



The Fantastic Four meet their greatest challenge yet in **FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER**, as the enigmatic, intergalactic herald, The Silver Surfer, comes to Earth to prepare it for destruction. As he races around the globe wreaking havoc, Reed, Sue, Johnny and Ben must unravel the mystery before all hope is lost. **FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER** is the second installment of the live-action film series based on what fans around the globe know as “The World’s Greatest Comic Magazine.” “Fantastic Four” directed by Tim Story and released in the summer of 2005, had a worldwide theatrical gross of \$330 million and became one of Twentieth Century Fox’s most successful DVD titles ever.

For **FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER**, an intriguing element is added to the cast of characters of the 2005 hit – the Silver Surfer. Academy Award® winning visual effects house Weta Digital (“The Lord of the Rings,” “King Kong”), working with the film’s visual effects supervisor Scott Squires (a three-time Oscar® nominee whose credits include “Star Wars Episode 1 – The Phantom Menace”), created the ultimate computer-generated Silver Surfer, which will be true to the Marvel Comics character beloved by fans worldwide. Weta developed an advanced CG process to bring added dimensionality to the character. Doug Jones provided character and movement references for the digital wizards at Weta.

The Silver Surfer joins the returning family of superheroes from the Marvel Comics universe, including Ioan Gruffudd as Reed Richards, who can stretch and contort

his body into any shape he can imagine and, as the group's leader, is known as Mister Fantastic; Jessica Alba as Sue Storm, who is able to render herself invisible and to create and project powerful force fields as Invisible Woman; Chris Evans as Johnny Storm, known as The Human Torch, who can engulf his body in flames and take flight at will; and Michael Chiklis as Ben Grimm, whose freakish transmutation into a rock-like, superhumanly strong creature led him to be called The Thing. Julian McMahon reprises his "Fantastic Four" role as the Four's steely-eyed, iron-fisted nemesis, Dr. Doom. Kerry Washington is back as Ben's love interest, the blind sculptress Alicia Masters.

Recent Emmy®-winner Andre Braugher joins the cast as General Hager, a tough Army official who seeks the Four's help in combating a global menace, and Beau Garrett, who appeared in Fox Atomic's debut film "Turistas," plays the general's aide, Captain Raye. And Oscar-nominee Laurence Fishburne, whose many credits include "The Matrix" and "Mystic River," voices the Silver Surfer.

"Fantastic Four" helmer Tim Story returns, along with producers Ralph Winter, Avi Arad and Bernd Eichinger. The screenplay is by four-time Emmy winner Don Payne, a co-executive producer on "The Simpsons," and noted author and screenwriter Mark Frost, who co-scripted "Fantastic Four."

Academy Award-winning visual effects supervisor Scott Squires, who worked closely with Weta in creating the Silver Surfer, also supervised many of the film's other state-of-the-art effects, including enhanced powers for the Four; mile-long, perfectly-smooth craters – the handiwork of the Surfer; and the creation of Galactus (also known as The World Destroyer), another character long-known to comics fans as a being of incredible power and scale. "It was a delicate balance meeting the comics fans' expectations for the look of Galactus, and making him truly spectacular and cinematic to those not familiar with the character," says Squires.

In 2005, movie audiences worldwide were introduced to the Fantastic Four, the fabulous quartet of superheroes that have captivated comic book readers since their 1961 debut in Marvel Comics' Fantastic Four #1, created by Marvel legends Stan Lee and Jack Kirby. Headquartered in the world famous Baxter Building in New York City, the

Fantastic Four are dedicated to the betterment of the world through scientific discovery and defense against evil.

With FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER, the filmmakers are able to expand the scope of the first film and introduce new characters, and new adventures, for the world's premiere superhero team.

Director Tim Story explains: "We've got a new character coming to the scene, the Silver Surfer, who is one of the coolest comic book characters of all time. So we've upped the ante with bigger stunts, more action, and more CGI characters and situations.

With the origin story firmly established, FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER screenwriter Don Payne, a lifelong fan of the Fantastic Four comics, set out to take the next step with the series. "I wanted this movie to be the rare sequel that's better than the original -- with more excitement, more drama, more humor, more action," Payne says. "I also really wanted to explore where the characters are at this point in their lives. They're much better off financially, but they're dealing with the downside of celebrity. Sue and Reed are moving on and trying to get married. Ben and Alicia are enjoying being a happy couple, while Johnny's got his own issues. So there are exciting things happening with characters and relationships. But most of all, I'm excited about the dimension added by the Silver Surfer."

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER draws from an amalgamation of storylines from the Fantastic Four comic books, as well as new story developments and characters. "The movie draws from the first appearance of the Silver Surfer in Fantastic Four #48-50," says Payne. "But we're also using story elements from Fantastic Four #57-60, where the Silver Surfer encounters Dr. Doom. There are a couple of moments inspired by the recent Ultimate Extinction series as well."

The film's main centerpiece from which the story unfolds is the sensational "Wedding of the Century." Familiar to generations of comic book fans, the wedding between Reed Richards and Sue Storm, first depicted in Fantastic Four King Size Annual #3 in 1965, is the comic world's equivalent to the historic wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Di.

But wedding plans ultimately go awry with the introduction of the Silver Surfer, when mysterious and destructive anomalies start appearing across the Earth and the Fantastic Four are called into action.

The Silver Surfer, the “Sky-Rider of the Spaceways,” made his debut on the pages of Fantastic Four #48 in 1966. Created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby at the early stages of the 1960s counterculture explosion, the Silver Surfer soon became a mainstay of Marvel Comics, appearing regularly in the pages of the Fantastic Four, and eventually launching his own self-titled series.

The Silver Surfer, whose real name is Norrin Radd, is revered as one of the noblest and most tormented cosmic entities in the Marvel Universe. With his cosmic-powered board, he can absorb and manipulate the universe’s ambient cosmic energies.

“I think the appeal of the Silver Surfer is that he’s a complex, tragic character,” says Don Payne. “He’s got a Zen-like detachment from the world, but he still feels compassion. He’s heroic, having basically sacrificed his own life to serve Galactus in order to save his planet and the woman he loved. However, in doing so, he’s also bringing about the destruction of other worlds and species -- so there’s a real moral ambiguity to him. He looks at the world and humanity through an outsider’s perspective, which people find fascinating.”

“We try to stay as close as possible to the Silver Surfer from the pages of the comic book,” Tim Story adds. “Technically, what’s been great about this experience with the Surfer is, because he’s a CGI character, we’re able to create him from scratch, meaning I can sculpt him to look exactly like the comic book character. Our Silver Surfer is the Surfer we all know and love. So I think the fans and everyone who’s familiar with this character will appreciate that he’s going to be living and breathing exactly how they’ve always known him to be.”

“Fantastic Four” saw the apparent demise of the Four’s arch-villain, the tyrant Victor Von Doom, who was encased in a shipping container and exported back to his fictional home country of Latveria. “It’s a fantasy movie so characters can come and go, and die and resurrect,” Ralph Winter explains about Doom’s return. “Doom has figured out how to come back. He’ll be interacting with everyone; still making eyeballs at Sue,

still trying to denigrate Reed and thinking that he's better than Surfer. He's going to try and grab everything he can for himself.”

“For the first time Victor and the Fantastic Four must actually work together to achieve a specific goal,” says Tim Story. “At the end of the day we’ll see that you can never trust Victor Von Doom. He always has an ulterior motive.”

The plot and backdrop of FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER also reflect the global scope of the Fantastic Four. Whereas the first film was set entirely in the Fantastic Four’s home base of New York City, the follow-up takes place on the international stage. Screenwriter Don Payne explains: “It’s significant because the Fantastic Four are facing a global threat -- not just a threat to themselves or New York, but to the entire world. “We’re painting on a much larger canvas.”

“A lot of the comic book movies that have come out are set in one city, one place,” notes Tim Story. “The whole thing about this series is that the Fantastic Four travels. They’re more explorers and travelers than they are superheroes to a certain extent. They’re going to Shanghai, and all over Europe. It’s just one of the coolest things about this comic book that we fully wanted to take advantage of because I think it will set our movie apart from most.

“It’s always very exciting to revisit a character because you’ve had a chance to play him in the past,” says Welsh actor Ioan Gruffudd about his portrayal of the Fantastic Four’s leader, Reed Richards, widely acknowledged as the smartest man in the world. “I’ve evolved a little bit over the last two years and grown older, so Reed Richards has evolved and has much more confidence and is much more in control. He’s much more of a leader this time. He’s happy in his position as being the leader of the Fantastic Four.”

For Jessica Alba, who reprises her role as Sue Storm, the Invisible Woman, doing this movie was more fulfilling than the first. “In the first film I was trying to figure it out and stay as close to the comic book as possible,” she says. “Now I already know the character so I have a lot more freedom. Ioan, Chris, Chikie (Michael Chiklis) and I have all played these characters before so we’re all really comfortable with them, and it gives us an opportunity to discover new things about each other’s characters and ourselves.”

