



VARIANCE
FILMS

PRESENT

RED HOOK SUMMER

THE NEW SPIKE LEE JOINT



DIRECTOR: Spike Lee

SCREENPLAY BY: Spike Lee & James McBride

RELEASE DATE: August 10, 2012 (NYC), August 24, 2012 (Expansion)

STARRING: Clarke Peters, Jules Brown, Toni Lysaith, Nate Parker, James Ransone, Thomas Jefferson Byrd

RUN TIME/FORMAT: 121 minutes – DCP Digital – 1.85 Flat – English – Color – 2012

MPAA RATING: Rated "R" for brief violence, language, and a disturbing situation

OFFICIAL WEBSITES:

www.redhooksummer.com

www.facebook.com/redhooksummer

TO DOWNLOAD STILLS:

www.variancefilms.com/redhooksummerpress

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SYNOPSIS

The latest in Spike Lee's Chronicles of Brooklyn series (which also include SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT, DO THE RIGHT THING, CROOKLYN, CLOCKERS, and HE GOT GAME), RED HOOK SUMMER tells the story of Flik Royale, a sullen young boy from middle-class Atlanta who has come to spend the summer with his deeply religious grandfather, Bishop Enoch Rouse, in the housing projects of Red Hook. Having never met before, things quickly get off on the wrong foot as Bishop Enoch relentlessly attempts to convert Flik into a follower of Jesus Christ. Between his grandfather's constant preaching and the culture shock of inner-city life, Flik's summer appears to be a total disaster--until he meets Chazz Morningstar, a pretty girl his age, who shows Flik the brighter side of Brooklyn. Through her love and the love of his grandfather, Flik begins to realize that the world is a lot bigger, and perhaps a lot better, than he'd ever imagined.



THE CAST

Da Good Bishop Enoch Rouse	CLARKE PETERS
Flik Royale	JULES BROWN
Chazz Morningstar	TONI LYSAITH
Box	NATE PARKER
Deacon Zee	THOMAS JEFFERSON BYRD
Sister Sharon Morningstar	HEATHER ALICIA SIMMS
Blessing Rowe	COLMAN DOMINGO
Kevin	JAMES RANSONE
Colleen Royale	DE'ADRE AZIZA
Sister Sweet	KIMBERLY HÉBERT-GREGORY
Deacon Yancy	STEVE HENDERSON
Da Organist TK Hazelton	JONATHAN BATISTE
Patty	SAMANTHA IVERS
Mother Darling	TRACY CAMILLA JOHNS
Mr. Mookie	SPIKE LEE
Butter Turron	KOFI ALLEYNE
Born Knowledge	FRED TOLLIVER, JR.
Miss Marshall	LILLIE MARSHALL
Mr. Curtis	ARTHUR FRENCH
Cliff	DANIEL BREAKER
Hazel	QUINCY TYLER BERNSTINE
Blessing Rowe (at 12)	SINCERE PETERS
Detective Flood	ISIAH WHITLOCK JR.
Detective Haggerty	AL PALAGONIA
Box's Lady	EVE LORA
Donna/Kayak Instructor	LOUANNE HARRIS
Kayak Kids	JACKSON LEE
	TYHEIM SMITH
Lil' Budda	NESEAN SMITH

LIL' PEACE OF HEAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH OF RED HOOK CHOIR

Choir Director – Jim Davis

Courtney D. Carey

Mari-Yan L. Pringle

Janinah Burnett

Sakura Myers

Sumayya Ali

Shani Foster

Charlotte Small

Charles Anthony Bryant

Kayinde Harris

Brandon Waddles

Edwin G. Robinson

Kevin D. Johnson

Moriah Scott

Gregory A. Robinson

Briana Swann

Brian K. Major

THE CREW

DIRECTED BY
Spike Lee

WRITTEN BY
James McBride & Spike Lee

PRODUCER
Spike Lee

CO-PRODUCER
James McBride

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY
Kerwin Devonish

EDITOR
Hye Mee Na

PRODUCTION DESIGNER
Sarah Frank

MUSIC BY
Bruce Hornsby

SONGS BY
Judith Hill

ALL NEGRO SPIRITUALS ARRANGED BY
Dr. Uzee Brown

ALL ORIGINAL HAMMOND B-3 ORGAN MUSIC WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY
Jonathan Batiste

40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks in association with **Variance Films**
presents

A Spike Lee Joint

RED HOOK SUMMER

ABOUT SPIKE LEE

SPIKE LEE is a notable Writer, Director, Producer, Actor, Author and Educator who revolutionized both the landscape of independent cinema and the role of black talent in film. Widely regarded as a premiere African-American filmmaker, Lee is a forerunner in the 'do it yourself' school of filmmaking.

