**MORTDECAI**

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Genre: Action, Comedy

Rating: This film is not yet rated

U.S. Release Date: January 23, 2015

Running Time: 107 minutes

Cast: Johnny Depp, Gwyneth Paltrow, Ewan McGregor, Olivia Munn, with Jeff Goldblum, and Paul Bettany

Directed by: David Koepp

Screenplay by: Eric Aronson

Based on: The novel entitled “Don’t Point That Thing At Me” by Kyril Bonfiglioli

Produced by: Andrew Lazar, Johnny Depp, Christi Dembrowski

SYNOPSIS

Juggling some angry Russians, the British Mi5, his impossibly leggy wife and an international terrorist, debonair art dealer and part time rogue Charlie Mortdecai (Johnny Depp) traverses the globe armed only with his good looks and special charm in a race to recover a stolen painting rumored to contain the code to a lost bank account filled with Nazi gold.

Lionsgate and OddLot Entertainment Present, An Infinitum Nihil / Mad Chance / Lionsgate Production

**WHO IS CHARLIE MORTDECAI?**

Add to the list of puckish rogues, charming ne’er-do-wells and sly adventurers played by Johnny Depp the role of Charlie Mortdecai, cash-strapped British aristocrat and protagonist of the new action comedy ***Mortdecai****.* Based on the charismatic anti-hero of Kyril Bonfiglioli’s popular trilogy (Don’t Point That Thing at Me*,* Something Nasty in the WoodshedandAfter You with the Pistol), Charlie Mortdecai is a professional bon vivant and occasional art dealer perpetually at the end of his financial rope.

Dark, satirical and utterly British in style and tone, the novels featuring Charlie andhis manservant Jock Strapp are often compared to P.G. Wodehouse’s madcap creations, the Jeeves and Wooster stories. In ***Mortdecai***, Charlie charms, schemes and blunders his way in and out of hilariously compromising positions as he attempts to beat out an array of international evildoers on the trail of a priceless Goya masterpiece that could also be the key to claiming missing Nazi millions.

Depp had already read and fallen in love with Bonfiglioli’s novels when the script found its way to him. He asked his friend and colleague David Koepp to take a look at it with an eye toward directing.

A prolific Hollywood screenwriter (*Mission Impossible*, *Jurassic Park*, *Spiderman*) as well as director (*Ghost Town*, *Premium Rush*), Koepp previously collaborated with Depp on the screen adaptation of Stephen King’s novel, *Secret Window*. “I read the books and the character made an indelible impression,” says Koepp. “He just leapt off the page. I couldn’t imagine anyone apart from Johnny playing Charlie from the moment I read it. Johnny is so gifted at playing that kind of louse, the cowardly but loveable sort of character. He seems to have patented it over the last 15 or 20 years.”

The script Depp passed on to Koepp was written by screenwriter Eric Aronson (*On the Line*). Aronson first discovered the Mortdecaitrilogy in a bookstore near London’s famous tourist landmark, Trafalgar Square, while he was working for the British government. “On the back of the jacket, it was described as a cross between P.G. Wodehouse and Raymond Chandler,” he recalls. “A light just went on in my head.”

He learned that the stories had a cult following with fans that included actors Hugh Laurie and Stephen Fry, and writers Julian Barnes and Craig Brown. “They’re the kind of books that get passed around, which is how Johnny Depp originally came by his very old, very worn copy,” says Aronson.

His main character is motivated by necessity, Aronson points out. “Charlie Mortdecai inherited a vast mansion in the countryside, but he’s run out of luck and funds. In order to supplement his income, he becomes a shady art dealer, living by his wits and making his money through backroom deals. In our film, Charlieand his manservant JockStrapp come to America intending to steal some art.”

Or as Koepp prefers to put it: “Charlie is trading in artwork of uncertain provenance.”

“He is an unscrupulous fellow, but he has excellent taste,” adds the director. “He is broke and needs to heat that gigantic house, Mortdecai Manor, so he comes up with a scheme to do that. It happens that his expertise is in fine art. He doesn’t really care if that art didn’t strictly belong to the person he got it from or that perhaps it’s a fake.”

***Mortdecai*** features beautiful people in beautiful clothes, bantering wittily and doing outrageous things. “You want a plot that’s complex enough to support a caper, but not so complicated that it weighs down the beautifully fun comedy,” observes Koepp.

**THE KEY PLAYERS**

**Johnny Depp is *Charlie Mortdecai***

Charlie Mortdecai is a connoisseur of good food, fine libations, beautiful women and the most elite trappings of wealth. He also frequently finds himself entangled in matters of an ambiguous legal nature. Asked by MI5, the British Security Service, to track down a missing Goya painting, Charlie hopes to discharge his debts to “Queen and country” by retrieving the purloined artwork.

Depp took his inspiration from classic English film comedians including Peter Sellers, Sid James, Bernard Cribbins and especially Terry-Thomas, the irrepressible, gap-toothed star who defined the term “upper class twit” for several generations.

Charlie’s biggest weakness is his beloved wife Johanna, for whom he will do anything—except shave off his magnificent moustache.

**Gwyneth Paltrow is *Johanna Mortdecai***:

Charlie’s luscious blonde wife Johanna is played by Academy Award®-winner Gwyneth Paltrow. Johannaand Charlie have been together since college. She is quite posh and very clever—certainly more clever than Charlie.

“Charlie is not virtuous or smart or heroic,” notes Koepp. “He’s a rogue and that’s what his wife is drawn to. He makes her laugh and that goes a long way. They’re intensely jealous of each other and, like any good marriage, it’s kept alive with a little bit of spice.”

Coming between the couple is Charlie’s latest attachment—his new moustache. “He’s grown this moustache while she’s been away,” Paltrow explains. “She is appalled by it. She tries to get past the moustache, but she just can’t. She finds it physically revolting and it almost makes her throw up. Filming those scenes was categorically the hardest thing I’ve ever had to do—to get through it without breaking was so hard! I think I ruined 15 takes.”

Paltrow believes the moustache is a metaphor for what’s going on in the marriage. “Something on the surface seems off, but really there’s much more underneath. Their relationship is charming though. They’re cut from the same cloth. They have a lot of fun and there’s a very strong chemistry that has kept them together all these years.”

**Paul Bettany is *Jock Strapp***

Everywhere Charlie Mortdecai goes, he is accompanied by his manservant and right-hand-man Jock Strapp, a faithful but upbeat bruiser who dedicates his life to protecting his boss.

British actor Paul Bettany, who plays Jock, was introduced to the project by Johnny Depp while the two were filming *Transcendence*. “Johnny asked me if I’d ever read the Mortdecaibooks,” remembers Bettany. “I hadn’t and he gave me all of them. Afterwards Johnny mentioned he was going to make them into a film and asked if I wanted to play Jock.*”*

Always present, Jock is an indispensable and sometimes seemingly invisible element in Charlie’s life. “Paul Bettany is just terrific at tossing away a line,” says Koepp. “He’s a very talented guy.”

“Charlie Mortdecai is Jock’s cross to bear,” says Bettany. “Charlie is a penniless aristocrat who is in need of a driver and a butler and, often, an enforcer. Jock has been shot several times in his service and even been run over by Charlie, but he still loves him. Jock possesses this calm equanimity and Buddhist stoicism.”

