

From the writer and producers of
DEATH AT A FUNERAL
And the director of
THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT

A Few **BEST MEN**



Media Kit

A Few **BEST MEN**

An outrageous comedy about a groom and his so called 'three best mates'.

When David travels to Australia to marry the love of his life,
his three best men give a whole new meaning to the phrase
'for better or worse'.

The chaos-filled wedding is a classic culture clash
between his friends and her family ...
because blood is thicker than water and so are David's mates!

A Few **BEST MEN**

You are cordially invited to absolute mayhem!

SCREEN AUSTRALIA, ARCLIGHT FILMS & QUICKFIRE FILMS AND SCREEN NSW PRESENT A PARABOLIC PICTURES AND STABLE WAY ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNTHANK FILMS
AND STORY BRIDGE FILMS AND INGENIOUS BROADCASTING AND AUBURN ENTERTAINMENT "A FEW BEST MEN" XAVIER SAMUEL KRIS MARSHALL KEVIN BISHOP LAURA BRENT AND OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN
CASTING CHRISTINE KING, CSA CASTING GARY DAVY, CDB CASTING ANNE MCCARTHY COMPOSER GUY GROSS COSTUME DESIGNER LIZZY GARDNER EDITOR SUE BLANEY, ACE PRODUCTION DESIGNER GEORGE LIDDLE, APDC DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY STEPHEN WINDON, ACS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DEAN CRAIG JOSH KESSELMAN TODD FELLMAN MARK LINDSAY IAN GIBBINS JAMES ATHERTON JAMES M VERNON PRODUCED BY SHARE STALLINGS LAURENCE MALKIN GARY HAMILTON ANTONIA BARNARD
WRITTEN BY DEAN CRAIG DIRECTED BY STEPHAN ELLIOTT

SCREEN AUSTRALIA Arclight films QUICKFIRE NEW INGENIOUS AUBURN ENTERTAINMENT DOLBY DIGITAL ICON FILM DISTRIBUTION

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PRODUCTION NOTES

Dean Craig's script for **A Few Best Men** was developed with producers **Share Stallings** and **Laurence Malkin**. It is their fourth collaboration together and recaptures Craig's unique voice, which spoke to audiences worldwide on both productions of *Death At A Funeral*, (Sidney Kimmel Entertainment's 2007 original and the Sony Screen Gems remake, starring Chris Rock in 2010). Malkin approached Arclight Films' **Mark Lindsay** and **Gary Hamilton**. A long time champion of Australian productions – Hamilton immediately saw the creative connection for the film, and had a clear vision of how to produce and finance the feature in Australia.

Upon his return to Australia, after some seventeen years away, director **Stephan Elliott** (*Easy Virtue*, *Eye of the Beholder*, *The Adventures of Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert*) was slipped the script by Hamilton asking him to read it 'as a favour'. Remembering the words of acclaimed screenwriter Richard Curtis (*Love Actually*), who had once told him – 'a comedy script is only successful if you laugh out loud at least three times when reading it' - Elliott knew he had his next project.

A destination wedding gone totally wrong **A Few Best Men** was written by **Dean Craig** (*Death at a Funeral*, *Off The Hook*, *Fresh*, *Caffeine*) and produced by the team of **Share Stallings** (*Death at a Funeral*, *Curious George 2*, *Curious George TV Series*, *The Reality Trap*) and **Laurence Malkin** (*Death at a Funeral*, *Five Fingers*, *Soul Assassin*, *Caffeine*), Arclight Films' **Gary Hamilton** (*Salvation Boulevard*, *Romulus My Father*, *Merchant of Venice*, *The Bank Job*), and **Antonia Barnard** (*Burning Man*, *Last Ride*, *The Painted Veil*).

With a stellar international cast all saying 'I do!' **A Few Best Men** stars **Xavier Samuel** (*Twilight: Eclipse*, *Bait*, *Anonymous*, *2:37*) as the hapless groom, with Elliott's *Easy Virtue* star **Kris Marshall** (*Death At A Funeral*, *Merchant of Venice*, *Love Actually*), British stand up comedian and actor **Kevin Bishop** (*The Kevin Bishop Show*, *Star Stories*, *Spanish Apartment*, *Food of Love*) and Australian **Tim Draxl** (*Tangle 2*, *The Shark Net*, *Traveling Light*, *Swimming Upstream*) as his delinquent best men.

Elliott has long been friends with **Olivia Newton-John** and was determined that she was absolutely perfect to play 'the mother of the bride'. He was delighted when she agreed to make her Australian feature return as Barbara.

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Also in the ensemble are **Laura Brent** (*Not Suitable For Children, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*) as the bride, Bridesmaid's **Rebel Wilson** as her sister, the ubiquitous **Steve Le Marquand** (*Beneath Hill 60, Last Train To Freo, Kokoda*) as the lonely drug-dealer Ray, political satirist **Jonathan Biggins** as the bride's politician father and recent VCA drama school graduate **Elizabeth Debicki** as his right hand woman, Maureen. Elizabeth has since been cast as Jordan Baker in Baz Luhrmann's upcoming *The Great Gatsby*.

Behind the camera, Elliott amassed an outstanding crew of longstanding collaborators and industry greats including the internationally acclaimed Director of Photography **Stephen Windon** (*Fast & Furious 5; The Pacific, The Fast & The Furious: Tokyo Drift* and the upcoming *GI Joe 2: Retaliation*), Production Designer **George Liddle** (*Daybreakers, Willfull, Dark City*) and reuniting with *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert's* Academy Award® winning Costume Designer **Lizzy Gardiner** (*Stealth, Mission Impossible II, Eye of the Beholder*), composer **Guy Gross** (*Frauds, The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*) and editor **Sue Blainey** (*Easy Virtue, Eye of the Beholder, The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*).

Working with writer **Dean Craig**, Elliott says that the final shooting script was a meeting of their two minds. "Dean has a definite voice and it can be heard loudly throughout the film" said Elliott. "We worked together to ensure his humour and the Australian sensibility went hand in hand" ... and of course the sheep ending up in drag was always going to happen!

Determined that the film be set not just in Australia but specifically in New South Wales, Elliott convinced Screen NSW (the State funding body) to assist with the location recce, thus hiring a helicopter to scope the areas around Sydney (flown by Elliott's friend and helicopter hero **Gary Ticehurst**, who was tragically killed in a flying accident 5 months after filming was completed and just prior to film lock off – Elliott hopes **A Few Best Men** will do Gary proud).

It was during this reconnaissance that the perfect location for the wedding was found - Yester Grange – a grand federation house perched on a stunning escarpment in the heart of the Blue Mountains. Malkin and Stallings were grateful to Screen NSW and Screen Australia for supporting Elliott's vision of the film. They were particularly impressed with how focused the agencies remained on ensuring the film made it into production.

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The film was shot over a period of eight weeks at Fox Studios in Sydney and on location in the Lane Cove National Park, The Rocks and the picturesque Blue Mountains – all during the height of the Australian summer and in the midst of a sweltering heatwave. Having recently been to a summer Australian wedding – where parasols were handed to the guests upon arrival - Elliott asked production designer **George Liddle** to supply the same to the extras playing the guests in the wedding scene. This single act greatly assisted in protection from sunstroke and heat exhaustion as temperatures rose to the high 30s and early 40s as cast and crew were forced to withstand the demands of the heat wave, whilst shooting the spectacular garden wedding scenes in the grounds of Yester Grange.