Prior to RED HOOK SUMMER, Spike's most recent endeavor was the follow-up documentary *If God is Willing and Da Creek Don't Rise*, which revisits the recently storm-ravaged Gulf Coast region as residents attempt to rebuild in their cities while also demanding assistance and accountability from their political leaders. This film comes on the heels of *When the Levees Broke: A Requiem in Four Acts*, the groundbreaking first documentary that followed the plight of Americans stranded in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The release of *If God is Willing and Da Creek Don't Rise* coincided with the fifth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina in the summer of 2010.

Lee's recent theatrical release *Miracle at St. Anna* is set in 1944 and chronicles the story of four black American soldiers who are members of the US Army as part of the all-black 92nd "Buffalo Soldier" Division, trapped behind enemy lines in Tuscany, Italy during World War II. An avid sports enthusiast, Lee also completed a one day 18-camera documentary shoot focusing on NBA standout Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers. Produced for ESPN, the unique piece is entitled *Kobe Doin' Work*. Another recent project, *Passing Strange: The Movie* – showcases the critically acclaimed Broadway musical, which explores the travels of a young African American musician in search of himself. *Passing Strange* debuted at the Sundance Film Festival.

Other critical and box office successes have included such films as *Inside Man*, *25th Hour*, *The Original Kings of Comedy*, *Bamboozled* and *Summer of Sam*. Lee's films *Girl 6*, *Get On the Bus*, *Do the Right Thing* and *Clockers* display his ability to showcase a series of outspoken and provocative socio-political critiques that challenge cultural assumptions, not only about race, but class and gender identity as well.

His debut film, the independently produced comedy *She's Gotta Have It* earned him the Prix de Jeunesse Award at the Cannes Film festival in 1986 and set him at the forefront of the Black New Wave in American Cinema. His second feature, the very profitable and critically acclaimed *School Daze*, helped launch the careers of several young Black actors. Lee's timely 1989 film, *Do the Right Thing*, garnered an Academy Award® nomination for Best Original Screenplay, and Best Film and Director awards from the Los Angeles Film Critics Association. Lee's *Jungle Fever*, *Mo' Better Blues*, *Clockers* and *Crooklyn* were also well received by critics and fans alike. His epic drama *Malcolm X* starring Denzel Washington, received two Academy Award® nominations.

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, and raised in Brooklyn, Lee returned south to attend Morehouse College. After graduation, he returned to Brooklyn to continue his education at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in Manhattan, where he received his Master of Fine Arts Degree in film production. He founded 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks, based in the Fort Greene section of Brooklyn, where he has resided since childhood.

In addition to his film achievements, Lee has produced and directed numerous music videos for diverse artists including Chaka Khan, Tracy Chapman, Anita Baker, Public Enemy, Bruce Hornsby and Michael Jackson. His other music videos include work for the late Miles Davis and Phyllis Hyman, Naughty by Nature and Arrested Development.

Lee's commercial work began in 1988 with his Nike Air Jordan campaign. Collaborating with basketball great Michael Jordan on several commercials, Lee resurrected his popular character, Mars Blackmon from *She's Gotta Have It*. He has also completed a PSA for UNCF entitled *Two Michaels*, which also features Michael Jordan. Lee is also well known for his Levi's Button-Fly 501, AT&T and ESPN television commercials. His other commercial ventures include TV spots for Philips, Nike, American Express, Snapple and Taco Bell. Lee has also directed several Art Spot Shorts for MTV and a short film featuring Branford Marsalis and Diahnne Abbott for Saturday Night Live.

Lee is also involved in documentaries and sports programs. He completed the Emmy and Oscar®-

nominated documentary *4 Little Girls* for HBO and received an Emmy Award for his piece on Georgetown's John Thompson for HBO/Real Sports.

Additionally, Lee has authored nine books on the making of his films. The fifth book, *Five For Five* served as a pictorial reflection of his first five features. He then followed up with *Best Seat in the House*, authored with Ralph Wiley. Lee and his wife Tonya Lewis Lee co-authored three children's books entitled *Please, Baby, Please; Please, Puppy, Please* and *Giant Steps to Change the World*. In 2005, he authored a retrospective book about his film career entitled *That's My Story and I'm Sticking to It*.

