image Award. The talented actress earned her second NAACP Best Actress Image Award for her portrayal of prosecutor Maureen Scofield on Jerry Bruckheimer's CBS television show "Close To Home." In 2007 she starred opposite Terrence Howard in Lion's Gate film PRIDE as well as THE GREAT DEBATERS where she starred opposite Forest Whitaker with Denzel Washington. Most recently, Elise starred opposite Cuba Gooding Jr in the TNT presentation of GIFTED HANDS-THE BEN CARSON STORY directed by Thomas

Carter earning her third NAACP Image Award for Best Actress. In 2011 Elise starred in the film adaptation of FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF. In Summer 2012, she brought to life the legendary cowgirl “tage Coach Mary in Hallmark Channel’s film HANNAH’S LAW and most recently completed the psychological thriller EVENT 15. This winter Elise will begin production and star in “Bounce” her new scripted dramedy series for VH1 Networks.

### **JOHN CARROLL LYNCH (RORY)**

Born in Boulder, Colorado, John Carroll Lynch spent the first eight years of his professional career as a member of Minneapolis’s Guthrie Theater Company with roles in over 30 productions. His talent and his midwestern sensibility helped him land his first major film role as NORM, Francis McDormand’s duck-obsessed husband in the Coen brothers’ Academy Award-winning FARGO. Since then Lynch has worked steadily in film, television and theater, playing characters ranging from small town sheriffs -- both lovable and evil -- doctors, killers, perplexed fathers, aggravated brothers, frustrated husbands, a big city banker, wealthy suburban real estate developer, southerners, northerners, westerners and easterners. He’s even played an old-fashioned, conservative, small-town, heterosexual cross-dresser from Cleveland who, by the way, got the girl. If there’s one thing consistent about Lynch’s career, it’s the extreme diversity of the characters he plays and wide range he covers — from dry wit to broad comedy, and from thriller and mystery to melodrama.

On the small screen Lynch has appeared in many series regular, recurring and miniseries roles, including “Carnivale,” “Body Of Proof”, “K-Ville,” “Big Love,” “How to Make it in America,” “From the Earth to the Moon” and David E. Kelley's “Brotherhood of Poland, NH.” For six seasons he played Drew’s cross-dressing brother on ABC’s “The Drew Carey Show.” But Lynch's first love remains the theater. Most recently he returned to the Guthrie Theater where he had the lead role of Eddie Carbone in Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*. Other recent stage appearances include the original production of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Dinner with Friends* at South Coast Rep, *Under the Blue Sky* at the Geffen, and Beth Henley's world premiere, *Ridiculous Fraud*, at New Jersey's McCarter Theater.

With over 40 film credits, Lynch has been directed by Clint Eastwood, Martin Scorsese, David Fincher, Miguel Arteta, Mick Jackson and Albert Brooks, among others. He can be currently seen in the Stephen Frear’s film LAY THE FAVORITE with Bruce Willis and Rebecca Hall.

When he’s not working on “Do No Harm” Lynch lives in New York and Los Angeles with his wife, actress Brenda Wehle.

### **ROCKMOND DUNBAR (SHAUN)**

Starting with a series regular role Steven Spielberg's "Earth 2," Rockmond Dunbar has worked steadily over the years in feature films and television series. Named as one of "Television's 50 Sexiest Stars of All Time" by TV Guide for his role as Kenny Chadway in the acclaimed Showtime drama series "Soul Food," Dunbar is also known for his work as a regular on the Fox TV series "Prison Break" where he played the tough, mysterious character C-Note. In 2011 he joined the cast of FX's hit show "Sons of Anarchy" as the new Sheriff of Charming, Eli Roosevelt. He was also a regular on the FX series "Terriers." Rockmond has guest starred and recurred on countless shows, including "Private Practice," "Felicity," "CSI: Miami," "Grey's Anatomy," and "The Defenders," to name a few. On the feature side, Rockmond had leading roles in various independent films like JADA, KISS KISS BANG BANG alongside Robert Downey Jr., and Tyler Perry's THE FAMILY THAT PREYS. Recently, Rockmond's directorial debut PASTOR BROWN premiered on Lifetime as a Black History Month movie event. Most recently, Rockmond landed a role in the ABC pilot "Doubt."

### **DEBORAH ANN WOLL (LILLY)**

Woll has made guest appearances on several television programs, including "Life, Aces 'n Eights," "ER," "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" (17th episode of 8th season, "For Gedda"), "My Name Is Earl," "The Mentalist and Law and Order SVU." Woll received her breakout role as Bill Compton's vampire progeny, Jessica, on the HBO television series "True Blood." additional film roles include MOTHER'S DAY, which is directed by Darren Lynn Bousman; and LITTLE MURDER, which co-stars Josh Lucas.

### **HAAZ SLEIMAN (ALI)**

Co-starred as undocumented Syrian immigrant Tarek in the critically acclaimed 2008 independent film THE VISITOR, a drama nominated for a Screen Actors Guild Award and an Oscar, directed by Thomas McCarthy. Sleiman also had small roles in the 2006 film AMERICAN DREAMZ and the 2007 film AMERICANEAST.

