



PRESENTS

# THE ENGLISH TEACHER

DIRECTED BY CRAIG ZISK



93 MINUTES / ENGLISH / NOT RATED

OPENS MAY 17TH

AVAILABLE ON VOD/DIGITAL PLATFORMS APRIL 16

TO ACCESS FILM MATERIALS:

<http://press.cinedigm.com>

cinedigm\_press

c1n3digm

**DISTRIBUTION CONTACT:**

Laura Sok // Cinedigm

[Lsok@cinedigm.com](mailto:Lsok@cinedigm.com)

O:646.259.4128

**PUBLICITY CONTACTS:**

NEW YORK:

Elena Zilberman // Strategy PR

[Elena.Zilberman@StrategyPR.net](mailto:Elena.Zilberman@StrategyPR.net)

O: 646.918.8730

LOS ANGELES:

Brooke Blumberg // Sunshine Sachs

[Blumberg@sunshinesachs.com](mailto:Blumberg@sunshinesachs.com)

O:323.822.9300

## SYNOPSIS

Linda Sinclair (Julianne Moore) is a forty-year-old unmarried high school English teacher in the small town of Kingston, Pennsylvania. She shares a small apartment with two Siamese cats and her rich collection of great literature. She maintains no close personal relationships aside from those she has with her favorite authors and stories. Her life is far less complicated than the dramas she devours on the page, and she likes it that way.

But Linda's simple life turns an unexpected page when former star pupil Jason Sherwood (Michael Angarano) returns to Kingston after trying to make it as a playwright in New York. Now in his 20s, Jason is on the verge of abandoning art, pressured by his overbearing father, Dr. Tom Sherwood (Greg Kinnear), to face reality and go to law school. Linda can't stand the thought of Jason giving up on his dreams so she decides to mount his play – a dark, angst-ridden, ambitious work – as a Kingston High School production, with flamboyant drama teacher Carl Kapinas (Nathan Lane) directing.

As Linda, now well out of her normal comfort zone, takes further risks in life and love, the stage is set for highly comic downfall. With the play, her reputation, and her teaching career on the line, Linda finds an unlikely ally in herself. Amidst the ruins of her formerly perfect life, can she find a way to her own unique storybook ending?

## **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

When I first read *The English Teacher*, I was drawn to the rich themes of self-discovery and transformation. The film is a journey, from hope to failure to redemption, played out in a funny, endearing and mindful way. The characters are both human and relatable, showing great courage to risk chasing their dreams. At the same time, each character has to face who they are, embrace their fears and in so doing, find their unique value and purpose.

It was important to me to create a period piece aesthetic in a modern day, small town setting. The high school play is used as a vehicle to glimpse into the character's flaws and desires. The comedy is born from grounded performances set within the framework of the absurd situation. Julianne's nakedly honest and hilarious portrayal of Linda took it to another level. Every cast choice exceeded my already high expectations.

This is a film where we see people's broken parts exposed and then healed through standing up for what they believe. Transformation is always possible. You can always begin again.

**-Craig Zisk**

## DISCUSSION WITH THE CAST AND CREW

### FROM SCRIPT TO SCREEN...

**Stacy Chariton (Screenwriter):** “Watching this film come to life is truly a dream come true, we’ve been living with these characters for many years now. All of these actors could not more perfectly embody these characters that we’ve been living with. It absolutely is uncanny.”

**Greg Kinnear (Tom Sherwood):** “Dan and Stacy Chariton wrote the script and, just like everybody else, I responded first and foremost to that. I thought it was dynamite. I really enjoyed its unexpected nature of the story. It took me back to my high school drama years so I was quite charmed with everything going on.”

**Julianne Moore (Linda Sinclair):** “Everyone thought it was funny, sweet and refreshing. It’s great to have this wonderful dialogue. I never feel like we have to work hard to get the joke. The joke is in the material.”

**Michael Angarano (Jason Sherwood):** “I thought the tone of the script was very interesting because while it’s funny, you’re also dealing with pretty interesting complex characters who in their own way have failed. Everybody is dealing with their own form of failure, and they come together realizing that their own ambitions could be reached within their own happiness.”

**Craig Zisk (Director):** “I was very drawn to the script because I was actually an English major in college and a lover of literature. Those characters really spoke to me. The cast is extraordinary. It’s an incredible experience to watch each and everyone bring these characters to life. I hear voices that I didn’t hear on the page, and to stand in a room with Oscar nominees and Tony winners has been an incredible experience. They all have such distinct voices that each character really takes on a life of its own.”

### JULIANNE MOORE AS LINDA SINCLAIR...

**Naomi Despres (Producer):** “We have a terrific script, and a really talented filmmaker and then of course we have Julianne. She really was a magnet for a lot of talent. It’s great shooting a movie in New York and being able to take advantage of the talent here. It’s an embarrassment of riches.”

**Greg Kinnear (Tom Sherwood):** “Julianne’s great. I had not really met her or worked with her. I thought she might be very stand-off-ish, but she was actually very cool, very inclusive in the process, smart, and fun. I think she’s led the charge on the show and made it a really great experience for everybody.”