One character central to the comedy was **Ramsy**, the Merino sheep prized by father of the bride Jim Ramm and credited with his success – ‘the ram behind the man’! Any self respecting Merino would normally have been shorn prior to the summer – but in keeping with the script Ramsy had to maintain his prize Merino pelt for best cinematic effect – resulting in the production team having to keep him in air-conditioned comfort between takes.

Always good humoured during the shoot Ramsy had to be lowered out of a window, be dressed in drag and suffer the ignominy of pretending to have items removed from his nether regions. He was a stand out member of cast, despite ‘making a bolt for it’ and disappearing down the mountain only to be returned safely with a rather sheepish look on his face.

Director of Photography **Stephen Windon** shot **A Few Best Men** using the revolutionary ARRI ALEXA camera. The second Australian film to use the camera, it was the first film to use the camera’s RAW uncompressed data - giving the production a better resolution and greater quality control in the grading suite. This groundbreaking system is reshaping the future of feature films.

The interior wedding scenes were shot at Sydney’s Fox Studios with a massive wedding marquee constructed on one of the main soundstages. With 360-degree removable sides and its facility for lighting, this set gave **Stephen Windon** more control and greater access to what could have been quite a restricted space.

Production Designer **George Liddle** built the interior house sets, carefully matching the era and authenticity of the exterior of historical Yester Grange, whilst portraying the upper class home of the Ramm family.

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Academy Award winning costume designer **Lizzy Gardiner** worked with Liddle and Elliott to complete the look of the upper-class wedding. Historically, wedding scenes have been a major challenge for designers with cameras not being able to successfully capture white on white, however with the use of the ARRI ALEXA camera, and its ability to read white on white, Gardiner was able to design a white wedding dress to compliment the Paul Smith suits for the groom and best men, and the filthy 'tighty whities' worn by **Steve Le Marquand**'s character Ray, for most of the film.

Gardiner designed a few different wedding dresses for the bride, before settling on 'the dress', which was painstakingly tailored to actress **Laura Brent**. **Olivia Newton-John**'s mother of the bride outfit was a Collette Dinnigan, with Gardiner designing a matching bolero to complete the shimmering ensemble.

Where the film took eight weeks to shoot, it took four months to assemble in the edit suite. Stephan worked alongside long time colleague and friend, **Sue Blainey**, who edited three of his previous features *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, *Eye of the Beholder* and *Easy Virtue*. Howls of laughter could be heard emanating from the edit suite as together they went through the various takes and scene options, compiling the final cut of the film.

Also working closely with Elliott during this process was composer **Guy Gross**, who had scored both *Frauds*, *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* and music supervisor **Warren Fahey**. Together they have produced an outstanding contemporary soundtrack covering iconic songs from the 70s and 80s whilst giving them a quintessential 'Aussie Wedding Band' feel, with classics including **Georgy Girl**, **Brand New Key (Rollerskate Song)**, **Love Boat** and **Ballroom Blitz**.

Elliott also convinced **Olivia Newton-John** go back into the studio with long time collaborator John Farrar (with whom she has worked for over thirty years, producing her perennial hits *Xanadu* and *Physical* amongst many others) to write and perform a new dance track called *Weightless* which is played over the end credits of the film.

A Few Best Men was fully completed two days shy of its hugely successful screening to 600 Australian Theatrical Exhibitors and Distributors at the Movie Convention on the Gold Coast. In introducing the film Elliott said "its good to be back!"



FROM THE DIRECTOR

Way before the film, *Priscilla*, I was a pioneer of the 'wedding video'. As a teenager I had a side-line business filming weddings. This was back in the day when the video camera weighed more than the 14 year old trying to operate it. Do you have any idea how many times I have shot a drunk Mother Of The Bride performing YMCA? By the time I was 23, I vowed NEVER to go to another wedding. And that included my own.

However karma is a cruel creature. Post *Priscilla* (for some demented reason) all I got offered out of Hollywood was bloody wedding movies. Hundreds if not thousands of the buggers. The only way I would ever face this horrific genre was on my own terms. That opportunity surfaced in the form of **A Few Best Men** - it read like '*Die Hard At A Wedding*'. I would finally extract my revenge.

Originally set in England, relocating the script to Australia gave me the perfect excuse to come home. I could do my bit for state and country, gather all the old team together and make some magic. Problem was, most of the team hobbled into the production office on zimmer frames (living off shore for 17 years can do that to you). No matter. We fastened our leg braces, girdles and wheelchairs and went for broke.

It was David Niven who famously warned 'the more fun you have on the movie, the bigger disaster you'll have at the box office'. The last time I had this much fun was making *Priscilla*. If you herd this many genuinely funny people into one place, what do you think is going to happen? Some days, all I could do was point the camera and get out of the way.

Kris Marshall and Kevin Bishop would whip each other into a frenzy (they've worked together since they were kids); Rebel Wilson and Jonathan Biggins would retaliate with brilliant Aussie sarcasm; Tim Draxl would face plant (a truly gifted physical clown); Xavier would explode in sheer frustration and finally, ONJ (Olivia You Know Who) just put her head down and charged into the fray. It was comedy gold.

When was the last time you laughed till you cried? We were shooting in RAY's (the drug dealer) caravan for an intimate scene. Lizzy and I had decided to put Steve Le Marquand in filthy underpants for pretty much the entire movie. Now I had to do a close up of the underpants (plot point). It soon became apparent I could not possibly get a lens that close as it was taking the term 'meat and potatoes' to a whole new level. The only option was to block the dangerous part of the frame with Kevin Bishop's head. Steve and Kevin

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were inches apart. Once the giggles set in, Kevin kicked into 'Robin Williams' mode and once he goes, you can't shut him down. After 30 exhausting minutes the whole crew were rolling around on the floor without a frame in the can.

I blew my top. For the first time in my career - I lost control of a set. The more I screamed at everybody to grow up, the worse it got. In the end, out of sheer desperation, I threw 35 'children' off the floor and operated the camera myself. I furiously walked out to find 100 grown up human beings still doubled over, screaming with laughter.

It was one of the best shoot days of my life.

Music was the icing on my revenge cake. My plan was to have composer Guy Gross score the entire film with classic Aussie wedding tunes. All those great songs destroyed by god-awful wedding bands over the years (I'm still in therapy over Toni Basil's MICKEY). No underscore ... just the band. As the big day loses control, the bored band turn into Guitar Heroes and all hell breaks loose. Getting wind of this, Olivia wanted in on the act. I refused, she was acting for her supper this round. All right - what if she got John Farrar to write her something? They hadn't worked together in years.

Are you kidding me? The man wrote Xanadu! The closing credit track is produced in collaboration with my long time friend Marius De Vries (Massive Attack, Madonna, Bjork). It is also, proudly, ONJ's first dance track ever.

Sorry Mr Niven. I hate to prove you wrong ... but I think we just have.