In 2006 Sleiman portrayed an American soldier in Iraq on the NBC series "ER," and that same year had a recurring role as an Arab billionaire in the CBS series "Company Town". He portrayed the terrorist suspect Heydar in three 2007 episodes of the FOX series "24," and appeared on both "NCIS" and "Veronica Mars" in 2007.

Sleiman played gay nurse Mohammed "Mo-Mo" De La Cruz in the first season of the Showtime dark comedy series "Nurse Jackie," which premiered in June 2009.

In 2011, Sleiman played the role of Omar, a Palestinian activist, in the Channel 4 mini-series “The Promise.” Haaz also played the role of Kasim Tariq in the CW Network TV show “Nikita,” appearing in two episodes.

**PARKER POSEY (SHIRLEY PAINE)**

Parker Posey is currently shooting GRACE OF MONACO opposite Nicole Kidman. Parker’s recent films include the forthcoming HEMINGWAY AND GELHORN directed by Philip Kaufman, starring opposite Nicole Kidman and Clive Owen and PRICE CHECK directed by Michael Walker.

Recent television work includes: “The Good Wife,” “The Big C,” “Parks and Recreation,” and “Bored To Death.”

Some highlights from her work in independent film over the years include: PARTY GIRL directed by Daisy von Scherler Mayer, THE DAYTRIPPERS directed by Greg Mottola, CLOCKWATCHERS directed by Jill Sprecher, THE HOUSE OF YES directed by Mark Waters, DAZED AND CONFUSED directed by Richard Linklater, PERSONAL VELOCITY directed by Rebecca Miller, HAPPY TEARS directed by Mitchell Lichtenstein, BROKEN ENGLISH directed by Zoe R. Cassavetes and her work in Christopher Guest’s unscripted movies: WAITING FOR GUFFMAN, BEST IN SHOW, A MIGHTY WIND, FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

Some highlights from her work in studio pictures include: YOU’VE GOT MAIL directed by Nora Ephron, SCREAM 3 directed by Wes Craven, JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS directed by Harry Elfont and Deborah Kaplan, THE SWEETEST THING directed by Roger Kumble, SUPERMAN RETURNS directed by Bryan Singer and BLADE TRINITY directed by David S. Goyer.

Highlights from her work in television include: “Armistead Maupin’s Tales Of The City,” “The Simpsons,” “Futurama,” “Will And Grace,” “Boston Legal,” and “As The World Turns.”

Posey’s theater work includes: *Four Dogs And A Bone* by John Patrick Shanley and directed by Lawrence Kasdan, *The Fifth Of July* by Lanford Wilson and directed by Jo Bonney, *Taller Than A Dwarf* by Elaine May and directed by Alan Arkin, and *Hurlyburly* by David Rabe and directed by Scott Elliott.

Posey received a special jury award at the Sundance Film Festival for her work in THE HOUSE OF YES. She was nominated for a Lucille Lortel award for her work in THE FIFTH OF JULY and received



the award for her work in HURLYBURLY.

In 2008, The Deauville Film Festival presented Parker with an award honoring her achievement in independent cinema.

### **DANNY GLOVER (ED)**

Actor, producer and humanitarian Danny Glover has been a commanding presence on screen, stage and television for more than 25 years. As an actor, his film credits range from the blockbuster LETHAL WEAPON franchise to smaller independent features, some of which Glover also produced. In recent years he has starred in an array of motion pictures including the critically-acclaimed DREAMGIRLS directed by Bill Condon and in the futuristic 2012 for director Roland Emmerich. In addition to his film work, Glover is highly sought after as a public speaker, delivering inspiring addresses and moving performances in such diverse venues as college campuses, union rallies and business conventions.

Glover has gained respect for his wide-reaching community activism and philanthropic efforts, with a particular emphasis on advocacy for economic justice and access to health care and education programs in the United States and Africa. For these efforts Glover received a 2006 DGA Honor and was honored with a 2011 “Pioneer Award” from the National Civil Rights Museum. Internationally Glover has served as a Goodwill Ambassador for the United Nations Development Program from 1998-2004, focusing on issues of poverty, disease and economic development in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. Glover was presented in 2011 with the prestigious Medaille des Arts et des Letters from the French Ministry of Culture and was honored with a Tribute at the Deauville International Film Festival. Currently Glover serves as UNICEF Ambassador.

In 2005 Glover co-founded NY based Louverture Films with writer/producer Joslyn Barnes. The company is dedicated to the development and production of films of historical relevance, social purpose, commercial value and artistic integrity. Among the films Glover has executive produced at Louverture are: The César-Nominated *Bamako*, Sundance Grand Jury Prize and Oscar® and Emmy® nominated TROUBLE THE WATER, the award winning THE BLACK POWER MIXTAPE 1967-1975, and the 2012 Sundance Grand Jury Prize winner THE HOUSE I LIVE IN. He has also associate produced Elia Suleiman’s THE TIME THAT REMAINS, and the 2010 Cannes Palme d’Or winner UNCLE BOONMEE WHO CAN RECALL HIS PAST LIVES.

