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PRESENTS

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MESKADA

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: JOSH STERNFELD

Executive Producers: **Sig De Miguel, Stephen Vincent and Josh Sternfeld**
Director of Photography: **Daniel Sariano** Production Designer: **Jack Ryan**
Producers: **Jay Kubassek, Ron Stein, Jen Gatien, Michael Goodin, Shawn Rice**
Co-Producer: **David Wasserman** Music Producer: **Hal Wilner**
Featuring: **Nick Stahl, Rachel Nichols, Kellan Lutz, Jonathan Tucker,**
Grace Gummer, Laura Benanti, James McCaffrey, Michael Cerveris
and Norman Reedus

Director's Statement

On Labor Day in 2005, I was at a friend's barbecue in the East Village. My first feature film, *Winter Solstice*, which I was fortunate enough to have nationally released that spring, had just come out on DVD. A friend of mine asked what I was going to do next. I told her I was writing a police movie. She smirked in a deeply skeptical way, but wished me luck all the same.

From the time I was a little kid, I've been a huge fan of police dramas. I've always been drawn to TV shows and films like *NYPD Blue*, *Se7en*, *Homicide*, *Serpico*, and fascinated by the daily lives of detectives. There's just something irresistibly compelling about the tough, brash romance of people who have dedicated their lives fighting crime and promoting justice. Of course, as a filmmaker, I wanted to approach this genre in my own way. But nothing could have prepared me for the amazing journey that lay ahead.

As I began my research for the story, my mind continually drifted to a picture of America, a snapshot of small-town life we all associate with our hard-bitten national character. It was a vision akin to the one captured in the photographs of Robert Frank's *The Americans* of the 1950's. As this vision gradually developed, I found myself researching our nation's history, the brutal clashes over land and territory, the class-divides and improbable victories for human rights. All of this gathered force in my mind, and I began to write. And research. And write some more.

I watched a high-school basketball game in Oregon, where the wild emotions of the crowd were electrifying. I sat in on a City Council meeting in Reno, where I witnessed a vicious exchange over a proposed auto plant. I spoke to a bartender in New Hampshire, who jokingly bragged that his business was better than ever, now that the paper mill was closed.

All of this found its way into my writing. I began to create characters in two towns, people bound by loyalty, family, community, and a battle born of circumstances beyond their control. It is, I feel, a quintessentially American story.

Meskada will always be special to me, for I know it was this screenplay that made me a writer. Although I made films before this one, and will continue to make them after it's completed, the story of *Meskada* is also the story of my growth as an artist.

Josh Sternfeld-

Synopsis:

Meskada follows a small-town detective named Noah Cordin as he struggles to solve the brutal murder of a boy in the peaceful, affluent town of Hilliard. The killers left behind no clues at the crime scene, with the exception of a tiny scrap of paper leading Cordin back to his hometown of Caswell. Here, Cordin consults the county detective Leslie Spencer and reconnects with some old friends, all of whom are suffering from the economic troubles that have plunged Caswell into near-destitution.

Cordin enlists the help of his friends Daniel Hartfield, a Caswell cop, and Billy Burns, a local bar owner. But as their search fails to turn up a suspect, feverish tensions rise between the towns of Hilliard and Caswell. The Meskada County Board of Commissioners—whose constituency includes Allison Connor, the mother of the dead boy and a prominent citizen of Hilliard—threatens to derail a new manufacturing plant from setting up in Caswell. The plant would provide hundreds of sorely needed jobs to the area.

This threat energizes the investigators and all of Caswell to take part in the murder investigation. Together, they fight to reveal the identity of the killers, while trying to rescue their town from financial collapse. Through it all, Noah Cordin's ties to his past and present are stretched to the breaking point, until the Connor murder reaches its shocking conclusion.

A gripping crime drama in the tradition of "No Country for Old Men" and "Mystic River," Meskada is also a poignant meditation on solidarity and salvation in modern-day America.

CAST:

Noah Cordin- NICK STAHL

Leslie Spencer -RACHEL NICHOLS

Eddie Arlinger -KELLAN LUTZ

Shane Loakin -JONATHAN TUCKER

Nat Collins -GRACE GUMMER

Billy Burns -JAMES MCCAFFREY

Allison Connor -LAURA BENANTI

Dennis Burrows -NORMAN REEDUS

Terrance Lindy -MICHAEL CERVERIS

Daniel Hartfield -MICHAEL SIROW

Lyla Burrows -REBECCA HENDERSON

Emily Cordin -KERRY BISHE'

Keith Burrows -CHARLIE TAHAN

Carl Everson - JD ROSEN

Zack Cordin - MAX ANTISELL

Jane Hartfield -KATHY SEARLE

DA Russ Winston -DAVID AARON BAKER

Chris Ainslie -JOHNNY HOPKINS

Meth Head - MICHAEL GOODIN

Jerry Collum - JONATHAN WHITCUP

Sheriff Tom Bowen -GREG SEALY

Ronald Harlin -ERIC MARTIN

Officer 1 -SHAWN RICE

Commissioner 1 -TERRY MCGEE

Woman 1 -BRIDGET BUJKE

Anchor Woman -JEN GATIEN

Field Reporter -RACHEL HELLER

Officer 2 - DOUG MAYER

Bar Local - JENNY PARSINEN

Kid at Fair 1 -KYLE STEIN

Kid at Fair 2 -DYLAN STEIN

Kid at Fair 3 -ERIN BROOKE STEIN

CREW:

Stunt Coordinator JOHN SCHUMAN
Stunts By CINEMATIC STUNTS INC.

