

# TYLER PERRY'S MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY

## Production Notes



**Release Date:** April 22, 2011

**Studio:** Lionsgate

**Director:** Tyler Perry

**Screenwriter:** Tyler Perry

**Starring:** Tyler Perry, Loretta Devine, Shad "Bow Wow" Moss, David Mann, Cassi Davis, Tamela Brown Mann, Lauren London, Isaiah Mustafa, Rodney Perry, Shannon Kane, Teyana Taylor, Natalie Desselle Reid

**Genre:** Comedy, Drama

**MPAA Rating:** PG-13 (for drug content, language and some mature thematic material)

**Official Website:** <http://madeasbighappyfamilymovie.com/>

**SYNOPSIS**

Madea, everyone's favorite wise-cracking, take-no-prisoners grandma, jumps into action when her niece, Shirley, receives distressing news about her health. All Shirley wants is to gather her three adult children around her and share the news as a family. But Tammy, Kimberly and Byron are too distracted by their own problems: Tammy can't manage her unruly children or her broken marriage; Kimberly is gripped with anger and takes it out on her husband; and Byron, after spending two years in jail, is under pressure to deal drugs again. It's up to Madea, with the help of the equally rambunctious Aunt Bam, to gather the clan together and make things right the only way she knows how: with a lot of tough love, laughter...and the revelation of a long-buried family secret.

Tyler Perry – screenwriter, director and two-time star (as Madea and her brother, Joe) – returns with another tender and hilarious look at love and family ties with MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY, also starring Loretta Devine, Shad "Bow Wow" Moss, David Mann, Cassi Davis, Tamela Mann, Lauren London, Isaiah Mustafa, Rodney Perry, Shannon Kane, Teyana Taylor and Natalie Desselle Reid. Lionsgate and Tyler Perry Studios present a Tyler Perry Studios/Lionsgate production, a Reuben Cannon production.

## ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

With the release of Lionsgate's *MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY*, writer/director/star Tyler Perry offers a testament to the healing power of faith and family, told with his signature blend of laughter and pathos. At a time when many commercial films fit neatly into particular genres, Perry bucks the trend by combining broad humor and heartfelt drama, creating a world where physical comedy, sight gags and caricature intertwine with deeply felt stories about loss, abuse and broken lives. It's a balance that, in the director's opinion, is not unlike life itself.

"Comedy is all around me," says Perry. "Even in some of the most serious situations, even in some of my greatest sadness, I find something to be joyful about. That's why my films are the way they are. The audience wants to laugh. They want to have a little drama or melodrama. So I just love going all the way in both directions. And with Madea I can do that."

"Tyler understands the healing power of humor," says producer Reuben Cannon, who produced Perry's first film, Lionsgate's *DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN* in 2005 and has been part of Perry's team ever since. "Sometimes to get the truth across, you can do it more effectively while they're laughing."

*MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY* marks Perry's eleventh film production in approximately six years. In that short span, he's outpaced every other writer/director making films for theatrical release, produced hit television shows and built his own 200,000 sq. ft. studio facility in his hometown of Atlanta. But as the latest work in a steady stream of entertainment emerging from Tyler Perry Studios, *MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY* holds special significance for the film magnate. "I wrote the play that the movie is based on as an homage to my mother who had passed away," explains Perry. "Now I'm just really excited about having an opportunity to use this movie as my instrument to get through my own grief. Writing this story has helped me a great deal. And to be able to use something so tragic for me and pass it on to someone else and make them laugh, I have joy. It's a good feeling."

*MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY* begins with bad news. Shirley, the aged mother of three adult children, learns that she is gravely ill. But she greets this misfortune with the unflappable positivity of a woman of strong faith. Anchoring the large ensemble cast, veteran actress Loretta Devine imbues Shirley with a deep, all-encompassing maternal warmth that is all but lost on her troubled, self-involved children. "Shirley's been sick for going on seven years and due to her illness she hasn't been able to manage her children very well," explains Devine. "She's a soft-spoken woman who relies on prayer, as opposed to hard discipline."

Anticipating her final days, Shirley only wishes to have her fractured family united around her when she shares the news of her prognosis. "She wants to look at her children," Devine explains. "She wants them to feel her love and her care and her kindness."

"Loretta has tremendous range as an actress," says producer Roger M. Bobb. "What you need to be able to do in a Tyler Perry movie is go from drama to comedy in a snap – not from scene to scene, but sometimes literally from sentence to sentence. Very few actors can really pull that off. Loretta can."

Unable to wrestle her children's attention away from their own dysfunctional lives, Shirley naturally turns to the only person who commands the authority to make people listen: Madea. The hilarious no-nonsense grandmother played by Perry, Madea is no stranger to the filmmaker's fans. Since her first appearance in Perry's debut film *DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN*, Madea has been the cornerstone star of Perry's ever-expanding gallery of characters and one of the primary reasons for the filmmaker's enduring popularity. Simply put, audiences love her.

"At a time when there's so much elusiveness about what is genuine or not, Madea is steadfast in her convictions," says executive producer Ozzie Areu. "She's a truth-teller. She comes in with her no-nonsense, tough-love approach and gets straight to the heart of the matter."

"Madea loves people, but she doesn't really care about your feelings," adds Devine. "She just wants to tell the truth. Whatever nationality or culture you come from, no matter what language you speak, I think everybody has a Madea in their family."

*MADEA'S BIG HAPPY FAMILY* features more of Madea than any other Perry film. But for his part, Perry admits he doesn't always relish donning the dress and make-up to bring Madea to life. "All the make-up and the costumes while I'm directing is a lot. But audiences wanted more so I sucked it up and gave it to them," he says. "I do love watching it back later on. I love to see what happens after it's over. Madea's energy is contagious. She's not politically correct. Don't ask her if you don't want to know the plain, honest truth, because she doesn't give a damn. I think that's why people enjoy her so much."

In this film, Perry has supplied Madea with an inspired new sidekick in Aunt Bam, a guileless cousin who shares the task of uniting Shirley's children. Played by Cassi Davis, Aunt Bam is, in Perry's words, "a wildcat and a wild card."

"Aunt Bam doesn't judge," says Davis of her character. "She actually just loves really, really hard."

Years ago, when he was writing, directing and starring in stage plays (many of which were later adapted into his films), Perry pursued Davis for one of his productions, eventually casting her in the first incarnation of Aunt Bam. Explains Perry, "We created that character together on stage, and we went on tour doing it." That production subsequently landed Davis a regular role on Perry's television show, "House of Payne," but the memory of Davis' hilarious turn as Aunt Bam wasn't easily extinguished. Perry continues, "I kept thinking about her. She's so great and so funny. I said, 'I've got to have you in the movie. We've got to have some fun with it.' People are used to seeing her playing Ella, Miss Goody Two Shoes nice woman on "House of Payne." But you see her cut loose in this one."

"You can't imagine anyone else playing Aunt Bam," adds Cannon. "Cassi gave life to Aunt Bam when Tyler wrote the play. And in the film, that life has taken on another dimension. Seeing her with Tyler as Madea is just amazing. There's an almost telepathic communication that takes place between them."

Such a bond is not something in evidence between Shirley's two daughters. The eldest, Tammy, is often overcome with anger, and she has no qualms taking it out on her endlessly accommodating husband, Harold. "Tammy's very angry, very bitter," explains actress Natalie Desselle Reid. "She's very sensitive and emotional. Tammy tries to keep it all in control, but it's very hard for her. She just throws all of her pain and disagreements on her husband without giving him a chance to figure it out or say a word."

