### SONY PICTURES CLASSICS

# **SMASHED**

Directed by James Ponsoldt Written by James Ponsoldt and Susan Burke

**US Dramatic Competition**Sundance Film Festival 2012

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#### **SHORT SYNOPSIS**

Kate and Charlie are a young married couple whose bond is built on a mutual love of music, laughter and drinking...especially the drinking. When Kate's drinking leads her to dangerous places and her job as a school teacher is put into jeopardy, she decides to join AA and get sober. With the help of her friend and sponsor Jenny, and the vice principal at her school, the awkward, but well intentioned, Mr. Davies, Kate takes steps toward improving her health and life. Sobriety isn't as easy as Kate had anticipated. Her new lifestyle brings to the surface a troubling relationship with her mother, facing the lies she's told her employer and calls into question whether or not her relationship with Charlie is built on love or is just boozy diversion from adulthood.

#### LONG SYNOPSIS

Kate (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) and Charlie (Aaron Paul) are a young married couple whose bond is built on a mutual love of music, laughter and drinking...especially the drinking. When Kate's drinking leads her to dangerous places and her job as an elementary school teacher is put into jeopardy, she decides to join AA and get sober. Sobriety isn't as easy as Kate had anticipated. She realizes she must face a difficult past, including a troubled relationship with her mother, (Mary Kay Place) a party girl in her own right. To cover up a drinking related incident which takes place in the classroom, Kate fabricates a story to her employer, the school principal, Patricia Barnes (Megan Mullally), who is overly nurturing and perhaps nosy. This lie soon balloons out of control and Kate is faced with many important choices she must make.

Charlie, a music writer, whose care-free demeanor hasn't changed much since college, struggles to be supportive of Kate's new lifestyle. However, he doesn't quite grasp why she thinks she has a problem and loves her very much the way that she is, drunk and fun. His own juvenile tendencies are threatened by Kate's teetotaling and when the party is taken out of the relationship both Kate and Charlie question if their marriage is built on love or is just boozy diversion from adulthood.

Kate finds new friendships through AA. One with her supportive sponsor Jenny (Octavia Spencer) and another with the vice principal at her school, Dave Davies (Nick Offerman). Davies, who at first comes off as well-meaning, though awkward and a bit nerdy, has a bizarre history of his own that led him to a life of recovery. Even with the support of AA and new friends like Jenny and Mr. Davies, Kate still feels very alone during the delicate and often scary early days of sobriety. Without Charlie's support, their marriage suffers more, and both Kate and Charlie push each other away.

#### **DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT**

SMASHED began as a conversation between my co-writer, Susan Burke, and me. In addition to being a very funny person and talented writer, Susan is the owner of some of the most simultaneously upsetting and hilarious stories I've ever heard about dumb things she did while she was drunk.

It's no coincidence that Susan is now sober. Like a lot of the people closest to me who've had issues with substance abuse, Susan also knows a secret: Being drunk can be really fun. It's just all the other things that come with being drunk that can be a downer (wrecking cars, lives, etc.).

But SMASHED isn't primarily about alcohol or alcoholics. SMASHED is a film about fidelity – and what it means to be committed to someone, to love someone, and to need to change your life...when your partner isn't capable of change.

So many films that deal with substance abuse follow a familiar "scared straight" path, depicting characters so damaged that they're not relatable, leaving the audience with nothing to do but gawk at their otherness.

SMASHED is a love story – between the main characters, Kate and Charlie, but also hopefully between the audience and the characters. I certainly adore Kate and Charlie. They're flawed and misguided, and maybe they only work as a couple when they're falling-down drunk, but I was committed to making a film in which the alcoholics appear light-hearted and are fun to hang out

with (perhaps your personal perspective on whether they make a good couple will depend upon your own history of relationships with addicts).

SMASHED also is a coming of age story for Kate – except she's closer to 30 than 20, so I suppose it's an adult coming of age story. But for a lot of my friends, adulthood seems to be more and more distant (Have kids? Eh...maybe at 40. Regular job? Eh...maybe after I have kids.).

I'm not sure if people can really, fundamentally change (and I guess that's more a conversation for stoned college students), but I do know that films about people with problems attempting to change their lives – even if they're unsuccessful or perhaps delusional – are some of my favorite stories. I love watching people try and fail. And try again. And fail worse. There's something special and heroic and so, so human about seeing someone attempt to conquer her demons and fix her life (even if she's isn't necessarily imbued with the wisdom or common sense to have any clue how her life should be fixed).

