

**ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

**“You live, you die, you fight ... as brothers. Remember, nothing is as strong as family."**

**-- Master Splinter**

 As darkness settles over New York, the people of the city need heroes -- and they’re about to get them in the form of the mostly unlikely quartet of crime-fighters ever to help humankind: the spunky yet relentless reptilian force known as the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Based on the endlessly popular characters created by comic book writers Peter Laird and Kevin Eastman, the tenacious terrapins that have captivated audiences of every age for decades arrive into the 21st century.

 Crime and fear are spreading through the streets as Shredder and his evil Foot Clan have been flexing their iron grip on everything from the police to the politicians.  The future seems all too grim until four outcast brothers, survivors of a scientific experiment gone wrong, rise from the sewers, and take on their destiny as the ultimate masked vigilantes.  Faced with Shredder’s diabolical plans for domination, these Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are about to team up with fearless reporter April O’Neil (Megan Fox) and her wise-cracking cameraman Vern Fenwick (Will Arnett) to save the citizens of New York.

Paramount Pictures and Nickelodeon Movies Present a Platinum Dunes Production of A Gama Entertainment / Mednick Productions / Heavy Metal Production, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. The film is directed by Jonathan Liebesman (*Wrath of the Titans)* from a screenplaywrittenby Josh Appelbaum & André Nemec (*Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol*) and Evan Daugherty and produced by Michael Bay (the blockbuster *Transformers* franchise), Andrew Form, Brad Fuller, Galen Walker, Scott Mednick and Ian Bryce. The executive producers are Denis L. Stewart, Eric Crown, Napoleon Smith III and Jason T. Reed. The film stars Megan Fox, Will Arnett, William Fichtner, Danny Woodburn**,** Abby Elliott, Noel Fisher, Jeremy Howard, Pete Ploszek, Alan Ritchson and Minae Noji.

**TURTLE POWER – REBOOTED!**

The one-of-a-kind heroes on the half-shell are back – as a new generation of Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles emerges from the sewers of New York. They return in a fresh incarnation that fuses the Turtle’s gritty, underground roots with the feisty sense of merriment that turned them into the world’s most lovable action idols . . . bringing them *cowabunga*-ing into a live-action adventure that mixes in large-scale battles and leading-edge VFX.

The action-packed reboot, which tells the story of how the Turtles were born in a laboratory but came to be unbreakably loyal brothers, comes to the screen under the aegis of mega-producer Michael Bay. Known for box-office-busting event movies, Bay most recently metamorphosed a children’s toy into the multi-billion dollar *Transformer* franchise. Following on the rousing success of Nickelodeon’s animated TV series, Bay joined with his Platinum Dunes producing partners Andrew Form and Brad Fuller to return them to the silver screen for today’s audiences.

Ultimately, they would bring together a team of creative filmmakers, young actors and over 400 digital artists all determined to merge a real world of actors and sets with the mesmerizing fantasy of talking, battling, city-saving teenaged turtles.

The origins of the Turtles came out-of-the-blue in 1983 when struggling comic book artists Peter Laird and Kevin Eastman started passing back and forth a series of wildly imaginative sketches featuring turtles in an unlikely form: sporting masks and ancient Ninja weaponry. It was just an amusing lark at first, but they couldn’t deny it. . . the characters were so vivid and fun -- and such a twist on the soul-ravaged, angst-ridden superheroes of the day -- they couldn’t resist them.

Soon, no one else could resist them either. Not long after, the four red-eared terrapins named after master Renaissance artists – Leonardo, Raphael, Donatello and Michelangelo – made a much talked-about debut in a comic book with an intriguing name: Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Laird and Eastman had to borrow money just to get 3,000 copies in print but by issue #2, they had pre-orders for 15,000 copies and it just kept growing.

The original comic book was set in an inky black world besieged by evil. But the Turtles went through another shift when they spawned a massively popular children’s animated series in 1988 followed by their first feature film in 1990. They began to develop quirkier personalities as pizza-scarfing dudes with irreverent attitudes . . . and suddenly Turtlemania was in full swing. Kids of all ages couldn’t get enough of them as video games and action figures were swept off the shelves in droves.

When Bay, Form and Fuller -- along with producers Galen Walker and Scott Mednick and executive producers Denis L. Stewart and JasonT. Reed – committed themselves to modernizing the franchise, they decided to combine both threads of Turtle history: merging the grit and action of its origins with the comedy and camaraderie that have made them so adored by young and old alike.

Says Fuller: “With this project, we wanted to satisfy generations of fans while bringing in new fans. There is a darker, edgier element to this film that hasn’t been seen before with the Turtles, but we were equally focused on retaining the fun, which is what they’re all about.”

Radical recent advances in motion capture would allow the Turtles to come to life on the screen with stunning photo-realism -- or as much photo-realism as anyone can expect with 450-pound upright reptiles walking around (and beneath) New York. But the filmmakers also wanted to bring more personality than ever to the Turtles.

Says Form: “We always felt this movie had to be first and foremost about the characters. We knew the technology was going to be exciting and we loved the idea that we could have the Turtles doing amazing things they couldn’t imagine doing 20 years ago. But it was equally about giving audiences a fresh experience of who the Turtles are. Ultimately our focus was to tell a real story about four close-knit brothers and the making of a family.”

To find that tricky balance between character, story and technology, the producers brought in Jonathan Liebesman, an innovative young director known for the stylish action of *Battle: Los* Angeles, *Wrath of the Titans* and *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning*.

“Jonathan had the experience with CG characters, and more importantly, he’d shown the ability to make action feel real,” says Fuller. “The action sequences he created for *Battle: Los Angeles* were so fantastic, we hoped to bring that same realistic feel to the Turtles.”

Liebesman was thrilled by the opportunity to take the Turtles where Turtles have never gone: into the territory where live-action meets digital alchemy. “I grew up with the Turtles and I loved their humor,” he recalls. “But what was so exciting to me is that with today’s technology I knew we could give them a new scope previously unattainable. We brought in all the humor and charm while allowing the Turtles to have the kind of big action moments people love in movies today.”

Liebesman came in with strong ideas about what makes the Turtles so appealing. “I think that the most important factor is that they are fun. That was number one,” he explains. “Number two is they are indeed mutants – and I always wanted to see how that happened! Number three is the spectacle of seeing turtles big and strong enough to be ninjitsu super heroes. And that was something else we had a chance to realize for the first time in this movie.”

He started by creating a character board for each Turtle, drawing upon familiar pop culture references. He linked Leonardo to Tom Hanks’ resolute leader in *Saving Private Ryan*, Raphael to the Clint Eastwood of the Sergio Leone Spaghetti Westerns, Michelangelo to the laconically comical Bill Murray in *Ghostbusters* and Donatello to the logic-loving Spock in *Star Trek*.

Recalls Liebesman of his approach: “In reinventing the Turtles we hoped to focus on their personalities while also making them a little larger than life, a little darker in design. We were inspired to make them fun and badass at the same time.”

Liebesman would have to steer a rather huge cast and crew to reach that aim, but it was worth it he says. “It’s incredible how many people it took to bring even one Turtle performance to life – actors, animators, renderers and more -- but it really makes the experience far more life-like.”

The bottom line for Liebesman was getting something more than breathtaking Turtle effects on screen: he wanted to underline the unbreakable bonds that make the Turtles true heroes while they’re battling for the city. Says Will Arnett, who plays cameraman Vern Fenwick, of what makes these new Turtles click: “The Turtles’ in this story have personalities you can recognize and relate to in teenagers right now. At the same time, what I love most is that our *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* is a timeless tale of a lost family who find their way by sticking together.”

**BEHIND THE MASKS: MEET THE NINJA FAMILY**

 From the start, the crux of the new *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* was re-envisioning the Turtles. It was essential that the charisma and comic flair of these amped-up amphibians shine through while bringing something new, forging Mutant mythology with 21st Century filmmaking. Each member of the Ninja family brings his own unique skills and attitude.

**Leonardo:**

 Named for the mind-bending Italian inventor and painter Leonardo Da Vinci, Leonardo is the cool, calm, Zen Master of the Turtles, who takes to heart the responsibility of being the oldest brother. Luckily, “Leo” stands 6’ 5” and wields his steel katana swords with deadly accuracy.

 While Leo has always been the most serious and disciplined of the four brothers since the very first TMNT comics, this Leo is a fresh incarnation who wrestles with a burden most teenagers don’t have: saving the world while keeping his little brothers safe! Picking up where Master Splinter leaves off, he serves as a surrogate dad to his family. And when it comes to the Ninja part of their legacy, no one trains harder than Leo, making him a formidable foe to anyone who threatens their brotherhood.