Chris Evans, who plays Johnny Storm, the Human Torch, was thrilled to return to the character with much more knowledge about what makes him tick. “It’s a real treat as an actor, because you feel like you’ve not only spent some time in the guy’s skin, but you’ve been lucky enough to see what works and what translated,” Evans relates.

While Johnny is the adventurous daredevil and biggest showoff of the team, the filmmakers decided to imbue his character with a little romance in this film. “They want Johnny to be a bit more ready for romance this time,” Evans says. “Because of Reed and Sue’s wedding, and Ben and Alicia’s relationship, it’s a nice story arc for Johnny to all of a sudden feel lonely. Though he discovers it’s more about realizing that the people in your life that you are lucky enough to love and be loved in return are truly valuable and shouldn’t be taken for granted.”

Michael Chiklis, an Emmy® and Golden Globe® winner for his work on the series “The Shield,” returns as Ben Grimm, The Thing, whose body was transformed into orange-colored rock by the cosmic bombardment in the first film’s origin story. Chiklis says that his character is still a curmudgeon this time around. “I think anybody living in that skin would be a little cranky,” he says. “But I guess that he’s over the initial shock and has moved on to a degree. Now he’s into the day-to-day business of helping save the world.”

The spirit of relationships pervades the Fantastic Four in this film, and that even goes for a giant man made of rock. Ben Grimm continues his relationship with the blind sculptress Alicia Masters, played by Kerry Washington, which began in the first “Fantastic Four.” “I look at Ben Grimm as really the heart and soul of the Fantastic Four,” says Chiklis. “He’s the strongest, but he’s a gentle giant. And he gets really all mushy inside. And the idea of him having a love interest with Alicia actually makes the role much more satisfying. He’s not just sort of a grumpy curmudgeon who’s a one-line joke all the time. He has a heart and a soul and it’s the thing that makes you love The Thing.”

Julian McMahon, currently starring on the FX series “Nip/Tuck,” reprises his role as the Fantastic Four’s archrival, Victor Von Doom, aka Dr. Doom. Initially an ally and benefactor to the Fantastic Four, due to his evil pursuit of power and world domination, he ultimately becomes their chief adversary.

At the end of the first “Fantastic Four,” Dr. Doom was encased, locked away and shipped off to his home country of Latveria. “He sat in a tomb for a long time and he’s pretty upset,” McMahon prefaces about Doom’s inevitable return. “He’s a little bitter and determined to get back at the Fantastic Four, which is what he sets about doing at the beginning of the movie.”

Reprising her role of Alicia Masters from the first “Fantastic Four” is Kerry Washington, who recently co-starred with Forest Whitaker in the acclaimed film “The Last King of Scotland.” Alicia Masters is a blind sculptor whose handicap allows her to see Ben Grimm for the man he is inside, not the hulking rock creature the rest of the world sees. “Alicia is very intuitive and insightful, and has wisdom beyond her years because of the blindness and how it’s affected her life,” Washington explains.

A new addition to the ensemble is recent Emmy winner, Andre Braugher, who plays General Hager, a no-nonsense career soldier who is the U.S. government’s point man on investigating and capturing the Silver Surfer.

Braugher, a longtime fan of the Fantastic Four comics, was pleased to join their world onscreen. “I remember very clearly when the first Fantastic Four comic book came out, and the introduction of all these characters, as well as the Silver Surfer and Galactus. So it’s really rewarding to be in this film. The chance to jump out of a helicopter, the tank work, and the rocket launchings are all a lot of fun. I think if you’re going to be in a comic book movie you ought to do some fun stuff.”

Marvel Comics legend and creator of the Fantastic Four, Stan Lee, makes a now customary appearance in FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER during Reed & Sue’s “Wedding of the Century.” In an homage to the final frame from Fantastic Four Special King Size Annual #3 from 1965, the wedding of Sue and Reed issue, Lee appears as himself as a party crasher to the wedding. However, he’s not on the list and is asked to leave. In the first “Fantastic Four,” Lee had a cameo as the Baxter Building mailman.

With enduring characters and a global scope, the filmmakers hope that both fans and non-fans will embrace the film. “I think the film is relevant in the sense that the Four are dealing with a global threat,” says screenwriter Don Payne. “But the movie is really

dealing with timeless issues of family and sacrifice. It takes a noble individual to stand up and make sacrifices for the good of humanity. There's also more action, more excitement, more focus on the characters' relationships. You want to keep it family-friendly, but you never want to dumb it down. It has to be a large-scale adventure, with just the right mix of action, drama, humor, and amazing visual effects.

According to producer Ralph Winter, accessibility is the key to the Fantastic Four's endurance and popularity with worldwide fans. "They're a little lighter in tone," he says. "You can see the sort of natural connection and squabbling that happens in a family. They have real-world problems like we do. They can't hide their powers, the way mutants in X-Men movies can hide or change. These guys don't; they're right out there. It makes it a little more fun for everyone."

### **THE SILVER SURFER**

Created by writer Stan Lee and artist/co-writer Jack Kirby, the Silver Surfer first appeared in the comic book The Fantastic Four #48 (March 1966). The Silver Surfer is a space-faring adventurer and explorer who roams the cosmos on his cosmic-powered board as the herald for Galactus, the devourer of worlds, searching for new planets for Galactus to consume.

According to Marvel Comics official history, the Silver Surfer wields 'the power cosmic,' absorbing and manipulating the universe's ambient cosmic energies. He can augment his strength to incalculable levels, and is almost totally indestructible. He can navigate space, hyperspace and dimensional barriers, and can fly at near-limitless speeds on his board, entering hyperspace when he exceeds light speed. He has even proven capable of time travel on occasion. The Surfer does not require food, drink, air or sleep. He's sustained entirely by converting matter into energy. He is immune to temperature extremes and most radiation, and can survive in vacuum environments such as outer space and hyperspace."

The Surfer's board, his source of power, is composed of the same impervious, cosmic-powered silvery material as its master's skin and is mentally linked to the Surfer; it moves in response to his thoughts, even when he is not in physical contact with it. The

board is almost totally indestructible, but on those rare occasions where it has been damaged or destroyed, the Surfer has been able to repair or even re-create it.”

Actor Doug Jones, who recently earned acclaim for his portrayal of the mysterious villain the Pale Man in director Guillermo del Toro’s Oscar nominated “Pan’s Labyrinth,” was brought in to provide the Silver Surfer’s character and movement references for the digital wizards at Weta. Laurence Fishburne provides the voice of the Silver Surfer.

For several weeks before production, and during production itself, Jones, a trained mime and contortionist, and his stunt double, Dorian Kingi, worked closely with movement coach Terry Notary on a variety of specially designed camera rigs and harnesses to create the surfing-inspired movements of the Silver Surfer.

Notary, who got his start as a gymnast and circus performer (he was in the original cast of Cirque de Soleil’s “Mystere”), before branching out to movie work. He assisted Doug Jones in recreating many of the Silver Surfer’s movements and iconic positions.

While the Silver Surfer interacts at times with all of the Fantastic Four, he has the closest relationship with Sue, who is the first one to discover that he may not be the planet-destroying villain he’s first made out to be. “The Silver Surfer is just this amazing physical specimen,” Alba says. “He’s not only this silver, sinewy, muscle-y guy, but he’s also innocent. He’s very interesting because he’s so misunderstood, and I love that my character has a connection with him, because she’s maternal and has great feminine instincts. The boys are so raw and they’re ready to fight and pass judgment when they feel something is threatening the universe, whereas Sue tries to look past the situation and see something beyond the obvious. I think that’s something that’s really cool about this movie and for my character.”

“The Silver Surfer is the one thing I can’t wait to see in the film,” Michael Chiklis enthuses. “It’s a great character, an old beloved Marvel character, and the look of him in this film is incredible.”

“The Silver Surfer is just an incredibly sexy character. I think I’m envious of him,” jokes Ioan Gruffudd. “The name in itself is just particularly cool. And visually it’s going to be very exciting to see this character on film.”

## **THE FANTASTICAR**

As important as the Baxter Building is to the Fantastic Four's mythology, so is the Fantasticar, the flying transport vehicle that originally debuted on the pages of Fantastic Four #3 in 1962, where it earned the nickname "the flying bathtub." However, as technology has changed, the Fantasticar, too, has evolved through many different versions in the past 40+ years up to its current sleek and streamlined design.

The Fantasticar makes its feature film debut in FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER. After Reed Richards unveils this latest invention to the rest of the team in his high-tech Baxter Building lab, they ultimately employ it in their global quest to prevent the destruction of the Earth by Galactus. It becomes a key element in a battle in the sky involving the Fantastic Four, Silver Surfer, Doom and Galactus.

