

Little Children

Starring

Kate Winslet

Jennifer Connelly

and

Patrick Wilson

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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Little Children

Cast

KATE WINSLET.... Sarah Pierce
JENNIFER CONNELLY....Kathy Adamson
PATRICK WILSON....Brad Adamson
JACKIE EARLE HALEY....Ronnie J. McGorvey
NOAH EMMERICH....Larry Hedges
GREGG EDELMAN....Richard Pierce
PHYLLIS SOMERVILLE....May McGorvey
RAYMOND J. BARRY....Bullhorn Bob
JANE ADAMS.....Sheila
TY SIMPKINS....Aaron Adamson
SADIE GOLDSTEIN....Lucy Pierce

Filmmakers

Director	TODD FIELD
Screenplay	TODD FIELD & TOM PERROTTA
Based on the novel by	TOM PERROTTA
Producers	ALBERT BERGER & RON YERXA TODD FIELD
Executive Producers	PATRICK PALMER TOBY EMMERICH KENT ALTERMAN

Associate Producers	MICHELE WEISS LEON VITALI
Director of Photography	ANTONIO CALVACHE
Production Designer	DAVID GROPMAN
Film Editor	LEO TROMBETTA, A.C.E
Costume Designer	MELISSA ECONOMY
Music	THOMAS NEWMAN
Production Sound Mixer	EDWARD TISE
Casting	TODD THALER BELINDA MONTE STEGEMANN

In 2001, after completing *In The Bedroom*, I began to pursue the film rights for Richard Yates' novel *Revolutionary Road*. However, this was not possible due to complications involving the estate. But what had attracted me to Yates' book was the central theme of his two main characters; Frank & April Wheeler. They are not prepared to let go of the dreams, and unfulfilled promise of their own youth, and to focus that kind of attention on their offspring; their identities based strictly on how they rank in relation to other people. They judge hard, and in the end it comes back on them.

In 2003 I read the galleys for Tom Perrotta's new novel *Little Children*. I was excited by its similarity to *Revolutionary Road*. However, where as Yates's story leaves you emotionally gutted- the writer being an angry, and unforgiving God, *Little Children* was a satirical-melodrama, and Perrotta was not so quick to judge his characters. He painted them with empathy & humor; the mainframe of the book being the idea of MOTHER, with the thread of matriarchy running through every relationship in the story.

In early 2004 I met with Tom to discuss the possibility of adapting the novel. There were things for the film I would want to change. Primarily, knowing for certain what the sex offender, Ronnie, had, or hadn't done, that led to his incarceration. He should represent an almost fairytale-like archetype from the Brother's Grimm: The troll under the bridge, or Beowulf's *Grendel*. Serving as an alibi, and distraction for the other characters- a receptacle to rationalize their own fear & desire without the burden of self-examination.

The struggle for identity is what these characters battle from the start; it leads to a hunger they are unable to satiate- violence & fear hold sway. The shame of how they see themselves when the fingers start pointing. It was with this idea in mind, that Tom and I began our work together.

-Todd Field

Synopsis

Kate Winslet, Jennifer Connelly and Patrick Wilson star in LITTLE CHILDREN, the latest work from Oscar-nominated Writer/Director Todd Field. Based on the novel by Tom Perrotta, LITTLE CHILDREN centers on a handful of individuals whose lives intersect on the playgrounds, town pools and streets of their small community in surprising and potentially dangerous ways.

****NOTE: New Line respectfully requests that media please not reveal the film's ending.**

Approach

While *Little Children* is based on an acclaimed novel, Todd Field and Tom Perrotta wanted to create a film that stood on its own, independent of the book.

"When Todd and I began collaborating on the script, we were hoping to make something new out of the material, rather than simply reproducing the book onto film," says Perrotta. "For me, as a novelist, the attraction of a film adaptation lies precisely in this opportunity to re-imagine my book with someone else, and explore new possibilities for the characters and the story. To be able to work with a writer/director as accomplished as Todd was a huge part of the appeal for me, but I understood from the start that what we produced together would no longer be 'mine' in any simple sense. There's really no way for two writers with such distinct voices and sensibilities to come together and not create something very different from what either one of us would have done on his own."