Scarred, brutish and sporting a glass eye from one of Charlie Mortdecai’s many near misses, Jock is still catnip to the ladies, which is a source of befuddlement for Mortdecai*.* “Mortdecai is going through a very hard time with his wife,” says Bettany. “Johanna is refusing to sleep with him because he has grown a ridiculous moustache. Until he shaves it off, she won’t allow him to enter the boudoir. It’s particularly frustrating for Mortdecai that wherever they go,Jockmanages to effortlessly attract an endless stream of women.”

Jock’s unique look comes courtesy of hair and make-up designer Sallie Jaye, who outfitted Bettany with a distinctive scar and an unusual glass eye. “I got Paul’s input and had various Photoshop images created of him, as well as having a contact lens made. We considered a shot-out eye, but we decided to go for an interesting pupil that was quite arresting rather than repulsive. It’s a comedy after all and he’s supposed to be attractive to the opposite sex. We needed to give him a scar, but since he’s supposed to be irresistible to women, we had to make it a sexy scar.”

**Ewan McGregor is *Alistair Martland***

Charlie’s insecurities are reinforced by the arrival of Alistair Martland, an old friend from college days who is still attracted to Johanna. A highly placed officer in the British Security Service, Martland is also a sweet, softhearted poetry-reading detective who loses his composure whenever Johanna is around. On the trail of the missing Goya masterpiece, he comes to Charlie for help.

“There’s a lot of history between me, Charlie and Johanna,” McGregor explains. “Martland is in love with her and has been since they were all at Oxford together. He thought they were going to get together, but Charlie always prevailed. That became the root of Martland’sanimosity towards Charlie. That rivalry carries on through everything.”

Martland is in most ways a much better match for Johanna than Mortdecai, according to Koepp. “He’s smart, he is heroic and he has a huge career,” the director says. “He’s all the things that are traditionally valued, but she doesn’t love him. She is, however, not above a certain amount of flipping her hair in a certain way she knows he likes so that she can get information out of him.”

McGregor was drawn to the film’s combination of wit and broad physical comedy. “It reminds me a lot of the *Pink Panther* movies from the 1970s,” he says. “There’s a humor to it that I haven’t seen on screen for a long time. It’s very cleverly written.”

“Charlie Mortdecai’san eccentric and he’s got a very particular turn of phrase,” McGregor continues. “He’s very wordy and he likes language a great deal. He’s living in a different age, as if he’s stepped out of the past. Johnny plays him hilariously well. It was very difficult to act with him because he’s very funny.”

***Mortdecai*** also marks a welcome reunion of McGregor and director David Koepp, who previously collaborated on *Angels & Demons.* “I was happy to be working with David again,” says the actor. “He makes things funnier than when we first present them to him. He shoots very quickly and knows exactly what he wants. He’s a smooth director who isn’t afraid of movement and he’s got a wonderful sense of humor.”

McGregor also previously collaborated with Paltrow, on the 1996 period drama *Emma*. “It was nice to work with Gwyneth again after all this time,” he says. “We have a couple of really fun scenes together.”

**Olivia Munn is *Georgina*** ***Krampf***

Georgina is the daughter of American billionaire Milton Krampf and the film’s sexy femme fatale.

Like Mortdecai, Georgina has her eye on the missing Goya and will do whatever it takes to get her hands on it. “Georgina’sfather has a lot of money, but she wants her own,” says Munn.

“She’s a very rich girl from California,” adds the actress. “She’s into names and brands and being fancy. For a girl like Georgina it doesn’t matter how much money she has if she’s not famous. The world of *Mortdecai* is stylized and heightened, but I have actually met a lot of these kinds of very wealthy, very eccentric people in Hollywood.”

Working with director David Koepp for the first time made Munn an instant fan. “He’s unlike any director I’ve worked with before,” she says. “David knows exactly what he wants, he doesn’t overshoot and I swear he’s editing in his head. It’s very rare to find a director so well-prepared and so thorough who still keeps things fun.”

**Jeff Goldblum is *Milton******Krampf:***

Milton Krampf, an American billionaire described by Koepp as a “thick-fingered vulgarian,” happens to be in the market for both Charlie Mortdecai’s vintage Rolls and the elusive Goya painting, which brings Mortdecai to Los Angeles to complete the deal.

“It’s a really stylish and funny caper set in the world of the idle rich,” says Goldblum. “Charlie Mortdecai is trying to get his finances together, so he has to sell his Rolls Royce to this rich guy in Los Angeles. They’ve had dealings in the art world before, but when he shows up to deliver the Rolls it becomes a little more complicated than he anticipated.”

Goldblum says he was thrilled with the creative team behind the project. “Eric Aronson wrote a delightful script that made me excited about becoming part of the film,” he says. “I have always been a fan of P.G. Wodehouse and this reminded me so much of those stories. I have known and loved David Koepp since he wrote the screenplay for *Jurassic Park.* He is a masterful and unique artist. And Johnny Depp—I’d never met him before, but I’ve been a fan of his acting for years. His characterization is something you don’t often see from a leading man. I think this movie is going to be so entertaining and also beautiful.”

**Jonny Pasvolsky is *Emil Strago:***

Emil Stragois a revolutionary who wants the Goya painting to finance a violent worldwide uprising. Along the way, he meets Georgina Krampf and takes up with her, hoping to get the cash he sorely needs.

“Georgina and Emil want to put their own personal stamp on the world,” Pasvolsky notes. “She’s lived in the shadow of her wealthy father and he has a crazy fanatical cause. They’re just doing something to get noticed, which can also be destructive. I think they are attracted to each other for the purpose of using each other.”

Although Emil and Mortdecaiare adversaries throughout the movie, their mutual moustaches foster an odd fascination between the two. “We have nothing in common, but we both have moustaches. It comes down to manhood and the moustaches become a kind of obsession between us.”

**JOEL HARLOW, MOUSTACHE WRANGLER**

“The moustache is a major character in this movie,” says Academy Award-winning make-up designer Joel Harlow, Johnny Depp’s personal make-up artist since their first collaboration on *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl.* “It had its own trailer and traveled with an entourage.”

The well-coifed facial hair was one of the essential elements of Charlie Mortdecai’seccentric English aristocrat look. It was inspired by The Great Mortdecai Moustache Mystery, Bonfiglioli’s unfinished fourth book, which was completed by Craig Brown and published posthumously. “Mortdecai’smoustache is a focal point of the movie,” says Harlow. “It’s a source of contention between him and his wife. Mortdecaiis very proud of it, but he comes up against moustache rivalry with other characters.”

With a whole world of styles to choose from, from huge handlebars to barely-there pencil moustaches, Harlow and Depp zeroed in on a look that perfectly fit Charlie Mortdecai. “There’s a kind of Hercule Poirot influence because it is a bit fuller in the middle and has this little flourish on the side. It’s very groomed and manicured to complement the character. He’s very polished, so I can’t really imagine him having any other style of moustache.”

Depp had some very specific ideas about the moustache. “Johnny actually did a little sketch of the style he had in mind on a napkin,” recalls Harlow. “I took it to my hair design person and she tied the moustaches with the hair colors. We made three moustaches in the same style but different colors. One of those was more of a blond and that’s ultimately what he chose as it matched the hair color he decided on.”

Once they had decided on the color and style, Harlow proceeded to have roughly 30 versions of the moustache made with slight variations. “Some are stunt doubles and riding doubles because a moustache goes through a bit of wear and tear in an action movie,” says the make-up designer. “Mortdecai brushes it a lot, which has a tendency to break up the hairs. He gets punched a couple of times so there’s blood in the moustache and that stains the lace that it’s attached to.”