The film's Fantasticar was designed by noted concept artist/illustrator/vehicle designer Tim Flattery (whose many credits include "Mission: Impossible III," "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" and the upcoming "Transformers"), in collaboration with Trevor Creed at the Chrysler Group's design offices, FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER director Tim Story and the film's production designer, Kirk Petrucci.

Fitting the Fantastic Four's unique needs, the Fantasticar is a 20-foot long, 12-foot wide, hybrid, vertical take-off/landing craft combining electric-powered fan lift and jet turbine thrust that yields maximum fuel efficiency. Designed by Reed Richards and constructed out of a variety of high-temp composites, and employing early computer-aided manufacturing techniques, the vehicle is highly unorthodox, but air-worthy. The Fantasticar's maximum level flight airspeed is 550 miles per hour with all four members of the Fantastic Four on board. The maximum altitude is 30,000 feet. The Fantasticar is capable of breaking away into three separate vehicles, each powered and maneuverable on its own, with deployable and articulating wings. Each section can maintain the speed and performance of the whole craft.

While most of the work with the Fantasticar was shot on a green screen stage in Vancouver, the vehicle itself was placed on a highly maneuverable platform and with the

fans blowing and the car rocking and pivoting it provided a very real flying scenario for the actors.

“The Fantastacar is amazing,” Jessica Alba enthuses. “They took this car to such a new level – it really looks futuristic and totally cool. A highlight for me is definitely going to be to see all those scenes put together.”

## **ABOUT THE PRODUCTION**

With the script and cast in place, the producers set up the production offices at Vancouver Film Studios just east of downtown Vancouver. Many of the filmmakers who were part of the first “Fantastic Four” and the “X-Men” films, all Vancouver-based, returned to lend their respective talents to the mammoth production of FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER.

To capture many of the world’s iconic monuments and attractions, a second unit crew traveled all over to shoot exterior establishing shots, in cities such as London, New York and Shanghai.

Assistant director and co-producer Lee Cleary, who has worked on all the “X-Men” films and the first “Fantastic Four” explains the pre-production process: “The key to prepping a film is locations,” he says. “In this particular movie we’re covering several continents. We’re in New York, Shanghai, Tokyo and London, among others. And when you have one central geographic location like Vancouver that has to represent so many different countries and continents, it requires extensive location scouts.”

The exterior of the Baxter Building was once again filmed at the Marine Building, Vancouver’s – and one of the world’s – finest examples of art deco architecture, located near the waterfront in the center of downtown Vancouver’s financial core.

The rooftop of the Metro Parkade, a seven-level parking structure in downtown Vancouver, was the site of “The Wedding of the Century,” between Reed Richards and Sue Storm. True to its comic book roots, this long-awaited ceremony goes awry with the appearance of the Silver Surfer. Johnny’s pursuit of the Surfer leads to some of the film’s most memorable action sequences.

For one week of filming, the cast and crew relocated to the Lower Seymour Conservation Reserve in North Vancouver, which serves as the Black Forest where the

Fantastic Four seek out and encounter the Silver Surfer with the use of Reed's sensors. The 5,668-hectare reserve contains spectacular and diverse landscapes, replete with alpine meadows, forested slopes, and river flood plains, which provided the FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER filmmakers with a dynamic backdrop for the Black Forest sequences.

In addition to weeks of location filming, weeks of stage work were completed at both Vancouver Film Studios and at nearby Mammoth Studios in the suburb of Burnaby, at the same facilities utilized for "Fantastic Four," "X2" and "X-Men: The Last Stand."

At Mammoth Studios, an appropriately named warehouse-sized studio in Burnaby, production designer Kirk Petrucci and his talented team of art directors, set decorators, set designers, and related crew designed and erected Reed Richard's hi-tech lab, as well as the interior of an Arctic military base where the Silver Surfer is contained.

Reed's lab, built at Mammoth's Stage 1, is a 6,100 square foot set comprised of numerous spaces for the brilliant scientist to conduct his work, including a Cosmic Sensor Room, Life Sciences, Rocket Science, Supercomputer room, the Fantasticar room, conference room, and the grand circular control panel room complete with a 48-foot by 12-foot HD LCD screen.

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER's second unit crew filmed for over 40 days, on both various locations and lots of green screen work. The unit handled much of the Silver Surfer/Johnny Storm chase sequences.

For the flying chase sequence, additional filming took place all over the world, from Washington DC's iconic monuments, to the New York's city skyline and Holland Tunnel, to London and China.

In the two years since The Thing's last film appearance in 2005's "Fantastic Four," Spectral Motion Inc., a leading creature effects shop based in Glendale, California, and owned by award-winning effects artist Mike Elizalde, has made significant improvements and changes in the look and technology of The Thing's prosthetics and costume, worn by actor Michael Chiklis.

For on-set key prosthetics artist Bart Mixon, who worked closely with Chiklis on the first film, the daily process of applying The Thing's headpiece and body suit was streamlined to ninety minutes in the second film, far less time than on the first film. The

Thing's headpiece now features a larger brow – something requested by diehard Fantastic Four fans – and more rock appliances and articulation in the overall costume to add to its believability as a rock creature.

### **ABOUT THE CAST**

Bringing a winning combination of indelible charm, charisma and intensity to his roles, **IOAN GRUFFUDD** (Reed Richards / Mr. Fantastic) is quickly establishing himself as one of Hollywood's leading men.

He recently starred in Michael Apted's "Amazing Grace" for Samuel Goldwyn Films. The film is based on the life of British anti-slavery pioneer William Wilberforce (played by Gruffudd) during his 18th Century political career. Albert Finney, Rufus Sewell, Romola Garai and Benedict Cumberbatch also star. "Amazing Grace" closed this year's Toronto Film Festival.

Following that, he had a starring role in Jake Kasdan's indie satire film "The TV Set" opposite Sigourney Weaver and David Duchovny. The story follows the making of a television pilot at PANDA Network with Gruffudd playing a top BBC executive who joins the network.

Previous film credits include "Fantastic Four," "King Arthur," "Titanic," "102 Dalmations," "Solomon and Gaenor" (nominated for an Academy Award for Foreign Language Film) and "Black Hawk Down."

Gruffudd began acting in his teens in his hometown, Cardiff, Wales. At 18, he enrolled at The Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts in London and upon graduation, began working almost immediately in the United Kingdom. It was his title role in the Emmy Award-winning miniseries, "Horatio Hornblower," that earned him international acclaim with both fans and critics.

**JESSICA ALBA** (Sue Storm / Invisible Woman) fell in love with acting at a very early age, becoming active professionally at the age of 12. She began studying with acting coaches in Los Angeles and, shortly thereafter, landed at the Atlantic Theatre Company, where she studied with founders William H. Macy and David Mamet.

Alba's first feature film credits include 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox's "Never Been Kissed," starring and produced by Drew Barrymore, as well as the thriller "Idle Hands" for Sony Pictures. She later starred as the title character in Fine Line Features' romance "The Sleeping Dictionary," a period drama which co-starred Brenda Blethyn, Bob Hoskins, Emily Mortimer, Noah Taylor and Hugh Dancy.

She starred in three major motion pictures in 2005 and has a full slate of projects coming up. Last year, she co-starred in the critically-acclaimed "Sin City," directed by Robert Rodriguez and featuring an all-star ensemble cast including Bruce Willis, Josh Hartnett, Elijah Wood, Brittany Murphy, Nick Stahl and Michael Madsen. Alba portrayed Nancy, an exotic dancer who is the heart of the fictional Sin City, playing opposite Willis in one of three of the film's intersecting stories. A sequel to the noir thriller is in the works.

She next starred in the female lead role in Marvel Comics' action-franchise blockbuster "Fantastic Four," which was released by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox in July 2005 and became a worldwide box-office success. She also starred in the underwater action-adventure, "Into the Blue," opposite Paul Walker. The combined worldwide box offices for all three films is over half a billion dollars.

She has completed the psychological thriller, "Awake," opposite Hayden Christensen, which will be released by The Weinstein Company in 2007. In addition to the sequels to "Fantastic Four" and "Sin City," Alba has filmed a role in the independent comedy, "Bill," with Aaron Eckhart and Elizabeth Banks, a cameo in "The Ten," and will star opposite Dane Cook in the romantic comedy, "Good Luck Chuck," also out in 2007.

She is currently filming "The Eye" for Lionsgate Films and Cruise-Wagner Productions. Alba's first starring role in a major studio film was the 2003 release, "Honey," which grossed over \$60-million worldwide. She starred as the title character, Honey Daniels, a dancer and choreographer working as a bartender/record store clerk until she gets her big break in the music industry and comes to realize what really matters to her. The contemporary urban drama featured Lil' Romeo, Mekhi Phifer, and Joy Bryant, with appearances by hip hop/R&B stars Missy Elliott, Ginuwine, Sean Desmond, Tweet, and Jadakiss.