In SMASHED, the demons happen to be alcohol, but really that's just part of the characters' circumstance, like their age or where they live (late-20's and Highland Park, in northeast Los Angeles). Part of becoming an adult means learning to stop blaming your personal history, or genetic make-up, or your partner for your problems. To be able to look at yourself in the mirror and – without a single pill or drop of alcohol – be able to say: "I love myself," or "I like myself," or at least, "I don't want to kill myself," seems like a pretty decent first step before entering an adult relationship.

SMASHED is a story about a young woman taking that first step, stumbling a bit – and seeing if her husband can join her on the journey.

#### **ABOUT THE CAST**

#### MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD ('Kate Hannah')

Mary Elizabeth Winstead began her career in performing arts at a young age in Salt Lake City, Utah and later studied dance at the Joffrey Ballet School in New York City.

This summer, Mary starred in 20th Century Fox's period vampire adventure ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER as 'Mary Todd' starring opposite Benjamin Walker. Timur Bekmambetov directed the film based on the book by Seth Grahame-Smith.

Previously, Mary starred in THE THING, a thriller movie about researchers at a research site in Antarctica who discover the existence of an alien craft. In the summer of 2010, Mary was seen starring opposite Michael Cera in the action-comedy-fantasy film SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD, based on the graphic novel by Bryan Lee O'Malley, directed by Edgar Wright, and starring Chris Evans, Jason Schwartzman, Brandon Routh and Anna Kendrick.

Mary's other film credits include Quentin Tarantino's film DEATH PROOF of the GRINDHOUSE double-feature, where she played alongside Kurt Russell and Rosario Dawson. It was in this film that Mary sang "Baby It's You." She also appeared in Emilio Estevez's Golden Globe Best Picture nominee BOBBY, alongside William H. Macy, Demi Moore, Elijah Wood, Sharon Stone and Anthony Hopkins. BOBBY earned Mary a SAG Award nomination for Best Ensemble Cast. She can also be seen in: FACTORY GIRL, BLACK CHRISTMAS, LIVE FREE OR DIE HARD. SKY HIGH, and FINAL DESTINATION 3.

Mary currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

#### **AARON PAUL ('Charlie Hannah')**

Aaron Paul is known for his acclaimed performance in the AMC drama "Breaking Bad" and his role in the HBO hit series "Big Love." He has twice won the Emmy Award© for "Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series" for "Breaking Bad", in both 2010 and 2012.

Paul is currently appearing in the fifth season of "Breaking Bad" reprising the role of 'Jesse Pinkman' opposite Bryan Cranston. The critically acclaimed show was nominated for 13 Emmy Awards© in 2012, bringing the show's total to 29 nominations with 7 wins. In 2010 Paul won his first Emmy Award© Award for "Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series," adding to his list of accolades that also include his 2009 Emmy Award© nomination in the same category, and 2010 Saturn Award nomination for "Best Supporting Actor on Television." The final season of "Breaking Bad" will air Sunday nights on AMC in 2013.

Paul also starred as 'Scott Quittman' in the popular HBO series "Big Love," opposite Bill Paxton, Jeanne Tripplehorn, Ginnifer Goodwin, and Amanda Seyfried. "Big Love" received a 2009 Emmy Award© nomination for "Outstanding Drama Series" and 2007, 2008 and 2010 Golden Globe© Nominations for "Best Television Series – Drama." The show aired its final episode in March 2011.

Paul was last seen on the big screen in the film re-make of the horror classic, THE LAST HOUSE ON THE LEFT, produced by Wes Craven and starring Tony Goldwyn, Monica Potter, and Garret Dillahunt. Paul stars as 'Francis' in the film that centers around the murder of two detectives and the subsequent mysteries and dangers that surround a young family on their lake house vacation. Paul has also been seen on the big screen opposite some of today's biggest actors including: Tom Cruise in MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE III, Jeff Bridges and Kevin Spacey in K-PAX, and James Franco and Shane West in WHATEVER IT TAKES.

In addition to his roles on "Breaking Bad" and "Big Love," Paul has made guest appearances on some of television's most critically acclaimed shows including "Ghost Whisperer," "Bones," "Sleeper Cell," "Veronica Mars," "CSI," and "The X-Files."

Paul currently resides in Los Angeles.

