

RUNNING SCARED

For over a decade Joey Gazelle (Paul Walker) has successfully juggled his conflicting roles as both loving family man and a low-level employee of the Italian Perello mob in Grimley, New Jersey. However, when Joey ignores the mob's explicit instructions to dispose of a gun used in the fatal shooting of a corrupt cop during a bungled drug buy, he unwittingly puts his entire family in immediate danger.

Joey stows this incriminating piece of evidence in his basement for possible future use as collateral against his employers, only to have his son's best friend, Oleg (Cameron Bright), discover and abscond with the weapon. Unaware that the disappearance of this weapon could jeopardize both Joey and himself, Oleg uses it to wound his abusive stepfather Anzor (Karel Roden), the drug-addicted black sheep of the Russian Yugorsky mob, and then flees into the night. As he vainly seeks safe haven, Oleg encounters and dodges a slew of nocturnal miscreants, all the while being pursued by relentless Perello and Yugorsky henchmen as well as by the nefarious Detective Rydell (Chazz Palminteri), a corrupt cop who is hell-bent on profiting from the missing gun's potentially disastrous effects on the already uneasy alliance between the rival Perello and Yugorsky clans.

Meanwhile, Joey, hot on Oleg's trail and aided by both his wife Teresa (Vera Farmiga) and son (Alex Neuberger), has embarked on a frantic night-long search, not only to locate Oleg and the gun, but also to save his own life and street credibility by keeping the gun's disappearance a secret from both mob factions.

Written and directed by Wayne Kramer as the follow-up to his critically-acclaimed directorial debut *The Cooler*, the gritty, adrenaline-fueled *Running Scared* is produced by Michael Pierce, Brett Ratner and Sammy Lee. The executive producers are Andrew Pfeffer, Stewart Hall, Andreas Grosch, Andreas Schmid and Matt Lubber. The co-producer is Kevan Van Thompson.

The behind the scenes team includes director of photography James Whitaker and costume designer Kristin Burke (both of whom worked with Wayne Kramer on *The Cooler*), production designer Toby Corbett (*Silver City*) and editor Arthur Coburn A.C.E. (*Monster*).

New Line Cinema will release *Running Scared* (rated R by the M.P.A.A. for "pervasive strong brutal violence and language, sexuality and drug content") nationwide on February 24th, 2006.

ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

Following their prior independent film success with *The Cooler*, writer/director Wayne Kramer and producer Michael Pierce chose again to work outside the studio system with *Running Scared*, turning to independent production company/distributor Media 8 Entertainment. Media 8's Sammy Lee immediately saw the potential in the script of *Running Scared* for a dynamic action-thriller.

"After seeing *The Cooler*, we knew Wayne had the ability to make an incredible film with both great visual style and top-level performances," comments Lee, who came aboard the film as a producer. "The script for *Running Scared* promised the same strong mix of intense character drama, along with heart-stopping action, so we knew it was a movie that would be a perfect fit for us to make."

Using its financing resources, Media 8 was able to quickly green-light the film and fully cover the costs of production (the company will also handle all foreign sales and distribution on the film). By working with Media 8 on the film, Kramer was able to begin production unusually quickly, with principal photography beginning only six months after Media 8 first read the script. As pre-production began, Media 8 also followed its philosophy of being "filmmaker focused," supporting director Kramer's creative vision throughout, including his casting choices. Says Sammy Lee, "Our independent stature allows us to take risks that studios may not be able to take. But when we work with a director like Wayne, we like to do everything in our power to support his creative freedom and vision." New Line Cinema came aboard to distribute the film in the United States.

As his ambitious follow-up to *The Cooler*, Kramer has chosen to make a gritty, 1970s-style, fast-paced thriller with a few modern twists. "This is the most challenging script I've written and it's the script that I love the most. I think it's the type of film that not too many people are making," says Kramer.

Sammy Lee agrees, saying, "The film is a nonstop, absolutely unrelenting ride. The action is so gritty and real that I think audiences will really connect with it on a visceral level. The film has all the style and polish of a big action movie, but it still retains the edgy, uncompromising tone of an independent film."

Kramer's producing partner Michael Pierce assesses the multi-layered script with similar enthusiasm. "This movie was always something I've been passionate about. This is my favorite of Wayne's scripts." He describes the story itself as "so finely woven that it's like a house of cards."

"I wanted to do something that for most of the film would seem ambiguous to the audience. This guy is going after this kid and if he doesn't find this kid and this gun, his whole life is over. So we're never quite sure of his intentions," says Kramer of the character Joey Gazelle.

Playing the role of Joey marks one of leading man Paul Walker's initial forays into more mature filmic territory. Executive Producer Andrew Pfeffer recalls, "Wayne wanted somebody young and cutting edge and the mob today are not the kind of archetypal gangsters we think of when we close our eyes. Wayne wanted the film to be very current and cutting-edge."

When casting the role of Joey, Wayne Kramer didn't immediately think of Paul Walker. "When Paul was suggested to me for the role, I didn't quite see it," says Kramer. "I had liked him in *The Fast and the Furious*, which was the only film of his I could recall having seen, but wasn't sure he could pull off a New Jersey mob soldier. After meeting him face-to-face, I was taken with how tough behind the eyes he was. I knew I could cut and darken his hair and give him a few scars and such, but I was most impressed with how he just pinned me down with those cold blues. I knew right away he could play 'hard' and volatile."

Kramer continues, "Paul is also seriously charming. It's hard not to like the guy and that was so important for the character of Joey. He had to be a tough mother, but it was so important that we root for him, too. Especially given the ambiguous nature of his character. The more I got to know about Paul, the more it became apparent that he was closer to being the real Joey than any of the other characters he'd played in the past. Paul is one tough dude and he doesn't back down for anyone. I sure as hell wouldn't want to take him on. But he's also a sensitive, wandering soul and the combination of those qualities was exactly what I was looking for. I don't think anyone's really seen what Paul's capable of until they see this film."

Walker remembers that when he first the script, "I thought it was quite possibly the coolest thing that I've read in the six or seven years that I've been in this profession." The actor welcomed the opportunity to play a somewhat dubious character. "These are my favorite types of characters," he effuses. "These are the guys I always like in the movies. I love the good/bad guys. That's today, I think. It's not black and white like it used to be."

“Paul is terrifying as Joey at the moments where he taps into some crazy rage, which I don’t think anyone has seen before. He’s not the golden boy that we’re used to seeing in this role and that was very exciting to watch,” says Vera Farmiga, who portrays Joey’s wife Teresa.

