



LIONS GATE FILMS

Presents

But I'm a Cheerleader

A Comedy About Sexual *Disorientation*

A film by
JAMIE BABBIT

Starring

NATASHA LYONNE
CLEA DUVALL
RUPAUL CHARLES
CATHY MORIARTY
EDDIE CIBRIAN

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Cast

(in order of appearance)

Megan	Natasha Lyonne
Kimberly	Michelle Williams
Jared	Brandt Wille
Peter	Bud Cort
Nancy	Mink Stole
Mike	RuPaul Charles
Cheerleader #1	Katie Donahue
Cheerleader #2	Danielle Reneau
Mary Brown	Cathy Moriarty
Rock	Eddie Cibrian
Hilary	Melanie Lynskey
Graham	Clea DuVall
Jan	Katrina Phillips
Sinead	Katharine Towne
Joel	Joel Michaelly
Andre	Douglas Spain
Dolph	Dante Basco
Clayton	Kip Pardue
Joel's Father	Kyle Thatcher
Mr. Eaton	Robert Pine
Graham's Stepmom	Rachelle Carson
Lloyd	Wesley Mann
Larry	Richard Moll
Lipstick Lesbian	Julie Delpy
Bruce	Charles Braden

Filmmakers

Director	Jamie Babbit
Screenwriter	Brian Wayne Peterson
Story	Jamie Babbit
Producers	Andrea Sperling
	Leanna Creel
Executive Producers	Michael Burns
	Marc Butan
Director of Photography	Jules LaBarthe
Editor	Cecily Rhett
Production Designer	Rachel Kamerman
Costume Designer	Alix Friedberg
Music	Pat Irwin
Ignite Production Executive	Ted Gidlow
Post Production Supervisor	Ross Guidici

About the Story

A candy-box colored satirical comedy of sexual *dis*orientation, BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER chronicles the life of Megan (Natasha Lyonne,) a typical teenager coming of age in anything but a typical fashion. Megan's super normal suburban existence is filled with friends, pom-poms and rah-rah enthusiasm until her straight-laced parents (Mink Stole and Bud Cort) suspect that their "little poodle" may, in fact, be showing lesbian tendencies. In a complete panic, Megan's parents elicit the help of her friends and the guidance of the homosexual rehabilitation facility, True Directions, to mount an intervention. Mike (an out-of-drag RuPaul Charles,) a True Directions counselor, leads the intervention and before Megan can pack her pom-poms she is whisked off to learn how to be a perfect heterosexual woman.

True Directions is run under the strict, all-seeing eyes of queen homophobe Mary (Cathy Moriarty). Megan dutifully gets with the *de*programming so she can quickly return to her life of boyfriends, football games, and her absolute favorite activity – cheerleading. However, she resists the first step of the "rehabilitation" process which is to admit she is gay. In fact, she really does not believe she is a lesbian, until she meets Graham (Clea DuVall), a sexy tomboy who has also been sent to the camp. In a charming twist of romantic fate, Megan realizes she may have found her true direction in the most unlikely of places.

The feature film directorial debut of award-winning short filmmaker Jamie Babbit (SLEEPING BEAUTIES, FROG CROSSING), BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER stars an ensemble cast including Natasha Lyonne, Clea DuVall, Cathy Moriarty, Mink Stole, Bud Cort, RuPaul Charles, Eddie Cibrian, Melanie Lynskey, Douglas Spain, Kip Pardue, Katherine Towne, Dante Basco and Joel Michaelly. Based on an original story by Babbit, the film is written by Brian Wayne Peterson and produced by Andrea Sperling and Leanna Creel. Ignite Entertainment's Michael Burns and Marc Butan are executive producers of the Lions Gate Films release.

Director's Statement

BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER, my feature film debut, illustrates my interest in the hyper-real. Rather than delving into fantasy or straight camp, BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER explores characters who are in some ways marginal, and places them in worlds that are brightly colored and visually rich. The result is a disarming sense of seeing "reality" while watching a story that verges on the absurd. I hope to trace emotional contours, and let the humor and anger in my film touch ground in the real feelings of my characters. This is a unique feminization of the camp aesthetic.

BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER is told from a "femme" point of view, one that has been ignored in the canon of lesbian movies which have primarily been from the vantage point of a "butch" (GO FISH, INCREDIBLY TRUE ADVENTURE OF TWO GIRLS IN LOVE, THE WATERMELON WOMAN, BOYS DON'T CRY). The film explores my continued fascination with female stereotypes – the Barbie Doll, the color pink, and the cheerleader as the American female icon – and the ways in which I intersect my lesbian identity and my obsession with all things "feminine." Like Natasha Lyonne's character who cheers for Graham at the end of the film to affirm her lesbian desire, I hope this film celebrates the "femme" and her strength in cinema.

