

# BALL DON'T LIE

**Contact:**

Shannon Treusch/Betsy Rudnick

Falco Ink.

850 Seventh Avenue, Suite 1005

New York, NY 10019

Phone: (212) 445-7100

Fax: (212) 445-0623

[shanntreusch@falcoink.com](mailto:shanntreusch@falcoink.com)

[betsyrudnick@falcoink.com](mailto:betsyrudnick@falcoink.com)

# BALL DON'T LIE

## Short Synopsis

With the electricity, humor and sweat of street basketball, **BALL DON'T LIE** is the coming-of-age story of Sticky (newcomer Grayson Boucher), a skinny 17-year-old high school junior living in Venice, California. Stuck in a foster care system that has forgotten him, living life as an outcast, it's at a community gym that he finds his home and on the basketball court that he becomes a star. After years of building walls, Sticky overcomes the tallest of odds to find acceptance and ultimately surrender to love in the unlikely of places.

## Synopsis

**BALL DON'T LIE** plays out over one day in the life of Sticky (film newcomer and streetball legend Grayson "The Professor" Boucher), a skinny 17-year-old high school junior and basketball prodigy from Venice, California. Burdened with emotional scars from early life tragedy, a callous foster care system, and Obsessive-Compulsive Personality Disorder, Sticky manages to transcend his limitations whenever he has a ball in his hands.

It is in Lincoln Rec Center, a legendary gym run by the quirky, temperamental Jimmy (Harold Perrineau) and known as a birthplace to great players, where Sticky hones his hoops skills as the lone white face on the court. It's a dangerous environment filled with shattered dreams, deluded life-visions and frustrated egos. There are no shortcuts here and fisticuffs are often the norm. On the surface, Sticky has no business at Lincoln, but his immense heart keeps driving him back to improve his game. Over time, he has gone from suspicious stranger to family member on this seasoned hardwood.

Sticky's girlfriend Annie has her birthday today and Sticky has until nightfall to buy her the perfect gift – a \$350 necklace. Standing in his way is the age-old problem: He lacks funds. His plan is to get his workout in and then uncover the means to buy the gift.

A series of the day's manhood-testing pick-up games spawn flashbacks to defining moments from Sticky's past. He struggles with painful early memories of an unhinged, prostitute mother (Emilie de Ravin) and her abusive boyfriend (Nick Cannon), a situation that forced him into the foster system. He recalls a nurturing time with kind and wealthy Francine (Rosanna Arquette), only to have this mother figure snatched away by cancer. He dredges up his rejection by a barren couple (Ricardo Chavira and Dania Ramirez) that caused him to begin to wall himself off from any kind of human contact.

While Sticky navigated one unfair and untenable situation after another, he did manage to locate a few mentors in highly unlikely places. Julius (Chris "Ludacris" Bridges), a social worker at his group home introduces him to basketball and accidentally creates a potential star. As Sticky's game improves, he discovers Lincoln Rec and meets Dante

(Cress Williams), a former overseas pro who watches his back and gives him well-intentioned, sometimes misguided, worldly advice.

As Sticky worries about getting Annie her gift, he flashes back to meeting her. The relationship with Annie, a classmate in awe of his moves on the court, ignited swiftly and burned hot. Sexual intimacy came fast, and while Annie quickly became one of the most important people in his life, Sticky is still unable to completely give himself over to her. Annie struggles with Sticky's indifference, her feelings further complicated by her growing anxiety that she may be pregnant with his child.

At the end of the day, after being roughed up on the court at Lincoln and still with no money for Annie's gift, a desperate Sticky takes Dante's advice and robs a man on the street. This victim turns out to be a bad choice. The man chases Sticky down and, in the ensuing scuffle, shoots Sticky in the hand.

A concerned Annie finds Sticky in a hospital room. The gravity of the situation hits Sticky and he suddenly feels the full weight of all the years of neglect on his young shoulders. In the cold, sterile corners of this room, Sticky will finally raise the courage to confront childhood demons. In this moment, he is able to lay his self-blame to rest, crumbling his tough, defensive wall in the process. Most importantly, for the first time, Sticky is able to both literally and symbolically reach out for Annie, thus trusting himself and his fragile psyche with another person. It is this successful connection with another, enabled by his biggest and most important mentor, the game, that Sticky can overcome life's ills and truly make himself a man.

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## **A Conversation with the Director Brin Hill**

*Q: The film's star, Grayson "The Professor" Boucher, is a well-known athlete with no professional acting experience. Can you talk about the challenges involved in shaping both his athletic and dramatic performances into a believable character?*

A: I've worked with first-time actors on several occasions in the past, and found both positives and negatives in doing so. When you set out to work with someone like Pharrell or Grayson during their first real foray into acting, it can be extremely hard to separate the identity of Pharrell the mega-star, or "The Professor" the streetball star, from the character they are charged with portraying. As a director, you've got to almost strip away "The Professor" and attempt to just go back to Grayson Boucher. When you return to that persona, you can begin to talk about what life was like before he became a recognizable sports figure, when he was broke and hungry, when he had to fight just to get seen. You almost work on anonymity. Then you start to build relatable traits to the plight and experiences of Sticky. A trained actor has a baseline that he/she can go right to in order to discover character, a process, if you will; but someone who hasn't acted before is creating a new methodology as he/she goes. Everything is new; everything can be a baby-step. A director is really influential and important in that process. You've got to mold Sticky the character, but you also have to mold Grayson the actor. It is really a two-headed attack to get to the same end result.

The great thing about Grayson is that he is so accustomed to being on stage. As an athlete you are required to shine in crunch time. There is no hiding on a basketball court and Grayson has never been a player to want to try to hide. He loves to have the ball in his hands when the game is on the line. That is a great characteristic. It means that he is willing to step up and try to shine when the lights are on – that can really translate to acting, especially on a film with an accelerated shoot schedule. That desire to be the man on the court when it counts is also thankfully a major trait that he always shared with Sticky. Sticky might be anonymous off the court, but when he's on it, all eyes are constantly on him. The same is true of Grayson. When he gets the ball, fans stand up in anticipation. This concept was the place we started from in designing a link between Grayson and Sticky. It was common ground that helped Grayson the actor begin to understand Sticky the character.

The athletic stuff in the film was easy for Grayson. We worked closely on coordinating Grayson's skill-set with our shoot plans so that all things basketball were well within Grayson's wheelhouse. We also played a lot of real basketball on film, so that made the gym and court scenes feel real for Grayson. He could almost forget the crew was there and could literally just be Sticky on the court. There was no pressure because it was so natural feeling.

I found that the athletic scenes in the film really helped Grayson with the more challenging emotional scenes as well. Grayson is most comfortable and at his best when

physicality can be injected into a scene. Because an athlete is really hardwired to be physical as much as possible, we tried to work in a sense of the physical as much as possible when we were shooting the difficult emotional moments. That physicality always helped Grayson make everything feel real and authentic.

*Q: You used a lot of actual locations in the film. What influenced your choices in that regard?*

A: Having grown up in Santa Monica and Venice, it was really important to me that the locations in the film be honest to where, and how, Sticky would have grown up. When I first read the book, there were two things that spoke to me most – locale and basketball. Those things were seeped in truth for me and I wanted to be honest to that truth.

The other ingredient is that location is always a main character in my work. Location shapes the story, location often drives the plot and location speaks its own set of dialogue. So we worked really hard to make sure that the locations in the film felt real, felt authentic and spoke about the journey of Sticky. This is a film about Venice and it had to be shot in Venice. There's no place else that can double for Venice. Venice is internationally known, so we not only tried to hit the images that are iconic to the world, but also wanted to work in the locales that are iconic to Sticky and to folks who know his world in Venice. The latter is what makes the film genuine.

I also wanted to be truthful to the types of places that I would have known a kid like Sticky living in or frequenting, so we really went out of our way to shoot legitimate, real locations. Venice and Santa Monica are gentrifying and changing so quickly, that it's hard to stay on top of these places, but they are still there if you dig. Lincoln Blvd, the main artery of Venice, will always be the place where cultures and classes will meld together. However, having said that, it is telling that there are locations in the film that are no longer around even since we shot the film. That's how fast the world of Sticky, and kids like him, changes down by the beach.