As Joey’s young next-door neighbor, Oleg, is from a highly dysfunctional, violence-prone household similar to that of Joey’s childhood, Kramer draws parallels between their two journeys. “In a way Oleg is a kind of Pinocchio character. He doesn’t think he’s a real boy. He doesn’t have a loving family. He’s looking to become part of the other family. He’s on a journey to completion and in pursuing him Paul Walker’s character is also on a journey. It’s triggering something from his past, being an abused kid himself. So there are a lot of layers to what is going on here.”

Unsure of whether Joey intends to protect him or silence him for good after he absconds with the incriminating gun Joey has been ordered to dispose of, young Oleg’s desperate travels lead him to encounter a series of societal cast-offs with varying agendas, from the prostitute Divina (Idalis DeLeon), a homeless crack addict, Lester the vengeful pimp (David Warshofsky) and the treacherous married couple Dez (Bruce Altman) and Edele (Elizabeth Mitchell), among others.

Because these characters are seen through the eyes of a child, Kramer has imbued them all with exaggerated, almost fairytale-sized proportions and characteristics. He likens Oleg’s tumultuous journey through the night as “a fairy-tale metaphor of a kid going down a rabbit hole and ending up in this world where he’s meeting all these sort of fairy tale villains.” Even the name of the town itself – Grimley – is a nod to the Grimm’s Fairy Tales.

Kramer expands on this fairy tale concept, saying “once the bullet goes through Joey’s dining room window, it’s kind of a metaphor for the rabbit hole from [Alice in Wonderland](#). Suddenly we’re through the ‘looking glass’ and on this harrowing journey with Joey and Oleg into this Grimm’s Fairy Tale freakshow world. If you never pick up on this, and it is subtle, you’ll still enjoy the film as a high-octane mob thriller that takes a few unusual twists and turns along the way. But if you’re tuned in to the Grimm’s Fairy Tale angle, I think you’ll have a lot of fun noticing the small details that we’ve buried into the story and production design. The end credits also spell it out for the audience as well, depicting the characters as Grimm’s Fairy Tale archetypes.”

Joey’s wife, Teresa, also becomes engaged in the desperate race to locate Oleg. Previously willing to cast a blind eye on her husband’s shady mob dealings, over the course of this

harrowing night she, too, begins to question her husband's ultimate intent with Oleg as he resorts to more and more extreme measures to retrieve the gun and the kid.

After seeing Vera Farmiga in the film *Down to the Bone*, for which she received a Best Actress Award in Sundance and was named Best Actress by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association, the filmmakers cast her in the role of Teresa, who provides some of the moral ballast of the film. Producer Michael Pierce says, "Vera's worked hard on her craft for years. She's just going to blow people away."

Paul Walker concurs, "Vera's the real deal. You work with people like that and they up the ante. She comes in and she knows exactly where she's going and where she needs to be."

Farmiga describes working with Wayne Kramer as "a blast. He does not shy away from his imagination or from what makes people uncomfortable, he doesn't shy away from his tenets, his philosophies, his principles as a filmmaker. And he doesn't shy away from having a great time. And we've had a great time on set."

Kramer and Farmiga talked about her character being the morality of the film and she says, "that's what I was drawn to – I was drawn to her virtue. I love the way she loves everybody." She further describes her character as being "very aware that there's a dark, sketchy side to her husband that she knows nothing about. It's a bit of a question mark. But nonetheless she loves him very much and she believes in the goodness."

The filmmakers consider the casting of newcomer Alex Neuberger as Nicky Gazelle, the son of Joey and Teresa, and young industry veteran Cameron Bright as Oleg Yugorsky, as veritable casting coups. Producer Pierce recalls that "Alex was cast out of approximately seven hundred hopeful young actors. It was so hard to find kids to play this type of role. It's a very difficult role, but Alex pulls it off."

Vera Farmiga explains, "the story is told really through their eyes. Nicky and Oleg are the heart and the soul of this piece." She adds, "I had a great time with those two boys - we were a loving, dysfunctional family, on-set and off-set!"

Chazz Palminteri, who plays Detective Rydell, rates rising star Cameron Bright (*Birth*) as a natural talent. "He's just one of those kids that comes along and has that special thing. It's not often that happens. It's not that he has studied acting for years, he was just born with that gift."

As a director/writer himself, Palminteri was deeply appreciative of Kramer's directorial style. "What I really admire about Wayne is he storyboards everything, so he really has a set vision. You just have to trust him and take the ride with him." He also concurs with Paul Walker's appreciation of the script. "When I first read it, I loved it. I thought it was non-stop. If I keep turning the pages like that, I know it's a rockin' script. From the opening scene on, it just keeps moving."

With *Running Scared*, Kramer has re-teamed with many of the same talented crew members who made *The Cooler* such a unique project, including director of photography James Whitaker, costume designer Kristin Burke, editor Arthur Coburn and production designer Toby Corbett.

Quoting similar filmic influences, such as master auteurs Sam Peckinpah, Michael Mann, Don Siegel, Walter Hill and Brian DePalma, and being particularly enamored of adult thrillers of the early 1970s, enabled Kramer and cinematographer Whitaker to establish a successful visual shorthand during the filming of *The Cooler*. Producer Michael Pierce credits Whitaker with "an incredible vision" and adds, "he really gels with Wayne. They complement each other so nicely."

For *Running Scared*, Kramer has charged Whitaker with the creation of "a very cool, underworld, after-hours type of look." Kramer describes the palette of the film's gritty but very modern, de-saturated look as one "defined by cyan, cold-blue, night-time colors, further accented by amber glows. Jim knows the lighting style I like, the moodiness of it, and he loves that style himself." Whitaker adds that "the palette is also a reflection of the bruised and battered state of the many of the characters."

As Kramer serves as both writer and director, not only does he know his characters inside and out, but he also storyboards virtually every shot in the film, as well as designs the elaborate steadicam and crane shots. Approximately 70% of the camerawork in the film is done with a steadicam and there were nearly 40 complex crane shots. In conjunction with the moody lighting, this clever, constantly moving camerawork and manipulation of the medium – for example, hand-cranked camerawork, image destabilization and playing with shutter speed – truly cements the film's edgy, menacing ambience. Whitaker especially credits the hand-cranked camerawork with giving the film a hyper-adrenalized, nerve-wracking feel.

Although filmmakers have been coming to the Czech Republic for years to make fantasy or period films, *Running Scared* marks the first attempt at transforming old-world Prague into a lower-middle class suburb of New Jersey. This challenge fell to production designer Toby Corbett, another alumnus from *The Cooler*.