Alba first achieved worldwide recognition as the lead character in James Cameron's "Dark Angel," Mr. Cameron's first project after the history-making "Titanic" and his first television venture. In the series, Alba portrayed Max, a genetically-enhanced human prototype who escapes from her government captors only to live out her life in the underground of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Seattle.

In the series' first season, she was nominated for a Golden Globe and a People's Choice Award. She was voted the TV Guide Award as Breakout Star of the Year by readers, and won Favorite TV Actress at the 2001 Teen Choice Awards. "Dark Angel" has been a success around the world, establishing her as an international star. It has been released globally on video and DVD and has spawned a soundtrack, successful video game and a line of action figures.

Alba also has a deal with Universal Pictures and Strike Entertainment to produce and star in a film derived from the limited-series comic book "Beautiful Killer," from Black Bull Comics. The untitled film will extract key elements from the source material, about a girl who loses her family to mysterious killers, is forced to flee and ultimately chooses to exact revenge.

Alba has appeared in a select handful of iconic and lucrative endorsement campaigns including L' Oreal cosmetics, the famous "milk mustache" Got Milk? campaign and was featured in the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fall '04 campaign for The Gap, as well as other prestigious campaigns around the world. She has also appeared on countless prestigious magazine covers in the United States and around the world.

She recently showcased her comedic talents, as host of the 2006 MTV Movie Awards™, appearing in short movies spoofing some of the past year's biggest hits, including "MI:3," "The DaVinci Code" and "King Kong." The viewers of MTV also voted her role in "Sin City" Sexiest Performance of the Year.

Although many would describe her as an exotic beauty, Alba was raised in a traditional American family in California. Her mother's family has a French-Danish heritage, while her father is from Mexican-Indian and Spanish lineage.

In the short time that he has been in Hollywood, **CHRIS EVANS** (Johnny Storm / Human Torch) has managed to build a name for himself, playing an impressive range of both comedic and dramatic roles.

Evans recently starred in “The Nanny Diaries,” opposite Paul Giamatti and Scarlett Johansson. Also scheduled to be released this year is the highly-anticipated Danny Boyle sci-fi film, “Sunshine.” Evans stars as Mace, one of the eight men and women fighting to save the Earth from a dying sun. “Sunshine” will be released by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox.

In 2005, Evans was widely seen as the blazing hero Johnny Storm in “Fantastic Four,” the summer box office hit adapted from the comic of the same name.

Previously, he was seen opposite Jessica Biel in the Sony Pictures release, “London.” Evans played Syd, a young man infatuated with winning back his ex-girlfriend, London (Biel). He also played the role of Bryce in the dark drama “Fierce People,” opposite Diane Lane and Donald Sutherland. In 2004, Chris starred in the New Line film “Cellular,” opposite Kim Basinger and William H. Macy. Past film credits include: “Orphan King,” “Not Another Teen Movie” and “The Perfect Score.”

At the age of 17, Evans signed with an agent in New York and shortly thereafter was flown to Los Angeles to audition for a half-hour pilot and was cast on the FOX series, "Opposite Sex." The series ran as a summer replacement. Evans portrayed one of only three boys admitted to a formerly all girls school.

He has also appeared on two critically acclaimed shows. His dramatic guest lead on David E. Kelley's "Boston Public" depicted a high school student who committed a murder and proceeded to hold a class hostage at gun point. The episode was hailed as the season's most dramatic. His guest lead on CBS's "The Fugitive" had Chris playing the rebellious son of a local sheriff who has a run in with Tim Daly's character, "Dr. Kimble."

**MICHAEL CHIKLIS** (Ben Grimm / The Thing) made his return to series television with a starring role on FX's first original drama series “The Shield,” a critically acclaimed one-hour police drama now in its sixth season. His remarkable performance garnered Chiklis a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Drama Series, an Emmy®

win for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series, as well as the Television Critics Association Award for Best Drama Actor. His Emmy win marked the first time that a lead performer in a show airing on a basic cable channel has won in this category.

“The Shield” debuted to record ratings for Fox’s FX and has continued to capture the attention of critics and television audiences. Chiklis stars as Detective Vic Mackey, a rogue cop and leader of the precinct strike force who operates under his own set of rules in his efforts to clean up the streets of Los Angeles.

Chiklis began entertaining his family with celebrity imitations when he was just five years old. As a child, Chiklis appeared in regional theater productions and earned his Equity card when he was just thirteen. He later attended Boston University School of Performing Arts where he received his B.F.A.

Just days after graduation, Chiklis auditioned for the role of John Belushi in the controversial film “Wired,” a part he landed three years later. He guest starred on the popular series “Miami Vice,” “L.A. Law,” “Murphy Brown,” and “Seinfeld.” In 1991 Chiklis landed the title role on “The Commish,” which aired on ABC from 1991-1996. Chiklis portrayed Tony Scali, a tough but fair-minded police commissioner who was beloved by his fellow officers. The role was based on an actual New York state police commissioner and originally called for an older man, but Chiklis won the producers over and made the role his own.

After that show wrapped, Chiklis went to Broadway and starred in the one-man show “Defending the Caveman.” His film credits include “The Tax Man” with Joe Pantoliano, “Do Not Disturb” opposite William Hurt and Jennifer Tilly, “Last Request” and “Body and Soul.” His additional television credits include a role as Chris Woods, the stay at home father on the NBC comedy “Daddio,” as well as a starring role as Curly in the ABC movie “The Three Stooges,” which was executive produced by Mel Gibson.

Next up for Chiklis is an independent feature film “Rise,” a horror thriller directed by Sebastian Gutierrez, also starring Lucy Liu. He also voices a role in the upcoming animated feature “The Legend of Secret Pass.”

An actor who delivers a heady combination of charisma and intensity to his roles, **JULIAN McMAHON** (Victor Von Doom / Doctor Doom) has impressed critics and audiences alike with his work.

McMahon recently starred in "Premonition" opposite Sandra Bullock. The film revolves around a woman who has a premonition that her husband will die in a car crash and sets out to prevent it. This film marks the Hollywood debut of German director Mennan Yapo and is a Hyde Park production for TriStar and MGM.

McMahon first appeared as Dr. Doom in the 20th Century Fox and Marvel Studios summer hit "Fantastic Four." Directed by Tim Story and based on the Marvel Comics franchise, the film follows four superheroes who develop superpowers when their spaceship is exposed to radiation. The film also starred Michael Chiklis, Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba and Chris Evans.

McMahon was nominated for a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Television Drama for the second season of the FX original drama series "Nip/Tuck." Currently in production on the fourth season, the show was created and is executive produced by Ryan Murphy, and stars McMahon opposite Dylan Walsh and Joely Richardson as 'Dr. Christian Troy' who shares a booming plastic surgery practice with his best friend 'Dr. Sean McNamara' (Walsh). The two doctors serve as a moral and ethical yin and yang both in their professional and personal lives, navigating their way through problems and challenges that are sometimes tragic and oftentimes stretch the boundaries of the imagination. McMahon was previously nominated for a Golden Satellite Award in the Best Actor in a Drama Series category.

McMahon stars in the independent film "Prisoner" for writer/directors David Alford and Robert Lynne. McMahon stars as 'Derek Plato,' a Hollywood film director who, while scouting an abandoned prison for his next film, is taken hostage by a jailer. Derek is held captive on death row, where he is forced to delve deeply into his past and his work. Ultimately, he discovers what caused him to become a voyeuristic, arrogant man. The film also stars Elias Koteas, Dagmara Dominczyk, Kim Raver, Rocky Carroll and Tom Guiry.

Previously, McMahon made an impression on television audiences via his roles as 'Detective John Grant' on the award-winning NBC drama series "Profiler" and the tortured demon, 'Cole Turner' on the popular WB series "Charmed."

Hailing from Australia, McMahon was known to audiences for his lead role in the primetime drama, "The Power, The Passion." He then joined the cast of the hit series "Home and Away" which has also starred Guy Pearce, Heath Ledger, Martin Henderson and Naomi Watts among others. In 1992, McMahon broke into American television when he was cast as 'Ian Rain' on the daytime drama "Another World." He also co-starred in the cable movies "In Quiet Night" and "Another Day," executive produced by Francis Ford Coppola and starring Shannen Doherty and Brad Renfro. His other television credits include a guest starring role on "Will & Grace."

Additional feature film credits include "Meet Market" opposite Elizabeth Berkeley and Aisha Tyler, "Wet and Wild Summer" with Elliot Gould and "Chasing Sleep" with Jeff Daniels. He has also starred on stage, most notably in the Sydney and Melbourne productions of "Love Letters."