A native of San Francisco, Glover trained at the Black Actors’ Workshop of the American Conservatory Theatre. It was his Broadway debut in Fugard’s *Master Harold...and the Boys* that brought him to

national recognition and led director Robert Benton to cast him in his first leading role in 1984's Academy Award-nominated Best Picture, *PLACES IN THE HEART*. The following year Glover starred in two more Best Picture nominated films: Peter Weir's *WITNESS* and Steven Spielberg's *THE COLOR PURPLE*. In 1987 Glover partnered with Mel Gibson in the first *LETHAL WEAPON* film and went on the star in three hugely successful *LETHAL WEAPON* sequels. Glover has also invested his talents in more personal projects including the award-winning *TO SLEEP WITH ANGER* which he executive produced and for which he won an Independent Spirit Award for Best Actor; *BOPHA!*, *MANDERLAY*, *MISSING IN AMERICA* AND *THE* film version of Athol Fugard's play *Boseman and Lena*. He also starred in *The Royal Tenenbaums*, *Saw*, *Shooter*, and *Death at a Funeral*.

On the small screen, Glover won an Image Award, a Cable ACE Award and earned an Emmy nomination for his performance in the title role of the HBO Movie *Mandela*. He has also received Emmy nominations for his work in the acclaimed miniseries "Lonesome Dove," the telefilm "Freedom Song" and as a director he earned a Daytime Emmy nomination for Showtime's "Just a Dream." Most recently, Glover was a co-star on the popular television series "Touch" and completed a role as Justice Thurgood Marshall in the HBO film *MUHAMMAD ALI'S GREATEST FIGHT*.

## **ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

### **ANDREW MEIERAN (DIRECTOR, WRITER, PRODUCER)**

Originally from California's Bay Area, Andrew Meieran cultivated his love of historic properties and cinema while studying film, history, and rhetoric at UC Berkeley. During his freshman year, unable to win a spot in the dormitory lottery, he purchased a dilapidated craftsman bungalow from its original 104 year old owner in order to provide himself housing. Meieran spent the duration of his college career pursuing a parallel curriculum: a self-designed, self-taught, experiential program in restoration as made the place a livable environment. He learned the craft of historic rehabilitation from the foundation up, working himself to restore nearly every aspect of the home. He uncovered layers of history as he worked, revealing not only rotting wood, broken plumbing and outdated systems but a treasure-trove of artifacts. Beneath it all he found original newspapers announcing the start of World War I and tantalizing fragments of life abandoned in the walls from the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century. The experience led to a love of history and a creative, improvisational approach to the re-re-use of historic structures. He discovered that you could experience living history by inhabiting historic spaces.

That experience never left him. After graduating, he restored hundreds of historic structures and was inspired to create residences, restaurants, bars and even the unique lighting fixtures, furniture and art installations within each location.

Meieran more recently created of The Bureau of Moving Pictures to establish a home for thoughtful, provocative film projects and as a means to utilize his design and entrepreneurial talents to bring unique and timely films to a wider audience. The philosophy that permeates Meieran's previous projects has become a guide for his film work: to create socially conscious films that examine the spirit and imagination of the past as a way to overcome the frustrations and hardships of the present. As in his previous hospitality ventures, history serves as a guide—providing a nostalgic look back as a key ingredient in the creation of a hopeful future.

The Bureau's first project, 28 Hotel Rooms, a film by Matt Ross, premiered at Sundance in 2012. It plays out over several years as two lovers (Chris Messina, Marin Ireland) attempt to define themselves and their quixotic relationship over a series of one night stands. Highland Park, The Bureau's second film, centers on the impoverished neighborhood of Highland Park, Michigan. Meieran co-wrote and directed a fictionalized take on life in the town engineered by Henry Ford to be the birthplace of the American Dream. From farmland to capital of the Industrialized World in a mere fifty years, Henry Ford realized his ambitions in Highland Park with the world's best schools, the first community college,

the first mile of paved highway, the first public streetlights and the first modern assembly lines. It has however become home to the American Nightmare, becoming the first municipality to remove its streetlights, close its schools entirely and decimate its infrastructure. How the community deals with this change of fortune is the subject of not only the film, but Meieran's philosophy on the revitalization of entire neighborhoods, which he expands upon in the film in slightly irreverent yet poignant ways. Additional film projects include *We Are All The Same*, written by Keir Pearson (*Hotel Rwanda*) to star Naomi Watts; and *Serling*, a film about the life of Rod Serling and his struggle to create *The Twilight Zone*, co-produced with Rod's widow, Carol.

With *The Edison* in Downtown Los Angeles, Meieran crafted a visionary lounge experience within one of Downtown Los Angeles' once flooded basements in an area thought by many to be lost to civilization. Drawing upon his love of history and a desire to revitalize crumbling historic neighborhoods, Meieran crafted an innovative space that continues to play a pivotal role in the revitalization of Downtown's Historic Core. Awarded the Golden Heart Award in 2011 for his contributions to the neighborhoods within which he works and named a Treasure of Los Angeles in 2012 for his continuing efforts to reimagine and restore numerous nearly forgotten historic structures throughout Los Angeles, Meieran has brought a heightened philosophy to development within economically struggling neighborhoods. Each project is designed to foster 'living history;' drawing inspiration from a community's past to guide creative economic development and build a better future. His projects have created hundreds of new jobs, spurred development in dozens of once abandoned structures, revitalized thousands of residential units and have become integral to the economic diversity of many communities.