— Jamie Babbit

About the Production

BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER was conceived almost four years ago, according to director and co-writer Jamie Babbit. "I was sitting in a coffee shop in San Francisco reading an article about this guy that had just returned from a homosexual rehab camp and I was fascinated by it. He had written about going to one of these camps and how he returned hating himself. The theme of repression, as strange as it was, interested me. Also, my mother runs a place called New Directions, which is a halfway house for kids who have drug and alcohol problems." Jamie explains, "I always wanted to do a comedy about growing up with my mom and what she tried to accomplish there."

"I had written a treatment on the film when I had finished my last short, "Sleeping Beauties" and then I met this fabulous guy Brian, who had just graduated from USC film school. He was really interested in the subject matter and we collaborated back and forth for about four months," Jamie remembers.

Jamie teamed up with producer Andrea Sperling and with the help of Ignite Entertainment, BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER began production in the winter of 1998.

When casting BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER director Jamie Babbit had a few people already in mind before the process actually began. "I had worked with Clea DuVall before in my short film and it just happened that she was getting cast in larger Hollywood movies when I began casting, which was great because I would have worked with her regardless."

Clea comments, "Jamie is amazing. I learned about the project last year in Sundance. She told me she had me in mind for the role from the beginning and I was so scared I might not like it. But when I read the script, I was so proud of her, I just loved it! This is Jamie's first feature and I think she has an amazing command of the set and a good feel of how the actors are working together. Her level of confidence shows in how well the production is going."

Casting Natasha Lyonne in the lead role of Megan Bloomfield was more of a luck of the draw. A close friend of fellow cast member DuVall, Lyonne saw the script in DuVall's car, read it and called her agent the next day and said she had to be cast in the movie. "I really like this film because it is the kind of movie that laughs at itself. The environment is so surreal and so over the top, but so fun on the inside," Lyonne offers. "As an actor, I really wanted to work with Clea, Jamie and Cathy because they are real people and very talented. Jamie is an amazing director. She is so confident."

RuPaul Charles came at the suggestion of a friend of Babbit's. Charles describes his character as "an ex-gay, a changed man who is really straight." A role he found particularly fun to play because he is an openly gay man. "I've always seen myself as the neighborhood sissy, so this character is hilarious. Plus, I'm attracted to the subversive and the underdog. This film corrects the message and I like being associated with it," Charles adds.

At the suggestion of a friend, Babbit offered the Oscar-nominated Cathy Moriarty the role of Mary, the head counselor for True Directions. Moriarty remembers differently, "They were stalking me! I had no choice! No, this is a different character than I have ever played before. I was attracted to the fact that Mary lives in what I call 'Mary Land.' She wants everything to always be perfect and just right. Everyone should live a normal life as a heterosexual." Babbit adds, "Moriarty really brings her own elements to the role of Mary. She considers her character Sandra Dee on crack because of her neurosis!"

Babbit considers herself really lucky in the casting department because she was able to land some of her favorite independent actors for other roles in the film. "I saw Melanie Lynsky in "Heavenly Creatures" and "Ever After" and knew I really wanted to work with her and Doug Spain was so great in "Star Maps." Lynsky comments, "I really loved this role because I'm usually cast as the sweet, innocent girl. Hilary is not that girl!"

The roles of Megan's parents had to be played by actors who embodied the Christian

stereotype and were believable as the over-protective, concerned parents. When casting began for Mrs. Bloomfield, Mink Stole was first to read for the part. "I remember thinking she was perfect for the role and exactly what I had in mind. She has a midwestern look and is a great actress and is very comic," Babbit remembers. "Sheila Jaffe, the casting director, put her picture on the wall indicating my first choice and I always marveled at her name, never making the connection of who she was."

Stole comments, "This is one of the funniest scripts I have ever read and one of the most fun sets I've ever worked on. Everyone really gets along very well and I think that helps in creating the chemistry that is so needed on a film."

A huge fan of Bud Cort from the "Harold and Maude" days, Babbit met with him and instantly saw him in the doting role of Peter Bloomfield. "Mr. Bloomfield just wants the best for Megan, his little poodle. She should have only the best, which in my eyes is a house, white picket fence, 2.5 children and a nice husband," Cort adds. "I choose this script because I actually laughed out loud when I was read it. It was one of the best scripts I have ever read. I think it is really timely, in fact, I think it should have been made years ago."