**Julianne Moore (Linda Sinclair):** “I love the character of Linda. I felt she was somebody I could understand and relate to: she’s idealistic and wants the best for everyone, but also really naïve and deluded in terms of what makes the world go round. She really lives her life in a book and not in the real world. I see a lot of myself in her because I’m such a big reader. I like to be inside a story and within a book, and that’s where Linda is most comfortable.”

**Michael Angarano (Jason Sherwood):** “Linda had a profound influence on Jason’s taste, Jason as a writer, what Jason wanted to do with his life, and she also encouraged him. He wants to hear that he’s good, and he needs to hear that to continue doing what he’s doing and follow his instinct. And inversely, what Linda gets from Jason is her validation as a sexy woman, somebody who knows that she helped. I think they help each other along in that way. It’s a connection that super sieges the teacher/student relationship.”

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** “What attracted me about the story was Julianne’s character going through this mid-life crisis. She’s such a fascinating woman to watch on screen, and I thought that the way the humor is dealt with in this movie is not out right humor: it’s very understated.”

**Robert Salerno (Producer):** “When I met Julianne on A SINGLE MAN, I realized she was perfect for the role and she is genius. She embraced the script immediately. The moment she read it, she jumped right on board. She was very excited about doing the project and had lots of ideas and thoughts. She really felt that she embodied this character in many different ways.

**Naomi Despres (Producer):** “What Linda Sinclair learns over the course of the film and what the audience will take away is that life isn’t always perfect. In fact, sometimes it’s messy and chaotic and it hurts. If you let life in with all of those anarchic elements, sometimes really wonderful things can happen. That’s really what happens to her: she finally lets life in and it ends up being a transformative experience.”

**Robert Salerno (Producer):** “It’s wonderful that Linda lives in this world in her head, in her literature, and in her books, and Jason comes into her life again and there’s a little bit of angst and chaos that stirs things up for her. The idea that she was willing and open to let this element into her life is what makes her grow as a person at the end. She comes into stepping outside of her box and comfort zone, and she becomes a person who is still Linda Sinclair, but a little more open and not living entirely in her head as she’d done for a long time. She’s a smart woman and savvy woman. She’s now having a chance to explore and let go.”

#### **DIRECTOR CRAIG ZISK...**

**Michael Angarano (Jason Sherwood):** “Craig is a really smart guy, and he communicates very well why he likes you and why you’re there. On set, he doesn’t give too many notes. He allows you to create your own environment and bring your own ideas and personality to the character. He really encourages you to be yourself and to really follow your instincts and your own choices.”

**Robert Salerno (Producer):** “Craig has done amazing work. We couldn’t be happier with everything that he did. We had met early on and both felt the same passion and excitement for Craig. We knew that he was the right man to show this movie and direct this film.”

#### **THE STORY OF THE ENGLISH TEACHER...**

**Stacy Chariton (Screenwriter):** “The inspiration came from our experiences growing up, reading books, being bookish people who would immerse themselves in fiction. To a large degree, fiction was a much safer place to us than reality. Reality always seemed a bit messy and difficult. We wanted to write about a character whose passion for fiction is the great joy of her life, but also creates a block for her.”

**Dan Chariton (Screenwriter):** “At its heart, it’s really about a woman who’s so lost in stories. She has stories about everything in her life because as an English teacher, she was trained to see what characters are, and what stories are. If you’re someone like Linda, you’re going to go through life, and all you see is these characters from literature that you’ve lived with for decades. You’ve already formed your perception of the world. The whole thing is about seeing people for who they really are.”

**Naomi Despres (The Producer):** “When Dan and Stacy first told me about the character of Linda Sinclair, she was already such a 3 dimensional and vivid character. I really love stories about people who are struggling inside of their

own lives in ways that they're not even aware of, and when fate intersects and they're able to make a transformation whether it's small or grand on scale, it's profound. These stories are always so uplifting and so relatable."

**Craig Zisk (Director):** "It's a story that we've all experienced, mistaken perceptions of people. Without sounding too cliché, don't judge a book by its cover. The character of Linda played by Julianne jumps to a lot of conclusions without thinking about what the consequences might be, and I think that's very relatable. That's something we've all done before. We've all decided what we think about somebody before we really get to know them. In a series of events in this movie, she realizes she's done that probably more than she should have."

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** "There are so many different themes throughout the film that I feel people of all ages can relate to, and it's in high school but it deals with such adult topics as well. There are so many relationships in this project that deal with issues of an older nature but with a younger subject matter."

## THE PRODUCTION...

**Stacy Chariton (Screenwriter):** "The work leads into our lives in a very beautiful way so that, as we help our characters deal with the problems in their lives, we usually find that they bleed through into our own. There's been a lot of that through this particular film. It took a long time to get this movie made. It's been 6 years since the first draft. It's been through a long process, but we have incredible producers who stuck with it. Independent filmmaking is very difficult, as we all know."

**Robert Salerno (Producer):** "Honestly it was not easy. I don't think putting any movie together is simple. We did this independently. We spend a lot of time and effort to put as much of the money and value up on the screen, and we did that with our limited resources. It was not easy but what we did excel in finding the right people to actually achieve this. You do really need the right crew, the right designers and technicians; working with the writers, the director, the actors, who also have their takes on characters and story. Fortunately for us, all of the talent understood and saw the vision that we had."