Meieran, a Board Member of the Los Angeles Conservancy, the largest local preservation group in the nation, is currently working closely with the Los Angeles City Council's Bringing Back Broadway initiative to reinvent the once thriving Broadway Corridor in Los Angeles. His recent acquisition of the legendary Clifton's Cafeteria, once the heart of the Broadway Theater District and the original starting point of Route 66, has become the centerpiece in his strategy to design projects that inspire historically based development as a means of revitalizing troubled neighborhoods.

Other venues are planned for the future that will expand upon the themes that have made Meieran's previous concepts unique and revolutionary, utilizing architectural artifacts and contemporary technology to capture the spirit of the world's most celebrated, legendary nightlife. Each will incorporate eras of invention and exuberance in imaginative ways while continuing to focus upon not just the art of the cocktail, but on corporate responsibility and neighborhood involvement.

With his new projects Meieran hopes to continue to inspire others to integrate both physical and cultural history into their work. His hope is to allow people to experience living history in their communities and lives.

### **CHRISTOPHER KEYSER (WRITER)**

Christopher Keyser is the President of the Writers Guild of America, West, a union that represents the thousands of writers who create content for television, film, news, documentaries, animation and the Internet.

He is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. After graduating, he became a political speechwriter, where he wrote for the head of the Democratic National Committee, Paul Kirk, among others, and served as chief speechwriter for Governor Bruce Babbitt's presidential campaign in 1988.

Starting his screenwriting career in 1988, Keyser's credits include *Benefit of the Doubt* for Miramax and the Independent film *Highland Park*. He is currently casting *Indefensible*, produced by Voltage and Paula Weinstein and preparing to direct his own script, *A Great Education*, produced by Laurence Mark, Dan Halsted and Myriad Pictures.

In television, he writes, principally, with a partner, Amy Lippman. Together, they began working on series ranging from *LA Law* to *Equal Justice* to *Sisters*. In 1994, they created the drama series, *Party of Five*, which ran for six years on Fox and won, among other honors, the Golden Globe for Best Drama Series, as well the Humanitas Prize. Keyser and Lippman went on to create such shows as *Time of Your Life* and *Significant Others*. Their latest series, *Lone Star*, premiered on Fox in 2010. Keyser is currently developing a number of series for Showtime, including *Hamelins*, with director Marc Webb, as well as a series for Fox Television Studios.

Mr. Keyser combines his interests in writing and public affairs as a creator of political media. He has served as a partner in the media company, First Tuesday. His work has been recognized with a number of American Association of Political Consultants' Pollie Awards, which are the political ad equivalent of television's Emmys.

In his spare time, Mr. Keyser coaches debate for a number of schools in Los Angeles and for the US World Schools Debate Team. This is a continuing interest from his younger days, when he was a repeat guest on the PBS television series, *Great Confrontations at the Oxford Union*.

Mr. Keyser is the Co-Chair of the Board of Hollywood Health & Society and serves on the boards of the American Film Institute, The Actors Fund, The Curtis School and the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Association of Urban Debate Leagues, as well as on the Board of Trustees of the I Have A Dream Foundation, Los Angeles.

**ANNE CLEMENTS (PRODUCER)**

Anne Clements is an award-winning Producer whose credits include movies, television, commercials and music videos. She has gained a reputation for the highest possible production standards, at a fraction of the cost.

In 2006 Clements produced the feature film *QUINCEAÑERA* that went on to win numerous awards including the prestigious Sundance Audience Award as well as Grand Jury Prize, Humanitas Prize and the John Cassavetes Award for Best Feature at the Independent Spirit Awards. Sony Pictures Classics released the film.

Clements also produced the critically acclaimed documentary “Gay Republicans” for Trio, which won the Audience Award at the AFI Film Festival, and *PEDRO* for BunimMurray Productions/MTV that premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival and the Panorama section of the Berlin International Film Festival. President Bill Clinton introduced the film when it aired simultaneously on MTV, MTV Tr3s, LOGO and MtvU.

She also executive produced *SHELTER* written and directed by Jonah Markowitz that was distributed by Regent Releasing and produced the comedy feature *PING PONG PLAYA* by Academy Award winner Jessica Yu. *PING PONG PLAYA* had its world premiere at the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival and was theatrically released by IFC. *QUINCEAÑERA* and *PING PONG PLAYA* earned Clements a Producer’s Award nomination at the 2008 Independent Spirit Awards.

Other feature credits include *KING OF THE AVENUE* starring Ving Rhames and Esai Morales, *WRATH OF CAIN* also with Ving Rhames, *MANGUS!* starring Jennifer Coolidge, Heather Matarazzo and Leslie Jordan, *WORST.PROM.EVER* for MTV and she supervised Marc Forster’s *MACHINE GUN PREACHER* starring Gerard Butler. Also recently she produced the Telly Award winning music video “I’m Still Hot” with Betty White and pop artist Luciana. She is currently in New Orleans filming *MADE 2: LADIES’ MAN* a feature comedy for MTV.

In 2011 Anne co-founded Red Hot Poker Productions, a production company focused on scripted and unscripted television. The company has a two-year first-look deal with Sony Pictures Television. The company is represented by Brillstein Entertainment Partners and attorney Elsa Ramo.