The production opted to build the interior sets at Prague's Letnany Studios and to shoot the majority of the exteriors, broad cityscape vistas and driving sequences in New Jersey itself. Producer Michael Pierce marvels, "I think a lot of people are going to be fooled. Toby has done the impossible and it's never been done before - Prague has never been shot for New Jersey. His sets and his attention to detail have been remarkable."

The numerous crane shots, even on interior sets, and the frequent use of steadicam put additional demands on the production designer. In addition to the challenges inherent in transforming baroque Prague into New Jersey, he also had to ensure that his sets were adjustable and large enough order to accommodate the camera's every move." It's been an interesting aspect of the collaboration between myself and the DP in terms of the physicality of the sets themselves and how we were able to use them in terms of camerawork," says Corbett.

Corbett's most ambitious build was the interior of the 1950's style Arlington diner, which was a slightly modified recreation of an actual existing diner in New Jersey. This 24-hour diner is a central meeting place for many of the characters throughout the course of the film and he recalls, "it was a fabulous set that everyone enjoyed being on because it really felt like being in America." The Arlington set was so authentic that actor and New Jersey native Jim Tooley, who plays Perello henchman Tony, entered the set for the first time and exclaimed, "hey, this is just like home! This is where I go for breakfast every Sunday morning!"

Corbett muses, "It was a really wonderful compliment to get from an actor because you want to design sets that have a great look to them but also have a sense of reality that the actors can really respond to and feel like they're in the world that you want them to be in."

For the Gazelle home and the neighboring Yugorsky home, Corbett selected two side-by-side homes in New Jersey and recreated them on the sound stage. He utilized the wildly differing interiors to illuminate the contrast between the Gazelle's relatively happy family life and the squalid existence of the Russian immigrant family next door. Corbett recounts, "We did some wonderful camera work where I was able to build the sets next to each other so we

could do some crane work in between the two houses going through windows, which was really a fascinating part of developing those two sets. “

Vera Farmiga explains how Corbett's production design illuminates the dynamic between the two families. “Oleg is aching for parents who love each other, but he doesn't have that. The Yugorsky and Gazelle households are on opposite ends of the spectrum - even the set design and the colors that are used. Oleg's house is very dismal and the Gazelles' is bright with lots of yellows. The dynamic is very visually clear in the set design. Our family is dysfunctional as well but happier,” recounts the actress.

Although Corbett's designs were primarily of interior sets, he did create some exterior sets simply by modifying the facades of several locations in Prague. For instance, he transformed the exterior of Prague's Florenc bus station into a New Jersey bus station by modifying the signage and some of the facade and by giving an overhead rail line an authentic East Coast feel by having four-cars of a train covered with graffiti. For this he found a local graffiti artist who was delighted to be able to exercise his craft without fear of repercussions from the authorities.

Another modern attribute of the film is apparent in Kristin Burke's costume design. Burke recalls that Kramer didn't want the costumes to look like “The Sopranos.” He said, “I want it to look more contemporary. I want it to look more hip-hop, especially in terms of Joey and Sal Franzone and Tommy Perello,” says Burke.

Burke's designs also contributed to the fairy-tale aspects of certain characters as seen through the eyes of young Oleg. She explains, “Wayne and I had talked about this as being a children's nightmare fairytale, so that meant we had to heighten the reality of all of it.” As an example, Burke cites “the funhouse aspect” of the colors present in both the wardrobe and home of Oleg's kidnappers, the married couple Dez and Adele.

Veteran Stunt Coordinator/Second Unit Director Joel Kramer was brought on board to not only to supervise and facilitate the shoot-outs, fight sequences, and car sequences but also to ensure the safety of the young actors Alex Neuberger and Cameron Bright by training them in the introductory points of ice hockey and gun-handling.

“Joel Kramer has done everything from large complicated films where money is no object to independent films. You sit and talk with Joel for ten minutes and see what a pro he is. He has nine ways to skin every cat,” raves Executive Producer Andrew Pfeffer.

Joel Kramer credits Wayne Kramer's extensive storyboarding with helping him stay on the same page as the director. "Wayne really did his homework. Everything is storyboarded. Every sequence. He knows what he wants and he doesn't really deviate."

As the character of Joey Gazelle is on the run for the entire film and engages in numerous deadly altercations throughout, the role could have proven physically challenging for a less athletic actor. Not so for Paul Walker. Joel Kramer praises Walker's natural gift for stunt work: "Paul is an athlete and he's got the aptitude, the go-for-it attitude and the mental prowess to do most of his own action. With Paul it's easy – he's a surfer, he moves like a cat."

Two of the most brutal, realistic sequences in the film – and the most labor-intensive and complicated to both prepare and shoot – were the opening shoot-out in the hotel room and the climactic showdown between Joey and the Perello and Yugorsky clans on the ice hockey rink.

Chazz Palminteri recalls that "it took us several days to shoot the opening scene, but it's a hell of an opening of a movie. Lots of blood but great, visual shots. Not just blood for the sake of blood. Wayne's shots are very cinematic and with feeling. I think that people are going to be surprised by it."

Producer Michael Pierce defends Kramer's unblinking version of cinematic violence in such scenes by explaining that "it's a dark story, but once again Wayne has this ability to punctuate it with moments of levity and there's so much heart and emotion involved that it balances a lot of the violence and grit." Producer Sammy Lee concurs, saying, "The violence in the film always springs from the story. This is a dark, treacherous journey that the characters go on, and so naturally they encounter many dangers along the way."

Kramer has always been interested in different criminal organizations, but he conducted extensive research, especially on the Russian mob, for the scenes featuring the Yugorskys and Russian dialogue. He says that "even though this movie has a collision between the Russian mob and the Italian mob, I just dig films very much about people who live up to their own code of conduct and live outside the rules of society and then price the pay for doing so."

ABOUT THE CAST

Paul Walker (Joey Gazelle)

With an undeniable screen presence and talent that has enabled him to work on several of the most successful films of the past few years, Paul Walker has made the leap to leading man status.

Walker recently completed production in Mexico on *The Death & Life of Bobby Z* opposite Laurence Fishburne for director John Herzfeld. He will be seen in several diverse films in 2006, including *Eight Below*, a rescue-adventure film for director Frank Marshall. He also has a strong supporting role in director Clint Eastwood's next project, *Flags of Our Fathers*, based on the famous World War II Battle of Iwo Jima.

Last fall Walker starred opposite Jessica Alba in the thriller *Into the Blue* for director John Stockwell. Walker co-starred in director Richard Donner's adaptation of Michael Crichton's novel *Timeline* for Paramount Pictures. He also starred in the box-office hits *The Fast and the Furious* and its sequel *2 Fast 2 Furious*, infiltrating street racers to bust a hijacking ring.