The fun, hyper-real feel to "Cheerleader" was largely due to the costumes, set decoration and location of shooting. True Directions was discovered accidentally when Babbit and producer Andrea Sperling were scouting locations. On their way to a retreat that didn't quite fit the description of the house they were looking for, Babbit spotted it. "I drove by this house and I thought, oh, this is perfect! It was this fabulous old Victorian house, which was very pretty, but also had this surreal quality to it that made it very scary." Set decoration added flamboyant colors, which mirrored the colorful costumes and ultimately matched the tone of the script.

Filming took place in Los Angeles from the end of December, 1998 through January, 1999. The combination of an eclectic cast of young Hollywood actors and seasoned veterans, coupled with a surreal set and a comedic script provided for a fun and

lighthearted atmosphere during production. However, the actors and filmmakers alike concluded that the film dealt with some sensitive and serious issues. Cort describes the script as “very accessible about an important subject matter that is respecting your own reality.” Babbit felt the film was about a good Christian girl who, through the course of the film discovers she is a lesbian and is confronted with what that means.

About the Cast

NATASHA LYONNE (Megan) constantly delivers poignant and critically applauded performances and is quickly becoming one of Hollywood's most sought-after new talents. Recently, seen in Fox Searchlight's comedy-drama *SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS*, Lyonne garnered much praise from critics everywhere for her portrayal of Vivian, the precocious young teenager whose life is being turned upside down by her blossoming figure and new neighborhood.

She recently completed New Line Cinema's comedy-adventure *DETROIT ROCK CITY* opposite Eddie Furlong. Set in 1978, the film follows four young teenagers who embark on a wild adventure to attend a *KISS* concert. Driven by their unwavering passion to see their favorite legendary rock group live, they will stop at nothing to scam their way into the sold-out show.

Lyonne then segued immediately into Matthew Bright's indie pic *CONFESSIONS OF A TRICK BABY* with Brad Wyman producing.

Lyonne began her professional career at the age of six when she starred as "Opal" in the original "Pee Wee's Playhouse." After a stint as a contract player on "As the World Turns," she made her feature film debut as Meryl Streep's niece in the Mike Nichols' film *HEARTBURN* based on the book by Nora Ephron. Other credits include *KRIPPENDORF'S TRIBE*, opposite Richard Dreyfus and Jenna Elfman, Woody Allen's musical *EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU*, the vampire thriller *MODERN VAMPIRES*, And HBO's "If These Walls Could Talk 2."

CLEA DUVALL (Graham) currently starred in the highly touted Columbia Pictures film *GIRL, INTERRUPTED*, based on the best-selling memoirs by Susana Kaysen. The film is directed by James Mangold and also stars Winona Ryder, Angelina Jolie, Brittany Murphy and Whoopie Goldberg.

Most Recently, she portrayed the rebellious loner 'Stokely' in Kevin Williamson's/ Dimension Films' THE FACULTY directed by Robert Rodriguez. DuVall also created major cameos in two other Miramax Films: first in SHE'S ALL THAT with Rachel Leigh Cook and Freddy Prinze, Jr. and in the yet to be released COMMITTED written and directed by Lisa Krueger and starring Heather Graham, Casey Affleck and Luke Wilson.

DuVall first gained recognition in her starring role in the independent feature HOW TO MAKE THE CRUELEST MONTH, which was one of sixteen films in dramatic competition at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival. Graduating a mere three years ago from Los Angeles High School of the Arts, DuVall was quickly cast in the Sundance Film Lab's production of WILDFLOWERS as the lead opposite James Gandolfini. The result was so successful that the film went into full production this past summer with DuVall reprising her role playing opposite Daryl Hannah who joined that cast as the mother.

In the New Line feature THE ASTRONAUT'S WIFE, DuVall co-stars with Johnny Depp and Charlize Theron, playing Theron's younger sister in the sci-fi thriller written and directed by Rand Ravich.

On television her credits include the ShowTime Special Event, "The Defenders," with John Larroquette, Beau Bridges and Rachel Leigh Cook, as well as appearances in the series "Dangerous Minds" and "ER."

CATHY MORIARTY (Mary) made her feature film acting debut at the age of seventeen in Martin Scorsese's RAGING BULL opposite Robert DeNiro, in a role that garnered her a BAFTA nomination, two Golden Globe nominations and ultimately a Best Supporting Actress Academy Award nomination.