**Craig Zisk (Director):** "The casting process on THE ENGLISH TEACHER came about through Julianne Moore who had been cast prior to me coming on board the project. Immediately, anybody and everybody in this business wants to be on screen with her, so the casting process was quite easy. We approached Nathan Lane, Greg Kinnear, Michael Angarano and Lily Collins. Across the board they all said yes immediately. We've been very fortunate to fill in a lot of our guest cast with amazing actors, Robert Leo Butz, Jessica Hecht, and Charlie Saxton. It becomes a very easy process when you start with Julianne Moore."

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** "Working with such an amazing team is eye opening. I find Julianne especially fascinating to watch: how she processes lines and scenes and how she goes about rehearsals. She's someone that I've always looked up to, and being able to work with her is an ultimate dream. I also just finished working with Nathan on MIRROR MIRROR so it was really funny to come to set. It's a very different theme and subject matter here so being able to switch topics was really fun to do with him. Michael is someone who I always thought was an extremely talented young actor and the way he brings his character to life also is just so new and yet he's got this old-school vibe about him which is so intriguing to watch. It's really like school every day, being able to see how everyone functions as their characters and then when they yell, "cut," everyone's back to being themselves."

**Naomi Despres (Producer):** "On a movie like this with such limited resources, you really count on that passion and enthusiasm from the crew and talent. The great thing with this project, script, and cast, is that we had a crew willing to give that extra bit of something special. A lot of passion and enthusiasm makes up for budget short falls."

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** “Everyone is so dedicated and works together in a way that is very much like a family. I came into this film a third of the way through and everyone accepted me the first day as if I’d been there since the beginning. I didn’t feel nervous or that I wouldn’t fit in, or intimidated in the sense that I wasn’t part of a group yet. Everyone made me feel really welcome; and that was a really nice thing to have on that first day. I’ve learned a lot and experienced a lot.”

**Robert Salerno (Producer):** “A lot of it starts with a really great script, and then from there you keep building the pieces. That’s one of the things that we’ve always wanted to do and continue doing with our company as well as: putting the product and the art and the creativity out front while making films that are also entertaining for people to see. You really want to make sure it is something accessible and that people can appreciate, and a wide variety of people can enjoy

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** “This is my first independent film and smaller budget project, but I love that everyone is like a family. There’s really a feeling that you have a say in a lot of what goes on with your character because there’s less people involved, and everyone feels a lot closer in that sense. The shoot goes by really fast. I’m not used to getting through six scenes a day. It usually seems to take so much longer. Same with hair and make up, it goes by really quickly here. It’s almost like if you blink, you’ll miss it. It’s been a whirlwind but it’s been fun.”

## **THE HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE...**

**Dan Chariton (Screenwriter):** “A lot of the spirit of the script and the production itself has that feel that we’re putting on a show. The spirit of local theater, High School Theater, and Community Theater is fueled entirely by passion. It’s not fueled by money: the budgets are always low.”

**Naomi Despres (Producer):** “At the center of this there’s a play that you don’t really think about. It’s been especially surprising and fun to see the reality of the play on the stage in ways that I had never actually envisioned. What it adds to the whole production is surprising and delightful. The costumes, the hair and make up for the play have been phenomenal. It’s like this whole other film in a way, once you see the costumes and the wardrobe and what everyone’s doing with the characters.”

**Stacy Chariton (Screenwriter):** “We’ve been able to create a situation where all these people can come and be in high school again, having the best version of the high school drama department that they may not have had in real life. They get to experience it now.”

**Lily Collins (Halle Anderson):** “I had a lot of teachers that were pivotal to me in an educational sense, but also for life in general. I definitely owe a lot to them because they really reached out there and encouraged me beyond what they necessarily needed to do as a teacher. They were there for me and always encouraging.”

**Greg Kinnear (Tom Sherwood):** “I had a few inspiring teachers in High School. You remember the good teachers, whether they were teaching you drama or math or history. The great teachers stand out because it’s not easy to be a person that makes that kind of impact on kids, or on anybody’s life.”

**Julianne Moore (Linda Sinclair):** “That person was always a very important person to you growing up, because he or she is the one who fostered your ambitions and abilities, and sometimes that was the person that made you into an actor.”

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

### **CRAIG ZISK (DIRECTOR)**

THE ENGLISH TEACHER marks Craig Zisk's feature film debut. Additionally, he has Executive Produced several series including WEEDS, UNITED STATES OF TARA, and THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW. Zisk has also directed more than 50 series including WEEDS, "NURSE JACKIE," and THE OFFICE. Zisk won a Golden Globe for BROOKLYN BRIDGE, and earned multiple Emmy nominations for THE LARRY SANDERS SHOW and WEEDS, including a nomination for Best Director for a Comedy.

### **NAOMI DESPRES (PRODUCER)**

Naomi Despres has over 20 years of experience in film industry. She has been involved in the development and production of numerous films including THE PEOPLE VS. LARRY FLYNT, NIXON, THE WEIGHT OF WATER. Her producing credits include SAVIOR, ZERO EFFECT, HIGH CRIMES, CHAPTER 27 and the upcoming feature KILL THE MESSENGER. In 2005, Naomi partnered with Bob Salerno to start Artina Films and has been producing under that banner ever since.