His other credits include the critically praised thriller *Joy Ride* and the box-office hits *The Skulls*, *Varsity Blues*, *Pleasantville*, *She's All That* and *Brokedown Palace*.

Cameron Bright (Oleg Yugorsky)

Born and raised in British Columbia, Cameron Bright did his first commercial when he was 7. Now 12 years old, his feature film credits include *Godsend* with Robert DeNiro, *The Butterfly Effect* with Ashton Kutcher, and *Birth* with Nicole Kidman. He can soon be scene in the science fiction film *Ultraviolet* with Milla Jovovich and *Thank You for Smoking* with Aaron Eckhart and Maria Bello.

Vera Farmiga (Teresa Gazelle)

Vera Farmiga most recently garnered attention for her award-wining portrayal of a weary working-class mother trapped by drug addiction in *Down to the Bone*. She received a Special Jury Prize for Acting at Sundance, and the Best Actress award at the Marrakech Film Festival, as well as an Independent Spirit Award nomination. She was also named Best Actress by the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. Entertainment Weekly called her "flat-out remarkable," the New York Post called her "Oscar-caliber" and the New York Times called her performance "pitch-perfect."

She recently completed filming Martin Scorsese's police drama, *The Departed*, opposite Matt Damon, Leonardo DiCaprio and Jack Nicholson, in which she plays a police psychiatrist torn between two men apparently on opposite sides of the law. Farmiga also filmed Anthony Minghella's *Breaking and Entering* opposite Jude Law, playing a Romanian prostitute in a complicated relationship with an architect.

Farmiga will also soon be seen in *Quid Pro Quo*, for first-time director Carlos Brooks, and producers Jason Klot and Joana Vicente (*Coffee and Cigarettes*, *Chuck and Buck*) and Midge Sanford and Sarah Pillsbury (*How to Make an American Quilt*). She plays a woman who guides a wheelchair-bound NPR reporter played by Nick Stahl (*Terminator 3*, *Sin City*) on a journey into the strange subculture of "pretenders," able-bodied people who go to great lengths to live as though physically disabled.

Additional film credits include: *The Manchurian Candidate* with Meryl Streep, Denzel Washington, and Liev Schreiber, *Dummy*, opposite Adrien Brody; *Fifteen Minutes*, co-starring Robert DeNiro and Edward Burns; and *Autumn in New York*, with Winona Ryder and Richard Gere.

Among Farmiga's television credits are roles in the award-winning HBO mini-series, "Iron Jawed Angels," opposite Hilary Swank and Anjelica Huston and "Touching Evil," the Bruce Willis-produced series directed by Allen Hughes for USA Network.

A New Jersey native, Farmiga currently resides in upstate New York.

Karel Roden (Anzor "Duke" Yugorsky)

Karel Roden is a major star in the Czech Republic where he has appeared in more than 30 films. Abroad Roden has appeared in such films as *15 Minutes*, *Bulletproof Monk*, Guillermo del Toro's *Hellboy*, *Dead Fish* and *The Bourne Supremacy* among others.

Johnny Messner (Tommy "Tombs" Perello)

Johnny Messner most recently appeared in *Anancondas: Hunt for the Blood Orchid* and on the hit television series "The O.C." After roles in *The Sweetest Thing* and independent films like *Finding Home* and *Dancing in September*, Johnny caught the attention of numerous industry-types with his breakthrough role as the mohawked special-ops lieutenant "John Lake" in *Tears of the Sun*.

He then segued into comedy in *The Whole Ten Yards* and soon after landed a coveted role in David Mamet's *Spartan*. He recently wrapped his third collaboration with Bruce Willis in *Hostage*.

Messner lived in Europe for several years while his father served in the U.S. Air Force. He went to high school in Newburyport, Massachusetts, and attended college at San Diego State University, earning a degree in Communications. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

Ivana Milicevic (Mila)

Ivana Milicevic is best known as one of the stars of the HBO original series "Mind of the Married Man." Currently, she is working on "Love Monkey," a television series with Tom Cavanaugh, Judy Greer, Jason Priestley and Larenz Tate, which will begin airing this January on CBS.

Born in Sarajevo, her family brought her to America when she was 5 years old. She started modeling while in high school and graduated early to follow her acting dreams in Los Angeles. While continuing to model all over the world, Ivana decided stand up comedy might help break her into acting. She did stand up at The Comedy Store and was soon discovered by a manager, which lead her to her first job, a guest spot on "Seinfeld."

She went on to supporting roles in *Jerry Maguire* and *Enemy of the State*. She has also starred in the feature film *Head Over Heels* and was most recently in *Just Like Heaven*. Her other feature film credits include *Vanilla Sky*, *Down With Love*, *Love Actually*, *Paycheck*, *The Optimist* and *Slipstream*. Milicevic has also made numerous television appearances, including guest starring roles on "Felicity," "Friends" and "Just Shoot Me." She was also in Dean Koontz's television movie "Frankenstein."

Ivana most recently completed shooting *The Plague* which she stars in for Sony Screen Gems.

She currently resides in Los Angeles and New York.

Chazz Palmiteri (Detective Rydell)

Chazz Palminteri earned high praise and an Academy Award nomination for his performance in Woody Allen's *Bullets Over Broadway*. His portrayal of "Cheech" also earned him an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Actor, nominations for a Screen Actor's Guild Award and an American Comedy Award.

Palminteri has also starred in *Down to Earth*, *Analyze This*, *The Perez Family*, *The Usual Suspects*, *Jade*, *Mulholland Falls*, and *Diabolique*.

Palminteri also portrayed Mob Boss Paul Castellano in TNT's "Boss of Bosses." In the HBO film "Excellent Cadavers," Palminteri starred as famed Sicilian prosecutor Giovanni Falcone who pursued the Mafia and was ultimately assassinated.

As a director, Palminteri directed "Unnatural Disasters"-- an episode of the critically acclaimed prison series, "OZ," and "Women vs. Men," a Showtime feature. Most recently, Palminteri directed the feature film *Noel* which will be released in December, 2004.

Palminteri is perhaps best known for his performance in "A Bronx Tale," originally written for the stage and performed as a one-man show in Los Angeles. He then moved the show 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.

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.

Alex Neuberger (Nicky Gazelle)

A twelve-year old Minnesotan, Alex Neuberger has been acting since third grade. Leading roles in community plays, commercials, print and MN independent films led to his auditioning for the role of Paul Walker's son in *Running Scared*. The director was so impressed; Alex was hired off his audition tape and didn't meet Wayne Kramer until he landed in Prague to shoot. Since wrapping *Running Scared*, Alex has shot another exciting film, *The Death of Tommy Grimes* playing the lead role of Tommy and directed by Dan Bergin to be released in 2006.