#### OCTAVIA SPENCER ('Jenny')

Octavia Spencer was most recently seen as Minny Jackson in DreamWorks' feature film THE HELP, an adaption of Kathryn Stockett's best-selling novel of the same title. She received many positive notices for her performance, and won the 2012 Academy Award, Golden Globe Award and Broadcast Critics Choice Award for "Best Supporting Actress" in addition to an individual

SAG nomination as well. She has been named "Best Supporting Actress" by the Washington DC Area Film Critics Association, Oklahoma Film Critics Circle, Black Film Critics Circle and the African-American Film Critics Association. Additionally, THE HELP has been the recipient of the 2011 Hollywood Film Festival "Ensemble Acting of the Year" Award, 2012 National Board of Review "Best Ensemble" and the 2012 Broadcast Critics Choice Award for "Best Ensemble." Octavia also voiced the character Minny in the audio version of the book.

Octavia began production on THE UNTITLED DIABLO CODY PROJECT earlier this year. Written and directed by Diablo Cody, the cast also includes Russell Brand and Julianne Hough.

Octavia's acting career began with her big screen debut in 1995 in Joel Schumacher's A Time To Kill, opposite Sandra Bullock. In 2009 was lauded by ENTERTAINMENT WEEKLY.com for her comedic timing when she was named to their esteemed list of the "25 Funniest Actresses in Hollywood."

Octavia's extensive feature film credits include FLY PAPER, PEEP WORLD, DINNER FOR SCHMUCKS, SMALL TOWN SATURDAY NIGHT, HERPES BOY, HALLOWEEN II, THE SOLOIST, DRAG ME TO HELL, SEVEN POUNDS, PRETTY UGLY PEOPLE, COACH CARTER, CHARM SCHOOL, WIN A DATE WITH TAD HAMILTON, BAD SANTA, SPIDERMAN, BIG MOMMA'S HOUSE, BEING JOHN MALKOVICH and NEVER BEEN KISSED. In 2009, Octavia directed and produced a short film entitled THE CAPTAIN, which was a finalist for the coveted Poetry Foundation Prize at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

On television, Octavia starred in the Comedy Central series "Halfway Home" and completed a five-episode arc as the character Constance Grady on the hit series "Ugly Betty." Additionally, Octavia has been seen in guest-starring roles on shows including "The Big Bang Theory," "E.R.," "CSI," "CSI: NY," "Raising The Bar," "Medium," and "NYPD Blue."

Among her many other professional achievements, Octavia made her stage debut in Los Angeles in 2003 in Del Shore's award winning play, The Trials and Tribulations of a Trailer Trash Housewife. She also wrapped production on the film version of that play earlier this year. Additionally, Octavia has co-authored an interactive mystery book for children called The Ninja Detectives that is currently in development.

Octavia is a native of Montgomery, Alabama and holds a BS in Liberal Arts from Auburn University. She currently resides in Los Angeles.

#### NICK OFFERMAN ('Mr. Davies')

On the Emmy-nominated show "Parks & Recreation", Nick Offerman works alongside the ensemble cast of Amy Poehler, Rashida Jones and Rob Lowe. For "Parks & Recreation", Offerman received the Television Critics Association Award for Achievement in Comedy in 2011, after a previous nomination in 2010. The Critic's Choice Awards also nominated him for Best Supporting Actor in a Comedy for 2011.

Released in 2012 are two comedies, CASA DE MI PADRE with Will Ferrell, Gael Garcia Bernal and Diego Luna; and 21 JUMP STREET with Channing Tatum. He has recently wrapped production for Bob Byington's upcoming film SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME which Offerman both produced and starred in. Additionally, he has recently completed production for the upcoming comedy GAY DUDE.

Offerman was last seen on the big screen in ALL GOOD THINGS alongside Ryan Gosling and Kirsten Dunst. He was also recently seen in THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS alongside George Clooney and Kevin Spacey, Adult Swim's "Children's Hospital", and Taking Chances.

Other film credits include: HARMONY AND ME and RSO [Registered Sex Offender], both written and directed by Bob Byington; FORWARD alongside Amy Ryan; The Go-Getter with Zooey Deschanel and Jena Malone; WRISTCUTTERS: A LOVE STORY; SIN CITY alongside Bruce Willis, Mickey Rourke and Rosario Dawson; MISS CONGENIALITY 2: ARMED & FABULOUS, CURSED; GOLF CART DRIVING SCHOOL; NOVEMBER; PEE SHY; GROOVE AND TREASURE ISLAND.