Ever moving into new areas, Spike Lee has combined his extensive creative experience into yet another venture: partnering with DDB Needham, he created Spike/DDB, a full-service advertising agency.

EDUCATION

Morehouse College, BA 1979
New York University, MFA Film Production 1982
Named Artistic Director Of NYU Graduate Film School 2002
New York University Arts Professor 2005

Honorary Degrees

Brooklyn College 1997
Emerson College 1997
Pratt Institute 1997
New York University 1998
Princeton University 2001
Long Island University 2007
Teachers College Columbia University 2010
University of Michigan 2011
American Film Institute 2011



THE SPIKE LEE JOINTOGRAPHY

FEATURE FILMS (AS DIRECTOR)

RED HOOK SUMMER (2012)
PASSING STRANGE (2009)
MIRACLE AT ST. ANNA (2008)
INSIDE MAN (2006)
SHE HATE ME (2004)
25th HOUR (2002)
BAMBOOZLED (2000)
THE ORIGINAL KINGS OF COMEDY (2000)
SUMMER OF SAM (1999)
HE GOT GAME (1998)
GET ON THE BUS (1997)
GIRL 6 (1996)
CLOCKERS (1995)
CROOKLYN (1994)
MALCOLM X (1992)
JUNGLE FEVER (1991)
MO' BETTER BLUES (1990)
DO THE RIGHT THING (1989)
SCHOOL DAZE (1988)
SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT (1986)

DOCUMENTARY FILMS (AS DIRECTOR)

IF GOD IS WILLING AND DA CREEK DON'T RISE (2010)
KOBE DOIN' WORK (2009)
WHEN THE LEVEES BROKE (2006)
JIM BROWN: ALL-AMERICAN (2002)
4 LITTLE GIRLS (1997)

TV SPECIALS

HBO: "Da Brick" (2011)
CBS: "Shark" (2008)
NBC: "M.O.N.Y." (2006)
SHOWTIME: "Sucker Free City" (2003)
BET/STARZ: "A Huey P. Newton Story" (2001)
PBS: "Pavarotti & Friends" Great Performances (1999)
PBS: "Pavarotti & Friends" Great Performances (1998)
HBO: "FREAK" (1998)

STUDENT FILMS (NEW YORK UNIVERSITY)

JOE'S BED-STUY BARBERSHOP: WE CUT HEADS (1982, THESIS)
SARAH (1981)
THE ANSWER (1980)

AS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

PARIAH (2011)
YOU'RE NOBODY 'TIL SOMEBODY KILLS YOU (2011)
THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA (2004)
GOOD FENCES (2003)
3 AM (2001)
LOVE & BASKETBALL (2000)
THE BEST MAN (1999)
TALES FROM THE HOOD (1995)
NEW JERSEY DRIVE (1995)
DROP SQUAD (1994)

SHORT FILMS

ABSOLUT BROOKLYN (2009)
MASSIVE GOODS (2009)
JAY-Z FOR A DAY (2009)
NOKIA (2008)
CASIO: G SHOCK (2008)
UNICEF: JESUS CHILDREN OF AMERICA (2005)
NY YANKEES: COME RAIN OR SHINE/CONCERT FOR NEW YORK CITY (2001)
WE WUZ ROBBED: 10 MINUTES OLDER (2001)
PROGRESSIVE NETWORKS: THE CRAFT OF ACTING (1997)
PROGRESSIVE NETWORKS: COMPUTER WIZ (1997)
PROGRESSIVE NETWORKS: DANCE (1997)
HBO: REAL SPORTS "JOHN THOMPSON" COACH (1995)
HBO: IRON MIKE TYSON (1991)
MTV: FIVE ONE-MINUTE SPOTS (1989)
HORN OF PLENTY: SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE (1986)

BOOKS

Giant Steps To Change The World (Co-Author Tonya Lewis Lee) (2011)
Spike Lee: Do The Right Thing (2010)
Miracle At St. Anna: The Motion Picture (2009)
Please, Puppy, Please (Co-Author Tonya Lewis Lee) (2005)
Please, Baby, Please (Co-Author Tonya Lewis Lee) (2002)
Best Seat In The House: A Basketball Memoir (1997)
By Any Means Necessary: The Trials And Tribulations Of Making MALCOLM X (1993)
5 For 5 (1992)
Mo' Better Blues (1991)
Do The Right Thing: A Spike Lee Joint (1990)
Uplift The Race: The Construction Of School Daze (1989)
Spike Lee's Gotta Have It: Inside Guerrilla Filmmaking (1988)

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

Clarke Peters (Bishop Enoch Rouse)

Clarke's theatre credits include *The Iceman Cometh* (Theatre World Award for Outstanding Newcomer) and *Chicago* (Broadway); *Guys & Dolls* and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* (National Theatre); *Porgy and Bess*, *The Iceman Cometh*, *Chicago*, *Driving Miss Daisy* (nominated for an Olivier Award for Best Actor), *Blues in the Night* and *King* (West End).