**Raphael:**

 The namesake of the master fresco painter known as the father of Renaissance style, Raphael is no pushover. He’s the rebel bad-boy of the four brothers, known not only for his fierce red mask and his prong-shaped *sai* weapons, but his fiery opinions. Nicknamed Raph, Raphael might be the one turtle most likely to act now and ask questions later, but beneath his stormy personality, he’s as loyal to his brothers as they are to him.

 Going back to the early comics, Raphael was always the most hotheaded but he has evolved into the quartet’s beloved wise-guy. And as ever, his fearless fighting skills continue to give the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles a serious advantage when battling evil.

**Michelangelo:**

 The inimitably insightful Italian painter and sculptor Michelangelo gives the youngest brother among the Turtles his name. Freewheeling and irrepressibly fun-loving, “Mikey” dons an orange mask while whirling his *nunchakus* and spouting surfer lingo between bites of pizza.

Because he most resembles the original drawing by Kevin Eastman, some consider Michelangelo to be the very first Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle.

Since then, through the history of the many comic books, TV series and movies, Michelangelo has come to embody the heart of the brothers and also coined many of their catchiest catch-phrases including the oft-quoted “Cowabunga!” No matter how tense a situation the Turtles find themselves in, Mikey never loses his verve. Still a giant kid at heart, this incarnation of Mikey brings a B-boy style his high-spirited humor even to battle.

**Donatello:**

Dubbed for the Florentine sculptor who left an indelible mark on the art world, Donatello is the tech-savvy brains of the foursome. The tallest Turtle at 6’ 8”, behind his purple mask and his wooden bo staff, his sharp mind is never at rest.

While Donatello has, since the original comic, always been portrayed as the smartest of the terrapins, here he comes to life as non-stop digital inventor, the guy who comes up with all the most bodacious TMNT gadgets. Mirroring the cool, young nerds who drive the 21st Century, Donatello is as skilled at hacking into a camera or security system as he is at bandying his extra-long bo staff.

**Master Splinter:**

Rounding out the Turtle’s patchwork family is Master Splinter, sometimes known just as Splinter, the wise but mutated rodent who has become *sensei* and adoptive father to the Turtles, instructing them in the ways of the Ninja.

Part of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle mythology from the very first comics, the elderly rat might be tiny in stature, but he more than makes up for it with his vast, all-knowing nature. And when things get tough, Splinter is ready to sacrifice.

**TURTLE FRIENDS AND NINJA ENEMIES**

Though the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles try to roam secretly in the sewers and shadows, they are discovered by two people who will become key to their attempts to free the city from The Shredder’s brutal grip: reporter April O’Neil and her camera-clicking sidekick Vern.

Finding just the right actors to carry the human side of the story was essential. To play April, the filmmakers knew they needed someone who not only would have broad appeal but the plucky personality that makes the probing young reporter a great match with Turtles. It wasn’t long before they turned to one of today’s hottest leading ladies: Megan Fox who also starred in the Michael Bay blockbusters *Transformers* and *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*.

“We took the archetype of April O’Neil, the damsel in distress, and really molded it specifically to Megan who brings her wonderfully determined personality to the role,” says Liebesman. “April is a character with a lot to prove. She’s beautiful, but everyone doubts her, so we needed an actress who could literally give that sense that there’s far more there than meets the eye. Ultimately, she becomes a real family member, a real hero to the Turtles.”

Fox, like so many people of her generation, grew up on the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, and she couldn’t wait to see them come to life anew. “I am a huge fan and I wanted this part really badly,” she recalls. “This is the most excited I’ve ever been to be a part of a movie.”

Part of the excitement came from the lure she remembers the Turtles having on kids of all kinds. “I love that each Turtle reflects different personality traits. I think one reason they really resonate is that everybody has a favorite turtle of their own – and it’s usually because that turtle reflects your own personality. It’s really brilliant,” she says.

When April discovers the existence of the Turtles, she thinks she’s just tracking a hot story, but she soon becomes indelibly involved in their plans to aid the citizens of New York. Fox loved April’s sense of justice. “She’s kind of a Joan of Arc in my mind – someone who believes in doing whatever you can to accomplish what’s right,” she says.

Fox also enjoyed working with Liebesman at the helm of a very complex, demanding shoot. “Jonathan is very analytical and he was just consumed by this movie! He was thinking about it day and night—which is what you want because he was always thinking of how to make each moment the best that it can be and inspiring you to go for the very best performance.”

Playing across from Fox as her trusty photographer is Will Arnett, the comic star known for scene-stealing roles in “Arrested Development” and Emmy Award-winning “30 Rock.” Says Arnett of Vern: “He’s a weathered guy – he’s seen it all, he’s seen plenty action, and now he’s fine just doing puff pieces. When April goes after this big story, his feeling is ‘I’ve done all that. I just want to collect my paycheck.’ But when she gets in over her head with the Turtles, he’s right there to help.”

As a father of two young boys, themselves ardent fans of the Nickelodeon animated television series, Arnett was excited by the prospect of entering the Turtle’s universe – and of taking on his first action role. “I probably underestimated how physically demanding it was going to be, but it was also super fun to be so action-oriented,” he admits. “I did things I never even imagined doing before like jumping over set pieces and taking falls with gun-fire and explosions going off around me.It sure is an exciting way to spend your day.”

Also part of the excitement was the chance to work in tandem with Fox. “Megan truly has that big summer action, blockbuster vibe about her. She can enter this kind of upside down world where everything is heightened and moving at lightning pace, where walls are exploding and things are falling apart, and she just become part of it in a very alluring way,” he observes.

Liebesman was thrilled by their chemistry. “We were really lucky to get Will Arnett who is such a great comedian to join the mix,” the director says. “He is so funny, I could just leave the camera running and there was always an embarrassment of riches in his performance.”

Just as vital as finding the Turtles’ allies was casting their evil nemesis -- the billionaire Eric Sacks and his crimelord alter-ego The Shredder. To give him all the textured shadings of a complex, modern villain, the filmmakers brought in versatile actor William Fichtner, whose diverse roster of recent film credits include Neill Blomkamp’s sci-fi epic *Elysium* and Shawn Levy’s comedy *Date Night* as well as Bay’s *Pearl Harbor* and *Armageddon*.

“Will is a great and very serious actor,” says Brad Fuller. “Rather than chew the scenery and go crazy with the role, Will took a more realistic approach that is really intriguing. He truly seems like one of those big media personalities who live in New York.”

Like many, Fichtner had his own links to the Turtles. He recalls that his son had Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle toys and when he told his nephew he was considering a role in the new movie, the boy advised him: “Uncle Bill, you must do this.”

Once he dove in, he was entranced by Sacks and his split personality. “Eric Sacks is a complex individual,” says Fichtner, “and how his life intersects with April’s makes for a fascinating arc. In the course of the movie we find out where Sacks came from and what made him who he is.”

In addition to April, the Turtles, Splinter and The Shredder, longtime fans of the Turtle franchise will recognize other original characters – many seen in new ways. They include Karai, Shredder’s second-in-command played by Japanese-American actress Minae Noji (“General Hospital”), and blustery news editor Burne Thompson who has been reincarnated as Bernadette Thompson, played with equal bombast by Oscar®-winning actress Whoopi Goldberg.

Goldberg was more than happy to join in on the action. “I've wanted to work with the Turtles since my daughter was a kid. All she wanted in the world was for me to be in their first movie, but they didn't ask. Almost 25 years later, my daughter is now a grandmother and I get to be in a movie with the Turtles and we're both thrilled.”

**THE GREAT AND POWERFUL OOZE: BREAKTHROUGHS IN MOTION CAPTURE**

With the cast set, the production was one step closer to re-inventing the Turtles. The next step would be the trickiest: merging the actors’ vibrant personalities with technology. To forge the most palpably real version of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles ever, the filmmakers set a very high benchmark for photo-realistic CGI --- that seen in Michael Bay’s *Transformers*.

“One thing I admire about Michael Bay’s movies, especially *Transformers*, is that he does as much practically as possible. I think the best way to do visual effects is to have as much reality in the frame as you can,” says Liebesman. “So it was important to us to always shave actors in the frame playing the Ninja Turtles as well as stunt people doing the martial arts so that the animators were always matching something real as opposed to something imaginary.”

They immediately aimed high by recruiting Industrial Light & Magic’s Pablo Helman (*Battlesehip*) to serve as visual effects supervisor – and to oversee the anticipated debut of ILM’s fourth -generation motion capture system, the latest in their ratcheting up of photo-realism to unprecedented levels. “ILM’s brand new tracking suits and technology allowed us to translate the performances into incredible animation as truthfully as has ever been possible,” notes Liebesman.

Helman was gratified to be chosen to shepherd the Turtles into our high-tech times. “I couldn't refuse the challenge,” he explains. “The film really is the perfect marriage of computer-generated images with performance – a marriage of science and artistry.”

