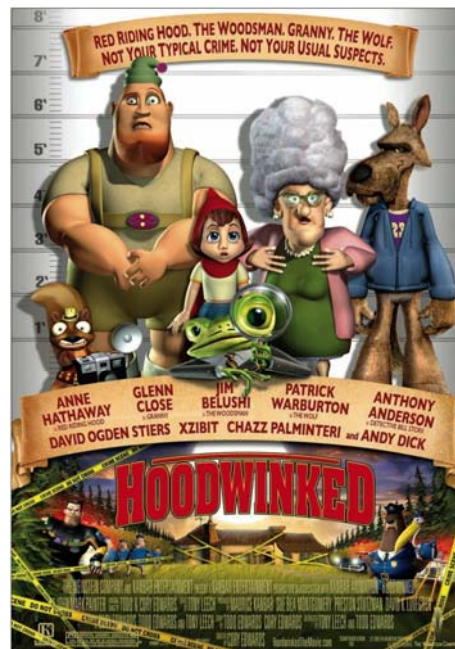




Presents

# HOODWINKED



Press Notes

THE WEINSTEIN COMPANY AND KANBAR  
ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT  
A KANBAR ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH KANBAR ANIMATION  
"HOODWINKED"

ANNE HATHAWAY GLENN CLOSE  
JIM BELUSHI PATRICK WARBURTON ANTHONY  
ANDERSON  
DAVID OGDEN STIERS XZIBIT CHAZZ  
PALMINTERI AND ANDY DICK

SCORE BY JOHN MARK PAINTER  
ORIGINAL SONGS BY TODD EDWARDS  
EDITED BY TONY LEECH

PRODUCED BY MAURICE KANBAR SUE BEA  
MONTGOMERY

PRODUCED BY PRESTON STUTZMAN DAVID K.  
LOVEGREN

SCREENPLAY BY CORY EDWARDS TODD EDWARDS AND  
TONY LEECH

STORY BY TODD EDWARDS CORY EDWARDS  
CO-DIRECTED BY TONY LEECH AND TODD EDWARDS  
DIRECTED BY CORY EDWARDS



# ***HOODWINKED***

About The Production

## **TROUBLE IN THE HOOD: The True Story of Little Red Riding Hood**

Everyone knows the story of Little Red Riding Hood . . . or so they think. That's all about to change because no one has ever seen their favorite fairy tale quite like this -- turned upside-down, inside-out and reinvented as a computer-animated caper comedy that at last reveals the shocking true-crime investigation behind the legend. At last, the full story can be revealed of how Red (ANNE HATHAWAY), Granny (GLENN CLOSE), The Woodsman (JIM BELUSHI) and the Wolf (PATRICK WARBURTON) all came together as criminal suspects in a case that almost ***HOODWINKED*** the law. With inventive story telling, spunk and wit, filmmakers Cory & Todd and Tony Leech bring to the screen a story for the young, the young at heart and everyone in between.

***HOODWINKED*** begins at the end of the tale and winds its way back . . . It all begins as a feathered and furry assortment of cops and detectives turn up at Granny's cottage in the woods to answer a domestic disturbance call. It looks at first to be just another open-and-shut case of a woodsman assaulting a wolf impersonating a granny, with an assortment of criminal charges including breaking and entering, intent to eat and wielding an axe without a license.

But looks can be deceiving. As debonair detective Nicky Flippers (DAVID OGDEN STIERS) and hard-nosed (or is that furry-nosed?) Police Chief Grizzly (XZIBIT) and fellow police officer Bill Stork (Anthony Anderson) question the slippery suspects, they discover each one has a completely different, yet equally wild and woolly, tale to tell. Not only that, but it seems that this crime has ties to the notorious "Goody Bandit" who has been ravaging the woods by stealing the valuable recipes that keep the forest in muffins.

None of the group is exactly what they seem, and each has their own deep secrets and wily deceptions. The detectives soon uncover that seemingly innocent Red is worldly wise; that the big, bad Wolf has been terribly misunderstood; that Granny has a secret life no one could have imagined; and that the insecure Woodsman, whose brawn just might outweigh -- well you know the stereotype -- has some surprising ambitions of his own.

They're not your usual suspects -- yet the investigators must use their clashing eyewitness accounts to solve the increasingly convoluted riddle of who among them has committed a crime. When at last the nefarious villain's true identity is revealed, it's up to Red, the Wolf, The Woodsman and Granny to put aside their differences and find their own original twist on happily ever after.

The Weinstein Company presents *HOODWINKED*, the all-CGI feature-film directorial debut of Cory Edwards with co-directors Tony Leech and Todd Edwards. The screenplay is written by Cory Edwards, Todd Edwards and Tony Leech. The film is produced by Maurice Kanbar, Sue Bea Montgomery, Preston Stutzman and David K. Lovegren for Kanbar Entertainment in association with Kanbar Animation Studio.

*HOODWINKED* features the voice talents of Anne Hathaway ("The Princess Diaries," "Ella Enchanted"), Glenn Close ("101 Dalmatians," "Tarzan," "The Big Chill"), Patrick Warburton ("Seinfeld," "The Emperor's New Groove"), David Ogden Stiers ("Lilo and Stitch"), Andy Dick (ABC's "Less Than Perfect"), Chazz Palminteri ("The Usual Suspects," "Stuart Little," "Analyze This"), Xzibit ("Derailed," MTV's "Pimp my Ride," "XxX"), Anthony Anderson ("Hustle & Flow," "Barbershop," "Me, Myself & Irene") and Jim Belushi ("According to Jim," "K-9," "Joe Somebody").

### **INVESTIGATION OF A FAIRY TALE:** **The Origins of HOODWINKED**

Behind every legend lies the real and surprising story of what *actually* happened -- and there's no more world-famous legend than that of "Little Red Riding Hood." This seemingly simple story of a wolf who masquerades as a grandmother in order to gobble up a hooded girl has become an indelible part of the global cultural consciousness, with its classic "my, what big teeth you have!" climax. But perhaps the story isn't quite so straightforward after all.

Indeed, so many questions remain unanswered from the original story as we know it. What was the Wolf's *true* motive? Where was Granny anyway? Why did the Woodsman raise his axe? And just who was Red Riding Hood deep down inside that red robe?