Clarke wrote *Five Guys Named Moe*, which won the Olivier Award for Best Entertainment and the BASE Awards for Best Actor and Best Musical and was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Book. It ran for over four years in the West End and on Broadway. He also co-wrote (with Larrington Walker) the tribute musical to Nat King Cole – *Unforgettable*.

Clarke appeared with Dominic West in the hit series "The Wire" (HBO), playing Detective Lester Freamon. Recently, Clarke has reteamed with "The Wire" creator David Simon on his new series, "Treme", playing Albert Lambreaux. Additional television roles include "Jonathan Creek" and "Holby City" (BBC) and "Damages" (FX).

Clarke's film credits include BRIEF INTERVIEWS WITH HIDEOUS MEN, ENDGAME, MARLEY AND ME, K-PAX, NOTTING HILL, and MONA LISA.

Jules Brown (Flik Royale)

Born Jules Taylor Brown in Brooklyn, NY on October 21, 1997, Jules grew up surrounded by the arts and made the decision to become an actor after he performed in his 6th grade production of *Mystery on 13th Street*. Jules continued to act in his school productions and honed his acting skills through his middle school's theater arts program. The hard work paid off when Jules was discovered by Spike Lee in 8th grade for his current role as Flik Royale. Jules is an avid skateboarder, amateur photographer and lives in New York with his family.

Toni Lysaith (Chazz Morningstar)

Toni Lysaith was born on January 17, 1997 in Brooklyn, NY. Toni caught the acting bug at the age of nine when she landed her first role, as Langston Hughes's mother in an elementary school performance about the poet. While attending middle school at the Ronald Edmonds Learning Center, Toni enrolled as a theater arts major and studied a diverse cross-section of skills including improvisational technique. She was cast in two roles, Dorothy and Glenda, in the school's production of *The Wicked Witch of Oz*. During her 8th grade year, Toni was discovered by Spike Lee and selected to play Chazz Morningstar.

Nate Parker (Box)

Actor and humanitarian Nate Parker first received critical attention for his starring role in The Weinstein Company's THE GREAT DEBATERS opposite Denzel Washington (who also directed the film) and Forest Whitaker. Denzel handpicked him to play the troubled yet brilliant, 'Henry Lowe,' who overcomes his selfish ways and becomes the team's leader. Nate received an honorary Doctorate from Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, the school on which the true story THE GREAT DEBATERS was based.

Nate recently finished shooting the lead role in 20th Century Fox's RED TAILS, in which he is supported by Terrence Howard and Cuba Gooding, Jr. It tells the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, who were the first African-American military aviators in the U.S. Army Air Corps and were some of the finest pilots in World War II. George Lucas funded and produced this Fox feature, which was released in early 2012.

Nate also starred opposite Alicia Keys in THE SECRET LIFE OF BEES, which featured an all-star cast of Queen Latifah, Jennifer Hudson, Dakota Fanning and Paul Bettany. Additionally, Nate has been seen in PRIDE alongside Terrence Howard, DIRTY opposite Cuba Gooding Jr. and FELON with Stephen Dorff and Sam Shepard. On stage, Nate appeared opposite Dustin Hoffman, Annette Benning, Rosario Dawson and James Cromwell in *American Voices* at the Broad Street Theater.

Nate will next be seen starring in the independent film *ARBITRAGE* opposite Richard Gere, Susan Sarandon and Tim Roth, which appeared alongside *RED HOOK SUMMER* at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival.

He mentors twenty-four children from schools in central Los Angeles and spearheads projects and events with the Boys and Girls Clubs of America. He sponsors a Peace for Kids scholarship fund and volunteers in their afterschool program.