*Q: You adapted the script from the eponymous young-adult novel, collaborating with its author, Matt de la Peña. What challenges did you face in ultimately rendering a faithful adaptation?*

Until you take a true adaptation all the way through the process of an actual film, you can't completely comprehend how many lessons there are to be learned. The most important is realizing that the book is the book. It is its own experience. And, the film is the film. Both tell variations on the same story, the same journey, but they are variations. I think at first we tried to be precious about every line or every moment, but once we freed ourselves to pursue the film as its own version of Sticky's tale, we really branched out into good, uncharted territory.

You want to do justice to the book and appease its fans, but you have to be honest to the medium of film and do justice to Sticky on the big screen. It has to be its own visual

experience and we feel like we've created that here. It's not better or worse, it's just a different journey with Sticky.

What is really gratifying is that when Matt goes to read at High Schools or youth events and he tells the audience that Ball Don't Lie will be a film, almost everyone there begs him to get "The Professor" to play Sticky. Hearing that plea is really satisfying for us because it means we made the right choice in casting.

One last challenge is fitting all the great material from the book into a film that is a normal length. There's so much rich material in the book/script and it was really tough narrowing that wonderful substance down. However, you have to make choices in the interest of Sticky and his journey, so we felt like we made the smartest edits to enrich him and his truth.

*Q: The story is steeped in the culture of streetball. To what lengths did you go to give an authentic portrayal of this culture? Can you give an example of a specific choice you made to ensure an accurate depiction?*

A: The most obvious move we made in the interest of authenticity was the choice of who would play Sticky. There is no one more real to Streetball than "The Professor" so we definitely bought ourselves instant credibility by casting him. As a ball player and a fan of the game, the biggest gripe I have with sports films is that they come off as being fake. Guys look like they've never been on a court or shot a ball. I never want the play to be whack looking. To win me over, you need to have your sports footage look real. The less camera tricks, the less actors jumping off trampolines, the more I will believe in your story, in the journey you want me to take. So it was always important to put people in the film that were real players. That goes for all the roles, not just the role of Sticky. I looked for height, ball background and strong acting skills. Lamman Rucker, who portrays Trey in the film, played Division I college basketball before he became an actor, so we knew he'd been around gyms, around the game, and understood the world inside and out. Chris Spencer, who plays New York, is someone that I remember being in every pick-up gym I played in as a kid. My attitude was the more guys who have been around the culture that can be on set, the better for the film. Those guys can really be helpful to the other actors who maybe haven't grown up in and around the game. They lend a sense of authenticity.

The other choice we made was to cast real basketball players in the non-speaking roles. We got ex-pros, ex-college stars and others to play opposite Grayson. That meant that we could have a short hand when running plays and sets on film. Nothing would look staged. It also meant we could play a great deal of real basketball. I wanted there to be equal parts real free-playing ball and choreographed plays.

Lastly, we had cameos by NBA athletes. To have Al Jefferson, Delonte West, and Ryan Hollins assured us of not only some great ball playing, but it also meant that everyone else brought their A-game. If you are really going against NBA guys, you have to be in shape and show up. No one wants an NBA guy to think that they can't play.

*Q: The main character's story is strongly shaped by a series of unusual mentors. To what extent does the game itself serve as a mentor and character in its own right?*

A: I really believe that we are defined for better or worse by where we were raised. We then spend our lives trying to either redefine ourselves or constantly evoke the lessons we learned from our neighborhoods. Environment is the biggest mentor, positive or negative, that you can have. It serves to identify what people or experiences you have access to. It can pick your mentors. It selects who can school you on the ways of the world.

Mentors are often cut and dried in fiction, but in real life there's no such thing. People are complex and mentors are often really complex - that's what I love about *Ball Don't Lie*. Sticky is looking for life advice, for mentorship and the mentors he has access to are at once both really good and overtly bad for him. Often we're attracted to those who are conflicted and sometimes, even when they think they are showing you the proper paths, a conflicted person can lead down a road that is extremely bumpy. However, very often, bad advice can help you find your way quicker than clean counsel. Sticky is shaped by all those who touch him – evil and good – and he's better off for it.

Basketball is like neighborhood. It socializes you. It defines your environment and the places you need to hang out to improve or to become the best you can be. It is these dark gym and broken courts that unearth both needed, fierce competition, as well as, a series of people that want to be your mentors.

*Q: In your own life, did you, like the main character, find mentors in unlikely places? Have you, in turn, served as a mentor to others?*

While making *Ball Don't Lie*, I found myself reflecting on various mentorships I'd had over the years and I believe some of my strongest were in highly unlikely places -- a little league field in Boston, a beach basketball court in Venice, or a dank basketball gym in Santa Monica. Obviously coaches, teachers and educators served as mentors to me, but the ones that etched in my soul were the peers I battled on the courts.

I've held a lot of mentor-type positions over the years, but I haven't always felt like a mentor in those roles. I coached basketball to high school all-stars in Los Angeles. I've always included kids from working-class neighborhoods in my crew on film sets over the years. I worked in a Maximum Security Prison. I've guest-taught or guest-lectured to high school and college kids. In each of these stops, I know that I had a lasting impact on someone, but I really feel like I was mentored. The people that I was charged with serving invariably taught me something new about myself and about the world. I think Sticky is no different. His will, his strength, his perseverance, are all traits that can teach us to fight on in our daily lives as we strive toward our dreams.

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## ABOUT THE CAST

### **GRAYSON BOUCHER (Sticky)**

Grayson Boucher was born and raised in Keizer, Oregon, a small city outside of the state capitol Salem. Growing up, his main influence was his father, the man responsible for putting a basketball in his hands. After many years of practicing in the driveway, youth leagues and AAU basketball, Grayson developed his game and became quite skilled.

Despite his talent, Grayson was always undersized among his peers and teammates. His stature prevented him from seeing much court time, and, as such, Grayson found himself still on the junior varsity team as a junior at McNary High School. The following year, he transferred to Salem Academy, a small private school where he hoped to be able to lead a team as a starter and have a decent shot at playing college basketball. There, he was starting point guard, ended out the year 1 vote away from league MVP, and was an All-State selection, averaging 20 points and 7 assists per game.

College basketball options were limited, so Grayson opted for the local Chemeketa Community College. During his freshman year, he was allowed only limited playing time because he was a walk-on and all scholarships had already been distributed. During the off-season, Grayson worked out harder than ever before in the weight room and on the court and made the biggest improvement of his career up to that point. He credits his coach David Abderhalden with playing a huge role in taking his game to another level.

That summer, Grayson secured a spot on the And 1 Mixtape Tour 2003, broadcast on ESPN for the series "Streetball." His tremendous success on the tour put Grayson on the map. He was given the name 'Professor' by tour MC Duke Tango because he was "schooling people on the court." Given the show's popularity, Grayson opted to continue with the tour instead of heading back to college. Since then, the "Professor" has become a household name among basketball fans around the world. He has played in about 20 countries outside of the United States, and has been featured on 6 seasons of "Streetball." Grayson credits his success to endless hours in the gym, loving the game of basketball, and never giving up on a dream.

While continuing to play for And 1, Grayson also played a stint on the Salem Stampede in the IBL (Intercontinental Basketball League) for the 2006 season and is currently playing for the Atlanta Krunk in the CBA (Continental Basketball Association). In addition to *Ball Don't Lie*, he also appeared in the comedy *Semi-Pro* starring Will Ferrell.

### **KIM HIDALGO (Annie)**

Kim Hidalgo grew up in Walnut Creek, California. She started dancing at the age of three, which eventually led her to acting. Kim was the youngest performer in several

professional theater companies. While in High School, she was captain of the school's Dance Production and an active member of both student government and drama. Kim also attended CSSSA (California State Summer School of the Arts) with classmate Zac Efron, and studied with actress Helen Hunt.

