**The SpongeBob Movie:**

**Sponge Out of Water**

**APPROVED PRODUCTION NOTES**

 From Paramount Animation and Nickelodeon Movies comes “The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water”, an all new 3D adventure that’s as wild and funny as its name.  For the first time, SpongeBob SquarePants, the world’s favorite sea dwelling invertebrate, comes ashore to our world for his most super-heroic adventure yet.

            Life in Bikini Bottom couldn’t be better for eternal optimist SpongeBob (Tom Kenny) and his friends: loyal starfish Patrick (Bill Fagerbakke), the sardonic Squidward (Rodger Bumpass), scientist squirrel Sandy (Carolyn Lawrence) and crustacean capitalist, Mr. Krabs (Clancy Brown).  When the top secret recipe for Krabby Patties is stolen, eternal adversaries SpongeBob and Plankton (Mr. Lawrence) must join forces on a trip through time and space to harness their internal superpowers and battle fiendish pirate Burger Beard (Antonio Banderas) with his own plans for the delicious delicacies.

 Based on the highest rated series in Nickelodeon history and a decades-spanning international phenomenon, director Paul Tibbitt says, “It's everything you want in a movie.  We've taken familiar characters and pushed them in completely new directions - it's a road movie, a superhero movie, and a post-apocalypse movie, and it's all in 3-D!"

 “The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water” is directed by Paul Tibbitt, with live action direction by Mike Mitchell, executive produced by Stephen Hillenburg, Cale Boyter, Nan Morales and Craig Sost and produced by Paul Tibbitt and Mary Parent. “The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water” is based on the hit series, “SpongeBob SquarePants”, created by Stephen Hillenburg with a story by Hillenburg & Paul Tibbitt and Screenplay by Jonathan Aibel & Glenn Berger. The music is by John Debney. This film has not yet been rated.

**A WORLD WITHOUT A KRABBY PATTY**

 The Krabby Patty: the legendarily delicious sandwich is SpongeBob’s favorite fast foodstuff and the cornerstone of the Bikini Bottom diet. The Krusty Krab, the only restaurant on land or sea that sells them, has become an institution by zealously keeping the delicacy’s recipe a secret.

 "The Krabby Patty is the grease that keeps the whole machine moving," says Tom Kenny, the voice of SpongeBob. "It keeps the workers happy. It's essentially everyone’s first cup of joe in the morning."

 "Nobody really knows what's in a Krabby Patty, not even Mr. Krabs," says director Paul Tibbitt. "But everybody loves them, and it’s the one thing everyone can agree on. We thought it would be fun to see what happens when the recipe goes missing."

 "Smash cut to the apocalypse," adds series creator and executive producer Stephen Hillenburg.

 Initially, Mr. Krab's perennial rival, Plankton, is suspected of stealing the recipe, but SpongeBob knows better. He also knows there’s only one person with the resources to help solve this mystery – Plankton. For the first time ever, SpongeBob and Plankton join forces to track down the real culprit, as Bikini Bottom descends into post-apocalyptic chaos without their Krabby Patties. Their journey will take them further than they have ever been before -from the observation deck of an intergalactic talking porpoise’s spaceship, to the sugar coated insides of SpongeBob’s brain, and finally the craziest place imaginable: OUR WORLD!

 "It's an unlikely team up," says Hillenburg. "These guys have traditionally been enemies and couldn't be more different: Plankton is cynical, while SpongeBob is innocent and naive."

 "There's a great juxtaposition to their dynamic," adds producer Mary Parent. "It's basically our version of Midnight Run. They’ve never teamed up before and it’s fun to see two characters who are initially arch enemies, forced to depend on each other because they have to.”

**SPONGE OUT OF WATER**

 "From the beginning, we knew we needed to do something big," says Tibbitt of the initial planning stages of The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water." After years of working within the constraints of a television, the film allowed the creative team to explore new creative possibilities for the series' classic characters. "We're used to having these huge ideas for stories which we'd inevitably have to scale back in some way," explains Tibbitt. "But for the film, we realized we could bring the studio (Paramount) a crazy new idea, and they'd give us the latitude to make it happen. Nothing was off the table."