Offerman has also guest starred on "Deadwood"; "Will & Grace"; "Monk"; "The West Wing"; "24"; "ER"; "George Lopez"; "NYPD Blue"; "The Practice"; "The King of Queens"; "Gilmore Girls" and "CSI: NY".

Offerman got his start in the Chicago theater community, where he was a founding member of the Defiant Theatre. He worked extensively at Steppenwolf, The Goodman, Wisdom Bridge, and

Pegasus Players, among many others. Off-Broadway credits include "Adding Machine" at The Minetta Lane Theater. In Los Angeles, he is a company member of Evidence Room Theater Company, where he has appeared in many plays. He is also the recipient of the Joseph Jefferson Citation Award for his performance in "The Kentucky Cycle" by Robert Schenkkan at Chicago's Pegasus Players Theatre. He was awarded a second Jefferson Award for the puppets and masks he crafted for "The Skriker" at the experimental Defiant Theatre in Chicago, Illinois.

Offerman currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife, Megan Mullally. While he's not acting he is working in his woodworking shop building canoes, tables and other items by hand.

#### **MEGAN MULLALLY ('Principal Barnes')**

Megan Mullally is best known for her two-time Emmy and four-time SAG Award-winning role as "Karen Walker" in the hit NBC Series WILL & GRACE. Megan can currently be seen as "Chief" on Rob Corddry's Adult Swim comedy series CHILDRENS HOSPITAL. She created the role of Lydia for the 2010 season of the critically-acclaimed Starz cable series PARTY DOWN, and has a recurring role as Tammy Swanson opposite husband Nick Offerman on NBC's PARKS AND RECREATION. Megan starred in BREAKING IN with Christian Slater on FOX. Other recent credits include the 2009 remake of FAME, and rave reviews as Beverly in the Odyssey Theatre's West coast debut of Adam Boch's THE RECEPTIONIST, for which she also won the 2010 Backstage West Garland Award for Best Performance in a Play.

Megan made her Broadway debut in the 1994 revival of GREASE. She received an Outer Critics Circle Award Nomination for her performance as "Rosemary" in the Broadway revival of HOW TO SUCCEED IN BUSINESS WITHOUT REALLY TRYING opposite Matthew Broderick, and starred in the hit Broadway musical, YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN. Los Angeles theater credits include THE BERLIN CIRCLE at The Evidence Room Theater, for which she won the 2000 Backstage West Garland Award for Best Lead Actress in a Play, and the L.A. Weekly Award for Best Leading Female Performance. On the big screen, Megan starred in the film EVERYTHING PUT TOGETHER directed by Marc Forster, an entry in the 2000 Sundance Film Festival's main competition. Other film credits include ANYWHERE BUT HERE, STEALING HARVARD, and SPEAKING OF SEX.

Megan is also a singer, recording albums and performing with her band Supreme Music Program. The Band recently made their international debut in the West End, performing at the Vaudeville Theater in London for eight performances in February 2010. In the U.S., concert appearances for SMP include The Allen Room at Lincoln Center, The Kennedy Center, The Seattle Symphony, Chicago's Goodman Theatre, SUNY Buffalo's Center for the Arts, and The Orange County Performing Arts Center. Megan has made three CDs with Supreme Music Program: THE SWEETHEART BREAK-IN, BIG AS A BERRY and FREE AGAIN! As a soloist, Megan has appeared at the Disney Concert Hall, sang "You Took Advantage of Me" on the new FAME Soundtrack, and sang "Long John Blues" for the film BURLESQUE.

#### MACKENZIE DAVIS ('Millie')

Mackenzie Davis was born and raised in Vancouver, British Columbia before attending McGill University and Montreal and eventually The Neighborhood Playhouse in New York from which she graduated in 2011. Mackenzie filmed SMASHED shortly after filming her first feature THE UNTITLED DRAKE DOREMUS PROJECT opposite Guy Pearce, Amy Ryan and Felicity Jones. She currently lives in Los Angeles.

#### **BREE TURNER ('Freda')**

Bree Turner most recently was seen opposite Katherine Heigl and Gerrard Butler in the Sony Pictures comedy THE UGLY TRUTH and she was seen on Sam Jaeger's directorial debut, TAKE ME HOME.

Bree's other film credits include: JUST MY LUCK opposite Lindsay Lohan, Firehouse Dog for Fox Films, Touchstone's SORORITY BOYS, Columbia's THE WEDDING PLANNER and opposite Rob Schneider in DEUCE BIGALOW: MALE GIGOLO. She also appeared in Universal's BRING IT ON AGAIN (2004 DVD Exclusive Awards Best Actress Nominee) as well as on Showtime's "Masters of Horror."