Michael Cudlitz (Sal "Gummy Bear" Franzone)

Michael Cudlitz is a New Jersey native who moved to California to attend CALARTS where he earned his BFA in acting. Since then he has appeared in over 15 films, including the award-winning mini-series "Band of Brothers," *Grosse Pointe Blank*, *The Negotiator*, *A River*

Runs Through It and *Jack Satin*. A few of his notable television credits include HBO's "Mind of the Married Man," "Lost", "Over There" and Showtimes Golden globe nominated "Sleeper Cell".

Bruce Altman (Dez)

Bruce Altman made his motion picture debut as Harrison Ford's best friend in Mike Nichols' *Regarding Henry*, a role he landed immediately after graduating from the prestigious Yale School of Drama in 1990. Prior to entering Yale, Altman studied with such respected teachers as Geraldine Page, William Esper, Herbert Berghof and Bill Hickey.

Altman has performed in over fifty plays including several productions at the Yale Repertory Theatre. Most recently, he performed in Kenneth Lonergan's "Waverly Gallery" at the Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven.

Since his big screen debut for award-winning director Nichols, Altman has worked for such respected filmmakers as Ridley Scott (*Matchstick Men*), James Foley (*Glengarry Glen Ross*), Ron Howard (*The Paper*), Mike Figgis (*Mr. Jones*), Robert Redford (*Quiz Show*), James Mangold (*Girl Interrupted* and *Copland*), Michael Pressman (*To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*), Daniel Stern (*Rookie of the Year*), Anthony Minghella (the title role of *Mr. Wonderful*), Nicholas Hytner (*The Object of My Affection*), and Roger Michell (*Changing Lanes*). He also has had major roles in several independent projects including the highly acclaimed, *L.I.E.*, *My New Gun*, and *Vibrations*. Altman co-starred in the 1997 Oscar-winning Best Live-Action Short *Dear Diary*.

The east coast resident also maintains a busy career in television. He memorably guest starred as Alan Sapinsky, an arrogant attorney who stood up to Tony's demand for the return of his property in the award-winning "Sopranos." He has recurred on NBC's Emmy-winning drama "Law & Order" and has guest-starred on the spin-off series "Law & Order Special Victims Unit," and "Law & Order Criminal Intent." Altman was a series regular on the Peabody Award winning ABC series "Nothing Sacred." He co-starred opposite Peter Gallagher and Alan Alda in the HBO telefilm "White Mile." His other television roles include guest star appearances on "Against the Law," "The Bill Cosby Murder Mysteries," "The Great Defender," and "The Wright Verdicts."

Elizabeth Mitchell (Adele)

Elizabeth Mitchell stole the heart of Santa and became Mrs. Claus in *The Santa Claus 2* and is reprising her role in *The Santa Claus 3* with Tim Allen. Her breakthrough performance was

in the HBO television movie “Gia,” in which she starred opposite Angelina Jolie for HBO. Many remember her from the 2000 dramatic thriller *Frequency*, starring Dennis Quaid and Jim Caviezel, or for her comedic turn in Neil LaBute’s *Nurse Betty*.

Some of her notable TV credits include “ER”, in which she recurred as Dr. Lagaspi, and as one of the leads in NBC’s “The Lyon’s Den,” opposite Rob Lowe. She also starred opposite Barry Pepper in the acclaimed ESPN movie entitled “The Dale Earnhardt Story.”

Raised in Dallas, Texas, Mitchell lives in Los Angeles with her husband and son.

Arthur Nascarella (Perello)

Arthur Nascarella has appeared regularly in film and television projects such as *In The Cut*, *The Cooler*, *Kate and Leopold*, *Bringing Out The Dead*, *Summer of Sam*, *Enemy of the State*, *He Got Game*, *Copland*, "Law and Order," "Hack," and "The Sopranos," among numerous others. He is a retired New York City Police Detective, served 8 years in the Marine Corps, and is a self-employed licensed Private Investigator.

John Noble (Ivan Yugorsky)

John Noble appeared as “Denethor” in *Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* and *The Two Towers*. He can be seen in various film and television projects such as *One Night with the King*; *Fracture*, *The Mystery of Natalie Wood*, *The Outsider*, *Superfire*, *The Monkey’s Mask*, *A Virtual Nightmare*, *The Bill* and *Stargate-SG1*. He has appeared regularly on Australian Television shows such as “All Saints,” “Home and Away,” “Young Lions,” “Water Rats,” “Stingers,” and “Police Rescue.”

Noble served as the Artistic Director of Stage Company of South Australia from 1977 to 1987. He has directed over 80 plays, including “Sons of Cain” on London’s West End. He also works as a voice and acting coach.

Idalis DeLeon (Divina)

Idalis De Leon is widely known as the hip hop pinup that rocked the MTV Beachouse during her reign as a VJ. She went on to work as an entertainment reporter and anchor for The Fox Family Channel, ABC Specials, “Access Hollywood,” and “Extra.” Presently she hosts the hot

topic talk show "Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner" for the fast rising english speaking Latin Network Si TV.

Her previous theatre credits and Shakespearean studies allowed for a smooth transition into film and television with notable guest stars on "The King Of Queens," "The Beast," "The Invisible Man," and "The District."

Earlier this year she was nominated for a SAG Award as part of the ensemble, for her role as Rico's mistress on the critically acclaimed HBO drama "Six Feet Under." She recently won rave reviews for her performance in the award winning indie hit "Woman Thou Art Loosed." She is represented by Brett Carducci @ GVA Talent Agency.

David Warshofsky (Pimp Lester)

David Warshofsky has numerous acting credits on stage and screen. His feature film credits include *The Best Thief in the World* (Sundance 2004) *Personal Velocity* (Sundance best film 2002) *Welcome to Collinwood* (Cannes 2002), *Last Exit to Brooklyn*, Oliver Stone's *Born on the Fourth of July*, Ridley Scott's *G.I. Jane*, *A Bright Shining Lie*, *Minus Man*, *The Bone Collector*, and *Human Nature* and the upcoming HBO release *Walkout*.

Warshofsky's television appearances include "Home Improvement," "NYPD Blue," "JAG," "Chicago Hope," "ER," "The Sopranos," and "Law & Order." He has appeared on Broadway in "Biloxi Blues," "Carousel," and "On the Waterfront." Other stage credits include "Henry V" at the New York Shakespeare Festival, "Blue Window" at Manhattan Theatre Club "Romance Language" Playwright's Horizons, and the national tours of "Biloxi Blues" and "South Pacific."