**CHRIS PANIZZON (PRODUCER)**

Chris is a founding partner at Siren Studios and helps direct the company's business development, branding, and strategic partnership initiatives. 2012 has proven to be a transformative year for Siren Studios. Launched in 2006 as a full service still photo and commercial production facility, the company has since grown into a 360 creative campus that today offers large-scale motion picture, grip and electric equipment rental, high-end special event, and next gen post-production services.

Siren's most notable joint ventures include Lisa Wilson and Myles Nestel's The Solution Entertainment Group for Finance, Kyle Jackson's Inspire Media Services for Post, Clair Global for Music and Broadcast, and sbe for Hospitality – all highly strategic to the company's mission to become the most innovative creative community in the media services industry.

Located in the heart of Hollywood on Sunset Blvd, recent expansion projects include: the Siren Towers @ Sunset – a four level photo and events space with unrivalled Hollywood views from the roof deck, Siren @ Orange – two unique side-by-side sound stages on Santa Monica Blvd as well as the acquisitions of the Complete Post Building with over 39,000 sq. ft. in office and entertainment space and 6500 Sunset Boulevard, home of Inspire Media Services.

Chris has risen in the Hollywood community since transitioning 10 years ago as an Investment Banker in the Research Department at JPMorgan within the Internet Services Industry Group from 1996-2001. Some of the IPOs that Chris serviced included Accenture, Perot Systems, and Organic Inc and served on the merger transition committee with Chase Bank.

After one fateful trip to Sundance in 2001, Chris transitioned to Hollywood and started as Independent Producer. He produced several independent features including THE TO-DO LIST coming out this year with CBS Films, HIGHLAND PARK, WORST PROM EVER and PEDRO featuring President Bill Clinton for MTV, and SHELTER, winner of Outfest 2007.

## **CRAIG CHAPMAN (PRODUCER)**

Craig Chapman was born, raised and lived in the State of Maine until he graduated from the University of Maine at Orono in 1998. After graduation, he moved to the Bay area to continue his education at Sonoma State University under a fellowship program with Project Censored, “The News that didn’t make the News”.

While in the Bay, Chapman became interested in the entertainment business after having the opportunity to work on the feature film, “Bicentennial Man” starring Robin Williams and the television show “Nash Bridges” starring, Don Johnson.

In late ‘99 Chapman decided that in order to pursue his entertainment career ambitions he would need to move to Los Angeles. With 1000 dollars in his pocket and a big dream he made the 5-hour trek to Los Angeles and began his pursuit of a job.

After 6 hard weeks of pacing the streets, Chapman landed a job at Dick Clark Productions as a development executive and moonlighted at the House of Blues as a team lead in the foundation room (Waiter). While at Dick Clark, Chapman worked under Cindy Clark and Barry Adelman for the TV Pilot “Smartest Kid in America” produced for CBS.

After a brief stay with Dick Clark, Chapman decided that he had what it took to produce his own product. He quickly decided to take a consulting opportunity with UrbanMind Pictures a New York based Development Company. He aided the company in the development of 3 feature scripts. In 2002, UrbanMind Pictures was purchased by PPI Entertainment the oldest independently held distribution company in North America. Chapman worked for PPI for 2+ years. While there he reported directly to the CEO and owner and built considerable knowledge and contacts with Distribution/Sales Company’s and began to educate himself on the financial aspects of the media business.

In 2005 after leaving PPI, Chapman Produced his first feature film entitled “The Hit” starring Blair Underwood. This was the beginning of his independent producing career. Since then Chapman has gone on to Produce and contribute to the finance of many high level feature films including “Machine Gun Preacher”, starring Gerard Butler and Directed by Marc Forster.

In 2005 Chapman help launch Siren Studios a highly respected studio and production services company located in the heart of Hollywood. Siren currently owns and maintains studio facilities on the Sunset



Strip and Santa Monica Blvd. Siren is in its third phase of expansion in as many years and plans to complete a 100K plus square ft digital media center with motion capture capabilities during early summer of 2012.

In 2008, while acting as a managing member of Siren, Chapman was introduced to Gary Safady a real-estate developer who shared his passion for Film. After formalizing their partnership through Siren Studios, Chapman and Safady formed Kaushi/Safady Entertainment, a Development and Production Company focused on the creation of high-level IP assets in the feature film/television space, a company that they operate together to this day. Please see IMDBPro as reference:

<http://pro.imdb.com/name/nm2597264/>

#### **CREDITS**

Executive Producer	DAN HALSTED
Co-Executive Producers	LINDEN B. NELSON ANTHONY P. WENSON
Artistic Consultants	JUSTIN KELLY SCOTT MARTIN
Unit Production Manager	LYNNETTE MYERS
Line Producer	DEVON SCHNEIDER
Production Supervisors	CARLA BOWEN TARA PLIZGA CHRISTY BUSBY
Post Production Supervisors	SAMANTHA HOUSMAN LOUISE RUNGE
1st Assistant Director	JAKE BEEMER