Thomas Jefferson Byrd (Deacon Zee)

Born in Georgia, Byrd earned a bachelor of science degree in education from Morris Brown College and later received a master of fine arts degree in dance from California Institute of the Arts. He has starred in numerous regional stage productions including the San Diego Repertory Theater's award-winning performance of *Spunk*. He has also starred in *Home* by Samm-Art Evans, *Two Trains Running*, *The Piano Lesson* and *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* at the Alliance Theater, *Flyin' West*, *Hamlet* and *Miss Evers' Boys* at the Indiana Repertory, and in other productions of *Flyin' West* at the Brooklyn Academy of Music and at the Long Wharf Theater. Byrd was nominated for a Tony Award in 2003 for Best Actor (Featured Role- Play) for his work in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*.

A Spike Lee alumnus, Byrd has won acclaim for several of his roles in Lee's films, including his parts as Honeycutt in *BAMBOOZLED*, Sweetness in *HE GOT GAME*, Evan Thomas Sr. in *GET ON THE BUS*, and Errol Barnes in *CLOCKERS*. Additional film work includes *BROOKLYN'S FINEST*, *RAY*, *BOYCOTT*, *BULWORTH*, and *TROIS*.

Heather Alicia Simms (Sister Sharon Morningstar)

Heather Alicia Simms' past credits include Broadway: *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *A Raisin In The Sun*, and *Gem of the Ocean*. Off-Broadway: *born bad (Soho Rep)*, *The Brother/Sister Plays (The Public)*, *The Exonerated (National Tour)*, *Insurrection: Holding History (The Public)*, and *Breath, Boom (Playwright's Horizons)*. Her regional credits include productions at The McCarter, The Kennedy Center, The O'Neill, The Denver Center, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Missouri Repertory Theatre, Stamford TheatreWorks, and NY Stage and Film.

Her television credits include: "The Good Wife", "Life Support", "Law and Order", "Law and Order: CI", "Whoopi", "Third Watch", and "Homicide: Life on the Street". Her film credits include *THE NANNY DIARIES*, *BROKEN FLOWERS*, *YOU BELONG TO ME*, *HEAD OF STATE*, *KINGS COUNTY*, *NY'S DIRTY LAUNDRY* and *STREAM* with Whoopi Goldberg. Heather is also an accomplished voice-over artist and winner of a 2006 Audie Award for the audiobook *Upstate*. Heather received her BA from Tufts University in History and English, as well as her MFA from Columbia University. Heather is the recipient of a Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship through Theater Communications Group.

Colman Domingo (Blessing Rowe)

A 2011 Tony Award Nominee for Best Actor in a Featured Role - Musical for the *The Scottsboro Boys*, Domingo is already the recipient of an OBIE, Lucille Lortel, and GLAAD Award, among others, and has been nominated for The Drama Desk, Drama League, Audelco and Fred Astaire Awards. Colman has starred in the Tony Award-winning Broadway musicals *Passing Strange* (which was also filmed by Spike Lee) and *Chicago*, as slick lawyer Billy Flynn.

He will be seen next in supporting roles in 3 films that are slated for release in 2012 that include *LINCOLN* (directed by Steven Spielberg), *HAIRBRAINED* and *CULLING HENS*. His additional film work includes Spike Lee's *MIRACLE AT ST. ANA*, Clint Eastwood's *TRUE CRIME*, Joe Roth's *FREEDOMLAND*, *AROUND THE FIRE* and *KING OF THE BINGO GAME*, among others. He is always adding television guest star and recurring roles to his portfolio.

Mr. Domingo is an emerging playwright, and authored the multiple award-winning solo play *A Boy and His Soul*. He was recently an artistic fellow with the Sundance Theater Lab, New York Theater Workshop, The Public Theater and Theatreworks, where he developed his new play *Wild With Happy* which will premiere at

The Public Theater in the fall of 2012 and have subsequent productions at Theatreworks in California and The Tricycle Theater in London. He is currently starring in the revival of Athol Fugard's masterwork *Blood Knot*, directed by Fugard himself. He makes New York City his home.

James Ransone (Kevin)

James Ransone is a New York based character actor who is best known for his roles on HBO's "The Wire" and "Generation Kill". Along with many other film and TV credits, RED HOOK SUMMER will be his third project with Spike Lee, including the hugely successful INSIDE MAN. He is currently working on the Alan Hughes neo noir BROKEN CITY alongside Mark Wahlberg, and can next be seen in Scott Derrickson's SINISTER with Ethan Hawke and Vincent D'Onofrio.

