



Johnson Production Group Press Kit

One-Liner

When an aspiring comedian is placed in charge of the Christmas Variety Show, she worries she might not have what it takes to pull off this make or break moment in her career, until she meets a famous comedian who not only makes her laugh, but makes her see how talented she truly is.

Synopsis

Aubri Callahan is an aspiring comedian and ghost writer for Bella Delmonico, acclaimed stand up comic and owner of the Vista Theater. Performing at the Vista is a key step on the way to stardom and despite her natural talent, Aubri patiently waits for her time to shine, writing jokes for Bella in the shadows of the comedic giants that came before her. When The Vista Theater Variety Show lands in Aubri's lap she must plan the whole event and find a headliner all before Christmas eve, just three weeks away. Aubri worries that the success of the show will be a make or break moment for her career. That is until famous Hollywood comedian Mike Baxter strolls into the theater. On the verge of his own life-changing opportunity, Mike has become nostalgic for the stage that launched his career, and he's immediately charmed by Aubri's quick witted banter. Fate seems to be calling Mike and Aubri up on stage at the Vista. There, Mike rediscovers his stand up roots and Aubri shows the world her inner funny girl, and as their journeys collide they fall hopelessly and hilariously in love, laughing all the way.

Producers

Executive Producers
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON
DAWN WOLFROM
ANDREW C. ERIN
OLIVER DE CAIGNY

Co-Executive Producers
JOSEPH WILKA
LISA ALFORD

Producer
JOSIE FITZGERALD

Key Cast

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>ACTOR</u>
Aubry Wilson	PANIZ ZADE
Mike Baxter	JAKE EPSTEIN
Ian Lyles	ISH MORRIS
Bella Deldomino	and MARY WALSH

Key Cast Biographies

PANIZ ZADE



Paniz Zade is a Canadian actress, model, and social media personality. The actress was born to supportive parents in Tehran and later moved to Canada when she was ten. She rose to fame after portraying the character role of Shadee in the TV Series, Run the Burbs. Paniz has been already credited with 24 TV appearances as an actress. She is best recognized for her role as a Salon Receptionist in the romantic drama film, Fifty Shades Darker, directed by James Foley in 2017.

Paniz is known for the TV projects such as Coroner (2019), Blood & Treasure, and The Handmaid's Tale (2019). Some of her recent TV projects are Green Baret's Guide to Surviving the Apocalypse, A Match for the Prince, and Luckless

in Love.

JAKE EPSTEIN



Jake Epstein is a Canadian actor, singer and writer. He is best known for playing Craig in 'Degraasi: The Next Generation' (Gemini Award), Chuck in 'Designated Survivor' and Brian in 'Suits,' along with many other leading roles. On stage, he appeared on Broadway as Peter Parker in 'Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark,' Gerry Goffin in 'Beautiful: The Carole King Musical' (original Broadway cast), and starred in the US National Tours of Green Day's American Idiot and Spring Awakening. His film work has included roles in A Christmas Village Romance, Terror in the Country, Eight Gifts of Hanukkah, Candy Cane Candidate as well as recurring roles in The Hardy Boys and The Umbrella Academy.

ISH MORRIS



Ish Morris is a successful actor and musician. After graduation, he launched an acting career where he started appearing in commercials, films, and TV shows. He starred in the television series "Soul" alongside Keshia Chante. He also landed a recurring role in The Family Channel's series "Baxter" and had a role in Saw 3D, the last film of the Saw horror franchise. Ish is also known for Suits, Supernatural, Killjoys and Good Witch. His recent TV Movies have included roles in The Evil Twin, Fit for a Prince, Baby It's Cold Inside, Evil Stepmom,

Boyfriends of Christmas Past, UnPerfect Christmas Wish, Feeling Butterflies, Christmas Lucky Charm, Christmas in Wolf Creek and All Aboard for Love.

