

# LIONSGATE®

## THE LAST FACE



### PRODUCTION NOTES

Running Time: 130 Minutes

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**THE LAST FACE**

River Road Entertainment Presents  
A River Road Production

**CAST:** Charlize Theron  
Javier Bardem  
Adèle Exarchopoulos  
Jared Harris  
Jean Reno  
Denise Newman  
Oscar Best  
Zubin Cooper  
Sebelethu Bonkolo  
Hopper Jack Penn  
Merritt Wever  
Tina Jaxa  
Edner Nonez  
Nigel Fisher  
Ibrahim Mudawi

**COSTUME DESIGNER:** Diana Cilliers

**MUSIC BY:** Hans Zimmer

**VOCAL ARTISTS:** Eddie Vedder  
Mary J. Blige  
Suki Waterhouse

**EDITED BY:** Jay Cassidy, A.C.E.

**PRODUCTION DESIGNER:** Andrew Laws

**DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY:** Barry Ackroyd, B.S.C.

**VFX SUPERVISOR:** Bruce Jones

**CO-PRODUCERS:** Genevieve Hofmeyr  
Janine van Assen

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER:** Jon Kuyper

**PRODUCED BY:** Bill Pohlad  
Matt Palmieri  
Bill Gerber

**WRITTEN BY:** Erin Dignam

**DIRECTED BY:** Sean Penn



### SYNOPSIS

*The Last Face* centers around a love affair between Dr. Wren Petersen (Academy Award® winner, Charlize Theron), the director of an international aid organization and Dr. Miguel Leon (Academy Award® winner, Javier Bardem), a relief-aid doctor.

Set against the devastating backdrop of war-torn Liberia, Miguel and Wren must find a way to keep their relationship alive in extraordinarily difficult conditions battling their mutual passion for the value of life matched by the intensity of their diametrically opposed opinions on how best to solve the conflict that surrounds them.

Directed by Two-time Academy Award® winner Sean Penn, *The Last Face* also stars Primetime Emmy® nominee Jared Harris, and celebrated French actors Jean Reno and Adèle Exarchopoulos.

### ABOUT THE PRODUCTION DEVELOPMENT

It was due to his 25-year relationship with writer/director Erin Dignam, that producer, Matt Palmieri, came across this extraordinary material, originated by Dignam. “Erin had spent a lot of time researching the story in Central Africa, and had in fact adopted two children from Sierra Leone, so it was a very personal story for her and for many years she wanted to direct it herself.” recalls Palmieri.

Dignam who couldn’t spare the time while raising her children, approached Palmieri to take it over. “It was one of the best scripts I’d ever read; every word on the page was where it should be, it was an extraordinary story with emotional substance, and wonderful characters and Erin entrusted me to get it made the right way.” says Palmieri, adding that he had a profound resonance with the story on an emotional level. The producer, who previously made another war zone conflict movie, *Darfur Now*, about genocide in South Sudan, comes from a humanitarian background. “My mother was a peace activist, and my father was Ambassador at large for U.S Refugee affairs during Carter administration, working in Somalia and Ethiopia, so I spent a lot of my childhood in Africa and Erin knew I had the background.”

Producer, Bill Gerber adds: “Erin is very personally involved in Africa, and part of her interest in the subject was to shed some light on a very mysterious place, and she deserves credit for coming up with such an original story, not based on a novel, this is her invention. To tell a love story in such a dramatic way is a great achievement.”

An activist himself and champion of refugees, Javier Bardem co-produced and starred in *Sons of the Clouds: The Last Colony*, a film documenting how the colonization of the Western Sahara has left nearly 200,000 people living in refugee camps. Palmieri shares that Bardem had always been involved, off and on, with Erin when she was going to direct, “it was a passion project for Javier, and when it was coming together he contacted me.”

Palmieri shopped the script to agents who were suggesting the best directors in the world, “but at the back of my mind the only filmmaker I wanted to do it was Sean, who also happens to be my oldest friend. He is not only an extraordinary director; he also knows the story - better than any other filmmaker in the world. He is also an impassioned and driven leader who can mobilize people to exceed themselves, which is what we needed to make this movie as it was on the script.”

It was when Penn took the project to River Road Entertainment’s Bill Pohlada, who produced one of the director’s earlier motion pictures, *Into the Wild*, and as producer Pohlada also worked with him on *Tree Of Life* and *Fair Game*, with Penn starring, that *The Last Face* eventually found a home. “I was intrigued by the story, and it was the kind of film that we tend to gravitate towards at River Road,” says Pohlada, “I am attracted to stories that address a certain subject without hitting it ‘right

on the nose'. Unlike many movies that try to move the world or make didactic statements, *The Last Face* deals with humanitarian crises through the love story, which is really the focus of the movie."

### TELLING THE STORY

"When Sean got involved, and developed his vision for the project, it filled out a lot," says Pohlad.

"Sean had been in Sudan and he wanted to increase the scale of the picture, and bring it into an epic – which it deserves; it's one of the most important stories happening in the world today." adds Palmieri.

Executive Producer, Jon Kuyper, shares, "Sean's a very technical director, even though he comes from being an actor. He's also very confident with the equipment; he knows exactly what he wants in terms of lenses, in terms of cranes and shot makers and other things that he uses to achieve that vision. He puts a lot of that in the script and it's a very dense, very technical script because he wants everyone to know what he is looking to achieve."

Kuyper continues, "He rewrote the script pretty constantly and we would get revisions for months in pre-production. Every couple of days, we would get another revision and it wasn't just a few words, it was substantial. You could tell he was really working on it and punching up the emotion of these horrendous crises, as well as the personal relationships. There's a lot going on in terms of these two people being caught between two battle lines in a war and Sean's been very aggressive in trying to pursue that."

Penn has generously lent his time and used his celebrity to fight and be an on the ground to advocate for numerous social and political causes, as well as natural disasters such as Haiti's earthquake and Hurricane Katrina - where he was physically involved in rescue. At the 2012 '*World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates*', the actor was honored with the prestigious Peace Summit Award for his ongoing charitable efforts in Haiti.

Discussing the balance between documentary vs. motion picture entertainment, producer, Bill Gerber, contributes, "Sean is a genuine humanitarian; he walks the walk; he writes the cheque and he goes there and finds out for himself what's really happening on the ground."

"Sean has really delved into his own experiences, which we see in our refugee camp. He makes his opinions based on his own reality, and it is impossible not to be effected by it" says Gerber.

It was precisely this high-profile work as a legitimate humanitarian that opened doors for the filmmakers to deliver on the director's vision of authenticity. At the highest level the United Nations, the World Food Program, Medecins sans Frontieres, Medecins du Monde, and other NGOs proffered an astounding level of support to the production. The World Food Program went as far as flying materials, props, food bags and water bladders from all over the world, and delivering to the

locations. They lent additional support by advising on accurate replication of logos, and signage.

### ABOUT THE CASTING

The development process of getting the picture off the ground was just 13 months, and in the meantime Javier Bardem, already on board, was speaking about actors to play opposite him in the role of Wren. First and foremost on the list happened to be Charlize Theron, who as well as being an extraordinary actor, is also a humanitarian who runs her own NGO that helps AIDs orphans in South Africa. She was a perfect contrast, both physically and emotionally to Javier.

Pohlad considers that Charlize Theron is one of the greatest actresses working today. “She has a breadth of appeal and there’s a feeling about her that makes it easy to believe that she would be in this world and informed.”

Javier Bardem has proved here and in other roles his power as an actor. “It’s exciting to have them together”, says Pohlad, “certainly beyond Charlize and Javier, we wanted the film to be filled with believable people. Individuals from all cultures and professions are thrown together in this environment. We don’t see this as an American movie or strictly for that audience, we view it as having international scope and relevance. The culturally diverse cast includes English actor, Jared Harris, and French actors, Jean Reno and Adèle Exarchopoulos. Liberian national, Zubin Cooper who joined the project as an advisor - makes his acting debut in the role of ‘Dr. Mousa’”

Executive producer, Jon Kuyper shares the experience of working with actors who don't view their role in the production as ‘job’. “They really care, they are all here because they want to be; they believe in the subject matter and the message, and they believe in Sean.”

### VISUAL LANGUAGE

“Sean is very much about the authenticity and the reality, and in pre-production when we were all trying to figure out how we were going to make this movie, he screened news footage and documentaries. It was difficult material to watch but it did portray the world we were talking about.” explains Jon Kuyper.

“One of the things that is very unique about this type of film from a creative standpoint, for myself, Dianna Cilliers, our Costume Designer, and JP van der Merwe in Extras Casting – is that we are not *inventing* this environment; we’re reflecting; replicating real events; real environments; real people; and real characters.” says Laws, who was shocked to discover the quantity of available visuals they could access for research.

In addition to working closely with the U.N and other NGOs, the filmmakers had many advisors from South Sudan and Liberia, pre and during principal photography. Via word of mouth,

Zubin Cooper was identified as a valuable advisor to the production. The Liberian national had worked directly with the U.N military mission and other international NGOs in that country during its peace transition, and later worked on the Discovery Channel's 2003 documentary: *Liberian Civil War*. Having seen the best and the worst of Liberia, Cooper was able to give a first-hand account of the war and offer the filmmakers vital guidance from accents and places, down to detail of license plates to wardrobe.

"Gritty and graphic, this movie is as real as fiction can get," says Cooper, "Sean has done everything possible to interpret the reality, and if there is a motion picture that can accurately portray what happened, it's this one."

### **DESIGNING A WORLD**

The story spans some 13 years, starting with the current crisis in Sudan at a U.N mission base, where for the first time in its history, the organization allowed an Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp to be contained within the base. It then flashes back to the civil wars in Sierra Leone and Liberia in 2003 where Miguel and Wren first meet and fall in love, and intermingle this with Wren's current day work at the U.N in Geneva and where they rekindle their love affair.