From the start, Helman knew the reaction he was after. “We wanted the audience to look at the Turtles and think ‘How did they do that?’” he explains. “One of thing we really focused on was capturing the most subtle, almost unseen emotions that are the force behind forging that essential connection between characters and the audience.”

To capture those nuanced emotions, Helman immersed his team in the detailed universe of the human – and ultimately Turtle – face. This called for new innovations. The system involved mounting shrunken hi-def cameras on a helmet in front of each actor. The cameras could capture the tiniest facial and eye movements, down to the half-blink of an eye or flick of a tongue, so they could be translated into thousands of terabytes of coded information for the animators to play with.

Bringing the characters even more to flesh-and-blood life, the cast donned brand new “mo-cap” suits that are far less intrusive and allow for more natural movement than previous versions.

Preparations got underway months before filming -- as Ritchson, Ploszek, Fisher, Howard and Woodburn each underwent complex facial and full-body scans that led to the tailoring of their custom made helmets and mo-cap suits.

Later, on set, the four Turtle actors and Woodburn each went through a daily two-hour long session of applying white facial powder and VFX dots to help further track their expressions. Before the cameras rolled, the four turtle actors would then strap on not only their helmets but a lightweight turtle shell, which added to the realistic physical motion and weight distribution.

For the Turtle actors, wearing all this gear was an adjustment, but one that ultimately helped them dive deeper into the Turtle universe. Explains Ploszek, “Wearing dots on your face every day and having helmet-mounted cameras in your face took getting used to, as did the suit and just understanding the dimensions of moving around with a shell day-to-day! But honestly it was worth it. This technology is truly the frontier of moviemaking and it was exciting to be part of that.”

The main cast especially loved being able to interact with other actors, as opposed to what was becoming a loathed grind of CGI films: talking to tennis-ball markers. Says Megan Fox: “It’s a total world of difference having actual actors to play off. Alan, Pete, Noel and Jeremy were brilliant together and it was just great to have these living, breathing human beings reacting, because that’s how actors have always found great things in the moment.”

Adds producer Andrew Form, “The system we used had tremendous advantages for everybody. Most importantly, we were able to shoot in real locations and have the actors truly play off each other. Megan as April was able to look into the eyes of Leo, and react spontaneously – but also knowing he would later transform into the 6’ 5” Turtle you see on the screen.”

To mimic the Turtles’ soaring heights with the actors, techniques ranged from having them stand on platforms to wearing platform heels, to having eyeballs pasted to the tops of their heads to establish a higher eye line. All of that helped transform them into their final forms.

 For ILM Animation SupervisorTim Harrington, who has worked with ILM for a decade on productions ranging from *Star Wars* to *The Avengers*, the chance to blend real environments with digital characters was exhilarating. He tackled the job with a team of 60 talented animators. “The cool thing about this project is that the Turtles are so grounded in reality,” he says. “After all the shooting was done with the actors, as animators we were then able to amp up their punches, make their spins go twice as fast, make their kicks even higher, and give them the impact of superheroes.”

 Harrington loved watching the alchemy unfold. “It’s a pretty amazing process,” he continues. “The actors give us the DNA of the characters, their heart and soul, and then our army of artists and animators come in and refine that in a way that makes a giant Turtle really appealing.”

 Most of all, Harrington was thrilled with the results of the facial capture system that gave his team material for 750 talking Turtle shots. “I think it will blow people away,” he concludes. “The quality of the work makes the Turtles seem more real than ever and fans are going to love that.”

 In addition to the Turtles, the creation of Splinter was a mind-boggling task. “Splinter was a very difficult character to create because of how small he is compared to the Turtles. You also have a muzzle that is really, really long, so the articulation of words is challenging,” Helman explains. “We wanted him to feel like a true Master and for people to be able to connect with him – and that’s challenging with a rat! There’s a reason why you can’t really see what a rat is thinking: they don’t have pupils so it’s hard to know what they are looking at. We used the movement of his whiskers and nose to give him more expression.”

Helman and his team also crafted several fully integrated digital environments, including Shredder’s hideout, a multilevel maze of lab and dojo, where a showdown takes place.

For Harrington, one of the biggest challenges was the fight choreography in the dojo. “The martial arts scenes are super complicated,” he notes. “We needed to be able to control the camera, so we not only were animating the characters, but also animating the cameras and designing shots.”

Helman says the real success of the tech side was how much they were able to tap into the Turtle camaraderie. “My favorite moments in the movie are the most personal moments, where you really get to know these characters,” he says. “I love the scene where the Turtles sneak back into the lair after they have had a night-time adventure and you really see how they get along and then don’t get along, just like any brothers! It captures both the mythology and humanity of the Turtles.”

**NINJA ACTION, TURTLE STYLE**

While Pablo Helman focused on the technology side, the filmmakers put equal emphasis on creating visceral physical action on set, assuring each of the Turtle’s Ninja moves would be thrilling.

The weaponry was key. “Raphael has his scythes, Leo has his katanas, Mikey has his nunchucks and Donny has his bo staff,” explains Jonathan Liebesman. “Then you have Foot clan guys who have these cool gadgets that can knock out a Ninja Turtle. Shredder also has incredible gadgetry on his suit. He’s a master of ninjitsu, of course, but in addition we gave him an armored mech-suit that has electro-magnetic blades he can throw and retract.”

With these accessories in mind, stunt coordinator/second unit director David Leitch (*TRON: Legacy, Jupiter Ascending*) and fight coordinator Jonathan Eusebio (*The Avengers, The Wolverine*) collaborated on a series of gravity defying, hard-hitting martial-arts battle sequences.

Says Leitch, “The most important thing in the action was using it to define character. So you see that Donatello uses his staff in a very Donatello way, Michelangelo brings his wild and crazy character to the nunchucks, Raphael fights like a big bruiser with an attitude, and Leo is the most disciplined fighter with a very clear personal code. These attributes inform the specific moves and are reflected throughout every second of the fight choreography.”

Eusebio, who grew up reading the comic books and watching the Turtles on television was committed to incorporating authentic Ninja traditions as well. “The Turtles’ individual fighting styles remain true to Japanese origins but we mix it up with MMA and modern styles,” he explains. “Like the film, the choreography balances being high-spirited while taking on some of the grit of the original comic.”

Meanwhile, the actors left their ordinary lives behind as they enrolled in a Ninja Boot Camp, where they spent 24/7 honing their weapon skills and learning to adhere to the Ninja code.

Alan Ritchson, who plays Raphael, recalls being stunned at how quickly he developed fledgling Ninja abilities. “We had some of the best martial artists in the world showing us our moves,” he says, “and at first, we were all thinking ‘I’ll never be able to do that, I’m so disheartened right now.’ But over the months we got more and more proficient and more and more confident. Suddenly, we got to that point where we were doing cool moves and we didn’t even realize what had happened. Going through all that together just made us more of a family.”

While the actors were training, Leitch and Eusebio sought out such parkour tricking artists as Jeremy Marinas and Anis Cheurfa, as well as such veteran martial artists and stunt players as Jon Valera, Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) competitor Daniel Hernandez and Daniel Graham – all true movement artists capable of taking battle scenes to the next level. Liebesman calls them “some of the most nimble, athletic and skilled stunt performers I’ve ever seen.”

When it came to choreographing the final showdown between Splinter and Shredder, Eusebio took into special consideration the unique physicality of Splinter. He imbued the four-foot rodent who also happens to be Master Ninja with an animalistic quality to his fighting style. “There had to some great Splinter action,” says Brad Fuller, “and these guys delivered it.”

Megan Fox got in on the fighting action as well – training with Eusebio and his team and picking up a few killer kickboxing moves for a key scene.

Some of the most eye-popping action in the film involves a snowbound chase as Shredder’s henchmen chase April, Vern and the boys as they try to make a swift escape. This called for a specialized Snow Unit, headed by action director Dan Bradley, who has overseen ambitious action sequences in *The Bourne* franchise, along with stunt coordinator Scott Rogers (*Oz The Great and Powerful*). Also key to the sequence was the work of the film’s Oscar®-winning special effects supervisor Burt Dalton (*The Curious Case of Benjamin Button).*

The Snow Unit descended on Tupper Lake in the Adirondacks to spend three days filming the pyrotechnic action along winding mountain roads. A defunct ski area nearby served as the backdrop to action, which saw a tractor trailer, Humvees and SUV’s racing down the mountainside as rocket-propelled grenades explode around them. The daring sequence required drivers Jim Wilkey and Danny Wynands to repeatedly pull off 270° spinouts with a 25 ton big-rigs. One of the semis was also rigged it to a 35-foot long ratchet pounds -- estimated to be the world’s longest and weighing in at 25,000 pounds -- for a spectacular hurtling jump off a snowy incline.

“The snow chase was really challenging,” admits Fuller. “It was hard to believe we were really going to create a Turtle flying into a Hummer, but to accomplish that was incredible.”

