

'GOURMET DETECTIVE'

PRODUCTION BIOS

DYLAN NEAL (Executive Producer/Writer) – Dylan Neal was born in Richmond Hill, Ontario, Canada. Shortly thereafter, his family moved to Oakville, just west of Toronto, where he spent the remainder of his childhood. As a young student, he attended the prep school Appleby College, where he was introduced to the game of squash. Neal quickly fell in love with the sport and was soon playing for Canada at an international level. Towards the end of his teenage years, after many years of traveling across North America on the amateur squash circuit, Neal decided a professional squash career was not for him.

By this time, Neal was attending Blakelock High School, where he was enrolled in the drama program. At the urging of his drama teacher, Neal signed with a Toronto talent agent and began auditioning professionally. It didn't take long for Neal to realize this was the direction his career would take. In 1992, he moved to Los Angeles where his career quickly took off.

Neal is a well-recognized face on television having had series regular roles in eight American television series, including Aaron Spelling's "Pacific Palisades," "Hyperion Bay" and "Sabrina the Teenage Witch." He has had many major recurring roles including "Dr Anthony Ivo" in the CW's breakout TV series "Arrow," and his five-year stint on "Dawson's Creek" playing Pacey's brother, "Doug Witter." He has had the good fortune of working opposite some of the biggest names in Hollywood and recently had a lead role opposite Val Kilmer in the Paramount Pictures thriller, "The Traveler" and just wrapped shooting a supporting role in the Universal feature "Fifty Shades of Grey." Entering its third season, Neal currently plays "Jack Griffiths" in Hallmark Channel's hit Original Primetime Series, "Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove."

When not on set, Neal enjoys spending as much time as he can with his family and friends. On occasion, he can also be spotted in his workshop, where Neal, an avid wood worker, has for years recreated 18th and 19th century period furniture.

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BECKY SOUTHWELL (Executive Producer/Writer) – After growing up in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and Oakville, Ontario, Becky Southwell settled in Los Angeles where she has been a writer for the last fourteen years. Shortly after moving to L.A., Southwell was selected to be a part of the Warner Brothers Comedy Writing Workshop, the premier writing program for new writers looking to start and further their career in the world of television. (Every year, the Workshop selects up to 10 participants out of almost 2,000 submissions. The list of graduates who have gone on to do great things is long: Terrance Winter (Boardwalk Empire), Marc Cherry (Desperate Housewives), Greg Garcia (My Name Is Earl) and Felicia Henderson (Soul Food) to name a few.) After the WB writing program, Southwell was staffed on a series and sold two television pilots. She continued to write in series television, a favorite job being writing jokes for Chelsea Handler on "Girls Behaving Badly." She sold a thriller film before taking a five year sabbatical from Los Angeles, and the business, in order to start a family. During that time, she kept her writing chops up by writing for a food magazine, "Edible Vancouver." Now that her two

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favorite creative projects have been successfully launched into elementary school, Southwell has returned to L.A. and the business full time with a busy slate of projects for Hallmark Channel.

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JOEL RICE (Executive Producer) – Muse U.S.A. President and Executive Producer Joel S. Rice is responsible for developing projects with American television and cable networks in the areas of TV series, mini-series, TV movies and family programming. After a career in social work, Rice moved into television production where he has worked for 20 years developing and producing programming for numerous networks. Rice has executive produced over 50 television movies, series and miniseries.

Rice's executive producer credits include, "Signed, Sealed, Delivered" (Hallmark Channel), "Northpole" (Hallmark Channel), "Christmas With Tucker" (Hallmark Movie Channel), the animated series "Bounty Hunters" (CMT), "Cyberbully" (ABC Family), "Reviving Ophelia" (Lifetime), "Secrets of The Mountain" (NBC), "One Kill" (Showtime), "About Sarah" (CBS/P&G), "Shredderman Rules" (Nickelodeon) and "Searching for David's Heart" (Disney Channel).

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HARVEY KAHN (Executive Producer) – Harvey Kahn has produced numerous independent features and television movies since the late 1980s. In 1998, he founded Front Street Pictures in Santa Monica, CA, and opened the Vancouver office four years later. The company produces a diverse mix of independent films and movies-of-the-week for worldwide distribution, as well as providing a full range of production services. Kahn and Front Street have produced a number of critically acclaimed features and more than 40 TV movies with and for most of the US studios and networks, including the award-winning and highly rated "Little Girl Lost" for the Lifetime Movie Network and the Hallmark Channel Original Movies "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year," "Debbie Macomber's Mrs. Miracle," "Debbie Macomber's Call Me Mrs. Miracle," "Kiss At Pine Lake," "Notes From The Heart Healer," "Hitched For The Holidays," "It's Christmas, Carol!," "After All These Years" and the Hallmark Channel Original Primetime Series "Debbie Macomber's Cedar Cove" Season 1.

Among the many independent features he's produced, such as "The Proposal" (Miramax) starring Jennifer Esposito and Stephen Lang, the critically acclaimed "We Don't Live Here Anymore" (Warner) starring Naomi Watts and Mark Ruffalo was a competition selection at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival and "The Deal" (Sony) starring Christian Slater and Selma Blair, which he also directed, had its premiere at the 2005 AFI Film Festival. "Nobody's Baby" (Artisan) starring Gary Oldman and Mary Steenburgen premiered at Sundance and he directed "Water's Edge" (Lionsgate).

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SCOTT SMITH (Director) – A graduate of Simon Fraser University and a Director Resident at the Canadian Film Centre, Scott Smith is the director of two acclaimed dramatic feature films, "Rollercoaster" (2000) and "Falling Angels" (2004), starring Miranda Richardson and adapted from the novel by Barbara Gowdy.

He has been nominated for both Genie and Gemini Awards for his work in film and television, as well as a Director's Guild nomination for Best Director - Feature Film for "Falling Angels." His first feature length documentary, "As Slow As Possible," was nominated for the Don Haig Award in 2008. In 2010, as one of Canada's top filmmakers, Smith was invited to participate in the omnibus *National Parks Project*, and in collaboration with musicians Sarah Harmer, Bry Webb, and Jim Guthrie made the film "Looking Around Without Blinking," about Gwaii Haanas National Park, in Haida Gwaii. Scott's recent television work includes directing the pilots for MTV's

American remake of British teen hit "Skins" and Jason Priestley's comedy hit "Call Me Fitz," (for which he won the Gemini Award for Best Direction in a Comedy Series in 2011).

Smith lives in Vancouver.

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PETER KING (Author) – British mystery fiction author Peter King published his first novel, *The Gourmet Detective*, in 1991. The cozy mystery about a chef-turned-culinary sleuth who solves mysteries in the kitchen launched a series of seven more books including *Dying on the Vine* (1998) and *Roux the Day* (2002). In 2001 King also released *Jewel of the North*, the first of three historical mysteries starring Jack London.

A Cordon Bleu-trained chef himself, King settled in Florida after retiring as a metallurgist. His career carried him around the world where he oversaw the establishment of South America's first steel processing plant, operated a tungsten mine and prospected for minerals across the globe.

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