 "Everything is a little bigger and better this time around," says Kenny. "But it isn't a reboot; it's not ‘SpongeBob Begins.’ We aren't going to tone down the silliness and get back to SpongeBob's gritty, butt-kicking roots. If anything, we've only gotten sillier."

 In The SpongeBob Movie: Sponge Out of Water, fans will see fully realized, three dimensional versions of their favorite characters for the first time. "The show has always had an element of animation and live action; animated characters in Bikini Bottom and a few live action segments in our world," says Hillenburg. "But we've never done anything on this level."

 "We've only briefly seen our characters out of the water in the show and first movie, but they were always in 2-D," says Tibbitt. "We wanted them to not only leave the water, but this time, actually have some weight and depth. Animation has come a long way since the first film in 2006, and it was exciting to use these new tools to make our characters come to life in our world in a believable way."

 Bill Fagerbakke, the voice of Patrick, comments, "In the past, our characters have been stick figures outside of the water, but this time around, the visual presentation is completely new. Everything is different. It's like they're going to Oz."

 Australian Visual Effects house Iloura (who had previously created Mark Wahlberg's stuffed bear companion in "Ted") was responsible for bringing the familiar characters to life in the film's "real world" sequences. "We've been blown away by some of the shots in this film," Tibbitt explains. "Iloura is so good at integrating all the elements and making these characters seem like they're all in the same world."

 "It's a radically different visual experience than the fans have ever seen before," says executive producer Cale Boyter. "But there was a lot of care put into making the 3-D versions of characters stay true to their 2-D roots."

 In a series of events that could only happen in a SpongeBob movie, our heroes take on superhero personas, which required some reimagining on the part of the filmmakers.

 The super powers were inspired by each character’s personal interests.  "SpongeBob becomes the Incredibubble, because he loves blowing bubbles," explains Hillenburg.  "Patrick loves ice cream, so his power is to summon it.  Squidward plays the clarinet, so he becomes a music based hero named Sour Note.  They did a great job capturing the spirit and emotions of these characters."

 "There were also a lot of discussions about how realistic we wanted the characters to appear,” Hillenburg explains. “Should Squidward look like a real octopus? Should Sandy looks like a real squirrel? Eventually, we realized we needed their silhouettes intact, so you could recognize them in their new super hero personas."

 Kenny remembers his first impression of SpongeBob's superhero makeover. "The first time I saw these characters, I was onstage at San Diego Comic Con introducing the trailer. I was sitting there in this huge room with thousands of people as the lights went down and the trailer began. At first, there was just stunned silence, but pretty soon, everybody was laughing and cheering. In a room with that many people, it sounded like thunder."

**UNCHARTED WATERS**

 Being new to the process of shooting live action, veteran animators Tibbitt and Hillenburg enlisted the help of their friend and fellow Cal Arts alumnus, Mike Mitchell to ease the transition.

 "Mike was at Cal Arts at the same time as Steve and I," Tibbitt explains. "And he'd worked extensively on live action, animation and hybrid films. "Mike was a great asset," echoes Hillenburg. "In animation, you can create any background you want and put characters in and have it all look like the same world. With live action, you have a lot more concerns, and Mike was able anticipate what we'd need.”

 One of the major set pieces of the film involves SpongeBob and his friends using their powers to battle a pirate on the streets of a modern city. "We shot in Savannah, Georgia," Hillenburg explains. "I really liked the older appearance of the buildings there, and we agreed it looked like the sort of sunny beach town that a pirate might set up shop.”

 Anchoring the live action is series newcomer and Hollywood legend Antonio Banderas, who plays the villainous pirate, Burger Beard, who may or may not have something to do with the missing recipe.

 "Antonio Banderas is a very worthy inductee into the SpongeBob club," says Kenny. "He's got that kind of old Hollywood movie star charisma. When he's on the screen, he just owns it."

 "We couldn't be happier to have Antonio on board for this," says producer Mary Parent. "He’s such a versatile actor and he really brings to life this very funny and eccentric pirate."

 Tibbitt agrees. "Antonio is an insanely physical guy, and has such a great comedic sensibility. His total commitment to the physical comedy reminds me a lot of Buster Keaton. I'd like to believe he upped his game because he knew he was competing with cartoons."

 "I'm a little envious of him," says Clancy Brown, who voices Mr. Krabs. "Sure, I get to talk like a pirate, but Antonio gets to play one, jumping and swinging around on the ship with that beard. You can really tell he's having a great time."

