

CERCA TROVA

presents

a BEECH HILL FILMS Production

# HELENA FROM THE WEDDING

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For press materials, please visit [www.helenafromthewedding.com](http://www.helenafromthewedding.com)

1 hr 29 minutes

Written and Directed by

Joseph Infantolino

Produced by

Alexa L. Fogel

Brendan Mason

Director of Photography

Stephen Kazmierski

Edited by

Jennifer Lilly

## **CAST**

Alex

Lee Tergesen

Alice

Melanie Lynskey

Nick

Paul Fitzgerald

Helena

Gillian Jacobs

Don

Dominick Fumusa

Steven

Corey Stoll

Lynn

Jessica Hecht

Eve

Dagmara Diminczyk

## **Synopsis**

Having recently experienced a spectacular career failure, the last thing playwright Alex Javal (Lee Tergesen) wants to do is host a weekend long New Year's Eve party for his successful friends at a small cabin in the mountains. Yet that is what he is on the way to do when we meet him and his new wife Alice (Melanie Lynskey). As the clock ticks away another year and a surprise guest, the very beautiful and very young Helena (Gillian Jacobs) arrives, facades begin to buckle.

## **Director's Statement**

HELENA FROM THE WEDDING revolves around one dark night of the soul of Alex Javal, a man who is so distracted looking back that he doesn't see what is right in front of him. The film is my attempt to capture the feeling between the fading of youth and the beginning of the rest of life, and one thing New Year's Eve always offers: a look back across the plains of time before we move forward into the future.

--Joseph Infantolino, 2010

## THE FILMMAKERS

### **JOSEPH INFANTOLINO**

Writer/Director

HELENA FROM THE WEDDING is Joseph Infantolino's first feature film. He is the writer/director of the short film JIMMY BLUE which was an official selection of the 44<sup>th</sup> New York Film Festival (2006) among others. As a producer, his feature credits include films as varied as David Schwimmer's "RUN, FATBOY, RUN" (Picturehouse, 2008) and Jim McKay's "OUR SONG" (IFC Films, 2001).

### **ALEXA L. FOGEL**

Producer

In addition to HELENA FROM THE WEDDING, as a producer through her production company Beech Hill Films, Ms. Fogel's fifth feature RUN, FAT BOY, RUN starring Simon Pegg, Thandie Newton, and Hank Azaria (directed by David Schwimmer) was released by New Line and Picturehouse world-wide in 2008, and was the #1 film in the U.K. for five straight weeks. Other producing credits include A HOLE IN ONE (starring Michelle Williams), FACE (Sundance 2002), Jim McKay's OUR SONG (Sundance 2000), and CHARMING BILLY.

Alexa L. Fogel is currently casting the first season of HBO's new series TREME, by THE WIRE and GENERATION KILL creator David Simon, and Warren Leight's FX series LIGHTS OUT. Ms. Fogel recently completed casting RED TAILS for LucasFilm, a drama about the Tuskegee Airmen during WWII. Ms. Fogel cast the most recent season of the HBO series IN TREATMENT.

Ms. Fogel cast the acclaimed HBO original series THE WIRE (Artios Award for Dramatic Pilot Casting), and seven-part Iraq War tale GENERATION KILL (Emmy nomination) for Company Pictures and HBO Films, about the men of the First Marine Recon Battalion. Other recent casting projects have included Paul Haggis' THE BLACK DONNELLYS, Tom Fontana's HBO series OZ, Fontana's BEDFORD DIARIES, Spike Lee's pilot "M-O-N-Y," Lasse Hallstrom's NEW AMSTERDAM, Sidney Lumet's STRIP SEARCH, and Marc Forster's STAY.

Alexa L. Fogel is the former vice president for creative affairs of ABC Entertainment. During her tenure at ABC, Ms. Fogel won two Emmy Awards and two Artios Awards for NYPD BLUE, and an Artios Award for MURDER ONE. Ms. Fogel was also awarded three Artios Awards as casting director for Tom Fontana's award-winning HBO series OZ.

### **BRENDAN MASON**

Producer

Mr. Mason has been an Associate Producer for five years at Beech Hill Films, working on such productions as RUN, FAT BOY, RUN (Picturehouse), A HOLE IN ONE, and JIMMY BLUE (NYFF '06), among others. Prior to Beech Hill, Mr. Mason worked at Paramount Pictures.

### **STEPHEN KAZMIERSKI**

Director of Photography

New York based Director of Photography, Stephen Kazmierski, divides his time between dramatic projects and documentary films. The features he has shot include THE MYTH OF FINGERPRINTS, YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, THE CALLER and TRANSAMERICA. On the documentary side he has

been involved in projects like NANKING, SOUNDTRACK TO A REVOLUTION and LISTEN UP: THE LIVES OF QUINCY JONES.