A native New Yorker, Moriarty was born in the Bronx, raised in Westchester, and Graduated early from high school and immediately began her acting career. She followed up her RAGING BULL performance with roles in NEIGHBORS (1981), WHITE OF THE EYE (1987), KINDERGARTEN COP (1990), SOAPDISH (1991) for which she

received a Comedy Award nomination, THE MAMBO KINGS (1992), THE GUN IN BETTY LOU'S HANDBAG (1992), ME AND THE KID (1992), MATINEE (1993), ANOTHER STAKEOUT (1993), PONTIAC MOON (1994), OPPOSITE CORNER (1995), FORGET PARIS (1995), CASPER (1995), and FOX FIRE (1996.)

On television, Moriarty co-starred in 1995 with Andrew Dice Clay in CBS's "Bless This House" and received an Ace Award for her role in "Seance" an episode of HBO's "Tales From the Crypt".

Moriarty's most recent feature film work includes HUGO POOL from director Robert Downey, COP LAND in which she starred with Sylvester Stallone, Robert DiNiro and Harvey Keitel, A BROTHER'S KISS from Overseas/First Look Pictures and DREAM WITH THE FISHES from Sony Pictures Classics. All these films were released in the Summer of 1997.

Moriarty also held the role of the "Accessible" good witch Gret in Fox Home Video's "Casper Meets Wendy." Here she teamed up with the other "witches" Teri Garr and Shelly DuVall in the September, 1998 release. She followed that role with a performance in Timothy Hutton's DIGGING TO CHINA that was released last year.

Earlier this year, Moriarty was seen starring in the remake of "Gloria" starring Sharon Stone and George C. Scott. She will next be seen in the October 22 release from Columbia TriStar Pictures, CRAZY IN ALABAMA. This film marks the directorial debut of Antonio Banderas. "Crazy" will be followed up by another independent film, Allan Moyle's NEW WATERFORD GIRLS which is making the festival circuit now.

MINK STOLE (Megan's Mom) has appeared in eleven films by renowned director John Waters. Her best known roles in these films have been Connie Marble in the recently re-released PINK FLAMINGOS, Peggy Grabel in DESPERATE LIVING, Dottie Hinkle in SERIAL MOM, and Taffy Davenport in FEMALE TROUBLE.

Stole has appeared in a number of independent feature films such as CRAZY SITTER with Beverly D'Angelo, a remake of BUCKET OF BLOOD with Paul Bartel, both, which were directed by Michael McDonald. Her vice condemns Bill Pullman's character to death in David Lynch's LOST HIGHWAY. She was featured in David DeCoteau's LEATHER JACKET LOVE STORY which was a huge hit at the New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles Gay film Festivals. She was seen at this year's Sundance Film Festival in a hilarious cameo in Gregg Araki's SPLENDOR.

RUPAUL CHARLES (Mike) In his autobiography, Lettin' It All Hang Out (Hyperion 1995), RuPaul Andre Charles Says, "Life can be whatever you want it to be. All you have to do is make a wish."

That said, Charles has gone on to super-stardom as a performer, actor, television talk show host, author, morning radio deejay and cosmetics spokesperson.

Charles's latest endeavor with Rhino Records, "RuPaul's Go-Go Box Classics", is a dance compilation CD which salutes his former career as a club dancer atop a go-go box at Weekend's Disco in Atlanta, Georgia. This collection features 18 tracks personally selected by Ru, also including "Get Loose," a previously unreleased RuPaul song, as well as the recent dance hit, "It's Raining Men...The sequel," which hit number one on the UK Pop/Dance Charts.

Other albums and hit remakes include "Ho Ho," such classics as "I Saw Daddy Kissing Santa Claus" and "RuPaul the Red-Nosed Drag Queen," as well as stuffing the stocking with some original new songs that he wrote, including "Funky Christmas" and "Christmas Nite." Enlisting the cutting edge team of Welcome & Carrano to produce, the album, which was featured on VH1's instant-classic, "Ho Ho Ho...A RuPaul Christmas Special".

His sophomore album, Rhino Records "Foxy Lady," was released to rave reviews in November of 1996

Charles continues to travel the world as “The First Face of M A C”, a cosmetics company to the stars. He has already opened M A C stores in Germany, Ireland, Scotland, Italy and Miami, Florida and this year he’s headed to Spain in Australia. Spreading the word about Viva Glam, a lipstick of which 100% of the retail cost goes to the M A C AIDS Fund, Charles co-chairs the organization with his sister-in-spokes-modeldom, k.d. lang. The fund has raised over \$10 million dollars for AIDS charities to date.