Breaking the celebrated story wide open, *HOODWINKED* takes no prisoners as it

irreverently and joyfully re-frames the fairy tale as a criminal investigation that combines humor, heart and wild hijinx in a story about the power of believing in who you truly are.

***HOODWINKED*** marks the first film from the brand new Kanbar Animation Studio, a joint effort between entrepreneur and inventor Maurice Kanbar (inventor of SKYY Vodka, among others) and animation veteran Sue Montgomery. Kanbar and Montgomery launched their new company specifically to provide highly creative, story-focused, computer-generated films for increasingly sophisticated family audiences. Both share a life-long love of classic fairy tales. . . and they envisioned having a lot of fun taking those same beloved childhood favorites apart and turning them on their sides with a thoroughly modern POV.

In choosing their premiere project, Kanbar and Montgomery were drawn to the talents of two young movie-making brothers, Cory and Todd Edwards, whose Christmas special, “Wobots,” a children’s sci-fi adventure about a rag-tag group of misfit robots, showcased their skill at carving out moving, funny, original stories in a compelling digital animation style.

“We saw the Edwards as being real renaissance men with an abundance of storytelling talent,” explains Montgomery. “They were a terrific match for what we wanted to do with Kanbar.”

The Edwards brothers, in turn, pitched to Kanbar a completely unexpected re-telling of “Little Red Riding Hood,” re-spun with tongue firmly planted in cheek as a twisting, turning, psychological detective story – marrying the archetypal characters of “Red Riding Hood” with the hard-boiled wit and humor of a “Usual Suspects” or “Blood Simple” and the emotion of a “Shrek” for a family audience. Kanbar and Montgomery were immediately enchanted.

As the Edwards developed the story further, along with co-writer and co-director Tony Leech, they decided to unfold the tale in a series of “Rashomon”-like flashbacks from Red, The Wolf, The Woodsman and Granny – as the forest’s most brilliant amphibian, the debonair detective Nicky Flippers, tries to determine who should take the fall for the disturbance at the cottage. As each one tells an equally entertaining but quite different version of the day’s harrowing events, a revealing big picture and the true identity of the villain emerges, leading to a climactic chase to bring the culprit to justice.

The Edwards brothers and Leech were convinced that young and old audiences alike would have a blast playing along and following the wild-and-crazy curves of the investigation.

Says Cory Edwards, “Our take was that, thanks to music videos, commercials and especially video games, kids are now quite used to non-linear stories – what we call 3D storytelling. So, in ***HOODWINKED***, we thought they’d have a lot of fun going back in time to learn how these four classic characters they thought they knew so well – Red Riding Hood,

Granny, the Wolf and the Woodsman – all ended up in the cottage on that fateful night in the first place. Anybody who thought they knew the story of Red Riding Hood is bound to be in for some surprises.”

To give the film’s well-known characters a whole new sense of depth and humanity, the writing team decided to take them out of the realm of the magical and fantastical and re-imagine them as down-right *real*, with real quirks, foibles and hopes for the future to which people of all ages and backgrounds could relate.

“Our forest purposefully doesn’t have any fairies or magic in it and all the characters could easily be part of the modern world,” notes Todd Edwards. “Take a character like Nicky Flippers, for example. He might be a four-footed, green frog but he’s also a very savvy and polished detective who’s devoted to solving this crime. You can relate to him just as you can relate to Red, Granny, the Wolf and the Woodsman.”

Maurice Kanbar also gave the writers total freedom to be as playful, bold and sharp-tongued in their dialogue and storytelling as they yearned to be. “One of Maurice’s creative edicts in the beginning was this – ‘Thou Shalt Not Bore’ – and I think we’ve really stuck to that,” Cory Edwards laughs.

Yet at the heart of the rollicking tale the Edwards brothers and Leech came up with is not only an action-packed adventure with elements of slapstick comedy, quick-witted repartee, music videos and extreme adventure films but also a heartfelt fairy-tale moral. The core of the story becomes how the teen-aged Red learns how to make her seemingly far-away dreams come true in the course of *HOODWINKED*.

The combination of the story’s high-flying hijinx and heartwarming emotions made it irresistible to those who saw the final screenplay. Recalls Montgomery: “We knew we really had something when I started to read the story out loud to my kids and then they started to spread it to the neighborhood kids!”

Adds producer Preston Stutzman, “This is not a lightweight re-telling of the tale of Red Riding hood. We knew from the beginning that it had to go way beyond a simple bedtime story and bring a completely new twist. In the tradition of ‘The Incredibles’ and ‘Toy Story,’ we hope it’s the kind of smart yet fun-loving tale that appeals equally to kids and adults.”

**CRIMES AND MYTH DEMEANERS:**  
**ABOUT THE CHARACTERS**

No matter how cleverly written, engagingly drawn or realistically programmed a digitally animated character might be, the only thing that truly can bring them to life are human performances. The filmmakers of *HOODWINKED* were thrilled to be able to have the film's drama and comedy delivered by a diverse cast of accomplished screen personalities and comic talents.

Among the accused are:

**NAME: Red**

**OCCUPATION: Goody Deliverer**

**CHARGE: Possible Goody Thief**

**LAST SEEN: In a red hood with a basketful of muffins dreaming of far-away places**

Although she is best known as an endangered little girl without much to say for herself, this updated version of Red Riding Hood redraws the character in an entirely new light, as a teenaged rebel with her own hopes, dreams and tough-as-nails attitude. The idea, say the Edward brothers, was to "take the little out of Red Riding Hood!" This big-dreaming, karate-kicking version of the girl now known simply as Red was inspired in part by George Bailey's travel fantasies in Frank Capra's "It's a Wonderful Life," in part by the swagger of James Dean, and in part by the alluringly wide-eyed designs of Japanese Anime characters.

To give a believable and emotionally true voice to Red, the filmmakers always had one actress in mind: the prodigiously talented young star Anne Hathaway, who came to the fore in the run-away hit "The Princess Diaries" and has gone on to become one of the most promising screen stars in Hollywood. Hathaway's unique mix of comic wit and inner strength seemed to suit the character and her transformative journey to a T. "Anne has the perfect personality for a character who is constant jeopardy," notes Tony Leech. "Her Red brings something entirely new to a character everything thinks they know."