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

Wayne

Kramer

(Writer/Director)

Wayne Kramer was born in South Africa, where he graduated from the Johannesburg School for Art, Drama and Music. He made his feature directorial debut with *The Cooler*, a film he co-wrote with Frank Hannah. Alec Baldwin received an Academy Award nomination for his role as Shelly Kaplow in the film. Baldwin also received Golden Globe and SAG nominations for his performance, along with Maria Bello.

Michael Pierce (Producer)

Michael Pierce was born in Calgary Canada and first landed in California on a volleyball scholarship in college. His education then took him to London England where he began producing films for Wadlow Grosvenor Pictures. He then completed his law degree at the University of London and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a career in film.

Pierce began producing under John Davis at Davis Entertainment working on movies such as *The Firm*, before forming his own company in 1997. Pierce formed Pierce Productions and produced the short film *Loafing*, which became a festival favorite and went on to win the audience award at the Slamdance International Film Festival.

In 1999, Pierce formed two new companies with producer Mark Williams, Pierce/Williams Entertainment and Zero Gravity Management. The company's first feature *The Cooler*, debuted at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival and was released theatrically in November 2003. Alec Baldwin received an Academy Award nomination for his role as Shelly Kaplow in the film. Baldwin also received Golden Globe and SAG nominations for his performance, along with Maria Bello.

Pierce went on to produce the WWII thriller *In Enemy Hands* starring William H Macy, Thomas Kretschmann, Lauren Holly, and Jeremy Sisto. The film was released in October 2004 by Lionsgate.

In 2005, Pierce produced the action thriller *Chaos*, starring Jason Statham, Ryan Phillippe and Wesley Snipes. Lionsgate is releasing theatrically in March, 2006.

Pierce has a full slate of films in pre-production for 2006, including; *All the Little Things*, starring Erica Christensen and Colin Hanks, *Flawless*, starring Michael Caine and Demi

Moore with Michael Radford directing, *Run*, with John McTiernan directing and *The Sleeping Detective* with New Line Cinema starring Bruce Willis with Wayne Kramer directing.

Brett Ratner (Producer)

Brett Ratner has established himself as one of Hollywood's most successful directors in a very short time. At 26 years old he directed his first feature film, the surprise box office hit *Money Talks*. His second film, the action comedy *Rush Hour*, starred Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker and earned \$250 million worldwide. He followed that success with the romantic fantasy drama *The Family Man*, starring Nicolas Cage and Tea Leoni. A year later, Ratner delivered Hong Kong-style action with Chan and Tucker in the hit *Rush Hour 2* which grossed more than \$342 million worldwide. Ratner made his first foray into the world of suspense thrillers with his fifth feature film *Red Dragon*, the *Silence of the Lambs* prequel starring Edward Norton, Anthony Hopkins, Ralph Fiennes, and Emily Watson.

His most recent theatrical release was *After the Sunset*, starring Pierce Brosnan, Salma Hayek, Woody Harrelson, and Don Cheadle.

Raised in Miami Beach, Ratner enrolled in New York University's Tisch School of the Arts at age 16, becoming the department's youngest film major. Ratner's big break came after he screened his short film "Whatever Happened to Mason Reese" for hip-hop impresario Russell Simmons, launching a successful career in music videos. He has directed more than 100 videos since then, for artists including Madonna, Mariah Carey, Jay-Z, Wu Tang Clan, D'Angelo, Heavy D, Mary J. Blige, Foxy Brown, Public Enemy, P Diddy and many others.

Ratner won the MTV Award for "Best Video for a Film" for Madonna's "Beautiful Stranger" from the Austin Powers soundtrack. In addition, Ratner received an MTV Movie Award for Best Fight Sequence for *Rush Hour 2* as well as a TONY Award for producing Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Jam on Broadway.

Ratner was the recipient of the Spirit of Chrysalis Award for his dedication and leadership in helping economically disadvantaged and homeless individuals change their lives through jobs. He is currently on the boards of Chrysalis and Best Buddies and serves on the Dean's Council of the NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

In addition to success in film and music, Ratner has also segued into the world of publishing. He published the photo driven [Naked Pictures of my Ex-Girlfriends](#) and authored the

Powerhouse Books project, Hilhaven Lodge: The Photo Booth Pictures, which was released in October 2003.

Sammy Lee (Producer)

Sammy Lee is the Chairman of Media 8 Entertainment. Media 8's first production under Mr. Lee's leadership was *Monster*, for which Charlize Theron won the Academy Award for Best Actress. Following the worldwide critical and box office success of *Monster*, Mr. Lee has served as a producer on all Media 8 projects, including the critically acclaimed *The Upside Of Anger*, written and directed by Mike Binder and starring Kevin Costner and Joan Allen, released by New Line Cinema in March 2005. In addition to producing *Running Scared*, Mr. Lee also serves as a producer on Media 8's forthcoming *Lovewrecked*, directed by Randal Kleiser and starring Amanda Bynes; and *Havoc*, directed by two-time Oscar winner Barbara Kopple, and starring Anne Hathaway and Bijou Phillips. Most recently, Mr. Lee served as a producer on Media 8's *Man About Town*, which reunites Media 8 with writer-director Mike Binder, and stars Ben Affleck and Rebecca Romijn.

Mr. Lee is a lawyer by training and is also a prominent international financier, who has been primarily engaged in real estate and hotel investment. Currently Mr. Lee is responsible for overseeing the Worldwide Renaissance Hotel chain; New York Trump's Place, a Hong Kong based conglomerate joint venture development with Donald Trump; "The Knightsbridge", a major residential development in central London.

Andrew Pfeffer (Executive Producer)

Andrew Pfeffer has had a wide-ranging 25-year career in the entertainment industry as a producer, executive and attorney.

He began his career in 1970 as an attorney with the prestigious Los Angeles law firm of Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp, where he represented a broad range of entertainment-related clients including major studios (e.g. Columbia, Paramount, 20th Century Fox), major independent film and television companies (e.g. MetroMedia, Faberge's Brut Productions, General Electric's Tomorrow Entertainment), talent (e.g. Paul Newman, Steve McQueen, Warren Beatty, Goldie Hawn, Jack Nicholson, Paul Hogan, Sam Peckinpah), producers, banks, investors and others.

In 1974, Mr. Pfeffer was appointed an Assistant United States Attorney for the Central District of California, and spent three years handling a wide variety of important federal criminal prosecutions, principally so-called "white collar" crimes, including securities fraud,

mail fraud and tax fraud as well as a number of major Southern California narcotics prosecutions. Over a three- year period, he successfully prosecuted over fifty major cases for the United States.