Explains Perry, "Tammy's problem is she's looking for her husband to take charge. But because he won't, she's had to. And it's caused quite a deal of frustration and dissension between the two of them."

Reid is quick to point out that this is not the way she treats her real life husband. "My husband would never allow it. I would never do it," she avows. "But this character was so much fun to play because I could do it to Harold and he couldn't do anything back!"

"Harold is henpecked," agrees actor Rodney Perry. "His wife Tammy is wilding out on him, his kids don't respect him and it's only with the help of Madea that he kind of finds his way."

Tammy has a combative, and competitive, relationship with her sister Kimberly, who, according to actress Shannon Kane, is perhaps the film's most challenging character. "She is mean. Really, really mean," laughs Kane. "But every ounce of anger comes from something much deeper. People might say that she's abusive to her family, but what's really happening is that she's abusing herself."

It isn't until the end of the film that the audience learns the cause of Kimberly's anger, a revelation that casts the character in an entirely new light. "Sometimes when we hold secrets in families, we think that we're doing a good thing," says Kane, "that by not saying anything it allows us to keep moving forward and progress. But we're really digressing into a hole that just curses generations."

Like Tammy, Kimberly finds herself in a troubled marriage with Calvin, played by Isaiah Mustafa, who makes his feature film debut. Says Mustafa, "Calvin wants to help Kimberly out, because he sees a growing rift between her and her family. He wants to pull everybody together. But whatever he tries, it just doesn't seem to work."

Actor and rap wunderkind Shad "Bow Wow" Moss completes the trio of Shirley's children in the role of Byron. Having recently spent two years in jail for drug dealing, Byron tries his best to stay on the right side of the law. "He wants to do the right thing, get back on track, take care of his son, live right," says Moss. "He doesn't want any part of the streets any more and he just wants to go through life without drama. But the drama is still around him."

That drama comes in the form of mounting financial pressure to support the son he's fathered with an ex-girlfriend and to satisfy the expensive demands of his materialistic girlfriend, Renee, played by Lauren London. "She's money-hungry," says London. "She's all about herself and all about trying to entice him and get him to go left and not right."

“I’m trying to change my life and that’s where we clash,” adds Moss. “She wants it how it used to be when I dealt drugs. But I’m trying to tell her, ‘Listen, we can have money, but let’s do it the right way.’”

Actress Teyana Taylor mines every opportunity for comedy as Byron’s baby momma from hell, Sabrina. “I’m always screaming for money and then I take it and spend it on clothes. I’m a hustler, you know?” laughs Taylor.

Perry is particularly excited by the inter-generational drama that results with the inclusion of younger cast members. “I love to have young people come into this situation and see how they live and then see how Madea lives,” he says. “Having all of that magic happen together, all those different generations represented, is very exciting.”

Rounding out the cast are Tyler Perry mainstays David Mann and Tamela Mann, who play father and daughter in the returning roles of Mr. Brown and Cora. “I’m basically Madea’s ex from a long time ago and Madea and I share a daughter,” explains David Mann. “In this movie, Mr. Brown thinks he’s dying. So Madea, in her own special way, tries to comfort him -- by slapping him!”

Cora is faced with the unenviable task of trying to keep Madea and Mr. Brown on amicable terms. “I’m the encourager of the family, and the only one that’s keeping them from taking each other out,” says Tamela Mann.

Relations between Mr. Brown and Madea only get more strained when the question of Cora’s true paternity is raised. To resolve the issue, says Perry, “they do what every respectable, upright, Upper East Side family would do when they’re having issues: they go on the ‘Maury’ show to find out who the baby daddy is!” Perry recalls the day-long shoot on ‘Maury’ as a particular high point of production. “That day I laughed till I couldn’t laugh anymore. We were having such a good time that I forgot I was in costume.”

While they play father and daughter on screen, the Manns have been happily married for twenty-two years, and both have worked with Perry for quite some time. “David knows that character like the back of his hand. His timing, his ideas, he’s just amazing” avows Perry. “And Tamela, who said to me during my first play, ‘I’ll sing, but I can’t act.’ Here she is nine years later with her own television show and doing movies. I’m very proud of her.”

Tamela Mann laughs about the strangeness of playing daughter to her own husband. “David is very touchy feely,” she says with a smile. “And after we put on our costumes and I become Cora and he becomes my dad, Mr. Brown, I don’t want him to kiss me and touch me because we’re in character! I have to fight him off. But he’s constantly trying, saying ‘I don’t care, give me a kiss.’”

As with his past projects, Perry invited the cast to try their hand at improvisation on set. “I love giving people the freedom to be able to create their characters,” he says. “If you read one of my scripts, they are very nondescript in a lot of things or actions. I like to let the actor work with me in developing those special moments.”

“Sometimes things go a whole different route from the script,” reports David Mann. “Tyler leaves room for that. It keeps it fresh for us.”

However, cast members find the stakes considerably raised when they’re improvising opposite Madea, who’s a proven master at off-the-cuff comic rants. “The problem is you can get caught up laughing inside about what Tyler is saying and then you’ll totally miss your cue,” explains Moss. “He can take a sudden left turn and go on for five minutes. And then when he’s done, you better know your line and get back on board. It’s a lot of fun.”

“I didn’t say anything extra because I was scared to death!” confesses Devine. “You have to be really good to keep up. So I just stuck to my lines.”

Production on MADEA’S BIG HAPPY FAMILY took place in August, 2010, at Tyler Perry Studios and in various locations in Atlanta. On set, Perry established an efficient, focused pace that was quickly matched by the rest of the cast and crew. “It starts at the top with Tyler,” says executive producer and Tyler Perry Studios President Areu. “He provides a great environment for everyone to come together and create, as well as fosters an atmosphere of respect for everybody and admiration for the talent that everyone feels and adopts.”

Adds Bobb, “We don’t mind working as hard as we do because ultimately, it’s a blessing to have the opportunity to make movies that help people feel better about the situations they’re in or that inspire them to make changes in their lives.” Bobb refers to the many testimonies posted on Perry’s website by fans who have been inspired to make lasting, positive changes in their lives, whether it’s getting out of abusive relationships or finally deciding to seek counseling for long-standing problems. “Those are the things that really make our sixteen-hour days worthwhile.”

With MADEA’S BIG HAPPY FAMILY, Perry hopes audiences will be moved – by both laughter and tears – to live authentically and to embrace the simple act of loving as fully as possible. That, he says, is the key to any family’s survival. “No matter what’s happening in your life, no matter how tragic, live the best life you can. That’s the message,” he says. “You know, live a life for God, live a life giving love, live a life sharing love, as Shirley did in the movie. And your children, no matter how far they stray, will come back to what they know.”

## ABOUT THE CAST

Equally at home on stage or on screen, award-winning actress **LORETTA DEVINE (Shirley)** has created some of the most memorable roles in theater, film and television. Devine first captured national attention in the role of 'Lorrell,' one of the three original "Dreamgirls" in Michael Bennett's classic award-winning Broadway musical of the same name. She followed that performance with a fiery portrayal of 'Lillian' in Bob Fosse's critically acclaimed stage production "Big Deal." Subsequent work in George C. Wolfe's "Colored Museum" and "Lady Day at Emerson Bar and Grill," cemented Devine's status as one of the most talented and versatile stage actresses.