**NAME: Big, Bad Wolf**

**OCCUPATION: Under-the-covers Reporter**

**CHARGE: Intent-To-Eat**

**LAST SEEN: On the prowl . . . for a story, that is**

The infamous Big, Bad Wolf also gets a major makeover in *HOOKWINKED*. Once the unquestionable villain of the “Red Riding Hood” story, he is now a far more complex and comical character -- the Bob Woodward of the woods. He’s not visiting Granny’s house to find a meal. Instead, according to his story, he’s gone under cover to track down the truly terrifying recipe thief, Goody Bandit.

To turn around the notoriously negative image of the Big Bad Wolf, the filmmakers turned to Patrick Warburton, who has made a career of crafting off-beat, fiercely funny characters such as Elaine’s boyfriend David Puddy on “Seinfeld” and Kronk in animated “The Emperor’s New Groove.” “Patrick was always our first choice for the Wolf,” says Cory Edwards. “He has that sly sense of humor that makes the character so much fun.”

**NAME: The Woodsman**

**OCCUPATION: Actor, “Paul’s Bunion Cream” Spokesman, Would-Be Yodeler**

**CHARGE: Wielding an Axe Without a License**

**LAST SEEN: Eating Schnitzel**

Though he wields a mighty axe, the Woodsman of *HOODWINKED* is hampered by a hilariously pea-sized brain. He might appear to be a happy tree-chopper but in fact this Woodsman longs to be a successful actor and yodeling sensation. “The Woodsman was always the big wild card when we were writing the screenplay,” notes Tony Leech. “It was challenging to figure out where to put him in the scheme of events – and he wound up right in the middle of it all, in the wrong place at the wrong time as usual!”

The filmmakers knew that to bring the Woodsman’s delightfully dumb qualities to life they would need a voice actor with real comic chops – which brought them to Jim Belushi, who most recently has been starring in and producing the hit television comedy “According To Jim.” “Jim has such a wonderfully exuberant quality and he has a real gift for being equally funny to kids and adults,” says up Todd Edwards. “He kept us all in stitches as The Woodsman.”

**NAME: Granny**

**OCCUPATION: Granny, Skydiver, Snowboarder, Mountain Climber**

**CHARGE: Alleged to be the notorious Goody Bandit**

**LAST SEEN: Flying down a gnarly steep ski slope**

While all the characters of *HOODWINKED* shatter stereotypes, Granny might turn out to have the most unexpected personality quirks of all. Far from being the frail, fragile, stay-at-home grandmother of yore, this bold old lady is secretly readying her extreme sports skills for the X Games.

From the beginning, the Edwards brothers and Leech wanted to create a Granny unlike any other on the animated screen. Says Todd Edwards: “We thought it would be a lot of fun to take this Granny who seems very mild-mannered on the outside and turn her into this outrageous thrill seeker who would just as soon be skydiving and snowboarding as sitting in her rocker.”

To nail the character’s two sides – sweet and incredibly sassy – the filmmakers recruited one of Hollywood’s most lauded actresses: Golden Globe winner, Tony Award winner, Emmy Award winner multiple Academy Award nominee Glenn Close. . “Glenn gave the character so much life, very effectively mixing the sweet old Granny character with an extreme sports junkie,” says producer Montgomery.

Meanwhile, on the other side of the law and in the woods at large are an equally entertaining crew of characters and voice talents. These include comedian Andy Dick in the role of the cute and fluffy – or is he? – bunny named Boingo; rap star and screen Xzibit as Chief Grizzly, who just wants to solve the crime as fast as he can; comedian Anthony Anderson as Detective Bill Stork; Academy Award nominee Chazz Palminteri as Woolworth the Sheep; and director Cory Edwards doing a comic turn as the over-caffeinated squirrel Twitchy.

But the criminal investigation at the center of *HOODWINKED* would certainly get nowhere without the supreme interrogating genius of detective Nicky Flippers, who is one fantastically smart frog. Originally, the filmmakers considered several other species for the role. They went through a whole mini menagerie before a drawing of the sleek, skinny, elegant amphibian lit up their imaginations.

“Nicky the Flippers was definitely our man, and David Ogden Stiers gave him the perfect mix of wisdom and Cary Grant kind of sarcastic wit that was exactly what we envisioned,” sums up Cory Edwards.

**MEANWHILE, BACK IN MANILA:**  
**ABOUT THE DIGITAL ANIMATION OF HOODWINKED**

**HOODWINKED** not only breaks the conventional mold of fairy-tales. It also breaks the mold of animation production, becoming an example of the new boom in a more iconoclastic, *independent* digital animation. It's a frontier that has finally opened up thanks to the increasing accessibility to cutting-edge technology.

Having created a highly stylistic fairy tale world – and with Edwards and Leech having painstakingly drawn detailed storyboards and eye-popping set designs for locales ranging from quaint cottages to dangerous mountain peaks -- the filmmakers of **HOODWINKED** knew they would need some serious computer power to bring it all to life.

Luckily, in today's world, that was for the first time a real possibility. **HOODWINKED** producer David Lovegren, who worked for years producing large-scale animation projects for Disney, explains: “Six or seven years ago, the idea of doing **HOODWINKED** as an independent animation feature would have been impossible. High-quality computer animation was just too expensive and only major companies like Disney could afford budgets that reached a million dollars a minute.” Continues Sue Montgomery: “Now the playing field has finally been leveled because the same software and technology that once revolutionized animated films is available to many more filmmakers.”

To turn bits and bytes into the wolves and bears of Red's “hood,” the filmmakers jetted off to 5,000 square foot studio in the capitol of the Philippines, Manila, where a team of top-notch animators was assembled. Lovegren and Montgomery chose Manila not only because it has a vast and experienced pool of animation talent but because most of the people there have grown up on American pop culture – and had a real appreciation for the sly humor and visual style that make **HOODWINKED** so distinctive.

In Manila, Lovegren and Montgomery worked together to establish cutting-edge procedures that significantly shrank the normal multi-year animation film schedule and turbo-charged the entire process. The break-neck pace was a constant challenge to the Manila artists, who fine-tuned and layered the characters and sets of **HOODWINKED** in the 3D world of Maya Software. To further speed up the production, an Indian animation team was later brought on board to finish the detailed digital lighting of more than 1300 digital shots.