In television, Bree has appeared in several successful TV dramas such as "Quarterlife", "Traveler", "Standoff", "Las Vegas", "The Ghost Whisperer" and "Cold Case". Bree has also guest starred on "Love Monkey", "Andy Richter Controls The Universe" and "Spin City", where

she had a recurring role as Charlie Sheen's love interest. She also starred in The Oxygen Network comedy, "Good Girls Don't", produced by TV giants Carsey/Werner/Mandabach.

Bree has enjoyed supporting and building Los Angeles theater and recently produced and starred in the crowd pleasing "Random Acts of Kindness." She also gave a critically acclaimed performance at the Hudson Theater in The Pages of "My Diary I'd Rather Not Read".

Bree started her career as a dancer. She can be seen dancing in the opening title sequence of MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING, as well as in THE BIG LEBOWSKI and AUSTIN POWERS. She also danced in several of the iconic Gap Khaki commercials.

Born and raised in Northern California, Bree came to Southern California to attend UCLA to actively pursue dance and acting. She also studied abroad at King's College in London. She is proudly involved with the Los Angeles children's mentorship program, The Young Storytellers Foundation, which brings creativity and confidence to young children.

Bree currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband and daughter.

#### **ABOUT THE CREW**

#### **JAMES PONSOLDT (Director, Co-writer)**

James Ponsoldt was raised in Athens, Georgia and graduated from Columbia University's Graduate School of Film. His first feature, OFF THE BLACK premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, and he is an alumnus of the Sundance Screenwriters' Lab where he was awarded the Lynn Auerbach Screenwriting Fellowship. Ponsoldt writes for Filmmaker magazine and coauthored the award-winning graphic novel, "REFRESH, REFRESH," based upon his screenplay of the same title.

#### **SUSAN BURKE (Co-writer)**

Susan Burke is a writer, actress and comedian born and raised in Casper, Wyoming and living in Los Angeles. As an actress and comic she has appeared in several films and television shows. Susan performs stand up all over the country and is one third of the female sketch trio "Birds of Prey" named "Best Sketch Group" by Punchline Magazine. Her one-person show, "Smoke, Worry, Fuck" is currently running at the Upright Citizens Brigade Theater in Los Angeles. SMASHED, co-written with director James Ponsoldt, is Susan's first screenplay. It is loosely based on her own experiences with early sobriety.

#### JONATHAN SCHWARTZ (Producer)

Jonathan Schwartz, President and Founder of Super Crispy Entertainment, graduated with a bachelor's degree in Rhetoric from The University of California at Berkeley and a law degree with honors from George Washington University.

At Sundance 2012, Jonathan and Super Crispy premiered two films in dramatic competition, winning the Special Jury Prize for Excellence in Independent Film Producing along with Super Crispy's Andrea Sperling for Producing SMASHED and NOBODY WALKS. This followed

winning Sundance's Best Picture the year before with LIKE CRAZY.

Jonathan, along with Super Crispy's Andrea Sperling, also produced Ry Russo Young's NOBODY WALKS, written by Russo Young and GIRLS' creator and star Lena Dunham (TINY FURNITURE), and starring John Krasinski (THE OFFICE), Olivia Thirlby (JUNO), Rosemarie Dewitt (RACHEL GETTING MARRIED), Justin Kirk (WEEDS), and Dylan McDermott (AMERICAN HORROR STORY).

Jonathan recently wrapped Drake Doremus' untitled follow up to LIKE CRAZY in New York City. The film stars Emmy Winner Guy Pearce, Oscar Nominated Actress Amy Ryan, and the star of LIKE CRAZY, Felicity Jones. Jonathan will soon be shooting director Michael Johnson's first film, THE WILDERNESS OF JAMES, in Portland.

In 2010, Super Crispy Entertainment produced four movies, including two Sundance Dramatic Competition films and an Official Selection of Cannes as well as Toronto.

DOUCHEBAG (which Jonathan also co-wrote) premiered in Sundance. The film was released in theaters across the United States in October 2010 by Paladin Films.

Jonathan also developed, packaged and executive produced Academy Award nominated Director Peter Weir's THE WAY BACK, based on the book "The Long Walk." The film stars Ed Harris, Colin Farrell, Jim Sturgess, and Saoirse Ronan and garnered an Oscar nomination for its makeup.