Returning to private law practice in 1977, Mr. Pfeffer was involved in raising substantial tax-advantaged investment financing for (among other ventures) the production and distribution of motion pictures, and in 1979 he became President and Chief Operating Officer of American Communications Industries, Inc. and its American Cinema subsidiary, a major independent producer and distributor of theatrical motion pictures worldwide. Over the course of his three-year tenure, during which he had hands-on responsibility for all production and distribution operations, American Cinema raised public financing in both the United States and the United Kingdom and produced and distributed over a dozen motion pictures, including *Good Guys Wear Black*, *A Force of One* and *The Octagon*, starring martial arts star Chuck Norris. In 1980, Mr. Pfeffer executive-produced *The Entity*, *Tough Enough*, and *I, The Jury*.

After another stint in private law practice at Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp, Mr. Pfeffer became President of Empire Entertainment, an independent producer/distributor of "high concept" films. A few years later, in 1989, he became President of Production and also Chief Operating Officer of Epic Productions, Inc., a major independent motion picture company which, over a three year period, produced and distributed in excess of twenty motion pictures, including *Men at Work*, *Bad Influence*, *Triumph of the Spirit*, *Waiting for the Light* and, in partnership with Michael Douglas' Stone Group Pictures, *Hard Promises*, *Stone Cold*, *Double Impact*, and *Firebirds*.

Pfeffer was a co-founder of Signature Entertainment Group, which during the period 1993-1994 financed and produced a number of highly successful motion pictures, including *Hard Target*, *Time Cop*, *Sudden Death*, *The Quest*, *Men of War* and a host of smaller films. In 1994 he executive-produced *The Wild Side*.

In 1995, Pfeffer executive-produced *The Winner* and supervised the production of *Loved*.

In 1998 Pfeffer completed production of two films, *Thick as Thieves* and *The Big Brass Ring*. Also in 1999 he produced *Beat*, starring Courtney Love and Kiefer Sutherland, in Mexico, which also premiered at Sundance. In August, 2000, Mr. Pfeffer completed principal photography on *Dreaming of Julia* and in December of the same year produced *The Man From Elysian Fields*. In 2003 he produced *Say Nothing* and, more recently executive-

produced *Santa's Slay* which completed filming in April 2004 in Edmonton, and in 2005 line produced *The Messengers* in Saskatchewan.

Pfeffer is a graduate of Cornell University and holds a law degree (*cum laude*) from Columbia University. His hobbies include classical music and opera, motorcycling and power boating. He resides in Santa Barbara County, California.

Stewart Hall (Executive Producer)

Stewart Hall serves as a Board Member and producer for Media 8 Entertainment. Mr. Hall is a highly prominent real estate developer who for the past fifteen years has owned a construction company based in Los Angeles. He has developed several multi-million dollar real estate projects in California and Nevada.

His recent executive producer credits include Media 8 Entertainment's critically lauded and Academy Award winning drama *Monster*, the urban youth drama *Havoc*, directed by two-time Academy Award winner Barbara Kopple and written by Academy Award winning screenwriter Stephen Gaghan, the psychological thriller *The I Inside* starring Ryan Phillippe, the drama *11:14* starring Hilary Swank, Rachael Leigh Cook and Patrick Swayze, and *The United States of Leland*, starring two-time Academy Award winner Kevin Spacey. Mr. Hall recently served as an executive producer on Media 8 Entertainment's *The Upside of Anger*, which stars three-time Academy Award nominee Joan Allen, two-time Academy Award winner Kevin Costner, Erika Christensen, Evan Rachel Wood, Keri Russell, and Alicia Witt. Mr. Hall is also serving as a executive producer on Media 8's upcoming films *Lovewrecked*, *Santa's Slay*, and *Man About Town*.

Andreas Grosch (Executive Producer)

Andreas Grosch has been involved in feature and tv-productions since 1983, for companies including Walt Disney, Warner and Columbia Pictures, with productions such as *James Bond – The Living Daylights*, *The Little Drummer Girl*, *Traffik*, *The Ogre*, *Monster*, *The Upside Of Anger* and many others. From 1990-2004 Grosch was a member of the board of Bundesverband Produktion e. V. (union of German production managers / Line-Producers).

Andreas Schmid (Executive Producer)

Andreas Schmid has been independently active in the financial services market and founder of all businesses, chief companies, CEO and board chairman of VIP Beratung für Banken AG (VIP Advisory Services for Banks) since 1983. From 1985-1989 he worked with GEFOF GRUPPE MÜNCHEN mainly in the fields of education for financing, investment and

insurance, in June 1989, he founded Vermögensberatung München GmbH, the initiator of the Media Funds.

Matt Luber (Executive Producer)

A young, talented and successful manager/producer, Matt Luber has gained a reputation for cultivating and representing some of the hottest emerging actors and writers while at the same time maintaining a focus on producing intriguing projects. Mentored by respected producers, executives and managers, Luber used his experience in production and management to create the management firm Rubicon Entertainment and then left to partner with Larry Schapiro at Nine Yards Entertainment.

At the age of 34, Luber already represents some of the most sought after actors and writers. His talent roster includes Paul Walker, Billy Zane, Simon Rex, Malik Yoba, Lauren Holly, Jacob Vargas and Charlotte Ayanna. His thriving writers have set up numerous projects around town. Art Marcum and Matt Holloway have sold *Convoy* and *The Authority* to Paramount. Marty Scott and Toni Kotite wrote *Brigg's Ballet* for New Line. Tiffany Paulsen wrote *Nancy Drew* for Warner Bros. Greg DePaul wrote *Bride Wars* for Miramax with Kate Hudson attached to star. Jeremy Haft and Eddie Gonzolaz recently sold *Heckled* to New Line. Dennis Barok and Tom Abrams penned *American Princess* for New Line Cinema and *Captain's Wife* for Fox 2000. Michael Steinberg wrote *Cave* for Screen Gems which recently opened starring Cole Hauser. Luber's recent partnership with Schapiro at Nine Yards Entertainment enables him to expand his range and scope representing clients such as Paul Mazursky, Walt Becker, Cheech Marin, Malcolm McDowell and David DiGilio among others.

Luber has recently embarked on an exciting new phase of his career by venturing into producing. He recently executive produced *Into the Blue*, an underwater thriller directed by John Stockwell at MGM. He also co-produced *Noel*, a drama starring Paul Walker, Penelope Cruz, Susan Sarandon and Robin Williams. He is about to begin production on *Bruce Almighty II* as an executive producer early next year. Luber is currently producing *The Death and Life of Bobby Z* starring Paul Walker and Laurence Fishburne. Luber also has several other projects set up around town as a producer.