### **BOB SALERNO (PRODUCER)**

Bob Salerno, one of the founders of Artina Films, has been working in the film industry for over 20 years. His most recent successes include the Tom Ford-directed, Oscar nominated, A SINGLE MAN, Golden Globe nominated WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN, and the corporate drama ARBITRAGE, which premiered to rave reviews at Sundance this year and was picked up for theatrical distribution by Lionsgate.

### **BEN LECLAIR (PRODUCER)**

Ben LeClair is a Los Angeles based writer and producer. He most recently produced UPSTREAM COLOR directed by Shane Carruth, which premiered in competition at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. LeClair also produced Mike White's YEAR OF THE DOG for Paramount Vantage and exec-produced Jared Hess' comedy GENTLEMAN BRONCOS for Fox Searchlight. He was an Associate Producer on NACHO LIBRE. LeClair's career began as an assistant for producer Scott Rudin working on films such as THE HOURS, SCHOOL OF ROCK, CHANGING LANES and THE STEPFORD WIVES.

### **MATTHEW CHAUSSE (PRODUCER)**

Matthew Chausse is a film producer who has been working in the industry for over 10 years. As the newest member of Artina Films, Chausse brings with him a wealth of knowledge in the production and financing of both domestic and international films. After attending the University of Southern California, Chausse quickly established himself in the independent film industry working with various independent production companies, and successfully aligning himself with award winning filmmakers and talent.

### **DAN CHARITON & STACY CHARITON (SCREENWRITERS)**

Dan and Stacy Chariton met as undergraduate screenwriting students at USC. They began their creative partnership after they graduated, writing for Marvel Comics. THE ENGLISH TEACHER is their first produced film. They are married, and live in Los Angeles.

### **VANJA CERNJUL (DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY)**

Vanja's feature credits include CITY ISLAND and VIOLET AND DAISY. Vanja has earned two Emmy Nominations for his work on 30 ROCK and NURSE JACKIE. He has recently been nominated for the ASC Award for cinematography on HBO TV series Bored to Death.

### **MYRON KERSTEIN (EDITOR)**

Myron recently worked on the comedies LOL, LITTLE FOCKERS, and the soon to be released PARADISE, written and directed by Diablo Cody. Some of his other film credits include GLEE: The 3D Concert Movie, NICK AND NORAH'S INFINITE PLAYLIST, GARDEN STATE, IN GOOD COMPANY, RAISING VICTOR VARGAS, AMERICAN



DREAMZ, FAME, and HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH. Myron's television work includes UP ALL NIGHT and HOUSE OF LIES for Showtime.

**MICHAEL SHAW (PRODUCTION DESIGNER)**

Michael Shaw's credits include the award-winning film, BOYS DON'T CRY, as well as the Showtime series THE BIG C.

**JESSICA KELLY AND SUZANNE SMITH (CASTING)**

Jessica Kelly most recently cast Darren Aronofsky's NOAH. Her other credits include LABOR DAY, YOUNG ADULT, THE INEVITABLE DEFEAT OF MISTER AND PETE, THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER, 2 DAYS IN NEW YORK, LOLA VERSUS, THE WRESTLER, and PRECIOUS, where she found Oscar nominated actress Gabourey Sidibe. Suzanne Smith's casting credits include SE7EN, GOOD WILL HUNTING, AMERICAN PSYCHO, YOUNG ADULT, SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE and THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER.

**EMMA POTTER (COSTUME DESIGNER)**

Emmy Potter's costume credits include 127 HOURS, OFFICER DOWN, IN THE NAME OF GOD, and BABY ON BOARD.

**ROB SIMONSEN (COMPOSER)**

Shortly after he successfully collaborated with Mychael Danna on 500 DAYS OF SUMMER in 2009, Rob Simonsen started composing alongside Danna again for the acclaimed TV series DOLLHOUSE. Since then he has used his creativity, depth and diversity scoring the features ALL GOOD THINGS, GIRL MOST LIKELY, SEEKING A FRIEND FOR THE END OF THE WORLD. Most recently he worked on the 2013 Sundance hits THE WAY, WAY BACK and THE SPECTACULAR NOW.

**LINDA COHEN (MUSIC SUPERVISOR)**

Linda Cohen's previous credits include NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN, THERE WILL BE BLOOD, ARGO, and THE IDES OF MARCH.

**ARTINA FILMS**

Artina Films was founded in 2005 by veteran producers Bob Salerno and Naomi Despres, quickly becoming established as a leader in the independent marketplace with such worldwide successes as A SINGLE MAN and WE NEED TO TALK ABOUT KEVIN. In 2011, Artina Films welcomed a new partner to the team, Matthew Chausse. Artina Films most recent release was the corporate thriller ARBITRAGE, starring Richard Gere and Susan Sarandon. Artina currently has a full slate of projects in development for production in 2013.

## ABOUT THE CAST

### **JULIANNE MOORE (LINDA SINCLAIR)**

Julianne Moore most recently starred in the HBO original movie *GAME CHANGE*. Her performance as Alaska Governor Sarah Palin was met with critical acclaim and garnered Golden Globe, SAG, and Emmy Award wins.