 "It IS a lot of fun," says Banderas. "The days were hot and the beard was a bit itchy, but I loved every minute of it." As for joining this beloved franchise, “My daughter and I love SpongeBob, and I’d be a fool to turn down the chance to share the screen with such an iconic presence.”

**A SPONGE FOR ALL SEASONS**

 After 15 years, the cast and creative team have had time to ponder the SpongeBob franchise's legacy.

 "It's mind blowing just how big it's become and how long it's gone," Kenny muses. "As an actor, you're perennially a freelance employee," Kenny muses. "We're a bit like migrant workers; we go where the crops are, and SpongeBob is a crop that just keeps growing."

 "No one could have expected this," relates Rodger Bumpass, the voice of Squidward. "Long ago, I remember telling people about being involved in the pilot, and being met with a yawn or glazed indifference. Then about a year later, I mentioned the show to someone on the street and their eyes got real big. 'Whoa, you are so hip!' That was right when it started to take off, and it's been a wonderful, wonderful ride. And it isn't over yet!"

 "When the show first started airing, my daughter was in kindergarten," Brown recalls. "Now she's in college. Both of Tom's kids were born during the run of the show. You start to associate parts of your life with the show, because it's become such a huge part of our lives."

 Brown attributes Hillenburg's creative convictions for the longevity of the characters. "Steve was always adamant about not having any pop culture references as they tie the world of the show to a particular time and place."

 Kenny agrees, "Bikini Bottom is its own planet, with its own rules and its own pop culture; there's never anything topical. They really do live in a bubble, and that's what I think keeps it timeless and allows so much creative freedom."

 "We've always written to make ourselves laugh," says Hillenburg. "Thankfully, what makes us laugh is appropriate for children. It's always great to hear adults say they can stand to watch our show."

 "It's validating to have the trust and the thanks of the parents," says Tibbitt. "They know they're not going to see anything questionable, and it's nice to know they appreciate what we're doing. This film is for them as much as it is for the kids. We hope the movie is as fun to watch as it was to make."

**ABOUT THE CAST:**

 Since his introduction to American cinema in the highly acclaimed Mambo Kings, **ANTONIO BANDERAS (BURGER BEARD)** is irrefutably one of the leading international actors of his generation. He has received critical praise for his performances in film, television and theater, as well as behind the scenes as a feature film director. In 2005, he was honored with a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

His second directorial feature is the Spanish film *El Camino De Los Ingleses* (*titled Summer Rain* in the U.S.). A coming of age story, the film follows the first loves, lusts and obsessions of friends on vacation at the end of the 1970s. He made his directorial debut with *Crazy in Alabama* starring his wife Melanie Griffith.

 In 2003, Banderas earned a Tony nomination for Best Actor in a Musical for his Broadway debut in the Roundabout Theater Company production of *NINE*, a musical inspired by Fellini’s 8 ½. He also received a Best Actor Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Circle Award, Drama League Award and Theatre World Award. *NINE*, directed by David Leveaux, also starred Chita Rivera.

Banderas has worked with some of Hollywood’s best directors and leading actors including Robert Rodriquez’s *Desperado* opposite Salma Hayek and the sequel *Once Upon a Time in Mexico* opposite Johnny Depp; *Original Sin* opposite Angelina Jolie; Alan Parker’s *Evita* opposite Madonna, in which he received his first Best Actor Golden Globe nomination; Martin Campbell’s *The Mask of Zorro* opposite Catherine Zeta-Jones, in which he received his second Best Actor Golden Globe nomination, and the sequel *The Legend of Zorro*; Neil Jordan’s *Interview with a Vampire* with Tom Cruise and Brad Pitt; Jonathan Demme’s *Philadelphia* opposite Tom Hanks and Denzel Washington; Bille August’s *House of the Spirits* with Meryl Streep and Glenn Close; and Brian de Palma’s *Femme Fatale*. He was nominated for his third Best Actor Golden Globe for his performance as the infamous Pancho Villa in HBO’s 2003 release of *And Starring Pancho Villa as Himself*.

Born in Malaga, Spain, Banderas attended the School of Dramatic Arts in his hometown, and upon graduation he began his acting career working in a small theater company based there. He later moved to Madrid and became an ensemble member of the prestigious National Theater of Spain.