MARY WALSH



Mary Walsh is a Newfoundland actor, writer, comedian, activist and mother. Among her many awards and doctorates, Mary is also the recipient of The Order of Canada and the Governor General's Lifetime Achievement Award in the Performing Arts.

No stranger to television audiences, Mary Walsh may be best known for her work on This Hour Has 22 Minutes, CBC's wildly popular take on current affairs. The series, which she also created, earned her many of her numerous Gemini awards and showcased her dynamic range of characters, including the flagrantly outspoken 'Marg Delahunty'.

Mary enjoyed 22 years as one of the hosts of This Hour Has 22 Minutes on CBC, a show she also created. The original This Hour Has 22 Minutes cast included Cathy Jones, Rick Mercer, Mary Walsh and Greg Thomey when it debuted in 1993. Hatching Matching and Dispatching aired for two seasons in 2005 and 2006. Mary played Mamie Lou Furey, the matriarch of a family in Cats Gut Cove, Newfoundland and Labrador who owned a combination ambulance, wedding and funeral business. Mary had a great time as a recent guest on Chopped Canada on the Food Network.

Walsh wrote, produced and starred in the Gemini award winning Hatching, Matching and Dispatching, and more recent television credits include CBC's Republic of Doyle, Global's Rookie Blue, and HBO Canada's Sensitive Skin, for which she was nominated for a 2017 Canadian Screen Award.

Mary Walsh has enjoyed an exciting film career and has played roles in more than 15 films to date. She was nominated for two Genies for her performances in feature films Crackie (Official selection at TIFF) and New Waterford Girl.

Production Credits

Full Cast

Actors

PANIZ ZADE
JAKE EPSTEIN
MARY WALSH
ISH MORRIS
PAUL CONSTABLE
CANDICE LIDSTONE
DERICK AGYEMANG
GREGORY WILSON
TIM PROGOSH
JINESEA LEWIS
MELISSA GERVASI
LUCA CARL THUNBERG

Role

Aubry Wilson
Mike Baxter
Bella Deldomino
Ian Lyles
Robert Busbee
Stephanie
Damon Cardona
Henry
Jeremy
Renee
Mother
Kid

Casting

RON LEACH, c.d.c.