And to think I get paid to do this job.

Stephan Elliott, Director

PS: Everyone still asks me to video their bloody weddings.



KEY CAST

DAVID	Xavier Samuel
TOM	Kris Marshall
GRAHAM	Kevin Bishop
LUKE	Tim Draxl
BARBARA	Olivia Newton-John
MIA	Laura Brent
DAPHNE	Rebel Wilson
JIM	Jonathan Biggins
RAY	Steve Le Marquand
MAUREEN	Elizabeth Debicki
KAL	Oliver Torr
RAMSY	Ramsy



KEY CREW

DIRECTOR	Stephan Elliott
WRITER	Dean Craig
PRODUCERS	Share Stallings Laurence Malkin Gary Hamilton Antonia Barnard
COMPOSER	Guy Gross
MUSIC SUPERVISOR	Warren Fahey Michelle De Vries
DIRECTOR of PHOTOGRAPHY	Stephen Windon ACS
COSTUME DESIGNER	Lizzy Gardiner
EDITOR	Sue Blainey ACE
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	George Liddle APDG
CASTING BY	Christine King CSA
UK CASTING	Gary Davy CGD
US CASTING	Anne McCarthy
MAKE UP/HAIR DESIGNER	Cassie Hanlon
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS	Dean Craig Josh Kesselman Todd Fellman Mark Lindsay Ian Gibbins James Atherton James M Vernon

The Groom

XAVIER SAMUEL



is **DAVID**

Over the past few years, Australian actor Xavier Samuel has generated international attention for his standout performances and is quickly becoming one of the most dynamic and versatile young actors of his generation.

Xavier was most recently seen in the third film in the blockbuster Twilight series, **Eclipse** in which he played Riley, a newborn vampire. Later this year he will be seen opposite Rhys Ifans and Vanessa Redgrave in Roland Emmerich's **Anonymous**, a historical drama which purports that William Shakespeare is

not the true author of the literary work attributed to him.

Xavier's film credits also include **Road Train**, a supernatural thriller set in the Australian outback and directed by Dean Francis, and he has recently completed production on the Australian thriller **Bait** about a tsunami, which traps a group of people in a supermarket along with a pack of tiger sharks.

Additional film credits include the thriller **The Loved Ones**, directed by Sean Byrne, which premiered at the Melbourne International Film Festival in July 2009. **The Loved Ones** also screened at the Toronto International Film Festival in September 2009 where it won the Midnight Madness audience prize. **September** opposite Mia Wasikowska, which premiered at the Melbourne International Film Festival to rave reviews and was selected to screen in both the Berlin and Toronto Film Festivals. He has also appeared in the coming-of-age surf drama **Newcastle**, which premiered at the Tribeca International Film Festival.

Xavier made his screen debut in the highly acclaimed independent feature **2:37**, which chronicles the lives of six students over the course of a day and ends in a devastating suicide. Directed by newcomer Murali K. Thalluri and featuring a relatively unknown cast, the film, which screened in competition at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival in "Un Certain Regard," received a standing ovation.

Xavier will shortly commence production on the film, **Drift**. Set in the 1970s, the film follows the journey of the Fisher brothers as they start a new life in a remote coastal town and revolutionize the surfing industry. The film will be shot on location in Perth and also stars Sam Worthington.

Xavier graduated from Adelaide's Flinders University Drama Centre in 2005.

The Worst Best Man

KRIS MARSHALL

is TOM



With numerous credits to his name, Kris Marshall is one of Britain's leading actors.

A Few Best Men sees him reunited with director Stephan Elliott, who cast him in the role of *Furber* in the 2008 feature adaptation of Noel Coward's **Easy Virtue**. In 2007 Kris starred as *Troy* in **Death At A Funeral** written by **A Few Best Men's** Dean Craig and produced by Share Stallings and Laurence Malkin.

Kris's other feature credits include the role of *Colin* in the hit romantic comedy **Love Actually**, as well as the role of *Gratiano* in **The Merchant of Venice**, the lead role in **Mexicano**, the role of Starinski in **Deathwatch** and the Miramax feature **The Four Feathers**.

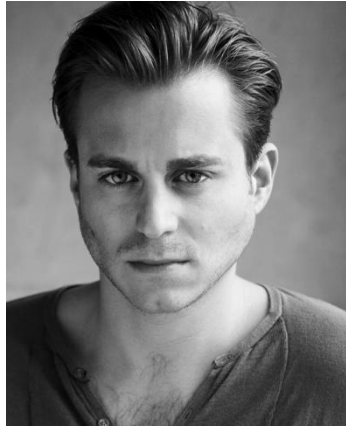
His most recent feature credits include **Oka! Amerikee**, playing the lead role of an American ethno-musicologist who travels into Central Africa to live with the Bayaka Pygmies, and the romantic comedy **Meant To Be**.

Well known for his role as *Nick Harper* in the BBC Television series **My Family**, Kris's other television credits include the role of *Pasha* in Granada's movie-made-for-television, **Dr Zhivago**.

The Neurotic Best Man

KEVIN BISHOP

is GRAHAM



Kevin Bishop is one of Britain's highly regarded actors and comedians. Commencing his theatrical career at the age of ten, Kevin was cast as 'Kurt' in **The Sound of Music** at London's renowned Sadlers Wells Theatre, before being cast in the musical **Nine** at the Royal Festival Hall with Jonathan Price. In 1992 he was cast as the cheeky 'Sam Spalding' in the hit children's drama **Grange Hill**. Leaving the show after two series, Kevin took on the role of 'Jim Hawkins' in Jim Henson's **The Muppets: Treasure Island**, starring alongside Tim Curry and Billy Connolly.

With other credits including **Casualty**, **Pie in the Sky** and **Silent Witness**, in 2000 Kevin was cast by French director Cedric Klapisch as 'William' in the critically acclaimed feature **L'Auberge Espagnole** (The Spanish Apartment). The film (also starring Romain Duris and Audrey Tatou) became a cult smash and a sequel later followed called **Le Pupees Russes**. Both films broke box office records in France.

In one of his most challenging role's to date, Kevin went on to star as 'Paul Porterfield', a young American page turner who develops an obsession for well known pianist Richard Kennington (Paul Rhys), in Ventura Pons' critically acclaimed feature **Food of Love**.

In a return to Britain in 2001 Kevin was immediately cast as 'Stupid Brian' in the hugely popular BBC sitcom **My Family** (also starring Kris Marshall). Soon after he joined the sketch ensemble **Spoons** for Channel 4, before accepting the role of 'Dan' in the comedy drama **The Last Chancers**. Soon after, and in a return to the theatre, Kevin took on the role of 'Dudley Moore' in the critically acclaimed **Come Again** in London's West End, whilst continuing to pursue his love of comedy through writing.

In 2006 Kevin co-wrote the comedy sketch series **Dog Face** for E4, whilst also working on hit comedy celebrity spoof **Star Stories** which earned him nominations for *Best Newcomer at The British Comedy Awards*, *Best Actor at The Royal Television Society Awards in 2006* and *Best Actor at The Comedy Awards in 2007*. **Star Stories** also won *Best New Comedy at the Comedy Awards in 2006* and is currently in production for its third series. In 2008 Kevin was given his own show on Britain's Channel 4 - entitled **The Kevin Bishop Show** which was re-commissioned for a second series in 2009.