"Because of the time frame of the story taking place over a number of years, and because of the nature of the work of these Aid workers and the environments in which they do it, our story isn't focusing on one crisis in one country, or just one part of Africa," says Bill Pohlad.

"Sean wanted to reflect something that was very immediate, something that was happening right now to the level that as we were beginning to scout the film, we were looking at the situation in Malakal and South Sudan," says Laws, "and Sean and the Director of Photography, Barry Ackroyd, visited South Sudan to absorb the environment and talk to the people there, as it was happening."

In explanation of the director's approach to obtain a balance between the intimacy of the relationship between two people, amidst the chaos and terror of what was going on at the time, Laws says: "Sean has a very painterly point of view, he's more interested in the feel of the story and the energy of a scene and how that progresses. From my end, it was very important to create these 360-degree environments where he could explore and find things; a very small and beautiful moment within that visual scale, so Barry Ackroyd and I built up a symbiotic relationship which I think helped Sean concentrate on the actor's performance."

To tell this expansive story that takes place in 4 countries; Sierra Leone, Liberia, South Sudan, and Cape Town - where Wren was born, were a logistical and financial challenge for the filmmakers. "Purely from a production standpoint this was daunting," says Laws, "it was unnerving to think that we had to deal with so many countries, and most are just impossible to shoot in on a practical level."

Having produced a number of films in South Africa, Executive Producer, Jon Kuyper, was confident that in addition to its offering of an astounding mix of locations, the expertise and skill of the technical crew and production support services there, could deliver the tall order to produce *The Last Face*.

The diversity of South Africa alone and the ability to represent the many different looks that we needed without having to travel around the world was an enormous relief, says Laws adding that it is also a very film-friendly country.

For 3 months the company shot on location around the vast country. The South Sudanese desert environment was found in Upington and Pella in the province of the Northern Cape. In this remote part of South Africa, bordering on Namibia, the reddish tint of the soil is unique to that stark landscape, was dramatic in its own way. "Sean was very specific with a certain look and we had to find a bunch of different looks in the same place." says Kuyper.

Laws adds: "Our setting in Pella represents a village that has come under attack in South Sudan, and it gave us a very distinctive rock structure environment that allowed us to build cave settlements into the walls. It's an otherworldly sort of place, and shows another type of desperation that you see in these circumstances and these conflicts."

It was further south, in the province of KwaZulu-Natal (which alone, is the size of Switzerland) in the Mzamba Valley, which the filmmakers found the stark contrast of locations for Sierra Leone and Liberia, the backdrop of a sizeable part of the narrative: the jungle, the border crossing, and the shockingly enormous IDP camp. Due to logistical requirements the filmmakers needed a large expanse of area to situate the camp in close proximity to a tropical jungle environment in which the group endures a long and arduous journey exiting Liberia at the height of conflict, to arrive at the border crossing where they discover the massive camp where a huge portion of the population have fled.

"It was very important for us to have the surroundings; the lushness, and the believability of that, as well as the large space to build the voluminous camp to give the audience the feeling of how large the problem was."

Pivotal to the story is the main group's arrival at the camp, which reveals to them the unimaginable extent of displaced citizens. With painstaking detail to create the reality of how a refugee would create a habitat in an overpopulated camp, Laws and his construction team built the tented camp from ground up, only utilizing materials and the very limited resources that would have been accessible to thousands of nationals, with no belongings when they fled from their homes. "What we have erected here has grown out of the resources that we have here, repurposing pieces of plastic and metal because there's a general understanding that this is *all* we have to work with.

There's a foreground language for places that are up close to the camera, and there's a background language."

"The physical scale of camp that sprawled over a few miles was essential, not only for us creatively, but to give a sense of place to the extras, and to the audience to emotionally connect with the environment and feel that they were in a place that could accommodate up to 25,000 people."

In order to meet Sean Penn's call for authenticity, Extras Casting Supervisor, J.P. van der Merwe embarked on a nationwide search to cast 'real' South Sudanese and Liberians. "Sean wanted the specific looks and dialects unique to those regions," says van der Merwe, who located a large Liberian community living just two hours from the Mzamba Valley. For Liberians seeking a new home, the city of Durban in the KwaZulu-Natal city of Durban is ideal through its similarity to the tropical climate of Liberia.

Penn's drive for veracity in every facet called for van der Merwe to do extras scouting, sometimes on a daily basis. van der Merwe's extras contributed so much to the visual narrative that some of them became cast members with dialogue. Some of the largest scenes, such as the refugee camp, featured over 1000 extras from a total of 8,500 characterized in the movie.

"Once the extras came in, that added multiple layers and all together it created an eerily real environment for the actors," says Laws. "After a few days of shooting, the extras begin to take it over and they begin to do things and interact with this environment in a way that you couldn't have really planned. There's a sort of natural feel to that, and you want to be able to capture when you find it."

Laws continues, "From a production designer's standpoint, the visual scale of this film is staggering, but for everyone involved from myself to the people building the huts, it becomes a very physical understanding of what this kind of world is."

Bill Pohlad adds: "From the refugee camp to all the other very powerful settings and locations in which we are working, Sean brings his own knowledge. Having managed a camp of 60 000 in Haiti with JP/RHO it's part of him now. He can smell what works, and what does not."

"Working with Sean is an interesting experience because here we are, making a movie about serious humanitarian issues in the world today, and it is not just as simple as doing this on set all day long, which he does very well and he obviously puts his heart and soul into," continues Kuyper, "but then after filming, Sean carries on his humanitarian work. One night for instance, when Ebola first hit the news, I came back from the set after a long day in the elements and Sean was in the lobby on the phone talking to the president of Liberia, about making a humanitarian visit, and donating funds for a crisis center wing in the JFK Hospital in Monrovia. This is in his off-time!"



Costume Designer, Diana Cilliers, echoes the director's fixed visualization of realism. "Sean was extremely detailed about the period, color palette, and wardrobe, and highlighting the difference between the diverse African regions" explains Cilliers. "Sierra Leone is lush and there is a specific kind of wax-print cloth that is very regularly used. Whereas in South Sudan the colors are very bleached, and here we designed popping colors of the women in beautiful draped cloths. Liberia has quite an Americanized look; the color is much stronger, and the cloth is more patterned."

Discussing the wardrobe of the principals, Cilliers shares the design was driven by practical naturalism. "We tried very hard to make the characters look believable; the fabrics, shoes and whatever made sense for an NGO worker to wear in the circumstances of their work. Miguel is not a character who is stylishly dressed, so we outfitted him in very ordinary jeans, but at the same time, as the leading man, we wanted him to look handsome and beautiful, and the same with Wren."

In total Cilliers dressed over 8000 people with many layers of costuming from the IDP refugees, to the NGO workers, and the armies. What was most fascinating to the designer was the wardrobe of the rebels. Her research revealed that they often wore women's clothing and women's wigs. "Part of it is to do with their belief that they would be more protected dressed as women, but it also had a deeper meaning in their society; a rite of passage. But I think they also created these outfits and accessories because they were so high on substances."

#### **A DETERMINED LEADER**

Keeping the entire production focused and motivated while working in difficult terrain in countrywide locations; inclement weather conditions, and a grueling schedule was paramount to the production. Penn's distinctive blend of intense preparation, unique empathy with the material, and zealous leadership kept the troops united and enthused.

"Sean is one of the most passionate, and strong willed people I've ever encountered," says Palmieri, "he is incredibly detailed oriented and is relentless in getting his vision on the screen. The South African crew is extraordinarily hardworking and talented, and Sean would take it to the next level through leading by example. If there's anything potentially dangerous to shoot he gets right in there. In a burning tent scene he was the first person in the set with his camera literally in the middle of it, to show everyone they would not be in any danger. He did that all the way through."

Gerber adds, "Sean is one of the most prepared directors with whom I've worked. There's not a single element in this movie that he hasn't agonized over. He has pre-visualized the movie in his head for so long and if anyone asks a question he has the answer, because he's made this movie so many times internally."

Kuyper compounds the opinion, “Sean has been very much about the business of making the movie, about putting everything on screen, about accuracy, and about quality over quantity. He really pushes you and he’s hard to keep up with, for sure, but he’s direct, and he’s incredibly smart about the decisions that he makes. Once I saw what he was trying to do, I had no doubt that when he asks for something, he’s definitely going to be using it and it’s for a very important reason for the film. We don’t have a big budget, it is a labor of love for the director, the cast, and for the entire crew who stayed with Sean’s vision of being faithful to reality.”

### **MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE**

For decades politics, power and corrupt governments scrambling for mineral rich territories, have given rise to civil war in Africa and created conflict zones where the scale of destruction is now unimaginable. Hundreds and thousands of people have been slaughtered in military coups, are emotionally destroyed through rape and gender-based violence, and have been victims of unspeakable human rights violations. The civilians who have managed to survive the decimation have been forced to flee to safety from rebels sewing terror in their regions, making up more than 9 million refugees and internally displaced people without resources to form a new life. It is a suffering that knows no end.

The motion picture *The Last Face* is brought to the screen by a group of filmmakers and actors who coincidentally all happen to be humanitarians in their own right and unquestionably this resonance was their motivation to work with very the difficult material.

It is not a didactic documentary, or war story. At the center of this mayhem is the extraordinary love of two individuals that have made their lives a career in humanizing the human condition, and how they keep their love alive in the atrocities that their work takes them to.

Thus the narrative incorporates very grave, current and global issues. There is an increasing level of emergency to intervene, and aid agencies such as the United Nations, the World Food Program, Medecins sans Frontieres, Medecins du Monde, whose resources are stretched to the limit working in the front lines mediating with peace keeping missions, food assistance, medical and emergency aid, as well as the protection of refugees.