His feature film work includes Spike Lee’s CROOKLYN, THE BRADY BUNCH MOVIE, WIGSTOCK: THE MOVIE, Wayne Wang’s BLUE IN THE FACE, TO WONG FU...THANKS FOR EVERYTHING JULIE NEWMAR, FLED and AVERY BRADY SEQUEL. On television “The RuPaul Show” has aired for three seasons on VH1 and Charles’s has had featured guest roles on various primetime sitcoms such as “Sister, Sister,” “In The House,” “The Crew,” “ Sabrina, The Teenage Witch” and a recurring role in “Nash Bridges.”

In March, RuPaul received the GLAMA (Gay/Lesbian American Music Award) Outmusic Award for advancement of gay/lesbian music.

EDDIE CIBRIAN (Rock) will make his primetime debut this Fall as one of the leads in the highly-anticipated NBC series, “Third Watch” created by “ER” producer John Wells. Cibrian has appeared in both television and feature films, and currently stars on NBC’s daytime drama “Sunset Beach.” Since joining the show, Cibrian starred as the lead in the CBS movie-of-the-week, “Logan’s War: Bound by Honor,” as well as wow audiences in his memorable motion picture debut in LIVING OUT LOUD as Holly Hunter’s masseur.

Born and raised in California, Cibrian began his acting career at the age of 12, landing a Coca-Cola commercial on his very first audition. Following the success of that spot, he appeared in numerous other national commercials.

Upon entering high school, Cibrian decided to put his acting career on hold to pursue his other passion-sports. After suffering a football injury in his freshman year of college, he returned to acting. Cibrian immediately landed several national commercials and soon after, starred in Malcolm-Jamal Warner's Emmy-Award winning television special "Kids Killing Kids."

The attention Cibrian garnered for his appearance on Warner's special led to several soap opera auditions. After appearing on "Young and the Restless" for two years, Cibrian starred in several television shows including "The Bold and the Beautiful" and "Baywatch Nights," as well as multiple episodes of "Beverly Hills 90210," "Sabrina The Teenage Witch," and "Saved by the Bell: The College Years."

MELANIE LYNSKEY (Hilary) was last seen in *EVER AFTER* with Drew Barrymore and Angelica Houston. The young actress first garnered attention opposite Kate Winslet in Peter Jackson's controversial *HEAVENLY CREATURES*, in a performance which earned her a New Zealand Film and Television Award as Best Actress. She then made a cameo appearance in Jackson's horror thriller *THE FRIGHTENERS*. Most recently, Lynskey appeared in Michael Cocoyannis' *THE CHERRY ORCHARD*, and the independent *FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS* directed by Mark Tapio Kines, a close friend since childhood. She also appeared in *DETROIT ROCK CITY*. Currently, Lynskey in *COYOTE UGLY* for producer Jerry Bruckheimer.

DOUGLAS SPAIN (Andre) captured critical praise and a 1998 Independent Spirit Award nomination for his feature film debut in Fox Searchlight's *STAR MAPS*. Currently shooting the independent film *WHAT'S COOKING* alongside Julianna Margulies, Kyra Sedgwick, Alfre Woodard, Joan Chen and Mercedes Ruehl, Spain will next be seen in October Films' *CHERRY FALLS* alongside Brittany Murphy and Jay Mohr, *RICOCHE* RIVER opposite Kate Hudson, *BEACH MOVIE* opposite Gabrielle Anwar, *THE LAST BEST SUNDAY* and *RAVE*. He was last seen in Artisan Entertainment's *PERMANENT MIDNIGHT* alongside Ben Stiller and Elizabeth Hurley.

Spain was well received in two Showtime Original Pictures – the William Friedkin directed “12 Angry Men,” as part of the stellar ensemble cast including such acclaimed actors as Edward James Olmos, Ossie Davis, George C. Scott, Jack Lemmon, Hume Cronyn, and Armin Mueller-Stahl, as well as “Riot” which showcased Spain as a young man who battles with his morality as he initially resists, yet eventually takes part in the Los Angeles Riot. His additional credits include “Gunplay: La Familia” on stage with Naked Angels, LA and the lead role in TNT’s “Tecumseh! The Last Warrior,” produced by American Zoetrope, and “Flash-Fires” for HBO.

