

STEALING HARVARD

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

BRUCE McCULLOCH (Director) Bruce McCulloch is an award-winning writer, actor, director and recording artist.

Bruce is best known as one of the members of the comedy troupe “The Kids in the Hall.” Beginning in 1989, the television series ran on Canada’s CBC as well as CBS and HBO in the United States. The show currently runs on Comedy Central, The Comedy Network and in over 30 countries worldwide. In May of 2002, the troupe completed their North-American theatric tour of “Kids in the Hall: Tour of Duty.”

Bruce directed the feature film, *Superstar* for Lorne Michaels and Paramount Pictures. Starring Molly Shannon and Will Ferrell of “Saturday Night Live,” *Superstar* was released in the fall of 1999.

His first feature, *Dog Park*, which he wrote, directed and starred in with Natasha Henstridge, Janeane Garafalo and Luke Wilson in 1998, was distributed by New Line in the U.S. and Lions Gate internationally.

Bruce began his career as a director with four short films that he wrote, directed and starred in for NBC’s “Saturday Night Live,” as well as a half hour short film entitled *Coleslaw Warehouse*.

In 1996 Bruce co-wrote and starred in *Kids in the Hall - Brain Candy*. It was produced by Lorne Michaels for Paramount Pictures.

In addition to his ongoing role with "The Kids in the Hall," Bruce's acting credits include *Dick*, *Dog Park* and *Further Tales of the City*.

Also the author of several stage plays: "Trapped on a Lawn Chair," "Jazz Stenographers," and "The Two Headed Roomate," Bruce most recently toured Western Canada with his one man show "Slightly Bigger Cities."

Bruce's debut album "Shame Based Man," was released on Atlantic Records. Leading up to the album release, Bruce wrote and starred in his own comedy retrospective which aired on Canada's Much Music. In July of 1995, he closed the *Just for Laughs* comedy festival in Montreal with his comedy production of "That's America."

Last summer, Bruce went into studio to record his second album, *The Drunk Baby Project* with musicians Craig Northey (*The Odds*) and Brian Connelly. The album will be released commercially in 2002.

PETER TOLAN (Screenwriter) has co-written the screenplays for *America's Sweethearts*, *Bedazzled*, *What Planet are you From?*, *Analyze This* and *My Fellow Americans*. His current projects include the upcoming *Analyze That* and *Till Death Do Us Part*.

His television writing credits include "Murphy Brown," "Billy Crystal's HBO series "Sessions," "Style and Substance," "The Larry Sanders Show," and "The Job" with Denis Leary.

Tolan won his first Emmy Award on "Murphy Brown," and his second Emmy for writing (with Garry Shandling) the series finale of "The Larry Sanders Show," an episode that also won the prestigious Peabody Award.

Tolan hails from Massachusetts. He attended the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. While at school he wrote a series of successful musical comedy revues about campus life. After college Tolán went to work as an actor/writer at Dudley Rigg's Brave New Workshop in Minneapolis. He then went on to New York where he wrote one-act plays that were produced there. He also performed with a partner, Linda Wallem, eventually doing an Off-Broadway show "Laughing Matters." Soon after, he came to Los Angeles and started working in television and film.

MARTIN HYNE (Story By) graduated from Columbia University and during and after college, he worked in the theatre in New York – directing, writing and acting Off-Broadway at the New York Theatre Workshop, the Riverside Shakespeare Company, and Circle Rep.

Hynes received the Paramount Pictures Fellowship while at graduate film school at USC. His student film, a romantic comedy in which he also starred, premiered at HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival, the Mill Valley Film Festival, Seattle's One Reel Festival and the London Film Festival.

Stealing Harvard is his first screenplay sold after film school.

SUSAN CAVAN (Producer) was executive producer on the Lorne Michaels feature film *Superstar* starring Molly Shannon and Will Ferrell, directed by Bruce McCulloch and released by Paramount in 1999.