**JENNIFER LILLY**

Editor

Jennifer Lilly began her career in the cutting rooms of New York's top directors, working on Woody Allen's SWEET AND LOWDOWN, SMALL TIME CROOKS, THE CURSE OF THE JADE SCORPION; Martin Scorsese's GANGS OF NEW YORK; and Sidney Lumet's STRIP SEARCH, FIND ME GUILTY, and BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD.

Ms. Lilly's editor credits include SORRY, THANKS – which premiered at SXSW in 2009. SORRY, THANKS was selected for the 2008 IFP Narrative Lab, and is the recipient of the Adrienne Shelly Director's Grant, 2008. For her on work on the film WERE THE WORLD MINE, Ms. Lilly was awarded The James Lyons Editing Award for Best Editing of a Narrative Feature at the 2008 Woodstock Film Festival. WERE THE WORLD MINE screened at over 100 international festivals, and has been awarded 21 other awards, including the Grand Jury Prize at Outfest, 2008.

In addition to editing feature films, Ms. Lilly directs and edits advocacy films for NGOs. She most recently completed a project for The Chilenje Mother & Child Support

## ABOUT THE CAST

### LEE TERGESEN

A veteran of both film and television, Lee Tergesen's film credits include MONSTER opposite Charlize Theron, THE FORGOTTEN with Julianne Moore, WAYNE'S WORLD, SHAFT and POINT BREAK. He can next be seen in the upcoming RED TAILS from Lucasfilm.

In television, Tergesen starred as 'Tobias Beecher' for 6 seasons on the acclaimed HBO series OZ. He has also starred in HBO's Emmy Award winning mini-series GENERATION KILL and BURY MY HEART AT WOUNDED KNEE. Additionally, recent credits include "House" (Fox), "Criminal Minds" (CBS) and "The New Adventures of Old Christine" (CBS) and a recurring role on ABC's "Desperate Housewives," to name a few. He will next appear on NBC's "Law and Order: SVU."

Tergesen was last seen onstage in "Good Boys and True" at Second Stage Theatre and in "The Foreigner" at the Laura Pels Theatre.

### MELANIE LYNSKEY

An accomplished and versatile actress, New Zealand born Melanie Lynskey took audiences by storm in 1994 with her award winning performance (Best Actress Award in a film from the New Zealand Film & Television Awards) in Peter Jackson's HEAVENLY CREATURES opposite Kate Winslet. Since then, she has amassed a number of credits both in television and on film.

Prior film credits include: Jason Reitman's UP IN THE AIR, Tim Blake Nelson's LEAVES OF GRASS in which she stars opposite Edward Norton; Steven Soderbergh's THE INFORMANT in which she stars opposite Matt Damon; Sam Mendes' latest film AWAY WE GO; Clint Eastwood's FLAGS OF OUR FATHERS (where she played the female lead "Pauline Harnois"); and SHOW OF HANDS for the New Zealand Film Commission.

Additional feature film credits also include: Andy Tennant's EVER AFTER also starring Drew Barrymore; SWEET HOME ALABAMA opposite Reese Witherspoon; Billy Ray's SHATTERED GLASS with Hayden Christensen and Peter Sarsgaard; Michael Cacoyannis' THE CHERRY ORCHARD with Charlotte Rampling and Alan Bates; and the independent New Zealand road movie SNAKESKIN, which garnered Lynskey her second New Zealand Film and Television Award nomination for Best Actress. Melanie worked again with Peter Jackson in his second film THE FRIGHTENERS and garnered excellent notices for her work in Stephen Gagan's directorial debut film ABANDON.

Television audiences know her best as "Rose" in the CBS hit series "Two and Half Men" opposite Charlie Sheen. She recently completed recording for the HBO animated series THE LIFE AND TIMES OF TIM. She has guest starred in numerous Television series including "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia", "The L Word" (Showtime); "Psych" (USA); "The Shield" (2 episodes); and was one of the leads in the Fox Series, "Drive". Her miniseries credits are "Comanche Moon" (the prequel to "Lonesome Dove") and Stephen King's "Rose Red."