Winner of the Outstanding Actress in a Motion Picture Award for "Ray" at the NAACP Image Awards in 2005 and Nominated for an Independent Spirit Award for "Best Actress" in the film "Lift" in 2002, **KERRY WASHINGTON** (Alicia Masters) is proving to be one of the busiest actresses in Hollywood. She was seen in the Wayans Brothers' hit summer comedy "Little Man" and last summer's "Mr. And Mrs. Smith," starring Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, and "Fantastic Four," directed by Tim Story and based on the beloved Marvel comics' superheroes. Most recently, she appeared in "The Last King of Scotland" opposite Forest Whitaker.

Prior to these films, Washington starred in "Ray," the inspirational life story of Ray Charles. Directed by Taylor Hackford, Washington starred opposite Jamie Foxx as Charles' wife, Della. Prior to "Ray," she played the lead role opposite Anthony Mackie in Spike Lee's latest film, "She Hate Me." In addition, she recently starred in Sidney Lumet's HBO film "Strip Search" with Ellen Barkin, Glenn Close and Maggie Gyllenhaal and the independent film "Sexual Life," in which Washington co-starred with Tom Everett Scott, Dulé Hill, Anne Heche and Azura Skye.

Other film credits for Washington include Paramount Pictures' "Against the Ropes," starring Meg Ryan; Paramount Classics' "The United States of Leland," opposite Don Cheadle, Kevin Spacey and Ryan Gosling; Miramax's "The Human Stain," starring Nicole Kidman and Sir Anthony Hopkins; Jerry Bruckheimer's "Bad Company," starring Chris Rock and Sir Anthony Hopkins and directed by Joel Schumacher; and "Lift," written and directed by DeMane Davis and Khari Streeter. She's probably best known for her role in Paramount Pictures' "Save the Last Dance," where she starred opposite Julia Stiles and Sean Patrick Thomas, in which Washington received a Teen Choice Award for Best Breakout Performance. Prior to that, Washington starred in the highly acclaimed independent film, "Our Song," playing a wise but conflicted teen.

During her free time, Washington is an active supporter of the Creative Coalition, a group dedicated to raising awareness of First Amendment Rights and support of arts in education.

One of Hollywood's most respected actors, Emmy® Award-winner **ANDRE BRAUGHER** (General Hager) is able to cross over from television to film to theatre with ease.

Perhaps best known for his riveting Emmy Award-winning portrayal of Detective Frank Pembleton on the NBC series "Homicide: Life on the Street" (1992-98), Braugher will begin work on the Frank Darabont film "Mist" this spring.

He won a second Emmy for Outstanding Performance by a Lead Actor in a Mini-Series for his starring role in mini-series "Thief," which aired on FX in April 2006.

In 2004, Braugher starred in the TNT original four-hour mini-series "Salem's Lot" based on the best-selling novel by Stephen King. Prior to that film, he starred in the Showtime Original Film "A Soldier's Girl."

In 2002, he starred in the critically acclaimed CBS series "Hack" opposite David Morse and in the Showtime Original Film "10,000 Black Men Named George" with Charles Dutton and Mario Van Peebles for director Robert Townsend. Braugher served as Executive Producer on this film and he received an NAACP Award nomination for his role as A. Philip Randolph.

In 2000-2001, Braugher starred in the critically acclaimed ABC drama series “Gideon’s Crossing,” which was created by Paul Attanasio, also one of the creators of “Homicide: Life on the Street.” Braugher received an Emmy® Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for his role as Dr. Ben Gideon.

In 1999 Braugher made his directorial debut with one vignette of the Showtime trilogy “Love Songs,” in which he also starred, and he starred in the TNT telefilm “Passing Glory” (1999), for director Steve James (“Hoop Dreams”) garnering critical acclaim for his performance.

In addition to Braugher’s success on the small screen, audiences have seen him star in a variety of feature film roles. Most recently he co-starred in “Poseidon” (2006); in “Duets” (2000) opposite Gwyneth Paltrow for director Bruce Paltrow; in the independent feature “A Better Way to Die” (2000); and alongside Dennis Quaid in the critically praised film “Frequency” (2000). Before that he starred with Alec Baldwin in the independent film “Thick As Thieves” (1999), which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and later aired on HBO; he was a part of an ensemble cast, which included Jeff Daniels, Gary Sinise, Joan Allen and Anna Paquin, in director Jim Stern’s “All The Rage” (1999); and starred in “City of Angels” (1998) with Nicolas Cage, Meg Ryan, and Dennis Franz.

Braugher’s other notable feature film credits include “Primal Fear” (1996) with Richard Gere, which marked his first collaboration with “Frequency” director Gregory Hoblit; Spike Lee’s “Get on the Bus” (1996); and “Glory” (1989), the Oscar-winning story of America’s first unit of black soldiers during the Civil War.

Braugher’s work in television continues to be recognized by his critics, audiences and his peers. In 2006, he received an Emmy Award for Outstanding Performance by a Lead Actor in a Mini-Series and a Golden Globe Award nomination for his role as Nick Atwater in mini-series “Thief.” In 2001, he received an Emmy Award nomination and a Golden Globe Award nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for his role as Dr. Ben Gideon in “Gideon’s Crossing.” In 1998 he received an Emmy Award for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for portrayal of Detective Frank Pembleton on “Homicide: Life on the Street.” In 1996 he received two Emmy Award nominations – one for Outstanding Lead Actor in a Drama Series for his role in

“Homicide: Life on the Street” and one for Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Mini-Series for his work in the Peabody Award-winning HBO production “The Tuskegee Airmen.”

His other television credits include him reprising his Emmy Award-winning role of Detective Frank Pembleton in the two-hour NBC Special “Homicide: The Movie” (2000); the title role in “The Court-Martial of Jackie Robinson” (1990), HBO’s “Somebody Has to Shoot the Picture” (1990) and NBC’s “Murder in Mississippi” (1990). He began his television career as the late Telly Savalas’ sidekick in television movies based on the original “Kojak” series.

A most versatile performer, Braugher has appeared on stage with the New York Shakespeare Festival in “Measure for Measure” and “Twelfth Night” and most recently, in the title role of “Henry V,” which earned him an Obie® Award. At Joseph Papp’s Public Theater, Braugher preformed in “The Way of the World,” and Shakespeare’s “Richard II” and “Coriolanus.” He played Iago in the Folger Shakespeare Festival production of “Othello” and performed the title role in “Macbeth” for the Philadelphia Drama Guild.

Braugher, who was born and raised in Chicago, earned a B.A. from Stanford University and an M.F.A. from Juilliard.

**LAURENCE FISHBURNE** (Voice of the Silver Surfer) has been honored for his work on both stage and screen. In 1994, he earned an Academy Award nomination for his searing portrayal of Ike Turner in the hit biopic “What’s Love Got to Do with It.” He more recently shared in two Screen Actors Guild Award nominations for Outstanding Motion Picture Cast: one in 2004 for his role in Clint Eastwood’s “Mystic River,” and another this year as a member of the ensemble cast of the acclaimed historical feature “Bobby.”

Fishburne, who began acting at the age of 10, was only 15 years old when he won a starring role in Francis Ford Coppola’s Vietnam War epic “Apocalypse Now.” He went on to work with Coppola on “Rumble Fish,” “Gardens of Stone” and “The Cotton Club.” In addition, Fishburne has collaborated twice with noted director John Singleton, on “Boyz ‘N the Hood” and “Higher Learning,” earning an NAACP Image Award for Best Actor for the latter. He also starred as the enigmatic Morpheus in the three installments of the

groundbreaking “Matrix” franchise: “The Matrix,” “The Matrix Reloaded” and “The Matrix Revolutions.” Recently, he was the Narrator on box-office hit “TMNT.”

In 2000, Fishburne made his feature film directorial debut “Once in the Life,” which he also starred in, produced and wrote, based on his own one-act play “Riff Raff.” Fishburne more recently starred in and produced the inspiring drama “Akeelah and the Bee.” His other film credits include “Mission: Impossible III,” “Assault on Precinct 13,” “Hoodlum,” “Event Horizon,” “Othello,” “Just Cause,” “Bad Company,” “Searching for Bobby Fischer,” “Deep Cover,” “Class Action,” “King of New York,” “Red Heat,” Spike Lee’s “School Daze” and Steven Spielberg’s “The Color Purple.”

On the small screen, Fishburne starred in and executive produced the acclaimed telefilm “Miss Evers’ Boys,” for which he won an Emmy for Outstanding Made for Television Movie and earned an Emmy nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor. He had previously garnered Emmy and Golden Globe Award nominations and won an NAACP Image Award for his performance in the HBO movie “The Tuskegee Airmen.” He also won an Emmy Award for his role in the premiere episode of Robert De Niro’s series “Tribeca.” His television work also includes the HBO movie “Always Outnumbered,” and the telefilms “A Rumor of War,” “For Us the Living” and “Decoration Day.”