Luber rose quickly from producer's assistant to respected manager. After catching the eye of producer Gary Lucchesi and assisting him on *Primal Fear*, *Virtuosity*, *Gotti* and *Three Wishes*, Luber moved over to management and worked with John Carrabino at Gallin Morey Management. After only a year in their Talent Department, Luber was recognized for his work and offered a job in development at Leslie Morgan's Diamond Heart Productions. After

working on *One True Thing* and setting up *Trim*, *The Last Day*, and *My Ivy Walls*, Luber realized his heart was in management and returned to the management game by joining Evolution Entertainment. Using his strong development skills, Luber built a solid literary list. After a year, Luber expanded into a talent business that complemented his literary clients. A true entrepreneur, he then decided to start his own company, Rubicon Entertainment.

Luber's interest in the entertainment business began early. After graduating in 1993 from the University of Arizona with a degree in Media Arts, Luber moved to Los Angeles and learned the inside workings of production as a Production Assistant on *Beverly Hills Cop 3* and *The Little Princess* and working on the Paramount scoring stage.

James Whitaker (Director of Photography)

James Whitaker's feature credits include Wayne Kramer's acclaimed first feature, *The Cooler*, starring William H. Macy and Maria Bello and for which Alec Baldwin was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor.

In addition to *Thank You For Smoking*, Whitaker also shot Gary McKendry's Academy Award nominated short film *Everything in this Country Must*.

Whitaker's other credits include Michael Miner's *The Book of Stars* starring Jena Malone, Mary Stuart Masterson and Delroy Lindo,

Whitaker recently shot a short for Ridley and Jordan Scott which was included in *All the Invisible Children*, a series of shorts for UNICEF which was shown at this year's Venice and Toronto Film Festivals.

After studying still photography and film production at both Denison University and the Maine Photographic Institute, Whitaker moved to Los Angeles, where he began working his way up through the ranks in the camera department. He first gained industry attention after shooting Tina Mangiardi's youth documentary *Generation X-Posed*, followed by several lauded spots for Reebok and Nike footwear.

In addition to his feature work, he has spent the last nine years shooting numerous commercials and music videos, lensing spots for the likes of Nike, Reebok, and Sony, as well

as such high-profile music acts as Santana, Black Eyed Peas, Radiohead, Jay-Z, Pennywise, Jimmy Eat World, Aphex Twin, The Crystal Method and Telepop Musik.

Toby Corbett (Production Designer)

Toby Corbett served as production designer on such feature films as: *Silver City*, *Extreme Dating*, *Best Men*, *East Meets West*, *Meteor Man*, *My New Gun*, *Iron Maze*, *Blue Steel* and *The Prince of Pennsylvania*. His most recent project was designing for R. Kelly's R&B Soap Opera, "Trapped in the Closet," available on DVD.

Corbett's television production design credits include: Oxygen's "Visible Panty Lines," directed by and starring Tracey Ullman; "State Of Grace" for FOX Family; "Meat Loaf" for VH1; "Tracey Takes On"; "Tracey Ullman: Live and Exposed," "Midnight Man"; "Don't Look Back" for HBO; Hallmark Entertainment's "The Yearling" and "Spring Awakening"; "Past Tense" and "Last Light" for Showtime; and CBS' "Victim Of Love" and "Taken Away."

Corbett has been nominated for an Emmy Award in Art Direction in 1996, 1997 and 1999. Corbett attended the University of Washington.

Arthur Coburn (Editor)

Arthur Coburn's recent projects include the award-winning film *Monster* and *Under the Tuscan Sun*. He also edited Sam Raimi's films *Spider-Man*, *The Gift* and *A Simple Plan*.

Coburn's other film credits include: *The Cooler*, *Sunset Park*, *Roosters*, *Talent for the Game*, *For the Love of the Game*, *The Break-up*, *A Price Above Rubies*, *Dangerous Beauty*, *Sunset Park*, *The Mask*, and *American Me*. Coburn also edited *Domenick and Eugene*, *Triumph of the Spirit*, *The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez*, and *Extremities*.

Coburn graduated from Dartmouth College and he received a law degree from Harvard Law School.

Kristin M. Burke (Costume Designer)

Kristin M. Burke has designed costumes for more than thirty feature films, including *Walker*, *Crazy*, *The Cooler*, *The Slaughter Rule*, *Bring It On Again*, *Race to Space*, and *Star Maps*. She has also designed costumes for music videos, commercials, and two television series. In addition, Ms. Burke is an internationally-exhibited artist, specializing in collage and mail art, and had her first solo exhibition in Los Angeles in September, 2001.

Burke attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, where she received a BS in Radio/Television/Film and a BA in French Studies. While attending Northwestern, Burke was trained in the art of costume design by Virgil C. Johnson, an acclaimed designer for the opera and the theatre. She is also the author of Costuming for Film: The Art and the Craft (Silman James Press, 2005) and Going Hollywood (2004).

Kevan Van Thompson (Co-Producer)

Kevan Van Thompson worked at the BBC for in the Production department for 8 years before leaving to work as a freelance 1st Assistant Director. Since 1991 he has been a Line Producer or Co Producer on over 30 projects all over the world. Kevan has lived in the Czech Republic since 1994 and has a wife and three children. He has worked in dozens of countries and his recent work has been in the UK, Croatia, Czech Republic, Italy and the Netherlands.

Since completing work on *Running Scared* Kevan has worked on 2 major feature films as Line Producer *Mrs Henderson Presents* and the soon to be completed *Stormbreaker*. He has also produced *The Man from London*.

Mark Isham (Composer)

Mark Isham has created memorable and evocative scores in such award-winning films as *The Cooler*, *A River Runs Through It*, *Blade*, *Nell*, *Men of Honor*, and *Miracle*. With his insistence on innovation, his distinctive and quirky sense of mood, and his unforgettable melodies, Mark has composed over 65 film scores including his recent work on *Crash*. Mark Isham has garnered many awards including a Grammy, an Emmy, and a Clio, in addition to multiple Grammy, Academy Award and Golden Globe nominations for his material both as a composer and a recording artist.

The musical versatility evident in Mark's solo albums, as an accomplished trumpeter, has received critical acclaim all over the world. In addition to a Grammy for his Virgin Records release, "Mark Isham," and numerous nominations, he has garnered accolades, including The London Times "Best Jazz Album of 1999" for "The Silent Way Project: Miles Remembered." His CD, "Blue Sun," was chosen by Downbeat Magazine as one of the Top 100 Jazz Albums of the Decade.

Mark has also toured extensively performing his film music. From concert presentations with some of the top orchestras of the world to alternative musical performances with a DJ, laptop

and interactive media, Mark continues to bring the music from these memorable films into our lives.