The application and maintenance of Mortdecai’s moustache was a very delicate process that started early each morning with Harlow applying layers of matte spirit gum. Throughout the day, he would reapply the glue to the edges. The production went through one or two moustaches per week.

“If the Charlie Mortdecaicharacter didn’t have a moustache, he wouldn’t be the Mortdecai character,” declares Harlow. “The moustache is such a part of the character and the way Johnny uses it is comedy gold.”

Depp also liked the idea of having a gap in his teeth, so Harlow ordered up a set of dentures with a split. “David Koepp thought they might be a little too much like a caricature, so we opted to just paint it in.”

Depp’s chameleon-like ability to transform himself had some on set convinced that he was wearing facial prosthetics, but Harlow says that is not the case. “The addition of that moustache changes his look so much, we really didn’t need to do anything else.”

**CONSTRUCTING MORTDECAI’S WORLD**

Production designer James Merifield, an Emmy Award® winner with credits including the acclaimed British television series “Little Dorrit,” was drawn to what he saw as a strong retro feeling in the writing of ***Mortdecai***. “That was something I wanted to springboard into the design,” he recalls. “I felt we should hark back to the style of movies in the 1940s and 1950s. When it became apparent that director David Koepp felt the same way, we designed Mortdecai Manor with quite a few references to that era.”

Merifield says he approaches his designs through character and found a wealth of inspiration in ***Mortdecai***. “The characters leap off the page with great gusto, joy and humor,” he says. “Charlie Mortdecaiis a true English gentleman. He scorns anything that isn’t classically correct. He needed the right type of walking stick and the perfect moustache comb because it’s all in the detail. That’s something I obsessed about.”

Wrotham Park in the English countryside became Mortdecai Manor, the fictional English country estate that Charlieand Johannacall home. “Mortdecai Manor had to be a practical location rather than a studio build to get the right feeling on camera and for the actors,” notes Merifield. “It’s crucial that they walk from the Rolls Royce across the sweeping driveway, up palatial steps, through a huge front door, up an amazing staircase. That way, they are immersed in the character from the moment they walk on set.”

Technical requirements for some scenes meant that Merifield also built interiors at Pinewood Studios. Although the production moved from the UK to Los Angeles for key exteriors at the Standard Hotel, the interiors of the trendy West Hollywood boutique hotel were shot on D Stage at Pinewood. “The rooms at the Standard are quite small,” he says. “We created walls that could float and give a bigger working space so we could shoot the scenes more efficiently.”

One of the biggest studio builds was the set for Sedgwick’s*,* a Sotheby’s-style art auction house. Not only did the production need to accommodate a roomful of extras, the action plays out from the main auction room into a smaller storage area and features an epic sword fight between Mortdecai and Emil*.* “It was one of our biggest action sequences,” says Merifield, “We had swords and Samurai suits being slashed, and boxes falling down on people’s heads so we needed an environment where that could comfortably occur.”

The iconic Goya painting intrinsic to the storyline was created specifically for the film. “We referenced a lot of real Goyas in order to create our own,” says the production designer. “An extraordinary painter named Sally Dray was given complete artistic freedom to make it. She painted two, because we needed doubles of everything in case one was damaged during shooting.”

**SEWING UP *MORTDECAI’S* SIGNATURE STYLE**

Like most great costume designers, two-time Academy Award-nominee Ruth Myers describes herself as a storyteller. “The design part is easy,” she says. “We’re trained to dress women to look beautiful and men to look gorgeous. The difficult part is figuring out how to reveal subtle secrets that add to the character and give the film another dimension.”

***Mortdecai***is Myers’ idea of “a fabulous job.” To come up with Charlie’s eccentrically aristocratic look, she collaborated with the director, the actor and the producers. “David Koepp and I were very much in sync,” she says. “We both wanted to make this look beautiful in a traditional way, going back to the old Hitchcock or *Pink Panther* films. If you think about the *Pink Panther* films, people were beautifully dressed. It wasn’t done for comedy at all, which was very much the essence of what I’ve tried to create. David was very encouraging. He’s a wonderful director who is incredibly foresighted, helpful and generous with his ideas which make a huge difference to a job like mine.”

Working with the actors is always a highlight for the designer. “I love the fittings, which is my time to play and put some ideas forward. It is also a time to absorb what they want and how I can help them achieve that.”

It was the first time Myers had worked with Depp. “I pray it won’t be the last time, because I absolutely adore him,” she says. “Johnny’s incredibly responsive and he gives you an enormous amount to work with. The first time I met with him, I’d found this wonderful old English tweed coat that we both just loved. I’m not sure we even used it in the film but it was a touchstone for his look.”

In Myers’ imagination, Charlie Mortdecai is not just an eccentric; he is also a fashion plate. “Mortdecai loves his clothes,” she says. “He’s a peacock, fluttering around with his tail feathers in the air. He never looks anything but exquisitely turned out and right for the occasion. We put Johnny in perfectly tailored clothes and added all these wonderful, colorful details, like cufflinks that match every suit, and silk ties coordinated for every outfit. Even his socks match! We got the shoes from Church’s, the iconic English shoe company. He always has a waistcoat and braces, which gives him a slightly old-fashioned look.”

Dressing Paltrow again was also a gift for Myers, who was Oscar®-nominated for her work on *Emma*. “Having worked with Gwyneth before, it was easier to have that shorthand. We talked a lot about what English people wear in these rather cold, drafty, old homes.”

Meyers envisioned Johanna as a Grace Kelly-esque blonde. “How exquisitely elegant she was,” says Myers. “We tried to take the character out of the fashion world and dress her in a classical English look. You won’t ask what she’s wearing this year. You’ll see her as a very easily elegant English woman, although she does have some very high fashion items, including a Stella McCartney dress and suit.”

Paltrow and Myers talked about the idea of some of Johanna’s posh wardrobe having been inherited from her mother, so the designer mixed in a generous amount of vintage couture pieces for a timelessly beautiful style. “I’m thrilled with the way she looks,” Myers says. “Gwyneth would look good in anything, but her clothes in this film reflect her character’s real essence.”

For Ewan McGregor’s Martland, Myers and director David Koepp were keen to create a look that gave the MI5 officer equal standing with Mortdecai, rather than looking like an ordinary detective. “We didn’t want to see Johnny, who got the girl, looking absolutely exquisite while Ewan looks rather a sad character,” says Myers. “We went for a traditional English look using a lot of Burberry and beautifully cut, handmade shirts. He looks like a proper English gentleman. He starts off in an old Eton school tie since they talk about him having been educated there. That seemed the perfect way to identify him as an upper class-boy who has gone into the secret service.”

Myers enjoyed costuming several other singular characters for the film, including Mortdecai’s manservant Jock,bombshell Georgina and Emil, the terrorist: “Jock’s the sexy one, so we dressed him in a fun leather jacket and jeans. Georgina is a girl who rides horses, so she’ll be rather restrained in her clothes, but there are always shock elements with her. Emil’s a revolutionary and he’s gone to a great deal of trouble to dress himself as one. We played around a lot with hislook and found the perfect pair of sunglasses, the perfect head gear and the perfect pair of gloves for the character.”