KIP PARDUE (Clayton) Atlanta native Kip graduated from Yale University. Arriving in Los Angeles in May 1998, Kip has already worked in two feature films, guest starred on two network shows and landed a pilot for the WB network. Kip is currently filming, “I’ll Be You,” for Phoenix Pictures, opposite Shane West and Jodi Lynn O’Keefe. In television, Kip has guest starred on the WB Network’s hit series “7th Heaven” and in “Outreach,” a pilot, also for the WB Network. Prior to his acting career, Kip had success in the modeling world, doing two major campaigns for Polo and Abercrombie & Fitch.

DANTE BASCO (Dolph) was first introduced in Steven Spielberg’s HOOK as Rufio, the leader of the Lost Boys. Soon Dante will be seen in the coming of age drama RAVE, which uses the underground “rave” scene as its backdrop.

Dante also starred in RIOT, Showtime’s critically acclaimed depiction of the 1992 Los Angeles riots. His other current credits include FAKIN’ DA FUNK, a film in which Dante stars as an Asian who is adopted by an African-American family in South Central Los Angeles (also starring Pam Grier).

Dante recently finished THE MERCADO FAMILY DEBUT, a film starring him and his brothers. He also recently finished the independent film, SARA’S LIFE BEFORE IT BECAME A MOVIE, where he stars as a hip young director.

KATRINA PHILLIPS (Jan) is a recent LA transplant from Chicago where she graduated from the DePaul University of Theatre School. She made her film debut this past year in PAYBACK with Mel Gibson. She can also be seen in "Literacy Ink" by P.B.S. to be aired next year.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

JAMIE BABBIT (Director, Story) makes her feature film directorial debut with BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER. The film is a stylized comedy starring Natasha Lyonne, Clea DuVall, Cathy Moriarty, and RuPaul Charles.

In addition, Babbit has directed several short films including *Sleeping Beauties*, which made its debut at the 1998 Sundance Film Festival. The short played at over 30 festivals, including the LA Independent, Reel Affirmations in Washington D.C. (where Babbit was voted Best Director), London, Paris, Berlin Gay and Lesbian Film Festivals.

Babbit's other short film, *Frog Crossing* (in collaboration with Ari Gold), played at the 1997 Sundance Film Festival, as well as Rotterdam, Telluride, Seattle, Sundance, and Tokyo Film Festivals. It is part of the Cineblast! Short Film Journal available in video stores and can be seen on the Sundance Channel.

Babbit has worked as a Script Supervisor on over 10 films for Directors such as David Fincher, John Duigan, Su Friedrich, Nancy Savoca, and Alex Sichel.

Babbit graduated in 1993 from the Barnard College of Columbia University in NYC.

Babbit is currently in development on a feature film for Tribeca Films entitled CONJUGATING NIKI, which is her next production.

BRIAN WAYNE PETERSON (Screenwriter) grew up in western Montana and wrote his first script while earning a BA in psychology at Willamette University. He earned his Masters degree in screenwriting at USC where he worked on three student film projects and interned as a reader for All Girl and Pacific Western Productions before writing *BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER*. Peterson was listed as one of Variety's "10 Screenwriters To Watch" in 1999. He has since completed a feature project for Twentieth Century Fox and is working on a television pilot with writing partner Kelly Souders.

ANDREA SPERLING (Producer) is an independent producer based in Los Angeles. She has produced twelve feature films and four shorts. Most recently, Sperling produced Mary Kuryla's *FREAK WEATHER* (1999), starring Jacqueline McKenzie and Aida Turturro which will make its World Premiere at the 1999 Toronto International Film Festival.

Earlier this year, Sperling teamed with Ron Shelton (*BULL DURHAM*, *BLAZE*) to executive produce *NO VACANCY*, a film written and directed by Marius Balchunas, starring Christina Ricci, Lolita Davidovich, Robert Wagner and Timothy Olyphant. She also produced Morgan J. Freeman's (*HURRICANE STREETS*) second feature film, *DESERT BLUE* (1999), which opened nationwide this summer.

Her producing credits also include four films by Gregg Araki, *NOWHERE* (1996), *THE DOOM GENERATION* (1995), *TOTALLY F***ED UP* (1993) and *THE LIVING END* (1991); three films by Jon Moritsugu, *FAME WHORE* (1996), *MOD F**K EXPLOSION* (1995) and *TERMINAL, USA* (1993;) and one film by Christopher Munch, *COLOR OF A BRISK* and *LEAPING DAY* (1996,) which was awarded the Grand Jury Prize for Best Cinematography at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival.