Given his profile as a multiple award nominated director and one of the greatest actors of his generation, together with his prominence as a humanitarian Sean Penn has the facility to elevate the level of attention to this subject. “Sean wanted to be as true as possible to the real history of the events and very much to represent within this, the people and Aid organizations who try to help in these environments; give a great deal of respect to what and how they do it, and show how strenuous their herculean task is.” says Laws.

Pohlad, who is also the board of the Haitian Relief Organization, JP/HRO, founded by Penn, is familiar with depth and strength of the filmmaker's work in Haiti. "But, it's beyond Haiti, the work he's done down there has taken him in a lot of different directions in other related crises, or parallel political situations around the world. I've always been impressed with the way he's handled them, and the amount of information and the issues that he's been able to grapple with and really get involved in change. In the aid community he is not seen as Sean Penn, 'the movie actor'. They regard him with high-opinion. They value that Penn's muscle will raise awareness of their work in conflict zones."

"We forget that refugees have been doctors and nurses and lawyers, and all of a sudden with no good reason they are displaced and have nowhere to go, and all they have to start again is with the clothes on their back. I think *The Last Face* will sensitize audiences to that condition and open people's hearts to helping." says Gerber.

#### **ABOUT THE CAST**

##### **CHARLIZE THERON ("Dr. Wren Petersen")**

South African born and Oscar-winning actress Charlize Theron is one of the most celebrated actresses of our time, captivating audiences with her ability to embody a range of characters. Over the years, Charlize has appeared in numerous films including *The Devil's Advocate*, *The Cider House Rules*, the critically acclaimed *Monster* for which she earned an Academy Award®, a Golden Globe®, a Screen Actors Guild Award®, and an Independent Spirit Award®, *North Country* for which she was nominated for an Academy Award®, a Golden Globe®, a Screen Actors Guild Award®, and a Critics Choice Award®, *Hancock*, *Young Adult* for which she garnered a Golden Globe nomination, HBO's *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers* for which she received a Golden Globe, Screen Actors Guild, and Emmy nominations, *Snow White and the Huntsman*, *A Million Ways to Die in the West* and most recently in the Warner Bros' film *Mad Max: Fury Road* directed by George Miller and *Dark Places* based on the bestselling novel by Gillian Flynn. Theron is currently filming *The Coldest City* and can next be seen in *The Last Face* and *The Huntsman: Winter's War* both expected to hit theatres in 2016.

In addition to Theron's acting success and principal involvement with her production company Denver & Delilah, Charlize serves as a United Nations Messenger of Peace and founder of the Charlize Theron Africa Outreach Project (CTAOP). CTAOP's mission is to help keep African youth safe from HIV through its support of on the ground, community-engaged organizations. CTAOP serves as a vehicle for communities to empower themselves and their youth in order to prevent the spread of HIV. Learn more about CTAOP at [www.charlizeafricaoutreach.org](http://www.charlizeafricaoutreach.org).

### **JAVIER BARDEM (“Dr. Miguel Leon”)**

As Spain’s most internationally acclaimed actor, Javier Bardem has captivated audiences worldwide with his diverse performances. In 2008, Bardem received the Academy Award® for Best Supporting Actor for his chilling portrayal of sociopath killer, Anton Chigurh, in Joel and Ethan Coen's *No Country for Old Men*. The performance garnered a Golden Globe Award, a Screen Actors Guild Award, a BAFTA, and countless film critic awards and nominations.

Javier stars opposite Charlize Theron in *The Last Face*, premiering at the Cannes Film Festival this year. He recently wrapped production on *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales* where he stars opposite Johnny Depp, and is set to start production and co-star in Darren Aronofsky’s next film in May. He will also start production in October on Fernando Leon’s *Escobar*, in which he is starring as Escobar and producing alongside Dean Nichols.

Bardem was awarded the Best Actor prize at the 2010 Cannes film festival for his performance in Alejandro Innaritu's *Biutiful*. This performance also earned him his third Academy Award nomination in 2011. Bardem received his first Academy Award nomination for his portrayal of the Cuban poet and dissident Reinaldo Arenas, in Julian Schnabel's *Before Night Falls* in 2001. He was named Best Actor at the Venice Film Festival, received Best Actor honors from the National Society of Film Critics, the Independent Spirit Awards, the National Board of Review, and received a Golden Globe nomination for this role.

Bardem previously starred in the latest James Bond installment, *Skyfall*, as the villain ‘Raoul Silva’ opposite Daniel Craig, Dame Judi Dench, Naomie Harris, and Berenice Marlohe. He has continually received critical acclaim for his role, in addition to being nominated in the supporting actor category for both a Critics Choice Movie Award and a Screen Actors Guild Award. Bardem can also be seen in Ridley Scott’s *The Counselor*, opposite Michael Fassbender, Brad Pitt, Cameron Diaz, and Penelope Cruz. The film, which is based on a script by first-time screenwriter, author Cormac McCarthy, follows a lawyer (Fassbender) who finds himself in over his head when he gets involved in drug trafficking.

Bardem also starred in Terrence Malick's film, *To the Wonder*, featuring an all-star ensemble including Ben Affleck, Olga Kurylenko and Rachel McAdams. The film is a romantic drama centered on a man who reconnects with a woman from his hometown after his marriage to a European woman falls apart.

Bardem co-produced and starred in *Sons of the Clouds: The Last Colony*, a film documenting how the colonization of the Western Sahara has left nearly 200,000 people living in refugee camps. In October 2011, Bardem and his co-producer Alvaro Longoria, the film's director, addressed the

United Nations General Assembly's decolonization committee, urging the delegates to end human rights abuses in the region. The film premiered at the 62<sup>nd</sup> annual Berlin International Film Festival in January, and has since been acquired by Canal Plus in Bardem's native Spain, and was released by GoDigital via iTunes in the U.S. in November.

Bardem won the Best Actor Award at the Venice film festival for his performance in Alejandro Amenábar's film *The Sea Inside*, making him only the second actor to win the award twice. He also won a Goya Award and received a Golden Globe nomination for this role. Bardem has won The Goya Award, Spain's equivalent of the Oscar, five times and has received a total of eight nominations.

His other notable film credits include Sony's *Eat, Pray, Love*, opposite Julia Roberts; Woody Allen's *Vicky Cristina Barcelona* where he was once again nominated for a Golden Globe and Independent Spirit Award; John Malkovich's directorial debut *The Dancer Upstairs*; Fernando León de Aranoa's *Mondays In The Sun*, which was named best film at the San Sebastian film festival; Michael Mann's *Collateral*; Mike Newell's *Love In The Time of Cholera*; and Milos Forman's film *Goya's Ghosts* opposite Natalie Portman.

#### **ADÈLE EXARCHOPOULOS (“Ellen”)**

Adèle Exarchopoulos is a French actress born in Paris where she still lives. She started taking acting lessons at an early age. After a first on-screen appearance in a short-film, she made her big screen debut at the age of 13 in the film *Boxes*, directed by Jane Birkin.

A year after she was chosen to play the first role in the fantasy adventure film *Les Enfants de Timpelbach*, alongside Gérard Depardieu and Carole Bouquet.

She also appeared in the films *Turk's Head*, *Chez Gino*, *The Round Up*, *Pieces of Me* and *I Used to Be Darker*.

2012 is the turning point of her career when she is chosen by Abdellatif Kechiche to play the lead role of *Blue Is The Warmest Color*, based on the French graphic novel of the same name. Her powerful performance gave her worldwide attention and critical acclaim. The film won the Palme d'Or at the 66th Cannes Film Festival and for the first time in the festival history, the Jury president Steven Spielberg decided to give the award not only to the director, but also to Adèle Exarchopoulos and her co-star Léa Seydoux. Becoming the youngest artist to ever receive the Palme d'Or, Adèle received many other awards and nominations for her performance, including a César Award (the equivalent of the American Oscar) for Best Female Newcomer and the Chopard Trophy for Female Revelation of the Year at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival.

After appearing opposite Reda Kateb in *Insecure*, she teamed up with Tahar Rahim in the period film *The Anarchists* in which she plays a passionate young member of the anarchist community in the 19th century in Paris. The film opened the Critics' Week at Cannes last year. After co-starring with Guillaume Gallienne in *Down by Love*, an illicit passion between a prison director and a young inmate, which was released earlier this year, Adèle will soon return on our screens in two other films: Sean Penn's drama *The Last Face*, which is set to premiere in competition at this year's Cannes Film Festival and Arnaud Des Pallières's *Orpheline*, alongside Adèle Haenel and Gemma Arterton.

Adèle Exarchopoulos is currently in Belgium filming *Le Fidèle* by Michaël R. Roskam (*The Drop*), starring opposite Matthias Schoenaerts

### **JARED HARRIS ("Dr. Farber")**

A classically trained stage actor and former member of London's famed Royal Shakespeare Company, Jared Harris' prolific career which continuously showcases his ability to easily transition from one character to another, garnering him great praise and keeping him in the company of some of today's most creative talent in film, television and stage.

Harris' extensive film career includes Steven Spielberg's Academy Award® nominated biopic, *Lincoln*, in which he played the iconic Civil War hero 'General Ulysses S. Grant' opposite Daniel Day Lewis; his portrayal of the villain 'Professor Moriarty' in *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows* opposite Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, and Noomi Rapace; his appearance alongside Brad Pitt and Cate Blanchett in David Fincher's Academy Award® nominated 2008 film, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*; and a riveting portrayal of Andy Warhol in the acclaimed independent film *I Shot Andy Warhol*.

In 2015, Harris completed principal photography on two independent films - *The Last Face* and *Certain Women*. *The Last Face*, which also stars Charlize Theron, Jean Reno and Javier Bardem, was directed and produced by Sean Penn. In the film, Harris plays a doctor working in war torn Africa for Doctors Without Borders. In *Certain Women*, directed by Kelly Reichardt, Harris plays a rancher who seeks legal aid from a lawyer played by Laura Dern. The film, which also stars Michelle Williams and Kristen Stewart, will premiere at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival.

