



Tribeca Film in partnership with American Express presents  
A film by Daniel Schechter

# SUPPORTING CHARACTERS

Written by Daniel Schechter and Tarik Lowe

*Select Theatrical Release*  
January 2013 – New York

Available on demand beginning January 22, 2013

Run time: 87 minutes

Rating: Not Rated

Press materials can be downloaded at:  
<http://tribecafilm.com/festival/media/tribeca-film-press/>

*Official Selection:*  
*2012 Tribeca Film Festival*

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## SYNOPSIS

Best friends Nick (Alex Karpovsky, "Girls") and Darryl (co-writer Tarik Lowe) are a New York film editing duo, hired to salvage a botched comedy from a manic director (Kevin Corrigan, PINEAPPLE EXPRESS) gone AWOL. But what starts as a simple job quickly sends their relationships – with their significant others and each other – reeling. Amidst trouble with his fiancée (Sophia Takal, V/H/S), Nick finds himself falling for the film's flirtatious ingénue (Arielle Kebbel, "90210"); Darryl, meanwhile, struggles to focus on his editing work in between fights with his tempestuous girlfriend (Melonie Diaz, BE KIND REWIND). With real humor and heart, SUPPORTING CHARACTERS offers a sharp, knowing take on life and love in the big city.

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

A combination of struggling to get larger films produced, and an overwhelming envy and admiration for ultra low-budget filmmakers inspired the idea to produce this film. Tarik Lowe (a close friend and mostly undiscovered acting talent) and I challenged ourselves to write a script in a month that we could produce in the spring of 2011 for hardly any money at all. At first, our idea had a very strong “hook” to it, an amusing plot that felt very much like a Hollywood romantic comedy. For the most part, the writing came more naturally than usual, with many of our best scenes coming from up-to-the-minute personal anecdotes (unlike anything I had written before). The only problem was these scenes dealt little with the plot points of our original concept. Those "plot-related scenes" continued to be put off, as they felt so much more unnatural and contrived than the rest of our film. At some point we just decided not to swim against the current of our inspiration and allowed the story we really wanted to write to come to life. The result is a film that represents our unique friendship and personalities, while capturing a semi-autobiographical and sometimes painful snapshot of our lives at that exact moment.

*-Daniel Schechter*

## CAST BIOS

### **ALEX KARPOVSKY: (actor, Nick)**

Alex Karpovsky is an actor, writer and director, best known as series regular Ray Ploshansky in the HBO comedy series "Girls".

Karpovsky's directorial feature debut, THE HOLE STORY, was completed in 2006. The critically acclaimed dark comedy screened at over 50 festivals, garnered numerous awards, and Filmmaker Magazine named Alex as one of its 25 New Faces of Independent Film. Karpovsky's follow-up features, WOODPECKER and TRUST US, THIS IS ALL MADE UP, premiered at the 2008 and 2009 South by Southwest Film Festivals, respectively. In 2012 Alex directed and starred in two feature films: RUBBERNECK, a psychosexual thriller which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and RED FLAG a comedy which premiered at the Los Angeles Film Festival, which went on to receive a Gotham Award nomination.

As an actor, Karpovsky played the male lead in BEESWAX (2009 Berlinale); the voices of several Russian gangsters in the video game GRAND THEFT AUTO IV; Mean Man Mike in HARMONY AND ME (2009 New Directors/New Films Series); Paul Lucas in LOVERS OF HATE (2010 Sundance Film Festival); Vlad in BASS ACKWARDS (2010 Sundance Film Festival); Jed in TINY FURNITURE (2010 SXSW Film Festival); Paul in THE GROWNUPS, (2010 Cannes Film Festival); CODEPENDENT LESBIAN SPACE ALIEN SEEKS SAME (2011 Sundance Film Festival); Wally Combs in WUSS, (2011 SXSW Film Festival); Ian Gilmore in SLEEPWALK WITH ME (2012 Sundance Film Festival). He will also appear as Marty Green in the upcoming Coen Brothers film, INSIDE LLEWYN DAVIS.