The Best Man-ic Depressive

TIM DRAXL

is LUKE



One of Australia's leading actors working across film, television, theatre and musical theatre, Tim has received numerous awards, nominations and accolades.

Tim's feature film credits include **Undocumented**, **Red Canyon**, **In My Sleep**, **Ivory** with Martin Landau, Matthew Newton's **Right Here Right Now**, **Travelling Light**, **Swimming Upstream** with Geoffrey

Rush and Judy Davis, and **Dirty Deeds** with Toni Collette and Sam Worthington.

His television credits include the SHOWTIME Australian drama **Tangle 2**, **Supernova** for the BBC, **Dynasty-Behind the Scenes** for ABC America, Seven Network's **Headland**, the CBS pilot **Day One** and **The Shark Net** for ABC TV Australia - for which he received a TV Week Logie Award nomination for Most Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series in 2004. He has most recently been seen in the new Screentime drama **Crownies** currently screening on ABC TV and in 2012 will appear in the ABC's new series, **Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries**, based on the novels by Australian author Kerry Greenwood.

On stage, Tim has appeared in **Nailed** for the Griffin Theatre Company and **A Midsummer Night's Dream** for Company B.

Tim was also nominated for a MO Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Musical for **The Sound of Music**. In 2005 he received the Sydney Theatre Award for Best Cabaret Production, for **Back For Seconds**. In 2006, Tim received an ASTRA nomination for Most Outstanding Performance by an Actor for **Supernova**. He has released two solo albums, **Ordinary Miracles** and **Insongniac** for Sony Music Australia.

He was the youngest ever winner of the Manhattan Association of Cabaret & Clubs MAC Award at 17. Tim's sold out cabaret season of **Under the Influence** led to the release of his third album **Tim Draxl Live at The Supper Club**, and the follow-up cabaret show **Still Under the Influence**. He also co created the musical play **Freeway: The Chet Baker Journey** set to tour Australia and overseas later this year.

The Bride

LAURA BRENT

is MIA



Graduating from NIDA in 2007, Laura Brent is one of Australia's rising young talents.

With film credits including *Liliandil* in Michael Apted's **Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader** and the upcoming **Burning Man** directed by Jonathan Teplitzky, Laura has just completed filming a role in the new romantic comedy **Not Suitable For Children** starring Ryan Kwanten.

Laura's television credits include **The Legend of The Seeker** for Walt Disney/ABC, the HBO award winning mini-series **The Pacific**, the Australian comedy series **Chandon Pictures**, **Rescue Special Ops** for the Nine Network and **Wild Boys** for Seven.

In theatre her credits include the Victorian tour of **Amadeus**, the role of *Ophelia* in The Bell Shakespeare Australian national tour of **Hamlet**, **Tartuffe** for Malthouse Theatre in Melbourne and **The Distance from Here** at The Stables Theatre in Sydney.

The Mother of the Bride

OLIVIA NEWTON-JOHN



is BARBARA

Born in Cambridge, England in 1948, the youngest child of Professor Brin Newton-John and Irene, daughter of Nobel Prize winning physicist, Max Born, Olivia moved to Melbourne, Australia with her family when she was five. By the age of fifteen, she had formed an all-girl group called Sol Four. Later that year she won a talent contest on the popular TV show, *Sing, Sing, Sing*, which earned her a trip to London. By 1963, Olivia was appearing on local daytime TV shows and weekly pop music programs in Australia. Olivia cut her first single for Decca Records in

1966, a version of Jackie DeShannon's *Till You Say You'll Be Mine*. In 1971, she recorded a cover of Bob Dylan's *If Not For You*, co-produced by John Farrar, who she continues to collaborate with today.

Olivia's US album debut, *Let Me Be There*, produced her first top ten single of the same name, with Olivia being honored by the *Academy Of Country Music* as *Most Promising Female Vocalist* and a Grammy Award as *Best Country Vocalist*. This proved to be only the beginning of a very exciting career. With more than 50 million albums sold, her successes include three more Grammys, numerous Country Music, American Music and Peoples Choice Awards, ten #1 hits including *Physical*, which topped the charts for ten consecutive weeks, and over 15 top 10 singles. (In September 2008, *Billboard Magazine* listed *Physical* at #6 on their Top 100 Songs Of All Time list.)

In 1978, her co-starring role with John Travolta in **Grease** catapulted Olivia into superstardom. This film's best-selling soundtrack featured the duets *You're The One That I Want* and *Summer Nights*, with Travolta, as well as her mega-hit, *Hopelessly Devoted To You*. To date **Grease** remains the most successful movie musical in history and, in 2008, it celebrated its 30th Anniversary. Her other film credits include **Xanadu**, **Two Of A Kind**, **It's My Party** and **Sordid Lives**.

Olivia's appeal seems to be timeless. With a career spanning more than four decades she is still a vibrant, creative individual that is adored by fans across the world. Throughout her career, the much-loved star, who danced with Gene Kelly in *Xanadu*, hosted the popular internationally syndicated **Wild Life** television show, was bestowed an OBE (Order Of The British Empire) by Queen Elizabeth in 1979, has held many humanitarian causes close to her heart, particularly since the birth of her daughter Chloe in 1986. (Clearly following in her mother's footsteps, Chloe has recently completed her first solo recording.)

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Olivia served as Goodwill Ambassador to the United Nations Environment Programme and in 1991, the Colette Chuda Environmental Fund/CHEC (Children's Health Environmental Coalition) was founded after the tragic death of Chloe's best friend from a rare childhood cancer, with Olivia serving as National Spokesperson for ten years. Her devotion and shared commitment to CHEC's mission and goals enabled the organization to receive worldwide attention and support. (For more information visit www.HealthyChild.org).

Her charmed life has not been without its share of upset. In the 90s, Olivia successfully overcame her own battle with breast cancer, which inspired her self-penned and produced album, *GAIA*, her most personal album reflecting upon her experiences with cancer. She used these experiences to gain greater self-awareness and became a positive inspiration to millions of people battling cancer. As a breast cancer survivor, Olivia has become increasingly well known and respected for talking openly about her battle with breast cancer and for promoting public awareness of the importance of early detection. Her personal victory against cancer led her to announce her partnership with the Austin Health and the creation of the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Centre and Wellness Centre (ONJCWC) on the Austin Campus in her hometown of Melbourne, Australia. The ONJCWC will provide a comprehensive range of services and facilities for cancer treatment, education, training and research including a wellness center for the mind, body and spirit (www.oliviaappeal.com).

In April 2008, Olivia led a team of fellow cancer survivors, celebrities and Olympians on a trek along the Great Wall of China (www.GreatWalkToBeijing.com) and raised more than \$2 million to find a new way to treat cancer and build the ONJCWC. A companion CD to benefit the ONJCWC as part of this global fundraising effort, *Olivia Newton-John & Friends: A Celebration In Song*, has been released internationally and features duets with Keith Urban, Delta Goodrem, Sir Cliff Richard, Richard Marx, Amy Sky, and Barry Gibb to name a few. In November 2009, Olivia was on hand for the ground-breaking of the ONJCWC. Olivia continues to give back to the community generously and has been acknowledged many times by charitable and environmental organizations for her ongoing efforts, among them: the American Red Cross, the Environmental Media Association, the Women's Guild of Cedar's Sinai Medical Center, the Rainforest Alliance and Concept Cure.