**A TURTLE’S LAIR AND A NINJA’S NEW YORK**

Though the Turtles live underground in a maze-like subterranean world, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* is very much a New York movie, moving through every corner of Manhattan, from Chinatown to the South Street Seaport to the Upper Eastside. It was all captured in the dynamic camerawork of cinematographer Lula Carvalho, who also shot the recent reboot of *Robocop*.

Award-winning production designer Neil Spisak, known for his work on the *Spider-Man* franchise, came aboard to create the live-action sets. Spisak’s centerpiece would be the Turtles’ hidden lair – both home and command center – in a long-forgotten utility outpost. He crafted a spectacular 3,000 square-foot set replete with graffiti-tagged chambers, pizza-box furniture, skateboard ramp, meditation room, a wall of boom boxes, and a console room where Donatello monitors the city. True to “Turtle Aesthetics,” the set meshed salvaged materials, high-tech gadgetry and Japanese dojo elements with the typical domestic disarray of teens on the loose.

“If you had four teenagers living in a sewer this is what it could look like,” says Liebesman. “Neil created a world that is like their own private bunker. If the world exploded you could live down there as long as you like – and there’d be plenty of pizza!”

Says Brad Fuller of the design: “We felt it was incumbent upon us to come up with something that would blow people’s minds. Neil came up with amazing ideas we loved. He and his art department figured out what would be the coolest possible place that these kids could live in.”

Adds Andrew Form: “It’s a huge, fun, creative world where Turtles can train and play.”

It would be up to Emmy-winning and Oscar®-nominated set decorator Debra Schutt (“Boardwalk Empire”), to accent the Turtle’s home with flea market finds and custom furniture designed to look scavenged. Pizza boxes were turned into sofas and playground equipment transformed into beds.

Every inch of the Turtles’ Lair made indelible impressions on the cast. Recalls Megan Fox, “The design was mind-blowing with references from the 80s all the way to modern day. The fun of it breathed so much life into our work.” Adds Will Arnett: “I was stunned by the detail. It was not a facade, but a fully functional world where the guys could really play and train. Very cool.”

 All the details of the TMNT world – both those meticulously built on set and those created in a computer, added up to what the filmmakers had aimed for: a slightly mutant twist on reality. More than anything, Liebesman wanted the Turtles to be able to touch people in the end.

“What I’m most proud of is just the warmth and charm the Turtles have with each other, that sense of brotherhood and family,” he summarizes. “The action sequences turned out incredibly, but the degree to which you really care about these characters is a testament both to the live-action actors and to the level of visual effects ILM brought to the movie. You buy into the reality that it was the Turtles you see on the screen who were on set!”

**TOP TEN TURTLEMANIA FACTS**

* The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles first hit comic book stands in 1984. They made their debut in what was meant to be a single-issue comic by creators Kevin Eastman and Peter Laird, who borrowed money from Eastman’s uncle to produce it. But it turned out to just be the beginning . . .
* In 1988, a first phase of total Turtlemania kicked off with launch of the animated television series followed video games, tours and the 1990 movie. TMNT toys became top-sellers, just behind G.I Joe and Star Wars figures.
* A new phase of Turtlemania began in 2012 with the new computer-animated television series on Nickelodeon. It was an instant hit, with 12 million viewers tuning in for the very first show
* Over 100 million viewers have since watched the series worldwide
* Since Fall of 2012, over 10 million Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle action figures have been sold
* In 2013, the Turtles were named the #1 Boys Action Toy Property
* Also in 2013, FILA shoes kicked off their first TMNT sneaker, which sold out in the first 15 minutes online
* More than 1 million visitors check out the TMNT page on Nick.com every month
* Polls have found that Michelangelo and Raphael are neck-and-neck as fan favorites, but Leonardo and Donatello have equally passionate fans
* Bringing the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles to the screen in 2014 as hybrid CG characters was an effort that took a team of more than 400 animators in addition to a full-scale live-action production

**ABOUT THE CAST**

**MEGAN FOX** (April O’Neil) rose to international stardom with her break-out role of ‘Mikaela’ in Paramount Pictures’ *Transformers*, and the second film in the franchise *Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen*.  She was recently seen in Judd Apatow’s comedy *This Is 40* alongside Leslie Mann and Paul Rudd for Universal Pictures and the independent film *Friends with Kids* for writer/director Jennifer Westfeldt opposite Jon Hamm, Adam Scott, and Kristen Wiig which premiered at The Toronto Film Festival.

Fox’s additional film credits include *Passion Play* opposite Mickey Rourke and Bill Murray, *Jonah Hex* for Warner Bros. opposite Josh Brolin and John Malkovich, 20th Century Fox’s dark comedic/horror thriller *Jennifer’s Body*, written by Academy-Award winner Diablo Cody, which also starred Amanda Seyfried, and *How to Lose Friends and Alienate People* alongside Simon Pegg.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Fox began taking dance lessons at the age of five and continued her training when the family moved to Florida when she was ten. At age fifteen she moved to Los Angeles and started working on feature films and television.

Fox currently resides in Los Angeles.

**WILL ARNETT** (VernFenwick) co-stars on the highly anticipated return of the Emmy award winning “Arrested Development” that recently launched new episodes on Netflix. He recently voiced a character in Warner Bros’ *“The Lego Movie,”* opposite of Will Ferrell and Liam Neeson that will release in early 2014.

He was most recently seen on NBC’s “Up All Night” opposite of Christina Applegate and Maya Rudolph.  Arnett also partnered with Jason Bateman to form DumbDumb, a comedy enterprise that creates and produces brand-inspired entertainment content that reaches audiences across all forms of social, digital and traditional media.

No stranger from television, Arnett is best known for his work on the critically acclaimed Fox sitcom “Arrested Development,” where he portrayed “Gob Bluth” for three seasons and earned his first Emmy nomination. He recently starred in Fox’s comedy series “Running Wilde” opposite of Kerri Russell where he starred and wrote for the series alongside writer/director Mitch Hurwitz. Arnett frequently guest stars on NBC’s “30 Rock” playing ‘Devon Banks.’ Last year he earned his third Emmy nomination for “Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series” for this role. Arnett also lent his voice to Fox’s animated sitcom from creator Mitch Hurwitz, “Sit Down, Shut Up.”

Arnett can also be seen in the Warner Brothers and Legendary western action film *Jonah Hex* based off the DC comic of the same name. Released in June 2010, Arnett starred opposite Megan Fox, Josh Brolin and John Malkovich. Arnett also starred in Walt Disney Pictures’ romantic comedy *When in Rome* opposite Kristen Bell and in *G-Force*, a combination live action/CG film from Disney and Jerry Bruckheimer Films, opposite Penelope Cruz, Nicholas Cage, Steve Buscemi, and Zach Galifianakis. In addition, he voiced a character in the hugely successful DreamWorks 3-D animated adventure film, *Monsters vs. Aliens,* alongside Reese Witherspoon, Paul Rudd and Seth Rogen, which opened number one at the box office. He also starred in the basketball comedy *Semi Pro* opposite Will Ferrell and Woody Harrelson, and lent his voice to the hugely successful animated comedy *Horton Hears a Who*.In 2007, he was seen opposite Will Ferrell in the figure skating comedy *Blades of Glory*, and also co-starred opposite Will Forte in *The Brothers Solomon*.

Before “Arrested Development,” Arnett was a regular on the NBC comedy series “The Mike O’Malley Show.” His additional television credits include guest-starring roles on “Parks and Recreation,” “Sex and the City,” “The Sopranos,” “Boston Public,” “Third Watch” and “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.” Arnett also appeared on NBC’s “Will & Grace” playing Jack’s dance nemesis while auditioning to become a backup dancer for Janet Jackson.

Arnett’s other feature credits include *Ice Age 2: The Meltdown, R.V.* opposite Robin Williams, *Monster-In-Law*, *The Waiting Game*, *The Broken Giant*, *Southie* and *Ed’s Next Move*. Additionally, he can be heard in a variety of commercials most notably as the voice of GMC Trucks.

Having appeared in a wide range of films along with television and theater roles over the course of his career, **WILLIAM** **FICHTNER** (Eric Sacks) continues to carve out a distinctive reputation as one of our most versatile and talented actors, whether in comedy or drama, action or character study.

In the past year, Fichtner has completed starring roles in director Gore Verbinski’s *The Lone Ranger,* opposite Johnny Depp and Armie Hammer, for producer Jerry Bruckheimer and Disney; Neill Blomkamp’s *Elysium,* opposite Matt Damon and Jodie Foster for Sony Pictures; writer-director Todd Robinson’s thriller *Phantom,* opposite Ed Harris and David Duchovny; and director-producer Danny DeVito’s thriller *St. Sebastian.*

In 2012, Fichtner starred in the John Stockwell-directed *Seal Team Six: The Raid on Osama Bin Laden,* based on the true events surrounding the U.S. Navy SEALS mission to capture Osama bin Laden. The film had its world premiere on the National Geographic Channel.