After graduating high school with honors, she moved to Los Angeles -- not to follow the Disney/Nickelodeon path, but to attend USC, where Kim is currently on track to graduate Magna Cum Laude. While focusing on her studies in communication and theatre, Kim was seen by a talent manager at a workshop who insisted on representing her. Within months, she was booking both TV and commercial roles. Finally, after two auditions and a screen test, she got her first feature role in *Ball Don't Lie*. The news came just days after her cousin's suicide, and offered a ray of light and hope in a difficult time.

### **HAROLD PERRINEAU (Jimmy)**

As a proven dynamic actor, Harold Perrineau has given color and life to an array of characters in film, on stage and television.

Following a brief hiatus from the ABC hit series, "Lost," Harold will be reprising his role as Michael Dawson this season. Although most recently known from "Lost," Harold is also remembered for his role on the HBO hit series, "Oz," in which he played wheelchair bound Augustus Hill, the narrator and voice of reason in the series. Harold has also guest-starred on numerous hit television shows, including NBC's "ER," Showtime's "Dead Like Me," and CBS' "CSI," to name a few.

His film career is one that has crossed many genres, including Shakespeare, thriller, sci-fi and romantic comedies. Recently, Harold starred in *28 Weeks Later*, and also starred in The Wachowski Brothers' blockbusters *The Matrix Reloaded* and *The Matrix Revolutions*. Other film credits include *Smoke* with Harvey Keitel and William Hurt; *Woman on Top*, opposite Penelope Cruz; and *The Best Man*, opposite Terrence Howard. He also offered a memorable performance as Mercutio opposite Leonardo DiCaprio in Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo + Juliet*. Harold recently completed filming *Felon* with Val Kilmer and Stephen Dorff, and will be seen in the upcoming releases of *Your Name Here* with Bill Pullman, and *Gardens of the Night*, opposite John Malkovich.

Periodically, Harold has returned to the theatre; most recently with the Los Angeles run of the acclaimed play *TopDog/UnderDog*, for which he won an NAACP Image Award. Harold has also starred in numerous theatrical productions in the U.S. and abroad including *The Exonerated*, *The Love of Bullets*, *A Soldier's Story*, and *Fame High School*.

In late December 2007, moved by the sacrifices made by the U.S. service men and women around the world, Harold co-wrote the song "Stay Strong." The song, produced by Neff-U (Michael Jackson, Mary J. Blige, Usher, Britney Spears), is dedicated to the troops with a portion of the song's proceeds going to the Bob Woodruff Family Fund for Traumatic Brain Injury. In December, as the production of "Lost" was halted due to the

WGA strike, members of the show's production crew, along with first-time director, fellow "Lost" actor, Daniel Dae Kim, filmed the video for "Stay Strong." Harold received much support from his fellow actors who appeared in the video, including Josh Holloway, Andre Royo, and Lauren Vélez.

Harold presently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Brittany, and their daughter, Aurora. The couple is presently expecting their second child, due this summer.

### **ROSANNA ARQUETTE (Francine)**

Rosanna Arquette was born in New York City, to a show business family. She was the first-born child of five in the third generation of the Arquette acting clan. Her grandfather Cliff Arquette played "Charley Weaver" on "The Jack Parr Show," and was on the original "Hollywood Squares." Her father, character actor Lewis Arquette, was well known as J.D. Pickett on "The Waltons." Her siblings Patricia, David, Alexis, and Richmond all followed her into the family tradition as accomplished working actors.

Rosanna began acting as a child while growing up in a bohemian atmosphere of gypsy-like travel and communes. Her mother Mardi was a poet, political activist and therapist who deeply influenced Rosanna's compassionate world-view. She is also one of the few actresses that has the distinction of having a number one song written about her; Toto's 1982 "Rosanna."

Rosanna started working professionally as a teenager and has never stopped. Throughout her career she has worked with some of film world's most important and influential directors including Blake Edwards (*S.O.B.*), John Sayles (*Baby It's You*), Lawrence Kasden (*Silverado*), Martin Scorsese (*After Hours*, *New York Stories*), Luc Besson (*The Big Blue*), Quentin Tarantino (*Pulp Fiction*), David Cronenberg (*Crush*), Vincent Gallo (*Buffalo '66*) and Alison Anders (*Sugar Town*). She has appeared in over 70 films, and won the British Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress for her star-making performance opposite Madonna in Susan Seidleman's 1985 hit, *Desperately Seeking Susan*.

She was nominated for an Emmy for her strong performance in the television adaptation of Norman Mailer's *The Executioner's Song*, opposite Tommy Lee Jones. She also starred in the acclaimed TV movie adaptations of *Song of the Morning Star* and *Johnny Belinda*. She has guest-starred in numerous television series such as "Will & Grace," "The Practice," "Law & Order: Criminal Intent," Showtime's provocative hit "The L Word" and "Grey's Anatomy." Rosanna was last seen starring in the ABC series "What About Brian," from executive producers J.J. Abrams and Dana Stevens. She has hosted "Saturday Night Live" and has appeared on the cover of numerous magazines throughout the years.

Rosanna Arquette's vast experience in the film world has inspired her to explore and expand her talent as a filmmaker into the realm of directing and producing with two

highly acclaimed documentaries, 2002's *Searching for Debra Winger* and 2005's *All We Are Saying*. She is currently developing projects, including her narrative film directorial debut, through her company Flower Child Productions. She remains a busy actress and filmmaker whose passion for her work is matched only by her passion for her daughter Zoe Blue Sidel, her family and her work as a breast cancer awareness advocate.

### **NICK CANNON (Mico)**

In May 2007, Nick Cannon was presented with the prestigious "Breakthrough Actor of the Year Award" at Cannes Film Festival for his work in the critically acclaimed film *Bobby*. Nick is the first African-American in the festival's history to receive this honor.

Cannon jumpstarted his career as a professional comedian at the young age of 15. He quickly became the youngest executive producer in Nickelodeon's history by creating the network hit "The Nick Cannon Show." Soon after, he made his feature film debut starring in 20th Century Fox's *Drumline*. Nick then went on to create/star/executive produce "Wild N' Out" for MTV. This past year, the hugely successful show wrapped 20 episodes of its 4th season. Nick most recently appeared in the Sundance Film Festival 2008 dramatic competition entrant *American Son*.

In the fall of 2006 Cannon signed a first-look television production deal with MTV, the largest talent/producer deal in the network's history. In the feature film arena, he has concluded a similar deal with Lionsgate Films.

### **DANIA RAMIREZ (Carmen)**

Born and raised in the Dominican Republic, Dania Ramirez began making commercials as a teenager in New York City, and attended Montclair State University in New Jersey before moving to Los Angeles. She was discovered by director Spike Lee who gave her parts in the films *The 25<sup>th</sup> Hour* and *She Hate Me*. Her other credits include recurring roles in "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and "The Sopranos," and major roles in films such as *Fat Albert*, *X-Men: The Last Stand*, *Illegal Tender*, and *The Fifth Commandment*. Last year, she co-starred in the hit television series "Heroes," and will star in the upcoming feature *Brooklyn to Manhattan*, directed by her husband, actor/director Jessy Terrero.

### **MYKELTI WILLIAMSON (Dallas)**

Since his debut guest-starring on an episode of "Starsky and Hutch" three decades ago, Mykelti Williamson has forged a career on film and television that now includes dozens of memorable roles and projects. His television credits include recurring roles on shows like "Miami Vice," "Hill Street Blues," "China Beach," and "Midnight Caller." His feature film credits include "Wildcats" with Goldie Hawn; *The Miracle Mile* with Anthony Edwards; the family classic *Free Willy*; as loveable "Bubba" opposite Tom

Hanks in *Forrest Gump*; and box-office hits like *Waiting to Exhale*, *Heat*, *How to Make an American Quilt*, *Con Air*, *Primary Colors*, and *Three Kings*.