Next, Moore stars in Scott McGehee and David Siegel's *WHAT MAISIE KNEW*, a loose adaptation of the Henry James novel of the same name, set to release nationwide on May 31<sup>st</sup>. She will also be seen alongside Lily Collins and Greg Kinnear in *THE ENGLISH TEACHER*, which will premiere at the 2013 Tribeca Film Festival. This summer she stars alongside Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Scarlett Johansen in Gordon-Levitt's directorial debut *DON JON*, which premiered at the 2013 Sundance Film Festival. In the fall, Moore stars in Kimberly Pierce's eagerly awaited remake of the cult classic horror film *CARRIE*, and opposite Jeff Bridges in the sweeping fantasy adventure, *THE SEVENTH SON* for Warner Brothers. Both films are set to release on October 18<sup>th</sup>. In 2014, Moore will star alongside Liam Neeson in the action-thriller *NON-STOP* for Universal.

Known for the breadth of her work, Moore's many memorable films include everything from comedy and drama, to blockbusters and art house fare. She recently starred in the hit multi-generational romantic comedy, *CRAZY, STUPID, LOVE* with Steve Carrell, Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone, and received Golden Globe and BAFTA nominations for her central role in Lisa Cholodenko's *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT* with Annette Bening and Mark Ruffalo.

Moore is the ninth person in Academy history to receive two acting Oscar nominations in the same year for her performances in *FAR FROM HEAVEN* (Best Actress nomination) and *THE HOURS* (Best Supporting Actress nomination), after receiving many critics awards and SAG and Golden Globe nominations for both. Moore is a four time Academy Award nominee and eight time Golden Globe nominee, whose additional honors include the Excellence in Media Award at the 2004 GLAAD Media Awards, the 2002 Coppa Volpi as Best Actress at the Venice Film Festival, the Actor Award at the 2002 Gotham Awards and the "Tribute to Independent Vision" at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival.

Turns for notable directors include *A SINGLE MAN* (Golden Globe nomination), directed by Tom Ford and starring Colin Firth; *CHLOE*, directed by Atom Egoyan and co-starring Liam Neeson and Amanda Seyfried; *6 SOULS*, directed by Mans Marling and Bjorn Stein and costarring Jonathan Rhys Meyers; *BLINDNESS*, directed by Fernando Meirelles and starring Mark Ruffalo; *SAVAGE GRACE*, directed by Tom Kalin; Todd Haynes' *I'M NOT THERE* playing a character inspired by Joan Baez; Alfonso Cuarón's *CHILDREN OF MEN* with Clive Owen; Neil Jordan's *THE END OF THE AFFAIR* with Ralph Fiennes (Academy Award, Golden Globe and SAG Award nominations for Best Actress); Paul Thomas Anderson's *BOOGIE NIGHTS* (Academy Award, Golden Globe and SAG Award nominations for Best Supporting Actress) and *MAGNOLIA* (SAG Award nomination for Best Supporting Actress); Robert Altman's *COOKIE'S FORTUNE* with Glenn Close and Liv Tyler and *SHORT CUTS* (Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Supporting Female); Gus Van Sant's re-make of *PSYCHO* with Vince Vaughn, the Todd Haynes film *SAFE* (Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best Female Lead); Louis Malle's *VANYA ON 42ND STREET*; James Ivory's *SURVIVING PICASSO*; and the cult classic, *THE BIG LEBOWSKI* starring Jeff Bridges and directed by the Coen Brothers.

Her more commercial films include *THE FORGOTTEN* with Dominic West; *LAWS OF ATTRACTION* co-starring Pierce Brosnan; Ridley Scott's *HANNIBAL*, in which she starred as 'Clarice Starling' opposite Anthony Hopkins; Steven

Spielberg's JURASSIC PARK: THE LOST WORLD; THE FUGITIVE with Harrison Ford, NINE MONTHS with Hugh Grant, BENNY & JOON with Johnny Depp, and THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE.

After earning her B.F.A. from Boston University for the Performing Arts, Moore starred in a number of off-Broadway productions, including Caryl Churchill's Serious Money and Ice Cream/Hot Fudge at the Public Theater. She appeared in Minneapolis in the Guthrie Theater's Hamlet, and participated in workshop productions of Strindberg's The Father with Al Pacino and Wendy Wasserstein's An American Daughter with Meryl Streep. Moore made her Broadway debut in 2006 in the Sam Mendes production of The Vertical Hour, an original play written by David Hare.

Moore has also authored a successful children's book series – Freckleface Strawberry, Freckleface Strawberry and the Dodgeball Bully, and Freckleface Strawberry Best Friends Forever. In 2013 Moore released her Monster Maker app via iTunes. Inspired by the book's main character, Freckleface Strawberry, the app allows users to make their own monster to send to family and friends. Additionally, the original book was adapted into a successful off-Broadway musical.

Moore and her family reside in New York City.

#### **MICHAEL ANGARANO (JASON SHERWOOD)**

As on one of the most gifted actors of his generation, Michael Angarano is making his mark on Hollywood with a diversity of roles that have established him as respected and sought after young actor.

Angarano recently starred in Max Winkler's "Ceremony" opposite Uma Thurman. The film follows a young guy (Angarano) who tries to crash the wedding of a thirty-something woman (Thurman) with whom he's infatuated.