About the Cast

KATE WINSLET (Sarah Pierce)

English-born actress Kate Winslet grew up in a family of actors and began performing for British television when she was thirteen. At the age of seventeen, she made her name internationally in Peter Jackson's feature film *Heavenly Creatures*. She followed that in 1995 with her role as Marianne Dashwood in Ang Lee's *Sense and Sensibility*. Kate received her first Academy Award nomination for this performance and was also nominated for a Golden Globe. She then went on to win the BAFTA and the Screen Actors Guild Award.

In her next film, she co-starred with Christopher Eccleston in Michael Winterbottom's *Jude* and then as Ophelia in Kenneth Branagh's *Hamlet*. She then went on to appear as the amazing Rose in James Cameron's *Titanic* opposite Leonardo DiCaprio. At the age of 22, Kate received her second Academy Award nomination for this role and the honor of being the youngest actress ever to be nominated for two Academy Awards.

In 1997 Kate starred as Julia in *Hideous Kinky* directed by Gillies McKinnon, and in 1998 co-starred with Harvey Keitel in Jane Campion's comedic drama *Holy Smoke*. She also starred in Philip Kaufman's period drama *Quills* along with Geoffrey Rush, Joaquin Phoenix and Michael Caine.

Kate co-starred in the Richard Eyre production of *Iris*. In her performance portraying a young Iris Murdoch, Kate received a Golden Globe and Oscar nomination. She next starred in Michael Apted's *Enigma*, a spy drama about code breakers during early WWII period and *The Life of David Gale* with Kevin Spacey. Kate then came to New York and dyed her hair blue and orange for her amazing portrayal as the quirky Clementine in *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*, for which she has received Academy Award, Golden Globe and BAFTA nominations for Best Actress. She then went on to star opposite Johnny Depp in *Finding Neverland*, which was named 2004 Best Film by the National Board of Review.

This fall, Kate will be seen in *All the King's Men*, opposite Jude Law and Sean Penn, directed by Steven Zaillian. She will then lend her voice to the animated feature *Flushed Away*. Kate finishes the year in the romance comedy *The Holiday* opposite Cameron Diaz, Jude Law, and Jack Black.

JENNIFER CONNELLY (Kathy Adamson)

Academy Award winner Jennifer Connelly has proven her versatility as an actress. Connelly received a Golden Globe, BAFTA, AFI, Broadcast Critics and Academy Award for her role in Ron Howard's *A Beautiful Mind*. Connelly was last seen in Disney's Walter Salles-directed thriller *Dark Water* alongside John C. Reilly, Tim Roth and Pete Postlewaite.

In November 2003, Connelly co-starred opposite Ben Kingsley in DreamWorks' *House of Sand and Fog*, directed by Vadim Perelman. In the summer of 2003, she co-starred in Ang Lee's *The Hulk* for Universal opposite Eric Bana, Nick Nolte, Sam Elliott and Josh Lucas.

Connelly garnered much attention for her performance in *Requiem For a Dream*. Her haunting portrayal of a drug addict earned her an Independent Film Spirit Award nomination. Connelly also starred in Ed Harris' highly acclaimed film, *Pollock*, as well as in Keith Gordon's *Waking the Dead* opposite Billy Crudup.

Her other film credits include Pat O'Connor's *Inventing the Abbotts*, also starring opposite Billy Crudup; Lee Tamahori's 1950's crime drama *Mulholland Falls*; John Singleton's controversial film *Higher Learning*; *Of Love and Shadows*, directed by Betty Kaplan, and co-starring Antonio Banderas; Disney's *The Rocketeer*, directed by Joe Johnston; the comedy *Career Opportunities*, written by John Hughes; and *Labyrinth*, directed by Jim Henson. Connelly's first film was Sergio Leone's *Once Upon A Time in America*.

Connelly will next be seen starring opposite Leonardo DiCaprio in *Blood Diamond*, directed by Edward Zwick.

PATRICK WILSON (Brad Adamson)

Patrick Wilson has quickly emerged as one of the hottest acting talents in years. He recently wrapped filming an Edward Burns film with Debra Messing and Selma Blair, *Purple Violets* to debut late in 2006. Patrick can now be seen in the Sundance hit film, *Hard Candy*, a psychological drama which was released by Lion's Gate in April 2006. In addition to the big screen, Patrick recently re-visited his Broadway roots alongside Amanda Peet, Jill Clayburgh and Tony Roberts in their portrayal of young newlyweds, Corie and Paul Bratter, in the Broadway revival of Neil Simon's 1963 classic romantic comedy "Barefoot in the Park" directed by Scott Elliot.