De'Adre Aziza (Colleen Royale)

Born in Atlanta, GA, De'Adre Aziza is very blessed to appear in her third Spike Lee Joint. Other joints include MIRACLE AT ST. ANNA, and PASSING STRANGE, a Broadway show that Spike Lee filmed, for which Aziza was nominated for a Tony Award and an Audelco award, and won an Obie Award and Theater World Award. Her theater credits include *Passing Strange* (Edwina, Mariana, Sudabey), *Women On The Verge Of A Nervous Breakdown* (Paulina), *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* (Tracy), and *Piece Of My Heart* (Candy). Additional film and television roles include "Law & Order: SVU", "Ugly Americans", and "Sex & the City".

Aziza is also an acclaimed jazz singer who has performed at several historic venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and The Hollywood Bowl with Grammy Award winners such as Jessye Norman, The Roots, Roy Ayers, Jennifer Holliday, and Nnenna Freelon. Aziza trained at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and The Harlem School of the Arts.

Kimberly Hébert-Gregory (Sister Sweet)

Kimberly Hébert-Gregory, who has been hailed for her fine stage performances by publications including the *New York Times* and *Backstage*, appeared in the 2011 debut of Pulitzer Prize Winner Lynn Nottage's *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* at Second Stage Theatre in New York, where her performance received glowing reviews in several publications. She played the roles of Lottie and Carmen Levy-Green opposite Sanaa Lathan (NAACP Image Award) and Karen Olivo (Tony Winner).

Among Hébert-Gregory's television and film credits are roles in I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE, "Gossip Girl", "New Amsterdam" and "The Black Donnellys". Hébert-Gregory's work in theater includes the thrill of playing the role of 'Shenzi' in the national tour of Disney's monumental spectacle, *The Lion King*. Nominated for a Joseph Jefferson Award for 'Actress in a Supporting Role in a Play' for *Shakin' the Mess Outta Misery* at the Chicago Theatre Company, Hébert-Gregory has had the pleasure of performing on some of the country's greatest regional stages. *Amen Corner* at the Goodman Theatre, *Nickel and Dimed* at the Steppenwolf Theatre, *Waiting to Be Invited* at the Victory Gardens Theater, and *Julius Caesar* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater are some of the many productions in which she has appeared.

A proud alumna of The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA) in Houston, Hébert-Gregory has walked the same halls as some of the entertainment industry's greatest talents, most notably Beyoncé Knowles and Chandra Wilson. Hébert-Gregory studied and trained in classical theater in London and received a BA in Psychology from Mount Holyoke College, and received her Masters in Clinical Social Work from The University of Chicago.

CREW BIOGRAPHIES

Spike Lee (Director, Co-Screenwriter & Co-Producer)

See "About Spike Lee"

James McBride (Co-Screenwriter & Co-Producer)

James McBride is an award-winning writer, composer, saxophonist and screenwriter. His memoir, *The Color of Water* (Riverhead), is an American literary classic and a staple in school curricula nationwide. It rested on the *New York Times* bestseller list for more than two years, sold more than 2.2 million copies to date, and is translated into more than 16 languages. His novel, "*Miracle at St. Anna*" (Riverhead 2003), is a 2008 Touchstone Disney film for which James wrote the script, directed by American film icon Spike Lee. His novel *Song Yet Sung* (2009 Riverhead), was the "One Book, One Maryland," choice of 2010, and is called "searingly, soaringly beautiful" by the *Baltimore Sun*. His latest novel, about American revolutionary figure John Brown, will be released by Riverhead in 2013.

James is a former staff writer for *The Wilmington (Del.) News Journal*, the *Boston Globe*, *People Magazine*, and the *Washington Post (Style Section)*. His work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Rolling Stone*, *Essence*, and *National Geographic*. He is the recipient of the 1997 Anisfield Wolf Book Award. He also holds several awards for his work as a musical theater composer including The American Arts and Letters Richard Rodgers Award, The ASCAP Richard Rodgers Horizons Award, and The American Music Theater Festival's Stephen Sondheim Award. He has written songs (music and lyrics) for Anita Baker, Grover Washington, Jr., Gary Burton, Silver Burdett Music Textbooks, and for the PBS television character "Barney." He served as a saxophonist sideman with jazz legend Little Jimmy Scott. James was born and raised in New York City and attended New York City public schools. He studied at The Oberlin Conservatory of Music and holds a masters in journalism from Columbia University. He holds several honorary doctorates and is currently a Distinguished Writer-In-Residence at New York University.