The actor also appeared in Gavin Wiesen's "Homework" opposite Emma Roberts and Freddie Highmore. The film premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival and was released by Fox Searchlight on June 17, 2011. He'll also be seen in Steven Soderbergh's "Haywire" opposite Michael Douglas, Channing Tatum and Ewan McGregor. The film is scheduled to be released later this year. Angarano will then be seen starring opposite Melissa Leo and John Goodman in "Red State," which also premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. Red State, a horror story about a group of misfits who encounter extreme fundamentalists in middle America, was released by director Kevin Smith on October 19, 2011.

Angarano starred in Jared Hess' "Gentlemen Broncos" opposite Sam Rockwell and Jemaine Clement, and in David Gordon Green's Snow Angels opposite Sam Rockwell and Kate Beckinsale. Snow Angels premiered in competition at the 2007 Sundance Film Festival. Kyle Smith from the NEW YORK POST wrote of Angarano's performance "The general foundering is realized with subtle wit and depth of feeling by all, especially by the tremendously appealing Michael Angarano, who quietly owns the film as a teen boy."

His breakthrough performance came in Wes Craven's "Music of the Heart," opposite Meryl Streep, in 1999. Shortly after, he starred in Cameron Crowe's Academy Award nominated film Almost Famous opposite Frances McDormand, Kate Hudson, Billy Crudup, Zooey Deschanel and Patrick Fugit. Angarano played the role of young William (young Patrick Fugit) and shared many of his scenes with acclaimed actress Frances McDormand.

Angarano's other film credits include Rob Minkoff's "The Forbidden Kingdom" opposite Jackie Chan and Jet Li; Catherine Hardwicke's Lords of Dogtown opposite Heath Ledger and Emile Hirsch; Mike Mitchell's Sky High opposite Kurt Russell and Kelly Preston; Brad Gann's "Black Irish; Alex Steyermark's One Last Thing opposite Cynthia Nixon; Thomas Vinterberg's Dear Wendy; Gary Ross' Seabiscuit opposite Tobey Maguire and Jeff Bridges; David Evans "The Final

Season" opposite Sean Astin and Rachael Leigh Cook; and Michael Schroeder's "Man in the Chair" opposite Christopher Plummer.

On television, Angarano appeared in a four episode arc on FOX's hit drama 24 opposite Kiefer Sutherland. He also guest starred on NBC's Emmy(r) winning comedy Will and Grace as Elliot, Jack McFarland's (Sean Hayes) son. Angarano's other television credits include E.R., CSI, "Less Than Perfect," "Summerland, and Kevin Hill."

Angarano was born in Brooklyn, New York and currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **GREG KINNEAR (DR. TOM SHERWOOD)**

Academy Award® nominee and Emmy award winning actor Greg Kinnear continues to draw audiences and critical acclaim with diverse and interesting roles in both television and film.

The actor is set to star and co-executive produce FOX's U.S. version of the popular Australian legal drama Rake. The show, which follows the chaotic and comedic world of criminal defense lawyer Keegan Joye (Kinnear), will be written by Peter Duncan, creator of the original Australian series, and executive-produced by Peter Tolan and Michael Wimer.

Kinnear will next be seen in Josh Boone's Stuck in Love co-starring Jennifer Connelly, Kristen Bell and Lily Collins. The film, which chronicles the complexities of a families' love over the course of one tumultuous year, premiered at the 2012 Toronto Film Festival.

Last year, Kinnear's guest starring role on the award-winning ABC hit-series Modern Family, as Phil's (Ty Burrell) inappropriate boss Tad, earned him a 2012 Emmy Award nomination in the category of "Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series."

In 2011, his performance as John F. Kennedy in The Kennedy's earned him an Emmy Award nomination for Best Lead Actor in a Miniseries or Movie and a Screen Actors Guild (SAG) Award nomination for Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Television Movie or Miniseries. The mini-series was directed by Jon Cassar and co-starred Katie Holmes and Barry Pepper.

In 2006, Kinnear starred in Little Miss Sunshine, the critically-acclaimed hit of the Sundance Film Festival. Lauded by critics nationwide, the film went on to receive several Academy Award® nominations and Independent Spirit Awards wins, while Kinnear, along with Steve Carell, Alan Arkin, Abigail Breslin, Paul Dano, and Toni Collette, won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Performance by a Cast in a Motion Picture.

In 1997, Kinnear starred alongside Jack Nicholson as his unfortunate neighbor Simon in James L. Brooks' Academy Award® nominated film As Good As It Gets. His performance garnered him not only an Academy Award® nomination, but earned him the honor of being named Best Supporting Actor by the National Board of Review; he was also nominated in the same category at The Golden Globes and The Screen Actors Guild Awards that year. Next, he co-starred in Nora Ephron's romantic hit comedy You've Got Mail with Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan. Kinnear made his feature film debut in the Sydney Pollack-directed remake of Sabrina, in which he co-starred with Harrison Ford and Julia Ormond. His performance prompted the trade organization of the movie theatre owners to name him NATO ShoWest's Star of Tomorrow.