By the climax of production, work was taking place on three different continents connected only by the thread of broadband. For a fairy tale that's been around for centuries it was a whole brave new world.

**ONCE UPON A TUNE:**  
**ABOUT HOODWINKED'S MUSIC**

As the crime investigation gets under way in *HOODWINKED*, and each main character spins an equally outrageous tale of how they wound up in Granny's cottage, their stories are in part propelled by a soundtrack comprised of fifteen original pop, rock and soul tunes. From the bluesy "Red is Blue" to the hilarious gyrations of the Woodsman's "Schnitzel Song," the music of the film lends a hand in the storytelling and carries a lot of emotion to the story.

A former "coffeehouse performer," Todd Edwards wrote nine of the songs for the movie, composing them on his acoustic guitar while he was working on the screenplay, so that the dialogue inspired the songs and vice versa in an organic process.

Edwards also performs four of the songs for the movie including "Eva Deanna" (a punk-style rocker written about his two-year old niece, daughter of associate producer Katie Hooten) and "Tree Critter," a '70s-rock screamer that features Edwards as an animated woodchuck.

In addition, Cory Edwards wrote two rap-style songs for *HOODWINKED*: "The Real G" which serves as Granny's extreme sports theme song and the high-energy "Bounce," which runs during the credits. Building on the songs the Edwards wrote, composer John Mark Painter scored the film, harking back to the dramatic jazzy riffs of classic detective movies in his compositions.

As with the rest of the film's creation and design, the music for *HOODWINKED* took the Edwards brothers into wholly new directions, but that's their favorite kind of path. Sums up Cory Edwards: "We've always loved pushing our creative resources to the limit, taking a medium and stretching it into something much more epic than what you might expect – and we had a great time doing that with *HOODWINKED*."

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## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### **CORY EDWARDS (Writer/Director/Voice of Twitchy)**

Cory Edwards makes his feature film debut with *HOODWINKED*. During his career so far, Edwards has been involved in almost every creative area of movie-making, including serving as writer, director, producer, actor, animator, art director and editor.

Edwards has been entertaining since childhood, and his love for the fantastic is still evident in the space helmets, vintage ray guns, and artwork all over his office. At an early age, his love for storytelling was always evolving. He moved from cartoons to elaborate puppet shows to radio shows on a tape recorder. But when he discovered the family's Super 8 camera, filmmaking became his ultimate hobby. He shot everything from adventure serials to superhero comedies, complete with miniatures, animation and no-budget special effects. "It was no surprise to my parents to come home on any given day and see some paper maché monstrosity in the front yard," says Edwards.

After college, Edwards worked at a production company in Tulsa, Oklahoma, honing his craft on music videos and commercials. Five years later he launched Blue Yonder Films with his brother and three friends in the business. It was with Blue Yonder that Cory produced and acted in his brother's feature debut, "Chillicothe," a live action coming-of-age drama that was an official selection of the Sundance Film Festival in 1999.

Edwards eventually made the trek to the west coast, writing and directing several animated projects for direct-to-video markets, drawing all the storyboards and even designing the sets and characters himself. "I've been hands-on in a lot of areas," he notes. "But I love the collaborative process that happens on a movie, when a lot of talented people come together to produce one big idea."

Edwards also continues to pop up in his own projects. In *HOODWINKED*, he can be heard as the coffee-addicted squirrel, Twitchy.

### **TODD EDWARDS (Writer/Co-Director)**

*HOODWINKED* marks Todd Edwards second feature as director. Beyond his success as a filmmaker, Todd has a reputation as a renaissance man, his wide-ranging skills spanning from comedic acting to art directing to rock singer.

In 6<sup>th</sup> grade, he spent a year creating and directed a fantasy adventure film, entitled "Apprentice to Wizard, Prince to King." "I was the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Peter Jackson," laughs Edwards, who built dozens of creatures for the ambitious homegrown effort. In college, Todd one-upped himself again by shooting a sci-fi action film that showcased a high-intensity dogfight over a futuristic city. "There was no film program," explains Todd, "it was a Christian liberal arts school in Indiana, and I'm pretty certain I was the only student who spent his entire junior year trying to emulate James Cameron! Luckily, I had some great art professors who understood what I was trying to do and supported it."

His feature debut, "Chillicothe," which Todd wrote, directed and starred in, debuted with rave reviews at the Sundance Film Festival in 1999.

Todd also has ambitions in rock music. He wrote nine original songs for *HOODWINKED* and performs one of them as a rocking Woodchuck. He is currently finishing his debut album that he plans to release in 2006.

### **TONY LEECH (Co-director/Writer/Editor)**

Tony Leech makes his feature film debut with *HOODWINKED*, but he considers his real debut to be his Super 8 opus “The Space Connection” when he was 11 years old. “I’m part of a whole generation of kids who wanted to make films the moment they saw the opening shot of ‘Star Wars’,” Leech says. “Much of my childhood was spent building space ships and robots out of cardboard boxes and egg cartons.” A native of Southfield, Michigan, he attended university in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he first met his *HOODWINKED* collaborators Cory and Todd Edwards.

A theatre major in college, Leech concentrated on acting and co-founded a sketch comedy troupe that would later include the Edwards brothers. After graduation, Leech took a job with “Fire by Nite,” a youth-oriented variety television show for which he wrote, acted, directed segments and edited.

Leech next served as assistant director on Todd Edwards’ directorial debut, “Chillicothe,” for Blue Yonder Films. Following stints in music videos which he directed and edited for alternative rock groups like The Sane and Philmore, Leech joined the *HOODWINKED* team. His unique mix of experience in comedy writing, editing and technical savvy made him a great fit for the essential co-director’s position.

### **MAURICE KANBAR (Producer)**

Maurice Kanbar makes his animated producing debut on *HOODWINKED* through his Kanbar Animation Studio. When a few years ago Kanbar decided to launch his new “hangover-free” vodka by himself, his peers told him he was crazy. In just eight years, Kanbar’s SKYY Vodka sold over four million cases, becoming one of the fastest growing brands in the world. But Kanbar hasn’t stopped there. He’s published a book of advice for would-be inventors and launched the liqueur, Vermeer. Winner of Gold Medals from the American Tasting Institute and the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, Vermeer is the only cream liqueur with real chocolate and premium vodka.