Film roles soon followed including a poignant turn as a single mother opposite Whitney Houston, Angela Bassett and Gregory Hines in "Waiting to Exhale" which earned her a NAACP Image Award for Best Supporting Actress. Devine also won an NAACP Image Award for Best Supporting Actress for her work in Penny Marshall's "The Preacher's Wife." Devine also received an IFP Spirit Award nomination for Best Actress for her work in "Women Thou Art Loosed." Devine was featured in the Academy Award®-winning film "Crash" and the hit movie of "Dreamgirls." Additional film credits include appearances in the successful "Urban Legend" franchise; "I Am Sam" opposite Michelle Pfeiffer and Sean Penn; "Kingdom Come," "What Women Want," "Punks," "Hoodlums," "Down in the Delta" and "Stanley and Iris."

Devine also appeared in "Sticky Fingers," "Amos and Andrew," "The Breaks," "The Price of Kissing," "Lover Girl," "Class Act," "Living Large," "Caged Fear," "Little Nikita" and "Dirty Laundry." In 2009 Devine co-starred in "This Christmas" and "First Sunday," both of which opened #1 at the box office. Ms. Devine voiced the character of 'Delta,' the chocolate brown toy poodle in "Beverly Hills Chihuahua" for Disney starring Drew Barrymore.

Devine appeared onscreen in several films in 2010 including the Sony Screen Gems remake of "Death At A Funeral" with Chris Rock, Martin Lawrence and Danny Glover and "Lottery Ticket" for Alcon/Warner Brothers. Most recently, Devine was seen onscreen in the Lionsgate film "For Colored Girls," directed by Tyler Perry.

On television, Devine most recently was seen on "Eli Stone," which had a two season run, as well as her recurring role as 'Adele' on the hit ABC medical drama series "Grey's Anatomy."

She received three NAACP Image Awards for her role on David E. Kelly's Fox series "Boston Public."

Additional credits include series roles in "A Different World" and Lifetime Television's "Wild Card." Devine also provided the voice of 'Muriel Stubbs' on the beloved animated series "The PJ's."

Devine graduated from the University of Houston and later received a Master of Fine Arts in Theater Arts from Brandeis University. She currently resides in Los Angeles.

It was clear from an early age that **SHAD "BOW WOW" MOSS (Byron)** was destined for the

spotlight. At age five, Shad Moss was discovered by Snoop Dogg and featured on the icon's groundbreaking "Doggystyle" album. Renamed Bow Wow, for his solo debut, he teamed up with chart-topping/hit-making producer Jermaine Dupri to release "Beware of Dog" in 2000, the kickoff to a string of platinum and gold albums that spawned six #1 singles and platinum songs.

He is the "Youngest Solo Rapper to Ever Hit No. 1," as recognized by the Guinness World Records. Bow Wow has sold more than 10 million albums to date and 14 million digital assets.

With his multi-platinum pedigree, he has found a new home with Cash Money/Universal Republic Records and is scheduled to drop his eighth studio album later this year. Bow Wow was the first rap artist of his generation to become a legitimate entertainer, excelling as rapper, stage performer and actor.

He played a starring role in the hit motion picture "The Lottery Ticket," alongside Ice Cube which hit theaters in August 2010. He also had a recurring role in the HBO hit "Entourage," which wrapped its seventh season in the fall of 2010. He has matured as an acting talent with an impressive list of credits including: "Hurricane Season" (2009), "The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift" (2006), "Roll Bounce" (2005), "Johnson Family Vacation" (2004), "Like Mike" (2002, his first movie, grossed \$35 million its first week in theaters), as well as the television series "Smallville" (2006).

Always a game changer, in 2008, Bow Wow used his celebrity voice and kicked off his "Walk Across America" tour in Atlanta to encourage voter registration and to reinforce the importance of youth voter participation. His efforts resulted in more than 100,000 registered voters and continues to be a voice in the community for organizations that affect young people.

Ingeniously funny and extraordinarily talented are understatements when it comes to the multifaceted actor **DAVID MANN (Brown)**. A native of the "Bible belt" state of Texas, David masterfully showcases his God-given talents in today's most dynamic and distinguished genre.

Accentuating his already natural gift of making people laugh as a youth, David set his sights on acting. As a free-spirited adolescent, the self-possessed 15 year-old discovered a way to employ his unsuspecting antics by involving himself in various high school activities including contemporary drama where he permeated the stage world by becoming a budding thespian. Finding his natural element, David was commonly cast as the production's funnyman where his infectious comedic flair was visibly realized and fittingly unleashed. From high school to local community theater, David's accomplished performances quickly gained notable recognition advancing his diversified image into public notice.

In 1996, David was cast in the urban stage play "He Say...She Say...But What Does God Say?" He delivered a rousing portrayal of a high-strung, obnoxious gangster named "Forty Ounce" who caused audiences to split their sides laughing as he injected them with slapstick humor. The wonderfully composed drama/comedy was later adapted for television on the UPN sitcom "Good News."

In short order David joined forces with one of America's funniest actors and critically acclaimed

playwrights, Tyler Perry. The illustrious multi hyphenate had written, directed, and produced numerous plays including the stage play hit “I Can Do Bad All By Myself” where David remarkably immortalized the intrusively nose, wisecracking, ashy-kneed and outrageously funny neighbor, ‘Mr. Brown.’ As was apropos, David's bravo performance led the way for “Mr. Brown” to become a principal character in many of Perry's other hilarious stage and film comedies, including the play and motion picture, “Tyler Perry’s Meet The Browns,” in which David reprised the role of ‘Mr. Brown’ for mass audiences. Both properties were sure-fire hits, playing to packed theaters and grossing millions. “If you thought Madea's family was crazy, wait till you meet the Browns” became the tag line for the new TBS comedy modeled after the film and starring David as the beloved ‘Mr. Brown.’

David Mann's musical and theatrical talents brilliantly epitomize ingenuity at its best. When David is not shooting “Tyler Perry’s Meet The Browns,” he brings his live comedy show to venues around the country playing to sold-out crowds and is a spokesperson for the American Diabetes Association. When David is not on tour, he enjoys the restful company of his devoted wife Tamela Mann, and their fun-loving children.

Hailing from Holly Springs, Mississippi, **CASSI DAVIS (Aunt Bam)** brings a wealth of personality and warmth to the screen. She has worked extensively over the years with Tyler Perry on such projects as the stage play and subsequent DVD “Madea Goes to Jail,” Perry’s theatrical films “Daddy’s Little Girls” and “Madea’s Family Reunion.” She has also appeared on his television series, “House of Payne.” Her additional television credits include “Living Single,” “Chicago Hope” and the voice of the ‘Hud Woman’ in the claymation show “The PJ’s” (with Eddie Murphy). She has also made appearances in such feature films as “Woman Thou Art Loosed,” “School Daze,” “Silent Bomb” and “Big Otis’ Blues Revue.”

In 2004, Davis was awarded Best Supporting Actress by the NAACP Theatre Award Committee (Los Angeles Chapter). Davis was awarded the esteemed honor of Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series at the 41 st Annual NAACP Image Awards (2010). She is presently nominated for the same prestigious honor of being named Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series at the 42 nd Annual NAACP Image Awards (2011).

Cassi never stops giving the credit of her success to God and she will forever be grateful for all the love, support and the teachings from her wonderful parents.

Starring as ‘Cora Simmons,’ the loving and churchgoing “but woe to those who cross me” daughter of beloved ‘Deacon Leroy Brown’ and the iconic ‘Madea Simmons’ on the hit TBS comedy “Tyler Perry’s Meet The Browns,” **TAMELA MANN (Cora)** makes millions laugh every week while she enjoys a unique, personal, double blessing. Continuing the role she originated in Perry’s 2004 play and 2008 film of the same name, this sassy, high spirited multi-talented singer and actress is able to work on set every day with David Mann, her husband of 22 years.