Additional film credits include Thin Ice opposite Alan Arkin and Billy Crudup, Douglas McGrath's I Don't Know How She Does It, Salvation Boulevard opposite Jennifer Connelly and Marisa Tomei, Paul Schrader's Auto Focus, Invincible opposite Mark Wahlberg, Richard Linklater's Fast Food Nation based on the best-selling book by Eric Schlosser, Paul Greengrass' Green Zone, Ghost Town opposite Ricky Gervais, Feast of Love directed by Robert Benton and co-starring Morgan Freeman, Mike Nichols' What Planet Are You From? with Garry Shandling and Annette Bening, and a cameo role

as Captain Amazing' in *Mystery Men*, as well as *The Matador*, *Bad News Bears*, *We Were Soldiers*, HBO's *Dinner with Friends*, *Someone Like You*, *Stuck on You*, *The Gift*, *Unknown*, *Nurse Betty* and *Baby Mama*.

Kinnear grew up virtually all over the world as his family followed his State Department father to disparate locales such as Logansport, Indiana; Washington, D.C.; Beirut, Lebanon; and Athens, Greece. He currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife and three daughters.

### **LILY COLLINS (HALLE ANDERSON)**

Lily Collins is a rising star in Hollywood. Collins has already gained praise for her numerous roles in the industry and has become one of the most sought after young actresses in business.

Collins made her film debut in the 2010 Academy Award nominated film *THE BLIND SIDE* along side Oscar winner Sandra Bullock and Tim McGraw. The film, based on the Michael Lewis book, "The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game" centers around a teenager who is recruited by a college football program and is groomed into an athletically and academically successful NFL prospect.

Collins completed filming in 2012 for *STUCK IN LOVE*. The film is directed by Josh Boone and follows the story of a literary celebrity who is still hung up on his ex-wife. Collins stars as their college-aged daughter, who -- like mother, like daughter -- is lusted after by her aspiring-writer schoolmate, played by Logan Lerman. The film also stars Greg Kinnear, Jennifer Connelly, Nat Wolff, Liana Liberato and Kristen Bell. The film is set to be released in 2013.

Collins can also be seen on screen in 2013 in *THE ENGLISH TEACHER* starring opposite Julianne Moore, Nathan Lane and Greg Kinnear. The film follows an English teacher as her is disrupted when a former student returns to her small town after failing as a playwright in New York.

In August 2013, Collins will star in *THE MORTAL INSTRUMENTS* as the lead Clary Fray. Directed by Harald Zwart, the Sony Pictures film follows Clary Fray, a young girl whose mom is attacked and taken from their home in New York City by an unknown creature. Clary goes on to find out truths about her past and bloodline on her quest to get her mother back.

Collins was last seen in the classic fairytale *MIRROR MIRROR* directed by Tarsem Singh as the lead Snow White. Lily teamed up with an all-star cast including Julia Roberts as the Evil Queen and Armie Hammer as Prince Andrew Alcott.

Prior to *MIRROR MIRROR*'s release, Collins was seen on the big screen in *ABDUCTION* where she starred opposite Taylor Lautner, Sigourney Weaver, and Alfred Molina. The Lionsgate thriller follows a young man who sets out to uncover the truth about his life after finding his baby photo on a missing persons website. Collins starred as Lautner's love interest in the film.

In 2011, Lily starred in the Screen Gems film *PRIEST* opposite Paul Bettany, Karl Urban and Stephen Moyer. The film, directed by Scott Stewart, centers around a warrior priest who disobeys church law by teaming with a young sheriff and a priestess to track down a group of renegade vampires who kidnapped his niece.

Collins also appeared on the small screen in 2009 in the final two episodes of the first season of the CW drama "90210." Collins played the character of Phoebe, a West Beverly High School student and rival of Annie.

Collins has many passions. She is a published journalist and experienced television host. She covered the presidential inauguration for Nickelodeon, both the Democratic and Republican National Convention for *SEVENTEEN* Magazine, she was a contributing writer for *CosmoGIRL!* Magazine, a host for Nickelodeon's "Hollywood Hang" and "Countdown to

Kids' Choice!" (Nickelodeon's unique pre-show to the 2009 Kids' Choice Awards) as well as hosted "Live from the Red Carpet at the Oscars" for the E! Network.

Collins attended the 2008 Spanish GLAMOUR Awards in Madrid where she received the "Best International Model" Award. She was also presented with the "One to Watch" award at the "2008 Young Hollywood Awards" for her hosting success. Collins was also the host of HOLLYWOOD LIFE Magazine's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Hollywood Style Awards" in Los Angeles. The evening honored celebrities, stylists and designers; including Rachel Bilson, Jessica Simpson and Monique Lhuillier.

Collins discovered her passion for journalism at age 15, when she began working for the popular fashion magazine ELLEGIRL UK, where she designed a page informing readers on current Hollywood trends and Los Angeles hot spots.

No stranger to the camera, the entertainment industry has been a big part of her life from the time she was born in West Sussex, England. She started acting when she was an infant with a role on the British version of the television series "Growing Pains." After moving to the states at age six, she took her love of acting and singing to the stage, performing musical theater and drama at the Youth Academy for Dramatic Arts.

When she is not working, Collins attends the University of Southern California's Annenberg School for Communications where she is studying Communications. As the first college representative to sit on the board of The Maple Counseling Center, Collins is an advocate of the "teens helping teens" program through peer support groups. At USC, she plans to continue developing her craft in all areas. Her ambition, intelligence and beauty guarantee her much professional success in the upcoming years.

Collins currently resides in Los Angeles.