Her shorts included Jamie Babbit's *Sleeping Beauties* (1997), Mary Kuryla's *Memory Circus* (1990), Jennifer Gentile's *My Pretty Little Girlfriend* (1996), and Britta Sjogren's *A Small Domain* (1996), which was the Grand Jury Prize for Best Short Film at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival.

Sperling received a Bachelor of Arts in Film History, Theory and Criticism from the University of Santa Barbara, graduating with honors in 1990. She has been profiled in The New York Times, Art Forum, Detour, AIVF and Filmmaker Magazine (for which she is an occasional contributor), and on the Sundance Channel.

She sits on the Board of Directors of the LA based Film Forum and serves on the Advisory Committee for both The Independent Film Channel's "New Wave Films" Finishing Fund and the IFP West's "New Visions" Program.

In 1993, Sperling was the recipient of the Independent Feature Project/West's Brain Greenbaum Spirit Award for Producing Achievement. This year, she was nominated by the IFP/West for a Ralph Lauren Spirit Award for Producing.

LEANNA CREEL (Producer) co-founded the film production company Ignite Entertainment in 1997. In the last three years the company has financed and produced eight feature films in which Creel oversaw the development, production and delivery while also running the day-to-day operations of the company.

Most recently, Creel produced THE SUBURBANS along with the award-winning SIX-STRING SAMURAI, POSSUMS and MIXED SIGNALS. She served as Executive Producer on DANCER, TX, POP. 81.

Creel earned her BA in History from UCLA in 1993, graduating magna cum laude. She continued her education there, earning an MFA in film and television, graduating in 1996 from the Independent Producers Program. While still at school, she produced a "microbudget" feature called DRUMS, BASS & GUITAR as well as several short films. Creel also studied animation and made several animated shorts.

Creel resigned from Ignite Entertainment in 1999 to start another company, Anomaly Productions. She recently completed a documentary entitled THE BIG SPIN, which she

produced and directed. She is also directing a documentary about the women who are fighting with the Zapatista rebels.

JULES LABARTHE (Director of Photography) previously worked with Jamie Babbit as the director of photography on two short films *Sleeping Beauties* and *Frog Crossing*. His additional film and television credits include Summin Park's "Too Pure" for Lions Gate Films, Rob Spera's "Stray Bullet," Mary Lambert's "Drag Strip Girl" for Showtime, and Erin William's "Tapestry: A Tribute to Carole King" for Lifetime.

In addition, LaBarthe has directed several music videos including Eddie Chacon's "I Don't Want to Live Without You" and Malcolm McLaren's "World Tribe" which was co-directed by Lee Douglas.

RACHEL KAMERMAN (Production Designer) — Her diverse work as a designer runs the gamut from numerous feature films to commercial, retail and residential projects in New York and Los Angeles. Prior to "Cheerleader," Rachel designed the independent films FOLLOW THE BITCH and KILLER FLICK both arthouse releases in the latter half of 1998, as well as the festival favorite THE NEW GODS. As an art director, she made her mark on this summer's THE VELOCITY OF GARY starring Salma Hayek and Vincent D'Onofrio; the Sundance favorite THE ALARMIST, with David Arquette and Stanley Tucci; Gary Marshall's production of TWILIGHT OF THE GOLDS featuring Brendan Fraser, Faye Dunaway, and Jennifer Beals; JOYRIDERS toplining Martin Landau; and Stephen Kay's period piece, THE LAST TIME I COMMITTED SUICIDE with Thomas Jane and Keanu Reeves.

All the while, Rachel has continued her passion for interior and architectural work off of the big screen, freelancing on a number of residential and restaurant projects in Beverly Hills and Palm Springs. Before arriving in Los Angeles, Rachel was a senior designer for one of New York's top ranked hotel and restaurant design firms, as well as a senior project designer for an award-winning retail design firm. Her clients have included The Hilton, The Radisson, and The Limited, among others.

ALIX FRIEDBERG (Costume Designer) recently worked on Touchstone Pictures' GONE IN SIXTY SECONDS and INSTINCT. Her other film credits include 20th Century Fox's THAT THING YOU DO and Paramount Pictures' BLACK SHEEP. In addition, she has collaborated on films such as 20th Century Fox's OFFICE SPACE, Warner Brothers' HOME FRIES and 20th Century Fox's FATHER OF THE BRIDE II. Her television work includes "Working" and "Newsradio."