Since 2000, Mykelti has done notable work as Don King in the biopic *Ali*; guest starred on "Touched by an Angel," "Monk," and "Third Watch"; made regular appearances on "CSI: NY" and "Kidnapped"; and co-starred in the feature films *Lucky Number Slevin*, *ATL* and *August Rush*. Next year, he will star with Laurence Fishburne in the drama *Red Soil*, directed by independent film artist Charles Burnett.

### **LUDACRIS (Julius)**

Chris "Ludacris" Bridges has grown from a hip-hop superstar to a Hollywood film star. His most recent album release, *Release Therapy*, won two Grammys in 2007, including Best Rap Album. The 28-year-old rapper put not only his experience as an artist into *Release Therapy*, but also his experiences as the CEO of Disturbing Tha Peace Records, the Founder of The Ludacris Foundation, and an actor in the Oscar-winning film *Crash*.

Bridges has recently seen major changes in all facets of his life. At his record label, Ludacris has collected a talented and diverse group of artists. The roster includes Shawna (the dynamic Chicago-bred female rap star), Bobby Valentino (the smooth R&B platinum-selling singer), Field Mob (the groundbreaking hip hop duo), and the newest addition to the DTP family, Shareefa (the soulful and sultry R&B rising songbird). In his burgeoning film career, Chris took home both a Screen Actor Guild Award and a Critics' Choice Award for his performance in *Crash*, and won rave reviews for his turn on NBC's "Law & Order: SVU." His Ludacris Foundation continues to grow and has raised over half a million dollars towards helping kids to empower themselves.

Never one to stay idle for long, Bridges is in the studio recording his new album, *Theatre of the Mind*, and is set to open his new Atlanta restaurant, Straights Atlanta, by summer 2008. Bridges will also appear in the upcoming Guy Ritchie film *Rocka Rolla* and is currently filming *Max Payne*, starring Mark Wahlberg

### **STEVE HARRIS (Rob)**

An accomplished actor who has amazed audiences on television, screen, and stage, Steve Harris has earned a well-deserved reputation for his versatility, charm and charisma. Harris starred in NBC's "Heist," as James Johnson. The hour-long serialized comedic drama centered on a group of professional thieves plotting to simultaneously rob three prominent Beverly Hills jewelry stores during Oscar week.

Harris, who was nominated for an Emmy Award twice for his role on "The Practice," also won the Viewers for Quality Television Award for Best Supporting Actor in a Drama in 1998 and 1999, and was again nominated for that award in 2000. Additionally, he was nominated for the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actor in a Drama Series

in 1998, 1999 and 2000. Harris' other television credits include: "Eli Stone," "Law & Order," "Murder One," "New York Undercover" and "Chicago Hope."

On the big screen, Harris starred in Adam Shankman's comedy, *Bringing Down the House*, alongside Steve Martin and Queen Latifah. He also starred in Steven Spielberg's sci-fi thriller *Minority Report*, with Tom Cruise, Colin Farrell and Samantha Morton. His other film credits include: Leon Ichaso's *Sugar Hill*, with Wesley Snipes; Michael Bay's *The Rock*, with Sean Connery, Nicolas Cage and Ed Harris; and Rob Cohen's *The Skulls* with Joshua Jackson and Paul Walker. He also just finished working on Sony Screen Gems' thriller *Quarantine* with Johnathon Schaech and Jennifer Carpenter.

On stage, Harris has starred in numerous productions including *Heliotrope Bouquet*, *Macbeth*, *Henry IV, Part I*, *Julius Ceasar*, and *Richard III*. A native of Chicago, Harris earned a graduate degree in theatre from the University of Delaware before moving to Hollywood in pursuit of an acting career. He currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **RICARDO CHAVIRA (Reuben)**

Ricardo Antonio Chavira was born in Austin, Texas and raised in San Antonio. Introduced to acting in his senior year at Robert E. Lee High School (now the Performing Arts School), Chavira first pursued acting in high school to help cope with the loss of his mother, who died of breast and ovarian cancer when he was just 15.

Chavira is the son of retired Judge Juan Antonio Chavira, who was the first in his family to attend college, while his mother, Elizabeth, earned 3 masters degrees – in Public Health, Anthropology and Theology. Education has always been stressed as the key to success in his family, which led Ricardo to receive his undergraduate degree from San Antonio's Incarnate Word College and an MFA from the highly regarded UC San Diego's Professional Actor Training Program in 2000.

Chavira catapulted to fame for his role as Carlos Solis on the award winning show "Desperate Housewives." His other television credits include roles on "The Grubbs," "Six Feet Under," "The Division," "Kingpin," "24," "JAG" and "NYPD Blue." He has been the subject of numerous interviews and articles including being selected by People en Español magazine for its "50 Most Beautiful People" and the cover of Hispanic Magazine, as well as appearing on shows like "Oprah" and "The View."

Chavira has performed in theatres nationwide including the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles, La Jolla Playhouse, The Guthrie, San Diego Rep and the Seattle and Missouri Rep where he starred in a co-production of *Living Out*. Chavira's film credits include Disney's *The Alamo* and recently finished the independent film *Don't Let Me Drown*.

Chavira is very involved in helping support the battle of cancer. To honor his mother's memory and raise awareness of this disease, Chavira speaks out about early detection and hopes to make headway against social stigmas in the Hispanic community so that breast

health is talked about more openly and healthcare issues are addressed. Chavira is also a proud father and makes it a point to spend as much time as possible back in Texas with his young son Tomas and the rest of his family.

### **MELISSA LEO (Georgia)**

Manhattan-born Melissa Leo attended college at SUNY Purchase, and got her first professional credit by beating out a young Julia Roberts for a small part on the daytime drama "All My Children." Since then, her television credits include guest shots on "Miami Vice," "Spenser: For Hire," "Law and Order," "CSI," "Shark," and "Cold Case;" co-starring in the miniseries "Scarlett"; and recurring roles on "The Young Riders," "Homicide: Life on the Streets" and "The L Word."

On screen, Leo's numerous credits include several films directed by Henry Jaglom, including *Always*, *Venice/Venice*, *Last Summer in the Hamptons*, and *Hollywood Dreams*; Gregory Nava's *A Time of Destiny*; Maggie Greenwald's *The Ballad of Little Jo*; Nancy Savoca's *The 24 Hour Woman*; *21 Grams* with Sean Penn and Benicio del Toro; *Hide and Seek* with Robert DeNiro; *Mr. Woodcock* with Billy Bob Thornton; and Tommy Lee Jones' acclaimed *The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada*. Leo has been very busy in the past year, and will soon appear in the thriller *The Alphabet Killer* and *Greta* with Hillary Duff, as well as starring in the independent features *Lullaby* and *Santa Mesa*.

### **JAMES PICKENS, JR. (Roberto)**

Born in Cleveland, Ohio, James Pickens, Jr. started acting at the Karamu House, distinguished as the oldest African-American theater in the United States. After moving to New York, Pickens performed in the historic 1981 production of Charles Fullers' *A Soldiers Play* at the Negro Ensemble Company, co-starring with Denzel Washington and Samuel L. Jackson. He was a member of the famed Circle Rep/Steppenwolf Theatre Company co-production of Lanford Wilson's *Balm in Gilead*, and he starred as Water Lee in the 25th anniversary revival of *A Raisin in the Sun* at the Roundabout Theater.

In 1990, Pickens moved to the West Coast and began an impressive run of film and television performances. On the big screen, he has been directed by industry greats including Steven Soderbergh in *Traffic*, Oliver Stone in *Nixon*, Warren Beatty in *Bulworth*, and four films for Barry Levinson films: *Sleepers*, *Sphere*, *Jimmy Hollywood* and *Liberty Heights*. He portrayed slain civil rights leader Medgar Evers in *Ghosts of Mississippi* (directed by Rob Reiner), and he played Angela Bassett's ex-husband Walter in *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*. Other films include *Menace II Society*, *Home Room* and *Gridlock'd*.