### **NATHAN LANE (CARL KAPINAS)**

Tony, Emmy, and Screen Actors Guild award-winning actor Nathan Lane most recently starred in the spring of 2012 in Chicago's Goodman Theatre's production of *The Iceman Cometh* opposite Brian Dennehy. In the fall of 2012, he debuted as a recurring guest star in CBS hit drama *The Good Wife*. In the spring of 2013, he will debut in *The Nance* at the Lyceum Theatre in New York.

In 2009, he starred in the critically acclaimed production of *Waiting for Godot* at Studio 54. He appeared on Broadway in David Mamet's hit comedy, *November* and starred in *Butley* in 2006. He also starred in the blockbuster Broadway production of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*, and in Stephen Sondheim's adaptation of Aristophanes' *The Frogs* at Lincoln Center, for which he wrote the book.

His wildly acclaimed portrayal of Max Bialystock in *The Producers* on Broadway won Lane the Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Tony Awards for "Best Actor in a Musical." In addition, Nathan won the Olivier Award for his performance in *The Producers* in London.

Film audiences will remember Lane's triumphant performance as Albert in Mike Nichols' *The Birdcage*, which helped catapult the film into a major blockbuster hit. The role earned Lane a Screen Actors Guild Award and a Golden Globe Nomination. He also earned a Golden Globe Award nomination for his portrayal of Max Bialystock in the movie version of the Tony-Award winning musical *The Producers*. Additionally, he won great acclaim as the voice of 'Timon' the meerkat in the smash hit film *The Lion King*. Lane has also starred in such box office hits as *Stuart Little* and *Mousehunt*.

Broadway audiences have long embraced Lane as one of the shining lights of the theater. In 1996, his performance in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, directed by Jerry Zaks, earned him the Tony, the Outer Critics Circle and the Drama Desk Awards.

Among other Broadway credits are: 'Gomez' in *The Addams Family*, 'Buzz' in Terrence McNally's *Love! Valor! Compassion!* (Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Obie Awards); 'Max Prince' in Neil Simon's *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*; 'Nathan Detroit' in *Guys and Dolls* (Drama Desk & Outer Critics Circle Awards, Tony Nomination); *Present Laughter* (Drama Desk nomination) and *On Borrowed Time* with George C. Scott; *Merlin*; *The Wind in the Willows*; *Some Americans Abroad* and the national tour of Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound*. Early in the 2001 Broadway season, Lane starred in the Roundabout Theater Company's revival of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*.

Off-Broadway credits include Terrence McNally's *Lips Together*, *Teeth Apart*, *The Lisbon Traviata* (Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel Awards) and *Bad Habits* at the Manhattan Theatre Club; *The Film Society* and *In A Pig's Valise* at Second Stage; *The Common Pursuit*; *She Stoops to Conquer* at the Roundabout; and *Measure for Measure* directed by Joseph Papp at the NYSF. Lane starred off Broadway in Jon Robin Baitz' acclaimed *Mizlansky/Zilinsky*, and he played Dalton Trumbo, in the off Broadway play, *Trumbo*.

Lane has also been recognized with two Daytime Emmy Awards for Outstanding Performer in an Animated Program for his work in Disney's *The Lion King's Timon and Pumbaa*, and for his work in Disney's *Teacher's Pet*.

Additional film credits include: *Isn't She Great?*; *Trixie*; *Love's Labours Lost*; *Addams Family Values*; *Life with Mikey*; *Frankie & Johnny*; *He Said, She Said*; *Ironweed*; *The Lemon Sisters*; *Jeffrey*; *Nicholas Nickelby* and *Win a Date with Tad Hamilton*.

Lane's television appearances include Terrence McNally's "The Last Mile," Hallmark Hall of Fame presentation of "The Boys Next Door," and the recent "Laughter on the 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor." He was Emmy nominated for his guest spot on "Modern Family."

## CAST

JULIANNE MOORE	LINDA SINCLAIR
MICHAEL ANGARANO	JASON SHERWOOD
GREG KINNEAR	DR. TOM SHERWOOD
LILY COLLINS	HALLE ANDERSON
FIONA SHAW	NARRATOR
NOBERT LEO BUTZ	VICE PRINCIPAL PHIL PELASKI
JESSICA HECHT	PRINCIPAL TRUDIE SLOCUM
CHARLIE SAXTON	WILL
NATHAN LANE	CARL KAPINAS
NIKKI BLONSKY	SHEILA NUSSBAUM
SOPHIE CURTIS	FALLON HUGHES



**CREW**

Directed by  
CRAIG ZISK

Written by  
DAN CHARITON & STACY CHARITON

Produced by  
NAOMI DESPRES  
BOB SALERNO

Produced by  
BEN LECLAIR  
MATTHEW CHAUSSE

Executive Producer  
RON CURTIS

Executive Producers  
MICHAEL BEDERMAN  
JOHN SANTILLI  
MANDY TAGGER  
ADI EZRONI

Director of Photography  
VANJA CERNJUL

Edited by  
MYRON KERSTEIN

Production Designer  
MICHAEL SHAW

Casting by  
JESSICA KELLY AND SUZANNE SMITH

Co-Executive Producers  
MARGO HAND  
PATRICK MURPHY

Costume Designer  
EMMA POTTER

Music by  
ROB SIMONSON

Music Supervisor  
LINDA COHEN