MICHAEL BURNS (Executive Producer) is the president of the successful independent production company Ignite Entertainment. Burns has helped establish the company's reputation in the industry by developing quality, youth oriented features that attract hot, marketable up-and-coming actors, producing them for a price. Burns recently announced Ignite's reunion with writer/director Tim McCanlies (DANCER, TX, POP. 81,) to produce his youth-oriented dark comedy set during World War II, THE NIGHT WE LIBERATED PARIS.

Burns also served as producer on Donal Ward's THE SUBURBANS. His other credits include Morgan J. Freeman's DESERT BLUE, the award-winning SIX-STRING SAMURAI, POSSUMS, and DANCER, TX, POP.81. A native of Connecticut, Burns earned a bachelor of science degree in political science at Arizona State University and an MBA from UCLA.

MARC BUTAN (Executive Producer) is a partner in Ignite Entertainment. Butan manages all creative, strategic and operational affairs at the company. In addition to these day-to-day responsibilities, Butan focuses on developing and producing projects. Butan came to Ignite in 1998 after several years as an entertainment industry investment banker. Butan developed and produced R. Lee Fleming's teen romantic comedy GETTING OVER ALLISON. He also served as a producer on Ignite's THE LAUREN SCHWARTZ STORY: SAGA OF A LOSER. Butan also served as executive producer on Donal Ward's THE SUBURBANS. He also worked on Morgan J. Freeman's DESERT BLUE and GIRL.

Songs

“CHICK HABIT (LAISSE TOMBER LES FILLES)”

Performed by April March
Written by Elinor Blake
Original version composed and written by Serge Gainsbourg
Published by Yé Yé Music (BMI)
©1964 Bagatelle S.A. (transferred to Sidonie Publishing)
Courtesy of Ideal Records

“JUST LIKE HENRY”

Performed by Dressy Bessy
Written by Tammy Ealom, John Hill
Rob Greene, Darren ALBERT
Published by Little Music (ASCAP)
Courtesy of Kindercore Records

“IF YOU SHOULD TRY AND KISS HER”

Performed by Dressy Bessy
Written by Tammy Ealom, John Hill,
Rob Greene, Darren Albert
Published by Little Music (ASCAP)
Courtesy of Kindercore Records

“TRAILER SONG”

Performed by Sissy Bar
Written by COURTNEY HOLT & JOY RAY (BMI)
Courtesy of MooTron

“ALL OR NOTHING”

Performed by Miisa
Written by Chris Owen and Miisa
Published by Warner/Chappell Music Scandinavia AB (STIM)
Administered by Warner Bros. Music Corp. (ASCAP)
Courtesy of 404 Music Group

“WE’RE IN THE CITY”

Performed by Saint Etienne
Written by Sarah Cracknell, Bob Stanley, Pete Wiggs
Published by Momentum Music (UK), Warner/Chappell Music Ltd.
(P.R.S.) Administered by Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp. (BMI)
Courtesy of Sub Pop Records

“THE SWISHER”

Performed by Summer’s Eve
Written by and Produced by Dave Moss and Ian Rich
Executive Producer Daven the Mad Hatter
Published by More Uncut Music (ASCAP)
Recorded at Smog Studios, Hollywood, CA.
Courtesy of Raw Nerve Records

“FUNNEL OF LOVE”
Performed by Wanda Jackson
Written by Kent Westbury, Charlie McCoy
Published by Universal - Songs of Polygram International, Inc.
obo Cedarwood Publishing
Courtesy of Capitol Nashville
Licensed from EMI-Capitol Music Special Markets

“RAY OF SUNSHINE”
Written & Performed by GO SAILOR
Published by Go Sailor
Courtesy of Lookout! Records, LLC.
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“SHE LOOKS AT ME”
Performed by That Dog
Written by Anna Waronker, Rachel Haden,
Petra Haden & Anthony Maxwell
Published by Universal - Songs of Polygram International, Inc.
obo itself and This Old Man Music (BMI)
Courtesy of DGC
Licensed from Universal Music Special Markets

“PARTY TRAIN”
Performed by RuPaul
Written by RuPaul Charles and Joe Carrano
Published by RuPaul Charles Music (SESAC) and
Touch Me II Music (ASCAP)
Courtesy of Rhino Entertainment Company
By arrangement with Warner Special Products

“EVENING IN PARIS”
Written and Performed by Lois
Published by Lois Maffeo (BMI)
Courtesy of K Records
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“TOGETHER FOREVER IN LOVE”
Written and Performed by Go Sailor
Published by Go Sailor
Courtesy of Lookout Records, LLC.
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

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