2nd Assistant Director      CHRISTINE SANTIAGO

Cast

Lloyd Howard	BILLY BURKE
Ed	DANNY GLOVER
Shirley Paine	PARKER POSERY
Shaun	ROCKMOND DUNBAR
Toni	KIMBERLY ELISE
Rory	JOHN CARROLL LYNCH
Jessie	ERIC LADIN
Sylvia Howard	MICHELLE FORBES
Caroline	JORDAN TROVILLON
May	VERNEE WATSON
Bert	BOB GUNTON
Lilly	DEBORAH ANN WOLL
Hal	BLAKE CLARK
Eileen	STEPHANIE KOENIG
Destiny	BO DEREK
Seamus	WILL YOUNG
Doug Coolidge	TIREN JAMES
Kurt	MICHAEL AARON
Ali	HAAS SLEIMAN
Jessica	TAYLOR GROOTHIUS
Jordan	JACK AIZIK
Frick 'n Frack	LEX LANG
Gompers	MICHAEL MAURICE
Merna	MADGE LEVINSON
Harriet	SARAB KAMOO
Councilman Brice	PETER CAREY
Butcher	LYNCH TRAVIS
Jack	ROYCE WILLIAMS
Claire	JULIA GLANDER
Merv	PETER DAOUST
Char	NATURI NAUGHTON
Lucky Cider Mill Clerk	RUSTY MEWHA
Reporter 1	DIANA LEWIS
Reporter 2	VIC FAUST
Drugstore Clerk	YANCEY FUQUA
Attila the Nurse	RHONDA ENGLISH
Player #1	ELANTE RICHMOND
Player #2	LANIER LOGAN
Voice Coach	RICO SERBO
Construction Worker	DANNY RAY COOL

Worker #2 JOVAN DONAHUE  
Reporter #3 MICHAEL SAUNDERS  
Chief of Police TED CALDWELL  
Stunt Double Ed BOB STUART  
Stunt Double Jessie ELE BARDHA

Stunt Coordinator PETER MALOTA

Loop Groupd THE LOOP SQUAD  
MARK SUSSMAN  
PATTY CONNOLLY

Crew

Script Supervisor CAROLYN TOLLEY  
Script Supervisor Additional Photography CARMYN TABANYI

Art Director TIMMY HILLS  
JONAH MARKOWITZ

Set Decorator BETH DE SORT

Leadman BRIAN "CHIEF" COCKERHAM  
On Set Dresser KEVIN QUINN  
Set Dresser KEVIN VANDERHOFF  
JASON ENDRES  
CHARLIE WROBLESKI  
RICHARD LATTUCA  
LLOYD MCNAUGHTON

Buyers KARRI FARRIS  
AMY WILLIAMS

Property Master CURTIS AKIN  
Assistant Property Master AMY GRAHAM  
Props PA DOUG KOLBICZ

Art Department Coordinator JAX BAKER  
Art Department Assistants MARIA SAFI  
NICK LAVELLE  
CONSTANCE PIEFFER

"A" Camera Operator	CALE FINOT
1st Assistant "A" Camera	CARLOS DOERR
2nd Assistant "A" Camera	JAY HARDIE
"B" Camera Operator	WILL EICHLER
1st Assistant "B" Camera	STEPHEN EARLY
	ROB KOCH
2nd Assistant "B" Camera	IAN HENDERSON
"C" Camera Operator	MICHAEL KOHNHORST
1st Assistant "C" Camera	DAVID BRUSH
Loader	LIAM DALE
Camera PA	ZACK SAVITZ
Steadicam Operator	WILL EICHLER
Jib Arm Operator	DAVE MCNUTT
Video Assist	ERIC PICKETT
Additional Video Assist	SHARON COURTNEY
	BOBBY ESPINOZA
Playback	ANDY SMITH
Still Photographer	WALLACE MICHAEL CHROUCH
Gaffer	ERIC FORAND
Best Boy Electric	ERIK GONZALES
Electricians	DAVID M. WOOD
	JOHN LENNAH
	DAVID JEFFREY MOORE
	THOMAS MATTHEW KROPP
	KEVIN FANNON
Lamp Operator	FRED ANTENORCRUZ
Lighting Technician	DANIEL OCHOA
Rigging Gaffer	CARL BLAIR
Rigging	FRANK C. DORSET
	CRAIG SYMONS
	CURTIS B. EUERAGE
	FRANKLIN L. BEESLEX JR.
	ROBERT KRASOFSKY
	KEITH SYMONS
	CHARLES LAWSON
	FREDERICK GRAHAM
Set Lighting Technician	DUSTIN SANCHEZ
Key Grip	GARY BROCK
Best Boy Grip	JOHN MACULEVICZ
	MIKE DRUEZ

Grips	KEN FERGUSON BILL KENNEDY JIM LATTA REGINALD STANLEY TOM CAMPAU RYAN J. DEMARCO PHILLIP D. BEESLEY FLOYD W. BLACK
Rigging Grip	JEFF BROCK
Rigging	ED SMITH
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Key Make Up	DAWN BAKER
Additional Make Up	LOUISE HOLODAY JON LIECKFELT
Make Up Additional Photography	TATIANA THORPE
Hair Department Head	JOHN TARRO
Key Hair	EMILIE COCKLES
Additional Hair	JENNIFER SYTS JEANNETTE MORIARTY
Hair Additional Photography	RICHARD DE ALBA
Wardrobe Supervisor	FRAN ALLGOOD
Key Set Costumer	GINA ALLER
Set Costumer	MELANIE HOCKING
Seamstress	DEANNA ZAPICO
Costume Intern	KRYSTAL WOODS
Sound Mixer	WILL HANSEN
Boom Operator	MICHAEL LUCE
Sound Additional Photography	DAVID HOLMES
Location Manager	DAVE KRIEGER
Assistant Location Manager	BRIDGET REDDEMAN JENNIFER ZAPINSKI
Location Assistant	STEVE SCHLICK
Location Manager Additional Photography	JAMES PERRY
Production Office Coordinator	TIFFANY LANIER
Production Secretary	BRANDON WILLIAMS
Office Production Assistant	JOSEPH VALDEZ CHRIS MINK
Office Intern	AARON KOHN