Continuing her efforts to find a cure for breast cancer, Olivia launched the **Liv Aid**®, a breast self-examination aid that assists women to exercise breast self-exams correctly (www.Liv.com). Olivia credits her own breast self-exam as the first step to her eventual diagnosis of breast cancer. Now, 18 years later (and cancer free) she has become a passionate advocate in creating awareness for early detection and, encouraging women to take a more active role in their breast health.

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In 1999, Olivia garnered an Emmy Award for her songwriting and returned to work as a performer touring extensively in the United States for the first time in seventeen years. In the new millennium, her international recognition has continued to grow. She was invited by the Vatican on behalf of Pope John Paul II to perform at the Jubilee Celebration for the

Sick and Healthcare Workers and, she was thrilled to perform at the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Olympics to an estimated global viewing audience of four billion people. Adding to this Olympic experience is what Olivia feels is one of her most memorable moments - the honor of carrying the Olympic Torch during the Olympic Torch Relay.

In 2002, Olivia was inducted into the prestigious Australian Music Hall Of Fame at the 16th Annual Aria Awards. Then, in 2006 she received the Lifetime Achievement Award, presented by friend John Travolta at the G'Day LA Ball. Her passion for Australia was proven once again when Olivia reunited with friend and business partner Pat Farrar to launch their distinctly Australian wines under the iconic homegrown brand Koala Blue, to proudly bring the "taste of Australia" to the rest of the world.

In February 2005, along with her business partners Gregg Cave, Warwick Evans and Ruth Kalnin, Olivia opened the Gaia Retreat & Spa in Byron Bay, New South Wales, Australia as an ideal place to renew, refresh and restore. The retreat was honored with the Conde Nast Traveller 2008 Readers' Spa Award Winner for the *Favourite Overseas Hotel Spa: Australasia & South Pacific*. In January 2010, TripAdvisor named Gaia #3 of the Top 10 Celebrity-Owned Hotels in the World, putting Olivia in the company of fellow hotel owners, Robert Redford, Bono and Robert De Niro among others.

Olivia's 2007 holiday recording, *Christmas Wish* features both new and classic holiday favorites and duets with such Grammy winners as Barry Manilow, Michael McDonald, David Foster and Jon Secada, to name a few and was called one of the *Best Holiday CDs of 2007* by USA TODAY and, syndicated columnist Liz Smith named it her "favorite new holiday CD of 2007." In 2007, Olivia premiered her first concert special for Public Television – *Olivia Newton-John: Live From Sydney!* filmed at the historic Sydney Opera House with the Sydney Symphony. A two-hour DVD release of this stunning performance, featuring additional concert footage and Olivia's personal tour of some of her favorite spots in Sydney, was released by Capitol / EMI in January 2008. In 2008, Olivia began co-hosting and co-producing the PBS series, **Healing Quest** and, she reprised her film role of Bitsy Mae Harling from **Sordid Lives** in the series of the same name for LOGO, to rave reviews.

A Few **BEST MEN**

In 2010 Olivia also appeared in two episodes of the hit series, **Glee**, adding another Top 100 hit to her credits with a new version of *Physical* sung with Glee star, Jane Lynch. In October 2010 Olivia starred in the breast cancer docudrama **1 A Minute** and, the film **Score: The Hockey Musical**.

In 2008 Olivia married Amazon Herb Company owner and founder, John “Amazon John” Easterling (www.AmazonHerb.com). Together Olivia and John are spreading the word about the importance of preserving the Rainforest and, the health values found in the botanicals of the Amazon. They recently launched the organic Rainforest drink, Zamu, to rave reviews. In addition, they are working together with the ACEER Organization (www.ACEER.org) to help the indigenous people of the Amazon gain ownership and title to their land. In September 2009, they also joined forces with Prince Charles’ The Prince’s Rainforest Project (www.RainforestSOS.org) to further stress the global importance of Rainforest. With her current and ongoing projects and philanthropic endeavors, Olivia’s worldwide popularity is as strong as ever! For additional information visit www.OliviaNewton-John.com.

The Sister of the Bride

REBEL WILSON

is DAPHNE



One of Australia's finest comedic actresses, Rebel trained at the Australian Theatre for Young People (ATYP) and the famed US comedy school Second City.

She began her professional career in the theatre writing, producing and performing in the hit plays **The Westie Monologues**, **Spunks** and the one-woman show **Confessions Of An Exchange Student**. Best known for her role as 'Toula' in five seasons of the TV Week Logie-nominated cult comedy **Pizza** she wrote and performed in 52 episodes of the sketch series **The Wedge**.

In 2008 Rebel created, wrote, produced and starred in the musical comedy television series **Bogan Pride**. Rebel's improvisation talents have been showcased on **Thank God You're Here** and **Monster House** and she has made memorable appearances on **Talkin' Bout Your Generation**, **World Comedy Tour**, **The Breast Darn Show In Town**, **City Homicide**, **Comic Relief**, The Tropfest Film **Bargain**, **Rules Of Engagement**, **Workaholics** and in the feature films **Ghost Rider** and **Fat Pizza**.

In 2011 Rebel has been seen in the feature film **Bridesmaids** produced by Judd Apatow and will soon be seen in **This Means War**. She recently filmed **Struck By Lightning** co-starring opposite Chris Colfer, is currently filming **Bachelorette** in New York with Kirsten Dunst and Isla Fisher and will appear in the upcoming features **Ice Age 4** and **What to Expect When You're Expecting**.

The Father of the Bride

JONATHAN BIGGINS

is JIM



One of Australia's leading political satirists and actors, Jonathan Biggins is also a writer, director, and broadcaster. His film credits include **Gettin' Square** directed by Jonathan Teplitzky, Cherie Nowlan's **Thank God He Met Lizzie**, **Ghosts CAN Do It** (aka **Those Dear Departed**) and **The Everlasting Secret Family**.

His extensive television credits include the ABC TV's **At Home with Julia** and **Rake**, the comedy series **The Jesters** and **City Homicide**.

Jonathan has worked with all of Australia's leading theatre companies in productions ranging from David Williamson's **Soulmates** to **West Side Story**. He has also performed with Opera Australia in **The Mikado** and **Orpheus in the Underworld** – for which he co-wrote a new adaptation of the libretto. Director of The Wharf Revue for the Sydney Theatre Company, most recently Jonathan performed the role of Hetman in **The White Guard**, toured nationally as Peter Sellers in **Ying Tong** and performed the role of Henry Carr in **Travesties**.

In 2010 Jonathan was the recipient of the prestigious Helpmann Award for Best Director for his production of **Avenue Q**. Jonathan has hosted the afternoon radio shift for Sydney's 702, co-wrote and performed in **Three Men and a Baby Grand** for ABC TV and hosted **Critical Mass**, the ABC's weekly arts program. He has also hosted **An Audience with Winton Sundheim** for which he was nominated for a 2008 Helpmann Award for Best Special Event.