In 1999 she also developed and produced "Dead Aviators" a cable feature for Canada's CBC, Showtime and Hallmark, which was directed by David Wellington, starring Marsha Mason and Lothaire Bluteau. Released as *Restless Spirits* in the U.S., the film won several prestigious awards including the Gemini for Best Direction, Best Children's Film at the Atlantic Film Festival, the Certificate of Merit for Outstanding Achievement at the Chicago International

Children's film Festival, and Gold Prize at the New York Television Awards. It also garnered a Daytime Emmy nomination for Outstanding Writing in a Children's Special for *Semi Chellas*.

Cavan produced 13 episodes of the critically acclaimed Gemini award-winning series "Twitch City," written by and starring Don McKellar and directed by Bruce McDonald.

She also produced Bruce McCulloch's first feature film *Dog Park*, starring Natasha Henstridge, Luke Wilson, Janeane Garofalo and Harland Williams which debuted with a gala screening at the Toronto International film Festival. Released by New Line Cinema and Independent Pictures in the U.S., and Lions Gate Pictures in Canada in 1999, *Dog Park* garnered three Genie nominations and won Best Supporting Actor for Mark McKinney.

Cavan produced the feature film *Joe's So Mean to Josephine*, winner of the prestigious Claude Jutra Award and a 1997 Sundance Film Festival invitee. Written and directed by Peter Wellington, it starred Eric Thal and Sarah Polley.

She also served as the producer on a series of short comedy films for "Saturday Night Live," written and directed by Emmy nominated Bruce McCulloch, and starring Janeane Garafalo, Laura Kightlinger and Michael McKean. Previously, Cavan produced McCulloch's short film *Coleslaw Warehouse* which was an audience favorite at film festivals and was broadcast on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation.

Cavan acted as co-producer, along with Andras Hamori and David Bowie of the feature film *Mesmer*, an international co-production written by Dennis Potter, starring Alan Rickman and directed by Roger Spottiswoode. *Mesmer* premiered in Official Competition at the World Film Festival in Montreal where Alan Rickman won Best Actor. Cavan and Hamori also produced with Bowie, the feature film

Magic Hunter, starring Gary Kemp and Sadie Frost, directed by Ildiko Enyedi. *Magic Hunter* was also at the World Film Festival and was in Official Competition at the Venice Film Festival. After the formation of Accent Entertainment, Cavan produced the company's first feature film, *South of Wawa*, starring Rebecca Jenkins, and directed by Robert Boyd.

She also served as a producer on "Sweating Bullets" a 66 episode hit series for the CBS, and on 13 episodes of CBC's critically acclaimed "Material World."

Prior to founding Accent Entertainment in 1989, Cavan was a founding partner and president of Alliance communications Corporation, Canada's largest integrated entertainment company. In addition to her presidential functions, she concentrated on international coproductions with European, Canadian and American partners such as reteitalia, HBO, TFI, and Antenne 2. She was executive producer of the Western television series "Bordertown" for CBN/Family Channel and CTV. She so acted as executive producer on Gail Singer's "Wisecracks," a theatrical documentary on women stand-up comics featuring Whoopi Goldberg and Paula Poundstone.

A graduate of law from Queen's University, Cavan specialized in entertainment law, and in 1979, was appointed vice-president of business and legal affairs for Cineplex Corporation. She worked closely with Garth Drabinsky on such feature films as *Tribute* starring Jack Lemmon and Kim Cattrall, *The Amateur* starring John Savage, and *Losin' It* starring Tom Cruise and Shelley Long.

From 1982 until the formation of Alliance in 1985, Cavan was the production executive for such films as the Academy Award® winning *Quest for Fire* and the Golden Globe Award winner *Atlantic City*. She was also executive producer of the Dan Petrie film *The Bay Boy*, starring Live Ullman and introducing Kiefer Sutherland.

HOWARD LAPIDES (Executive Producer) began his career in radio at age 16 at WYSL-FM in Buffalo, New York. While attending Emerson College in Boston, he produced the top-rated “The Steve Fredericks Show” on WMEX and worked week-ends on-air at WEIM in Fitchberg, MA. After graduation, Lapides worked for the next five years with Baton Broadcasting of Canada, lending his on-air and programming expertise to CKLW, Windsor and CFGO, Ottawa.