Growing up, Tamela was an impoverished child in Texas where money was scarce, and struggles were ever-present. God and the sweet gospel sounds of Walter Hawkins, Edwin Hawkins, Andrae Crouch and the Clark Sisters were there to encourage her. Music was her solace from the

beginning, and she began attending choir rehearsals with her siblings when she was eight.

By 12, she was performing in the “singing choir” at the Holy Tabernacle. In her late teens, she attended an after school chorus class, where she first heard high school friends David Mann, Kirk Franklin and Darrell Blair sing; in those days, they were known as the “Humble Hearts.” Tamela went on to a different high school, but impressed them with her voice. She and David became best friends and eventually began singing with Franklin and then the larger ensemble Franklin created, The Family.

Tamela’s extraordinary career began in the early 90s when she joined future gospel superstar Franklin as a member of his platinum selling gospel music group, The Family. After collaborating with him, she went on to join the cast of the stage play, “He Say...She Say...But What Does God Say?”

On the heels of her highly lauded stage debut, her acting career took off as she was tapped by Tyler Perry to appear in his stage play “I Can Do Bad All By Myself.” Tamela enthralled audiences with her comedic acting over the years as ‘Cora’ in many of Perry’s other hit plays (“Madea’s Family Reunion,” “Madea’s Class Reunion”) and films (“Diary of a Mad Black Woman,” “Madea Goes To Jail”). In fact, Mann’s explosive songs "Father Can You Hear Me" and "Take It to Jesus" can even be heard in the movie and on the soundtrack album of “[Diary of a Mad Black Woman.](#)”

Tamela then went on to star in the play and motion picture, “Tyler Perry’s Meet The Browns,” in which she charmed fans as Mr. Brown’s daughter, ‘Cora.’ Both properties were sure-fire hits, playing to packed theaters and grossing millions. "If you thought Madea's family was crazy, wait til you meet the Browns" became the tag line for the new TBS comedy modeled after the film in which Tamela reprised her role as ‘Cora.’

The happy, feel-good story of Tamela has her falling in love with her best friend David Mann, starting a family - their kids are Porcia (24), Tiffany (23), David (22) and Tia, and raising their 35-year-old niece Sonya as their own - and continuing to turn in strong, artful performances on stage and on screen.

**LAUREN LONDON (Renee)** first appeared in the film "ATL," opposite actor and recording artist, Tip "TI" Harris. Due to London's breakout success in "ATL," she received an offer to star in the film "This Christmas" with Loretta Devine, Idris Elba and Regina King.

Her next film role was in the teen romantic comedy "I Love You, Beth Cooper," opposite Hayden Panettiere. London made her television debut on "Everybody Hates Chris." Her other television credits include a recurring guest star role on HBO’s "Entourage," a recurring guest star role on CW’s "90210" and a special guest star role in the VH1 series "Single Ladies," executive produced by Queen Latifah.

She is a Los Angeles native.

**ISAIAH MUSTAFA (Calvin)** is quickly becoming one of Hollywood’s biggest breakout

sensations of 2010. The actor and former wide receiver for the NFL gained sudden and substantial fame as the result of a popular Old Spice TV campaign, "The Man Your Man Could Smell Like," when he appeared shirtless and riding a horse in a commercial. Isaiah appeared in a total of four different Old Spice spots, all of which broke records with views and transformed Isaiah into a widespread sensation almost over night, cumulating in an Emmy® win for "Best TV Commercial."

It was as a guest on Oprah Winfrey's daily talk show that Oprah Winfrey and Tyler Perry announced that Mustafa would be playing the lead male role in "Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family."

Additionally, Mustafa will be seen the film "Horrible Bosses" with Jennifer Aniston, Jason Bateman and Kevin Spacey, out July 2011. Mustafa also signed a talent deal with NBC, resulting in small screen appearances on shows such as "Love Bites" and "Chuck." He has also appeared on "Castle," "Hot in Cleveland," "Eli Stone," and "NCIS." One of People Magazine's "Most Beautiful People 2010," Mustafa currently resides in Los Angeles and when not acting enjoys sports, fitness, gaming, comic books and his two Rhodesian Ridgebacks.

High-energy comedy performances are the reason why **RODNEY PERRY (Harold)** is a veteran in the game and one of the busiest brothers in the business.

Perry currently serves as co-host on BET's "The Mo'Nique Show" where he provides laughs alongside comedienne Mo'Nique five nights a week. For four seasons, Perry has served as co-host and Man On The Street for TV One's comedy competition, Bill Bellamy's "Who's Got Jokes." He has also appeared on HBO's "Def Comedy Jam," BET's "Comic View," Showtime's "Jamie Foxx's Laffapalooza," Starz Network's "Martin Lawrence Presents First Amendment Comedy," E! Network's "Chelsea Lately" and Byron Allen's "Comics Unleashed." Rodney has also teamed up with Tony Rock in the film "The Last Laugh," a drama about comedy. In addition to his nightly role on "The Mo'Nique Show," Perry constantly tours with his sidesplitting stand-up act. He is currently gearing up to shoot his first comedy special "Rodney Perry All the Way Live" (summer 2011).

Born in Chicago and raised in Monroe, Louisiana, Perry found his way to comedy by way of the U.S. Navy, where he performed to some of his toughest audiences. He eventually moved to the Bay Area where he honed his comedic craft and perfected his stage show, which includes hilarious observations on everything from the workplace to the joys – and occasional pains – of raising a big family. Perry and his wife of 14 years are the parents of six children.

**SHANNON KANE (Kimberly)** received the Breakthrough Actress Award from the 2010 Capri International Film Festival for her stunning performance in Antoine Fuqua's "Brooklyn's Finest," opposite Richard Gere and Don Cheadle. Last year, Shannon relocated to Los Angeles to continue her starring role as 'Natalia,' the daughter of 'Jesse' on the popular daytime drama "All My Children." She will next be seen in Sony Pictures' "SWAT: Fire-Fight" opposite Giancarlo Esposito and Gabriel Macht for which she had to attend rigorous boot camp training and is proud to have survived. She recently completed filming "The Collection" which is directed by Marcus Dunstan, writer of the "Saw" franchise.

Raised by her mother in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Shannon only met her father two years ago. The pair is in the process of developing their relationship and making up for the lost years. In high school, Shannon was an honor student who always felt on the outside because she was one of the few minorities in her high school. She excelled in sports, predominantly basketball, and studied jazz and ballet while also teaching dance at a local studio. She participated in the “Education for the Arts” program and was honored with the Gilmore Scholarship for Dance, which enabled her to attend Western Michigan University. A local talent search led to Shannon signing with Elite Chicago where she quickly started her career as a print model. After graduation, Shannon moved to Los Angeles to study acting. She soon landed guest roles on series such as “Entourage” and “CSI,” while supplementing her income as a local DJ. She has always loved to surround herself with music. Her idols are an eclectic mix of jazz and pop: Bob Marley, Jimmy Hendrix, Aaliyah, Etta James and John Coltrane.

While visiting family in Florida, Shannon got a call asking her to send in an audition tape to “All My Children.” With her grandmother serving as both cameraman and director, Shannon submitted her audition tape and wowed the casting director. Although Shannon did not get that first role (a recast), the “All My Children” brass remembered her when it came time to cast the new role of ‘Natalia’ and Shannon was off to New York!

Shannon keeps in shape by running, swimming, and boxing. She likes to be outdoors as much as possible and loves camping. Her creative side is nourished by writing poetry, playing guitar and learning to speak Hebrew. She is progressing very well with the help of Rosetta Stone. Her new Los Angeles home is ruled by her rescued cat, Nemo.

**TEYANA TAYLOR (Sabrina)** is a recording artist (singer, songwriter, rapper), choreographer/dancer and actress born and raised in Harlem, NY.