Harris most recently appeared on the big screen in Guy Ritchie's *Man from U.N.C.L.E.*, which also stars Henry Cavill, Armie Hammer, Alicia Vikander, and Luca Calvani. The Warner Bros. film, a big-screen update of the 1960s TV series, was released August 14, 2015. That summer, Harris could also be seen in Gil Kenan's *Poltergeist*, a contemporized remake of the classic tale about a family whose suburban home is invaded by angry spirits. In this film, which also stars Sam Rockwell and

Rosemarie DeWitt, Harris plays a ghost hunter/television personality who is called in to help the family get their daughter back from the poltergeists.

In 2014, marking his foray into children's cinema, Harris' voice was heard as "Lord Portley-Rind" in Focus Features' Academy Award® nominated animated film, *The Boxtrolls*. The 3D stop-motion and CG hybrid animated feature is a comedic fable that takes place in Cheesebridge, a posh Victorian-era town obsessed with cheese by day; plagued by the mysterious Boxtrolls by night. Prior to this, Harris starred in John Pogue's horror film *The Quiet Ones*, Paul W.S. Anderson's action drama *Pompeii*, and the young adult fantasy adaptation *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*, opposite Lily Collins, Jamie Campbell Bower, Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Lena Headey.

This year, Harris will star as "King George" in the Netflix series *The Crown* from Academy Award® nominees Peter Morgan (*The Queen*, *Frost/Nixon*) and Stephen Daldry (*Billy Elliot*, *The Hours*). The series is inspired by the play *The Audience*, which centers on the weekly audiences given by Queen Elizabeth II to prime ministers that date from her accession in 1952 to the present day.

In 2015 Harris was equally busy behind and in front of the television camera. He went behind the camera for the first time to direct the eleventh episode, "Time and Life", of the final season of AMC's award-winning hit drama *Mad Men*. Harris had previously starred in the show for two seasons as a 1960's ad executive 'Lane Pryce.' The role earned Harris his first Primetime Emmy® nomination in the category of Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series. Harris appeared on screen as 'Anderson Dawes' in *The Expanse*, a limited series for Syfy.

Harris made his film debut in 1989's *The Rachel Papers*, which was also the directorial debut of his brother Damian, and has since gone on to appear in over fifty films in a wide array of roles, including the sleazy Russian cab driver, Vladimir, in Todd Solondz's *Happiness*, for which the cast received the 1999 National Board of Review Acting Ensemble Award. Additional credits include Michael Mann's *The Last of the Mohicans*; *Sylvia*, Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man*; Jonathan Nossiter's *Sunday*, which won the Grand Jury Prize at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival; *Igby Goes Down*; *Mr. Deeds*; Michael Radford's *B. Monkey*; Wayne Wang's *Smoke*; and John Carpenter's *The Ward*, among others.

Harris has accumulated an impressive list of television credits in both England and the U.S., including highly acclaimed performances as Henry VIII for the BBC production of *The Other Boleyn Girl*, John Lennon in the 2000 television drama and original VH1 film *Two of Us*, and the starring role in BBC's dramatization of Simon Mann's failed attempt to overthrow the oil rich African nation Equatorial Guinea in *Coup!* Additional BBC credits include the mini-series *To the Ends of the Earth*, and *The Shadow in the North*. Stateside, Harris has been seen in recurring roles for both *The*



*Riches*, in cult hit *Fringe*, and has guest-starred on *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit* and *Without a Trace*.

Harris has appeared with some of the most renowned theater companies in both London and New York. His first theatre job at the Royal Shakespeare Company was in Mark Rylance's *Hamlet*, which is considered to be the defining interpretation of his generation. Harris made his American stage debut as Hotspur in the New York Shakespeare Festival's *Henry IV, Parts 1 & 2*. He then went on to perform with the company in both *Tis Pity She's A Whore* and *King Lear*. Additional stage credits include the New Group's Obie Award-winning production of Mike Leigh's *Ecstasy*, the New Jersey Shakespeare Company's experimental production of *Hamlet*, in which he played the title role, the Almeida Theatre's production of Tennessee William's bittersweet comedy *A Period of Adjustment*, and the Vineyard Theater's production of *More Lies About Jerzy*.

Harris was born in London, and is the son of Irish actor, Richard Harris. He attended North Carolina's Duke University, where he majored in drama and literature and after graduation he studied at the Central School of Speech and Drama in London. Harris currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **JEAN RENO (“Dr. Mehmet Love”)**

Jean Reno (real name Juan MORENO HERRERA y GIMENEZ) was born the 30<sup>th</sup> of July, 1948 in Casablanca (Morocco) from parents born in the province of Cadiz in Andalusia, Spain. His father, Manuel, was a linotype typesetter for *Le Petit Marocain*, a leading Casablanca newspaper and his mother, Carmen, was a seamstress working from home.

Morocco was then under French protectorate. Jean attends a regular school at this time and start learning the French language at the age of five. Very early on in life, he will be fascinated by all performing arts: theater and cinema entrails him. He worships Louis Jouvet, Jean Gabin, Vittorio Gasman, John Wayne and Montgomery Clift: there are no frontiers in the universe of the performing arts.

At twelve, he experiences for the first time a live theatrical performance; it is *L'école des Femmes* performed with the pupils of his school. He knows then what his destiny will be: he will become an actor!

At sixteen, Jean participates for the first time in a theatrical production. With a group of friends he collaborates in the production of *Juego de Niños* a comedy written by Victor Ruiz Iriarte and directed by Candide Carrasco. The play was performed several times in a five hundred seats theater in Casablanca. It is the first time that Jean is on stage, facing an audience, performing in Spanish, and falling in love with the thrill of the experience. It is also the first time that he gets a

glowing review in a newspaper ... that will be it! Nothing would stop him...he is hooked, and he will never give up on his dreams.

In 1968 he serves France in Germany. After his military service, he moves to Paris and lives in a tiny maids' room. He registers to the Cours Simon but he will only attend for a few months.

We are in 1970, a difficult period for Jean; he is lonely and feels like an outsider. He has neither friends nor family in Paris. Every day survival is the game, very often coffee and bread are the only food he can afford for the whole day. These are the lean years: Jean takes a series of small jobs to survive; he sells musical instruments, works in a drugstore, drives, becomes an accountant, an insurance agent, then a travel agent, a salesman at wine fairs, door to door sales man and sales clerk in a Duty-free stores where he starts to learn and appreciate Japanese. Anything to survive and find a little place in this capital that seems so cold and hostile.

In 1975 Jean is allowed to audit the classes of Andreas Voutsinas at the Bouffes du Nord. Voutsinas' workshop uses a method inspired by both Stanislavski and the New York Actor Studio.

This is a very important stage in Jean's life, The theatrical workshop is attended by very well-known actors (Delphine Seyrig, Brigitte Fossey, Claude Brasseur and many others); their presence not only inspires the students but also provides a privileged place where teaching and theatrical exercises are immediately put into practice in a working condition with almost professional quality. It is here that Jean meets Didier Flamand with whom he will work with thirty other actors in the company *Le Retour de Gulliver*. It is the beginning of a great friendship and artistic collaboration that is still quite vibrant today.

The company "*Le Retour de Gulliver*" produced several plays, "collective creations", directed and inspired by Didier Flamand that will be performed in Paris at the Bouffes du Nord, the Opera Comique, the festival d' Avignon as well as in tours throughout Europe from Helsinki to Madrid. It is thanks to his participation in this company that Jean will be noticed by theater and movie directors as well as casting directors, allowing him to start little by little work as an actor.

Jean's first professional experience with theater is with the Company "*Le Retour de Gulliver*" directed by Didier Flamand in the play *Prends Bien Garde aux Zeppelins*, written and directed by Didier Flamand at the Bouffes du Nord in Paris. The universal appeal of the work made it perfect for an international tour across Europe. Then Jean is involved in *Ecce Homo* another play written by Didier Flamand in 1978 and directed by the writer for the Festival d'Avignon. In 1978 Jean, with Darry Cowl, will take *Celimore Le Bien Aime* written by Eugene Labiche directed by Andreas Voutsinas in a tour around France. In 1981, in Paris, Jean participates in *La Manufacture*, another play written and directed by Didier Flamand. Jean will also appear in *Terre Etrangere* written by Arthur Schnitzler (1983) directed by Luc Bondy at the Theatre des Amandiers in Nanterre with

Michel Piccoli, *Andromaque* of Racine (1987) directed by Roger Planchon at Villeurbanne with Richard Berry, *Montserrat* written by Emmanuel Robles (1991) directed by Jean François Prevand at the TBB in Boulogne-Billancourt, *Les Grandes Occasions* (2006) written by Bernard Slade directed by Bernard Murat at the theatre Edouard VII in Paris with Clementine Celarie.

In 2005, continuing his theatrical experience, Jean directed, assisted by his friend Didier Flamand, *Manon Lescaut* the Puccini's opera in Turin's Teatro Regio in Italy for the Winter Olympics Games.

In 2015, he returns to the stage at the Theatre de Paris to star in *Nos Femmes*, written by Eric Assous and directed by Richard Berry.

His movie debuts are very slow: In 1978/79 he participates in *L'hypothese Du Tableau Volé* by Raul Ruiz. In 1979 Costa- Gavras who had seen him in *Prend Bien Garde Aux Zeppelins*, a play by Didier Flamand performed at the Bouffes du nord in Paris, gave him a small part in *Clair De Femme* allowing him to act with Romy Shneider and Yves Montand.

In the 80's Jean starts getting bigger parts and participates in:

*Voulez-Vous Un Bebe Nobel?* (1980) by Robert Pouret with Jean Pierre Marielle.

*On N'est Pas Des Anges...* (1980-81) by Michel Lang with Sabine Azema.