**AND…ACTION**

As one of the U.K.’s busiest stunt coordinators and second-unit action directors, Rowley Irlam has either coordinated or performed in some of the biggest action movies shot in the country, including *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *The Legend of Hercules*, *Thor: Dark World*, *Captain Phillips*, *Prometheus* and *Skyfall*, for which he received a SAG Award for Outstanding Action Performance in a Motion Picture.

Although ***Mortdecai*** is a comedy, it is packed with action sequences, as Jock constantly saves Charlie from outlandish mishaps. Irlam coordinated a motorbike and sidecar careening through Moscow, an unforgettable sword fight and a massive explosion sequence featuring virtually all of the key cast members.

“We also shot a big car chase in East London,” Irlam says. “There was lots of skidding around and we ended up crashing into a boulevard. We cannoned the back end for that comedy finale.”

Irlam and director Koepp had a specific strategy for the film’s action. “This movie is very much actor driven,” he says. “I see it as bit of an homage to Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin. My work was not just about stunts. It was about making the whole piece quirky, interesting and different.”

One of the most challenging stunt sequences for Irlam and his team was the complicated sword fight between Mortdecai and Emil. Koepp, Depp and Irlam talked about finding the right balance between realistic combat and Mortdecai’snotorious cowardice and physicalineptitude. “Mortdecai is a blagger, so David and Johnny didn’t want him to look supremely skilled,” says Irlam. “It was more about his desire to avoid confrontation and run away.

“We had Johnny Depp and Jonny Pasvolsky in for some rehearsals for sword fighting and wire work,” he continues. “We showed them how it would play out with a stunt double first, then they’d have a go and put their own twist on it. You can’t just drop off a harness to their trailer and say ‘put that on and we’ll see you on set!’”

**ABOUT THE CAST**

**JOHNNY DEPP (Charlie Mortdecai)** is an award-winning actor who also produces under the banner of his company Infinitum Nihil. He is a three-time Academy Award nominee in the category of Best Actor. Most recently Depp worked with director Gore Verbinski on *The Lone Ranger*, in which Depp starred as Tonto opposite Armie Hammer in the title role, and Wally Pfister’s *Transcendence*,opposite Rebecca Hall and Paul Bettany.

Depp was honored with his first Oscar nomination for his performance in Gore Verbinski’s 2003 blockbuster *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, which launched the hugely successful film franchise. For his depiction of Captain Jack Sparrow, who became an instant screen classic, Depp also won a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award and an Empire Award while garnering Golden Globe Award® and BAFTA nominations. He reprised the role in *Pirates of the Caribbean*: *Dead Man’s Chest* (earning another Golden Globe nomination), *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End* and *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*.

Depp’s second Oscar nomination came for his performance in Marc Forster’s acclaimed 2004 drama *Finding Neverland*. He also received Golden Globe, BAFTA and SAG award nominations for his portrayal of Peter Pan author James Barrie.

Depp earned another Oscar nom for his work in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*, director Tim Burton’s 2007 screen adaptation of the Stephen Sondheim musical. For his performance in the title role, Depp also won a Golden Globe for Best Actor in a Motion Picture (Comedy or Musical).

*Dark Shadows* marked Depp’s eighth film with Burton, a collaboration that began with the actor’s Golden Globe-nominated performance in the 1990 feature *Edward Scissorhands*. He subsequently earned Golden Globe nominations for his work under Burton’s direction in *Ed Wood* (for which he won a London Film Critics’ Circle Award), *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Alice in Wonderland*. He also lent his voice to Burton’s animated hit *Corpse Bride*.

Before segueing to acting, Depp began his performing career as a musician. He made his feature film debut in Wes Craven’s horror classic *A Nightmare on Elm Street*, followed by Oliver Stone’s Oscar-winning war drama, *Platoon*. In 1987 Depp landed his breakout role on the hit television show “21 Jump Street.” After four seasons, Depp returned to the big screen in John Waters’ *Cry-Baby*.

Depp’s early work includes such films as *Benny & Joon* (Golden Globe nomination), Lasse Hallström’s *What’s Eating Gilbert Grape*, *Don Juan DeMarco* andMike Newell’s *Donnie Brasco*.

Depp’s long list of credits includes such diverse films as Terry Gilliam’s *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, Lasse Hallström’s *Chocolat* (Golden Globe nomination), the Hughes brothers’ *From Hell*, Robert Rodriguez’s *Once Upon a Time in Mexico*, Michael Mann’s *Public Enemies*, Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck’s *The Tourist* (Golden Globe nomination) and Bruce Robinson’s *The Rum Diary*, which Depp also produced.

Depp voiced the title character in 2011’s Oscar-winning animated feature *Rango*, directed by Gore Verbinski.

In 1997 Depp made his writing and directing debut with *The Brave*, a film in which he also starred with Marlon Brando. He was one of the producers on Martin Scorsese’s Oscar-nominated adaptation *Hugo*.

**GWYNETH PALTROW (Johanna)** is one of today’s most prolific and celebrated actors in both television and film. Paltrow’s role in *Shakespeare in Love* catapulted her into awards stardom with Best Actress honors at the Academy Awards, Golden Globes and Screen Actors Guild Awards.

In 2011, she was honored with an Emmy Award for Guest Actress in a Comedy Series for her role as substitute teacher Holly Holiday on Fox’s smash-hit musical series “Glee.”

Paltrow will soon be seen in *33 días*, alongside Antonio Banderas. She recently starred in Marvel’s *Iron Man 3*, reprising the role of Pepper Potts alongside Robert Downey, Jr. and Don Cheadle. The international blockbuster set box-office records with the second-biggest opening weekend of all time and became the second-highest-grossing superhero film of all time (behind only *The Avengers* in both categories).

Born in Los Angeles, where she spent the first 11 years of her life, Paltrow comes from a very close-knit family that is deeply entrenched in the entertainment industry. Her father, Bruce Paltrow, was a highly successful producer (“St. Elsewhere,” “The White Shadow”) and her mother is the award-winning actress Blythe Danner. Paltrow attended K-12 at St. Augustine by the Sea (now known as the Crossroads School).

The actress’ first role was a remarkable performance in the critically acclaimed *Flesh and Bone*, opposite Meg Ryan and Dennis Quaid. Early credits include *Sliding Doors*, *Great Expectations*, *The Pallbearer*, *Se7en*, *A View from the Top*, *Moonlight and Valentino*, *Jefferson in Paris*, *Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle*, *Malice*, *Hook* and *Shout*.

Additional film credits include Joss Whedon’s *The Avengers*, Steven Soderbergh’s *Contagion*, *Country Strong* (for which Paltrow also recorded original music on the film’s Academy Award nominated soundtrack), Jon Favreau’s *Iron Man* and *Iron Man 2*, Stuart Bloomberg’s *Thanks for Sharing*, James Gray’s *Two Lovers*, brother Jake Paltrow’s *The Good Night*, John Madden’s *Proof* (Golden Globe nomination); Christine Jeffs’ *Sylvia*, Ryan Murphy’s *Running with Scissors*, Douglas McGrath’s *Infamous*, Kerry Conran’s *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*, Neil LaBute’s *Possession*, Wes Anderson’s *The Royal Tenenbaums*, Peter and Bobby Farrelly’s *Shallow Hal*, Jennifer Jason Leigh’s *The Anniversary Party*, father Bruce Paltrow’s *Duets*, Don Roos’ *Bounce*, Douglas McGrath’s *Emma*, Anthony Minghella’s *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and Andrew Davis’ *A Perfect Murder.*

With friend Mary Wigmore, Paltrow co-wrote and co-directed the short film *Dealbreakers*.