In 1982, Banderas was cast by writer/director Pedro Almodovar in *Labyrinth of Passion*. It was the first of seven films Banderas would do with Almodovar, the others being *Matador*, *Law of Desire*, *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* and *Tie Me Up! Tie Me Down!*  The international success of these films introduced to him to Hollywood. Banderas can also be seen in *La Piel Que Habito* (*The Skin I Live In*) and *I’m So Excited*, also written and directed by Almodovar.

 Other film credits include: *The 33, Justin and the Knights of Valour, Ruby Sparks, Haywire, Black Gold, Day of the Falcon,* *Puss In Boots, You Will Meet A Tall Dark Stranger, The Big Bang, The Other Man, Shrek 2 and Shrek the Third, Shrek Forever After Take the Lead*, *Spy Kids trilogy*, *Miami Rhapsody*, *Four Rooms*, *Assassins*, *Never Talk to Strangers*, *Two Much*, *The 13th Warrior*, *Play it to the Bone* and *Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever*.

 Banderas can also be seen in *Machete Kills,* directed byRobert Rodriguez starring alongside Mel Gibson, Amber Heard, and Jessica Alba and in Gabe Ibanez Sci-Fi Thriller *Automata* alongside Dylan McDermott and Melanie Griffith. He was last seen in Patrick Hughes, third installment of *The Expendables 3*. Antonio will next be seen in the upcoming Terrence Malick film *Knights of Cups*.

 In addition to voicing the lead role of “SpongeBob” in the Nickelodeon’s hit animated series *SpongeBob SquarePants*, **TOM KENNY (SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS)** is also familiar to Nick viewers as the voices of “Dog” *CatDog* and Heffer on *Rocko’s Modern Life*.  His additional television voice work includes “Lumpus the Moose” on *Camp Lazlow* and “Eduardo” on *Foster’s Home for Imaginary Friends*.  He has also been a regular cast member on the animated series *Super Robot Monkey Team, My Gym Partner is a Monkey, Handy Manny*, *Futurama*, *Dexter’s Laboratory*, *Johnny Bravo* and *Powerpuff Girls.* His voice talents can also be heard on *Adventure Time* for Cartoon Network, the new educational series for PBS, *Wordgirl* and he also voices the villain Zilius Zoxx on Warner Brothers' *Green Lantern* animated series, produced by the illustrious Bruce Timm. Tom is also a cast member on *Ultimate Spiderman* for Disney XD, *Hugglemonsters* for Disney Jr., and *Brickleberry,* the new animated series for Comedy Central.

 Tom’s voice talents can also be heard in feature films as various robots in *Transformers-Revenge of the Fallen*, and as Rabbit in *Winnie the Pooh*.

 Kenny was a regular cast member of HBO’s critically acclaimed sketch program *Mr. Show with Bob and David* and appeared as the office loser “Persky” on *Just Shoot Me*.  He has also guest-starred on *The Drew Carey Show*, *Brotherly Love* and *Unhappily Ever After*.  Kenny creeped out audiences as the evil “Binky the Clown” in the cult film *Shakes the Clown* and starred with his wife (Jill Talley) in the Smashing Pumpkins’ award-winning video for their song “Tonight, Tonight.”

 In addition to his voice work, Tom has appeared on such television shows as *Premium Blend*, *Comic Strip Live*, *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brian*, and *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson.*

 An aficionado of old blues, jazz, country and rockabilly music, Kenny occasionally moonlights with his band, performing songs from his extremely obscure record collection.  He lives in Los Angeles with his wife Jill, son McKinley and daughter Nora.

 **BILL FAGERBAKKE (PATRICK)** is best known for his portrayal of Dauber in ABC’s long-running comedy series *Coach* as well as his voice-over role as “Patrick the Starfish” in Nickelodeon’s runaway hit, *Spongebob Squarepants*. His recent television credits include a series-long recurring as Jason Segal’s dad in CBS’ smash hit, *How I Met Your Mother*. Additionally, he recurred as J.K. Simmons’ brother in NBC’s *Growing Up Fisher* and also had recurring roles on *Heroes* and *Oz*. In 2011 Bill appeared in the Academy Award winning film *The Artist*. His other feature film credits include roles in *Funny Farm*, *Loose Cannons*, *The Secret of My Success*, *The Baby Makers* and *Halloween 2.* His distinctive voice has also been heard in Disney’s animated feature film *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, the television cartoon series *Transformers*, *Handy Manny*, *Dumb and Dumber*, *Gargoyles* and many others.