In 1992, Fishburne won a Tony Award, a Drama Desk Award, an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Theatre World Award for his work in the Broadway production of August Wilson’s “Two Trains Running,” in which he reprised the role of Sterling Johnson, which he originated at the Yale Repertory Theatre. In 1999, he returned to the Broadway stage to star opposite Stockard Channing in “The Lion in Winter.”

## **ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

**TIM STORY** (Director) has proven himself as an adept storyteller, whose films combine compassion and humor infused with adrenaline. Possessing a unique insight into people and all of their real flaws and quirks, Story uses this, and a passion for telling stories and developing characters, to bring the wide range of human emotion on-screen.

**FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER** is a follow-up to “Fantastic Four,” in which he brought the beloved Marvel Comics series to life. Having

been a fan of “The Fantastic Four” comics his whole life, Story jumped at the chance to helm the film adaptation.

Story is also executive producer of the television series “Standoff.”

Story’s acclaimed feature studio debut, “Barbershop,” was released in September 2002 by MGM. Starring Ice Cube, Anthony Anderson, Cedric the Entertainer, Troy Garity and Eve, the film proved to be a box office hit, spawning a sequel, a spin-off film, and a television series to date.

Prior to “Barbershop,” Story completed two feature length films - “The Firing Squad” and “One of Us Tripped” - which he wrote, directed, produced, edited and even financed himself. “One of Us Tripped” was winner of the Black Filmmaker’s Hall of Fame Film Festival.

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Tim Story was introduced to filmmaking at a very early age. At age 12, he inherited an 8mm camera from his older brother, and realized his passion lay behind the camera. He was often seen around his neighborhood making silent movies, recruiting family and friends to play the characters in his stories.

In high school, Story’s love of storytelling gained an additional outlet as he began a career in music, rapping with Ice T’s Rhyme Syndicate. Story’s rap group, TDF, was in the process of signing a record deal with Warner Bros. Records, when a neighborhood rival fatally shot one of the members. After the tragedy, Story switched creative gears and began producing and directing talent shows and variety musicals. Story also had aspirations of enrolling in USC’s prestigious film program and honing his skills as a filmmaker, which he made a reality.

After film school, Story worked at an independent record label, where he was able to combine his passion for film and music by directing his first music video. He has since gone on to direct dozens of music videos for such cutting edge acts as N’Sync, Tyrese, and Jon B, among others.

Story and his writing partner Brian Buccellato have completed several dramas that are currently being developed as future projects. He is currently developing “Society Cap” with Tom Hanks’ Universal-based company, Playtone.

**DON PAYNE** (Screenwriter) is a writer/Co-Executive Producer on the hit animated television series “The Simpsons.” He has won four Emmys for his work on “The Simpsons” and also received the Writers Guild of America’s prestigious Paul Selvin Award for his acclaimed episode "Fraudcast News."

He is a graduate of UCLA’s film school, where he earned a B.A. in film and television and an M.F.A. in screenwriting.

“My Super Ex-Girlfriend,” which he wrote as an original spec screenplay, became his first produced feature. He currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife Julie and his sons Nathaniel (8) and Joshua (5).

Three-time Emmy nominee **MARK FROST** (Screenplay, Story) is an acclaimed film and television writer perhaps best known for the groundbreaking television series “Twin Peaks” and the 1992 film “Storyville,” which he wrote and directed. His Emmy nominations came in 1984 for Outstanding Writing in a Drama Series for an episode of “Hill Street Blues” and in 1990 when he was nominated for Outstanding Writing in a Drama Series and Outstanding Drama Series for “Twin Peaks.”

Frost’s other film credits include “The Repair Shop” (writer and executive producer); “The Believers” (screenplay and associate producer); and “Scared Stiff” (writer).

In addition to “Hill Street Blues” and “Twin Peaks,” his many other television credits as a writer include “The Deadly Look of Love,” which he also co-executive produced; the series “Buddy Faro,” as writer and executive producer; and the series “On the Air” and “The Six Million Dollar Man.”

Frost has also directed episodes of “On the Air,” “Twin Peaks” and “Hill Street Blues.”

**JOHN TURMAN** (Story) co-wrote the screenplay for the 2003 film “The Hulk,” directed by Ang Lee. He was a producer on the comedy/drama “Full Moon in Blue Water” and an associate producer on “Gleaming the Cube.”

**BERND EICHINGER**'s (Producer) credits include "Resident Evil: Apocalypse," "Resident Evil," "Wrongfully Accused," "Smilla's Sense of Snow," "The House of the Spirits," "Last Exit to Brooklyn," "The Name of the Rose," "The Neverending Story" "DOA: Dead on Arrival," and "Perfume: The Story of a Murderer."

He recently produced "The Downfall" (Der Untergang), which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film. Upcoming is "Resident Evil: Extinction."

Eichinger was born in Neuburg, Bavaria. He attended boarding school and originally pursued his musical aspirations until he was accepted into the Munich Academy for Television and Film. He began screenwriting and worked as a production manager at BR, the Bavarian public service television and radio station. In 1974 he founded Solaris, his own production company, and became one of the most influential and successful producers of the New German Film movement. When a fellow production company, Constantin, ran into financial difficulties, Eichinger designed a rescue plan and ultimately became a shareholder and CEO of the company, and didn't leave his position as Chairman of the Board of Management of Constantin Film AG until just a few years ago.

**AVI ARAD** (Producer) was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Marvel Studios, the film and television division of Marvel Entertainment, and Chief Creative Officer of Marvel Entertainment. Mr. Arad has been the driving force behind Marvel's Hollywood renaissance with a track record that has been nothing short of spectacular, including a string of eight consecutive No. 1 box office openings.

As an executive producer and producer, his credits include "Spider-Man" and its sequel, "Spider-Man 2" (Columbia Pictures), which set an industry record for opening day box office receipts; "X-Men," "X2," and "X-Men: The Last Stand" (Twentieth Century Fox); "The Hulk" (Universal Pictures); "Daredevil" (New Regency); "The Punisher" (Lions Gate Entertainment); "Blade," "Blade II" and "Blade: Trinity" (New Line Cinema); "Elektra" (Twentieth Century Fox); and "Fantastic Four" (Twentieth Century Fox).

Arad's recent live-action feature film slate includes the box-office smash “Ghost Rider” (Columbia Pictures), the much-anticipated “Spider-Man 3” (Columbia Pictures), “Iron Man” (Paramount), which is now before the cameras, starring Robert Downey, Jr. and Gwyneth Paltrow, and “The Incredible Hulk” (Universal), which begins production later this year.

Complementing the current studio relationships, Arad is also overseeing MVL Film Finance LLC, Marvel’s independently financed film slate arranged with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith. Through the film fund, Arad will be developing and producing films in-house based on ten renowned Marvel characters such as Captain America, Nick Fury, Ant-Man and Dr. Strange.

Complementing Marvel's feature film line-up, Arad is also overseeing Marvel's aggressive animation plans. Marvel Studios is currently in development with leading animation studio Antefilms on a “Fantastic Four” television series expected to launch in 2006. Additionally, Marvel has teamed with Lions Gate to develop a high-quality line-up of animated productions specifically for the DVD market. The first title, based on “The Avengers,” was released in February 2006.

Born in Cyprus and raised in Israel, Arad came to the United States during his college years and enrolled at Hofstra University to study industrial management. He earned a bachelor of business administration from the University in 1972.

A long-established expert in youth entertainment, Arad is one of the world’s top toy designers. He has been involved in the creation and development of over two hundred successful products, including action figures, play sets, dolls, toy vehicles, electronic products, educational software and video games. In fact, virtually every major toy and youth entertainment manufacturer, including Toy Biz, Hasbro, Mattel, Nintendo, Tiger, Ideal, Galoob, Tyco and Sega, has been selling his products for more than 20 years.

When not working as a producer, Arad can be found riding his Harley-Davidson. His enthusiasm for the motorcycle inspired him to become a successful restaurateur. He founded and still owns the Harley-Davidson Cafe in Las Vegas.

**RALPH WINTER** (Producer) is a native Californian, born and raised in Glendale. He attended U. C. Berkeley where he received a B.A. in History. His first experience in

production was producing training videos for Broadway Department Stores.

In 1978, Winter started working in the film business for Paramount Pictures in post-production television, where he worked on “Happy Days,” “Laverne & Shirley,” and “Mork & Mindy.” Following his experiences in television, Winter began working alongside Harve Bennett on the “Star Trek” films. He was an associate producer on “Star Trek III,” executive producer on IV, and producer on V & VI.

In 1991, he moved over to the Walt Disney Company where he executive produced “Captain Ron” starring Kurt Russell and Martin Short, “Hocus Pocus” starring Sarah Jessica Parker and Bette Midler, and “The Puppet Masters.”