Earlier this year, Paltrow published her second cookbook It’s All Good (Grand Central Publishing), which joined My Father’s Daughter (published April 2011) on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Paltrow first established her credibility in the culinary field when she co-wrote Spain, a Culinary Road Trip with acclaimed chef Mario Batali.

Paltrow continues to develop her passion project GOOP.com, an online newsletter and lifestyle resource. She currently divides her time between Los Angeles, New York City and London.

**PAUL BETTANY (Jock Strapp)**is a highly acclaimed stage and screen actor who is much in demand, both in the U.S. and abroad. He recently starred in Nick Murphy’s *Blood*, starring Mark Strong, Stephen Graham and Brian Cox, as well as Wally Pfister’s *Transcendence*,produced by Christopher Nolan and starring Johnny Depp, Rebecca Hall and Morgan Freeman.

Bettany is a British-born actor who was classically trained at the Drama Centre in London. He made his West End stage debut under the direction of Stephen Daldry in “An Inspector Calls.”Bettany then spent a season at the Royal Shakespeare Company performing in productions of “Richard III,” “Romeo & Juliet” and “Julius Caesar”before landing his first feature-film role in *Bent*, opposite Sir Ian McKellen.

Bettany returned to the stage to appear in Joe Penhall’s “Love and Understanding” at London’s Bush Theatre. He later reprised the role at the Longwharf Theatre in Connecticut. The play led to a host of British television drama roles including Lynda La Plante’s “Killer Net” and “Coming Home,” starring Peter O’Toole. Next, he appeared in London’s Royal Court Theatre productions of “One More Wasted Year” and “Stranger’s House.”

Bettany’s second feature-film role came in David Leland’s *Land Girls*, opposite Rachel Weisz. For his performance in Paul McGuigan’s *Gangster No. 1*,opposite Malcolm McDowell, David Thewlis and Saffron Burrows, Bettany was nominated for a British Independent Film Award and a London Critics’ Circle Award (Best Newcomer).

U.S. audiences first discovered Bettany in the comic role of Chaucer opposite Heath Ledger in Brian Helgeland’s *A Knight’s Tale.* For this role he received a Best Supporting Actor accolade from the London Critics’ Circle and was named one of *Variety’s* “10 to Watch” list in 2001. Next he re-teamed with Paul McGuigan for *The Reckoning*,a thriller co-starring Tom Hardy, Vincent Cassel and Brian Cox.

Bettany went on to star as the imaginary roommate opposite Russell Crowe, Ed Harris and Jennifer Connelly in Ron Howard’s Academy Award-winning biopic *A Beautiful Mind.* For this performance Bettany was named Best British Actor at the London Critics’ Circle Awards.

This was followed by Thaddeus O’Sullivan’s tense indie thriller *The Heart of Me*, opposite Olivia Williams and Helena Bonham Carter. Keen to test himself further, Bettany then took on Lars Von Trier’s dramatic thriller *Dogville*,alongside Nicole Kidman and Stellan Skarsgård.

Reuniting with Russell Crowe, Bettany starred in Peter Weir’s *Master and Commander: The Far Side of the World.* His performance won him an Evening Standard Award in the Best British Actor category and Bettany received nominations in Best Supporting Actor categories at both the BAFTAs and the Broadcast Film Critics Association. He netted another London Critics’ Circle accolade for both *Master and Commander* and *The Heart of Me.* Bettany won Best Actor at the Elle Style Awards for his work in *Master and Commander* and *Dogville.*

Next came Richard Loncraine’s *Wimbledon*, with Kirsten Dunst, Jon Favreau and James McAvoy. Bettany then took on the role of the villainous monk Silas for Ron Howard in the box-office smash *The Da Vinci Code*, based on Dan Brown’s international bestseller. The all-star cast included Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou, Sir Ian McKellen and Alfred Molina.

Bettany then joined the cast of the fantasy adventure *Inkheart*, based on the beloved children’s books, which was directed by Iain Softley and co-starred Brendan Fraser, Dame Helen Mirren and Andy Serkis. Next he starred opposite Dakota Fanning in *The Secret Life of Bees* and voiced the character of Jarvis in Jon Favreau’s hugely successful *Iron Man*,reprising this role for the sequelsand *The Avengers.*

2009 saw Bettany star in Martin Scorsese’s period drama *The Young Victoria*, opposite Emily Blunt and Jim Broadbent. He then starred alongside his wife, Jennifer Connelly, in *Creation*, in which Bettany played a Charles Darwin torn between his infinite love for his devout Christian wife and his revolutionary theories on evolution.

In 2010 Bettany appeared as Archangel Michael in Scott Stewart’s *Legion*, opposite Dennis Quaid. A further collaboration with Stewart followed in *Priest*,co-starring Maggie Q and Lily Collins.

*The Tourist* followed, with Bettany cast opposite Johnny Depp and Angelina Jolie for Oscar-winning director Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck (*The Lives of Others*). In 2011 Bettany starred in the independent feature *Margin Call*,with Kevin Spacey, Stanley Tucci, Jeremy Irons and Zachary Quinto.

Bettany currently resides in New York with his wife and three children.

**EWAN McGREGOR (Martland)** is often hailed as one of the finest actors of his generation. He consistently captivates audiences with a diverse lineup of roles across a multitude of genres, styles and scope. From his breakthrough role as the heroin-addicted Mark Renton in Danny Boyle’s *Trainspotting* to the legendary Obi-Wan Kenobi in *Star Wars* prequels and starring opposite Nicole Kidman in the Oscar- and BAFTA-winning musical *Moulin Rouge*, McGregor’s career has been highlighted by a continuous string of daring performances.

Most recently, he starred in John Wells’ Oscar-nominated film *August: Osage County*, opposite Meryl Streep and Julia Roberts. This adaptation of Tracy Letts’ Pulitzer- and Tony Award®-winning play premiered at the 2013 Toronto Film Festival and was released by The Weinstein Company.

McGregor will soon be seen opposite Natalie Portman and Joel Edgerton in Gavin O’Connor’s *Jane Got a Gun*, as the leader of an outlaw gang, and Julius Avery’s *Son of a Gun*, which was filmed in Australia.

Previously McGregor starred opposite Naomi Watts in *The Impossible*, a Juan Antonio Bayona drama based on the true story of a family’s terrifying experience in the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami and their subsequent fight for survival. He also starred alongside Christopher Plummer in *Beginners*,a slice-of-life film based on director Mike Mills’ personal story. The film received an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Feature and won Gotham Film Awards for Best Ensemble Cast and Best Feature.

McGregor garnered acclaim for his performance in Lasse Hallström’s moving film *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*, in which he starred alongside Emily Blunt and Kristin Scott Thomas. The film premiered at the 2011 Toronto International Film Festival and earned McGregor a Golden Globe nomination.