Patrick has had the opportunity to show his acting range in several high profile projects; he starred in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Phantom of the Opera*, which was directed by Joel Schumacher and released by Warner Bros. He starred in and received Golden Globe and Emmy nominations for "Angels in America," directed by Mike Nichols for HBO. In this 2004 Golden Globe and Emmy recipient of best miniseries, based on Tony Kushner's play, Patrick starred opposite Meryl Streep, Al Pacino, Mary-Louise Parker and Emma Thompson. He also starred opposite Dennis Quaid and Billy Bob Thornton in Disney's *The Alamo*, directed by John Lee Hancock. Patrick starred in the Broadway musical revival of Rodgers and Hammerstein II's "Oklahoma!" for which he was nominated for a second consecutive Tony Award for best lead actor in a musical for his portrayal of Curly. Previously, he was the lead role of Jerry Lukowski in the Broadway musical "The Full Monty." The role garnered Patrick rave reviews from critics and he received numerous nominations including a Tony nomination for Leading Actor in a Musical, Drama Desk Nomination, Drama League Award, and an Outer Critic's Circle Nomination for this role. Time Out New York voted Patrick's role as "one of the best performances of 2000."

Patrick first earned attention from New York audiences in the Off-Broadway musical adaptation "Bright Lights, Big City." His role earned him a Drama Desk Nomination and a Drama League Award. Soon after, Patrick starred in the Broadway musical "Fascinating Rhythm," a revue of George and Ira Gershwin songs, which also garnered him a Drama League Award.

Born in Virginia, Patrick spent most of his years growing up in St. Petersburg, Florida. His mother is a singer and voice teacher, while Patrick's father is a TV anchor in Florida.

Patrick received his BFA from Carnegie Mellon University. Patrick is also a singer/songwriter of his own music.

Patrick, his wife and newborn son reside in New York City.

JACKIE EARLE HALEY (Ronnie J. McGorvey)

Jackie Earle Haley's first major screen role was as 'Adore' in John Schlesinger's film adaptation of Nathanael West's novel *Day of the Locust* – a role in which he was pummeled to death by Donald Sutherland's presciently named character, 'Homer Simpson.' When Jackie Earle turned 14, his father took him to the audition that changed his life, and earned him the iconic role of the cigarette smoking, motorcycle riding hellion Kelly Leak in Michael Ritchie's *Bad News Bears*, indelibly earning him a place in 1970s pop culture. A year after this Jackie won another role that he'd long be remembered for: the practical, laid-back, short-tempered Moocher in the 1979 Peter Yates' Oscar-winning film, *Breaking Away*. In 1983, he played the sex-obsessed Dave in Curtis Hanson's *Losin' It*, co-starring Tom Cruise. On Broadway, he performed with Sean Penn, Kevin Bacon, and Val Kilmer in the Scottish play, "Slab Boys." Even after all these years, in 2005 Jackie was prominently listed in VH1's "100 Greatest Kid Stars."

But, like so many on that list, the successful transition from child actor to adult actor was elusive and he was forced to quit and join the ranks of blue-collar workers. From limousine driver to security officer, Jackie struggled for years to make ends meet. One of his memories was delivering a pizza to Richard Halsey, an editor who cut one of the films he was in. Jackie said, "It's nothing to be sorry about, working to make a living. But it was strange. That kinda stuff happened all the time." After a decade, Jackie Earle finally found work where he could utilize his acting knowledge - as a television commercial director.

Even though things were finally shaping up for Jackie, he still had the desire to do what he loved most – act. But the desire was subdued by a self-preserving stoicism.

In October of 2004, Steven Zaillian was trying to find Jackie Earle. He wanted him to audition for the part of Sugar Boy in *All the King's Men*. At first, Zaillian was told that Haley couldn't be found. But eventually he tracked him down in France... on his honeymoon. "I couldn't believe it." Haley recalls, "It was like a dream... I'm still pinching myself."