Jonathan and Andrea also produced the thriller KABOOM, directed by filmmaker Gregg Araki. KABOOM premiered in May 2010 as an Official Selection of the Cannes Film Festival and was sold at the festival to IFC. KABOOM was also awarded the inaugural Queer Palm Award given by the Festival.

Sundance 2010 was also the kick off point for Mark Ruffalo's SYMPATHY FOR DELICIOUS, starring Mark Ruffalo, Laura Linney, and Orlando Bloom, and produced by Super Crispy's Andrea Sperling. The film took away a special jury prize at the festival and was released in May 2011.

Jonathan also produced SPOONER, starring Matthew Lillard and Nora Zehetner, which premiered in theatres in March 2011. This was the first of 4 films that Jonathan and Drake Doremus have collaborated on and was the LA Times "Critics Pick of the Week" when released. Spooner won Best Feature Award at several festivals, and shared Best Achievement in Filmmaking at the Newport Beach Festival with 500 DAYS OF SUMMER.

In 2008, Jonathan became the first and only American producer for Palme D'Or Winner and Oscar Nominee Michael Haneke on his remake of FUNNY GAMES, starring Naomi Watts, Tim Roth and Michael Pitt.

In 2007, Jonathan Executive Produced WRISTCUTTERS, A LOVE STORY, starring Patrick Fugit, Shannyn Sossamon, Tom Waits, and Will Arnett. WRISTCUTTERS premiered in Dramatic Competition at Sundance and was nominated for Best First Feature and Best Screenplay at The Independent Spirit Awards.

Jonathan continues to collaborate with seasoned indie Producer Andrea Sperling for Super Crispy Entertainment.

#### ANDREA SPERLING (Producer)

Andrea Sperling has produced twenty-eight feature films. In 2009, she joined forces with Jonathan Schwartz at Super Crispy Entertainment and is currently in post-production on Drake Doremus' (*LIKE CRAZY*) latest film starring Guy Pearce, Amy Ryan and Felicity Jones made in conjunction with Indian Paintbrush.

In 2012, Sperling produced Ry Russo-Young's NOBODY WALKS, starring John Krasinski, Olivia Thirlby and Rosemarie DeWitt. In 2009, she produced Drake Doremus' LIKE CRAZY starring Anton Yelchin, Felicity Jones, and Jennifer Lawrence. LIKE CRAZY world premiered at Sundance in 2010 where it won the Grand Jury Prize for Best Feature as well as a Special Jury Award for Best Actress and was released worldwide by Paramount Pictures in 2011.

In 2010, Sperling produced Gregg Araki's KABOOM, which made its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival in 2010 and will be released by IFC in 2011 as well as SYMPATHY FOR

DELICIOUS (2010 Sundance Competition Film and Grand Jury Prize Winner), directed by Mark Ruffalo, starring Ruffalo, Laura Linney, Orlando Bloom and Juliette Lewis.

In 2007, Sperling produced Ari Gold's feature film debut ADVENTURES OF POWER starring Adrian Grenier, Michael McKean, and Jane Lynch which world premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. In 2006, Sperling produced Jamie Babbit's third feature film ITTY BITTY TITTY COMMITTEE which world premiered at the Berlin International Film Festival and won the Grand Jury Prize at the South by Southwest Film Festival in 2007. Sperling also produced Dominique Wirtshafter's directorial debut IF I HAD KNOWN I WAS A GENIUS starring Whoopi Goldberg, Sharon Stone and Tara Reid which world premiered at the Sundance Film Festival in 2007.

In 2005, Sperling produced HARSH TIMES, written and directed by David Ayer (the writer of Training Day) starring Christian Bale, Freddy Rodriguez and Eva Longoria; and Jamie Babbit's second feature film, THE QUIET, starring Elisha Cuthbert, Camilla Bell, Martin Donovan, and Edie Falco, both world premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival and secured domestic distribution through MGM and Sony Classics respectively. Both were released nationwide in the fall of 2006.