Judith Hill (Original Music)

Judith Hill is an American soul artist with a unique look and sound that stands out in today's marketplace. Born into a musical family, Judith was surrounded by music since the day she could hear her dad thump his funk bass and her mom storm classical pieces in the living room. With a Japanese and African American descent, she experienced a wealth of cultural and musical influences including traditional Japanese folk songs, funk and Motown, jazz, gospel, and classical. She gleaned from the greats including Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald, Leonard Bernstein, and Frederic Chopin. Her passion further blossomed in college when she went on to study composition and orchestration at Biola University. During her college and post-college years, Judith worked on several movie projects including HAPPY FEET 2, DREAMGIRLS, and THE LORAX. She also performed and recorded with several artists including Elton John, Stevie Wonder, Rod Stewart, Leon Russell, Patti Labelle, Smokey Robinson, Babyface, Brian McKnight, Josh Groban, Kirk Franklin, Lionel Richie, Usher, and Michelle Polnareff. In 2009, Judith was chosen to go on tour with the King of Pop, Michael Jackson. However, his tragic and unexpected death took her on a radically different journey. At his memorial service, Judith closed the ceremony with her rendition of "Heal The World". This received global recognition as over one billion people viewed it. Later on that year, Judith's duet with Michael was seen in the rehearsal footage from the movie, THIS IS IT.

Carrying on his message of healing, Judith continued her journey as a humanitarian, working with children and people in poor communities, as well as teaching and inspiring youth. In 2011, she was asked to be the first artist to sing for the International Women of Courage Awards ceremony hosted by Hillary Clinton and special guest, Michelle Obama. In 2011, she also joined Avon on a tour to inspire women in major cities around the world including Istanbul, Birmingham, Mexico City, Warsaw, Shanghai, New Delhi, Buenos Aires, Sao Paulo, and Johannesburg.

Judith is currently working on her debut album, which will be released very soon. She is touring with her band and performing new material from her highly anticipated record. With an edge of high fashion, and an innovative blend of funky beats and nostalgic melodies, Judith is steadily becoming a groundbreaking influence in pop culture.

Bruce Hornsby (Composer)

By any standard, Bruce Hornsby has built one of the most diverse, collaborative and adventurous careers in contemporary music. Drawing from a vast wellspring of American musical traditions, the singer/pianist/composer/bandleader has created a large and accomplished body of work that has employed a vast array of stylistic approaches, while maintaining the integrity, virtuosity and artistic curiosity that have been hallmarks of his work from the start.

The 13-time Grammy nominee's commercial stock soared early on, when "The Way It Is" – the title track of Bruce Hornsby and the Range's 1986 debut album – became the most-played song on American radio in 1987, winning ASCAP's Song of the Year award. "The Way It Is" and such hits as "Mandolin Rain" and "Every Little Kiss" established Hornsby as a popular pop act, while subsequent high-profile work with the likes of Don Henley, Willie Nelson, Charlie Haden and Bonnie Raitt made him an in-demand collaborator.

For all his talents as a singer, bandleader and pianist with an instantly identifiable sound, Hornsby is a songwriter at heart who is committed to portraying his songs in new ways that allow them to evolve and expand. This approach was further developed by his time with The Grateful Dead, playing over one hundred shows with the band between 1990 and 1995. Hornsby found in the Dead's vibrant tradition of loosely blending folk, blues and improvisation a kindred spirit.

Over the years, Hornsby has successfully ventured into jazz, classical, bluegrass and even electronica, as reflected by such acclaimed recent releases as the bluegrass project *Ricky Skaggs and Bruce Hornsby* (2007) and the jazz trio album *Camp Meeting* (2007), with Jack deJohnette and Christian McBride. The prestigious list of Hornsby collaborators now includes such diverse figures as Ornette Coleman, Bob Dylan, Bela Fleck, Bonnie Raitt, Elton John, Branford Marsalis, Pat Metheny, Robbie Robertson, Leon Russell, Chaka Khan, Wayne Shorter, Squeeze, Tupac Shakur, Eric Clapton and Sting.

A University of Miami alum, Hornsby has also partnered with The Frost School of Music to establish the Creative American Music Program, a curriculum designed to develop the creative skills of talented young artist/songwriters by immersing them in the diverse traditions that form the foundation of modern American songwriting.

In July of 2006, Bruce Hornsby released a four CD/DVD box set titled *Intersections (1985-2005)*. Typical of the artist's freewheeling approach to his own music, which involves ensuring that even his most-heard pop songs don't become frozen-in-time "museum pieces," a full third of the music was previously unreleased and most of the familiar tracks were presented as unreleased live versions. The set also featured "Song H," a new composition that was nominated for a Best Pop Instrumental Grammy award in 2007.