After filming *All the King's Men*, Jackie was determined to continue working on projects that had meaning for him. He got ahold of an early draft of Todd Field's *Little Children*, and set his sights on playing Ronnie J. McGorvey. He made an audition tape, and sent it to Field. "I'll never forget watching what Jackie prepared on that tape," says Field. "His work was so original, specific and unexpected – I couldn't take my eyes off him." Field called him up, and asked if he would to come to NYC to discuss the possibility of playing McGorvey. Haley says, "At the meeting, Todd asked 'So, would you like to play the role?' I'll remember that moment as long as I live."

NOAH EMMERICH (Larry Hedges)

Noah Emmerich came to prominence with his feature film debut as Mo in Ted Demme's *Beautiful Girls*, opposite Matt Dillon, Uma Thurman and Natalie Portman. He has since appeared in a wide array of critically acclaimed roles, working with many of Hollywood's top talents. Credits include Peter Weir's *The Truman Show* (opposite Jim Carrey), *Miracle* (Kurt Russell), *Beyond Borders* (Angelina Jolie and Clive Owen), *Windtalkers* (Nicolas Cage), *Frequency* (Dennis Quaid), *Cop Land* (Sylvester Stallone, Robert DeNiro and Ray Liotta), and *Monument Ave* (Denis Leary, Martin Sheen, and Billy Crudup).

Emmerich co-stars in the upcoming drama *Pride & Glory*, which marks the third time he has worked with director Gavin O'Connor (*Tumbleweeds*, *Miracle*); Emmerich believes he is the only actor to appear in the entire O'Connor filmography.

On stage, Emmerich most recently played the role of Mitch in The Kennedy Center's production of "A Streetcar Named Desire," opposite Patricia Clarkson and directed by Gary Hynes.

Emmerich studied filmmaking at New York University where he wrote and directed the short film *The Painter* which won the Cine Award in Washington, D.C. and the International Film Festival of Barcelona, Spain. His second directing effort, *The Date*, won the Short Comedy Award at Houston's Worldfest Film Festival.

In 2004, Emmerich started a production company, Sandbox Entertainment, which has several scripts in development.

Emmerich is an honors graduate of Yale University with a degree in history.

GREGG EDELMAN (Richard Pierce)

Gregg Edelman has been seen on stage, television and in film for 25 years. His stage credits range from Broadway to the concert halls of Europe. Over the years, Mr. Edelman has been in 15 Broadway shows garnering four Tony award nominations, a Drama Desk award, and many other accolades. His New York stage appearances have included "City of Angels," "Into The Woods," "1776," "Passion," "Cabaret," "She Loves Me," "Thief River," "Wonderful Town," and "Falsettos." His concert career has allowed him to sing all over the U.S. and Europe performing with great orchestras like the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra and great artists like Dawn Upshaw in "Roundabout." His TV and film credits range from a regular on CBS' "Hack" to roles in films like the upcoming *Spiderman 2*, *City by the Sea*, *Crimes and Misdemeanors*, and *Green Card*. His greatest joy, though, comes from his family; wife, Carolee Carmello, and their children, Zoe and Ethan.

PHYLLIS SOMERVILLE (May McGorvey)

Phyllis has performed on Broadway in "Over Here" and "Once in a Lifetime"; Off-Broadway in *The Sum of Us*, *The Night Hank Williams Died*, *Marisol*, *Moe's*, *Lucky*

Seven, Little Egypt, Bedfellows, and The Spitfire Grill. She also played Jesse in the national tour of "Night Mother."

Among her numerous regional theatre credits are: Arena Stage; Long Wharf Theatre; Yale Repertory Theatre; Baltimore Center Stage; American Repertory Theatre; and the Papermill Playhouse. She also enjoys developing new works with various organizations such as the O'Neill, New York Stage & Film, the LABrinth and at Sundance.

On TV she has appeared on "NYPD Blue, Homicide," "Law and Order," "Law and Order: Special Victims Unit," "Law and Order: Criminal Intent," "Third Watch," "Feds," "New York News," "The Sopranos," "Sex and the City," and "Lateline." Her films include *Arthur, Montana, Curtain Call, Bringing Out the Dead, Trouble on the Corner, The Sleepy Time Gal, Going Under, Lucky You, Just Like the Son, If I Didn't Care, Broken English, and Capers.*

About the Filmmakers

TODD FIELD

Director, Producer and Co-Writer

Todd Field made his feature film debut at the Sundance Film Festival with *In the Bedroom*. Internationally acclaimed by critics, the film was named Best Picture of the Year by The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, New York Magazine, The New Yorker, and the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. The film went on to receive five Academy Award nominations including Best Picture of the Year.