Composer

RUSS HOWARD III

Costume Designer

AMANDA COLLIE

Editor

BEN LAWRENCE

Production Designer

GREGORY PHILIP WILSON

Director of Photography

MICHAEL TIEN

Story by

TATIANA ST. PHARD

MEGAN HOCKING

RICKIE CASTANEDA

Screenplay by

MEGAN HOCKING

RICKIE CASTANEDA

DANE K. BRAUN

Directed by

MARITA JANE GRABIAK

Other Crew

ALEXANDRA WARING

JOHNNY ROSS

JOHNNY ROSS

SARAH PETKOV

CIMARRON LANGLOIS

CIMARRON LANGLOIS

BORYS SHAPOVALOV

BEN HRKACH

AIDAN MAZEROLLE

REGAL BACKGROUND CASTING

MARY SAKS

GORAN POBRIĆ

LOGAN A. WAGNER

JOSHUA LANGE

MATTHEW CARVELL

MATTHEW CARVELL

Associate Producers

Production Manager

First Assistant Directors

Second Assistant Director

Third Assistant Director

On-Set Third Assistant Director

Fourth Assistant Director

Extras Casting

Production Coordinator

Production Accountant

First Assistant Accountant

Assistant Accountant

Post Production Accountant

GREGORY PHILIP WILSON	Production Designer
ELIZABETH FITZPATRICK	Art Director
TOMAS CHOVANEC	Set Decorators
ANTHONY RANKIN	
LINDSEY BELANGER	
NATHALIE GREGOIRE	Property Master
AMANDA COLLIE	Costume Designer
JESSICA DYKINS	Costume Truck Supervisor
JULIANNE HJARTARSON	Costume Set Supervisor
ERIN MORRISON	Wardrobe Assistant
ALEXANDRA NEUFELDT	
ROWAN STEELE	
MICHAEL TIEN	Director of Photography
JOSH HENDERSON	B Camera Operator
ADAM TESTA	A Camera - First Assistant Camera
JILLIAN SKIDMORE	A Camera - Second Assistant Camera
NIKKI TUBONGBANUA	
MATT CROSSE	B Camera - First Assistant Camera
LINDSEY BELANGER	B Camera - Second Assistant Camera
ADAM SOURGES	
GEGHANI PANOSIAN	EPK Camera Operator
RICHARD FRAZIER	Digital Imaging Technician
RICHARD FRAZIER	Camera Utility
GEGHANI PANOSIAN	
PETR MAUR	Stills Photographer
STEVEN F. S. BRUNI	Gaffer
NICK LYNCH	Best Electrics
YAN SCHNELL	
NICHOLAS HERMIER	Key Grip
RJ NADON	Best Grip
JAMES COWLING	Grip / Electric Swings
CONNOR DORZEK	
IAN FRASER	
NICK LYNCH	
SONIC LIGHTNING & SOUND	Sound by
FRANCESCO FALSETTO	Sound Mixer
ANDREW SUTHERLAND	Boom Operator
NICK SMITH	Script Supervisor
SAGINE CAVÉ	Unit Manager
KIM RODGER	Location Coordinator
JESSICA FERGUSON	Location Consultant
KEENE IMBLEAU	Key Location Production Assistant
NATALIE HONSHORST	Location Production Assistants
AEMON LOPER-GROSS	
CAMERON MATHESON	
JORDON PALAISY	
KAYLA PIETARINEN	

ALYSSA "ALY" MORDEN-HAYLEY	Key Makeup Artist
CHANCELE MULELA	Assistant Makeup Artist
NATASHA GABRIELA TREPANIER	Key Hair Stylist
NAKESHA CHONG	Makeup & Hair Assistants
GISELE MATTE	
KASSANDRA PEREIRA	
STEFANE GREGOIRE	Transport Coordinator
GREG LEWIS	Transport Captain
MICHAEL DICKSON	Drivers
OLMES LEON	
BILAL MAHMOUD	
KIM RODGER	
ROBERT STRONACH	
LYNN SPRACKLIN	Transport Production Assistants
PERRY MCCONNELL	
JAY VISNESKIE	
JULIANN WRIGHT	
STEPHANE BOUSQUET	Move Crew
JOSH GARBY	
KEITH STEFFENSEN	
CORNELIA VILLENEUVE	
DAN VILLENEUVE	
ERIC VILLENEUVE	
SEAN VILLENEUVE	
TOM WARRELL	Head Chef
GERRY WHALEN	Chef
MATTHEW DUBUC	Caterer
RONDA MACKINNON	Craft Service
THE NO CONFLICT CLEARANCE	Script Clearances by
HALL WEBER LLP	Legal Services by
DANNY WEBBER	
ABOVE THE LINE MEDIA	Business Affairs by
BRENDAN MCNEILL	
ARTHUR J. GALLAGHER CANADA	Insurance by
ALEXANDRA WARING	Post Production Supervisor
URBAN POST PRODUCTION	Post Production Services provided by
JOSEPH FACCIUOLO	Dialogue & ADR Editor
EHREN PFEIFER	ADR Recordist
KIRSTY SMITH	Sound FX Editors
LUKA TOMA	
MATT THIBIDEAU	Foley Artists
TESS MOIR	
DAWN LEWIS	
DAVE MERCEL	Foley Recordists
MIKE POISSON	
RUDY MICHAEL	Re-Recording Mixer
TYLER HALL	Re-Recording Assistant

ANDREW MANDZIUK	Colorist
EVAN GRAVES	VFX Artist
ANDREW MANDZIUK	Packaging & Online Editor
PETER TOKARSKY	Project Manager
BRUCE REES	Picture Operations Manager
ROBERTA BRATTI	V.P. of Operations
POND5/BLACKBOXGUILD	Stock Footage provided by
POND5/ODESIGNS	
POND5/RSTOCK	