 He currently resides in Topanga, California with his two daughters.

 **CLANCY BROWN (MR. KRABS)** began his acting career in Chicago theater and continued to perform stage locally until he won the role of Viking, a nasty prison inmate, in the 1982 feature film *Bad Boys*, starring Sean Penn. He has gone on to star in many motion pictures; among them are the multiple Oscar® nominated film *The Shawshank Redemption*, *Cowboys and Aliens*, *The Guardian*, *Starship Troopers*, *Blue Steel*, *Shoot to Kill*, *Extreme Prejudice*, and the cult classic *Highlander*. Some of Brown’s television credits include HBO’s Emmy® award winning series *Carnivale*, the NBC series *Earth 2*, the Emmy® nominated HBO movie *Normal*, as well as a recurring role on *ER*. He is also known to millions of children as the voice of Mr. Krabs from the hugely popular animated series *SpongeBob SquarePants.*

 Mr. Brown was most recently seen opposite James Franco and Jason Statham in the feature films *Homefront* and opposite Jim Caviezel and Laura Dern in *When the Game Stands Tall.* He is currently recurring on Fox’s hit series *Sleepy Hollow* as Sheriff August Corbin and on the CW’s hit series *The Flash* as General Eiling. Brown also completed filming on the tent pole feature *Warcraft* for Universal.

 One woman - a multitude of voices.  **CAROLYN LAWRENCE (SANDY)** possesses the voice that has launched several dozen characters on television, film, video games and radio - making her one of the most sought-after voice actors in the entertainment industry.

 Among her more popular TV characters is Sandy Cheeks, the lovable squirrel, on Nickelodeon's long-running, cultural phenomenon *SpongeBob Squarepants.* Lawrence has played the squirrelly, Texas scientist on the animated TV series from 1999 - present. Additionally, she appears on the related video games: *Nicktoons MLB*, *SpongeBob's Truth or Square*, *SpongeBob's Atlantis SquarePantis*,  *Nicktoons: Battle for Volcano Island*, *SpongeBob SquarePants: Lights, Camera, Pants!,*  *SpongeBob SquarePants: Battle for Bikini Bottom,* *SpongeBob SquarePants: Revenge of the Flying Dutchman*,  *SpongeBob SquarePants: Employee of the Month*, and *SpongeBob SquarePants: Operation Krabby Patty*. She was also featured in *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* in 2002.

 Lawrence's other voice over credits include:  *Family Guy*, *The Fairly OddParents*, *Party Wagon, The Wild*, *Psi-Kix*, *Slacker Cats*, Orel Puppington in Adult Swim's TV series *Moral Orel* (2005-2008) and the TV special *Before Orel: Trust* (2012).

 Lawrence portrayed child-genius Cindy Vortex on the Nickelodeon animated TV series *The Adventures of Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius* from 2002 - 2006, winning her a prestigious Annie Award nomination.   She also starred in several of the program's various video game and movie spin-offs, including:  *Jimmy Neutron: Attack of the Twonkies*, *The Jimmy Timmy Power Hour*, *The Jimmy Timmy Power Hour 2: When Nerds Collide*, *The Jimmy Timmy Power Hour 3: The Jerkinators!*, *SpongeBob SquarePants featuring Nicktoons: Globs of Doom, Nicktoons Unite*, *Jimmy Neutron: Win, Lose and Kaboom* and *Nickelodeon Toon Twister 3D*.

 On-camera, the successful talent has appeared in a variety of television and film projects such as *Boston Legal*, *A Minute with Stan Hooper*, *Caroline in the City*, *Union Square*, *7th Heaven*, *Weird Science*, *Little Man Tate* and *Wings*.

 Away from the studios, Lawrence is simultaneously succeeding at an entirely different career. She has taken her 'home-fix-it-gal' mentality and parlayed herself into a successful house-renovation-real-estate-agent.  When she isn't utilizing her incredible vocal skills for television or film, the over-achiever can be found designing and selling luxury homes for JohnHart Real Estate in Toluca Lake, California.

**ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS:**

 **PAUL TIBBITT (DIRECTOR, PRODUCER, STORY BY)** was born in Los Angeles California across the street from a hockey rink. While animating stick figures in the corners of textbooks didn’t endear him to his teachers, it did help him make his way through the California education system. When the call of Cal Arts animation school became too strong to ignore, he went. Upon graduating, he found himself working on numerous animated series that no one heard of… until *SpongeBob SquarePants*, where he was one of main writers since it began production. He also wrote on *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie*, after which he took over the TV show as Executive Producer.

 **MIKE MITCHELL (LIVE ACTION DIRECTOR)** has directed *Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo* produced by Adam Sandler, Disney’s Sky High starring Kurt Russel and Kelly Preston, and blockbuster franchise entries *Shrek Forever After* and *Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked*.

 Mitchell’s television work includes directing the pilot episode of Fox’s *Greg the Bunny* and several episodes of the series and writing for *SpongeBob SquarePants* and *Ren and Stimpy*. Fun Fact: Mike attended animation school with SpongeBob director Paul Tibbitt and creator Steve Hillenberg. They remain good friends to this day.

 Mitchell is currently working on Dreamworks Animation’s *Trolls*, an animated musical starring Anna Kendrick, Adam Driver and Rebel Wilson.

 **STEPHEN HILLENBURG (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER/STORY BY)** is the creator and executive producer of *SpongeBob SquarePants*, one of Nickelodeon’s most popular animated series. Hillenburg’s first feature film, *The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie* which debuted November 19, 2004.

 He graduated from the California Institute of the Arts with a master’s degree in experimental animation in 1992. His undergraduate degree, from Humboldt State University was in natural science with an emphasis in marine biology. Prior to becoming a filmmaker, Hillenburg worked as an exhibit preparator and science educator for kids.

 “Working as a marine science educator, I had the chance to see how enamored kids are with undersea life, especially tide pool creatures. By combining this knowledge with my love for animation, I came up with SpongeBob SquarePants.”

 As a graduate student, Hillenburg made several independent animated films, including *The Green Beret* and *Wormholes*, which have been exhibited internationally in such festivals as Annecy, Hiroshima, Ottawa, Oberhausen and the Los Angeles Animation Celebration.

 He also served as creative director on the Nickelodeon animated series Rocko’s Modern Life, in that show’s last season.

 SpongeBob SquarePants has received an Emmy nomination 6 times since 2002. The show won a Golden Reel award in 2008. It received an Annie for Best Writing in Television in 2005 and in 2004 for TV Production. In 2002, the series won the Television Critic's Award for Best Children's Program. In 2003, Comedy Central nominated SpongeBob SquarePants for its “Commie Awards” in the category of Funniest Animated TV Series. Also in 2002, Hillenburg was the recipient of the Princess Grace Foundation's Statue Award in film. Hillenburg was honored in 2001 by Heal the Bay (Southern California’s premiere environmental public interest group) with the organization’s highest honor, the Walk the Talk Award. He received this award for elevating marine life awareness through *SpongeBob SquarePants*.

 **MARY PARENT (PRODUCER)** is the founder and CEO of Disruption Entertainment, which has been based at Paramount since April 2011.

 Since starting Disruption Entertainment three years ago, Parent has generated a varied and commercial slate of films. Recent releases that have achieved tremendous global box office success include: Gareth Edwards’ 3-D take on the classic monster movie, *Godzilla*; the epic biblical drama, *Noah* directed by Darren Aronofsky and starring Russell Crowe; and the Guillermo del Toro directed sci-fi adventure *Pacific Rim.* Upcoming films include: *Monster Trucks* an original live-action film based on the popular trucks; and a film adaptation of the best- selling novel *Defending Jacob*, to be written and directed by Steve Kloves (*Wonder Boys,* *Harry Potter* film series, *The Amazing Spider-Man*.