### PAUL FITZGERALD

In addition to being a published playwright ("No Problem," "The Floatplane Notebooks") and screenwriter, Paul's most recent acting work includes the role of Richard Henry Lee in the Emmy nominated JOHN ADAMS mini-series for HBO. His recent television work includes "The Mentalist," "Cupid," "Fringe," "Eleventh Hour," "Without A Trace," "Nip/Tuck," "Medium," "CSI: Miami," "Big Shots," "Six Degrees," "The West Wing," "The Practice," "Will and Grace," "Roswell," "Wasteland,"

"The Opposite Sex," all the "Law & Orders," "MYOB" and as Professor Sean Dixon in the WB series "The Bedford Diaries."

As a writer/director, Paul's directorial debut feature, FORGIVEN, premiered at the 2006 Sundance Film Festival, where it was nominated for the Grand Jury Prize, and has gone on to play festivals around the US and Europe— including The Deauville American Film Festival (dramatic competition), AFI, The Milan International Film Festival, Motovun (Croatia), Rhode Island, Breckenridge and the Bend Film Festivals, winning multiple awards for directing, screenwriting and performance.

His additional feature film credits include CRAZY LIKE A FOX opposite Mary McDonnell. His notable New York theatre credits include the Broadway hit revival of "Noises Off" (opposite Jane Curtain) and the downtown rock musical "Debbie Does Dallas."

Born in New York City and raised in Lynchburg, Virginia, Paul graduated from E.C. Glass High in 1989 and went on to study theatre and acting at Northwestern University. He received his masters in acting at the Old Globe/University of San Diego Drama School. He currently resides in Brooklyn, New York.

## **GILLIAN JACOBS**

Jacobs can currently be seen in NBC's new comedy "Community." Created by Emmy award directors Joe and Anthony Russo (Arrested Development), the show takes place at Greendale Community in which Jacobs plays Britta, a student at the college serious about getting her degree, after dropping out years prior.

On the big screen, Jacobs starred last November opposite Cameron Diaz, James Marsden and Frank Langella in Richard Kelly's THE BOX. The film revolves around a couple who receive a box with a mysterious power.

Jacobs also recently wrapped production on several independent films including COACH opposite Hugh Dancy; NONAMES for director Kathy Lindboe; and WATCHING TV WITH THE RED CHINESE.

Additional credits include CHOKE opposite Sam Rockwell and Angelica Huston, which premiered at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival and won a Special Jury Prize for "Best Ensemble Cast" and as the lead in GARDENS OF THE NIGHT opposite John Malkovich and Tom Arnold, which premiered at the 2008 Berlin Film Festival. Her television credits include roles on FRINGE, LAW AND ORDER CRIMINAL INTENT, THE BOOK OF DANIEL, and TRAVELER.

Gillian recently appeared off-Broadway at the Public Theater in Phillip Seymour Hoffman's "The Little Flower of East Orange" opposite Ellen Burstyn and Michael Shannon. She has also starred in "A Feminine Ending" at the Playwrights Theater and in Adam Rapp's "Cagelove" at the Rattlestick Theater.

Jacobs received her Bachelor of Fine Arts at The Julliard School.

## **JESSICA HECHT**

One of New York's most respected stage actors, Jessica is currently starring with Scarlett Johansson and Liev Schreiber in Arthur Miller's "A View from the Bridge." She recently appeared in the revival of Neil Simon's award winning play "Brighton Beach Memoirs." Her other Broadway



credits include Arthur Miller's "After the Fall," Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" opposite Denzel Washington and the world premiere of the Tony Award winning "The Last Night of Ballyhoo."

Ms. Hecht will next appear in film as Sam Rockwell's wife in THE WINNING SEASON as well as in MY SOUL TO TAKE directed by horror master Wes Craven. Jessica was just seen with Larry David in Woody Allen's WHATEVER WORKS. Other notable films include DAN IN REAL LIFE with Steve Carrell, STARTING OUT IN THE EVENING with Frank Langella, SIDEWAYS with Paul Giamatti, THE FORGOTTEN with Julianne Moore, and THE GREY ZONE directed by Tim Blake Nelson.

Jessica Hecht's television work is extensive and most recently includes a recurring role opposite Bryan Cranston on the Emmy nominated cable hit "Breaking Bad"(AMC). Well known for her 5 season recur as "Susan" on "Friends" (NBC), she starred with Jonathan Silverman in "The Single Guy" (NBC) and with Joan Cusack in "What about Joan?" (ABC) created by James Brooks. Equally adept in drama or comedy, Jessica's many memorable performances include appearances on "The Good Wife", "ER", "Law & Order", "Law & Order" SVU", "Homicide: Life on the Street", "Seinfeld" and "Jesse Stone: Thin Ice" with Tom Selleck.