Music

CHRISTMAS DAY DREAMING
by Tony Osborne
courtesy of Refuel Music and West One Music Group USA

CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU
by Alec Wilder and Arthur Jackson
courtesy of Refuel Music and West One Music Group USA

MERRY JAZZMAS
by Russell L. Howard III and Massimo Sammi
courtesy of Sweaty Avocado Music and Astral Avocado Music

Producer Biographies

TIM JOHNSON – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and global distribution appeal.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for CBS for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, he also developed and produced the original docu-drama COLD CASE for CBS network, which was the very first program to integrate television with the Internet.

Johnson has produced over 150 movies, 15 globally released series for every major US network - including ABC, Disney, CBS, NBC, Netflix, FOX and Sony.

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television content for international networks, studios and distributors. Based in Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia, the company manages production, facilitates development and financing, procures distribution and guarantees quality and timely execution of its programs. While costs have gone up, so has the demand for quality. No longer is good enough, good enough. Johnson Production Group serves that segment when a show needs to be "A" quality, but produced efficiently enough to meet a locked budget. JPG specializes in value, protection of creative elements, and delivery of a quality finished product.

DAWN WOLFROM – Executive Producer

Dawn Wolfrom specializes in developing and producing female driven movies and family friendly content. She has been involved in the film & television industry for 25 years having worked on over a dozen feature films, numerous television projects, shorts, a documentary, and over 250 commercials, promotional spots, industrials and music videos.

Dawn has also served as a panelist for the Austin Film Festival & Conference for several years as well as various panels for The Greater Philadelphia Film Office. She has served as a judge and consultant for the annual Set In Philly Screenwriting Competition, among other nationwide writing competitions.

Dawn was Executive Producer of two award winning short films. THE BOY won the Director's Choice Award at the The Diversity in Cannes Film Showcase 2015, The Award of Excellence at the International Film Festival for Women, Zero Discrimination and Social Issues. THE BOY received the INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN SILVER AWARD. As well, a special recognition for Director, Cayman Grant -- The Star of Humanity Award. On October 21st 2015, Gina Davis announced Best Female Filmmaker award to Cayman Grant City for THE BOY. Her film BUTTERFLIES has won the Winnipeg Film Festival and the Grand Prize Award at the Canada International Film Festival. At the London Film Awards, Butterflies was awarded the Cinematic Vision Award. At the Big Island Film Festival, Butterflies won Best Family Short and Best Audience Choice Award.

ANDREW C. ERIN – Executive Producer

Andrew Erin is a Canadian Writer/Director making a big splash in the US, and has produced, written and directed numerous commercially successful films. His directorial debut, SAM'S LAKE, was an official selection at the Tribeca Film Festival and did an excellent theatrical run in select theaters around the country; distributed by Lionsgate Films. Andrew also wrote the script for the film. Andrew's directorial credits include, SIMPLE THINGS, produced for Screen Media Ventures and Universal Studios. Besides winning The Bob Clark Award for Best Director at the California Independent Film Festival, the film was commercially received. Andrew has worked continuously as a writer/director, building a strong library of films in the Thriller/Horror genres with: Embrace of The Vampire, The Clinic, Final Sale, Confined and Toxic Skies.

OLIVER DE CAIGNY – Supervising Producer

Oliver De Caigny is a Canadian producer originally from Belgium, his background in financing, production, and post production makes him a well-rounded producer for any type of production. His experience in financing and production agreements (film and TV series and movies-of-the-week), distribution agreements (both domestic and foreign) as well as international co-productions, Canadian tax credit, Telefilm Canada and Canada Media Fund incentives provides him with a well-rounded background in development, production and distribution for motion pictures, television series and productions.