*Les Bidasses Aux Grandes Manoeuvres* (1981) by Raphael Delpart with Michel Galabru. It is during the filming of this movie that he will meet Luc Besson.

*La Passante Du Sans-Souci* (1981-82) by Jacques Rouffio with Romy Schneider and Michel Piccoli.

*Le Dernier Combat* (1982) by Luc Besson with Pierre Jolivet and Jean Bouise.

*Signes Exterieurs De Richesse* (1982) by Jacques Monet with Claude Brasseur and Josiane Balasko.

*Notre Histoire* (1984) by Bertrand Blier with Alain Delon and Nathalie Baye.

*Strictelement Personel* (1985) by Pierre Jolivet with Pierre Arditi.

*Le Telephone Sonne Toujours Deux Fois* (1985) by Jean-Pierre Vergne with Didier Bourdon.

*Zone Rouge* (1986) by Robert Enrico with Richard Anconina.

*I love you"* (1986) by Marco Ferreri with Christophe Lambert.

It is during the casting of the *Bidasses Aux Grandes Manoeuvres* that Jean meets Luc Besson (who was the first assistant director to the movie. This is the second time that Jean's life is changed by meeting a friend and artist. Soon after this meeting, Luc Besson will offer him to participate in his short: *L'avant Dernier* and, in 1982, he gives him a part in his first full feature film, *Le Dernier Combat*,

that will receive dozens of international awards including the first prize at the Festival du Cinema Fantastique of Avoriaz in 1983.

Later, Jean will be directed several times by Besson: *Subway* (1985) with Isabelle Adjani and Christophe Lambert; *Le grand Bleu*(1987) with Jean-Marc Barr and Rosanna Arquette, a part that will introduce him to great audiences and will provide him with a nomination to the prestigious Cesars (the French equivalent of the Oscars); *La Femme Nikita* (1989) with Anne Parillaud and Tcheky Karyo, and, above all, *Leon*, (The professional), (1994) with Nathale Portman and Gary Oldman.

*Leon* will provide him with a second nomination to the Cesars. The movie will become a cult film in the US and make Jean an international star.

In 1990, he works with Christian Clavier and Valerie Lemercier in *L'Operation Corned-Beef* by Jean-Marie Poire. The trio Poire-Clavier-Reno reunites again in 1992 to film *Les Visiteurs*; in 1996, it is *Les Couloirs Du Temps*, *Les Visiteurs 2* with Muriel Robin and finally in 2001 they collaborate in *Les Visiteurs En Amerique* with Christina Applegate.

In 1990 Jean appears in *L'homme Au Masque D'or* by Eric Duret with Marlee Matlin and *Loulou Graffiti* by Christian Lejalet. In 1991, he is in *La Vis* of Didier Flamand in 1993 that will be awarded the Cesar of the short in 1994, and was France's entry into the Oscars that same year.

Jean Reno has become one of the most popular French actors in the US; he participates in several American productions:

*French Kiss* (1994) by Lawrence Kasdan with Meg Ryan.

*Mission Impossible* (1995) by Brian de Palma with Tom Cruise.

*Godzilla* (1997) by Roland Emmerich with Matthew Broderick.

*Ronin* (1997) by John Frankenheimer with Robert de Niro.

*Rollerball* (2002) by John Mc Tiernan with Chris Klein.

In 2006, Jean becomes a voting member for the Oscars given by the Academy of Performing Arts in Hollywood.

Voluntarily Jean will pursue a movie career that tries to escape type casting and genre; he does not want to be pigeon holed and he dabs in very diverse enterprises:

*Par-Dela Les Nuages* (1994) by Michelangelo Antonioni with Fanny Ardant.

*The Lion King* (1994) by Roger Allers, he will be the French voice of the elder king.

*Les Truffes* (1995) by Bernard Nauer with Christian Charmetant.

*Porco Rosso* (1995) by Hayao Miyazaki.

*Le Jaguar* (1995) by Francis Veber with Patrick Bruel.

*For the love of Roseanna* (1996) by Paul Weiland with Mercedes Ruehl.

*Les Rivieres Pourpres* (2000) by Mathieu Kassovitz with Vincent Cassel.

*Wasabi* (2001) by Gerard Krawczyk.

*Atlantis, The Lost Empire* (2001) by Kirk Wise and Gary Trousdale where he gives a French voice to the character of Vinnie "Enzo" Santorini.

*Decalage Horaire* (2002) by Daniele Thompson with Juliette Binoche.

*Tais-Toi* (2003) by Francis Veber with Gerard Depardieu.

*Les Anges De l'Apocalypse* (2004) by Olivier Dahan with Benoit Magimel.

*L'Enquete Corse* (2004) by Alain Berberian with Christian Clavier.

*Hotel Rwanda* (2005) by Terry George with Don Cheadle

*L'Empire Des Loups* (2005) by Chris Nahon with Jocelyn Quivrin.

*Le Tigre Et La Neige* (2005) by Roberto Benigni with Roberto Benigni and Nicoletta Braschi.

*The Pink Panther* (2006) by Shawn Levy with Steve Martin and Kevin Kline.

*The Da Vinci Code* (2006) by Ron Howard with Tom Hanks and Audrey Tautou.

*Flyboys* (2006) by Tony Bill.

*Margaret* (2006) by Kenneth Lonergan.

*Flushed Away* (2006) an animation feature film by David Bower and Sam Fell where he gives voice in English to character of the Frog.

*Cash* (2007) by Eric Besnard with Jean Dujardin.

*The Pink Panther 2* (2009) by Harald Zwart with Steve Martin.

*Armored* (2009) by Nimrod Antal with Laurence Fishburne and Matt Dillon.

*Le Premier Cercle* (2009) by Laurent Tuel with Gaspard Ulliel

*Couples Retreat* (2009) by Peter Billingsley with Vince Vaughn

*L'Immortel* (2010) by Richard Berry with Kad Merad

*La Rafle* (2010) by Rose Bosch with Mélanie Laurent

*On Ne Choisit Pas Sa Famille* (2011) by Christian Clavier with Christian Clavier and Muriel Robin

*Comme Un Chef* (2012) by Daniel Cohen with Michaël Youn

*Avis De Mistral* (2014) by Rose Bosch with Anna Galiena

*Hector And The Search For Happiness* (2014) by Peter Chelsom with Simon Pegg and Rosamund Pike

*Days And Night* (2014) by Christian Camargo with Katie Holmes and William Hurt

*Benoit Brisefer – Les Taxis Rouges* (2014) by Manuel Pradal with Gérard Jugnot

*Antigang* (2015) by Benjamin Rocher with Caterina Murino, Alban Lenoir and Thierry Neuvic

*Les Visiteurs – La Révolution* (2016) by Jean-Marie Poiré with Christian Clavier, ...  
*Brothers of the Wind* (2016) by Geraldo Olivares and Otmar Penker with Tobias Moretti and Manuel Camacho

Jean Reno has been nominated twice for the “*Cesars du Cinema Français*” (the French Oscars), the first time in 1989 for the part of *Enzo* in *Le Grand Bleu* of Luc Besson in the supporting actor category; and the second time in 1995, for the role of *Leon* in *Leon* of Luc Besson in the leading actor category.

In 2000 Jean Reno received “*The European Achievement in the World Cinema Award*” given by the “*European film Academy*”.

Jean Reno involvement in charity work in Europe, Canada and the US is varied and spontaneous, responding to the needs of the moment and according to his professional commitments.

In France he is the godfather of the “*Institut du cerveau et de la moelle epiniere*” (ICM) a research center on brain and spine illness. Jean has been member of the board of “*Les Amis de la Fondation Abbe Pierre*” an association that deals with the needs of the homeless. In addition Jean has contributed to the campaign for “*E-Enfance*” for the protection of children in the Web and to “*Perce Neige*” which establish all over France Welcome Centers for Children mentally challenged. In 2006, the government of Andalusia and the deputies of the province of Cadiz honored Jean in the presence of the France Ambassador in Spain, he is given the title of “*Privileged Son Of Andalusia*” a very great honor which has deep emotional resonance for Jean since it links him to his family’s history.

Jean Reno has also received the highest awards given to French citizens and has been named first “*Officer de la Legion d’Honneur*” then “*Chevalier Dans L’ordre Du Merite National*” and finally “*Chevalier Des Arts Et Des Lettres*”.

#### **ABOUT THE FILMAKERS**

##### **SEAN PENN (Director)**

Two-time Academy Award® winner Sean Penn has become an American film icon in a career spanning over three decades.

Penn has been nominated five times for the Academy Award® as Best Actor for *Dead Man Walking*, *Sweet and Lowdown*, *I Am Sam* and won his first Oscar® in 2003 for his searing performance in Clint Eastwood's *Mystic River* and his second Oscar® as Best Actor in 2009 for Gus Van Sant's *Milk*. The performance as gay rights icon Harvey Milk also garnered Penn "Best Actor" awards from The Screen Actors Guild, New York Film Critics Circle and Los Angeles Film Critics Association. Additionally, Penn received Best Actor awards at the Cannes (*She's So Lovely*) and Berlin

(*Dead Man Walking*) Film Festivals, as well as being a two-time winner of Best Actor honors at the Venice Film Festival (*Hurlyburly*, *21 Grams*).

Penn's feature film directorial debut came with 1991's *The Indian Runner*, which he also wrote and produced. In 1995, he directed *The Crossing Guard*, which he also wrote and produced. His third film as director/producer was 2001's *The Pledge* starring Jack Nicholson and was named in the Top Ten Films of 2001 by The National Board of Review. Penn later wrote and directed the United States contribution to the compilation film *11'09'01*. This important project gathered 11 acclaimed directors from around the world to create short films in response to the horrific events of September 11, 2001. In 2003 the film was nominated for a French Cesar in the best European Union Film category and received a special recognition award from the National Board of Review. As writer, producer and director, *Into the Wild* marked Penn's fourth feature film, which opened to rave reviews in September 2007. The film, based on Jon Krakauer's best-selling non-fiction book, premiered at the Telluride and Toronto Film Festivals, appeared on numerous critics lists of the top ten films of 2007, garnered two Academy Award nominations and nominations from the DGA and WGA for Penn.

