

# NEWS

## 'THE GOOD WITCH'S GIFT'

### PRODUCTION BIOS

**ORLY ADELSON (Executive Producer)** – Since the formation of Orly Adelson Productions in 1995, Orly Adelson has become recognized as one of the most prominent and distinguished producers in the television and film industry, and has been recognized as one of the 100 most powerful people in sports in America by the Sports Business Journal.

Utilizing Orly Adelson Productions' ability to finance multiple projects worldwide, she has created a dynamic production company, boasting a diverse and eclectic slate of high profile entertainment, including the company's upcoming first ventures into the world of animated and musical films.

The company recently produced "Ruffian," which chronicles the greatest female racehorse of all time, which premiered on ABC to critical reviews and will soon begin showing on ESPN, ESPN.com, Mobile ESPN and ESPN Motion. Other projects for ESPN have included "3," which starred Barry Pepper as NASCAR hero Dale Earnhardt and debuted as the network's highest-rated movie ever and the second-highest rated basic cable movie of the year; "Code Breakers," which was recently nominated for a CSC Award as well as an Eddie Award; "Tilt," an ESPN series centered around the volatile world of high stakes poker starring Michael Madsen and Eddie Cibrian; "The Junction Boys" and "Playmakers," which was ESPN's first original dramatic series

Other highly publicized, award-winning projects produced by Orly Adelson Productions include "Cavedweller," which was based on the novel by Dorothy Allison and premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival, "DC Sniper: 23 Days of Fear," "The Truth About Jane," which garnered the highest ratings for Lifetime in five years and "Plainsong," an adaptation of the National Book Award finalist for Hallmark Hall of Fame.

Orly Adelson Productions' feature films in development include "The Sixth Man," an inspirational true story in the world of college basketball, with Walden Media; DreamWorks film "Shackled," a comedy about a father and son ordered by a judge to be shackled together for a month; and "Chasing Dinner," a comedic film written by Raynold Gideon and Bruce A. Evans ("Stand By Me") as an independent feature.

Over the years, Orly Adelson Productions has built an impressive library of films. Past productions include CBS movies "One True Love," "To Love, Honor and Betray" and "God's New Plan." Other credits include TBS movies "The Triangle," starring Luke Perry, and "On Hostile Ground," Christmas romance "A Chance of Snow" for Lifetime and "Ultimate Deception" for USA Network.

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As President of Orly Adelson Productions, Adelson brings a unique point of view to film production. A native of Israel, Adelson served as a lieutenant in the Israeli Army prior to earning her Bachelor's degree in Sociology and Musicology from Hebrew University, simultaneously graduating from the Academy of Music and Dance. She also attended Tel Aviv University Graduate School before marrying and moving to the U.S. She began her career in the advertising trade in a three-year staff producing position at Bozell, Jacobs, Kenton and Eckhardt, working on prominent accounts including their popular Chrysler campaign.

Adelson entered the arena of television movie production as vice president of development at Brandman Productions, where she executive-produced her first project, the NBC telefilm "Shoot First." She then joined Roger Gimbel as an independent producer at Carolco-Gimbel, which, after three years, became Gimbel-Adelson Productions. While there, Adelson served as an executive overseeing the acclaimed movie "Chernobyl: The Final Warning" (TNT), and executive produced "Desperate Rescue" (NBC), "Murder Between Friends" (NBC) and "The Perfect Mother" (CBS). On her own, Adelson produced "Keeper of the Light," a documentary on the state of Israel, directed by Academy Award®-winning filmmaker Chuck Workman. Adelson also executive-produced Hallmark Channel's "The Good Witch," the network's highest-rated film of 2007 and "The Good Witch's Garden."

A Renaissance woman with interests ranging from art, music, theater and all forms of sports, Adelson lives in Los Angeles with her husband and two children.

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**JONATHAN ESKENAS (Executive Producer)** – Jonathan Eskenas currently serves as President of Orly Adelson Productions. In this position, he has become one of the industry's top young executives, developing and producing numerous television movies, miniseries, and series for various networks and cable stations.