Other film credits include Steven Soderbergh’s *Haywire*, with Gina Carano and Channing Tatum; Roman Polanski’s *The Ghost Writer*, opposite Pierce Brosnan; *Amelia*, starring Hilary Swank and Richard Gere; *Jack the Giant Slayer*, with Stanley Tucci; Ron Howard’s *Angels and Demons*, with Tom Hanks; the comedy *I Love You Phillip Morris*, opposite Jim Carrey; *Deception*, with Michelle Williams and Hugh Jackman; the romantic drama*Incendiary*, with Michelle Williams;Woody Allen’s *Cassandra’s Dream*, alongside Colin Farrell; the biopic *Miss Potter*, with Renée Zellweger; *Scenes of a Sexual Nature*, directed by Edward Blum; Marc Forster’s supernatural thriller *Stay*,alongside Naomi Watts and Ryan Gosling; Michael Bay’s *The Island*,with Scarlett Johansson, Djimon Hounsou and Steve Buscemi; *Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace*, *Star Wars: Episode II – Attack of the Clones*and *Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith*; the animated films *Robots*,directed by Chris Wedge, and *Valiant*,directed by Gary Chapman; Tim Burton’s *Big Fish*,with Albert Finney and Jessica Lange; *Young Adam*,alongside Peter Mullan and Tilda Swinton (London Film Critics Circle nomination); *Down with Love*, opposite Renée Zellweger; Ridley Scott’s historical drama *Black Hawk Down*, alongside Josh Hartnett; the Golden Globe-winning film *Little Voice*, opposite Jane Horrocks and Michael Caine; and Todd Haynes’ glam rock film *Velvet Goldmine*, co-starring Jonathan Rhys Meyers.

McGregor won an Empire Movie Award for Best British Actor for his role in Danny Boyle’s *A Life Less Ordinary*. For his role in the BAFTA Award-winning *Shallow Grave*,McGregor was honored with the Hitchcock D’Argent Best Actor Award and a nomination for Best Actor at the BAFTA Scotland Awards.

On television, McGregor received an Emmy for Outstanding Guest Actor for his role in an episode of the NBC series “ER” titled “The Long Way Round.”

McGregor is a devoted and influential philanthropist who serves as a goodwill ambassador for UNICEF, the non-profit organization dedicated to providing long-term humanitarian and developmental assistance to children and mothers in developing countries. Additionally, he is the new face of Belstaff, a British luxury lifestyle brand.

McGregor was born in Perth, Scotland, and currently resides in Los Angeles.

**OLIVIA MUNN (Georgina)** is an actress whose beauty is matched by her versatility. Critics have lauded Munn’s turn on the HBO series “The Newsroom” as the standout performance of Aaron Sorkin’s acclaimed dramedy. The show, which also stars Jeff Daniels and Sam Waterston, recently completed its third and final season.

Munn starred opposite Kevin Hart and Ice Cube in Ride Along, one of the surprise hits of the year. She also appeared in Scott Derrickson’s supernatural thriller Deliver Us from Evil, opposite Eric Bana and Joel McHale.

Previously Munn starred with Channing Tatum in the Steven Soderbergh film Magic Mike, completed an arc on the 2013 season of Fox’s “New Girl” and appeared in the Emmy-winning Showtime documentary series “Years of Living Dangerously.”

Having established a name in Hollywood, Munn still credits all of her success to Jon Stewart for providing her first big break when she joined the Emmy-winning Comedy Central series “The Daily Show with Jon Stewart” in 2011, becoming one of only five female cast members to appear as regulars on the show.

**JONNY PASVOLSKY (Emil)** was born in South Africa and emigrated to Australia at the age of 5. He has been a constant presence on Australian television screens since graduating from Victorian College of the Arts in 1999. Pasvolsky was seen on ABC in “The Moodys” and was a series regular on Network 10’s hit “Mr & Mrs Murder.”

Other television credits include “Miss Fisher’s Murder Mystery,” “Blood Brothers,” “Offspring,” “Underbelly 2,” “McLeod’s Daughters” (Logie nomination for Most Popular New Talent), “Playschool,” “Cops LAC,” “Home & Away,” “Satisfaction,” “False Witness,” “SeaChange,” “Young Lions,” “All Saints,” “Farscape,” “White Collar Blue,” “Life Support” and “Second Chance.”

Feature film credits include *Hey, Hey, It’s Esther Blueburger*, *Fatal Contact*, *Macbeth*, *Easter Tide*, *The Cut*, *Roundabout* and *Still Life*.

Theater credits include “Bug” (Griffin Independent), “Lovers at Versailles” (Ensemble Theatre), “Proof” (Sydney Theatre Co.), “TWO UP!” (Syd Fest), “School of Night” (Old Fitzroy) and “Stories from Suburban Road” (Ensemble Theatre/Perth Theatre Company).

**MICHAEL CULKIN (Sir Graham)** is a veteran actor well known for his work in the British theater as well as big and small screen productions. Culkin’s long and distinguished career has included acclaimed film director Mike Leigh’s *Turner* project; *Fifth Estate*,starring Benedict Cumberbatch as WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange; the hugely successful television drama “Downton Abbey” and the Starz series “Da Vinci’s Demons.”

Culkin recently lent his voice to *Justin and the Knights of Valour* andis also a popular face on the British TV drama “Garrow’s Law.”

Culkin’s acting career began in 1992 with a small but memorable role in Bernard Rose’s *Candyman*,starring Virginia Madsen and Tony Todd. He went on to co-star in such films as Luc Besson’s *The Fifth Element*,starring Bruce Willis, Milla Jovovich and Gary Oldman; *Immortal Beloved*,directed by Rose and starring Oldman; *Mrs. Henderson Presents*,directed by Stephen Frears; *Dorian Gray*,starring Ben Barnes and Colin Firth; *Mrs. Palfrey at the Claremont*, with Joan Plowright;andPeter Greenaway’s *The Tulse Luper Suitcases.*

Other film credits include *Being Julia*, *The Hours*, *Monsieur N*, *Relative Values*, *An Ideal Husband*, *Place Vendome*, *The General*, *Plunkett and Macleane*, *Photographing Fairies*, *Lolita*, *The Honest Courtesan* and *The Woodlanders.*

Selected television drama credits include“Rome,” “Trial & Retribution,” “Stand By Your Man,” “Empire,” “Inspector Lynley Mysteries,” “In Deep,” “Relic Hunter,” “Shackleton,” “Queen of Swords,” “Perfect Strangers,” “Don Quixote,” “Queer as Folk,” “Our Mutual Friend,” “Kavanagh QC,” “Inspector Morse,” “Into the Blue,” “Killer Net,” “Supply and Demand” and “Cold Lazarus.”

Culkin’s extensive stage career has included productions of “Thérèse Raquin” and “The Walls” at London’s National Theatre, “Morphic Resonance” at the Donmar, “Lady in the Van” and “Between Two Worlds” in the West End, and “Journey’s End” and “Don Juan” at the Bristol Old Vic.

**GUY BURNET (Maurice)** is a talented actor working internationally in both the film and television arenas. He most recently wrapped production on Zoe Cassavetes’ drama *Day Out of Days*, opposite Melanie Griffith and Eddie Izzard, as well as the romance *Beautiful Now*, with Abigail Spencer and Cheyenne Jackson.

Additional film credits include an adaptation of the Tolstoy short *Two Jacks*, with Sienna Miller and Jack Huston; the thriller *Rites of Passage*, alongside Christian Slater and Stephen Dorff; and the period war film *Age of Heroes*, with Sean Bean.

On stage, Burnet received rave reviews for his U.S. theater debut in “Murder in the First.” He has appeared in such British productions as “Oh What a Lovely War,” “Metamorphosis” and “Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead.”