The unqualified success of SKYY isn’t the first time Kanbar has proved naysayers wrong. Kanbar had already made his mark as an inventor with such diverse devices and concepts as the D-Fuzz It Sweater Comb, the first multiplex cinema (the Quad Cinemas in New York), a cryogenic cataract remover and the puzzle game Tangoes.

Kanbar’s many remarkable successes have enabled him to generously support numerous causes, including a major contribution to NYU in support of film and television training, resulting in The Kanbar Film and Television Institute at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts - universally regarded as one of the finest training programs for filmmakers in the world. He is a renowned supporter of the arts, especially independent film. He’s even donating all royalties from his book, [Secrets from an Inventor’s Notebook](#), to a scholarship fund. He lives in San Francisco and New York.

### **SUE BEA MONTGOMERY (Producer)**

Sue Bea Montgomey attended the University of Tulsa and began her entertainment career in production at the local NBC affiliate. Moving over to ESPN, and specializing in sports programming, she became a camera operator and later associate produced hundreds of major sporting events. When Francis Ford Coppola brought “The Outsiders” to Oklahoma in 1982, Montgomery became a production assistant to designer Dean Tavoularis in the art department.

She never went back to sports. She has worked on numerous live action films in all capacities with credits include “Rumble Fish,” “Ironweed,” “Light of Day,” “Great Balls of Fire,” “Air Force One,” “Tin Cup” and “Shawshank Redemption.” She then dove into TV with the same creative enthusiasm as live action features and associate produced “The Wonder Years.”

Her multi-faceted career then moved into animation when she joined Walt Disney Feature Animation and worked as an executive on such films as “Mulan,” “A Bug’s Life,” “Fantasia 2000,” “Tarzan,” “Dinosaurs,” “The Emperor’s New Groove,” “Atlantis,” “Lilo and Stitch” and “Treasure Planet.”

She and Maurice Kanbar founded Kanbar Animation Studio in 2002 to deliver quality animation projects to the market with new approaches and techniques developed through her decades of experience.

### **PRESTON STUTZMAN (Producer)**

Preston Stutzman was born in Chestertown, Maryland and attended Anderson University in Indiana where he received his Bachelor Arts degree in marketing and computer science/business. Together with brothers Todd and Cory Edwards, whom he met in college, he founded Blue Yonder Films in 1995. Their debut production was “Chillicothe,” a live action film, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 1999.

In addition to “Chillicothe,” Stutzman, through Blue Yonder, also produced Stacie Orrico’s “Genuine,” a music video nominated for a 2000 Billboard Music Award. Independently, he produced and edited “Uncertain Tomorrow,” a 50-minute documentary that takes the viewer on a journey through a bone marrow/stem cell transplant to attempt to save the life of a leukemia patient. The patient was also the writer and director of the piece, who happened to be Stutzman’s brother. In 2001, with Blue Yonder, he produced the CGI Christmas Special, “Wobots” directed by the Edwards brothers.

***HOODWINKED*** marks Stutzman’s debut as a producer of feature animation.

### **DAVID K. LOVEGREN (Producer)**

David K. Lovegren was born in Tampa, Florida and raised near San Francisco. He attended Principia College, a liberal arts school in Elsah, Illinois, where he studied dramatic arts and literature. Upon his graduation, he worked briefly for the Goodman Theater in Chicago, before arriving in Hollywood where he worked in special effects engineering with Academy Award-winner Robbie Blalock (“Star Wars”).

With experience in staging, advertising, special effects and multi-media, he was eventually hired by Disney to develop the theme park attraction “Time Keeper,” starring Robin Williams, at EuroDisney, which he completed in 1992. Determined to break into animation, he went to work for New World Animation in 1993 and helped post-produce “Biker Mice From Mars,” an unabashed parody of “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.”

The following year he joined Walt Disney Feature Animation, where he was the associate producer on “Fantasia 2000.” He later produced “Little Mermaid II,” “Cinderella Stories” and “Disney Campfire Tales.” He then left to build an animation studio in Manila, where he produced ***HOODWINKED***.

## ABOUT THE VOICE TALENT

### ANNE HATHAWAY (Red)

Continuing to emerge as one of Hollywood's most engaging talents, Anne Hathaway is currently in production on the highly anticipated adaptation of "The Devil Wears Prada," in which she co-stars opposite Meryl Streep. She will be seen this December in Ang Lee's drama, "Brokeback Mountain," opposite Jake Gyllenhaal, Heath Ledger, and Michelle Williams. "Brokeback Mountain" was awarded the Golden Lion at the 2005 Venice Film Festival. She has also completed production on the independent drama, "Havoc," directed by Barbara Kopple.

Hathaway traveled to Cambodia in January 2005 on behalf of the documentary, "A Moment in the World," organized by Angelina Jolie. The project placed roughly 25 participants in various locations on a specific day, each instructed to videotape their surroundings at the same specific, "moment in time." Hathaway has also been dedicating her time and efforts to community service on this side of the globe. She has been involved with the Step Up Women's Network, a foundation created to strengthen community resources for women and girls. She served as host for Step Up's inaugural Inspirational Awards this past April and was honored by the foundation this past June. She is also on the advisory board for Lollipop Theater Network; an organization that screens movies in hospitals for pediatric patients suffering from chronic or life-threatening illness.

Hathaway was most recently seen in Garry Marshall's anticipated sequel, "The Princess Diaries 2: The Royal Engagement." Starring opposite Julie Andrews, Hathaway reprised her role as Princess Mia Thermopolis for which she received a 2002 Teen Choice Award nomination for *Best Actress in a Comedy* for the original "The Princess Diaries." Of Hathaway, Marshall says, "The multi-talented Hathaway is a combination of Julia Roberts, Audrey Hepburn and Judy Garland."

Other credits include the starring role in Miramax's, "Ella Enchanted," based on Gail Carson Levine's celebrated novel and directed by Tommy O'Haver, as well as, "Nicholas Nickleby," based on the novel by Charles Dickens. Directed by Douglas McGrath, Hathaway starred as Madeline Bray in this classical adaptation. Prior to that, she could be seen in the independent film "The Other Side of Heaven" directed by Mitch Davis.