As an author, Jonathan writes for Fairfax's **Good Weekend** magazine, **Australian Wine Selector** and is the author of three books: **As it Were**, **The 700 Habits of Highly Ineffective People** and **The 700 Habits of Highly Ineffective Parents**. In 2012 Jonathan's new play **Australia Day** will have premier seasons in Melbourne and Sydney.

The Lonely Drug Dealer

STEVE LE MARQUAND

is RAY



Steve has appeared on film as a WWI digger in **Beneath Hill 60**; a WWII digger in **Kokoda**; a closeted businessman in **Men's Group**; a fierce thug in **Last Train To Freo** (AFI & FCCA Best Lead Actor nominations); a clumsy bank robber in **Two Hands**; a larrikin Aussie climber in **Vertical Limit** and a nutbag beachcomber in **Lost Things**.

On stage, Steve has most recently been seen alongside Cate Blanchett in the Sydney Theatre Company's production of **The War of The Roses**. He has otherwise appeared in **Paul**, **The Spook**, **Buried Child** and **Waiting For Godot** for Company B Belvoir; **Gallipoli**, **The Serpent's Teeth**, **Tales From the Vienna Woods**, **Don's Party** (for MTC also) and **Holy Day** for STC and **Songket** and **Borderlines – The Return** for Griffin Theatre.

Steve co-wrote, produced, directed and starred in the hugely successful theatre production **He Died With A Felafel In His Hand** (not to be confused with the dodgy film of the same name) which ran for several years around Australia before heading to New York and Edinburgh.

On television he recently appeared in the title role in **Small Time Gangster and Underbelly: Razor**, and his other credits include **Rake**, **Laid**, **All Saints**, **Farscape**, **Crash Palace**, **Young Lions**, **South Pacific**, **Backberner**, **Blue Heelers**, **Wildside**, **GP**, **Murder Call**, **Big Sky**, **Water Rats**, **Home and Away** and **Police Rescue**.

Steve takes his cricket and rugby league very seriously.

The Ram Behind The Man

RAMSY

as HIMSELF



After enduring a lengthy audition process Ramsy was announced as one of the leading characters in Stephan Elliott's latest comedy feature **A FEW BEST MEN**.

Although this is his feature film debut, Ramsy is a prize Merino, and as such has enjoyed a long career of award winning turns at various shows throughout Australia.

Heralded for his enduring patience on set - with the script requiring he be dressed in drag and dangled outside a window - Ramsy never lost his sense of humour.

With an air-conditioned trailer to keep him comfortable between takes, Ramsy indicated that he was extremely happy with the on set facilities – especially the catering. In a statement issued from his management, Ramsy conveyed his apologies for the untimely toilet breaks on set, which he believes will be seen in the DVD out-takes.

STEPHAN ELLIOTT

DIRECTOR



Stephan's career kicked off shooting hundreds of weddings from the age of 13 to 18 and now turns green with the first bars of a bridal waltz. He entered the film industry as an assistant director/editor on a series of dreadful Australian films before stepping up to the director's chair at 26 with the comedy caper **Frauds**, starring Phil Collins and Hugo Weaving.

This first feature was selected for competition at the Cannes Film Festival 1993. He announced his second feature - a script he churned out in 12 days en route to the south of France. **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert** (1994) starring Terence Stamp, Hugo Weaving and Guy Pearce. *Priscilla* went on to become one of the most successful Aussie films of all time, racking up an Academy Award, BAFTA and AFI awards for Best Costume Design and Best Make Up/Hair. Other nominations include a Writers Guild Award and Golden Globe for Best Comedy/Musical.

Stephan then committed career suicide when talked into screening his unfinished black comedy **Welcome to Woop Woop**, starring Rod Taylor, Barry Humphries and Rachel Griffiths - in Cannes 1997. It was booed out of the Palais. The film has since grown into a massive underground cult. He countered with a change of genre - the thriller **Eye of the Beholder** (1999) starring Ewan McGregor, Ashley Judd, KD Lang and Jason Priestley. The film premiered at Venice that year winning the Brussels Sci-fi and Fantasy Festival – an award also shared by **Frauds**. It is also, proudly, the lowest grossing Number 1 hit in US box office history.

Stephan took an interesting career turn by looking for inspiration in the French Alps – and promptly skied off them. He broke his pelvis and fractured his legs and back. After 4 years of recuperation, Stephan got back on the horse with **Priscilla The Musical**, (which opened on Broadway this year) and a Noel Coward adaptation, **Easy Virtue** starring Jessica Biel, Ben Barnes, Colin Firth and Kristin Scott Thomas.

He still skis - it's not as dangerous as filmmaking.

A Few **BEST MEN**

DEAN CRAIG

WRITER



A FEW BEST MEN is Craig's fourth feature film production, and he both wrote the screenplay and executive produced the film.

2010 saw the worldwide release of the Sony Screen Gems US version of **Death At A Funeral**, of which Craig was again the screenwriter and executive producer. Directed by Neil Labute, and starring Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Tracy Morgan, Zoe Saldana, Danny Glover, Luke Wilson and James Marsden, the

film was a remake of Craig's original **Death At A Funeral**, directed by Frank Oz, and starring Matthew McFadyen, Keeley Hawes, Rupert Graves, Andy Nyman and Ewen Bremner. It was released in 2007 to great international critical and commercial success, winning Best Film awards at several festivals including the HBO US Comedy Festival, Locarno Festival and Provincetown, and reaching no.1 at the box office in several countries around the world including five weeks at the top in Australia.

Craig is currently writing on several projects both in the US and Europe, including **Florence Of Arabia**, based on the novel by Christopher Buckley, produced by and starring Charlize Theron; **Moonwalk**, directed by Antoine Bardou-Jacquet and **A Back Passage To India**, to be directed by Tristram Shapeero. He also wrote the screenplay of Peter Biskind's **Down And Dirty Pictures** for Palm Star, **Affected Provincials Companion** for Johnny Depp and Graham King, **ASSHOLE** For Warner Brothers, and **The French Exchange** for Pathe.

Craig regularly works in television both in the UK and US, writing **Off The Hook**, a seven part sit-com for the BBC, which aired in 2009, and pilots **American Cop** for Fox, **Amnesiacs** for Greenroom Productions, and **Second Wind** for CBS.

Prior to working as a screenwriter, Craig spent several years as script reader and development consultant for various film companies including Working Title, BBC, Films, Miramax and Impact Pictures, before heading to New York to take the sight and sound summer filmmaking program at NYU. It was following this, that he wrote his first screenplay, **Caffeine**, an independent comedy released in 2006 starring Katherine Heigl, Mena Suvari, Breckin Meyer and Mike Vogel.

Craig has also been lead singer and songwriter in an alternative rock band, a delivery boy for his father's bed business, and a door-to-door double glazing salesman.