In addition, Sperling has produced the following films: D.E.B.S, an action romantic comedy for Screen Gems, written and directed by Angela Robinson (Herbie: The love Bug). D.E.B.S. made its North American Premiere at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival and its European Premiere at the Berlin International Film Festival where it won the prestigious Siegessaeule Readers Award for Best Feature Film. Goldwyn Films released the film nationally. Adam Broder and Anthony Abrams' PUMPKIN (2002, American Zoetrope/ UA), executive produced by Francis Ford Coppola, starring Christina Ricci, Brenda Blethyn and Dominique Swain; Erik Skjoldbjaerg's PROZAC NATION, as a co-producer with Christina Ricci (2001, Miramax Films), starring Christina Ricci, Jessica Lange, Jason Biggs and Anne Heche; Alexander Rockwell's 13 MOONS (2001, Gold Circle Films), starring Steve Buscemi and Jennifer Beals; Jamie Babbit's BUT I'M A CHEERLEADER (1999, Lions Gate Films) starring Natasha Lyonne, Clea Duvall, Rupaul and Cathy Moriarity; Mary Kuryla's FREAK WEATHER (1999, Search Party Films) starring Aida Turturro, John Carroll Lynch and Jacqueline McKenzie; Marius Balchunas' NO VACANCY, as executive producer with Ron Shelton (1999, IA), starring Lolita Davidovith, Robert Wagner and

Christina Ricci; Morgan J. Freeman's DESERT BLUE (1998, Goldwyn Films) starring Kate Hudson, Christina Ricci, Peter Saarsgard, Brendan Sexton III and Casey Affleck.

More producing credits include: four films by Gregg Araki, NOWHERE (1996, Fine Line), THE DOOM GENERATION (1995, Trimark), TOTALLY F\*\*\*ED UP (1993, Strand Releasing), and THE LIVING END (1991, October Films); four films by Jon Moritsugu, SCUM ROCK (2002), FAME WHORE (1996), MOD F\*\*K EXPLOSION (1995, Film Haus), and TERMINAL, USA (1993, ITVS); and one film by Christopher Munch, COLOR OF A BRISK AND LEAPING DAY (1996, Artistic License) which was awarded the Grand Jury Prize for Best Cinematography at the 1996 Sundance Film Festival.

Sperling received a Bachelor of Arts in Film History, Theory and Criticism from the University of Santa Barbara, graduating with Honors in 1990. She has been profiled in The New York Times, The Village Voice, Art Forum, Paper Magazine, The Hollywood Reporter, Detour Magazine, The Advocate, IndieWire, AIVF, Filmmaker Magazine, and on the Sundance Channel.

Sperling was chosen by OUT Magazine in 2008 as one of the OUT 100, a list of "the year's most interesting, influential and newsworthy LGBT people." That's same year, she received the L.A.C.E. Award, given out by the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center honoring local women who have made significant contributions to the LGBT community. In April 2008, Sperling traveled to Turin, Italy to accept the Festivals Special Award for Career Achievement at the Torino GLBT Film Festival.

In July 2007, Sperling was granted the Frameline Award at the San Francisco Gay and Lesbian Film Festival for her achievements in Independent film. In June 2005, Sperling's retrospective was shown at the Vienna Film Festival. In 2004, Sperling received the Wolfe Career Achievement Award at the Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival. That same year, POWER UP! named her one of the 10 Most Amazing Women in Hollywood. In addition, Sperling has been nominated twice by the Independent Feature Project West for a Spirit Award in Producing Achievement; once in 1993 where she took home the award, and again, in 1999.

Sperling sits on the Honorary Board of Directors for the Professional Organization of Women in Entertainment Reaching Up (POWERUP!).

#### JENNIFER COCHIS (Producer)

Jennifer Cochis is a film and music video producer; in 2009 she co-produced the feature film DOUCHEBAG. DOUCHEBAG went on to have its world premiere in Dramatic Competition at the 2010 Sundance Film Festival and was theatrically released later that year.

In addition to film, she has produced numerous music videos while working in Los Angeles. She produced the short film EX-SEX directed by Sundance Film Festival alumnus Michael Mohan; EX-SEX had its world premiere at Sundance Film Festival 2011 and was also an official selection of SXSW 2011.

Chosen by the Sundance Institute Feature Film Program as one of five producers for the Creative Producing Lab in 2010, Jennifer attended both the Creative Producing Lab and Summit as well as Sundance Film Festival 2011 with the feature film project THE WEST MEMPHIS THREE written and directed by Sundance alumnus Lee Toland Kreiger. Sundance also awarded Jennifer the Sheila C. Johnson Fellowship. By invitation, Jennifer and Lee attended Film Independent's No Borders at Independent Film Week with THE WEST MEMPHIS THREE.