Teyana collaborated on the choreography of Beyonce’s hit “Ring the Alarm” which set the stage for her television debut on MTV's "My Super Sweet 16" in 2007.

Teyana was signed to Star Trak/Interscope at the age of 15 and her debut single “Google Me” was released in February 2008. Other television appearances include MTV’S “Made,” ABC’S “Limelight” and “House of Glam” on Oxygen.

Teyana brought her sassy style to the big screen in the film “Stomp the Yard 2” opposite Columbus Short and Keith David. Kanye West sought the opportunity to collaborate with Teyana on his new album, “My Beautiful Dark Twisted Fantasy” asking her to sing on the first track “Dark Fantasy” and the mastered version of “Hell of a Life” and “Runaway.” Teyana is also featured in Kanye’s “Christmas in Harlem.”

When **NATALIE DESSELLE REID (Tammy)** was just eight years old growing up in Alexandria, Louisiana she was captivated by a film on TV entitled “The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman,” starring Cicely Tyson. At the end of the film, she turned to her mother with a sense of purpose and simply stated the obvious, “One day I am going to be in that box.” Her mother responded with resolve and without hesitation, “Yes, my baby, one day you will.”

Natalie Desselle Reid has a career and a body of work that is considered proven. The title of her first film, “Set it Off,” became a metaphor for her career. A small role in that pivotal film, targeted for the urban audience, got her noticed. The stage was set for her next big break starring alongside the iconic Halle Berry in “B.A.P.S.,” directed by Robert Townsend. The role of ‘Mickey,’ a round-the-way Decatur, Georgia girl who always speaks her mind, established her as an up-and-coming comedic actress. Television soon came calling in the following years with roles on the WB’s “For Your Love” and NBC’s “Built to Last.” Her admirers began to grow after playing ‘Minerva’ in the Rodgers and Hammerstein remake of the Walt Disney classic “Cinderella,” starring Whitney Houston, Brandy, Whoopi and Bernadette Peters which, at that time, set a viewing record of 33 million viewers.

In 2003, Natalie was cast in the UPN sitcom “Eve” named after the female rap star. Her character, ‘Janie Ekins,’ became a fan favorite. ‘Janie’s’ candor and observations became part of the shows comedic rhythm. In 2007 Natalie traveled to Johannesburg, South Africa to be a part of the film “The Killing of Wendy,” a farcical whodunit that once again called on Natalie’s comedic and dramatic talents. Her most cherished role to date is that of wife to husband Lenny Reid and their three children Sereno, Summer, and Sasha.

Natalie thanks the incredibly prolific Tyler Perry for being one of the first directors to bypass the audition process and make her a direct offer to be a part of the highly successful “Madea” franchise. Natalie would also like to thank her fans for their loyalty and promises them the best is yet to come!

**TYLER PERRY (Madea/Joe) – See ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

## ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

**TYLER PERRY's (Writer, Producer, Director)** inspirational journey from the hard streets of New Orleans to the heights of Hollywood's A-list is the stuff of American legend. Born into poverty and raised in a household scarred by abuse, Tyler fought from a young age to find the strength, faith and perseverance that would later form the foundations of his much-acclaimed plays, films, books and shows.

It was a simple piece of advice from Oprah Winfrey that set Tyler's career in motion. Encouraged to keep a diary of his daily thoughts and experiences, he began writing a series of soul-searching letters to himself. The letters, full of pain and in time, forgiveness, became a healing catharsis. His writing inspired a musical, "I Know I've Been Changed," and in 1992 Tyler gathered his life's savings and set off for Atlanta in hopes of staging it for sold out crowds. He spent all the money but the people never came, and Tyler once again came face to face with the poverty that had plagued his youth. He spent months sleeping in seedy motels and his car but his faith - in God and, in turn, himself - only got stronger. He forged a powerful relationship with the church, and kept writing. In 1998 his perseverance paid off and a promoter booked "I Know I've Been Changed" for a limited run at a local church-turned-theatre. This time, the community came out in droves, and soon the musical moved to Atlanta's prestigious Fox Theatre. Tyler Perry never looked back.

And so began an incredible run of eight plays in as many years, including "Woman Thou Art Loosed," a celebrated collaboration with the prominent Dallas pastor T.D. Jakes.

In the year 2000, "I Can Do Bad All By Myself" marked the first appearance of the now-legendary 'Madea.' The God-fearing, gun-toting, pot-smoking, loud-mouthed grandmother, 'Madea,' was played by Perry himself. 'Madea' was such a resounding success, she soon spawned a series of plays - "Madea's Family Reunion" (2002), "Madea's Class Reunion" (2003), "Madea Goes To Jail" (2005) - and set the stage for Tyler's jump to the big screen.

In early 2005, Tyler's first feature film, "Diary of a Mad Black Woman," debuted at #1 nationwide. His ensuing films, "Madea's Family Reunion," "Daddy's Little Girls," "Why Did I Get Married?," "Meet The Browns," "The Family That Preys," "I Can Do Bad All by Myself," and "Why Did I Get Married Too?" have all met with massive critical and commercial success, delighting audiences across America and around the world.

2006 saw the publication of Tyler's first book, "Don't Make A Black Woman Take Off Her Earrings: Madea's Uninhibited Commentaries On Life And Love," which shot to the top of the New York Times nonfiction bestseller list and remained there for eight weeks. It went on to claim Quill Book Awards for both "Humor" and "Book of the Year" (an unheard-of feat for a first-time author), and spread Tyler Perry's unique brand of inspirational entertainment to a devoted new audience.

It is a brand that is quickly becoming an empire. In 2007, Tyler expanded his reach to television with the TBS series "House of Payne," the highest-rated first-run syndicated cable show of all time, which went into syndication after only a year. His follow-up effort, "Meet the Browns,"

was the second highest debut ever on cable - after "House of Payne."

Not one to rest on success, Tyler Perry and his 300 Atlanta-based employees have been hard at work. His latest film, "For Colored Girls," based on Ntozake Shange's 1975 play "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf," hit theaters in November 2010 and featured an all-star cast including Janet Jackson, Whoopi Goldberg, Thandie Newton and Kerry Washington. Perry also helped release Academy Award®-nominated "Precious," a movie based on the novel "Push" by Sapphire, in conjunction with his 34th Street Films banner, Oprah Winfrey's Harpo Films and Lionsgate. Perry has also signed on to produce Lionsgate's upcoming comedy "We the Peeples," due out in 2011, and will play the title character in Rob Cohen's "I, Alex Cross."

In the fall of 2008, Perry opened his 200,000 square foot Studio in Atlanta, situated on the former Delta Airlines campus of more than 30 acres. The Studio consists of five sound stages, a post production facility, a pond, a back lot, a 400-seat theater, a private screening room, and designated areas for entertaining and hosting events.

But listen to Tyler Perry and you'll hear a man who hasn't forgotten about the people that have helped him reach the top of a mountain he could once only dream of climbing. He has been intimately involved in civil rights cases, including the trial of the Jena 6 in his home state of Louisiana. He has donated generously to charities that focus on helping the homeless, such as Feeding America, Covenant House, Hosea Feed the Hungry, Project Adventure, and Perry Place - a 20-home community that Tyler built for survivors of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. In July 2009, Tyler sponsored a trip to Walt Disney World® Resort for 65 children after learning that a suburban swim club had turned them away because of the color of their skin. Tyler Perry has also built two churches and has donated generously to the NAACP.

In January 2010, Perry pledged \$1,000,000 via The Tyler Perry Foundation to help rebuild the lives of those affected by the recent earthquakes in Haiti.