Hathaway gained Hollywood's attention for her acclaimed turn in the series "Get Real," for which she was nominated for a 2000 Teen Choice Award for *Best Actress in a Drama*. She studied acting at the Paper Mill Playhouse in New Jersey and at the award winning Barrow Group in New York City, the first and only teen ever admitted to their intensive acting program. She also studied in the musical theater program with the Collaborative Arts Project, CAP 21, affiliated with New York University. In high school, Hathaway was nominated for the *Rising Star Award*, sponsored by the Paper Mill Playhouse, for the best high school performance by an actress in the state of New Jersey.

Hathaway's theater credits include: The Lincoln Center Encore series presentation of "Carnival," for which she won the prestigious 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Clarence Derwent Award; Andrew Lloyd Webber's workshop of, "Woman in White;" and, "Forever Your Child." In 2004-2005, she also participated in the Encores Concert Gala as well as the Stephen Sondheim Birthday Gala.

Hathaway is also an accomplished dancer who studied at the Broadway Dance Center in New York City. Additionally, she is a first soprano and has performed in two concerts at Carnegie Hall as a member of the All-Eastern US High School Honors Chorus.

## **GLENN CLOSE (Granny)**

Multiple award-winning actress Glenn Close joined the cast of FX's groundbreaking drama "The Shield" this past season, as "Captain Monica Rawling," a street cop who has risen through the ranks and has returned to Farmington with an agenda. For her performance she has received an Emmy nomination as "Best Actress in a Drama Series."

Glenn Close made her film debut in 1982 as "Jenny Fields" in John Irving's "The World According to Garp," and received an Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress, followed by further Best Supporting Oscar nominations for "The Big Chill" and "The Natural." She then starred opposite Jeff Bridges in "Jagged Edge," and in 1987 played "Alex Forrest" in "Fatal Attraction," a role which garnered her a fourth Academy Award nomination, this time for Best Actress. The following year, Close received another Oscar nomination for Best Actress in recognition of her subtly crafted characterization of the "Marquise de Merteuil" in "Dangerous Liaisons." In 2000, Close reprised the role of "Cruella De Vil" in "102 Dalmatians," following her Golden Globe-nominated performance in "101 Dalmatians."

Close also starred this year in three films, all of which premiered at the January 2005 Sundance Film Festival: "Heights," a contemporary comedy of manners set in New York City and Brooklyn from director Chris Terio and producers Merchant Ivory; "Chumscrubbers," a darkly satiric piece from writer/director Arie Poser with Jamie Bell, Ralph Fiennes and Rita Wilson; and "Nine Lives," an ensemble piece from writer/director Rodrigo Garcia with a cast that includes Kathy Baker, Holly Hunter, Sissy Spacek and Robin Wright Penn. "Nine Lives" recently received the Golden Leopard, top prize at the Locarno International Film Festival and its ensemble cast was presented with an unprecedented, collective Best Actress Award.

Other films in which Close has starred include: "Hamlet," "Reversal of Fortune," "The House of the Spirits," "The Stone Boy," "Meeting Venus," "The Paper," "Mars Attacks," "Paradise Road," "Air Force One," "Cookie's Fortune," "Things You Can Tell Just By Looking At Her," "Maxie," "Immediate Family," "The Safety of Objects," Disney's hit animated rendition of "Tarzan" and "The Stepford Wives."

On television, Close starred last year with Patrick Stewart in "The Lion in Winter," a special miniseries presentation by director Andrei Konchalovsky for Showtime/Hallmark Entertainment. For her performance as "Eleanor of Aquitaine" in the miniseries, she won the Golden Globe® and SAG Best Actress awards, and was nominated for an Emmy

Close served as executive producer, and won an Emmy® Award, for her 1995 performance as "Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer" in "Serving in Silence," which also garnered a Peabody Award and Golden Globe nomination. She has received five additional Emmy nominations for roles in the telefilms "In the Gloaming" (for which she also earned a Screen Actors' Guild Award nomination and a Cable Ace Award); "Something About Amelia"; "Sarah, Plain and Tall" (as executive producer, she also received Emmy and Golden Globe nominations for Best Made for Television Movie); "Skylark," the second telefilm in the Sarah trilogy, which she also executive produced; and for a guest-starring role in the comedy series "Will and Grace." Other television starring/executive producer credits include Rodgers & Hammerstein's "South Pacific" and "The Ballad of Lucy Whipple."

Close served as executive producer on "Journey" and "Baby," both for Hallmark Hall of Fame as well as for "Broken Hearts, Broken Homes" and was the associate producer on the documentary "Do You Mean There Are Still Real Cowboys?"

Additional television film credits include “Stones For Ibarra,” “A Brush With Fate,” HBO’s “Strip Search,” directed by Sidney Lumet and “Andrew Lloyd Weber: The Royal Albert Hall Celebration,” in which she was featured. She has made guest appearances on “The Simpsons” and “Ellen.”

Close made her professional theater and Broadway debut with the New Phoenix Repertory Company in “Love For Love” in 1974. In 1980 she was first nominated for a Tony Award for her role in the Broadway musical “Barnum,” and went on to win Tonys for performances in “The Real Thing” and “Death and the Maiden,” both directed by Mike Nichols. She also won a Tony, a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award, and a Drama-Logue Award for her performance as “Norma Desmond” in Andrew Lloyd Weber’s “Sunset Boulevard.” Her other theater work includes: “The Singular Life of Albert Nobbs” (for which she won an Obie), “Childhood,” “Joan of Arc at the Stake,” “Benefactors,” “Brooklyn Laundry,” “Uncommon Women and Others,” “Rex,” “Uncle Vanya,” “The Member of the Wedding,” “Rules of the Game,” “King Lear,” “The Crucifer of Blood” and “The Rose Tattoo.” In 2002, Close appeared as “Blanche DuBois” in Trevor Nunn’s production of “A Streetcar Named Desire” at the Royal National Theater in London.

Close received a Crystal Award for Women in Film in 2001 for her distinguished acting career. In 2003, she received an IFP Gotham Award for her significant contributions to the New York independent filmmaking community.