JOSEPH WILKA – Co-Executive Producer

Joseph Wilka is the Head of Production for Johnson Production Group. Los Angeles-based, Joseph had already produced and directed several feature films before serving as the senior marketing executive for Gravitas Ventures. While at Gravitas, Wilka helped pioneer new distribution models for independent films including day-and-date theatrical releases. It was also at Gravitas where Joseph first worked with

Johnson Production Group to facilitate the release of their films to the worldwide Video On Demand audience. After serving as the Director of Distribution and Production for Viva Pictures, where he produced English-language versions of foreign animated titles for DirecTV, Wilka officially joined Johnson Production Group. As Head of Production, he oversees the development, production, and distribution of films from multiple production units for release on broadcast and streaming platforms.

LISA ALFORD – Producer

Lisa Alford is a development executive at Johnson Production Group. A Massachusetts native, Lisa has lived and worked in Los Angeles for over a decade, always in support of excellent storytelling. Prior to joining Johnson Production Group, Lisa worked as an executive at TriStar television where she specialized in identifying IP that supported TriStar’s mission to feature diverse, authentic characters and champion underrepresented voices. Lisa came up at Sony Pictures Television where she worked as a production coordinator in the Television Movies and Miniseries department and in the writers room on the WGN hit series OUTSIDERS. In her current role, Lisa shepherds projects from the concept phase through story development, production, and post.

JOSIE FITZGERALD – Producer

Josie Fitzgerald is a Canadian born Producer currently residing and working in Ottawa, Ontario. Josie is also a passionate photographer and writer, with an education in Justice Studies and a professional background in Human Resources and Project Management.

Billing Block

LIFETIME PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP **LAUGHING
ALL THE WAY** starring PANIZ ZADE JAKE EPSTEIN ISH MORRIS and MARY WALSH
Casting RON LEACH, c.d.c. Composer RUSS HOWARD III Costume Designer AMANDA
COLLIE Editor BEN LAWRENCE Production Designer GREGORY PHILIP WILSON Director
of Photography MICHAEL TIEN Co-Executive Producers JOSEPH WILKA LISA ALFORD
Executive Producers DAWN WOLFROM ANDREW C. ERIN OLIVER DE CAIGNY TIMOTHY
O. JOHNSON Producer JOSIE FITZGERALD Story by TATIANA ST. PHARD MEGAN
HOCKING RICKIE CASTANEDA Screenplay by MEGAN HOCKING RICKIE CASTANEDA
DANE K. BRAUN Directed by MARITA JANE GRABIAK



The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

Canada

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Lifetime

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

Meta Data

LONG (max 3000 characters) synopsis

Aubri Callahan is an aspiring comedian and ghost writer for Bella Delmonico, acclaimed stand up comic and owner of the Vista Theater. Performing at the Vista is a key step on the way to stardom and despite her natural talent, Aubri patiently waits for her time to shine, writing jokes for Bella in the shadows of the comedic giants that came before her. When The Vista Theater Variety Show lands in Aubri's lap she must plan the whole event and find a headliner all before Christmas eve, just three weeks away. Aubri worries that the success of the show will be a make or break moment for her career. That is until famous Hollywood comedian Mike Baxter strolls into the theater. On the verge of his own life-changing opportunity, Mike has become nostalgic for the stage that launched his career, and he's immediately charmed by Aubri's quick witted banter. Fate seems to be calling Mike and Aubri up on stage at the Vista. There, Mike rediscovers his stand up roots and Aubri shows the world her inner funny girl, and as their journeys collide they fall hopelessly and hilariously in love, laughing all the way. (1111)

MEDIUM (max 500) synopsis

When an aspiring comedian is placed in charge of the Christmas Variety Show, she worries she might not have what it takes to pull off this make or break moment in her career, until she meets a famous comedian who not only makes her laugh, but makes her see how talented she truly is. (284)

SHORT (max 100 characters) synopsis

An aspiring comedian worries she might not be funny enough but a famous comic is instantly charmed. (100)

5 KEY WORDS

Theater, variety show, Christmas, romance