The New York Film Critics Circle, the Chicago Film Critics Association and the Los Angeles Film Critics Association acknowledged Field for his work on the film, and the National Board of Review named him Director of the Year. Field received two Academy Award nominations, a Golden Globe nomination, and an Independent Spirit Award. The British Film Institute recognized Field with the Satyajit Ray Award, and the American Film Institute honored him with the Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal.

Of Field's short films, *Nonnie & Alex*, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, and received a Special Jury Prize. *When I was a Boy*, also made its premiere at the festival, and went on to the Film Society of Lincoln Center's New Directors/New Films Series at the Museum of Modern Art.

As an actor, Field has appeared in such films as Victor Nunez's *Ruby in Paradise* and Stanley Kubrick's *Eyes Wide Shut*.

He is currently at work on a new film.

TOM PERROTTA

Co-Writer

Tom Perrotta is the author of five acclaimed works of fiction—Little Children, Election, The Wishbones, Joe College, and Bad Haircut. In addition to writing fiction and screenplays, he has also worked as a journalist and college teacher.

ALBERT BERGER

Producer

Albert Berger formed Bona Fide Productions with Ron Yerxa in 1993. Their producing credits include Steven Soderbergh's *King of the Hill* (1993), Rick Famuyiwa's *The Wood* (1999), Alexander Payne's award-winning *Election* (1999), and Anthony Minghella's award-winning *Cold Mountain* (2003). They also executive produced Sam Jones' *I Am Trying to Break Your Heart* (2002) and Mr. Berger executive produced *Crumb* (1994). Last year, Bona Fide produced *Bee Season* for Fox Searchlight and *The Ice Harvest* for Focus Features.

In July 2006, Fox Searchlight released the Bona Fide production *Little Miss Sunshine* starring Steve Carell, Toni Collette, Greg Kinnear, and Alan Arkin - directed by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Faris. The film premiered at Sundance 2006 and was quickly purchased by Fox Searchlight. The film was released to great acclaim across the board and broke box office records in its debut weekend.

After graduating from Tufts University, Albert Berger returned to his native Chicago where he owned and managed the Sandburg Theatre, a revival showcase for obscure and classic films. He attended Columbia University film school before moving to Los Angeles to write scripts for Paramount, TriStar, MGM, Orion, and producer Roger Corman. Berger went on to serve as Vice President of Development for Marvin Worth Productions at Paramount Pictures, where he worked on several projects, including *Malcolm X*.

Bona Fide has several high-profile projects in development including *Nebraska*, a screenplay by Robert Nelson to be directed by Alexander Payne, *Adult World* to be directed by Jason Reitman, and *The Rug Merchant* to be written and directed by Miguel Arteta.

Bona Fide made a first-look deal at Paramount starting in 2005.

RON YERXA

Producer

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Ron Yerxa graduated from Stanford University before working as a journalist and an inner city high school teacher. He joined Time-Life Films as a story analyst and then worked as an executive at CBS and Sovereign Films before becoming an independent producer.

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LEON VITALI

Associate Producer

Leon Vitali was born and raised in Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, England, leaving school at 17 before gaining admission to the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art at age 18. He studied there for two and a half years focusing on classical drama, improvisation, script analysis and stage management before graduating in 1970. He worked as a professional actor for six years during which he did stage, television and film work collaborating with such respected directors as Mike Alfreys and William Gaitskill (of the famed English Stage Company at the Royal Court), Jack Gold in the 4 Emmy winning television film "Catholics" starring Martin Sheen, Trevor Howard, Michael Gambon and Cyril Cusack and featured heavily in *Barry Lyndon* for Stanley Kubrick (winner of 4 Oscars) which starred Ryan O'Neil and Marisa Berenson. It was through *Barry Lyndon* that he became seriously interested in film production and decided to pursue his interest in every phase of film-making; concept, pre-production, shooting and post-production.