In 2011 Fichtner starred opposite Nicholas Cage in *Drive Angry* for director Patrick Lussier and alongside Antonio Banderas in *The* *Big Bang* for director Tony Krantz. In 2010 he starred opposite Steve Carell and Tina Fey in director Shawn Levy’s *Date Night*.

Fichtner co-starred in writer-director Paul Haggis’ Academy Award-winning *Crash*. For his performance in that film, he shared a Screen Actors Guild Award for *Best Ensemble Cast in a Feature Film*.  His additional film credits include *Blades of Glory* with Will Ferrell; director Chris Nolan’s *The Dark* Knight; the remake of *The Longest Yard* with Adam Sandler; the comedy *The Amateurs* with Jeff Bridges; two films that premiered in the same Sundance Film Festival season: Rodrigo Garcia’s *Nine Lives* and Arie Posin’s *The Chumscrubber*; Ridley Scott’s *Black Hawk Down*; *What’s The Worst Thing That Could* *Happen*; Wolfgang Peterson’s *The Perfect Storm; Drowning Mona; Ultraviolet* and *Equilibrium*, both for writer-director Kurt Wimmer; *Armageddon*; Michael Mann’s *Heat;* Robert Zemeckis’ *Contact*; Doug Liman’s *Go*; Katherine Bigelow’s *Strange Days*; *Passion of Mind*; Steven Soderbergh’s *The Underneath*; *Switchback*; Agnieszka Holland’s *Julie Walking Home; The* *Settlement* with John C. Reilly; Kevin Spacey’s directorial debut *Albino Alligator* and *First Snow* with Guy Pearce.

Segueing between television and feature films, Fichtner most recently completed filming the international television series “Crossing Lines,” created by Edward Allen Bernero, co-creator of “Third Watch” and an executive producer of “Criminal Minds.”  Fichtner stars in the series opposite Donald Sutherland. Fichtner had a recurring role on HBO’s *Entourage* from 2009-2011. He played ‘FBI Agent Alexander Mahone’ for three seasons on Fox’s hit drama series, *Prison Break*. He also starred with Paul Newman and Ed Harris in HBO’s critically acclaimed adaptation of Richard Russo’s *Empire Falls.* Other television credits include roles on NBC’s *The West Wing*, and ABC’s *Invasion*.

As a member of the Circle Repertory Theatre, Fichtner won critical acclaim for his role in *The Fiery Furnace*, directed by Norman Rene. Other stage credits include *Raft of the Medusa* at the Minetta Lane Theatre, *The Years* at the Manhattan Theatre Club, *Clothes for a Summer Hotel* at the Williamstown Theatre festival and *Machinal* at The Public Theatre.

**ALAN RITCHSON** (Raphael) - most recently was seen as the District 1 victor, Gloss, in *The Hunger Games:* *Catching Fire*; the second installment of the hugely successfulfranchise. His early credits include portraying ‘Aquaman’ in the long running series “Smallville.” Ritchson has also taken on a grittier leading man role in the independent film market with the modern-day western *Rex*.

In contrast, he also made quite a comedic impression with his love-to-hate-him Thad Castle character on the football comedy *Blue Mountain State*. He parlayed his comedic skills to work with Rebel Wilson in her CBS series “Super Fun Night.”

**NOEL FISHER** (Michelangelo) has become one of the entertainment industry’s most sought after and versatile performers showcasing his wide range of acting ability in some of the hottest projects on screen today.

In 2012, Fisher was seen with a supporting role, as “Vladimir”, a Romanian vampire, in the final chapter of the worldwide phenomenon, *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 2*. Fisher has a recurring role as “Mickey Milkovich” opposite William H. Macy and Emmy Rossum on the hit Showtime series “Shameless” and recently has joined the cast as a series regular, for season three in 2013. Also in 2012, Fisher was seen in the record-breaking History Channel miniseries “Hatfields & McCoys” as “Ellison ‘Cotton Top‘ Mounts” opposite Kevin Costner and Bill Paxton.

Originally from Vancouver, B.C. Fisher has been steadily gaining momentum as an actor since he was 14 years old. His very first role was in the TV movie “The Sheldon Kennedy Story” for CBC in 1999. The part landed Fisher his first Gemini nomination, the Canadian equivalent of the Emmy Awards, which was followed with a second nomination for his work on the hit Canadian series “Godiva’s.”

Once gaining traction in Canada, Fisher proved that his talent would translate to the U.S. market, appearing in the Columbia Pictures blockbuster *Battle: Los Angeles* for *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* director Jonathan Liebesman.

He has also made his mark in television, appearing on top series such as CBS’ “Two and a Half Men,” “The Mentalist,” “Medium,” and a recurring role on NBC’s “Law and Order: SVU,” Showtime’s “Huff,” and Fox’s “Bones.” In 2008, he went to Sundance with the independent film *Red*, an Official Selection, alongside Brian Cox.

2010 was a stand out year for Fisher, as he was seen in the HBO nominated miniseries “The Pacific,” the follow up to the hit miniseries “Band of Brothers.” His other television credits from the past two years include solid performances in Fox’s “Lie to Me,” FX’s “Terriers,” CBS’ “Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior” and TNT’s “Dark Blue.” Audiences may best remember Fisher from his breakout performance in the critically acclaimed FX series “The Riches,” portraying “Cal,” the conniving and clever son of Eddie Izzard and Minnie Driver.

**PETE PLOSZEK** (Leonardo) - is a graduate of Princeton University, where he played football. He earned his MFA in Acting from the USC School of Theatre in 2012. Ploszek makes his feature film acting debut *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.*

Ploszek’s most recent theatre credits include ‘Stefano’ in “The Tempest” and ‘Trofimov’ in “The Cherry Orchard,” directed by veteran Broadway actress Kate Burton.  Following USC, Pete landed guest star roles on the Showtime series “Shameless,” and NBC’s “Parks and Recreation.”

**JEREMY HOWARD** (Donatello) most recently co-starred in the feature film *The Pretty One,* starring Zoe Kazan and Jake Johnson. His recent television credits include roles in “Suburgatory,” “Grey’s Anatomy,” “Little in Common,” and “Breaking Bad.”

The native Californian, is perhaps best known for his roles in Ron Howard’s *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and *Galaxy Quest* starring Tim Allen. His other feature film credits include *Hotel for Dogs, He’s Such a Girl, Sydney White, Men in Black II* and *Accepted* among others.

Howard, the son of actor Joe Howard (*Anger Management, Grumpy Old Men),* began acting at a young age appearing in dozens of television commercials and television series such as “House M.D.,” “Monk,” “My Name is Earl,” “The Drew Carey Show,” “Entourage,” and “Scrubs” to name a few.

Howard resides in Los Angeles with his wife.

**ABBY ELLIOTT** (Taylor) - is an actress and writer, most recently know for her work on “Saturday Night Live” along with her appearances on “How I Met Your Mother” and “2 Broke Girls.” Elliott joined the cast of SNL in the 2008-09 season from the Upright Citizens Brigade Theater, the improv/sketch theater co-founded by SNL alumni Amy Poehler, where she trained and performed in both their New York and Los Angeles theaters. In addition, she trained with LA's Groundlings Theater.

Elliott has dazzled SNL audiences with uncanny impressions of Angelina Jolie, Rachel Maddow, and Sarah McLachlan. She has also appeared in many television shows such as "King of the Hill," "Chrissy: Plain and Simple," "Minoriteam" and "You've Reached the Elliotts."

Originally from Wilton, Connecticut, Elliott is the daughter of Chris Elliott, a regular cast member during the 1994-95 season, making her the first second-generation SNL cast member. Abby ended her tenure at SNL after the 2011-2012 season.

Elliott has also made several recent appearances on the big screen. In 2011 she starred in *No Strings Attached* alongside Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher; as well as *High Road* with Ed Helms, Lizzy Caplan, and Rob Riggle. Most recently she was seen in *Fun Size* with Victoria Justice, Johnny Knoxville and Thomas Mann. Elliott is currently developing a half-hour show at MTV for herself to star.

**ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

**JONATHAN LIEBESMAN** (Director) has built his brand as a director by beating out fierce competition to helm the live-action adaptation of the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* franchise for Paramount & Michael Bay.

Born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, Liebesman studied filmmaking at the South African School of Film and Drama and at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. His student short, an adaptation of Roald Dahl’s *Genesis and Catastrophe*, earned him the Student Short Film Award at the 2000 Austin Film Festival and the Hollywood Young Filmmaker Award at the 2000 Hollywood Film Festival, which lead to him directing his first feature film at the age of 26.

Liebesman's debut feature garnered the attention of Michael Bay and his production company, Platinum Dunes, who then asked him to direct *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre: The Beginning*  (New Line Cinema, 2006), a prequel to the popular franchise. He has since been pursued by major studios who recognize him for both his talent and the continued box office success of his films.