Television credits include the Demi Lovato Disney vehicle “Sonny with a Chance,” the BBC miniseries “Moving On” and a lead role on the popular Channel 4 series “Hollyoaks,” for which Burnet earned several awards and industry nominations.

Born in London, Burnet became an accomplished soccer player. Competing throughout Europe enabled him to perfect his multilingual abilities. Today the actor resides in Los Angeles.

**JEFF GOLDBLUM (Krampf) NEED BIO**

**ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

**DAVID KOEPP (Director, Writer)** is not only a go-to screenwriter for the studios who has compiled a tremendous track record, he is also an accomplished director. Koepp co-wrote with John Kamps the features *Zathura* (2005), *Ghost Town* (2008) and *Premium Rush* (2012), also directing the latter two films. He wrote and directed *Secret Window* (2004), *Stir of Echoes* (1999), *The Trigger Effect* (1996) and *Suspicious* (1994).

Koepp wrote or co-wrote the screenplays for the films *Jack Ryan: Shadow Recruit* (2014), *Angels and Demons* (2009), *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull* (2008), *War of the Worlds* (2005), *Spider-Man* (2002), *Panic Room* (2002), *Snake Eyes* (1998), *The Lost World: Jurassic Park* (1997), *Mission: Impossible* (1996), *The Shadow* (1994), *The Paper* (1994), *Jurassic Park* (1993), *Carlito’s Way* (1993), *Death Becomes Her* (1992), *Toy Soldiers* (1991), *Bad Influence* (1990) and *Apartment Zero* (1989).

Koepp was born in Pewaukee, Wisconsin, and graduated from UCLA’s film school in 1986. He lives in New York City with his wife and children.

**ERIC ARONSON (Writer)** discovered the Mortdecai series of books in a London bookstore more than 10 years ago. This adaptation is his first film credit.

Born and raised in Boston, Aronson was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and Stanford, attaining degrees in English and political science. He began his career working for the British government (he claims he was not a spy!).

Aronson currently lives in Massachusetts with his wife and child.

**ANDREW LAZAR (Producer)** formed Mad Chance Productions in 1995 with a mandate to focus on smart, intriguing material in every genre and budget range. His debut feature was the Shakespeare-influenced teen comedy *10 Things I Hate About You*, starring Heath Ledger, Joseph Gordon Levitt and Julia Stiles.

Mad Chance currently has a number of studio projects in preproduction. *Lore*, based on the graphic novel of the same name, is set up at Warner Bros. with David Green directing and Dwayne Johnson starring. An ensemble comedy, *The Wedding Guests*, is set up at CBS Films with Steve Carr directing. About to be released by Warner Bros. is *American Sniper*, based on the *New York Times* bestseller about the most lethal sniper in U.S. military history, with Clint Eastwood directing and Bradley Cooper starring. This year has seen the release of *Behaving Badly*, a raunchy comedy starring Selena Gomez, Nat Wolff, Mary Louise-Parker and Elisabeth Shue.

Lazar is working alongside Leonardo DiCaprio’s Appian Way to adapt the cult-classic Japanese manga Akira for Warner Bros., with Jaume Collet-Serra directing.

Previous film credits include Pete Segal’s *Get Smart*, starring Steve Carell, Anne Hathaway, Dwayne Johnson and Alan Arkin; *I Love You Phillip Morris*, written and directed by John Requa and Glenn Ficarra, starring Jim Carrey and Ewan McGregor; the critically acclaimed *Confessions of a Dangerous Mind*, which marked George Clooney’s directorial debut and starred Sam Rockwell, Drew Barrymore, Julia Roberts and Clooney; the pre-teen caper *Catch That Kid*, starring Kristen Stewart, Corbin Bleu and Max Thieriot; Danny DeVito’s *Death to Smoochy*, a dark comedy starring Edward Norton, Robin Williams and Catherine Keener; Clint Eastwood’s *Space Cowboys*, starring Eastwood and Tommy Lee Jones; *The Astronaut’s Wife*,starring Johnny Depp and Charlize Theron; and Nora Ephron’s lottery comedy *Lucky Numbers*, starring John Travolta and Lisa Kudrow.

**CHRISTI DEMBROWSKI (Producer) NEED BIO**

**PATRICK McCORMICK (Executive Producer)** has served in that capacity on five films starring Johnny Depp beginning with *Donnie Brasco*, directed by Mike Newell and also starring Al Pacino. He followed this with two films directed by Tim Burton: *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Sweeney Todd*. Their most recent collaboration came on *The Rum Diary*, based on the novel by Hunter S. Thompson and co-starring Giovanni Ribisi and Aaron Eckhart.

McCormick produced Bryan Singer’s *Jack the Giant Killer*,starring Nicholas Hoult, Stanley Tucci and Ewan McGregor, as well as *Peter Pan*, directed by P.J. Hogan and starring Jason Isaacs, Jeremy Sumpter, Rachel Hurd-Wood and Lynn Redgrave. Early producing credits include *Angie*, starring Geena Davis and James Gandolfini, and *A Shock to the System*,starring Michael Caine.

As executive producer, McCormick collaborated a second time with director Mike Newell on *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*, starring Jake Gyllenhaal, Ben Kingsley and Gemma Arterton. He also served as executive producer on three films directed by Barry Levinson: *Bandits*,the comic caper starring Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton and Cate Blanchett; *An Everlasting Piece*, a comedy set in 1980s Belfast starring Barry McEvoy, Brían F. O’Byrne, Anna Friel and Billy Connolly; and *Liberty Heights* (the fourth in the director’s Baltimore series), starring Adrien Brody, Bebe Neuwirth and Joe Mantegna.

Additional credits as executive producer are the films *Stepmom*,directed by Chris Columbus andstarring Julia Roberts, Susan Sarandon and Ed Harris; *The Juror*, starring Demi Moore, Alec Baldwin and James Gandolfini; and *Boys on the Side*, starring Drew Barrymore, Whoopi Goldberg, Mary-Louise Parker and Matthew McConaughey.

**JAMES MERIFIELD (Production Designer)** recently designed *A Little Chaos*,directed by Alan Rickman and starring Kate Winslet. It was selected to be the closing film at the 2014 Toronto Film Festival.

Merifield is a graduate of the Slade School of Fine Art in London. He started his career working with legendary director Ken Russell on films such as *Lady Chatterley* and collaborating with the director on productions for the English National Opera and Bonn’s Opera House.

Merifield received BAFTA nominations (Best Production Design) for his work on “The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby”and “Little Dorrit.” The latter project netted him an Emmy Award for Outstanding Art Direction. Merifield also designed the BBC production “Sense and Sensibility.”

Feature credits include Rowan Joffe’s *Brighton Rock*, Terence Davies’ *The Deep Blue Sea*,Jerusha Hess’ *Austenland* and Richard Laxton’s *Effie*, written by and starring Emma Thompson.

**FLORIAN HOFFMEISTER (Director of Photography)** became the first cinematographer to receive an Emmy, a BAFTA and the prestigious ASC Award for his work on the miniseries “Great Expectations.”In 2014 Hoffmeister was selected by *Variety* as one of its “10 Cinematographers to Watch.”

Other career highlights include AMC’s remake of “The Prisoner,”which was Emmy-nominated for Best Cinematography (Miniseries or TV Movie), the Golden Globe-nominated international TV drama “5 Days” and *House of Saddam*,which netted him a 2009 BAFTA nomination for Best Photography (Fiction). Other film credits include Terence Davies’ *Deep Blue Sea*, starring Rachel Weisz.