Pickens is well known to television audiences for his recurring roles on hit series including, "NYPD Blue", "The X-Files", "The Practice", "Philly", "Curb Your

Enthusiasm”, “Six Feet Under”, “The West Wing”, “Rosanne” and “Beverly Hills 90210.” He starred opposite Rob Lowe in *The Lyons Den* (NBC) and also starred with William H. Macy and Felicity Huffman in *A Slight Case of Murder* (TNT). He received a Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Drama Ensemble and two NAACP Image Awards nominations for his role on “Grey’s Anatomy.”

A man of wide ranging interests and passions, Pickens came full circle with his beloved Karamu House when he and served as executive producer of Otis Sallid’s hit musical revue *Gospel, Gospel, Gospel*, which opened to rave reviews and will soon tour the country. He is a member of the United States Team Roping Championship, roping cattle on horseback at events across the country. He and his wife Gina, a singer, live in the San Fernando Valley in Los Angeles. They have a son & a daughter.

### **EMILIE de RAVIN (Baby)**

In addition to *Ball Don’t Lie*, Emilie de Ravin recently completed filming the feature *The Perfect Game*, alongside Clifton Collins, Jr. She returns for the fourth season as a series regular on ABC’s Emmy and Golden Globe award-winning drama “Lost,” from creator J.J. Abrams. She plays Claire, the surrogate mother who gave birth on the island last season and is one of the survivors of a plane crash.

de Ravin starred in the Fox Searchlight remake of the 1977 Wes Craven cult classic *The Hills Have Eyes* as Brenda, which was directed by Alexandre Aja (*High Tension*), and was shot in Morocco. Her independent film *Brick*, which played in competition at the Sundance Film Festival in January 2005, was picked up by Focus Features at the festival, and was released on March 31 of the same year.

de Ravin’s other TV credits include a recurring role on the CBS show “The Handler,” opposite Joe Pantoliano. She first garnered the attention of international audiences with her performances on the popular television series “Beastmaster; The Legend Continues” for Alliance Atlantis and Tribune Entertainment. Within one month of moving to Los Angeles from her home in South Melbourne, Australia, de Ravin landed the series regular role of ‘Tess Harding’ on The WB’s “Roswell.” Soon after, she starred in the MGM/NBC remake of Stephen King’s classic horror film *Carrie*. de Ravin has studied ballet since the age of 9. At 15, she was accepted into the prestigious and highly selective Australian Ballet School, and there performed in several productions of the Australian Ballet Company as well as Danceworld 301.

### **muMs DA SCHEMER (Fat Chuck)**

Craig “muMs” Grant, is an actor, poet and playwright best known for his role as ‘Poet’ in HBO’s prison drama “Oz,” where he recited his own work in all six seasons. Since then, he has worked on several feature films and television shows including stints on “Chappelle’s Show” and the last season of “The Sopranos.” Most notably, David E.

Kelley extended Craig's appearance on his hit show, "Boston Legal" into a three episode arc.

Craig is also a member of the LABYrinth Theater. Recent work with LAB includes his critically acclaimed performance in *View from 151<sup>st</sup> Street* at the Public Theater in NY and *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* directed by Philip Seymour Hoffman, also at the Public. His connection to theater began as a solo performer in New York's underground poetry scene in 1992, and he has performed throughout the United States and Europe.

As a writer and producer of the short film *Morning Breath*, Craig has won honors at six film festivals in 2002 including best short at Chicago International Film Festival, and honorable mention at the Sundance Film Festival. As a playwright, Grant's play *In the Last Car...* won the audience award in the 2003 Downtown Urban Theatre Festival and was an official entry in the 2003 Hip-Hop Theatre Festival the same year.

### **CRESS WILLIAMS (Dante)**

Born in Germany, Williams first gained recognition playing D'Shawn on the hit series "Beverly Hills 90210," and his other series appearances include recurring roles on "Leaving L.A.," "Living Single," "Nash Bridges," "Providence," "Veronica Mars," "Close to Home," "ER," and "Grey's Anatomy." His guest-starring roles include "Lois and Clark," "NYPD Blue," "Becker," "Sports Night," and "House." Williams' feature film credits include *Little Black Book*, *Pursuit of Happiness*, *Never Been Kissed*, *Fallen*, *Two Days in the Valley*, and *The Doom Generation*.

# BALL DON'T LIE

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### **BRIN HILL (Director / Producer / Co-Screenplay)**

A short film veteran, *Ball Don't Lie* is Brin Hill's first feature. His short film *Morning Breath: A Brooklyn Love Story* screened at the inaugural Tribeca Film Festival and went on to capture a Special Jury Prize at the Sundance Film Festival and a Gold Hugo for Best Short at the Chicago International Film Festival.

Brin also wrote and directed *The Ecology of Love*, a short film marking the acting debut of music icon Pharrell and commissioned by Details/Visa as the indie answer to the BMW Films series. He has written and directed award-winning projects for HBO, Sean P. Diddy Combs, Dimension, ESPN, AND1, Bombay Gin, Powerade, Warner Brothers, MTV, New Regency, and Intel among others.

In 2008, Brin is slated to direct his own script *White Hot* with multi-platinum rapper Ludacris starring in the lead role, with Michael Roiff as producer. Hill recently rewrote the 70's period film *The Spirits of St. Louis* for HBO Films, and is attached to direct the big screen version of George Pelecanos' cult novel *King Suckerman*.

Brin received a BFA in film from UCLA and earned an MFA from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He counts Spike Lee among his mentors, and is a sharp-shooting two guard on the hoops court.

### **MATT de la PENA (Co-Screenplay)**

A California native who grew up loving the game of basketball, Matt de la Pena attended University of the Pacific and played point guard on their team, while simultaneously discovering a talent and passion for poetry and fiction. In addition to leading his team to the Division I Tournament his senior year, he was the prestigious Arlen J. Hanson Scholarship for Creative Writing. He earned an MFA from San Diego State University in Creative Writing, and twice won the AWP award for short fiction.

When *Ball Don't Lie* was published by Random House in 2007, it quickly became a must-read for young adults, and was named a "Best Book" by the American Library Association, was a top pick of Newsweek, and called "gritty and mesmerizing" by Kirkus Reviews. Matt has published fiction in various literary journals including: Vincent Brothers Review, Chiricú, Two Girl Review Literary Journal, Dark Horse Anthology, George Mason Review, and Allegheny Literary Review.

De la Pena's second novel, *Mexican White Boy*, will be released in the summer of 2008. He currently lives and writes in New York City where he also maintains his website [www.3stonesback.com](http://www.3stonesback.com).

### **MICHAEL ROIFF (Producer)**

Named one of *Variety*'s "10 Producers To Watch" for 2007, Michael Roiff is an independent film producer based in Los Angeles, California. Michael grew up in Boston, Massachusetts and graduated with honors from Harvard University. Despite a background in theatre and government, he initially pursued a career in the world of commerce before making his way to Hollywood to begin his film production and finance company, Night & Day Pictures.

His first feature film, *Waitress*, premiered at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival where it was acquired by Fox Searchlight. The film, written and directed by Adrienne Shelly, stars Keri Russell as a pregnant and unhappily married waitress living in the Deep South. Michael produced the film and financed it in its entirety through Night & Day. It was released in the spring of 2007 and has since grossed over \$22 million worldwide.

In 2007, Michael partnered with producer Danielle Renfrew on *American Son*, which premiered in the dramatic competition at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. Directed by Neil Abramson and written by Eric Schmid, the film stars Nick Cannon in a powerful story about growing up in modern day small-town America.

Currently, Michael is in post production on Adrienne Shelly's second script, *Serious Moonlight*. The film, directed by Cheryl Hines, stars Meg Ryan, Timothy Hutton, Kristen Bell, and Justin Long in a dark comedy about two people trying to hold onto a disintegrating marriage.

### **JEFFREY SMITH (Producer)**

Jeffrey works for Nike as the Global Basketball Brand Manager in Portland Oregon. For the past year he has been working on strategic planning for Nike Basketball and the upcoming Summer Games in Beijing, China. He was on the opening team for the brand new House of Hoops store in Harlem, NY.