Following his success in radio, Lapides chose the private sector and became one of Canada’s most successful concert promoters. In the early eighties he fine-tuned his entrepreneurial skills by co-founding Callex International, Inc. with his brother, real estate developer Jeff Lapides. It was one of the first bargain-rate long distance companies (similar to Sprint and MCI) in the United States. After expanding nationwide, the company was sold to I.T.T. As a one-day favor to a friend, Lapides also developed and hosted a post-game talk show on the Buffalo Bills radio network. That one day turned into years of top-rated success with the Bills and WBEN radio.

From his offices in Beverly Hills, California, Lapides is now managing comedians, actors, writer/producers, talk show hosts and authors, as well as executive producing a variety of client-based shows in the United States and Canada.

One of his latest projects is serving as an executive producer for clients Jimmy Kimmel and Adam Carolla on Comedy Central’s “The Man Show.” He also produced his client Tom Green’s feature directorial debut, *Freddy Got Fingered*. Starting with his client Mike MacDonald’s “My House! My Rules!” Showtime special, Lapides continued on to become the creative consultant for Canada’s critically acclaimed talk show “Open Mike” with Mike Bullard on CTV and Canada’s Comedy network.

Lapides has been nominated for two Cable Ace Awards, and his primetime CBC specials have been nominated for numerous Gemini Awards in Canada.

Lapides is a member of the Conference of Personal Managers and the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He has also authored a variety of articles for the Hollywood Reporter and Comedy USA.

MAUREEN PEYROT (Executive Producer) has been working with Imagine Entertainment for the past 12 years, where she has acquired numerous books and scripts for the very prolific and successful production company. Imagine, under the partnering team of producer Brian Grazer and director Ron Howard, has produced many highly successful films such as *The Nutty Professor I and II*, *Liar, Liar*, *Apollo 13*, *Backdraft*, *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and *A Beautiful Mind*.

Ms. Peyrot started in the motion picture industry as a Production Assistant on such films as *The Fisher King*, *Presumed Innocent*, *Alice*, *Awakenings* and *What About Bob?* She entered the world of feature development as the assistant to Ron Howard and Karen Kehela, now Co-Chair of Imagine Entertainment, at their New York Offices.

Two years later, Ms. Peyrot was transferred to the Los Angeles office and soon began acquiring projects for the company. Some of these include the Bruce Willis starrer *Mercury Rising*, for which Ms. Peyrot worked as Co-Producer, and *Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas* where she was responsible for developing script, casting, as well as overseeing all aspects of its production. Ms. Peyrot was also Co-Producer of last year's *A Beautiful Mind*, winner of seven Academy Awards® including Best Picture.

Currently, Ms. Peyrot is Executive Producing *Dr. Seuss' The Cat in the Hat*, which begins production this September; and *Gideon Force*, the true story of British General Orde Charles Wingate's triumph over Mussolini's armies in the dark jungles of Africa, which is being adapted by Jim Uhls (Fight Club).

CHRIS BRANCATO and **ALBERT J. SALKE** (Executive Producers) are best known for creating the top-rated Sci-Fi Channel series “First Wave” which ran for three years. In addition to its Emmy nominated title sequence (the Sci-Fi Channel’s first Emmy nomination), “First Wave” was groundbreaking in making the first-ever internet-TV music deal, a deal between the show and MP3. They are currently co-executive producing the new NBC drama “Boomtown.”

Chris Brancato hails from New Jersey, and graduated from Brown University. Albert J. Salke grew up in Los Angeles and attended the University of Pennsylvania and Vassar College, majoring in history and film.

Before they joined forces, Brancato was well-known as a screenwriter, writing episodes for such successful TV shows as “Beverly Hills 90210,” “X-Files” and “Outer Limits” as well as writing the features “Species II” and “Hoodlum” which he also co-produced.

Salke was a feature studio executive, ran a production company at Paramount, and was a network executive at Fox.

After studying at the University of Zurich and the London International Film School, **UELI STEIGER** (Director of Photography) embarked on his film career in the early 1980s, racking up numerous high-profile credits in the process.