Penn is currently in post-production on his film *The Last Face* starring Charlize Theron, Javier Bardem and Adèle Exarchopoulos. The film centers on the director of an international aid organization (Theron) working in Liberia who embarks on a love affair with a field doctor (Bardem). However, their mutual passion for the value of life is matched by the intensity of their opposing opinions on how best to solve the conflict that surrounds them, creating a seemingly insurmountable rift.

Penn has appeared on stage in productions including Alfred Hayes' *Girl on the Via Flaminia* and Albert Innaurato's *Earthworms In Los Angeles*. On Broadway, Penn performed in Kevin Heelan's *Heartland* and John Byrne's *Slab Boys*. He appeared in David Rabe's *Hurlyburly*, at the Westwood Playhouse, and *Goose and Tom Tom*, at Lincoln Center, both productions directed by the author. Additionally, Penn starred opposite Nick Nolte and Woody Harrelson in *The Late Henry Moss*, written and directed by Pulitzer Prize-winning writer Sam Shepard.

In 2002, Sean Penn was presented with the Modern Master Award at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival, and in 2003, became the youngest recipient to ever receive the Donostia Lifetime Achievement Award from the San Sebastian Film Festival. In 2004, he was honored with the John Steinbeck Award for outspoken torch-bearers in the creative arts. In 2008, Penn received the Desert Palm Achievement Award for Acting, after being presented in 2007 with the Director of the Year Award for *Into the Wild* from the Palm Springs International Film Festival. Penn served as



President of the jury for the 2008 Cannes International Film Festival and later that year was named a Knight in the French Legion of Honor.

As a journalist, Penn has written for Time, Interview, Rolling Stone and The Nation magazines. In 2004, Penn wrote a two-part feature in The San Francisco Chronicle after a second visit to the war-torn Iraq. In 2005, he wrote a five-part feature in the same paper reporting from Iran during the election which led to the Ahmadinejad regime. Penn's landmark interviews with Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, and Cuba's President Raul Castro, were published in The Nation and The Huffington Post. Penn's interview with President Castro was the first-ever interview with an international journalist. Penn's latest story for Rolling Stone found him in the jungle of Mexico interviewing then at large drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman Loera prior to his most recent capture by the Mexican authorities.

Penn's humanitarian work found him in New Orleans in the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and more recently in earthquake-ravaged Haiti. In January 2010, Penn established the J/P Haitian Relief Organization (J/P HRO). Today the organization employs a predominantly Haitian staff of over 350 professionals to support families in areas affected by the earthquake transition to resilient, sustainable and prosperous communities. This is done through J/P HRO's four integrated programs: 1) Medical, 2) Camp & Relocations Management, 3) Engineering & Construction and 4) Community Development. J/P HRO is dedicated to saving lives and building sustainable programs with the Haitian people quickly and effectively.

For his efforts, Penn has received numerous honors and awards, among them: The Commander's Award for Service (US Army 82nd Airborne Division); 82nd Airborne Award for Meritorious Service; the Operation Unified Response JTF Haiti Certificate from Lieutenant General, US Army Commander P.K. Keen; the 1st Recon 73rd Division Coin of Excellence; 2nd Brigade Combat Team Coin of Excellence; Commendation of Excellence United States Southern Command; Award of Excellence by the Deputy Commander US Southern Command; the 2010 Hollywood Humanitarian Award from the Hollywood Film Festival; the 2011 Stanley Kramer Award from the Producers Guild of America; and the Children's and Families Global Development Fund Humanitarian Award, presented by the Ambassador of the Republic of Haiti. In July 2010, Penn was knighted by Haitian President Rene Preval in a ceremony in Port-Au-Prince.

In 2012, Penn was named Ambassador at Large for Haiti and was presented with this honor by President Michel Martelly at a ceremony in Port-Au-Prince in 2012. Penn was presented with the 2012 Peace Summit Award at the 12th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, a tribute for extraordinary solidarity by the Haitian Parliament in a combined meeting of the National Assembly

and the International Humanitarian Service Award from the American Red Cross. In December 2012, he was also named Special Advisor to Haiti's Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe.

### **ERIN DIGNAM (Screenwriter)**

#### Screenwriter

##### *Submergence*

Directed by Wim Wenders based on book by Jonathan Lедgard, currently in production

Producer Back Up Media and Cameron Lamb

Cast: James MacAvoy and Alicia Vikander

##### *The Last Face*

Directed by Sean Penn,

Producer: Bill Pohlad /Riverroad Entertainment

Cast: Javier Bardem and Charlize Theron

##### *Yellow Handkerchief*

Directed by Udayan Prasad for

Producer: Arthur Cohn

Cast: Eddie Redmayne, Kristen Stewart and William Hurt

##### *8 (Segment "Person to Person")*

Directed by Wim Wenders

Producer: In-Ah Lee/Greensky Prod.

*\*Winner of Berlin Film Festival Peace Cinema Award*

##### *The Fountain*

Directed by Darren Aronofsky – Dialogue polish

#### Writer/Director

##### *Loved*

MPD Worldwide/Alliance/Phillip Colland

Cast: Robin Wright, William Hurt. Amy Madigan with Sean Penn

*\*Independent Spirit Awards Nominations: Best Film, Best*

*Performance Female Lead, Best Performance Supporting Female"*

*Amy Madigan*

*\*IFP Awards Nominations: Best Director "Someone to Watch Award"*

*\*Seattle Film Festival Award Winner: Best Female Performance and*

*Runner Up for Best American Feature*

Screened at Toronto, Deauville, London, New York Woman's Film

Festivals

##### *Loon*

Republic Distribution/ Martina Ritt

Cast: Jason Patric, Robin Wright, David Duchovney

*\*Sundance Film Festival: Official Selection*

#### In Development

##### *Hurry Down Sunshine*

Producer: Lillian Birnbaum,

Adapted from Michael Greenberg's award winning book

##### *The Sabines*

Producer: Yvan Attal

Adapted from the French short story

##### *The Ruined Map*

Producer: Arthur Cohn

Adapted from the book by Kobo Abe

Personal

Ford Foundation Scholarship Recipient from the School of American Ballet to work with New York City Ballet under the direction of George Balanchine.

Worked at Stanford Repertory Theater as an actress as well as choreographer and director before starting film work.

Teacher/mentor at the Squaw Valley Writers Workshop.

Education: Stanford University: BA in English

**BILL POHLAD (Producer)**

Academy Award® nominated filmmaker, Bill Pohlad has been producing quality films for over two decades. As founder and CEO of River Road Entertainment, his ability to seek out compelling material and bring it to light has established his reputation as a filmmaker unafraid to take creative risks.

Having started out as a writer/director in the late Eighties, Pohlad has spent most of the last fifteen years producing. His credits include the Academy Award® winning Best Picture *12 Years A Slave*, which also won the Golden Globe® for Best Motion Picture – Drama, two BAFTA Awards, five Film Independent Spirit Awards and a total of three Academy Awards. Another of Pohlad's producorial efforts, *The Tree Of Life* was nominated for three Academy Awards® including Best Picture. The feature also won the Palme d'Or at the 2011 Cannes International Film Festival and shared the prize for Best Feature at the 2011 Gotham Independent Film Awards. In 2007, Pohlad produced Sean Penn's award-winning adaptation of *Into The Wild*, based on the best-selling book by Jon Krakauer. The film garnered two Academy Award® nominations as well as nods from The Directors Guild, The Writers Guild, and SAG, among others. In addition, Pohlad produced Jean Marc Vallée's *Wild* starring Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern, which received two Academy Award® nominations and one Golden Globe nomination.

Pohlad has also served as executive producer on numerous films including Ang Lee's Academy Award® winning epic, *Brokeback Mountain*, and numerous feature documentaries including Robert Kenner's Academy Award® nominated documentary, *Food, INC.*

In 2014, more than twenty years after directing his first feature, Pohlad returned to directing with *Love & Mercy*, an unconventional portrait of Brian Wilson, the mercurial singer, songwriter and leader of The Beach Boys. The film, which stars John Cusack, Paul Dano, Elizabeth Banks and Paul Giamatti, premiered at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival and was released to great acclaim, receiving two Golden Globe nominations and topping numerous critics' lists for 2015.

Pohlad returns to the Cannes International Film Festival next month as a producer with the world premiere of Sean Penn's *The Last Face*, which stars Javier Bardem and Charlize Theron.

#### **MATT PALMIERI (Producer)**

Academy Award® nominated filmmaker Matt Palmieri began his career at MGM as a senior production and creative executive where he was involved in the development and production of numerous films including Ridley Scott's *Thelma & Louise*, Fred Schepisi's *The Russia House*, and Robert Mulligan's *The Man in the Moon*. After leaving MGM, Palmieri was nominated for an Academy Award® for directing and producing the live-action short film *Cruise Control* starring Sean Penn and Harry Dean Stanton. More recently, Palmieri executive produced Sean Durkin's *Martha Marcy May Marlene* (Sundance Film Festival Best Director Award Winner, Cannes International Film Festival Certain Regard Selection), produced Antonio Campos' *Simon Killer* (Sundance Film Festival Grand Jury Prize Nominee), and executive produced the documentary *Darfur Now*, an examination of the genocide in Sudan's western region of Darfur featuring George Clooney and Hillary Clinton. Prior to his career in film, Palmieri attended Phillips Andover Academy, Stanford University and Harvard Business School and worked as a management consultant for McKinsey & Company, Inc., where he specialized in the media and finance businesses. Palmieri returns to the Cannes International Film Festival this year as a producer with the world premiere of *The Last Face*, starring Javier Bardem and Charlize Theron, which he optioned, and then packaged and developed together with director Sean Penn.