Jeffrey worked for several advertising agencies in Philadelphia before becoming the first-ever Marketing Director at basketball shoe and apparel company AND1 in 1996. The twelfth person hired, Smitty helped take the \$3 million trash-talk tee-shirt company to well over \$100 million in shoe and apparel sales in four years. AND 1 became a dominant force in the hotly contested basketball shoe business with strong product and the marketing efforts of his team, which included the first two AND 1 Mix tapes and the much talked-about "American Dream" commercial starring Latrel Sprewell.

He left AND 1, with founder Seth Berger, to start a basketball content-driven web site called HoopsTV.com. Jeffrey was a founding partner and the Director of Content charged with building the demo for HoopsTV.com which became the catalyst for the \$18 million funding for the site. The award-winning site was the #2 ranked basketball site (behind only NBA.com) and became the only company to do a deal with ESPN.com to share original content. He met and hired Brin Hill to produce numerous features for the site and later was the Associate Producer for Brin's short film, *Morning Breath*.

Jeffrey has consulted with NBA Entertainment to help launch NBATV and has been hired on numerous occasions by ad agencies to lead urban marketing initiatives for brands like Coca-Cola, Davin Rims and Big Daddy clothing.

### **MARK G. MATHIS (Co-Producer)**

Mark G. Mathis produced the Sundance hit *Brick*, which was released by Focus Features. He was also nominated for the 2006 John Cassavetes Award (one of the Independent Spirit Awards) for Best Producer and Picture. Mark's other producing credits include *Conversations with Other Women*, starring Helena Bonham Carter and Aaron Eckhart; the Slamdance Grand Jury Winner *Good Housekeeping*, and the upcoming releases *Push*, *Tennessee*, and *Still Waters*. Mark also worked as the first assistant director on the indie hit *Waitress*, and John August's directorial debut *The Nines*. During the course of his career, Mark has worked on over 30 feature films and more than 100 television commercials for clients such as McDonald's, Direct TV, Disney, and ABC television.

### **BRIGITTE MUELLER (Co-Producer)**

Brigitte Mueller began her career as a production coordinator and production supervisor on feature films such as *The Jungle Book*, *Boogie Nights* and *Jawbreaker*. She became a line producer on films like *Bride and Prejudice*, *Waitress*, and the upcoming *Hell Ride* (with Dennis Hopper) and the independent feature *Still Waters*. She is now a full-fledged producer, with numerous upcoming credits, including *Serious Moonlight* (written by the late Adrienne Shelley) and *The Open Road* with Justin Timberlake and Jeff Bridges.

### **STEVE PILGRIM (Editor)**

Editor Steve Pilgrim is a long-time collaborator with director Brin Hill. Their creative partnership extends back to Hill's 1999 short film *A Glance Away*. Since then, they have worked together on virtually all of Hill's projects, including the award-winning short *Morning Breath* and *The Ecology of Love*.

In addition to his work with Hill, he has an extensive background in documentary film and television, with past projects including Jamie Johnson's *Born Rich*, and *Through the*

*Fire*, directed by Jonathan Hock, as well as series work for MTV and ESPN. *Ball Don't Lie* marks his narrative feature film editorial debut.

### **MATTHEW JENSEN (Director of Photography)**

Through the mentoring eyes of Woody Omens ASC, Stephen Goldblatt ASC, Dean Cundey ASC, and Conrad Hall ASC, Matthew Jensen embarked upon a cinematography career soon after graduation from USC's prestigious film school. From features to television to documentaries to commercials, Matthew's projects have taken him around the world (Ecuador, Russia, Uzbekistan, Armenia, Costa Rica) displaying a variety of subjects and styles. From the retro-screwball comedy, *Man of the Century*, to the Latin-American crime drama *Ratas, Ratones, Rateros*, to the musical drama *Killer Diller*, Matthew's versatility is evident. His early indie career led to his rise in television on its hottest and most visual shows: "Numbers," "CSI" and the groundbreaking "Sleeper Cell." His current show is "True Blood," Alan Ball's latest HBO series, scheduled to air in the fall of 2008. *Ball Don't Lie* is Matthew's fourth project with longtime friend and collaborator, Brin Hill

### **SHANE VALENTINO (Production Designer)**

Shane Valentino began his art directing career in New York City for Oxygen Network, creating the look and feel for such shows as "The Isaac Mizrahi Show," "Candice (Bergen) Checks It Out," and the daily news show "Pure Oxygen." He then turned his attention to moviemaking, aligning himself with New York City's premiere independent production companies, InDigEnt (Gary Winnick and John Sloss), Moxie Pictures (Robert Fernandez and Dan Levinson) and Coco de Flan Films (Matthew Greenfield, Miguel Arteta and Gina Kwan).

With his move to Los Angeles, he was able to make a successful venture into studio moviemaking. He has had the fortune of working as an Art Director with Warner Brothers on such blockbuster films as *Batman Begins* and *The Lake House*. With these incredible experiences, he has moved effortlessly into the role of production designer. His next project in this capacity is Talmage Cooley's upcoming film *Patriotville*.

### **CHRISTIE WITTENBORN (Costume Designer)**

Costumer Christie Wittenborn's credits include serving as set costumer on films like *The Good Girl* with Jennifer Aniston, and the Cinemax series *The Pleasure Zone*; and as assistant costume designer on the features *Thumbsucker*, *Shopgirl*, and *Zodiac*. Her feature film credits as costume designer include the independent feature *Me and You and Everyone We Know*, Peter Himmelstein's *The Key Man*, *American Son* with Nick Cannon, and the upcoming comedy *Patriotville* with Justin Kirk.

## Credits

### Cast

(in order of appearance)

Dante	Cress Williams
Sticky	Grayson Boucher
Youngest Sticky	Maxim Knight
Baby	Emilie de Ravin
Trey	Lamman Rucker
Slim	Cirroc Lofton
New York	Chris Spencer
Fat Chuck	Craig “muMs” Grant
Jimmy	Harold Perrineau
Rob	Steve Harris
Ryan Hollins	Himself
Delonte West	Himself
Al Jefferson	Himself
Dreadlock Man	Coby Bell
Dallas	Mykelti Williamson
Johnson	McClinton Neal
Paco	Daniel Zacapa
Crazy Ray	David Jean Thomas
Louis	Mathew St. Patrick
Matty	Matt Lemond
Old Man Perkins	Robert Wisdom
Sin	Allen Maldonado
Annie	Kim Hidalgo
Laura	Rachel Nicks
Mexican Tongue Guy	Michael Domantay
Coach Reynolds	Michael Shamus Wiles
Dave	Cody Longo
Manuel	Albert de la Peña
Mico	Nick Cannon
Francine	Rosanna Arquette
Roberto	James Pickens, Jr.
Julius	Chris “Ludacris” Bridges
Young Sticky	Jake Johnson
Skip Engblom	Himself
Carmen	Dania Ramirez
Ruben	Ricardo Chavira
Dori	Catherine Kresge
Mr. Smith	Nick Chinlund
Mrs. Smith	Kathleen York
Jamie Smith	Kirby Bliss Blanton
Johnny Smith	R. Alexander Smith
Officer McGee	Paul Terrell Clayton
Officer Jenkins	Robb Derringer
Georgia	Melissa Leo
Skinny Dude	T.J. Thyne
Officer Adams	Joshua Feinman
Stunt Coordinator	Kim Robert Koscki
Basketball Coordinator	Travon Muhammad
Acting Coach (Mr. Boucher)	Ben Sharples

## Crew

Directed By Brin Hill  
Screenplay By Brin Hill & Matt de la Peña  
Produced By Michael Roiff  
Jeffrey Smith  
Brin Hill  
Based on the book by Matt de la Peña  
Co-Producers Mark G Mathis  
Brigitte Mueller  
Director of Photography Matthew Jensen  
Production Designer Shane Valentino  
Costume Designer Christie Wittenborn  
Music By Tony Morales  
Music Supervision Otaku  
Casting By Sunday Boling and Meg Morman, C.S.A.  
Main Title Design Haastyle Inc