### **PATRICK WARBURTON (Wolf)**

Patrick Warburton first came to the public’s attention on the mega-hit “Seinfeld” television series where he portrayed Elaine’s stodgy boyfriend, David Puddy – a recurring character from 1995-1998. Because of his comfort in comedy, Warburton has been popular with animated filmmakers, with credits that include “Family Guy,” “Buzz Lightyear of Star Command,” “The Emperor’s New Groove” (as Kronk), “Game Over,” “Kim Possible,” “Tak and the Power of Juju” and “The Emperor’s New Groove II.”

Warburton’s live-action credits include “Scorchers,” “Angels in the Infield,” “The Dish,” “Big Trouble” and “Men in Black II.” He can also be heard as the voice of Superman, alongside Jerry Seinfeld in a series of Internet shorts for American Express.

### **JIM BELUSHI (Woodsman)**

Jim Belushi, a native of Chicago, graduated from Southern Illinois University with a degree in Speech and Theatre. He then became a resident member of Chicago’s famed Second City, from 1976-80. In 1979 he left for Hollywood, when writer-producer Garry Marshall cast him in the Paramount Television series “Who’s Watching the Kids,” and later in “Working Stiffs” with Michael Keaton. Among Belushi’s other television credits as an actor and writer are “Saturday Night Live,” “Parallel Lives,” the Oliver Stone/ABC miniseries “Wild Palms,” the movie “Sahara” for Showtime and the critically acclaimed series “Beggars and Choosers.”

Belushi is heading into his fifth season as the star and executive producer of the ABC hit comedy, “According to Jim,” in which he plays the husband in a marriage that actually works, and the father of three young children. The show co-stars Courtney Thorne-Smith, Kimberly Williams-Paisley and Larry Joe Campbell.

In 2000 Belushi co-starred in MGM’s “Return to Me,” directed by Bonnie Hunt and starring David Duchovny and Minnie Driver, and he received rave reviews for his work with Gregory Hines in Showtime’s “Who Killed Atlanta’s Children?”

It was his work in Edward Zwick's "About Last Night," with Rob Lowe and Demi Moore, that brought Belushi his first serious attention as a film star. In the 1986 feature, he reprised the role he had played on stage in David Mamet's Obie Award-winning "Sexual Perversity in Chicago," from which the film was adapted. His feature credits since then show an extraordinary range: He was James Woods' spacey DJ buddy, Dr. Rock, in Oliver Stone's "Salvador"; the mentally handicapped dishwasher befriended by Whoopi Goldberg in the Andrei Konchalovsky film, "Homer and Eddie"; and the defiant high school principal standing up to drug dealers in "The Principal."

Other starring roles include "Joe Somebody", the "K-9" franchise, "Red Heat," "Curly Sue," "Taking Care of Business," "Once Upon a Crime," "Mr. Destiny," "Only the Lonely," Michael Mann's "Thief," "The Man with One Red Shoe," "Real Men," "Jumpin' Jack Flash," "Jingle All the Way," "Retroactive" and "Gang Related."

Belushi has performed on Broadway in Herb Gardner's acclaimed "Conversations with My Father" at the Royal Theatre, off-Broadway in "True West," at the Cherry Lane Theatre in the Williamstown Theatre Festival production of John Guare's "Moon Over Miami," and for Joseph Papp as the Pirate King in "Pirates of Penzance." In addition he does numerous voiceovers for film, television and for commercials.

Besides acting, Belushi loves music. The Sacred Hearts are a rhythm-and-blues band who have been together for years, performing 40 nights a year at clubs, casinos and corporate events all over the country. They are the "official house band" for The House of Blues, in which Belushi is a partner, and have entertained former President Clinton and Vice President Gore. Big Men Big Music is a project that Belushi is doing with his friend, Dan Aykroyd. They performed at the SARS benefit in Toronto for over 400,000 people with the Rolling Stones, and their CD was number one on the blues chart last summer. Belushi currently has three CD's out: "Blues Brothers Live from Chicago," The Sacred Hearts' "36 x 22 x 36," and the recently released Big Men Big Music CD, "Have Love Will Travel."

### **DAVID OGDEN STIERS ("Nicky Flippers")**

David Ogden Stiers is one of Hollywood's most sought after actors, with credits that span studio and independent features as well as television. He made his film debut on George Lucas's debut feature, "THX 1138." His other film credits include "Oh, God!" "Magic," "The Accidental Tourist," "Better Off Dead," "Doc Hollywood," "Jungle 2 Jungle," "Krippendorf's Tribe," "Mighty Aphrodite" and "The Majestic." A popular actor on the animation circuit, Stiers has appeared in "Beauty and the Beast" as "Cogsworth" as well as its sequels, "Belle's Magical World" and "Beauty and the Beast: The Enchanted Christmas." He can be heard in many other Disney films, such as "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Pocahontas," "Atlantis: The Lost Empire," "Lilo and Stitch" and "Teacher's Pet."

### **ANDY DICK (Boingo)**

Comedian Andy Dick has had a major career in both film and television, even though he is relatively new to the animation world. He previously voiced "Nuka" in "The Lion King II: Simba's Pride" and "Lennie the Weasel" in "Dr. Doolittle 2." His live-action film credits include "Reality Bites," "The Cable Guy," "Best Men," "Inspector Gadget," "Road Trip," "Scotland Pa.," "The Hebrew Hammer" and "Old School."

On the small screen, he has appeared in "The Ben Stiller Show," "The Nanny," "Mad TV," "The Single Guy," "Star Trek Voyager," "Just Shoot Me," "News Radio," "Clone High," and "The Surreal Life." He can currently be seen on "Less Than Perfect."

### **XZIBIT (Chief Grizzly)**

Xzibit's career begins with his success as a rapper. He has toured with the likes of Snoop Dogg, Eminem and Ice Cube. Currently, he can be seen once a week on MTV's "Pimp My Ride," a reality show that turns teens' junkyard-bound cars into dream cars. The show is now broadcast in over 40 countries and the market continues to grow. It is currently in its 4th season. He also stars in the thriller "Derailed" with Clive Owen and Jennifer Aniston.

Xzibit has also appeared in a widely seen Right Guard Xtreme Cool Spray commercial, an episode of "CSI: Miami", "8 Mile" directed by Curtis Hanson and starring Eminem and Mekhi Pfeiffer, and "XXX: State of the Union" starring Ice Cube and Willem Defoe. Xzibit will next be seen in the upcoming "Gridiron Gang" directed by Phil Joanou.