SHARE STALLINGS

PRODUCER



Share Stallings has worked on everything from martial arts/action movies to educational children's television (where she won an Emmy). In her first executive position at Kings Road Entertainment, she worked on the **Kickboxer** series, and was Associate Producer on **Brain Smasher: A Love Story**, starring Teri Hatcher and Andrew Dice Clay. She still loves action movies and remembers fondly even the hot days in Moab supervising **Knights**, a vampiric cyborg stunt-fest (which starred Kris Kristofferson and Lance Hendriksen).

On the other side of things, Stallings won an Emmy for the PBS **Curious George TV Series** in 2010 and was nominated again in 2011. She was also the Producer of **Curious George**

2: Follow that Monkey (the sequel to the original feature), with the voices of Tim Curry, Matt Lauer and Jerry Lewis.

A Few Best Men is the third movie written by Dean Craig that Stallings and Larry Malkin have produced in partnership. The other two are **Death at a Funeral** (2010), directed by Neil LaBute, starring Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Zoe Saldana, James Marsden and Tracy Morgan, and Frank Oz's **Death at a Funeral**, starring Matthew MacFadyen, Rupert Graves, Alan Tudyk and Peter Dinklage. The first movie she produced was **The Reality Trap**, with Tovah Feldshuh.

Previously, as Vice President, Nickelodeon Movies, Stallings was the Production Executive on **Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius** and **The Wild Thornberrys Movie**. Before that, she served as Head of Development for Animated DVDs, Pre-School Series and Specials for DreamWorks SKG, where she was the Executive in Charge of Production for **Joseph, King of Dreams** (prequel to *The Prince of Egypt*). Stallings was also Vice President, Frank Oz Productions, working on **Indian in the Cupboard** and **In & Out**.

Stallings has been an Associate Professor at California State University, Northridge and is a member The Producers Guild, Process Studio Theatre Company and ASCAP. A previous philanthropy professional, she continues to work in the field as a volunteer for various causes. Currently, she is a supporter of Friends of Forensics, as well as a charter member of Common Cause and a Board Member of From the Heart.

A Few BEST MEN

LAURENCE MALKIN

PRODUCER



With ongoing projects in Hollywood, Europe and Australia, Laurence Malkin produced the outrageous comedy **A Few Best Men**, written by Dean Craig and directed by Stephan Elliott. The film was supported by Screen Australia, Screen New South Wales, Ingenious Media, Quickfire Films and Arclight Films. Prior to that he produced the Sony Screen Gems remake of **Death At A Funeral**, directed by Neil LaBute and starring Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence, Tracy Morgan, Zoe Saldana and James Marsden.

Malkin and his long time producing partner, Share Stallings, also developed and produced the original *Death At A Funeral* in 2007. That production, directed by Frank Oz, won the Audience Award at both the 2007 US Comedy Arts Festival and the 2007 Locarno International Film Festival. It was part of Malkin's ongoing collaboration with Stallings and Craig. Malkin executive produced Craig's first script, **Caffeine**, which starred Katherine Heigl, Mike Vogel, Mena Suvari and Breckin Meyer.

Previously Malkin co-wrote, directed and produced the psychological thriller **Five Fingers**, starring Laurence Fishburne, Ryan Phillippe, and Colm Meany, for Lionsgate. The film received its world premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival. Malkin also co-wrote, directed and produced **Soul Assassin**, an action-thriller starring Skeet Ulrich, Kristy Swanson, Derek de Lint, and Rena Owen. The film was selected for numerous international film festivals and was chosen as one of the Dutch "Success Films" by the Federatie Filmbelangen.

Laurence Malkin and his writing partner, Chad Thumann, have worked for all of the major studios, writing both feature films and television projects. Currently, they are in development for an action movie about the SAS for Pathe, a remake of *Sympathy for Lady Vengeance* for Charlize Theron, which is set up at Fox, and an action horror film for Bold Films. Along with his writing partner, Malkin also co-created the Musicosm, an episodic website about the music industry, which used character-based portals as narrative interfaces.

Putting himself through USC Film School, Malkin co-wrote, directed and produced over two hundred commercials and music videos. His commercial for Photobuys Magazine was honored by the AICP and added to the permanent film collection at New York's Museum of Modern Art.

A Few **BEST MEN**

Malkin began his creative life in the theater, creating performance art pieces and directing productions of **Zoo Story**, **Betrayal** and **Waiting For Godot**.

He also received awards for his short films and visual poems, including a CINE Eagle Award, a bronze medal at the Houston Film Festival, and a nomination for Best Drama at the Electronic Cinema Festival in Tokyo for **Dark Horizon**.

Malkin is a veteran attendee of all the major markets and festivals, including Cannes, Venice, Toronto, the American Film Market, Sundance and Berlin. He considers travel, great wine and multi-cultural perspectives essential to a well-lived life. His marriage in 2007 to Dutch fashion executive, Annemarie Stroo, has taught Malkin everything he knows about gezelligheid.

ANTONIA BARNARD

PRODUCER



Antonia Barnard is one of Australia's most highly respected producers.

In 1996 Antonia co-produced Stephan Elliott's **Welcome To Woop Woop**, before co-producing the Dein Perry Tapdog bio-feature **Bootmen** with Hilary Linstead. In 2001 Antonia line produced Phillip Noyce's **The Quiet American** with producers William Horberg, Sydney Pollack and Anthony Minghella.

In 2005 she co-produced **The Painted Veil** starring Edward Norton and Naomi Watts. Produced in China, the film was directed by John Curran.

In 2007 she produced, with Nicholas Cole, **Last Ride** the unforgettable love story between a father and his child. Written by Mac Gudgeon and directed by Glendyn Ivin, the film starred Hugo Weaving and Tom Russell, and premiered in the **Discovery Series** at the Toronto Film Festival in 2009.

Most recently Antonia line produced Jonathan Teplitzky's **Burning Man** starring Matthew Goode, Bojana Novakovic, Essie Davies, Rachel Griffiths and Kerry Fox, which is set for theatrical release in 2011.

GARY HAMILTON

PRODUCER



Gary Hamilton has a 30-year plus track record as one of the film industry's most prolific international sales agents. He ran Beyond Films in Australia prior to founding Arclight Films and has personally produced more than two dozen feature films. He has been instrumental in bringing Australian films to international prominence and is responsible for launching the careers of Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett, Baz Luhrman, Hugh Jackman and Heath Ledger. He is the former head of the Australian Film Commission in Europe, during which time he participated in every major film festival and market raising financing for and selling Australian film and television products including **Sweetie** (1989), **The Piano** (1993), and

Flight Of The Navigator (1986), and has maintained lasting relationships with numerous major Australian directors and producers.

Gary Hamilton returned to Australia in 1990 to launch Beyond Films, Australia's first foreign feature films sales company, and built it from a fledgling operation with a turnover of \$2M into one of the world's most highly regarded foreign sales companies with a turnover of \$20M. During this time he acquired, sold and marketed over 150 films including one of Australia's biggest international hits, **Strictly Ballroom** (1992) and acquired rights to Australia's largest library of over 130 Australian films including **Love Serenade** (1996), **Chopper** (2000) and **Two Hands** (1999). He has been personally credited as Executive Producer on nearly 40 films including AFI best film winner **Kiss Or Kill** (1997) and Australia's highest budget independent film **In A Savage Land** (1999).