Tyler Perry practices what he preaches, and what he preaches has endeared him to millions of fans drawn by that unique blend of spiritual hope and down-home humor that continues to shape his inspiring life story and extraordinary body of work.

**REUBEN CANNON (Producer)** is a visionary producer who has helped to shape and guide some of the most groundbreaking and critically acclaimed film and television projects in Hollywood for the past three decades.

From his humble beginnings in the Universal Studios mailroom (a.k.a. the executive training program), Cannon, a Chicago native, was promoted after one year to Universal Television's casting department as a trainee. There, he set a personal goal to become the first African-American casting director at Universal Studios within a year. He achieved that goal.

It was his unwavering diligence that later paved the way for Cannon to reach yet another professional milestone, becoming head of Warner Brothers Television's casting department from 1978 to 1980. In so doing, Cannon became the first African-American to hold the distinction.

His keen eye for talent also earned Cannon the well-deserved reputation for being an innovative and trend setting force in the industry. Early in his career, Cannon took a chance on then fledgling young actor Bruce Willis casting him in the television series “Moonlighting,” which jettisoned Willis into stardom.

Under the banner of his company Reuben Cannon and Associates, Cannon has cast nearly one hundred television series, made-for-TV movies as well as motion pictures. Among those projects include “The Color Purple,” which earned 11 Oscar® nominations and showcased the talents of artists who would become some of our industries most distinguished stars: Danny Glover appeared in one of his first starring roles; and Whoopi Goldberg and Oprah Winfrey made their feature film debuts each earning Oscar® nominations in the category of Best Supporting Actress. Other projects include such award-winning classic television series as “Columbo,” “Alfred Hitchcock Presents,” “The A-Team” and “The Rockford Files.” His credits also include the Emmy® Award-winning comedy series “The Bernie Mac Show” and “My Wife and Kids.”

Broadening his range of projects, he branched out into producing motion pictures and television programs. One of his early projects was the critically-acclaimed television special “The Women of Brewster Place,” which he not only cast, but also produced in collaboration with Oprah Winfrey who starred in the tele-film. “Brewster Place” marked their second project together and the two have remained business allies and close personal friends throughout the years. Cannon continued his partnership as a producer with some of the nation’s most influential luminaries in their respective industries: “Down In The Delta” directed by Dr. Maya Angelou; Spike Lee on “Get On The Bus;” “Love Don’t Cost A Thing” starring Nick Cannon; and the box office sleeper hit “Woman Thou Art Loosed,” based on the bestselling book by Bishop T.D. Jakes.

In the summer of 2004, Cannon began collaborating with a brilliant young playwright and actor turned director, Tyler Perry. Reuben Cannon Productions (RCP) formed a production alliance with Tyler Perry Studios (TPS) that would prove to be a powerful creative collaboration garnering both record-breaking box office grosses and television ratings. The Tyler Perry feature films “Diary of a Mad Black Woman,” “Madea’s Family Reunion” and “Why Did I Get Married?” opened #1 at North American box offices. “Daddy’s Little Girls,” “Meet The Browns,” “The Family That Preys,” “Madea Goes To Jail,” “I Can Do Bad All By Myself” and “Why Did I Get Married Too?” have also broken box office records.

With a slate of upcoming film and television projects as well ventures into new media on the horizon, Reuben Cannon serves as Executive Producer for the comedy series Tyler Perry’s “House of Payne,” which debuted in 2008 on TBS and is the highest rated comedy series in cable television history. “House of Payne” remains the #1 television series in African-American households.

Cannon has received numerous awards including an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters from Morehouse College. His work has also been recognized by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (which has honored him with two Emmy® nominations), the Casting Society of America, the DuSable Museum of African-American History, and the 2002 NAACP Image Awards who with Daimler/Chrysler honored Cannon with a “Behind the Lens Award” for his outstanding contributions in entertainment in

the areas of film and television.

**ROGER M. BOBB (Producer)** is without question one of the most successful producers working in the film and television industry. Roger has produced the last ten Tyler Perry films.

Roger is the Supervising Producer of "Tyler Perry's House of Payne" which premiered on TBS as the highest-rated first-run sitcom in basic cable history. He also is the Executive Producer of the new sitcom "Meet the Browns," which premiered on TBS as the second highest-rated sitcom in basic cable history.

Roger was youngest African-American First AD member of the Director's Guild of America. He is the only two-time winner of the Best Film Award at the American Black Film Festival. Roger was named one of the Top 40 Executives Under 40 by The Network Journal Magazine and one of Atlanta's 50 Most Beautiful People by Jezebel Magazine.

Born in London and raised in Brooklyn, Roger's career in film began when he was accepted into the Director's Guild of America's prestigious Assistant Director Trainee program. This highly selective program enables candidates to learn the intricacies of major feature filmmaking for a two year period under the guidance of some of Hollywood's top directors and producers. Roger was fortunate to work with such legendary directors as Woody Allen, Mike Nichols and James Mangold.

Upon completing the program, Roger worked within the New York independent film community as an assistant director and quickly rose to the rank of producer. His many credits include "NYPD Blue," "New York Undercover," "Copland," "Witness to the Mob" and "State Property 2." Roger attended Brooklyn College and the School Of Visual Arts. He is also the Executive Vice President of Tyler Perry Studios.

**OZZIE AREU (Executive Producer)** was born and raised in California. His passion for entertainment drew him to the industry where both his creativity and business abilities have since thrived.

Ozzie began his journey working for Bright/Kauffman/Crane Productions on the Emmy® Award-winning show "Friends." In 1999, he began to work for Jennifer Anniston and Brad Pitt, which lasted five years. He eventually moved on to work for Ellen De Generes.

In 2005, Ozzie began working with Tyler Perry and in 2008 Ozzie was named President of Tyler Perry Studios, based in Atlanta, Georgia. In his role as President, Ozzie oversees and runs the 30-acre Studio and its 300+ employees.

Ozzie has worked with Tyler Perry on eight different films, producing three, including "For Colored Girls" and "We The Peebles," along with "Madea's Big Happy Family."

In addition to film, Ozzie also oversees the production of the hit television show "Tyler Perry's House of Payne," he has been the Executive-In-Charge of casting and produced over 140 episodes of "Tyler Perry's Meet The Browns," as well as Executive Producer on the "Tyler Perry

Show.”

Also, in 2008, 34 th Street Films was created, a Tyler Perry film development and production company. As head of 34 th St Films, Ozzie is involved in all creative concepts and projects.

As producer and manager of more than 50 feature films and television productions in a dozen countries, **JOSEPH P. GENIER (Executive Producer)** is a man of experience. His credits include “Perfect Christmas,” “War,” “Tyler Perry’s Why Did I Get Married?” “Peaceful Warrior,” “The Cookout,” “Down In the Valley,” “American Pie: Band Camp,” “Rockets’ Red Glare” and “Au Pair.”

In 2008, Genier co-founded Push Worldwide, the new distribution division of Capital Arts Entertainment, with his partners Mike Elliott and Rob Kerchner.

Genier began his production career with Eastman Kodak in New York, before moving to multi-national projects with Hartmann International, and then line producing locally and internationally for Fox Family and Showtime. He moved on to cover international sales for independent companies at the AFM and Cannes film markets.

Returning to filmmaking, Genier joined Maple Palm Productions as its head of production, before joining Capital Arts in 1998 in the same capacity. At Capital Arts, he continues to successfully oversee both in-house productions as well as outside productions for such companies as Warner Bros, Universal, Lionsgate and Fox.

**MICHAEL PASEORNEK (Executive Producer)** has been President of Film Production at Lionsgate since the company's inception in 1997.