Co-Executive Producer Jeff Rose  
Associate Producer Regina Mandel  
Co-Producer Matt de la Peña

Unit Production Manager Brigitte Mueller  
First Assistant Director Ryan J. Ramos  
Second Assistant Director Keith C. A. Jones  
2<sup>nd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director Dawn Bridgewater  
Additional 2<sup>nd</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Director Donna Tegan

Production Coordinator Darci Dunnagan

Assistant to Mr Roiff Matthew Horwitz  
Assistant to Mr Hill Harry Wallaesa III  
Assistant to the Producers Jil Hardin  
Assistant to the Producers Matt Wicks

Production Accountant Michael Escobar

Location Manager Brad Hill  
Location Assistants Debra "Dani" Davis  
Kevin Hecker

First Assistant Camera Phillip Jaffe  
Second Assistant Camera Darin Miller  
Andy Depung  
Loader Denisse Kindl

B-Camera Operator John Skotchdopole  
B-Camera First Assistant Steve Smith  
B-Camera Second Assistants Lee Jordan  
Patrick Romero

Additional Operator Simon Jayes  
Additional 1<sup>st</sup> AC Penny Sprague  
Second Unit Operator Cynthia Pusheck

Still Photographer	Anne Marie Fox
Key Make-up Artist	Paula Jane Hamilton
Key Hairstylist	Lesley Poling
Assistant Hairstylist	Denise Baker
Production Sound Mixer	Matthew Nicolay, C.A.S.
Boom Operator	Stacey A. Washer
Utility	Miles Vedder Mark Leone
Script Supervisor	Lindsey Hagans
Set Medic	Alex Farrington
Craft Service	Mike Shlegel
Costume Supervisor	Nancy Capper
Set Costumer	Melody Koerber
Additional Set Costumer	Karen Cortes
Art Department Coordinator	Cindy Ichikawa
Property Master	David Reich
Assistant Property Master	Jason Muller
Set Decorator	Coryander Friend
Lead Person	Peter Simmons
On Set Dresser	Branden Kennedy
Buyer	Kathleen Lorden
Swing	Jason Larimer Arthur Martinot Stacy Robinson Frank Vargas
Gaffer	Evans Brown
Best Boy Electricians	Steve Martinez Rick Curtis
Electricians	Dan Goldstein James Banfield Wink Mann Shane Buttle
Rigging Gaffer	Tino Jimenez
Key Grip	Walter "Bud" Scott
Best Boy Grips	Coleman Hart Scott Baty
Dolly Grip	Steve Delgado
Grips	Greg Mazzola Deven Holmes
Studio Teacher	Geraldine Needles
Baby Nurse	Stephanie Perez
Accounting Clerk	Joel Lugar

Office Production Assistants Rob Coll  
Dave Jacobsen  
Holly Henderson  
Bill Parmentier

Set Production Assistants Mike Song  
Justin Smith  
Bill Ostroff  
Galen Gilbert  
Dave Feld  
Jordan Smith  
Isaac Mejia  
Richard Lilly  
Deeter Lota

Extras Casting L.A. Casting Group, Inc.  
Extras Casting Director Michael Schiavone  
Extras Casting Assistant Erika Lee

Transportation Coordinator Mitchell Bergman  
Transportation Captain Roger Roberge  
Additional Transportation Captain Gavin Galceran  
Drivers Jerry Knight  
Jeremy Feinberg  
James Quattrochi  
Josh Jordan

Interns Bennett Oliver  
Bryan Boling  
James Milner  
Nicholas Beard  
Brad Holtzman

Art Department Interns Meredith Grossman  
Bienna Ryuman  
Spurgeon James  
Tani Erin Matsui Brown

Camera Department Intern Paul Rodriguez

Special Effects provided by West Efx, Inc.  
Special FX/Pyrotechnician Neil Smith  
Special FX/Pyrotechnician Joseph Jenkins

Clinical Consultant Dr. Jenny Yip  
Sophie Ohara

CATERING PROVIDED BY Cinema Caterers  
Chef Patrick Duchesne  
Assistant David Lawrence Toney

Post Production

Post Production Supervisor Todd King

Sound Services Provided By House Blend Post

Re-Recording Mixers	Larry Benjamin Kevin Valentine
Sound Design & Effects Editor	Mark Petersen
Dialog Editor	Greg Stacy
Foley Mixer	Shawn Kennelly
Foley Artists	Laura Macias Vince Nicastro
ADR Mixer	Larry Benjamin

Digital Intermediate by FotoKem Digital Film Services

DI Artist	Walter Volpatto
DI Editing	Regan Copeland Eric "Woody" Wood
GM Digital Film Services	Bill Schultz
Head of Digital Production	John Nicolard
I/O Supervisor	David Rosenthal
Digital Production Manager	Paul Lavoie
DFS Coordinators	Kelley Moore Jose Avitia
Lineup	Ray Akopyan Mike Griffin
Scanning/Recording	Garrett Bryan Jerry Callaghan Phil Heald Les Meek Alex Sanchez Nate Tufts Les Vary
Dustbusting	Rod Lockett Lawrence Stoll Bob Bright
Color Timer	Mato
Color by	FotoKem

Music

Score mixed by	Kent Verderico
Score recorded and mixed at	Emoto, Santa Monica CA

Music Supervisor OTAKU: Abe Velez, Ben Velez & Simon Katz

"THIS WAY"

Performed by Dilated Peoples

Written by Jimmie Cameron / Vella Cameron / Kanye West / Rakaa Taylor / Michael Peretta / Chris Oroc

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Under license from EMI Film & Television Music

"Old Men" as contained in "This Way"

Performed by Jimmie & Vela

Courtesy of Atlantic Recording Corp.

By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

“GHETTO POP LIFE”

Performed by Danger Mouse & Jemini

Written by Brian Burton / Thomas H. Smith

Published by EMI Virgin Music, Inc. (ASCAP)

Courtesy of Lex Records

“THE PRAYER”

Performed by The World Experience Orchestra

Written by John Jamyll Jones

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Performed by Koushik

Written by Koushik Ghosh

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“THE CITY”

Performed by Milosh

Written by Michael Milosh

Published by Plug Research (ASCAP)

Courtesy of Plug Research

“THE RED (Instrumental)”

Performed by Jaylib

Remixed by J Rocc

Written by Otis Lee Jackson, Jr. / James Dewitt Yancey / Cris Williamson

Published by Madlib Invazion Music (BMI) / Universal-Polygram Int. Publishing, Inc. o/b/o itself and E. P. H. C. Y.

Publishing (ASCAP) / Bird Ankles Music (BMI)

“TONIGHT”

Performed by Scratch featuring Musiq Soulchild

Written by Jontae Slade / Taalib Johnson / Kyle Jones

Published by King.j.sr (BMI) / Universal Music Corp. o/b/o itself and Soul Child Music (ASCAP) / WMD Music Ltd.

(PRS)

Courtesy of Human Resourcez LLC / WMD Music Ltd.

“ACT LIKE YOU KNOW”

Performed by PPP

Written by Robert K. O’Bryant / James Dewitt Yancey

Published by B3 Vibes (ASCAP) / Bling 47 Group (ASCAP) admin by Ubiquity Recordings, Inc.

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“CONCEPTION”

Performed by Piano Overlord

Written by G. S. Herren

Published by EMI Virgin Music, Inc. (ASCAP)

Courtesy of Chocolate Industries

“RHYMES WITH AN L”

Performed by MED

Written by Nick Rodriguez / Tadd Mullinix

Published by Medaphoar Music (ASCAP) / Ghostly Songs (BMI)

Courtesy of Stones Throw Records

“HOW LONG DO I HAVE TO WAIT FOR YOU?”