Her many Off-Broadway starring roles include "Make Me" (Atlantic Theater), "The House in Town" (Lincoln Center) "Stop, Kiss" (The Public), "Lobster Alice" and "Plunge" (Playwrights Horizons), "Flesh and Blood" (N.Y. Theater Workshop) and "The Forth Sister" (Vineyard Theatre). She also has performed the past seven seasons at the world famous Williamstown Theatre Festival.

#### **DAGMARA DOMINCZYK**

Dagmara Dominczyk's films include ROCK STAR, THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO, THEY, KINSEY, THE PRISONER, MENTOR, TRUST THE MAN, RUNNING WITH SCISSORS, and LONELY HEARTS.

She starred on Broadway in "Closer," "Enchanted April," and "The Violet Hour." TV credits include "The Five People You Meet in Heaven," and "24."

#### **DOMINIC FUMUSA**

Dominic Fumusa is currently starring as series regular 'Kevin Peyton' in Showtime's "Nurse Jackie."

His feature film credits include the soon-to-be-released STAEN ISLAND, Marcus Dean Fuller's ONE FALL, MANAGEMENT, THIS IS A STORY ABOUT TED AND ALICE (2008 Cannes Film Festival), DEALBREAKER directed and written by Gwyneth Paltrow, GRILLED (opposite Burt Reynolds), *The Guru*, and *Chloe's Prayer*.

Fumusa's other television credits include *Sex and the City*, *The Sopranos*, *Brotherhood*, *Kings*, *NYPD Blue*, *Hack*, *Numb3rs*, *Threshold*, *Bones* and appearances on *Law & Order* and *CSI*.

Last Spring, Dominic starred in Stephen Belber's hit play *Fault Lines* directed by David Schwimmer at the Cherry Lane Theater. In New York and in London, Fumusa originated the role of 'Toddy Koovitz' in Richard Greenberg's Tony-winning *Take Me Out* directed by Joe Mantello. Fumusa made his Broadway debut opposite Marisa Tomei and Quentin Tarantino in *Wait Until Dark*. Other Broadway credits include *A Flea in Her Ear* at the Roundabout Theater Company.

Fumusa lives in Brooklyn with his wife, the actress/producer Ilana Levine, and their two young children, Georgia and Caleb.

## **COREY STOLL**

New Yorker Corey Stoll has been acting steadily in theater, film and television since graduating from NYU's Tisch School Masters Program in 2003.

In 2010, Corey will appear in Philip Noyce's feature film SALT opposite Angelina Jolie. This spring, Corey will appear opposite Liev Schreiber and Scarlet Johnansen in "A View From the Bridge" on Broadway.

Recent engagements include 'Vershinin' in Sarah Ruhl's adaptation of "Three Sisters," directed by John Doyle at the Cincinnati Playhouse on the Park. Other Broadway credits include "Old Acquaintance" (Roundabout) and in "Henry IV" (Lincoln Center Theater).

Off Broadway, Corey is best known for originating the role of 'Marks' opposite Viola Davis in "Intimate Apparel" (Drama Desk Award Nominated for Roundabout production, Drama Critics Circle Award for the Los Angeles production.) Corey also originated the title role in Michael Weller's play "Beast" at New York Theater Workshop and appeared in the revival of "Some Americans Abroad" at Second Stage.

Other film work includes PUSH, NORTH COUNTRY, LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN and BRIEF INTERVIEWS WITH HIDEOUS MEN. Corey has also made numerous appearances in episodic television.

## **CREDITS**

### **CAST**

Alex	Lee Tergesen
Alice	Melanie Lynskey
Nick	Paul Fitzgerald
Helena	Gillian Jacobs
Don	Dominick Fumusa
Steven	Corey Stoll
Lynn	Jessica Hecht
Eve	Dagmara Diminczyk

### **CREW**

Written and Directed by	Joseph Infantolino
Produced by	Alexa L. Fogel
	Brendan Mason
Director of Photography	Stephen Kazmierski
Edited by	Jennifer Lilly
Production Designer	John Bonafede
Costume Designer	Natasha Noorvash
Casting by	Suzanne Smith Crowley
	Jessica Kelly
Production Manager	Arthur Vincie
Makeup Dept Head	Aleta Wolfe
Gaffer	Paul Gallan
Grip (and appearing as "The Trooper")	Jason Shanski
First Set Costumer	Sara Paterno
Production Sound Mixer	Micah Bloomberg
Boom Operator	Timothy Cleary
Production Assistant	Mark Burzynski
	Andrew Maher
	Adam Schweig
Dialect Coach	Jerome Butler
Sound Designer and Mix	Quentin Chiappetta
Sound Editor	David Briggs