In addition to being a key member of the senior management team that has guided Lionsgate from a startup into the leading independent film company and winner of the Best Picture Oscar® for “Crash,” Paseornek has served as an executive producer or producer on over 50 films.

Variety has described him as one of the chief architects of the Lionsgate model.

Paseornek has been at the forefront of urban programming. He launched the film career of Tyler Perry and forged a production slate that includes Tyler Perry's blockbusters “Madea Goes to Jail,” “Why Did I Get Married,” “Diary of a Mad Black Woman” and “Madea’s Family Reunion,” all of which opened number one at the box office. He also forged a deal for the screen rights to the iconic African-American play, “For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Isn’t Enuf.” He’s spearheaded films ranging from comedies like “The Wash” to dramas such as “Pride” and the critically acclaimed “Akeelah and the Bee.”

In the horror genre, building on the success of the “Saw” franchise, Paseornek broke new ground with the box office hit “My Bloody Valentine 3D” - the first horror film utilizing new 3D digital technology. He also executive produced Rob Zombie's “Devil’s Rejects” and the remake of “The Eye,” starring Jessica Alba. Paseornek has continued to spearhead a 3D agenda with the animated family film “Alpha and Omega” and a slate of upcoming genre fare.

Paseornek has played a key role moving Lionsgate into the action arena with “Crank,” “The Punisher,” “The Forbidden Kingdom” and the remake of the classic “Conan The Barbarian” which is will be released this year.

In the prestige area, Paseornek executive produced “Monster’s Ball,” which earned Halle Berry an Oscar® for best actress, the critically acclaimed “Akeelah and the Bee,” which earned best picture honors at the Black Movie Awards and was the centerpiece of the first ever Starbucks movie promotion, “American Psycho,” “Shattered Glass” and “Buffalo 66.”

Over the past 25 years, Paseornek has played an important role in the emergence of the independent film scene. He founded Cinepix/Famous Players’ (CFP’s) U.S. operations in 1992 which brought American audiences acclaimed films such as Academy Award® winner Ang Lee’s first feature “Pushing Hands,” James Mangold’s directorial debut “Heavy,” James Coburn’s Oscar® winning performance in “Affliction,” and Bill Condon’s Oscar® winner “Gods and Monsters.” When CFP went public and was renamed Lionsgate in 1997, the company grew into the leading independent film company with Home Entertainment and Television divisions. The Film division has had 25 Oscar® nominations in that time, including six for the 2006 best picture winner, “Crash,” and the critical hit “Precious.”

More than 30 of Paseornek’s movies have been selected to appear in major festivals such as Cannes, Berlin, Sundance and Toronto.

Outside of Lionsgate, Paseornek serves on the board of directors of Mattel’s Children’s Hospital UCLA, is on the advisory board of Hearts of Hope, a foundation sending doctors to Latin America, and the board of Del Corazon, a year-round charitable camp for children with heart disease.

Paseornek began his career after graduating from New York University in 1974 when he became the writing partner of former National Lampoon editor Michel Choquette. He then became a humorist-speechwriter for some of the nation’s leading business executives and worked as a script-doctor on a number of feature films.

In the late 70s, Paseornek met CFP’s Canadian co-founders, John Dunning and Andre Link, and developed the sequel to their comedy hit “Meatballs.”

Paseornek is a member of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the Writer’s Guild of America. He has been a guest speaker at a number of institutions, including Harvard, New York University, and the American Film Institute and has served on numerous industry panels for organizations such as the NAACP and the Directors Guild of America.

**TOYOMICHI KURITA (Director of Photography)** is a native of Japan and an alumnus of the American Film Institute (AFI). Kurita has served as Director of Photography for more than 25 feature film and television movies including collaborations with such directors as Robert Altman on “Cookie’s Fortune,” Forrest Whitaker on “First Daughter” and “Waiting to Exhale,” Mark Rydell on HBO’s “Crime of the Century,” Alan Rudolph on “The Moderns” (starring Keith

Carradine and Linda Fiorentino), “Afterglow” (starring Nick Nolte and Julie Christie), and “Trouble in Mind” for which he was awarded an Independent Spirit Award for Best Cinematography. In Japan, Kurita teamed with legendary film director Nagisa Ôshima for the samurai drama “Gohatto” (“Taboo”) and with Takashi Miike for the stylized spaghetti western and “Sukiyaki Western Django,” which earned Kurita an award for Best Cinematography from the Sitges International Film Festival. “Madea’s Big Happy Family” is one of several collaborations between Kurita and Tyler Perry, which includes films such as “Daddy’s Little Girls,” “Why Did I Get Married?” and “The Family That Preys.”

**INA MAYHEW’s (Production Designer)** association with Tyler Perry began on his first film, “Diary of a Mad Black Woman,” and has continued on every movie since. Mayhew designed the sets for 100 episodes of “House of Payne,” for 60 episodes of “Meet the Browns,” and for “The Tyler Perry Talk Show.” She designed the Opening Night Party for Tyler Perry Studio’s grand opening in 2008, as well as the studio’s city streets back lot that now graces the complex as permanent sets.

Ms. Mayhew’s first film was “Sidewalk Stories,” an independent film that won the Audience Award at Cannes in 1990. Her next film was the cult classic “Rain Without Thunder,” followed by “Above The Rim,” starring Tupac Shakur. She designed “Drop Squad” for producer Spike Lee, which led to an art director’s credit on Mr. Lee’s “Clockers,” followed by production designer credits for his features “Get on the Bus” and “Girl 6.” She designed numerous television commercials and music videos for Spike Lee, including the Michael Jackson video “They Don’t Care About Us,” and videos featuring Chaka Khan, Branford Marsalis, and Bruce Hornsby, among others.

Other design credits include the HBO feature “Earthly Possessions,” with Susan Sarandon; “200 Cigarettes,” “Woo,” “Turn It Up,” and the Emmy® Award-winning Alvin Ailey Tribute for PBS, choreographed by Judith Jamison.

Ms. Mayhew has designed extensively in the commercial world, with directors such as Paul Hunter, Doug Lyman, Bryan Singer, Allen Hughes and more. She did Nike with Michael Jordan; Verizon with James Earl Jones; Best Buy with the Black Eyed Peas. Several of the kitchens seen on Food Network programs are hers.

Ina is a graduate of SUNY-Purchase. She is the daughter of two artists, her mother Dorothy, and the renowned painter Richard Mayhew. She began studying Painting in college, transitioning to a focus on Theatre Design. She assisted noted designer Franco Colavecchia in creating Grand Opera and Off-Broadway sets, and later designed several productions for the National Black Touring Circuit, Henry Street Settlement Theatre and The Women’s Project. Ina’s most recent stage designs have been for August Wilson’s “The Piano Lesson” at Delaware Theatre Company in 2008.

Ms. Mayhew teaches production design at her alma mater, Purchase College, when her schedule permits.

**MAYSIE HOY, A.C.E. (Editor)** began her theater training in her hometown of Vancouver,

Canada. She studied improvisational theatre in San Francisco with “The Wing” and “The Committee.” Upon returning to Vancouver, the improvisational company “The Good Will Store” was formed with Ms. Hoy as the artistic director. For the next two years, her troupe performed and taught Viola Spolin’s theater games in schools and correctional institutions. During this time she was cast in Robert Altman’s “McCabe and Mrs. Miller.”

When the movie was over she left for Los Angeles with only a backpack and sleeping bag. She knew only two people in Los Angeles, a friend who offered her a place to stay and Robert Altman. For the next eight years she learned the art of filmmaking by working for him in research, costume and production design. She also acted in several of his films, including “California Split,” “Nashville” and “Three Women and A Wedding.”