Supervising Producer MICHAEL GOODIN

Line Producer KAMEN VELKOVSKY

First Assistant Director SHAWN RICE

Production Designer JACK RYAN
Art Director LISA MYERS
Property Master PHIL DORLING
Set Dresser SHAWN ANNABEL
Art Assistant RICHIE MANTEY

Director of Photography DANIEL SARIANO
1st AC AILEEN GOODIN
2nd AC JOE CICCCHESI
Red Tech HENRY CHEN
Colorist JEROME THELIA
Additional 1st AC MARCOS X HERRERA

Sound Mixer MATT PERRY THOMAS
Boom Operator SEAN CORRIGAN
Script Supervisor STACY ROWE

Gaffer BRIAN HARNICK
Best Boy Electric CHRISTOPHER HAMILTON
Addtl. Best Boy Electric COREY EISENSTEIN
Addtl. Electric STEVE MARINCONZ
Addtl. Electric OLIVIA KUAN
Addtl. Electric JOHN HUDAK
Electrics Intern BERT MONTANARI

Key Grip CHAD BATTINELLI
Best Boy Grip MATHEW C. CRYAN
Addtl. Best Boy Grip ALEXA HARRIS
Addtl. Best Boy Grip GRETA ZOZULA
3rd Grip HUNTER HERRICK
Addtl. Grip BRIAN YOST

Key Make-Up STEPHANIE WISE
Key Hair CHANSOPHEAK TONG
Addtl. HMU CRYSTAL SOVEROSKI
Addtl. HMU CYNTHIA O'ROURKE

Costume Designer AMY KRAMER
Wardrobe Supervisor MEGAN SANDERS
Wardrobe Intern HEATHER WILDENBERGER

Locations Manager ALLEN AUSTIN
Asst. Locations Manager MIKE REGAN

Editor	PHYLLIS HOUSEN
Assistant Editor	YOAV YERUSHALMI
Post Prod Supervision by:	JEROME THELIA & MARCELO GANDOLA
Audio Post Production	CREATIVE BUBBLE
Sound Design	JUAN SOSA
Sound Editing	BRETT GRAVES
Re-Recording Mixer	MICHAEL BARRETT
Production Coordinator	AMY CROWDIS
Background Coordinator	MACKENZI LUZZI
Production Legal	INNES SMOLANSKY
2 nd Assistant Director	MELINDA ZIYADAT
2 nd 2 nd Assistant Director	DANIEL LUGO
3 rd Assistant Director	JEFF SMITH
Key Production Assistant	TOM MALONEY
1 st Team PA	TOM O'HARE
Set PA	JAKE CARTLEDGE
Set PA	BEN KAISER
Set PA	JOE CASTLE
Set PA	HAYWOOD IRVIS
Set PA	ANDREA BOGLIOLI
Addtl. Set PA	BEN KATZ
Addtl. Set PA	ADAM ASHER
Addtl. Set PA	BRENNAN BROOKS
Addtl. Set PA	LISA THOMAS
Addtl. Set PA	ALEX WARJABEDIAN
Addtl. Set PA	DANIEL MCINERNEY
Addtl. Driver PA	RAINER FERREL
Addtl. Driver PA	WILL MAHR
Addtl. Driver PA	MARTIN REEDER MAYO
Addtl. Driver PA	JARED KASANOVSKY
Production Intern	SARAH SULLIVAN
Production Intern	CHRISTINA LAROSA
Production Intern	KAYLA WARD
Production Intern	KATELYN TSUKADA

CAST BIOS

Nick Stahl-

Nick began his career at a young age with two television movies released in the early 90s. His breakthrough came next when was hand selected to star alongside [Mel Gibson](#), in [The Man Without a Face](#) (1993). In 1998 when he starred in two major films, [Disturbing Behavior](#) (1998) and [The Thin Red Line](#) (1998). Before breaking back into the scene with Terminator 3 (2003) and the critically acclaimed Carnivale (2003-2005) HBO series.

Rachel Nichols-

Rachel got her big break as an actress in the wildy popular Sister of the Travelling Pants (2008) followed by the blockbuster hits Star Trek (2009) and G.I. Joe (2009). Rachel is now set to star in The Loop, to be released in Fall 2010.

Kellan Lutz-

Kellan established himself in the critically acclaimed Generation Kill (2008) on HBO before skyrocketing with the Twilight Series. Kellan is currently wrapping the third film in the Twilight Series (Eclipse) to be released in 2010.

Norman Reedus-

Norman has led a multifaceted career that includes work as a painter, photographer, sculptor, and video artist. He got his first taste of acting in the play "Maps for Drowners" at the Tiffany Theater on Sunset Boulevard. Days later, he was cast in Mimic (1997), then in Six Ways to Sunday (1997), and Floating (1999). He then on to do many other films including the cult classic The Boondock Saints (1999), Deuces Wild (2002), Blade II (2002), Let the Devil Wear Black (1999), Gossip (2000/I), Moscow Chill (2007), The Notorious Bettie Page (2005), Hero Wanted, and many others.

Jonathan Tucker-

Jonathan made his feature film debut in Sleepers (1996) playing a young Tommy Marcano in the Barry Levinson film. He has since starred in Sofia Coppola's The Virgin Suicides (1999), alongside Tommy Lee Jones In the Valley of Elah (2007) and held a critically acclaimed role in the television series the Black Donnellys (2007)

Grace Gummer-

The daughter of legendary actress Meryl Streep. This is her first feature film debut but is poised for to fall right into line behind her mother's epic oeuvre.

James McCaffrey-

James has a long career in both film and television. Most notably in hit series Rescue Me (2004-2009) alongside Denis Leary.

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WEBSITE: Aliquot Sum is the creative collective responsible for building the promotional website for the film Meskada.

For all inquiries please contact: info@aliquotsum.com