 In March of 2008, Parent was named CEO and Chairman of the Motion Picture Group at MGM and United Artists overseeing Production, Distribution and Marketing. Brought in to re-build MGM's previously dormant film development and production operation, Parent hired a top flight team of new executives and quickly assembled MGM's first real slate in years including a new James Bond film, *The Hobbit*, a re-boot of *Robocop,* *The Cabin in the Woods,* *Hot Tub Time Machine,* *Zookeeper* and *Red Dawn*. Only six months after arriving, the financial crisis hit paralyzing MGM and preventing it from moving forward on film production and distribution.

 Prior to taking the reins at MGM, Parent co-founded Stuber/Parent, which produced its first five films in just two years grossing more than $550 million at the box office. Before Stuber/Parent, as Vice Chairman of Worldwide Production for Universal Pictures, Parent oversaw the planning, development and production of Universal’s annual slate of films and was integral in the worldwide success of many box-office hits, including *King Kong*, *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, *Meet The Parents*, *Meet the Fockers*, *Bourne Identity*, *Bourne Supremacy*, *Fast and Furious*, *Along Came Polly*, *Seabiscuit*, *American Wedding*, *The Hulk*, *8 Mile*, *Red Dragon*, *Jurassic Park III*, *Bridget Jones’s Diary*, *Hannibal*, *Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and the Academy Award®-winning *Gladiator*, a co-production with DreamWorks.

 Prior to being named Vice Chairman of Worldwide Production for Universal Pictures in 2003, Parent previously served as President of Production beginning in 2000. Parent joined Universal Pictures in 1997, as Senior Vice President of Production. She came to Universal from New Line Cinema, where she had worked since 1994, most recently as Vice President of Production. Prior to this, she served as a Creative Executive as well as Director of Development at New Line, where she was responsible for and executive-produced the films *Pleasantville* and *Set It Off.* She began her career as an agent trainee at ICM.

 **CALE BOYTER (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)** has fourteen years of experience in the film industry. He began his career at Paradigm talent agency and moved to New Line Cinema where he rose from story editor to Executive Vice President of Production. At New Line, he oversaw the development and production of films generating over $1 billion in worldwide box office including such hits as *Elf, Wedding Crashers, A History Of Violence, Journey To The Center Of The Earth* and *The Nativity Story*. In 2008, Mr. Boyter moved to MGM as Executive Vice President of Production. At MGM, he has supervised the development and production of *Hot Tub Time Machine* and *Zookeeper*. In 2011, Mr. Boyter joined Mary Parent’s Paramount-based Disruption Entertainment, whose credits include Guillermo del Toro’s *Pacific Rim*, *Godzilla* and Darren Aronofsky’s Biblical epic *Noah*. Through the Disruption banner, Mr. Boyter is Producer on *Monster Trucks*, and the recently wrapped, *Same Kind Of Different As Me*. Amongst several other projects in development Mr. Boyter will produce *Our Name Is Adam* at Paramount Pictures with Tom Cruise and is adapting the bestselling novel *Proof Of Heaven* and *Run To Daylight*, a film based on iconic football coach Vince Lombardi. Defying his parent's wishes of pursuing a career in nuclear engineering, he graduated from SMU with a degree in film.

 **JONATHAN AIBEL** and **GLENN BERGER** **(SCREENPLAY BY)** are the writing team behind some of today’s most beloved and popular family films. To date, their movies have grossed nearly 2.5 billion dollars in worldwide box office. Aibel and Berger met right out of college while working as management consultants in Boston. It was there they both discovered their passion for comedy writing and lack of passion for management consulting.  So they threw away their suits and briefcases and moved to Los Angeles. Since then, Aibel and Berger have written some of the most successful family films of the past decade, and have positioned themselves as two of the most talented and respected comedy writers in the industry. They pride themselves on scripting films that appeal to audiences of all ages, with a combination of character-based comedy, action, and emotion.

 In May, Paramount will release *Monster Trucks*, for which Aibel and Berger wrote the screenplay and serve as Executive Producers. Aibel and Berger’s script for the third installment of the *Kung Fu Panda* franchise, *Kung Fu Panda 3,* is currently in post production and set for release by Dreamworks in March 2016. They are also writing the screenplay for the Dreamworks’ animated musical *Trolls*, which will be released in November 2016. Other family film credits include *Kung Fu Panda 2, Alvin and The Chipmunks*: *Chipwrecked*, and Dreamworks’ first 3D film, *Monsters Vs. Aliens*.