Intersections is definitive in many ways, yet only tells part of the Virginia native's incredible musical story. His three Grammy wins typify the diversity of his first decade of recording: Best New Artist as leader of Bruce Hornsby and the Range, Best Bluegrass Recording for a version of "The Valley Road" that appeared on the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's *Will The Circle Be Unbroken Volume Two*, and a shared award with Branford Marsalis in 1993 for Best Pop Instrumental Performance for "Barcelona Mona", a song for the 1992 Olympic Games.

The sales stats and breadth of his superstar collaborations (including being sampled many times by rap/hip-hop artists) speak volumes about Hornsby's unique fusion of mainstream appeal and wild musical diversity. His albums have sold over 11 million copies worldwide. *Harbor Lights* was the 1994 winner of the Downbeat Reader's Poll Beyond Album of the Year (meaning all music other than Jazz and Blues). Tupac Shakur "co-wrote" a new song over "The Way It Is" music with Bruce, using new words, called "Changes"; it was a major worldwide hit, selling 14 million copies.

He has played on over 100 records over the years, including albums by Bob Dylan, Don Henley, the Grateful Dead, Bob Seger, Crosby Stills and Nash, Stevie Nicks, Cowboy Junkies, Squeeze, Liquid Jesus, Bonnie Raitt (piano on the classic "I Can't Make You Love Me"), Shawn Colvin, Bela Fleck, Clint Black, Ricky Skaggs, Randy Scruggs, Willie Nelson, and end-title songs for two other Spike Lee movies, *CLOCKERS* (1995) (with Chaka Khan), and *BAMBOOZLED* (2001).

Throughout the years, Hornsby has participated in several memorable events: the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opening concert in September 1995 (featured on the Sony 2-CD set), Farm Aid IV and VI, the Telluride Bluegrass Festival, Newport Jazz Festival, New Orleans Heritage and Jazz Festival, Woodstock II (1994), Woodstock III (1999) (featured on the Epic 2-CD set). An avid sports fan, Hornsby, solo and with Branford Marsalis has performed the National Anthem for many major events including the NBA All-Star game, four NBA finals, the 1997 World Series Game 5, the night Cal Ripken broke Lou Gehrig's all-time consecutive game streak, and the *Ken Burns' Baseball* soundtrack.

Indeed, Bruce Hornsby's restless musical spirit continues to spontaneously push him forward into exciting new musical pursuits. He's currently working on a prospective Broadway musical titled *SCKBSTD*. He's composed and recorded several projects for filmmaker Spike Lee, most recently writing and recording the score for *KOBE DOIN' WORK*, Lee's 2009 ESPN documentary on Kobe Bryant. Hornsby is also featured onscreen in the recent Robin Williams/Bobcat Goldthwait film *WORLD'S GREATEST DAD* (2009). That film features lots of Hornsby music, including the Levitate track "Invisible."

2011 brought the release of *Bride Of The Noisemakers* - an ambitious 25-track, double CD chronicling 2007-2009 live performances of some of the singer/songwriter and pianist's handpicked songs of the past 20 years. The songs are recorded live capturing the playful, freewheeling spirit and unique chemistry of his longtime band The Noisemakers.

Such projects are consistent with the same lifelong pursuit of musical transcendence. "To me," says Hornsby, "it's always just been about broadening my reach and moving into new areas. So it's a fantastic situation to be able to do that, and to continue to pursue a wide-ranging musical life."

Hye Mee Na (Editor)

Hye Mee Na and her family immigrated to America from South Korea when she was fifteen. She has a background in Anthropology, Psychology, Visual Arts and Neurobiology. For seven years, she worked in a Parkinson's disease research institute and co-authored numerous scientific articles before she left the research field in order to pursue her dream in Film Production.

After her film *SUNDAY BRUNCH* became an official selection for the Three Rivers Film Festival, 2007 and *MOM AND TOM* won her the First Works Grant, 2008, she enrolled in the prestigious MFA program at New York University in Fall 2008. She is interested in exploring the issues relating to formation of one's identity and how the sense of one's identity influences the way people interact with the perceived "others" in films. Besides directing her own films, she is interested in collaborating with other filmmakers as an editor. She became an adjunct instructor at New York University's MFA Program in Fall 2011.