Hoffmeister studied directing and cinematography at Berlin’s German Film and Television Academy. He quickly established himself as a distinct, versatile young voice in the international cinematography community.

**RUTH MYERS (Costume Designer)** is a two-time Academy Award nominee (*Emma*, *The Addams Family*)and the recipient of many other honors for her costume designs, including the Costume Designers Guild Career Achievement Award. She has contributed her style to such diverse films as *The Golden Compass*, starring Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig(Costume Designers Guild Award for Excellence in Fantasy Film); *The Painted Veil*, starring Naomi Watts, Edward Norton and Liev Schreiber; *The Deep Blue Sea*, with Rachel Weisz and Tom Hiddleston; *City of Ember,* starring Saoirse Ronan and Bill Murray (Satellite Award nomination); and *L.A. Confidential*, starring Russell Crowe and Guy Pierce(BAFTA nomination).

Most recently, Myers designed the costumes for *Vampire Academy*,directed by Mark Waters; *Effie Gray,* written by and starring Emma Thompson alongside Dakota Fanning and Claudia Cardinale;and *Molly Moon: The Incredible Hypnotist*, starring Emily Watson, Dominic Monaghan and Joan Collins.

In the television world, Myers designed the costumes for the pilot episode of HBO’s “Carnivàle,”creating the look for the acclaimed series and winning both Emmy and Costume Designers Guild awards. She received another Emmy nomination for Philip Kaufman’s HBO movie “Hemingway & Gellhorn,” starring Nicole Kidman, Clive Owen and David Strathairn.

Born and raised in Manchester, England, Myers trained at St. Martin’s College of Art in London. She then went to work at the Royal Court Theatre, followed by a year working in repertory. She returned to the Royal Court, contributing to at least 15 productions including David Hare’s “Stag” as well as John Osborne’s “Hotel in Amsterdam” and “Time Present.”

Myers began designing for low-budget English films with *Smashing Time* (now famous for its era-defining Mod look), *The Ruling Class*, *The Twelve Chairs* and *A Touch of Class.* Persuaded by Gene Wilder to come to America, she collaborated with him on *The World’s Greatest Lover*, *The Woman in Red* and *Haunted Honeymoon.* She then designed Joseph Losey’s *Galileo* and *The Romantic Englishwoman*.

It was while collaborating with Losey that she met her late husband, noted production designer Richard MacDonald. As a couple they enjoyed a dynamic collaboration on such films as Sydney Pollack’s *The Firm*,Fred Schepisi’s *Plenty* and *The Russia House*,Norman Jewison’s *…And Justice for All*,Ken Russell’s *Altered States*,Jack Clayton’s *Something Wicked This Way Comes* and Barry Sonnenfeld’s *The Addams Family*,for which she received her first Academy Award nomination.

Additional motion picture credits include three with writer/director Douglas McGrath: *Infamous*,starring Daniel Craig and Sandra Bullock; *Nicholas Nickleby*,starring Charlie Hunnam, Jamie Bell and Christopher Plummer; and *Emma*,starring Gwyneth Paltrow, James Cosmo and Greta Scacchi. She has also worked with filmmakers such as Taylor Hackford (*Proof of Life*),Mimi Leder (*Deep Impact*) and Tim Robbins (*Cradle Will Rock*).

Myersserved as costume designer on Fred Schepisi’s *I.Q*,starring Tim Robbins, Meg Ryan and Walter Matthau; *Mr. Saturday Night*, written and directed by Billy Crystal, who also starred; *The Marrying Man*,written by Neil Simon and starring Kim Basinger, Alec Baldwin and Robert Loggia; Lawrence Kasdan’s *The Accidental Tourist*,starring William Hurt, Kathleen Turner and Geena Davis;Jocelyn Moorhouse’s *A Thousand Acres*, starring Michelle Pfeiffer, Jessica Lange and Jennifer Jason Leigh; andMoorhouse’s *How to Make An American Quilt*,starring Winona Ryder, Ellen Burstyn and Anne Bancroft.

**SALLIE JAYE (British Hair & Makeup Designer)** is a BAFTA Award winner (for Iain Softley’s *Wings of the Dove*).She was also BAFTA nominated for Robert Altman’s *Gosford Park.* Jaye received both a BAFTA and a Royal Television Society Award for her work on the celebrated TV series “French & Saunders” and was BAFTA nominated for Dennis Potter’s “Lipstick on Your Collar.”

Feature film credits as a designer have included *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time*, *City of Ember*, *In Bruges*, *Cassandra’s Dream*, *Scoop*, *Match Point* and *28 Days Later.* Credits in other capacities include *Skyfall*, *Blood Diamond*, *Never Let Me Go*, *Imagine Me & You*, *Alfie*, *The Beach*, *Chocolat*, *Ella Enchanted*, *Johnny English* and *Johnny English Reborn*, *Ever After*, *Sense & Sensibility*, *Rob Roy* and *Howards End.*

**JOEL HARLOW (Designer & Personal Make-Up Artist)** is an Academy Award-winning talent and one of the most innovative makeup and special-makeup artists and designers currently working in American motion pictures. He has enjoyed a long-standing professional relationship with actor Johnny Depp since they first collaborated on *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl*, directed by Gore Verbinski and produced by Jerry Bruckheimer. Most recently, Harlow worked as Depp’s makeup artist on *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Tourist*, *The Rum Diary*, *Dark Shadows* and *The Lone Ranger* (another Gore Verbinski/Jerry Bruckheimer production, for which Harlow was also makeup department head).

Harlow shared in an Academy Award win with fellow makeup artists Barney Burman and Mindy Hall for their work on J.J. Abrams’ *Star Trek* (2010). He won a Critics’ Choice Award for his work on *Alice in Wonderland* and Emmy Awards for the television miniseries versions of Stephen King’s “The Stand” and “The Shining.” He has also received nominations for “Mad Men,” “Carnivàle” and “Buffy the Vampire Slayer.”

Born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, Harlow’s passion to work on film began with a childhood viewing of the original 1933 *King Kong*. Moving to New York City at college age, he studied animation at the School of Visual Arts, but his true passion was special makeup effects. Harlow gained practical experience on such New York-based, low-budget genre films as *The Toxic Avenger* *Part II* (and III) and *Basket Case 2*.

Harlow then moved to Los Angeles, where he worked for several makeup-effects houses before finally landing at Steve Johnson’s XFC, Inc., where he remained for eight years as a makeup-effects designer on a number of films.

From there Harlow began working on such high-profile films as *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *A.I. Artificial Intelligence*, *Planet of the Apes*, *Constantine* and *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl.* Harlow became the key makeup artist, makeup-effects supervisor, prosthetic-makeup designer and special-effects-makeup supervisor on both *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest* and *Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End*. He then worked as makeup-department head on *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides*, directed by Rob Marshall.

Harlow was key makeup artist on Ron Howard’s *Angels & Demons*, key prosthetic-makeup artist for Christopher Nolan’s *Inception* and Martin Campbell’s *Green Lantern*, and makeup department head on Jonathan Liebesman’s *Battle Los Angeles*.

Harlow’s company, Joel Harlow Designs, creates a full range of state-of-the-art makeup, special-makeup effects and prosthetics, from lab to set.

**JILL SAVITT (Editor) NEED BIO**