In 1995, Winter moved into the independent arena, producing the film “Hackers” starring Angelina Jolie, and directed by the critically acclaimed Iain Softley (“K-Pax,” “The Skeleton Key”) for United Artists.

In 1996, he was hired by Steven Spielberg to produce the ABC show “High Incident” starring David Keith and Blair Underwood.

In 1997, Winter returned to Disney to produce the remake of the 1949 RKO classic, “Mighty Joe Young” with producer Tom Jacobson and director Ron Underwood (“City Slickers”). The following year he executive produced “Inspector Gadget” starring Matthew Broderick and Rupert Everett.

After a successful run at Disney, Winter collaborated with Twentieth Century Fox in 1999 producing Marvel’s “X-Men” directed by Bryan Singer, which grossed \$296 million worldwide. Upon the achievement of the film, Fox offered Ralph an exclusive deal with the studio where he went on to produce “Planet of the Apes” (2001) directed by Tim Burton, which made \$362 million worldwide. He then teamed up with Singer again for the highly anticipated sequel “X2,” grossing \$406 million.

In 2005, Winter produced the first “Fantastic Four,” directed by Tim Story, which produced a gross of \$329 million. Most recently he produced “X-Men: The Last Stand” (2006), the third installment in the “X-Men” series, directed by Brett Ratner, which has become one of the most successful films of the summer.

**STAN LEE** (Executive Producer), the chairman emeritus of Marvel Comics, is known to millions as the man whose Super Heroes propelled Marvel to its preeminent

position in the comic-book industry. Hundreds of legendary characters, including Spider-Man, The Incredible Hulk, The X-Men, The Fantastic Four, Iron Man, Daredevil, The Avengers, The Silver Surfer, Thor and Dr. Strange, all grew out of his fertile imagination.

Lee served as executive producer for Columbia's worldwide blockbusters "Spider-Man," "Spider-Man 2" and "Spider-Man 3," directed by Sam Raimi and starring Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst.

Lee executive produced the global hit "Ghost Rider," which has, to date, taken in over \$200 million worldwide. Lee also executive produced "X-Men: The Last Stand," after executive producing the first two smash "X-Men" films. He also served as executive producer of "Fantastic Four," "Hulk," "Elektra," "Daredevil," and the "Blade" trilogy.

It was in the early 1960s that Lee ushered in what has come to be known as "The Marvel Age of Comics," creating major new Super Heroes while breathing life and style into such old favorites as Captain America, The Human Torch and The Sub Mariner.

During his first 25 years at Marvel, as editor, art director and head writer, Lee scripted no fewer than two and as many as five complete comic books per week. His prodigious output may comprise the largest body of published work by any single writer. Additionally, he wrote newspaper features, radio and television scripts and screenplays.

By the time he was named publisher of Marvel Comics in 1972, Lee's comics were the nation's biggest sellers. In 1977, he brought the Spider-Man character to newspapers in the form of a syndicated strip. This seven-days-a-week feature, which he has written and edited since its inception, is the most successful of all syndicated adventure strips, appearing in more than 500 newspapers worldwide.

In 1981, Marvel launched an animation studio on the West Coast and Lee moved to Los Angeles to become creative head of Marvel's cinematic adventures. He began to transform his Spider-Man and Hulk creations into Saturday morning television and paved the way for Marvel's entry into live-action feature films.

Under the umbrella of his new company POW! (Purveyors of Wonder!) Entertainment, Inc., Lee is creating and executive producing an animated "Stan Lee Presents" DVD series, with the first three slated for release this year: "Mosaic" (January '07), "The Condor" (March '07) and "Ringo" (with Ringo Starr). Lee's television credits

with POW! include serving as executive producer and star on NBC SCI FI's hit reality series "Who Wants To Be a Superhero?," and as co-producer and creator of "Stripperella" on the Spike cable channel, in addition to previously executive producing "Nick Fury: Agent of S.H.I.E.L.D.," "The Incredible Hulk," "Spider-Man" and "X-Men."

Lee has written more than a dozen best-selling books, including *Stan Lee's Superhero Christmas*, *The Origins of Marvel Comics*, *The Best of the Worst*, *The Silver Surfer*, *How to Draw Comics the Marvel Way*, *The Alien Factor*, *Bring on the Bad Guys*, *Riftworld*, *The Superhero Women* and his recent autobiography *Excelsior! The Amazing Life of Stan Lee*.

**KEVIN FEIGE** (Executive Producer), as President of Production at Marvel Studios, has creative oversight over the company's film projects, as well as its animation work for television and DVD, and its theme park activities.

Feige joined Marvel in 2000 and has been involved in key capacities in all of Marvel's theatrical productions, including the "X-Men" trilogy, "Spider-Man," "Spider-Man 2," and "Fantastic Four." He is currently producing "Iron Man," which is now before the cameras starring Robert Downey, Jr. and Gwyneth Paltrow, and "The Incredible Hulk," which begins production later this year.

Feige was executive producer on "The Hulk," "Elektra" and "The Punisher," and he co-produced the 2003 hit "Daredevil."

After graduating from the University of Southern California's School of Cinema-Television, Feige worked for Lauren Shuler Donner and Richard Donner at their Warner Bros.-based The Donners' Company. While there, he worked on the action-adventure "Volcano" and the hit romantic comedy "You've Got Mail." He then transitioned into a development position that led to an associate producer role on "X-Men," the film that revamped the comic book genre.

**CHRIS COLUMBUS** (Executive Producer) is a major force in contemporary Hollywood filmmaking, from his anarchic, genre-bending 1980s classics "Gremlins" and "The

Goonies” to the blockbuster “Harry Potter” films — which are among the most successful book-to-screen adaptations of all time.

Columbus was born in Spangler, Pennsylvania and grew up outside of Youngstown, Ohio. As a youngster, he aspired to draw cartoons for Marvel Comics and eventually made the connection between comic books and movie storyboards. In high school, he began making his own homegrown 8mm films and drawing his own storyboards (which he continues to this day). After high school, he enrolled in the Directors Program at New York University’s prestigious Tisch School of the Arts.

Columbus first attained success as a screenwriter. While still in college, he sold his first script “Jocks,” a semi-autobiographical comedy about a Catholic schoolboy who tries out for a football team. After graduating from NYU, Columbus wrote a small town drama entitled “Reckless” (1984), based on his experiences as a factory worker in Ohio. The film was directed by James Foley and starred Aidan Quinn and Daryl Hannah.

Columbus gained prominence in Hollywood writing several original scripts produced by Steven Spielberg. The back-to-back hits of the Joe Dante-directed “Gremlins” (1984) and “The Goonies” (1985), helmed by Richard Donner, were decade-defining films that intertwined high notes of offbeat, edgy, often outrageous humor against more classic adventure-thriller backdrops. He next wrote the fantasy adventure “Young Sherlock Holmes,” which was directed by Barry Levinson.

These screenwriting achievements led Columbus to directing his first feature, “Adventures in Babysitting” (1987) starring Elisabeth Shue. A meeting with John Hughes brought Columbus to the helm of “Home Alone” (1990), the first of three collaborations. “Home Alone” and its hugely successful follow-up, “Home Alone 2: Lost in New York,” were universal in appeal and launched the career of Macaulay Culkin. “Only the Lonely” (1991), a bittersweet comedy-drama directed by Columbus from his own screenplay, was praised for featuring one of the late John Candy’s best performances, and for the return of legendary star Maureen O’Hara to the screen.

Columbus’ smash hit comedy “Mrs. Doubtfire” (1993) starring Robin Williams and Sally Field, bent genders as well as genres, to great critical and public success. Columbus directed another comedy “Nine Months” (1995), with Hugh Grant and Julianne Moore, before turning to drama with “Stepmom” (1998), starring Julia Roberts and Susan Sarandon.

Columbus faced a daunting task when he was called upon to direct “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” (2001), the first film based on J.K. Rowling’s monumentally successful series of books. With millions of avid and sometimes fanatical readers — both young and old — in a high state of expectation and anticipation, Columbus cast completely inexperienced youngsters Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson and Rupert Grint in the leading roles as Harry Potter and his friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley. Once again, he demonstrated his facility for nurturing and cultivating young talent and turning them into natural screen performers.

The success of “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” was followed by “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets” (2002), which once again met with huge box office success. He served as producer on the recent Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban and directed last year’s film version of the Pulitzer Prize winning Broadway musical “RENT.”

In 2006, Columbus was a producer on the blockbuster comedy hit “Night at the Museum,” which has grossed over \$550 million in worldwide box office. Starring Ben Stiller, the film was directed by Shawn Levy and written by Robert Ben Garant & Thomas Lennon.