#### **BILL GERBER (Producer)**

Bill Gerber has spent 30 years in the film business in several positions including President of Production at Warner Brothers Pictures and as Producer on such films as *Gran Torino*, *A Very Long Engagement*, and *Grudge Match*. He has had a hand in dozens of movies including: *LA Confidential*, *JFK*, *Heat*, *You've Got Mail*, *James Dean*, *The Perfect Storm*, and *Three Kings*.

Previous to joining Warner Brothers, Bill was a partner at Lookout Management, a premier Music Management Company that has over the years represented such Classic Rock Artists as Neil Young, Joni Mitchell, Tom Petty, The Cars and Devo.

#### **JON KUYPER (Executive Producer)**

JON KUYPER began his production management career working for Roger Corman in Los Angeles in 1991 and then went on to produce or supervise production on over fifty films worldwide, managing budgets from \$300,000 to over \$100 million across all genres.

In 2006, Warner Bros. brought Jon in-house as Senior Vice President of Production and in 2010 he was posted to Sydney, Australia to production on Baz Luhrmann's *The Great Gatsby*, Peter Jackson's *The Hobbit* trilogy and George Miller's *Mad Max: Fury Road*.

After seven years at Warner Bros., Lionsgate hired Jon to supervise production on *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay parts 1&2*, *Step Up: All In* and *Gods Of Egypt*.

In 2014 Jon returned to both Sydney and freelance production on Sean Penn's *The Last Face*, starring Javier Bardem, Charlize Theron and Jean Reno which shot in South Africa, where Jon is currently production *24 Hours To Live*, starring Ethan Hawke and Common.

### **GENEVIEVE HOFMEYR (Co-Producer)**

Genevieve Hofmeyr is widely regarded as one of South Africa's most skilled and accomplished Producers, who has made a significant contribution to the growth of the entertainment industry in South Africa by procuring over 50 productions across the spectrum of film production including major US studio projects, independent co-productions, episodic television/miniseries and indigenous South African films.

She has worked with award winning filmmakers such as Clint Eastwood, Edward Zwick, Michael Mann, Marc Forster, Martin Campbell, Bruce Beresford, Roland Emmerich, Phillip Noyce and Mira Nair, as well some of Hollywood's A-List or Oscar winning stars including Meryl Streep, Denzel Washington, Leonardo DiCaprio, Angelina Jolie, Charlize Theron, Hilary Swank, Ryan Reynolds, Matt Damon, Daniel Craig, William H Macy and Gerard Butler.

*The Hollywood Reporter* listed her as one of the three most influential women in South African Cinema today.

Genevieve was recently the South African producer on Sean Penn's *The Last Face* as well as *Eye in the Sky* which is helmed by South African Academy Award® winner Gavin Hood and stars Helen Mirren and Aaron Paul.

Genevieve's film credits include *The Giver*, a film directed by Phillip Noyce for The Weinstein Company, *Mad Max: Fury Road* by George Miller for Warner Bros, *Blended* (an Adam sandler film also for Warner Brothers), Daniel Espinosa's *Safe House* for Universal Pictures (starring Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds), Clint Eastwood's *Invictus* for Warner Bros., *Revelation* and *Malpaso* (starring Morgan Freeman, Matt Damon), Edward Zwick's *Blood Diamond* (starring Leonardo DiCaprio) and Roland Emmerich's *10,000 BC* for Warner Bros., *Catch a Fire* by Phillip Noyce for Working Title Films, *Racing Stripes* for Alcon Entertainment, Michael Mann's *Ali* for Sony Pictures (starring Will Smith), Martin Campbell's *Beyond Borders* for Mandalay Pictures (starring Angelina

Jolie and Clive Owen), and Sydney Pollack's *The Interpreter* for Working Title/Universal Pictures (starring Nicole Kidman & Sean Penn).

Among Hofmeyr's international Television co-productions for Moonlighting Films are *Mary & Martha* produced for HBO and Working Title Films, *The Girl* also for HBO, BBC's *Women In Love*, Working Title Television's *The Borrowers*, Carnival Television's series *The Philanthropist*, John Cassar's *24 – Redemption* for 20th Century Fox Television and Imagine TV (starring Kiefer Sutherland), made for TV Films, *Crusoe* for NBC Universal, and for Universal Pictures *Blue Crush 2*, *Death Race 2*, and *Death Race 3: Inferno*.

South African content produced by Genevieve includes *Four Corners – South Africa's* selected film for the Best Foreign Film category at the 2014 Academy Awards; *Skoonheid*, SA's first Afrikaans film in competition in Cannes 2011; Mukunda Dewil's thriller, *Retribution*; and Anthony Fabian's multiple international award-winning *Skin* (starring Sophie Okonedo, Sam Neill and Alice Krige).

#### **JANINE VAN ASSEN (Co-Producer)**

Janine van Assen is among the most sought after producing executive in Southern Africa, earning an international reputation for delivering quality productions on budget and on schedule. During her 22 year career in the entertainment industry, Janine quickly worked her way up the ranks in production from Secretary, Coordinator, Production Manager, and Assistant Director, to working today as the Line Producer / UPM on motion pictures for the major Hollywood studios including Universal, Warner Bros., Walt Disney Films, Sony Pictures Entertainment, with such filmmakers as Clint Eastwood, Edward Zwick, along with Phillip Noyce, Daniel Espinosa and a string of Academy Award® winning artists.

Janine's motion picture credits as Line Producer include Paul W.S Anderson's *Resident Evil: The Final Chapter* for Impact Pictures/Constantin Film Gmbh and Sony Pictures Entertainment (starring Milla Jovovich); Phillip Noyce's *The Giver*, for The Weinstein Company (starring Academy Award® winners Meryl Streep and Jeff Bridges); *The Last Face* helmed by Academy Award® Winning Sean Penn (starring Charlize Theron and Javier Bardem), for River Road Entertainment; Jerome Salle's *Zulu* for Eskwad and Lobster Tree, (starring Forrest Whittaker); Cecile Telemans' *Les Yeux Jaunes Des Crocodiles*; and *Papa Marachel* For Lobster Tree.

Janine served as South African Production Supervisor on the Warner Bros., Malpasos Productions, Revelation Entertainment produced *Invictus*, helmed but multiple Academy Award® winning Clint Eastwood ( starring Matt Damon and Morgan Freeman), and took on the role as South African

Production Coordinator on Edward Zwick's *Blood Diamond* (starring Leonardo DiCaprio), for Warner Bros.

As Production Manager Janine's credits include Mira Nair's *Queen Of Katwe* for Disney (starring Academy Award® winners Lupita Nyong'o and David Oyelowo); Academy Award® winning Marc Fortser's *Gun Preacher*, for Relativity Media (starring Gerard Butler); and Anthony Fabian's multiple international award-winning *Skin* (starring Sophie Okonedo, Sam Neill and Alice Krige) for Bard Entertainment.

Janine Served as UPM (2<sup>nd</sup> Unit) on Daniel Espinosa's *Safe House* for Universal Pictures (starring Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds), and *Doomsday*, for Rogue Films helmed by Marc Wolff. Her body of work in television includes *Atlantis: End Of A World, Birth Of A Legend* for BBC Northern Island, Muse (as Production Manager); NCB-Universal's *Crusoe*, and the series *Women In Love* for Company Pictures, directed by Miranda Bowen.

van Assen has also lent her substantial skill and experience in line-producing and production management to the Commercials industry for over a decade.

Janine's earlier work includes *the Triangle*, for Kalahari Pictures (as 2<sup>nd</sup> 2nd Assistant Director) directed by Craig Baxley; Eric Valli's *The Trail*, (as Production Manager); Robert Heath's *Out On A Limb*, for Faith Creations (as 2<sup>nd</sup> AD) *the Red Phone*, helmed by Jerry Jamison; Duncan Robson's *Istafahan*, for The Network (as Production Manager); Sergei Bodrov's *Running Free* for Sony Pictures; *Chase The Wind*, directed by Nina Companeez; and *Diamond Girl, Hard to Forget*; and *Sign Of The Ape*.

Janine is currently prepping for Thunder Road's upcoming feature film *24 Hours To Live*, starring Ethan Hawke.

### **BARRY ACKROYD B.S.C (Director of Photography)**

Barry Ackroyd is an Oscar® nominated, BAFTA and European Film Award winning Director of Photography who has built a reputation for shooting some of the most provocative and dynamic films with high profile directors, including Paul Greengrass, Kathryn Bigelow, and Baltasar Kormakur. He is also known for his long collaborative filmmaking relationship with British auteur director Ken Loach.

Ackroyd's background in documentary films is evident in his fictional work, which is enhanced by the sensibilities he gleaned from years of documentary shooting, including on Nick Broomfield's searing South African expose *The Leader, His Driver, and the Driver's Wife*, and the Academy Award® winning *Anne Frank Remembered*. With director Dominic Savage, Ackroyd lensed *Out of Control*, and *Love Hate*, as well as *Gideon's Daughter, Friends & Crocodiles*, and *The Lost*



*Prince* for Stephen Poliakoff. Ackroyd shot no fewer than twelve films for Ken Loach, culminating in the Cannes Film Festival Golden Palm winning *The Wind that Shakes the Barley*.

He began working with director Paul Greengrass on *United93*, and followed that with *Green Zone*, starring Matt Damon, as well as the Tom Hanks starrer, *Captain Phillips*, which earned him ASC and BAFTA award nominations. Other credits include Kathryn Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker*, for which he received an Academy Award® nomination and a BAFTA win. The film earned 6 Academy Awards® and 5 BAFTAs as well as other numerous accolades. Ackroyd lensed the Ralph Fiennes directed Shakespearean adaptation, *Coriolanus* as well as *Parkland*, directed by Peter Landesman, and *Dark Places*, the Gillian Flynn novel adaptation starring Charlize Theron and directed by Gilles Paquet-Brenner. He recently worked with actor-director Sean Penn on *The Last Face*, and shot this year's Academy Award® winning *The Big Short* for director Adam McKay. Ackroyd is again working with Greengrass, completing work on the latest Bourne film, *Jason Bourne*.