### **TARIK LOWE: (actor, Darryl)**

Tarik Lowe is a multi talented actor/writer. His dramatic television credits include "Law and Order", "Blue Bloods" and "One life to live". He also has a knack for comedy and can be seen as a lead in many of the College Humor sketches. With a growing film career that's placed him under the direction of Wes Craven, George Tillman Jr. and Clark Johnson; he is certainly someone to keep an eye on.

### **ARIELLE KEBBEL (actor, Jamie)**

A natural talent, with a striking screen presence and an undeniable personality, Arielle Kebbel has made her mark as not only one of Hollywood's most sought after actresses but more importantly one that has remained relatable and well connected to her fans.

Last year alone, Arielle was seen on the big screen in BROOKLYN BROTHERS, a Toronto Film Selection and I MELT WITH YOU, which premiered at Sundance, Sony/Screen Gems THINK LIKE A MAN and ANSWER THIS, a film produced by the creators of FUNNY OR DIE. Some of her other credits include THE UNINVITED, JOHN TUCKER MUST DIE and THE GRUDGE 2.

Arielle currently plays Lexi on the CW's "The Vampire Diaries", a character that fans identified with so much, that it landed her as the host of the show's original recap series called "Rehash". In addition, she recently starred in Hallmark Channel's A BRIDE FOR CHRISTMAS, which proved to be the highest rated holiday movie for the network. Her other television credits include recurring roles on The CW's 90210, "Life Unexpected" and "Gilmore Girls". In addition to starring on episodes of "True Blood", "Entourage", and "Law and Order: SVU".

### **SOPHIA TAKAL (actor, Amy)**

Sophia Takal wrote, directed and starred in the feature film GREEN, which premiered at SXSW in 2011. GREEN won the SXSW/Chicken & Egg Emergent Woman Director award and went on to play a number of other festivals, winning a special jury award at the Independent Film Festival Boston, and the Emerging Director Award at Starz Denver Film Festival. GREEN was nominated for a Gotham Award in 2011. Other acting credits include GABI ON THE ROOF IN JULY by Lawrence Michael Levine; THE ZONE, 24 EXPOSURES and ALL THE LIGHT IN THE SKY all directed by Joe Swanberg THE INTERNATIONAL SIGN FOR CHOKING directed by Zach Weintraub, SUPPORTING CHARACTERS by Dan Schechter and V/H/S by Ti West. She was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's 25 New Faces of Film in 2011.

### **KEVIN CORRIGAN (actor, Adrian)**

Kevin Corrigan has appeared in many feature films including THE DEPARTED, SUPERBAD, PINEAPPLE EXPRESS, AMERICAN GANGSTER, BIG FAN, BUFFALO '66, SLUMS OF BEVERLY HILLS, WALKING AND TALKING, and GOODFELLAS. On television he played recurring roles on "Damages", "Fringe", and was a cast regular on the sitcom "Grounded for Life".

### **MELONIE DIAZ (actor, Liana)**

Melonie Diaz was raised in New York's lower east side. She was bitten by the acting bug while she attended the Henry Street Settlement. Melonie also attended the Professional Performing Arts High School. Her mother and father are both of Puerto Rican descent.

She started her film career with a supporting role in Tom DiCillo's DOUBLE WHAMMY and later landed her breakthrough role in Peter Sollett's RAISING VICTOR VARGAS. She then landed roles in Catherine Hardwicke's LORDS OF DOGTOWN and Dito Montiel's A GUIDE TO RECOGNIZING YOUR SAINTS, which earned her an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Supporting

Female. She was also cast by Jamie Babbit in the lead role of Anna in ITTY BITTY TITTY COMMITTEE, as well as a role in HAMLET 2 and BE KIND REWIND. She recently appeared in the indie features SAVE THE DATE opposite Lizzy Kaplan and Geoffrey Arend as well as SHE WANTS ME, opposite Hillary Duff, Aaron Yoo and Charlie Sheen.

She will next be seen starring in the indie feature FRUTIVILLE, opposite Octavia Spencer and Michael B. Jordan, which premieres at this year's Sundance.