In 2012, Jennifer had two films in competition at Sundance, SMASHED in Dramatic Competition and THE OTHER DREAM TEAM in Documentary competition. THE OTHER DREAM TEAM sold to Film Arcade and Lionsgate and will be theatrically released in October 2012.

Currently, Jennifer is in pre-production and begins shooting another feature film later this year.

#### **TOBIAS DATUM (Director of Photography)**

Tobias Datum was born in Frankfurt, Germany. He is a graduate of the SFOF in Berlin, Germany as well as AFI's cinematography program. He has shot numerous award winning independent features such as: HOW THE GIRLS SPENT THEIR SUMMER, DRAMA/MEX, MOMMA'S MAN, VOY A EXPLOTAR, AMREEKA and TERRI.

#### **LINDA SENA (Production Designer)**

Linda Sena designed two of the films that premiered in competition at the 2012 Sundance Film Festiva: NOBODY WALKS directed by Ry Russo Young and SMASHED directed by James Ponsoldt. She also designed the hit film WRISTCUTTERS A LOVE STORY (Sundance 2006) directed by Goran Dukic. Along with her work as a designer, Linda is also an art director, having art directed the films CAPTAIN ABU RAED ("Audience Award" Sundance 2008) shot on location in Amman, Jordan and more recently the film EVERYTHING MUST GO starring Will Ferrell. Linda is a graduate of the American Film Institute and a member of the Art Directors Guild.

#### TIFFANY ANDERS (Music Supervisor)

A Los Angeles native, Tiffany Anders began her recording career singing backup at the age of 17 on Dinosaur Jr.'s album Where You Been, as well as submitting a song for the soundtrack to Allison Anders' 1996 female singer-songwriter pop narrative GRACE OF MY HEART (for which she was also a music consultant), and cutting her 2001 solo debut album, Funny Cry Happy Gift, which was produced by rock icon PJ Harvey.

As a music supervisor, she's worked on such films as Gregg Araki's KABOOM, Cam Archer's SHIT YEAR, Alex Rockwell's PETE SMALLS IS DEAD, and Drake Doremus' films DOUCHEBAG and LIKE CRAZY. She is one of the founders and head curators of Los Angeles' annual Don't Knock The Rock film festival and has contributed over 500 album reviews for the largest independent record store in America, Amoeba Music. She has also contributed liner notes for the revered reissue record label Rev-Ola, for which she's conducted interviews with Tommy James, Sweetwater, and F.J. McMahon.

#### **SMASHED**

# SUPER CRISPY ENTERTAINMENT Presents A JONATHAN SCHWARTZ/ANDREA SPERLING Production

In Association with FRONT PORCH FILMS

**Directed by**JAMES PONSOLDT

Written by JAMES PONSOLDT & SUSAN BURKE

Produced by JONATHAN SCHWARTZ ANDREA SPERLING JENNIFER COCHIS

Executive Produced by AUDREY WILF ZYGI WILF

MARY ELIZABETH WINSTEAD
AARON PAUL
NICK OFFERMAN
MEGAN MULLALLY
KYLE GALLNER
MACKENZIE DAVIS
BREE TURNER

with MARY KAY PLACE

and OCTAVIA SPENCER

Casting by AVY KAUFMAN & KIM COLEMAN

**Co-Produced by** STEPHANIE MEURER

> Co-Producers STEPHEN RICCI

#### **ELISE SALOMON**

## **Director of Photography** TOBIAS DATUM

**Edited by** SUZANNE SPANGLER

**Production Designer** LINDA SENA

Costume Designer
DIAZ JACOBS

Music Supervisor TIFFANY ANDERS

Music By ERIC D. JOHNSON & ANDY CABIC

#### **CAST**

Kate Hannah Mary Elizabeth Winstead Aaron Paul **Charlie Hannah** Nick Offerman Mr. Davies **Principal Barnes** Megan Mullally Octavia Spencer **Jenny** Mary Kay Place **Rochelle** Owen Kyle Gallner Mackenzie Davis Millie Freda Bree Turner

> **Felix Brad Carter** Greg **Barett Shuler** Rico Rene Rivera Richmond Arquette Arlo **David Grammer** Junior Chuck Ron Lynch Elise Salomon Tina Winnie Anjini Taneja Azhar Aileen Davila Hillary Silas Agape Garcia Ramon Wilson Schwartz **Toby** Haley Brooke Walker **Isabel**

> > Lisa Yamada

Angela

Ted Susan Murray Gershenz
Jane Noltemeyer
Brian Haynes