 In addition to their work in film, Aibel and Berger were part of the original staff of the animated Fox hit *King Of The Hill*. They remained at the show for six seasons, and rose to become executive producers, garnering four Emmy® nominations and one win.

 **JOHN DEBNEY (COMPOSER)** is the ultimate film music character actor. In equal demand for family films like *Elf* as he is for adventure films like *Iron Man 2*, the Oscar-nominated composer also scored the poignantly brutal *The Passion of the Christ*. Debney is an agile jack-of-all-genres, composing for comedies (*Bruce Almighty*), sci-fi action (*Predators*), horror (*Dream House*) and romance (*Valentine’s Day*) with the same confidence and panache. Debney is also known for his work in such films as *Princess Diaries, Sin City, Liar Liar, Spy Kids, No Strings Attached, The Emperor’s New Groove, I Know What You Did Last Summer* and *Hocus Pocus*.

 Debney’s most recent work includes the Steve Jobs bio-drama *Jobs*, Brad Anderson’s thriller *Stonehearst Asylum*, Ivan Reitman’s sports drama *Draft Day* for Lionsgate and Thomas McCarthy’s upcoming film *The Cobbler* starring Adam Sandler and Dustin Hoffman that premieres at this year’s Toronto Film Festival.

 Up next for John is Disney’s *The Jungle Book* directed by Jon Favreau.

 Born in Glendale, California, Debney’s professional life began after he studied composition at the California Institute of the Arts, when he went to work writing music and orchestrating for Disney Studios and various television series. He won his first Emmy in 1990 for the main theme for *The Young Riders*, and his career soon hit a gallop. Since then he has won three more Emmys (*Sea Quest DSV*), and been nominated for a total of six (most recently in 2012 for his work on the Kevin Costner western miniseries *Hatfields & McCoys*.)

 His foray into videogame scoring—2007’s *Lair*—resulted in a BAFTA nomination and a Best Videogame Score award from The International Film Music Critics Association.

Debney has collaborated with acclaimed directors as diverse as Robert Rodriguez, Garry Marshall, Mel Gibson, the Farrelly Brothers, Jon Favreau, Jim Sheridan, Ivan Reitman, Peter Chelsom, Rob Cohen, Brian Robbins, Tom Shadyac, Sam Raimi, Adam Shankman, Howie Deutch, Renny Harlin, Peter Hyams and Kenny Ortega. He was nominated by the Academy for his Passion of the Christ score (which he adapted into a symphony that had a live performance in Rome), and in 2005 was the youngest recipient of ASCAP’s Henry Mancini Career Achievement Award.

 “If I’m doing my job well,” says Debney, “I need to feel it. I really try to make sure that whatever I’m doing— even if it’s a comedy—that I’m feeling it and feeling either humor or the pathos or the dramatic impact of what I’m seeing. That’s the way I approach it.”

 **DAVID IAN SALTER, A.C.E. (EDITOR)** is an Eddie-Award-nominated film editor, best known for his pioneering work in computer-animated feature films. Salter joined the young Pixar Animation Studios in January of 1996, just over a month after the studio had released the world's first animated feature (the first *Toy Story*). As Second Editor on Pixar's second feature film, *A Bug's Life*, Salter became one of a handful of editors redefining the craft of editing for the then-new medium of computer animated features. Salter's next task was leading the editorial crew through the reboot of *Toy Story 2*. When Pixar became aware that the sequel had run into creative trouble, Salter was the first crew member tasked with helping to save the floundering production, an effort that would eventually see virtually the entire studio jumping aboard to completely remake the film in one-third of the normal time. His work on *Finding Nemo* garnered Salter an American Cinema Editors' Eddie Award nomination in the category of Best Edited Feature Film - Comedy or Musical. Following *Nemo*, Salter was recruited personally by Jeffrey Katzenberg to join DreamWorks Animation as a director. During his time at DreamWorks, Salter developed a number of projects, including the Shrek Christmas special, *Shrek the Halls*, which he also directed through pre-production. During this time, he also served as an editorial consultant on the Aardman feature *Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit*. Prior to SpongeBob, Salter edited *Ice Age: Continental Drift*, the fourth entry in the Ice Age series. Salter has also worked in feature documentaries (Errol Morris' *Standard Operating Procedure*), episodic television, commercials, and even video games.