**MICHAEL BARNATHAN** (Producer) is President of 1492 Pictures, in which he is a producing partner with Chris Columbus and Mark Radcliffe. The company was formed in May 1994 and has a first look deal with Warner Bros. Barnathan has served as producer on “Nine Months,” “Jingle All the Way,” “Stepmom,” “Cheaper by the Dozen,” “Christmas with the Kranks,” “Fantastic Four,” “RENT” and the recent blockbuster “Night at the Museum.” He also served as executive producer for “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone,” “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets” and “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban.”

Prior to joining 1492 Pictures, Barnathan was Senior Vice President of Production at Largo Entertainment for four years. His responsibilities included supervision of both development and production of Largo’s films. Barnathan served as executive producer on “Used People” and supervised such productions as “Point Break,” “Dr. Giggles,” “Judgment Night” and “The Getaway.”

Before joining Largo, Barnathan spent seven years working for Edgar J. Scherick Associates. For his last two years with Scherick he served as Executive Vice President of Production. During his tenure, he produced and executive produced numerous cable movies,

movies of the week and mini-series, including “The Kennedys of Massachusetts,” which received nine Emmy nominations.

**MARK RADCLIFFE** (Producer), who served as producer on “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban” and executive producer on “Harry Potter and the Sorcerer’s Stone” and “Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets,” continued his long-term collaboration with Chris Columbus as producer on “RENT.” Last year he was an executive producer on “Night at the Museum.”

He previously served as producer on the box office hits “Mrs. Doubtfire,” “Stepmom,” “Fantastic Four,” “Nine Months,” “Christmas with the Kranks” and “Jingle All the Way,” having also been executive producer on “Home Alone 2: Lost in New York,” co-producer of “Only the Lonely” and associate producer and assistant director on “Home Alone.” He and Columbus first worked together on “Heartbreak Hotel.”

A native of Oklahoma, Radcliffe began his film career as assistant director on the Francis Ford Coppola production “The Escape Artist.” He later worked for Coppola on “Rumblefish” and “Peggy Sue Got Married.” Other credits include assistant director on John Hughes’ “She’s Having a Baby” and “Planes, Trains and Automobiles,” Jerry Zucker’s “Ghost,” Donald Petrie’s “Mystic Pizza” and Paul Schrader’s “Light of Day.”

**LARRY BLANFORD** (Director of Photography) previously collaborated with director Tim Story as the second unit director of photography on both “Fantastic Four” and “Taxi.”

Prior to his career in film, Blanford served nine years in the U.S. Air Force as a combat cameraman where he logged over 400 hours on fighter jets such as the F-4, F-5, F-15 and F-16. With his fighter jet experience, in 1985 while still in the Air Force as a Tech Sergeant, Blanford was given the opportunity to be an aerial camera operator for director Tony Scott’s “Top Gun.” Nine months later, Blanford moved to Los Angeles to begin a career as an aerial camera operator then subsequently moving on to second unit director of photography. Blanford’s credits during that time include action films such as “Broken Arrow,” “The Rock,” “Armageddon,” “Minority Report,” “xXx,” “Tears of the Sun” and “Paycheck.”

Most recently, as second unit director of photography, Blanford lent his talents to films such as “Yours, Mine and Ours,” “Night at the Museum,” “Smokin’ Aces,” and “The Kingdom.”

FANTASTIC FOUR: RISE OF THE SILVER SURFER marks Blanford’s first major studio feature as director of photography.

**KIRK M. PETRUCCELLI** (Production Designer) recently designed the hit action-thriller “Ghost Rider,” starring Nicolas Cage, based on the popular Marvel Comics character. Petruccelli’s credits include both “Lara Croft: Tomb Raider” and its sequel, “Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life,” as well as “The Last Castle,” Roland Emmerich’s “The Patriot,” “Mystery Men,” “The Thirteenth Floor,” “Blade,” “Anaconda,” “Murder in the First,” “Where the Day Takes You” and “3 Ninjas.” He served as art director on “Poetic Justice” and “Philadelphia Experiment II” and was assistant art director on “Son in Law.”

Raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Petruccelli attended Penn State University where he studied film, graphic design and illustration, ultimately receiving a degree in film. He also studied the art of Steadicam operation at the Rockport Film and Television Workshop. He has worked in a variety of production jobs, including camera, set design and decoration.

**WILLIAM HOY, A.C.E.** (Editor) was editor on “Fantastic Four” and the recent blockbuster “300.” Previously, he cut the Will Smith hit “I, Robot.” Prior credits include “A Man Apart,” “We Were Soldiers,” “Madison,” “The Bone Collector,” “The Man in the Iron Mask,” “The Eighteenth Angel,” “Outbreak,” “Judicial Consent,” “Sliver,” “Patriot Games,” “Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country,” “Dances With Wolves,” “Best of the Best,” “Silent Assassins” and “No Way Out.”

**PETER S. ELLIOT** (Editor) was editor on “Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties.” Previously, he was visual effects editor on numerous motion pictures, including “Fantastic Four,” “The Day After Tomorrow” (also additional editor), “Daredevil,”

“Blade II,” “Dr. Dolittle 2,” “Godzilla” and “Independence Day.” He has worked in other editing capacities on “Judge Dredd,” “Stargate” and “Hellbound.”

**ROSS FANGER** (Co-Producer) attended UCLA, receiving a B.A. in English Literature. He began his career as an assistant at Paramount Television, later becoming location manager on the features “Barfly,” “Miracle Mile,” “Loverboy” and “The Boost.”

In 1988, he was hired by The Walt Disney Studios as a production executive. Over the next five years, Fanger oversaw production on some 20 features, including, “Gross Anatomy,” “Billy Bathgate,” “The Program,” “Cool Runnings,” “The Mighty Ducks” and “The Mighty Ducks 2.”

In 1995 Fanger returned to freelance production, working as production manager on the Adam Sandler picture, “Billy Madison,” and on “Tom and Huck.” Later, Fanger co-produced “That Darn Cat” and was production manager on “Desperate Measures,” “Holy Man,” and “10 Things I Hate About You.”

In 1999, Fanger was hired by 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox and Ralph Winter, as production manager on “X-Men.” In 2001, Fanger re-teamed with Winter, as associate producer on Tim Burton’s “Planet of the Apes” for Fox. Fanger was co-producer on “X2,” “Fantastic Four,” and “X-Men: The Last Stand,” all for Fox.

In addition to being one of the industry’s most respected and sought-after film editors, **JOHN OTTMAN**’s (Composer) credits as a composer include “Fantastic Four,” “Superman Returns,” “Kiss, Kiss, Bang, Bang,” “House of Wax,” “Hide and Seek” and the upcoming “The Invasion.” Other credits for his original music include “Cellular,” “Gothika,” “Trapped,” HBO’s “Point of Origin,” “Eight Legged Freaks,” “Pumpkin,” “Bubble Boy,” “Lake Placid,” “Incognito,” “The Cable Guy” and “Night Train.”

He has a longtime collaboration with director Bryan Singer, having first worked together on their co-directorial debut “Lion’s Den,” which Ottman edited as well. Ottman went on to serve as both film editor and composer for Singer’s “The Usual Suspects,” “Apt Pupil,” “X2” and “Superman Returns.”

Ottman also directed, edited and scored the feature film “Urban Legends: Final Cut.” His awards include a BAFTA Award for Best Editing for “The Usual Suspects,” a Saturn Award for Best Music for “The Usual Suspects” and a BMI Film Music Award for “X2.” Ottman received an American Cinema Editors Eddie Award nomination for “The Usual Suspects,” an Emmy Award nomination for the score of the pilot episode of the 1998-99 TV series “Fantasy Island” and a Saturn Award Best Music nomination for “X2.”

**MARY VOGT** (Costume Designer) recently designed costumes for the 2006 family comedy hit “RV,” marking her fourth film collaboration with director Barry Sonnenfeld, having previously designed the costumes for “Men in Black,” “Men in Black II” and “Big Trouble.” She also designed the costumes for Sonnenfeld’s TV pilot “Maximum Bob.”

Vogt’s other recent credits include “Son of the Mask,” “Looney Tunes: Back in Action,” “Unconditional Love” and “Inspector Gadget.” Vogt designed costumes for five films directed by John Badham: “Drop Zone,” “Nick of Time,” “Stakeout,” “Short Circuit” and “The Hard Way.” She also designed the costumes for “Hocus Pocus,” “Only the Lonely,” “The Naked Gun,” “The Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult,” and co-designed the clothes for “Batman Returns” with costume designer Bob Ringwood.

©2007 Twentieth Century Fox. All rights reserved. Property of Fox.  
Permission is hereby granted to newspapers and periodicals to reproduce this  
text in articles publicizing the distribution of the Motion Picture.  
All other use is strictly prohibited, including sale, duplication, or other transfers of this material.  
This press kit, in whole or in part, must not be leased, sold, or given away.