#### **ANDREW LAWS (Production Designer)**

Andrew Laws was born on January 20, 1967 in Woking, Surrey, England. He has worked as a production designer and art director since leaving the field of architecture in 1995.

Laws' credits as art director include *The Last Face* Directed by Sean Penn; *Jack Ryan* directed by Kenneth Branagh; *What to Expect When You're Expecting* directed by Kirk Jones; *The Rite* directed by Mikael Hafstrom; *I Love You, Man* directed by John Hamburg; *The Breakup* directed by Peyton Reed; *Beyond The Sea* directed by Kevin Spacey, along with *Phone Booth* and *Tigerland* both directed by Joel Schumacher.

#### **JAY CASSIDY, A.C.E. (Editor)**

Three-time Academy Award® nominee, Jay Cassidy was reunited with esteemed director David O'Russell on his latest film *Joy* starring Jennifer Lawrence, Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro. He received a 2016 Eddie Award nomination for his work on the film.

In 2014, Jay worked with Bennet Miller on the critically acclaimed *Foxcatcher* which was nominated for five Academy Awards®. He also cut David Ayer's haunting World War 2 film *Fury*, starring and executive produced by Brad Pitt. In 2013, Jay had the opportunity to collaborate with David O. Russell on the award winning film *American Hustle*. Jay previously worked with Russell on the acclaimed *Silver Linings Playbook*. He won the ACE Eddie Award for Best Edited Feature Film for *Silver Linings Playbook* and *American Hustle* and was nominated for an Oscar on both films.

Jay won an ACE Eddie for Best Edited Documentary Film on *An Inconvenient Truth*, working with Academy Award® winning director Davis Guggenheim. Jay and Davis teamed again on *Waiting*

for *Superman*, a documentary about the precarious state of the U.S. school system. The film won the Audience Award at Sundance and Jay was nominated for an ACE Eddie. Jay was nominated in 2008 for an Oscar for Best Achievement in Editing and an ACE Eddie for his brilliant work on *Into the Wild* for director Sean Penn. This past year marks Jay's sixth collaboration with Sean Penn on his latest film *The Last Face*, starring Charlize Theron and Javier Bardem.

### **HANS ZIMMER (Composer)**

Hans Zimmer has scored more than 120 films, which have, combined, grossed over 24 billion dollars at the worldwide box office. He has been honored with an Academy Award®, two Golden Globes®, three Grammys®, an American Music Award, and a Tony® Award. His most recent Academy Award® nomination for *Interstellar* marks his 10th career Oscar nomination with the Academy. In 2003, ASCAP presented him with the prestigious Henry Mancini award for Lifetime Achievement for his impressive and influential body of work. He also received his Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in 2010, and in 2014 was honored with the Zurich Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award. Zimmer recently completed his first concerts in the UK, "Hans Zimmer Revealed," at the Eventim Hammersmith Apollo, and kicked off his first ever European tour, "Hans Zimmer Live," on April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Other recent releases include: Zack Snyder's *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, Peter Sollet's *Freeheld*, Simon Curtis' *Women in Gold*, *The Amazing Spider-Man 2*, Steve McQueen's *12 Years a Slave*, Ron Howard's *Rush*, Zack Snyder's *Man of Steel*, History Channel's miniseries *The Bible*, the Christopher Nolan-directed films *Inception*, *The Dark Knight* and *The Dark Knight Rises*; and Guy Ritchie's *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*. Some of Zimmer's most notable works include his scores for *Rain Man*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Thelma & Louise*, *Crimson Tide*, *The Thin Red Line*, *Gladiator*, *Mission: Impossible II*, *Hannibal*, *Pearl Harbor*, *Tears of the Sun*, *Spanglish*, *The Pirates of the Caribbean* franchise, the *Kung Fu Panda* and *Madagascar* films, *The Da Vinci Code*, *Frost/Nixon*, and *The Lion King*, for which he won the Academy Award®. His upcoming film projects include Ron Howard's *Inferno* out November 2016, Sean Penn's *The Last Face* out in 2016 and Mark Osborne's *The Little Prince*.

### **DIANA CILLIERS (Costume Designer)**

Diana's early love for costume design led to her completion of a Bachelor Degree, majoring in Theatre Costume and Set Design at the University of Pretoria in 1977.

She went on to work in theatre at The Cape Performing Arts Board and the State Theatre for 5 years working under very accomplished local and international costume designers like Peter Cazalet, Bruno Santini, Raymond Schoop and many others on opera, drama and ballet productions.

The Film Industry was a natural progression for Diana and she started working in 1983 with acclaimed SA director Manie van Rensburg. She worked on various TV film productions for Manie

including *Verspeelde Lente* and *Anna* which cemented her love for period costume and assisting actors in creating characters with the help of their clothing.

She has designed the costumes for most of South African director Katinka Heyn's films including *Paljas*, *Klara Viljee* and the recently completed film *Die Wonderwerker* on a part of the life of SA author Eugene Marais.

Diana has designed costumes for over a hundred feature films as well as numerous television productions and commercials over the years. Her credits include the Oscar nominated film *District 9* directed by Neil Blomkamp, *Judge Dredd*, *Long Walk to Freedom* starring Idris Elba and Naomi Harris, *Boesman And Lena* starring Danny Glover and Angela Basset, *Bopha* starring Danny Glover, Alfre Woodard and Malcolm Mc Dowell directed by Morgan Freeman, *Red Dust* starring Hilary Swank and Chiwetel Ejiofor, *Disgrace*, based on the novel by Nobel Prize winning author JM Coetzee starring, John Malkovich and Jessica Haines, *Women In Love* starring Rosamunde Pike and Joseph Mawle and the recently completed BBC Film *The Girl* starring Sienna Miller, Toby Jones, Imelda Staunton and Penelope Wilton.

Her latest work includes *The Giver* starring Jeff Bridges, Katie Holmes, Alexander Skarsgaard and Meryl Streep, *Chappie* starring Dev Patel, Hugh Jackman and Sigourney Weaver, *The Salvation* starring Mads Mikkelsen and Eva Green, *The Red Tent* mini series starring Minnie Driver, Iain Glen, Debra Winger and Hiam Abass and *The Last Face* directed by Sean Penn starring Charlise Theron, Javier Bardem and Jean Reno.

Diana was nominated for a Primetime Emmy 2013 for her work on the HBO television movie *The Girl* starring Sienna Miller, Toby Jones and Imelda Staunton. She was nominated for the Robert Statue for *The Salvation* in 2015 and awarded the WIFTS (Women in Film and Television) for her work on *Long Walk to Freedom*. She was also nominated for a Canadian Gemini for the award winning series *Human Cargo* in 2004 and locally she has been awarded the SAFTA Golden Horn award for Best Costumes for the feature film *Goodbye Bafana* (The Colour of Freedom) and in 2013 for *Long Walk to Freedom* with Ruy Filipe. She was nominated for the SAFTA Golden Horn Award for the film *Themba* in 2010, and for her work on *Faan se Trein* in 2015.

Diana owns Theatre and Film Costume Workshop which she started in Johannesburg in 1985 and relocated to Cape Town in 1992. This studio is located in the artistic hub of Woodstock in Cape Town where a variety of talented artisans and crafts people join forces to create the costumes and characters for each film.

Throughout her career Diana has been passionate about creating very specific characters with the help of clothing be it, futuristic, period or contemporary. Paintings and the art world is

often her inspiration for characters and she has taken this passion further and enrolled for a Master of Fine Arts degree at UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art. The subject of her thesis is 'The Emotional Language of Clothing' focusing on Africa and the Diaspora.

### **BRUCE JONES (VFX Supervisor)**

Formally trained in Fine Arts with an emphasis in painting, writing, music, and animation, Bruce Jones began his career as an Art Director for the motion picture industry upon graduating from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Soon thereafter, he began utilizing his design skills to create and produce visual effects in a number of venues and formats including feature film, television, music videos, webisodes, commercials, 3D animated features, IMax, and Omnimax films.

Although his career focus continues to be on Visual Effects Supervision and 2nd Unit Directing for feature film, his passion for painting, writing, and music continues to this day.

### **RIVER ROAD ENTERTAINMENT**

River Road Entertainment is one of the leading independent production companies known for developing, producing and financing distinguished feature films and documentaries that astonish, inspire, reveal and provoke.

In the last ten years, River Road has produced and financed some of the most significant independent films, including the 2014 Academy Award®-winning Best Picture *12 Years A Slave*, directed by Steve McQueen; the 2011 Palme d'Or winner of the Cannes International Film Festival *The Tree of Life*, directed by Terrence Malick and starring Brad Pitt, Sean Penn, and Jessica Chastain; Jean-Marc Vallée's *Wild* starring Reese Witherspoon and Laura Dern; and Ang Lee's *Brokeback Mountain*, starring Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal, all multiple Academy Award® nominees. Other River Road films include Sean Penn's *Into the Wild*; Doug Liman's *Fair Game*; Robert Kenner's documentary *FOOD, INC.*; Ang Lee's *Lust, Caution*; and Robert Altman's *A Prairie Home Companion*. Most recently, the company produced Bill Pohlad's *Love & Mercy*, the unconventional portrait of mercurial singer, songwriter and leader of The Beach Boys, Brian Wilson, which received two Golden Globe® nominations and topped numerous critics' lists for 2015.

River Road makes a return to the Cannes International Film Festival next month with the world premiere of Sean Penn's *The Last Face*, which stars Charlize Theron and Javier Bardem.

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