He negotiated a film role (the title role in *Victor Frankenstein*) that allowed him to work in the cutting room during post-production and then follow the process through to final release. It was then that Stanley Kubrick came back into the picture and asked him to go to the Mid-West (Colorado, Illinois and Kansas City) to look for the boy to play Danny in his upcoming feature film *The Shining* which starred Jack Nicholson and Shelley Duvall. Vitali interviewed and auditioned over 2,000 children between the ages of 3 1/2 – 7 years old and finally found Danny Lloyd who played the role to great acclaim. Vitali also worked assisting John Alcott in the camera department and as a dialogue coach to some of the actors as well as fulfilling various other functions as Kubrick's assistant including the casting of smaller roles.

For *Full Metal Jacket*, Vitali worked on the casting for all roles with the exception of Matthew Modine in the role as 'Joker', as dialogue coach and also worked extensively in the cutting rooms. He also (alone with Edward Tise who was the production mixer and one of the sound editors) recorded all the 'foots and foleys' for the production and started working to a lesser extent with the laboratories and video transfer

houses. It was also on this production he began working on marketing strategies for both theatrical and video release of not only *Full Metal Jacket* but all of Kubrick's previous films, which included layouts for posters, video wraps, ads for newspapers and magazines and all point-of-sale materials.

For *Eyes Wide Shut*, he worked in all areas of pre-production, production, post-production, script development, casting, all laboratory work, and upon Kubrick's request also acted in it as 'Red Cloak' in the 'Masked Ball sequences.' After Kubrick's sudden and untimely death, Vitali supervised all laboratory work and worked closely with foreign territories on the release patterns.

He supervised the restoration of all Kubrick's negatives from *Lolita* onwards along with the digital transfers and sound restorations of all the films in the latest digital formats of "The Kubrick Collection," where he had the honor of working with some of the very best laboratories and technicians in the world today here in Los Angeles.

He met Todd Field in 1991 and again in 1996 when Field came to England to play the role of 'Nick Nightingale' in Stanley Kubrick's *Eyes Wide Shut*, which starred Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. Field and Vitali began to talk about the kind of films they admired and would like to make. In 2001, Field invited Vitali to America to help him complete *In the Bedroom*. Vitali decided to stay. *Little Children* is their second collaboration.

ANTONIO CALVACHE

Director of Photography

Antonio Calvache was born in Spain where he began training as a filmmaker, graduating from Film Studies at the University of Madrid, after which he initiated his professional career as a Director of Photography. Calvache soon relocated to Los Angeles and graduated from the American Film Institute with a MFA in Cinematography. To date, his work as a Cinematographer has been rooted in the American Independent Cinema, and his credits include the award-winning and Oscar nominee for Best Picture *In The Bedroom* (Special Jury Award - 2001 Sundance Film

Festival). Other festival favorites shot by Calvache include: *Broken Vessels* (Audience Award - '98 Los Angeles Independent Film Festival), *Prey for Rock and Roll* (2004 Sundance Film Festival) and *Farewell to Harry* ('01 Seattle Film Festival), as well as *La Suerte Dormida* ('04 Spanish Academy Award to Best First Feature).

DAVID GROPMAN

Production Designer

David Gropman has worked as a production designer in commercials, television and film throughout his career.

His film credits as a production designer include *Casanova*, *An Unfinished Life*, as well as *Cider House Rules*, which received an Academy Award nomination, and *Chocolat*, which was honored with a BAFTA award nomination, ADG Excellence in Production Design Award nomination for Contemporary Films, and an ADG Excellence in Production Design Award.

Gropman will serve as production designer on New Line Cinema's *Hairspray*.

LEO TROMBETTA, A.C.E.

Film Editor

Leo Trombetta's film background includes credits as film editor on nine features, six of which were selected for screening at the Sundance Film Festival - *Northfork* (2003), *Green Dragon* (2001), *Twin Falls Idaho* (1999), *Going All The Way* (1997), *Female Perversions* (1996) and *Amongst Friends* (1993). His television work includes "That Championship Season" (2000), directed by and starring Paul Sorvino for MGM/Showtime, as well as the "Roswell" series, "Cold Case" and HBO's "Carnivàle" and "Big Love."

Leo has an extensive background as sound editor, having worked under Brian DePalma (*Casualties Of War*, *Bonfire Of the Vanities*), Sidney Lumet (*Q&A*, *Family Business*), David Mamet (*Homicide*) and Spike Lee (*School Daze*). He was

Supervising Sound Editor on the documentary *Paul Simon: Born At The Right Time*, which was in competition at the 1993 Sundance Film Festival.