It was on Altman’s “Buffalo Bill and the Indians” that she landed a job as an apprentice. There she discovered her passion for film editing. She moved up quickly to a film assistant. After which she worked as a film and sound assistant on many Altman films and on projects that he produced with directors Alan Rudolph and Robert Benton.

Her editing credits include Tyler Perry’s “For Colored Girls,” “Why Did I Get Married Too?,” “I Can Do Bad All By Myself,” “Madea Goes To Jail,” “The Family That Preys,” “Meet The Browns,” “Why Did I Get Married?” and “Daddy’s Little Girls;” “The Joy Luck Club,” “The Player” (co-edited), “Smoke,” “What Dreams May Come” (shared credit), “Freedom Song,” “Crazy In Alabama,” “Lovejones” and “Freeway.”

Ms. Hoy is an alumna of the American Film Institute’s Directing Women’s Workshop. She is on the Board of Directors on both the Motion Picture Editors Guild and American Cinema Editors. She has also been featured with thirty accomplished craftswomen in a book called “Great Women in Films.”

“Madea’s Big Happy Family” marks **KEITH LEWIS’ (Costume Designer)** tenth film collaboration with esteemed director/writer/producer/actor Tyler Perry. Keith has established a rich history with Mr. Perry having previously designed costumes for the feature films “Why Did I Get Married Too?,” “I Can Do Bad All By Myself,” “Madea Goes to Jail,” “The Family That Preys,” “Meet the Browns,” “Why Did I Get Married?,” “Daddy’s Little Girls,” “Madea’s Family Reunion” and “Diary of a Mad Black Woman.” Keith’s work can also be seen on Mr. Perry’s award-winning television series “House of Payne” and “Meet the Browns.”

Keith received his training in Design and Technology at the prestigious North Carolina School of the Arts, where he continues to return as a guest artist.

**JOEL C. HIGH (Music Supervisor)** is a music supervisor and producer who has worked on over 100 films and television projects and also serves as chief executive for a company he founded in 2006. Over the last decade, he created and supervised the music departments for two of the leading independent studios in the industry, Trimark Pictures and Lionsgate Entertainment. He built the publishing catalog for both companies and started the boutique soundtrack label Lionsgate Records. In addition to his acclaimed work in motion pictures working with directors such as Tyler Perry, Marc Forster, Peter Bogdanovich, Don Roos, Roger

Avary, James Foley, Bill Paxton, Billy Ray, Mario Van Peebles and Rob Zombie, he oversaw the music for the growing television group at Lionsgate, including "The Dead Zone" and the Golden Globe®-winning series "Weeds."

Joel is the music executive behind such films as "Saw," "Girl with a Pearl Earring" and the Leonard Cohen documentary "I'm Your Man." He oversaw Lionsgate's first Academy Award® nomination in the Original Song category "In The Deep" for Best Picture winner "Crash" and the Golden Globe® nominated score from "Girl with a Pearl Earring" by Alexandre Desplat.

Joel has been the music supervisor for all of Tyler Perry's films including "Diary of a Mad Black Woman," "Madea Goes To Jail," "I Can Do Bad All By Myself" (for which he was nominated for Outstanding Music Supervisor of the Year by the 2011 Hollywood Music in Media Awards) and most recently the groundbreaking "For Colored Girls" based on the prizewinning seminal play. He is the music supervisor for films ranging from "In the Mix," starring Usher; Rob Zombie's "The Devil's Rejects;" "The Wash" with Snoop and Dre; "Strangers with Candy," Oscar®-winner "Monsters Ball;" "The Other Woman" starring Natalie Portman; and the HBO series "Little Britain – USA."

Joel is currently the principal executive at Creative Control Entertainment, a multi-faceted music supervision, consultation, live event and production company, with offices in Los Angeles and New Orleans and diverse clients ranging from independent studios to international governments.

**AARON ZIGMAN (Music by)** is quickly proving to be one of the most prolific and versatile composers in film music today.

A classically trained pianist since childhood, Zigman began his musical career as a session keyboardist, arranger, and as a producer to popular music stars. Soon his resume boasted names like Aretha Franklin, Natalie Cole, Phil Collins, Oleta Adams, Tina Turner, Patti LaBelle, Chicago, Nona Gaye, Carly Simon, Huey Lewis, Christina Aguilera and Seal.

Zigman got his start in feature film composing in 2002 when director Nick Cassavetes, a friend who knew of his pop background and his orchestral works, offered him a shot at "John Q," starring Denzel Washington. He wrote an extravagant six-minute opening montage, recorded it with a 55-piece orchestra, and submitted it as a demo. The director, editor and studio were impressed, and he got the job. Not too long after, the two collaborated again on "The Notebook," starring Ryan Gosling, Rachel McAdams, Gena Rowlands and James Garner, based on the Nicholas Sparks novel. Their most recent collaboration was "My Sister's Keeper," starring Cameron Diaz.

Zigman's credits include the family adventure fantasy film "Bridge to Terabithia;" "Akeelah & The Bee," starring Laurence Fishburne and Angela Bassett; "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium," which he co-scored with Alexandre Desplat; the period drama "Flash of Genius," starring Greg Kinnear; and the dark drama "Alpha Dog" with frequent collaborator Nick Cassavettes. In the past few years, Zigman composed the scores to three romantic hits – "Sex And The City," "The Proposal" starring Sandra Bullock and Ryan Reynolds, and "The Ugly Truth," starring Katherine Heigl and Gerard Butler. In addition, Zigman scored the last seven

Tyler Perry films, including Perry's drama "For Colored Girls." Other scores by this very talented musician include "Sex And The City 2," "The Last Song," "The Company Men," starring Ben Affleck, Tommy Lee Jones, and Chris Cooper, and "What's Your Number?," starring Anna Faris.

**KIM WILLIAMS (Casting Director)** serves as casting director for Tyler Perry Productions. From 2007 to 2009, she served as Director of Casting for Fox Broadcasting Company (FOX) where she was responsible for developing and launching new talent in a variety of television shows. Most recently, she oversaw casting for the FOX television series "Dollhouse." She has also been responsible for overseeing the casting of such FOX series as "Bones," "Prison Break" and "The Sarah Connor Chronicles."

Prior to joining FOX in 2007, Williams worked for Tyler Perry Productions contributing to such feature films as "Why Did I Get Married?," "Daddy's Little Girls" and "Madea's Family Reunion." From 1997 until 2003, Williams provided casting services for numerous productions including Sony Pictures Television's animated series "The Boondocks."

Williams served at HBO Pictures, HBO Original Programming and HBO Independent Productions as Director of Casting from 1991 through 1995 and was HBO's Manager of Casting from 1988 until 1991. While at HBO she was responsible for overseeing the casting of all film and television projects for the HBO family, including casting the hit show "Martin" which was one of the highest-rated shows on channel during that time.

Some of Williams' other notable accomplishments include casting for "Diary of a Mad Black Woman," "The Bernie Mac Show," "House of Payne," "Meet the Browns," "Girlfriends," "Half & Half" and "My Wife & Kids." She also produced the television special "League of Legends" on ABC for the Los Angeles Urban League's 25th Anniversary of the Whitney M. Young award.

Over the course of her career, Williams has had a hand in launching the careers of several successful actors and actresses including Martin Lawrence, Tichina Arnold, Tracy Morgan, Amanda Bynes, Jesse Metcalf, Tracy Ellis Ross and Mo'Nique.

Williams attended the University of California, Los Angeles. She currently resides in Los Angeles and in addition to casting is producing several film and television projects.