Liebesman’s most recent credits include the worldwide hit *Battle: Los Angeles* (Columbia Pictures, 2011) and *Wrath of the Titans* (Warner Bros., 2012).

**JOSH APPELBAUM & ANDRÉ NEMEC** (Screenwriters) were born and raised in New York where they both attended Riverdale Country School. After college, the two broke into the entertainment industry together as television writers and have remained longtime writing and producing partners.

Appelbaum & Nemec’s early credits include Early Edition for CBS, Going to California for Showtime, and Fastlane for Fox. The pair then spent three years writing for Alias where they rose to the level of co-executive producer. They then went on to co-create and executive produce ABC’s October Road, Life on Mars, and Happy Town.

In 2010 J.J. Abrams approached Appelbaum & Nemec to write Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol, the fourth installment in the multi-billion dollar franchise starring Tom Cruise. This was the pair’s first produced feature film.

Building on the success of Mission: Impossible: Ghost Protocol, the pair was then tapped to write the latest installment of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Beverly Hills Cop franchises. In addition, Appelbaum & Nemec are executive producers on the forthcoming Project Almanac, set for release on January 30th, 2015.

Currently, Appelbaum & Nemec remain active in television where they write and produce under their Midnight Radio banner. Upcoming projects include an adaptation of James Patterson’s novel Zoo for CBS, a drama pilot with writer Michael Tolkin for AMC, and a series collaboration with Steven Spielberg’s Amblin Entertainment and

**EVAN DAUGHERTY** (Screenwriter) wrote the hit film *Snow White and the Huntsman* starring Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron, when he was a college student at New York University.  In 2010, his screenplay created a bidding war and became one of the biggest studio spec sales in years.  The film was released in the summer of 2012, winning the weekend and grossing over 400 million dollars worldwide for Universal Pictures.

Daugherty followed up *Snow White and the Huntsman* with an adaptation of the Young Adult novel, *Divergent*, which opened at the number one spot in the box office in the spring of 2014.  He recently penned the screenplay *GI Joe 3*, scheduled for release in 2015.

Born in New York, Evan grew up in Dallas, Texas, in constant creative pursuit.  He attended film school at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts, where he studied all aspects of filmmaking before discovering screenwriting.  He won the 2008 Script Pipeline Screenwriting Competition with *Shrapnel,* which garnered him recognition in the industry.  *Shrapnel* and *Snow White and the Huntsman* made Franklin Leonard’s Black List of the best un-produced screenplays in 2008 and 2010, respectively.

**MICHAEL BAY** (Producer) is one of the entertainment industry’s most successful filmmakers, currently listed as the 4th highest grossing directors of all time. Characterized by his aggressive visual style and high-octane action sequences that have become his cinematic signature, the films that Bay has directed and produced via his two production companies have grossed $5.5 billion worldwide.

His directing resume includes the films *Bad Boys* and *Bad Boys 2*, both starring Will Smith and Martin Lawrence; *The Rock* starring Nicolas Cage and Sean Connery; *Armageddon* starring Ben Affleck and Bruce Willis; *Pearl Harbor* starring Affleck, Josh Hartnett and Kate Beckinsale; *The Island* starring Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Johansson; as well as three *Transformers* blockbusters starring Shia LaBeouf, Josh Duhamel, Tyrese Gibson and John Turturro. The franchise has grossed over $2.4 billion; the latest installment, *Transformers: Dark of the Moon*, is the 5th highest grossing movie of all time.

Bay’s most recent film is the dark comedy *Pain and Gain*. Based on a true story, the movie stars Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson and Anthony Mackie as bodybuilding halfwits in late-90s Miami who take on a criminal enterprise of kidnapping, extortion and murder in pursuit of the American Dream.

He next film is *Transformers: Age of Extinction*, the newest chapter in the *Transformers* franchise, headlined by Wahlberg, Stanley Tucci, Kelsey Grammer, and newcomers Nicola Peltz and Jack Reynor, set for release on June 27, 2014.

Bay has two television shows in production, and is producing four additional films. He is the founder and principal partner of Platinum Dunes, a production company originally conceived to give talented commercial and video directors a chance to break into the feature world.

A graduate of Wesleyan University and Art Center College of Design, Bay has won virtually every major award in the commercial industry, including Cannes’ Golden Lion, the Grand Prix Clio, and the Directors Guild of America’s Commercial Director of the Year award. His “Got Milk?” campaign resides in the permanent collection of New York’s Museum of Modern Art.

An L.A. native, Bay resides in Miami, Florida.

**BRAD FULLER** and **ANDREW FORM** (Producers) founded Platinum Dunes in 2001 with partner Michael Bay to provide first time directors with the opportunity to helm their first film. Since that time, the company has released nine films. Eight of these films grossed their production budget opening weekend and four grossed their production budget opening night.

Last year, Platinum Dunes produced *The Purge* for Universal Pictures, which grossed $34.1 million on its opening weekend with a $3 million budget. The sequel, *The Purge: Anarchy,* is currently in post-production and is set to be released on June 20th of this year.

Following that, the studio will release the Platinum Dunes produced *Ouija*, a horror film based on the popular board game on October 24th.

This year, in addition to *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, Paramount Pictures will also release a second film for Platinum Dunes, *Project Almanac*.

Two years ago, Platinum Dunes decided to bring their production expertise to television. Their first project, “Black Sails” debuted for Starz on January 25th, 2014 and is currently in production on its second season. Their second project, “The Last Ship,” is currently in production on its first season and will debut on TNT this summer.

**GALEN WALKER** (Producer) has worked within the entertainment industry for over 25 years successfully leaving his artistic and professional mark within the field. As a studio and touring musician in the 1980’s and 1990's, and a lead sound designer and post production sound supervisor, his trained ear for sound and strong creative background put him in high demand as a sound supervisor/designer for such companies as Disney, DreamWorks, Paramount, Fox, Miramax, Warner Bros., Sony, Nickelodeon, Lionsgate, American Zoetrope, HBO and Showtime.

Walker is also an accomplished businessman whose company Pacifica Media Affiliates (PMA) acquired, owned and operated five of Hollywood’s largest independent sound studio facilities. His studios were awarded numerous accolades. His theatrical group, Weddington/Digital Sound Works earned two Academy Awards for Sound Achievement. The television facilities Larson Sound and Echo Sound Services were credited with over 75 Emmy Awards for sound services in the long and short form fields.

Walker also owned and operated one of Los Angeles’ premiere voice over facilities, Hollywood Recording Services (HRS). Considered a leader in the voice over industry, HRS accumulated multiple awards in the Radio and Television industry including 15 Cleo Awards. In 2003 Walker successfully oversaw the acquisition of his company PMA to Thompson/Technicolor.

In 2003, Walker developed a U.S. business plan for the growing Hong Kong based animation facility, Imagi. The studio completed DreamWorks television series, “Father of the Pride.” Walker established and became President of Imagi Studios USA securing theatrical rights to the *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* and *Highlander* franchises and launched animation production teams in Los Angeles, Japan and Hong Kong. In 2007, he produced *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, a CGI-animated film, which was financed and distributed by Warner Bros. and The Weinstein Company. The film was #1 at the U.S. box office in its opening weekend grossing $25 million with a worldwide $98 million. Walker remained with Imagi as VP of Production and helped set the animation production platform for the release of *Astroboy* in 209

Walker is executive producer of a *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles* documentary that documents 25 years of the franchise's history. Walker also co‐created and executive produced the primetime game show “Take It All”with partner Howie Mandel and NBC.

In 2011, Walker and his producing partner Maria Norman (*Public Enemies*) formed Gama Entertainment Partners. Gamais currently producing a slate of feature film and television content including the recently completed independent film *Jamesy Boy* starring Mary-Louise Parker, Ving Rhames And James Woods.

**SCOTT MEDNICK** (Producer) is a respected entertainment, media and technology executive, consultant, speaker and author. He has been a pioneer in creating one of the first private equity backed motion picture studios, one of the first boutique advertising and marketing companies, one of the first internet marketing companies and one of the first branded entertainment companies.

Mednick has completed numerous mergers, acquisitions and divestitures and has helped to raise over $900 million in investment capital for both public and private companies primarily focused on entertainment, marketing and technology.

In 2004, he was a co-founder of Legendary Pictures. Legendary's unique partnership brought together $500 million dollars from private equity and created a 25-picture deal with Warner Bros. to create an active production and finance entity. The initial deal included Legendary Pictures partnering with Warner Bros to fund *Batman Begins, Batman: The Dark Night* and *The Dark Night Rises*.