## **CREW BIOS**

### **DANIEL SCHECHER (director, co-writer)**

Daniel Schechter was born in Queens, New York and grew up in Long Island. After attending Emerson College, Schechter wrote and produced his first feature, THE BIG BAD SWIM, a comedy about an adult swim class in Connecticut, which starred Paget Brewster and Jess Weixler. In 2007, he made his directorial debut with GOODBYE BABY, starring Fred Armisen, Kevin Corrigan and Alan Ruck, which premiered at the '08 Slamdance Film Festival. Recently, Schechter premiered his second feature, SUPPORTING CHARACTERS, at the 2012 Tribeca Film Festival, which has gone on to win critical acclaim and several grand jury prizes for best narrative film. Next Schechter is going to write and direct THE UNTITLED ELMORE LEONARD PROJECT (based on the Elmore Leonard novel, *The Switch*) starring Jennifer Aniston, Isla Fisher, John Hawkes, Ty Burrell and Yasiin Bey.

### **TIM DUFF (producer)**

Tim Duff has been Owner and President of New York based production company, Renart Films, since 2006. Renart develops, produces, and markets independent features, web based content, music videos and commercials for a multitude of clients including The WB, Dove, PRS Guitars, World Vision and Honora Pearls.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Film from Emerson College, Duff worked for several companies including Tom Hanks' Playtone Productions (WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE, BIG LOVE) and ABC Sports. In the summer of 2005, Mr. Duff helped develop, raise financing for and eventually produce writer/director Dan Schechter's debut feature, GOODBYE BABY (starring Alan Ruck, Fred Armisen, Kevin Corrigan and Christine Evangelista). It was during this time Mr. Duff helped establish his production company, Renart Films in New York City, producing THE PROJECT (Juelz Santana, Michael Stahl David and Matt Servitto), which went on

to win the Audience Award for Best Narrative Film at the 2008 Slamdance Film Festival and Dana Shapiro's MONOGAMY (with Rashida Jones and Chris Messina) which won Best New York Narrative at 2010's Tribeca Film Festival.

Duff's latest project, MOTHER OF GEORGE (Danai Gurira, Isaach De Bankole, Yaya Dacosta, Anthony Okungbowa), is in competition at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. He is currently prepping his next project, GREATER, based on the true life story of former University of Arkansas football player Brandon Burlsworth, which is set to shoot this spring. Look for SUPPORTING CHARACTERS (Official Selection 2012 Tribeca Film Festival) on VOD and iTunes January 22nd.

## CREDITS

### CAST

Nick.....	Alex Karpovsky
Darryl.....	Tarik Lowe
Jamie.....	Arielle Kebbel
Amy.....	Sophia Takal
Liana.....	Melonie Diaz
Mike.....	Mike Landry
Adrian.....	Kevin Corrigan
Alexa.....	Lena Dunham
Sebastian .....	Sebastian Sozzi
Beck.....	Josh Alexander
Rodney the Doorman.....	Mikal McDaniel
Dana.....	Isabel Ramirez
Jeremy.....	Jeremy Cohen
Marco the DP.....	Salvatore Interlandi
Adam.....	Ryan O'Nan
Mr. Federico.....	Patrick Duff
Alejandro.....	Alejandro Ramia
Receptionist.....	Will Clark
Adrian's Daughter.....	Kaitlyn Schechter

### CREW

Director.....	Daniel Schechter
Assistant Director.....	T.J. Federico
Second Assistant Director.....	Alejandro Ramia
Executive Producers.....	Dale Alexander Carnegie, Alex A. Ginzburg

Producer.....Tim Duff  
.....Adam Der Aris  
Co-Producers.....Felipe Dieppa, Alexander Witriol  
Writer.....Daniel Schechter and Tarik Lowe  
1st Assistant Camera.....Gordon Arkenberg  
Gaffer.....Jarrod Kloiber  
Bes Boy Electric.....Kelley Nesper  
Production Sound Mixer.....Michael Patti  
Makeup department head.....Natalia Chavez  
Makeup artist: second unit.....Carole Flory  
Key Production Assistant.....Nathaniel J. West  
Stills Photographer.....Constantine Poselski  
Editor.....Daniel Schechter  
Assistant Editor.....Joe Shapiro  
Dialogue Editor.....Kelly Harnett  
ADR Editor.....Kelly Harnett  
Dialogue Editor.....Kelly Harnett  
Sound Mixer.....Michael Patti  
Sound re-recorder Mixer.....David L. Wolfe