Set Production Assistants	JUAN ORTIZ JOHN WISE ELIZABETH SPIX
Production Accountant	ROBIN REITMAN
Assistant Accountant	ANGELA K. BARNES
Payroll	IAN HARTSHORN
Payroll Services	ENTERTAINMENT PARTNERS
Auditor	INTEGRATED TAX STRATEGIES JULIE MAY
Special Effects Foreman	TODD LITKE
Special Effects Coordinator	DEAN TYRRELL
Special Effects Technician	MARK TYRRELL
Construction Coordinator	SEAN CLOUSER
Construction Assistant	VIKKI MAGDICH
Painter	DAVID KOZLOWSKI DITA REDMOND
Propmaker	HENRY RUIZ JAMES MELLEMA HOSS MARSHALL
Scenic Artist	JAMES J. SIDICK
Welder	RYAN COMPTON
Lead Greensman	ERIC RHODES
Greensman	GREGORY GRAVES JERRY SANDERS CODY COHOON ROBERT ANDERSON
Transportation Coordinator	COLLIN BURTRUM
Coordinator Additional Photography	KURT KNUDSEN
Transportation Captain	DAVID SCHMIDT JACKSON JAY REECE
Captain Additional Photography	LANCE CHERNIET
Drivers	GREGG A. AYOTTE ROYDEN C. ELLIOTT STUART SHIFF ALEX STRAND GARY LETT CURT ADAM BUTRUM WILLIAM SEOULES CASS M. CASUCCI

	PAMELA SUMMERS EDWIN J. MARTIN TOM LITTLE JAMES BRANDON ANDRE C. AVERY ABRAM H. RAHAMAN JEFFREY L. LEMIEUX BOB MYERS KEN KAPLAN MIKE VAN DARREN REID
Honeywagon	
Studio Teacher	CAROLYN DARBY
Set Medic Construction Medic	SANDY EVANSKI MICHAEL WOODARD
Marine Safety	BILL TONDREAU DAVID PACHMAYER
Animals Provided By Animal Trainers Taxidermy Advisor	PAWS FOR EFFECT CHRISTINA HENNING DAVID BOLLMAN
Casting Assistant	MELISSA TANG
Casting by	JANET POUND AND KATHY MOONEY (Michigan)
Extras Casting Extras Casting Directors	REAL STYLE CASTING KATHY REMSKI ROSE GILPIN
Catering Head Chef	CHOW CATERING DAN GEARIG
Craft Service Assistant Craft Service	NANCY LEAT JEROME JOYCE
EPK	BRUCE SCHERMER STEVE RUBIN
Production Counsel	THE LAW OFFICES OF ELSA RAMO ELSA RAMO ERIKA CANCHOLA

Production Insurance	THUM INSURANCE AGENCY WINNIE WONG RANDY TYRREL
Travel Agent	TRAVEL EXCHANGE JULIE TOMARO
Lodging Provided by	WESTIN SOUTHFIELD
Camera Equipment	FLETCHER CAMERA STRATTON CAMERA
Grip & Electric Equipment	MID AMERICA DETROIT POWER & LIGHT
Car & Trucks Provided by	ENTERPRISE LINE 3500 RENTALS MOVIE MOVERS HADDADS INC
Production Film Stock Provided By	KODAK
Production Film Processing & Dailies	HD STUDIOS - GRACE & WILD

Post Production

Post Production Services Provided by	ONEZERO PRODUCTIONS
Post Production PA	CALVIN DUNHAM
Digital Intermediate Provided By	NEW HAT
Digital Intermediate Colorist	MICHAEL MINTZ
Digital Intermediate Colorist Assistant	CASSIDY GREENWOOD
Digital Intermediate Technical Director	MICHAEL LAFUENTE
Digital Intermediate Editor	JON PEHLKE
Digital Intermediate Producer	ANNALISE KURINSKY
Sound Services Provided by	JUNIPER POST, INC.
Sound Supervisor	DAVID KITCHENS
Supervising Sound Editors	DAVE BARBER BEN ZARAI
Re-Recording Mixer	BEN ZARAI
ADR & Foley Supervisor	GONZALO "BINO" ESPINOZA



Foley Artist	GONZALO "BINO" ESPINOZA
Sound Editors	MIKE PIPGRAS DAVE BARBER
Additional ADR Recording	POST WORKS NY RON ROSE MI
Additional ADR Mixer	LIZ FAUSAK
Visual Effects Provided by	MASTER KEY
VFX Producer	ELAN DASSANI RAJEEV DASSANI CHEVY K. CHEN
VFX Coordinator	MATT GILROY MCELROY MONIKA LIND
IO Coordinator	BRIAN GARRETT
VFX Artist	CHRIS FACZEK NICK GUTH ALFRED NRP MARK HAWK JONATHAN SIMS BEN SMITH
Additional Visual Effects Provided by	CINEMOTION
Visual Effects Producer	VICTOR TRICHKOV
Score Mixer	JAMES T. HILL
Score Guitars	JONATHAN MARTIN BERRY ALEX CORNISH