In 2002 Gary Hamilton founded Arclight Films, now one of world's leading international sales companies.

Arclight Films has sold over 130 motion pictures including the 2004 Best Picture Oscar® winner **Crash**, and 2007 Golden Globe® Best Picture Nominee **Bobby**.

Since founding Arclight, Gary Hamilton's producing credits have included **Salvation Boulevard** (2010) starring Pierce Brosnan, Greg Kinnear and Jennifer Connelly, **The Bank Job** (2008) starring Jason Statham, **Romulus, My Father** (2007) starring Eric Bana, **Lord Of War** (2005) starring Nicolas Cage and Ethan Hawke, **The Merchant Of Venice** (2004) starring Al Pacino, and **Wolf Creek** (2005).



Arclight Films additionally encompasses subsidiary labels Darclight and Easternlight.

Darclight was launched in 2004 as the genre division of Arclight Films and its films include the worldwide horror hit **Wolf Creek** (2005). In post-production is 3D shark action movie **Bait** (2011).

Easternlight was launched in 2005 as a specialty arm showcasing Asian cinema. Films sold under the Easternlight banner include the worldwide blockbuster **Forbidden Kingdom** (2008) starring Jackie Chan and Jet Li, **New Police Story** (2004) starring Jackie Chan, **Three Kingdoms** (2008) starring Andy Lau, **14 Blades** (2010) starring Donnie Yen.

Arclight Films maintains a presence at all major motion picture and television festivals and markets including Cannes, AFM, EFM and Berlin, Hong Kong Filmart, The Sundance Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival and Busan International Film Festival as well as MIPCOM and MIPTV.

Arclight Films currently has offices in Los Angeles, Sydney, New York, Toronto and Hong Kong.

A Few **BEST MEN**

STEPHEN WINDON ACS

DIRECTOR of PHOTOGRAPHY

This year marks the 30th year of working in the camera department for Stephen Windon ACS. In 1959, the year Windon was born, his father Ron, was a newsreel cameraman for Fox Movietone and grandfather Fred, was working in the lighting department on the Fred Zinneman picture, "The Sundowners".

Windon's career began working in television for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation where he worked his way up through the ranks, starting as an assistant cameraman and eventually working his way up to Director of Photography for this prestigious television network.

After shooting more than 30 TV documentaries and several mini-series, he left the ABC to work freelance on feature films and TV commercials. During this time he had the opportunity to become the 2nd Unit Director of Photography on several Russell Boyd photographed features, including **Crocodile Dundee 2**, **The Rescue** and **The Challenge**.

Windon's international career began in 1993 when he was offered his first US feature production **Rapa-Nui** - directed by Kevin Reynolds and produced by Kevin Costner and Jim Wilson. He then photographed several Australian feature films and US telemovies/mini-series returning to the US to shoot the Fox film **Firestorm** and **The Patriot**, both films directed by Oscar winning cinematographer, **Dean Semler ACS/ASC**.

In 1997 Windon was then approached to shoot the Warner Bros picture **The Postman** directed by Kevin Costner, followed immediately with another Warner Bros big budget film, **Deep Blue Sea** directed by action master Renny Harlin. ("Cliffhanger")

Windon then collaborated with director Kevin Donovan on Dreamworks SKG's **Tuxedo**, starring Jackie Chan and Jennifer Love Hewitt, followed by Columbia's **Anacondas** directed by Dwight Little, Joel Silver's **House of Wax** and Universal's **Fast and the Furious – Tokyo Drift**, produced by Neil Moritz and directed by Justin Lin. Most recently he shot the box office hit **Fast & Furious 5** and is currently filming **GI Joe 2: Retaliation**.

Windon was the Cinematographer on the highly acclaimed Spielberg/Hanks produced television epic **The Pacific** for the HBO Network.

During the course of his long career, Windon has been the recipient of a 2010 Emmy Nomination for Best Cinematography in a TV Mini Series for **The Pacific** Part-9, seven Australian Cinematographers Society awards, two Australian Film Institute Feature nominations and an Australian Film Critics Circle nomination. He has also been accredited by the ACS and is a member of the International Cinematographers Guild.

LIZZY GARDINER

COSTUME DESIGNER

Academy Award Winning Costume Designer Lizzy Gardiner has many credits to her name including **Mission Impossible II** where she designed costumes for Tom Cruise, Anthony Hopkins and Thandie Newton; **Ghost Rider** where she designed for the characters played by Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes and Sam Elliot and **Stealth** where she designed costumes for the characters played by Jamie Foxx, Josh Lucas and Jessica Biel. She was the winner of the New York International Independent Film Award, Best Costume Design for her work on **Woundings**.

Her work with Director Stephan Elliott on **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert**, saw her win an Academy Award, a BAFTA Award and an Australian Film Institute Award, and a Tony Award for the Broadway musical adapted from the movie. She is also well known for her work on Elliott's film **Eye of the Beholder**.

GEORGE LIDDLE APDG

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

One of Australia's most highly regarded production designers, George Liddle has led a long and distinguished career with feature film credits including **Daybreakers** starring Ethan Hawke, Sam Neill and Willem Dafoe, **Kangaroo Jack**, **Komodo**, the iconic **Dark City** starring Keifer Sutherland as well as Kevin Reynold's **Rapa Nui** and Fred Schepisi's **Evil Angels**.

For the films **Mushrooms** and **Willfull** he was nominated for an AFI Award for Best Costume Design, and in 1986 George was awarded the AFI for Best Production Design for **Playing Beattie Bow**.

SUE BLAINEY ACE

EDITOR

A long standing collaborator, Sue Blainey has worked with director Stephan Elliott editing three of his features over the last 18 years including **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert**, **Eye of the Beholder** and **Easy Virtue**. Highly regarded the world over, Sue's other credits include **The Hills Have Eyes 2** and **Robinson Crusoe** starring Pierce Brosnan and directed by Rod Hardy and George Miller. Her outstanding list of television credits include **House**, **Six Feet Under**, **90210** and **Castle**.

GUY GROSS

COMPOSER

Guy Gross is one of Australia's leading film and television composers and recipient of the **APRA/AGSC International Achievement Award**, considered the most prestigious accolade for an Australian screen composer. From his British Academy Award (**BAFTA**) nominated score to the international hit **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert** to the US SCI-FI series **Farscape**, his film scores cover a huge variety of styles.

Testament to this diversity, Guy has received numerous peer awards from the Australian Guild of Screen Composers (AGSC) and The Australian Performing Rights Association (APRA) including awards for Best Music for a Telemovie, Documentary, Children's Series, Short film, Animation, Promotional Video, Advertisement, TV Theme and twice for Best Music for a TV Series.

Over his 25-year career, Guy has composed music for hundreds of hours of television, including dramatic mini series, children's animation, documentaries, commercials and also a number of Australian feature films.

His film music has underscored the acting performances of **Toni Collette, Cate Blanchett, Hugo Weaving, Garry McDonald, Molly Ringwald, Kylie Minogue, Phil Collins** and **Guy Pearce** and his scores have been performed live in concert by the Sydney, Melbourne and Queensland Symphony Orchestras.