Mednick has served as a member of the producing team on such motion pictures as *Superman Returns, We Are Marshall, The Ant Bully, U2 3D, 10,000 BC*, *300 and Where the Wild Things Are*. He is currently producing the dramatic comedy *Delivery Man* starring Vince Vaughn for DreamWorks as well as the romantic comedy *Dr. Cabbie* starring Adrianne Palicki and Kunal Nayyar (“The Big Bang Theory”) in his first movie role. Also, in 2013 he will produce the major motion picture adaptation of the *American Gladiators* franchise. Movies that Mednick has been a part of the finance and/or producing team have grossed more than $2 billion at the box office.

Mednick has worked on the marketing campaigns for numerous television programs from “Lonesome Dove” to “Survivor” and he has worked on the campaigns for over 200 diverse motion pictures including Walt Disney's *Fantasia, Coal Miners Daughter, A Few Good Men, Spinal Tap, Dune, An American Werewolf in London, Groundhog Day, X-Men* and *The Matrix*. Mednick's individual clients have included Tom Cruise, Denzel Washington, Larry Bird, Wayne Gretzky, Sting and Nicole Kidman.

**DENIS L. STEWART** (Executive Producer) most recently served as executive producer on *Hansel and Gretel, Witch Hunters,* starring Jeremy Renner and *Cowboys & Aliens,* his second feature film with director Jon Favreau, after *Iron Man 2.*  Prior to that he was co-producer for Steven Spielberg on *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* which marked Stewart's third film with *Indian Jones* producer Frank Marshall, having served as production manager on *Eight Below, The Bourne Supremacy* and *The Bourne Ultimatum.*

Stewart is a thirty year film veteran, working as production manager on *Spider-Man 2 and 3, Munich, Bewitched, Charlie’s Angels: Full Throttle and Panic Room.* Before that he worked as first assistant director on more than 20 feature films including, *Amistad, Speed 2: Cruise Control, The Chamber, Executive Decision, The Mask, Random Hearts* and *Fair Game.*

**JASON T. REED** (Executive Producer) is currently working as a producer with feature film projects at a number of studios.  He is also developing a slate of television, book and web properties. Previously, Reed served as the General Manager and Executive Vice President of Walt Disney Studios International Production, where he oversaw the development, production and marketing of local language Disney branded films in emerging markets including China, India, Russia and the Middle East.  The studio launched numerous local films including multiple award winners *The Magic Gourd* (China), *Do Dooni Char* (India), and *The Book of Masters* (Russia).

Prior to his international duties, Reed worked as the Executive Vice President of Production for the Walt Disney Studios where he was responsible for the development and production of a wide range of successful pictures including Tim Burton’s *Alice in Wonderland*, *Enchanted, High School Musical 3*, and the *National Treasure* franchise.

Reed is also the founder of Seedstock.com, a company dedicated to encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in sustainable agriculture through information, social media and live events.

After growing up on a family farm in Upstate New York, Reed received degrees in Philosophy and Cinema-Television Production from the University of Southern California. He currently resides in Los Angeles, CA.

**IAN BRYCE (PRODUCER)** As a producer of DreamWorks/Paramount Pictures’ box office smash hits “Transformers,” “Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen” and “Transformers: Dark of the Moon,” Brycewas and is an integral component of the filmmaking team whose collective imaginations have brought the popular toys and comic book characters to the screen. Together they have created a fresh, new film franchise which has earned box office receipts well over $2.6 billion worldwide and is certain to continue to entertain audiences for years to come.

 Most recently Bryce produced Paramount’s high octane “World War Z,” starring Brad Pitt and Mireille Enos. The post-apocalyptic horror film directed by Marc Forster is based on the best-selling novel by Max Brooks. The film, shot on location in Europe, garnered more than $540 million globally.

 In addition he produced Michael Bay’s controversial dark comedy ”Pain and Gain,” starring Mark Wahlberg, Dwayne Johnson, Anthony Mackie, Tony Shalhoub, Ed Harris and Rebel Wilson, is based on a true story of kidnapping and torture for profit set in 1995 Miami.

 Next up Bryce will produce an as-yet-untitled crime thriller starring Charlize Theron under his own banner, Ian Bryce Productions, in a co-production with Theron’s Denver and Delilah Productions for Paramount Pictures. The film, written by Dan Nowak (”The Killing”), is tentatively set to go before cameras at the end of the year.

 Bryce is no stranger to big action adventure films. He produced Sam Raimi’s mega-blockbuster “Spider-Man” starring Tobey Maguire as the web-casting superhero, which was the top-grossing film domestically of 2002. The following year, he produced Antoine Fuqua’s drama “Tears of the Sun” starring Bruce Willis, and in 2005, he produced Michael Bay’s “The Island.” After producing “Transformers,” he went on to executive produce “Hancock” starring Will Smith, Charlize Theron and Jason Bateman for director Peter Berg.

 In 1999 Bryce won a Golden Globe Award and earned both Academy Award® and BAFTA nominations for his work as a producer on Steven Spielberg’s widely acclaimed World War II drama “Saving Private Ryan.” The movie won Best Picture honors from numerous critics’ organizations, including the New York, Los Angeles and Broadcast Film Critics associations. Bryce also shared a Producers Guild of America Award for the film. He went on to produce Cameron Crowe’s nostalgic comedy-drama “Almost Famous,” which won a Golden Globe for Best Picture – Musical or Comedy, and received a BAFTA Award nomination for Best Picture in 2001.

 Bryce’s other producing credits include “Forces of Nature” starring Ben Affleck and Sandra Bullock; the action thriller “Hard Rain” with Morgan Freeman and Christian Slater; Penelope Spheeris’ big-screen version of the classic television series “The Beverly Hillbillies;” and Jan de Bont’s blockbusters “Twister” and directorial debut film “Speed.”

 Born in England, Bryce started his career as a production assistant on the third installment of the first “Star Wars” trilogy, “Return of the Jedi.” He moved up to second assistant director on Steven Spielberg’s “Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom,” and later served as a production manager on “Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade.” Additionally, Bryce served as the line producer/production manager on Philip Kaufman’s “Rising Sun,” and was an associate producer/production manager on Tim Burton’s smash hit “Batman Returns.” He also worked as a production manager on such films as Francis Ford Coppola’s “Tucker: The Man and His Dream,” Ron Howard’s “Willow” and Joe Johnston’s “The Rocketeer.”

 In addition to overseeing several tent-pole projects for Paramount, Bryce continues to develop original motion pictures under his own banner via a first-look deal with the studio.

**LULA CARVALHO** (Director of Photography) was born in Rio de Janeiro in 1977 and visited his first film set when he was very young with his father, the cinematographer and director Walter Carvalho. He first loaded a magazine when he was only ten years old. Soon after, he got involved with the camera department and became a second camera assistant. Upon finishing high school, Lula was already working as a first camera assistant, and he pulled focus on over nineteen Brazilian features, including *City of God* (Director: Fernando Meirelles) which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Cinematography in 2003; *Behind the Sun* (Director: Walter Salles); and *Carandiru* (Director: Hector Babenco). During this time, Lula also worked on short films, documentaries, music videos and second units as a cinematographer and as a camera operator on features. He also completed cinematography and still photography classes at New York University and the School of Visual Arts in New York.

In 2005, Carvalho shot his first feature as a cinematographer, Incuráveis (*Incurables*), directed by Gustavo Accioli. He went on to shoot *Elite Squad*, directed by José Padilha which won the Golden Bear at the 2008 Berlin Film Festival; *A Festa da Menina Morta* (*The Dead Girl’s Feast)*, directed by Matheus Natchergaele which was an official selection in Un Certain Regard at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival; *Feliz Natal* (*Merry Christmas*), directed by Selton Mello; *Budapest*, directed by Walter Carvalho along with three documentaries.

In 2008, Carvalho was awarded the Best Cinematography Prize by both the Brazilian Cinema Academy and the International Press Correspondents Association in Brazil (ACIE) for *Elite Squad*. *Elite Squad 2: The Enemy Within*, the follow-up to *Elite Squad*, was Brazil’s Academy Award entry for Best Foreign Film.

Carvalho and Padilha’s first U.S. studio feature – MGM’s big budget reboot of the science fiction classic, *Robocop*, was released earlier this year.

**NEIL SPISAK** (Production Designer) most recently designed the naval actioner *Battleship*, his second feature film with director Peter Berg on the heels of their blockbuster *Hancock*, toplined by Will Smith and Charlize Theron.

In addition, Spisak also created the look for Sam Raimi's *Spider-Man* trilogy, which has collectively grossed $2.5 billion to date. He first worked with Raimi on the romantic baseball drama *For Love of the Game*, then reteamed with the filmmaker on the gothic thriller *The Gift*, which boasted an all-star cast that included Cate Blanchett, Keanu Reeves and Hilary Swank.