Artwork Provided by

Bonnie Callahan  
Hollywood Studio Gallery

Props Provided by

Anheuser-Busch	Detroit Free Press
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Michigan Lottery	The Farrow Group
WXYZ	Highland Park Public Schools
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The Filmmakers Wish to Thank

Ginny Hart	Michigan Film Office
Betsy Strand	Film Detroit
Scott Stevens	Mike Mosallam
Janet Lockwood	Bryan Best
Xenia Castilla-Hunter	Greg Lehr
Rob Randall	Fred Schultz
Jim Holleran	Michael Farrow
The Fondas	University of Michigan
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Steve Dayan	Yvette Robinson
Mark Rollings	Mayor Yopp
Tara Sattler	Chief Caldwell
Zoe Borys	Tom Fletcher
Katie Rhodes	David Haddad
Michael Hofacre	Maria Ahedo

Music

“Broken Open”

Written by Matthew Aveiro, Jacquire King, Matthew  
Maust, Jonathan Russell, Nathan Willett  
Performed by Cold War Kids  
Courtesy of Downtown Music/Co-operative  
Music/Interscope Records  
Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

“Schmuck In A Vacuum”

Written by David N. Yazbek  
Performed by Yazbek  
Courtesy of What Are Records?  
[www.WhatAreRecords.com](http://www.WhatAreRecords.com)

“How Long”

Written by Charles Bradley, Thomas Brenneck,  
Daniel Foder, David Guy, Leon Michels, Homer  
Steinweiss

Performed by Charles Bradley featuring Menahan  
Street Band

Courtesy of Dunham Records a division of Daptone  
Records

By arrangement with Mixtape Music

Published by Defend Songs, Inc.  
Administered by Kobalt Music Publishing America,  
Inc.

“The Sun’s Going Down”

Written by G. Olson

Performed by Hans Olson  
Courtesy of Wild Whirled Music

“Lack Of Fight”

Written by May Tabol

Performed by Pree

Courtesy of The Kora Records  
By arrangement with Bank Robber Music

“Send You Back To Mama”

Written by G. Olson

Performed by Hans Olson

Courtesy of Wild Whirled Music

“Jesus When He Goes”

“LDN”

Written by Lily Allen, Iylola Babalola, Darren Lewis,  
Thomas McCook

Performed by Lily Allen

Courtesy of EMI Records Ltd.

Under license from EMI Film & Television Music

©Universal-songs of Polygram Int., INC. on behalf  
of Universal Music Publishing LTD. (BMI).

“Be My Lady Love Tonight”

Written by Bob Kelly

Performed by Bob Kelly & The Pikes

Courtesy of Fervor Records, a division of Wild  
Whirled Music

“All In Chains”

Written by Frank Carillo

Performed by Frank Carillo and the Bandoleros

Courtesy of Balmy Swami Music, Inc (ASCAP)

By arrangement with WACBIZ, LLC

“Lovin’ You, Baby”

Written by Charles Bradley, Thomas Brenneck,  
David Guy, Leon Michels, Homer Steinweiss

Performed by Charles Bradley featuring Menahan  
Street Band

Courtesy of Dunham Records a division of Daptone  
Records

By arrangement with Mixtape Music

Published by Defend Songs, Inc.

Administered by Kobalt Music Publishing America,  
Inc.

“Lady Faire”

Written by Frank Carillo  
Performed by Frank Carillo and the Bandoleros

Courtesy of Balmy Swami Music, Inc. (ASCAP) and  
Kayos Productions, Inc./Mr. Wooley Music (ASCAP)  
By arrangement with WACBIZ, LLC

“Botswana”  
Written by Ryan Hurtgen  
Performed by René Breton  
Courtesy of Fifth Ace Records

“Grow Grow Grow”  
Written by Devon Press, James Craft, Ted Lattis,  
Daniel Baer, Brady Miller  
Performed by La Strada  
Courtesy of Ernest Jenning Record Co.  
By arrangement with Bank Robber Music

“Mind Your Own Business”  
Written and performed by Stephen Emil Dudas  
Courtesy of Extreme Music

Written by Saadat Awan, Shelby Cinca, Stephen  
Guidry, Arthur Harrison  
Performed by The Cassettes

Courtesy of The Cassettes  
By arrangement with Gerard Talbot Licensing

“Reach”  
Written by Andrew Belle and Adam Agin  
Performed by Andrew Belle  
Courtesy of 1L Music  
By arrangement with Secret Road Music Services,  
Inc.

“Nantes”  
Performed by Beirut  
Courtesy of Ba Da Bing Records  
By arrangement with Bank Robber Music

"Gimme Some of That Vox"  
Written and Performed by: Mo Guitar Riddick and  
Beau Weevil  
Courtesy of: Extreme Music

Filmed on Location in Highland Park, MI and Detroit, MI

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American Humane Association monitored the animal action. No animals were harmed.

MI Film Office	ONEZERO
New Hat	JUNIPER
IATSE	MPAA
SAG	TEAMSTERS
KODAK	THE BUREAU OF MOVING PICTURES

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