His feature films include: the recently released *Rock Star*, starring Mark Wahlberg and Jennifer Aniston; Roland Emmerich’s *Godzilla*; as well as *Jay Roach’s Austin Powers II: The Spy Who Shagged Me*, Frank Oz’s *Bowfinger*; Cameron Crowe’s *Singles*; Michael Hoffman’s *Soapdish* and *Some Girls*; Dennis Hopper’s *Chasers* and *The Hot Spot* and the just released *Black Knight* starring Martin Lawrence. He is currently filming Roland Emmerich’s film, *Tomorrow*, to be released in 2003.

GREGORY KEEN (Production Designer) was born in England and grew up in New Zealand, where he earned a degree in architectural design. After his studies, he returned to the UK and quickly began work as an Assistant Designer for the BBC. He gained further experience at Holoco, the special effects company owned by legendary rock band “The Who.” There he helped create laser effects and holograms for films such as *Alien*.

As an art director, Keen’s credits include the critically acclaimed *The Piano*, as well as *Searching for Bobby Fischer*, *Used People*, *Deceived*, and the special effects actioner *F/X2*.

His first break as production designer came with director Kelly Makin on *National Lampoon’s Senior Trip*. He has since collaborated with Makin twice more on comedy’s *Kids in the Hall: Brain Candy* and *Mickey Blue Eyes*. Keen reunited with *Kids In The Hall* actor Bruce McCulloch on his studio directorial debut *Superstar*. Recent work includes the comedy *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* for executive producer Tom Hanks.

MALCOLM CAMPBELL (Editor) is the editorial emperor of comedies. His extensive list of features includes *Double Take*, *Keeping the Faith*, *Superstar*, *My Favorite Martian*, *Home Alone 3*, *Nothing to Lose*, *Ace Ventura 2: When Nature Calls*, *Richie Rich*, *Wayne’s World*, *Hot Shots! Part Deux*, *Wayne’s World 2*, *Nothing But Trouble*, *Coming to America*, *Real Men*, *Three Amigos*, *Spies Like Us*, *Into the Night*, *Trading Places*, *Twilight Zone: The Movie*, *An American Werewolf in London* and *The Blues Brothers*.

Campbell also edited Michael Jackson’s “Thriller” video, directed by John Landis, as well as the episodic television show “Police Squad,” produced by the Zucker Brothers and Jim Abrahams.

BETSY HEIMANN's (Costume Designer) impressive list of feature film credits include *Vanilla Sky* starring Tom Cruise, *Family Man* starring Nicolas Cage, *Almost Famous* starring Kate Hudson, *Anywhere But Here* starring Susan Sarandon, *Simon Birch* starring Oliver Platt and Ashley Judd, *Out of Sight* starring George Clooney, *Mercury Rising* starring Bruce Willis and Alec Baldwin, *Jerry Maguire* starring Tom Cruise, *Switchback* starring Dennis Quaid and Danny Glover, *Two Days in the Valley* starring James Spader and Jeff Daniels, *Get Shorty* starring John Travolta, Rene Russo and Gene Hackman, *Renaissance Man* starring Danny DeVito, *Pulp Fiction* starring John Travolta and Samuel Jackson, *The Adventures of Huck Finn* starring Elijah Wood and Jason Robards, *Reservoir Dogs* starring Harvey Keitel, *One Good Cop* starring Michael Keaton and the upcoming *Red Dragon* starring Anthony Hopkins and Ralph Fiennes.

Her television credits include the hallmark Hall of Fame presentation "One Against the Wind," "Stranger on My Land" and "The Pee Wee Herman Show." In addition, Heimann served as the costume designer for Michael Jackson's video for the song "Remember The Time" directed by John Singleton.

CHRISTOPHE BECK (Composer) won an Emmy Award for the score of the popular series *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. He has written the music for such features as Bruce McCulloch's *Dog Park*, *Past Perfect*, *Airborne*, *Guinevere*, *The Broken Hearts Club*, *Bring It On*, *Slap Her*, *She's French*, *Big Fat Liar* and, upcoming, *The Tuxedo* and *Just Married*.

Beck's TV credits include the series *F/X: The Series*, *Second Noah*, *The Practice* and *Angel*, and the telefeatures *Killing Mr. Griffin*, *George & Leo*, *Earthquake in New York* and *Caracara*.

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