A graduate of the prestigious Carnegie Mellon University, Spisak began his career in costume design under the tutelage of Ann Roth and garnered an Emmy nomination for his work on the PBS American Playhouse presentation of “Roanoak.” He made the transition to production design soon thereafter and embarked on a fruitful collaboration with actor/director Peter Masterson.

Other notable credits include designing Michael Mann's Los Angeles crime saga *Heat*, the sexually charged legal drama *Disclosure* directed by Barry Levinson, Nora Ephron's *Bewitched* starring Nicole Kidman and John Woo's deliciously twisted *Face/Off*.

**SARAH EDWARDS** (Costume Designer) most recently designed the costumes for Ben Stiller’s *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty,* which garnered her a Costume Designers Guild Award nomination and Brett Ratner’s caper comedy *Tower Heist*, starring Ben Stiller and Eddie Murphy. She was the costume designer for Tony Gilroy’s film *Michael Clayton*, which received seven Academy Award® nominations, including Best Picture.

Based in New York, Edwards has designed costumes for the action-thriller *Salt*, starring Angelina Jolie; *When in Rome*, starring Josh Duhamel and Kristen Bell; and *Ghost Town*, starring Ricky Gervais and Greg Kinnear; Sydney Pollack’s political thriller *The Interpreter*, starring Nicole Kidman and Sean Penn; Boaz Yakin’s *Uptown Girls*, starring Brittany Murphy and Dakota Fanning; and Burr Steers’ *Igby Goes Down*, for which she was nominated for a Costume Designers Guild Award. She counts among her other film credits *The Perfect You*, starring Jenny McCarthy; *Jack Frost*, starring Michael Keaton and Kelly Preston; and Whit Stillman’s *The Last Days of Disco*, starring Chloë Sevigny and Kate Beckinsale.

As assistant costume designer, Edwards worked on *Six Degrees of Separation*, *The Quick and the Dead*, *Great Expectations*, *Lolita* and *The Pallbearer*. In 1997, she co-designed *The Devil’s Advocate*, with Judianna Makovsky.

Edwards’ work in the theater includes the Broadway production of *Tru*, the 2005 production of David Mamet’s *Romance* at the Mark Taper Forum, and numerous productions at the Atlantic Theater Company in New York.

Edwards is the daughter of two distinguished theatrical designers: set designer Ben Edwards and costume designer Jane Greenwood.

With over 20 years of experience **GLEN SCANTLEBURY** (Editor) is a veteran in the Post Production Industry. The Virginia native is best known for his work in the timeless *Armageddon*, the re-imagining of Horror icon Freddy Krueger in *A Nightmare on Elm Street, Dracula* and box office smash hit *Transformers* directed by Michael Bay.

Scantlebury’s vast knowledge of film and beyond, and infectious joy and enthusiasm for the medium must surely be part of the reason for his continued success in the industry. His professionalism, strong and unwavering work ethic along with the quick and efficient pace with which he works makes he and his projects memorable.

**JOEL NEGRON** (Film Editor) most recently edited Michael Bay’s action flick PAIN & GAIN, marking his fifth collaboration with the director. Negron also recently edited Phil Lord and Chris Miller’s box office smash 21 JUMP STREET, as well as Bay’s TRANSFORMERS: DARK OF THE MOON. The two previously teamed up on TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN, PEARL HARBOR and ARMAGEDDON. Other notable credits include Harald Zwart’s THE KARATE KID, THE MUMMY: TOMB OF THE DRAGON EMPEROR for director Rob Cohen and THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE: THE BEGINNING, distinguishing his first joint effort with Jonathan Liebesman.

Negron’s feature credits also include the gritty, inspirational film GRIDIRON GANG, starring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, directed by Phil Joanou, Warner Bros.’ remake of the classic film HOUSE OF WAX, for producer Joel Silver, directed by Jaume Collet-Serra, and the action film xXx, also for Cohen.

Negron has enjoyed a long and fruitful collaboration with Tim Burton, with whom he first worked as the first assistant editor on MARS ATTACKS! Negron went on to edit the critically acclaimed SLEEPY HOLLOW and the remake of PLANET OF THE APES, before working with the director in 2003 on the fantastical BIG FISH. Prior to that, Negron earned his stripes as an additional or assistant editor on such notable films as James Cameron's TRUE LIES and the Jerry Bruckheimer-produced GONE IN SIXTY SECONDS, ENEMY OF THE STATE, and CON AIR.

**BRIAN TYLER** (Composer) is a composer and conductor of over 60 films and recently won Film Composer of the Year at the 2014 Cue Awards.  He is currently scoring “Avengers: Age of Ultron.”  Tyler also composed “Iron Man 3,” starring Robert Downey Jr. and Ben Kingsley, as well as “Thor: The Dark World,” starring Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman, and Anthony Hopkins.  He conducted the London Philharmonic at Abbey Road Studios for both films.  He also scored “Eagle Eye” for producer Steven Spielberg, and the box office hits “Fast Five” and “Fast & Furious” for director Justin Lin.  He was nominated for a 2014 BAFTA Award and was inducted into the music branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in 2010.

Tyler began scoring features shortly after he received his master's degree from Harvard University, as well as a bachelor's degree from UCLA.  He is a multi-instrumentalist and plays piano, guitar, drums, bass, cello, world percussion, synth programming, guitarviol, charango, and bouzouki, amongst others.  He showcased many of those instruments for the 2013 retro heist film “Now You See Me,” about a team of illusionists, starring Morgan Freeman, Jesse Eisenberg, Michael Caine, Woody Harrelson and Mark Ruffalo.

Tyler arranged and conducted the new film logo music for Universal Pictures and composed a theme for the 100 year anniversary of the studio, as well as composing the music for the Marvel Studios logo which now plays before of all of their films.  He also scored “The Expendables” films, and “Rambo,” directed by Sylvester Stallone; “Law Abiding Citizen,” starring Jamie Foxx and Gerard Butler; the Keanu Reeves thriller “Constantine,” and the science-fiction film “Battle Los Angeles.”  Tyler’s score for Bill Paxton’s “Frailty” won him a World Soundtrack Award in 2002, as well as The World Soundtrack Award as Best New Film Composer of the Year.  He has received three Emmy Award nominations, ten BMI Music Awards, five ASCAP Music Awards, and recently won 12 Goldspirit Awards, including Composer of the Year.

After composing the score for “The Hunted” for Academy Award-winning director William Friedkin, Tyler composed the score for the turn-of-the-century drama “The Greatest Game Ever Played,” starring Shia LaBeouf.  His soundtrack for “Children of Dune” reached #4 on the Amazon.com album charts while “Thor: The Dark World,” “Iron Man 3,” and “Fast Five” all hit #1 on the iTunes soundtrack charts.

Tyler’s upcoming projects include “Into the Storm,” “The Expendables 3,” “Fast & Furious 7,” and “Avengers: Age of Ultron.”  For television, he scores the series “Hawaii Five-0” and “Sleepy Hollow,” for which he received an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Original Main Title Theme Music this year.

**KEVIN EASTMAN (CREATOR)** Born in Portland, Maine in 1962 Kevin Eastman began drawing at a very young age copying children’s books and reading comics. Inspired by master storyteller Jack Kirby, and later by self publishing creators Richard Corben, Vaughn Bode, and Dave Sim, all of his early work focused more on Science Fiction influences than traditional Superhero style comics. In 1982, while trying to sell some of his illustrations to local fanzines, he met Peter Laird in Northampton, Massachusetts and the partnership studio; Mirage Studios was formed. Less than a year later in the middle of a late night jam session, Eastman doodled a new character he dubbed a “Ninja Turtle” to make Laird laugh—several sketches a final drawing of four characters later “Eastman and Laird’s Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” had officially entered the universe! Self published in May of 1984 the first issue sold out of its 3000 copies overnight and quickly became a fan favorite. Catching the eye of Merchandising Agents and Hollywood Producers, Eastman and Laird maintained full control of their creations while guiding them through Toy Licensing, TV Series adaptation, as well as Feature Film exploitation, and by 1989 the TMNT’s were number one in all three categories. Thanks to *“THE BEST FANS ON THE ENTIRE PLANET!”* according to Eastman, after 30 amazing years the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles STILL continue to find their way into the hearts and imaginations of kids, large and small. In between TMNT projects, Eastman found time to establish the “Words and Pictures Museum of Cartoon Art”, created an artist friendly publishing company, “Tundra Publishing” where projects like “The Crow” “From Hell” and “American Splendor” first flourished, as well as purchased world renowned “Heavy Metal Magazine.”Currently spending most of his creative time working on a new TMNT series with IDW Publishing, editing Heavy Metal Magazine, and developing a series of all new original projects – as well as consulting on the Nickelodeon TMNT Animated series and the upcoming Michael Bay (producer) and Jonathan Liebesman (director) TMNT film. Eastman resides in San Diego with wife Courtney, son Shane, two cats, as well as a three insane Dachshunds.

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