Performed by Sharon Jones & The Dap-Kings

Written by Bosco Mann / Neal Andrew Sugarman / Homer Steinweiss

Published by Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc. o/b/o Boscosound Music, Defend Songs, Inc. / Treatsound Music,

Defend Songs, Inc. / Defend Songs, Inc. (ASCAP)

Courtesy of Daptone Records

“DAYS BETWEEN STATIONS”

Performed by To Rococo Rot

Written by Lippok / Lippok / Schneider

Published by La Chunga Publishing (GEMA)

Under license from City Slang

“WICHITA LINEMAN”

Performed by The Meters

Written by Jimmy Webb

Published by Universal-Polygram International Publishing, Inc. (ASCAP)

Courtesy of Rhino Entertainment Company

By arrangement with Warner Music Group Film & TV Licensing

“SPICY SAMMICH”

Performed by Flying Lotus

Written by S. Ellison

Produced by Flying Lotus

Published by Just Isn't Music (PRS) admin in the U.S. by Criterion Music (ASCAP)

(P) 2007 Warp Records Ltd.

Courtesy of Warp Records

“SOMEONE LIKE YOU”

Performed by Pete DuPon

Written by Pete DuPon / Stuart Zender / Jake Gosling

Published by WMD Music Ltd. (PRS) / EMI Blackwood Music Inc. (BMI) / EMI Music Publishing Ltd. / BDI Music Limited (PRS)

Courtesy of WMD Music Ltd.

“J.P.C.”

Performed by Dario Deidda

Written by Dario Deidda

From the album *3 from the Ghetto*

Produced by Gege Telesforo

Published by Ed. Musicali I Piloti (SIAE)

By special arrangement

“SOLITUDE”

Written, arranged and produced by Nick Faber

Under license from Nick Faber

“EARLY”

Performed by Jake One

Written by J. Dutton

Produced by Jake One for White Van Music LLC

Published by White Van Music (ASCAP)

By arrangement with White Van Music LLC

“UM BACK”

Performed by Cj Moore  
Written by Cj Moore  
Published by Bonedome (BMI)  
Courtesy of BiggaMen Ent.

“PALOS DE FUEGO”

Performed by Candido y Su Movimiento  
Courtesy of Kosherican Music Ltd.

"SEARCHING SO LONG"

Performed by Derrick Morgan  
Written by Derrick S. Morgan  
Published by Happy Valley Music (BMI)  
Courtesy of Heartbeat Records

“GABE'S NEW JOINT”

Performed by Antibalas  
Written by G. Roth / J. McLean / M. Perna  
Published by Kobalt Music Publishing America, Inc. o/b/o Boscound Music, Defend Songs Inc. (BMI) / AfroSound Records, LLC o/b/o Sanghamu (ASCAP), Ocotesound (ASCAP)  
Courtesy of Ninja Tune

“SIDESTEPPER”

Performed by Sidestepper  
Written by Richard Blair / Ivan Benavides  
Published by Spirit Music Group, Inc. o/b/o Fairwest Music USA (BMI) / Universal Musica Unica Publishing (BMI)  
From the album *More Grip*  
(P) 2000 Palm Pictures LTD.  
Courtesy of Palm Pictures

“DO IT (RIGHT NOW)”

Performed by Misfit feat. O' Dogg  
Written by Mike City / Misfit / O' Dogg  
Published by 5<sup>th</sup> Gear Publishing NC (BMI)  
Courtesy of 5th Gear Records

“YOU ARE”

Performed by Marco Polo featuring Jack Davey  
Written by M. Bruno / B. Cartwright  
By special arrangement  
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“BREAK IT DOWN”

Performed by MED  
Written by Justin Smith / Nick Rodriguez / Bobby Franklin  
Published by FOB Music Publishing (ASCAP) / Medaphoar Music (ASCAP) / Bobby Franklin copyright control  
Courtesy of Stones Throw Records

“POPPA LARGE (EAST COAST MIX)”

Performed by Ultramagnetic MC's  
Written by C. Miller / T. Randolph / M. Smith / K. M. Thornton  
Published by Beats G Productions (ASCAP) / Universal-Polygram Int. Publishing, Inc. (ASCAP)  
Courtesy of The Island Def Jam Music Group  
Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

“CCK 53-01”

Performed by RJD2  
Written by Ramble Krohn  
Published by R J Electrical Connections (ASCAP)  
By special arrangement

RJD2 appears courtesy of XL Recordings

“SEED OF LOVE”

Performed by The Little Boy Blues  
Written by Raymond Levin  
Published by Edgewater Music Company (BMI)  
Courtesy of The Island Def Jam Music Group  
Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

“LIFELINE”

Performed by Shan Boogie  
Written by S. Nicholson  
By special arrangement

“TURNSTILE BLUES”

Performed by Autolux  
Written by Carla Azar / Greg Charles Edwards / Eugene Goreshter  
Published by Demure Circuit (ASCAP) / Bioloom Music (BMI) / Ethirteen Music (ASCAP)  
Courtesy of Monotone Inc.

“WHAT WOULD I DO”

Performed by Jean Grae  
Written by Tsidi A. Ibrahim / Leonard C. Smythe  
Published by Liu Sing Publishing (ASCAP) / What Was That (ASCAP)  
Produced by Mr. Len for Smacks Entertainment  
By special arrangement

“DOWN STRETCH”

Performed by Jan Hammer  
Written by Jan Hammer  
Courtesy of Country & Eastern Music, Inc. (ASCAP)

“INCORPORATE ANTHEM”

Performed by RJD2  
Written by Ramble Krohn  
Published by R J Electrical Connections (ASCAP)  
By special arrangement  
RJD2 appears courtesy of XL Recordings

“I MOVED HERE” & “SOMEWHERE SOUTH”

Performed by Piano Overlord  
Written by G. S. Herren  
Published by EMI Virgin Music, Inc. (ASCAP)  
Courtesy of Chocolate Industries

“THE HALF THAT'S NEVER BEEN TOLD”

Performed by Black Spade  
Written by Vito Money  
Published by Sounds of Om (ASCAP) admin by Bug  
From the album *To Serve with Love*  
Courtesy of Om Records  
[www.om-records.com](http://www.om-records.com)

“OUT WITH THE NEW, IN WITH THE TRUE”

Performed by Antibalas  
Written by M. Perna / L. O'Malley / M. J. Garcia  
Published by Afrosound Records, LLC o/b/o Ocotosound (ASCAP), Keep Smiling (ASCAP) / Kobalt Music  
Publishing America, Inc. o/b/o Marcos J. Garcia (BMI)  
From the EP *Government Magic*  
Courtesy of Afrosound Records

“NO MORE”

Written, produced and performed by J\*DaVeY for iLLaV8r  
By special arrangement

“TOUGH KID”

Performed by Honeycut  
Written by Herve Salters / Bart Davenport / Clinton Sevensen Jr.  
Published by The Audio Kitchen (ASCAP) / Vic Silva Songs (BMI) / Burgundy Beige (ASCAP)  
From the album *The Day I Turned to Glass*  
Courtesy of Quannum Projects

“SEX, MONEY AND DRUGS”

Performed by Eazy D & MixMaster G Flexx  
Written by Patrice Germain  
Published by LoveCat Music (ASCAP)  
Courtesy of LoveCat Music  
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“APPRECIATE”

Performed by Pete Rock  
Written by P. Philips / C. Penn / J. Staub / P. Sawyer / G. Jones  
Published by Soul Brother Number 1 Music Publishing Corp. (ASCAP) / Smooth Flowin Pub (ASCAP) / EMI Music  
Publishing o/b/o Jobete Music Co. Inc. (ASCAP)  
From the album *Soul Survivor II*  
Courtesy of Rapster Records and Universal Music Enterprises  
Contains a sample of "2-4-6-8"  
Performed by Jackson 5  
Courtesy of Motown Records  
Under license from Universal Music Enterprises

Legal Services

Irwin M. Rappaport

Worldwide Sales Agent-

Andrew Herwitz, President -The Film Sales Company

Production Equipment and Services

Cameras provided by Otto Nemenz International, Inc.  
Camera Dollies by J.L. Fisher, Inc.  
Electric Equipment by Leonetti Company

Script Clearance Clearance Domain

Raw Stock Eastman Kodak  
Film Processing & Telecine Fotokem

Insurance Services C.M. Meiers Company, Inc.  
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