Leo also wrote and directed his own short film *Billy* which won six awards including the Silver Plaque at the Chicago International Film Festival, the Bronze Award at the Houston International Film Festival, the C.I.N.E. Eagle and the Jury Prize at the Ann Arbor Film Festival.

Leo began his career as an actor in regional theatre and has written and recorded songs for the film *Zelly and Me* starring Isabella Rosellini and David Lynch. A native of Philadelphia, Leo studied filmmaking at Temple University and currently resides in Los Angeles.

MELISSA ECONOMY

Producer

Melissa Economy previously worked with Todd Field as the costume designer on *In the Bedroom*.

THOMAS NEWMAN

Composer

Moving effortlessly from drama (*The Shawshank Redemption*, *In the Bedroom*, *American Beauty*, *The Road To Perdition*) to sharp satire (*The Player*) to period classics (*Little Women*) to animation and fantasy (*Finding Nemo*, *Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events*), composer Thomas Newman is building on an amazing family tradition in Hollywood, with a varied body of work that has earned the praise of filmmakers ranging from Robert Altman to Gillian Armstrong. To date, Newman has received seven Oscar nominations for his film work: he was the only double nominee in 1994's Oscar race receiving nominations for both *Little Women* and *The Shawshank Redemption*, and he has since received nominations for his scores from *Unstrung Heroes*, *American Beauty*, *Road to Perdition*, *Finding Nemo* and most recently *Lemony*

Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events. Newman also won an Emmy for "Outstanding Main Title Theme Music" for HBO's award-winning drama "Six Feet Under."

Since the beginning of sound film, the Newman name has been an integral part of the evolution of film scoring. Thomas is the youngest son of the legendary Alfred Newman, a nine-time Oscar winner and 45-time nominee, who as musical director of 20th Century Fox from the mid-30s to the early 60s was responsible for overseeing or composing all of the music created for over 200 Fox films. Alfred's brother, Lionel, succeeded him as Fox music director. His cousin, Randy Newman, has also achieved fame in both pop music and film scoring, and brother David is also a busy film composer.

Although he grew up surrounded by music—with string quartets playing frequently in his Los Angeles home—Newman says he never felt any pressure to pursue the family tradition. As a child, he did take basic music and piano lessons, but it was not until after his father's early death in 1970, when Thomas was just 14, that he felt charged with the desire to pursue composition professionally.

Newman studied composition and orchestration at USC with professor Frederick Lesemann and noted film composer David Raksin, and privately with composer George Tremblay; he completed his academic work at Yale, studying with Jacob Druckman, Bruce MacCombie, and Robert Moore. But it was another composer who Newman says served as his greatest mentor: Broadway's Stephen Sondheim, who was deeply impressed with Newman's originality and championed one of his earliest works, the musical theater piece "Three Mean Fairy Tales," which received a workshop production courtesy of the Stuart Ostrow Foundation.

Newman also won the support of a young New York casting agent, Scott Rudin, who brought Newman aboard director James Foley's 1984 film *Reckless* as a musical assistant. Newman's initiative on the project soon elevated him to the position of composer, and at age 29 he had successfully scored his first film.

Newman's reputation for originality and for intensifying mood and character grew rapidly with such films as Ron Howard's comedy *Gung Ho*, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, *Scent of a Woman*, *The Rapture*, *Citizen Cohn*, and over 40 other major titles,

including: *Meet Joe Black*, *The Horse Whisperer*, *Up Close and Personal*, *Phenomenon*, *American Buffalo*, *The People Vs. Larry Flynt*, *Oscar and Lucinda*, *In the Bedroom*, *Pay It Forward*, *Erin Brockovich*, *Red Corner*, *How to Make an American Quilt*, *Flesh and Bone*, *Men Don't Leave*, *The Lost Boys*, *The Green Mile*, *Jarhead*, *Cinderella Man*, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, and *American Beauty*. Newman also recently composed the music for HBO's acclaimed 6-hour miniseries "Angels in America" directed by Mike Nichols. After composing the music for Todd Field's *Little Children*, he will reunite with director Steven Soderbergh to score his latest film, *The Good German*.

Newman was commissioned to create a unique seven-minute symphonic piece, "Reach Forth Our Hands," for the city of Cleveland commemorating their bicentennial in 1996.