### **ANTHONY ANDERSON (Bill Stork)**

Anthony Anderson has appeared in over 20 films and has earned two NAACP Image Award nominations. Anderson most recently drew acclaim for his role in "Hustle & Flow" for director Craig Brewer which made its debut at Sundance this year. He is currently shooting Martin Scorsese's "The Departed" with a stellar cast including Matt Damon and Jack Nicholson. In addition, Anderson has joined the cast of the FX drama "The Shield" opposite Michael Chiklis and Glenn Close and will be recurring on the HBO series "Entourage" playing himself.

Anderson first gained attention as one of Jim Carrey's sons in "Me, Myself and Irene," and has subsequently appeared in such blockbuster films as "Scary Movie 3," "Barbershop," "Kangaroo Jack," "Exit Wounds," "Cradle 2 the Grave," "Two Can Play That Game," and "Malibu's Most Wanted." He recently starred as the title character in New Line's "King's Ransom." Last year, Anderson starred opposite Eddie Griffin and Michael Imperioli in "My Baby's Daddy," opposite Frankie Muniz in "Agent Cody Banks 2" and had a cameo in "Harold and Kumar Go To White Castle." He also brought his talent and humor to the small screen in his own WB sitcom "All About the Andersons" which was loosely based on his life.

Anderson grew up in Los Angeles and while pursuing his acting career, he continued his education by attending the High School for the Performing Arts, where he earned first place in the NAACP's ACTSO Awards with his performance of the classic monologue from "The Great White Hope." That performance, along with his dedication and talent, earned him an arts scholarship to Howard University. In 1996, Anderson landed his first professional job starring in the teen series Hang Time. He then quickly landed guest-starring roles on other shows including "J.A.G" and "NYPD Blue." Producer David E. Kelley was so impressed with Anderson's talent that he wrote a two-episode arc especially for him on the hit series "Ally McBeal."

### **CHAZZ PALMINTERI (Woolworth)**

Academy Award nominee Chazz Palminteri has had a very busy year, completing five films with 2005/2006 release dates. Later this year Chazz stars in "Push," a drama set in the world of drugs, sex, and the allure of fast money directed by Dave Rodriguez. In 2006 he'll appear in a heist movie set to 50's rock and roll, "The Dukes," written and directed by Robert Davi; the action thriller "Running Scared," written and directed by Wayne Kramer and co-starring Paul Walker; Ron Underwood's "In The Mix," starring the music sensation, Usher; and "A Guide to Recognizing Your Saints," the controversial coming-of-age drama by Orlando Montiel, and starring Robert Downey, Jr.

Palminteri recently made his feature film directorial debut with the holiday film "Noel," starring Penelope Cruz, Susan Sarandon, and Paul Walker. The film is the first feature film to be distributed via Flexplay, the 48-Hour No Return DVD.

Palminteri earlier earned high praise and an Academy Award nomination for his performance in Woody Allen's "Bullets Over Broadway." His portrayal of "Cheech", a gangster with unexpected dramaturgical gifts, also earned him an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Actor, as well as nominations for a Screen Actors Guild Award and an American Comedy Award. Palminteri delivered another gripping, noteworthy performance in Anthony Drazen's feature "Hurlyburly" in which he co-starred opposite Sean Penn, Kevin Spacey, Garry Shandling, Meg Ryan, Robin Wright Penn and Anna Paquin. Based upon David Rabe's acclaimed play and script adaptation, the film was released by Fineline Features in December 1998. He was also seen in "Down To Earth," co-starring Chris Rock, Eugene Levy, Greg Germain and Regina King.

On television, Palminteri most recently starred opposite Ving Rhames in USA Network's series "Kojak." He portrayed Mob Boss Paul Castellano in TNT's "Boss of Bosses" and in the HBO film "Excellent Cadavers" he starred as famed Sicilian prosecutor Giovanni Falcone, who pursued the Mafia and was ultimately assassinated. Palminteri also directed "Unnatural Disasters" -- an episode of the critically acclaimed prison series, "Oz"; and directed "Women Vs. Men," a Showtime feature starring Paul Reiser, Joe Montana and Christine Lahti.

Well known for "A Bronx Tale," Palminteri originally wrote the script for the stage and performed it as a one-man show in Los Angeles. He then moved the production to New York, where it played for four sold-out months and earned him nominations for the New York Outer Critics Circle for both acting and writing. While in New York he completed the screenplay of "A Bronx Tale," which became one of the hottest properties in Hollywood. He held out for an offer that would let him star in the film, and soon found himself starring opposite Robert DeNiro, who chose the script for his directorial debut. Chazz is currently working with composer Jimmy Webb to bring "A Bronx Tale, The Musical" to the New York Stage. For his second play, "Faithful," Palminteri again won the Los Angeles Dramalogue Award for acting. He also wrote and starred in the film version of "Faithful" opposite Cher and Ryan O'Neal.

Palminteri has starred in "Analyze This," with Robert DeNiro and Billy Crystal; "The Perez Family" opposite Marisa Tomei and Angelica Houston; "The Usual Suspects" co-starring Gabriel Byrne, Kevin Spacey and Stephen Baldwin; "Jade" opposite David Caruso and Linda Fiorentino for director William Friedkin; "Mulholland Falls" opposite Nick Nolte and John Malkovich for director Lee Tamahori; and "Diabolique" co-starring Sharon Stone and Isabelle Adjani.

In the fall of 2002, he starred opposite Al Pacino in Bertolt Brecht's brilliant parable play, "The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui" The standing-room-only production at the National Actors Theatre in New York City, was directed by Tony Randall, with a star-studded cast which included Steve Buscemi, John Goodman, Paul Giamatti, Dominic Chianese, Billy Crudup and Charles Durning.

Chazz received the 1996 Leadership in Entertainment Award from the Coalition of Italo-American Association, Inc. and was honored by President Clinton with a Special Achievement Award for the Performing Arts from the National Italian American Foundation in Washington, D.C. In addition, Chazz is the National Spokesperson for the Cooley's Anemia Foundation, leading the fight against Thalassemia. Thalassemia is an inherited characteristic of blood which reduces the amount of hemoglobin the body is able to produce, thus causing anemia. This potentially fatal trait is primarily found in people of Mediterranean, African, Asian, Southeast Asian and Indian descent.