Among Eskenas's producing credits are "Odd Girl Out" for Lifetime, ESPN's critically acclaimed telefilm "Code Breakers" starring Scott Glenn; the widely publicized true story "The Madam's Family: The Truth About Canal Street Brothel", starring Ellen Burstyn, Annabella Sciorra, and Dominique Swain, for CBS; "3: The Dale Earnhardt Story," ESPN's all-time highest rated movie; USA Network film "D.C. Sniper: 23 Days of Fear," winner of NAACP Image Awards for best television movie and best lead actor (Charles Dutton); ESPN film "The Junction Boys" starring Tom Berenger as coaching icon Bear Bryant; and comedic detective film "Mystery Woman," and "The Good Witch's Garden" for Hallmark Channel.

As part of his position, he has also supervised development and production of "Playmakers," ESPN's first original dramatic series, and "Tilt," ESPN's gritty series set around the world of professional poker.

(more)



# NEWS

## HALLMARK CHANNEL/ 'THE GOOD WITCH'S GIFT' – Production Bios – Page 3

Originally from Boston, Eskenas studied film at Syracuse University before moving to Los Angeles. He has been with Orly Adelson Productions since August 2000.

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**FRANK SIRACUSA (Executive Producer)** – Executive Producer and founding partner of Whizbang Films, Frank Siracusa has produced more than 80 hours of television, including series, TV movies and miniseries for Hollywood's major networks and studios including Disney, Paramount, ESPN, Dreamworks, and American Zoetrope. Currently, Siracusa is executive producing "ZOS: Zone of Separation," an eight-part drama series about the life and death struggle to enforce an UN-brokered ceasefire in a fictionalized war-torn Balkan town, starring Lolita Davidovitch and Colm Meaney. An Emmy Award Winning producer, Siracusa has maintained strong connections with broadcasters and distributors worldwide, making Whizbang one of the most renowned film and television companies in Canada.

Some of Siracusa's television production credits include "Due South," a television movie-turned-sitcom series for Canada's CTV and CBS, and "Men With Brooms," starring Paul Gross and Leslie Nielsen, a pilot for CBS. He has also produced the television movie "CodeBreakers" and series "Tilt" for ESPN, "Martha: Behind Bars," "Murder Most Likely," "Common Ground," "On Hostile Ground," "One True Love," "Santa Who?," "The One" for Disney/ABC, "Crash Course" for the Lifetime Network, and "The Good Witch" and "The Good Witch's Garden" for Hallmark Channel. In 2009, Siracusa executive produced three episodes of the series "Crash & Burn" for the Canadian network Showcase, and in 2008, he executive produced the two-part miniseries, "The Trojan Horse," and co-produced "Passchendaele" about a bloody World War I battle, which won five Genie Awards.

In addition, Siracusa has won a Daytime Emmy Award for Outstanding Children's Special for "Summer's End," and has been nominated for three Gemini Awards, for producing the projects "Due South," "H2O" and "Murder Most Likely."

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**CRAIG PRYCE (Director)** – Craig Pryce was born in Toronto, Ontario, where he graduated with a degree in film production from York University. While attending York, he received a scholarship from Famous Players Theatres and made a short film that was sold to the CBC. Upon graduating, he used this sale to negotiate a deal to direct three shorts for the network.

Pryce spent the next two years raising funds to make his first feature film, "Revenge of the Radioactive Reporter." This campy horror film went on to win Best Independent Feature at The Houston International Film Festival and was sold to MCA/Universal Studios, who released it in 65 countries.

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# NEWS

## HALLMARK CHANNEL/ 'THE GOOD WITCH'S GIFT' – Production Bios – Page 4

Following up on his first success, Pryce went on to direct the horror flick "The Dark," starring Neve Campbell. The film won best horror movie at The Festival of the Americas. The film enjoyed solid reviews and was picked up by HBO, Miramax and Polygram Film Entertainment.

Pryce's directing credits feature several television series, including "Psi Factor" for CBS/Eyemark, "Goosebumps" for Fox and "Zack Files" for ABC Family. With more than 50 episodic credits to his name, he has received three Director Guild nominations and a Gemini nomination for direction in comedy and family entertainment. Pryce also directed several episodes of the series "Dark Oracle," which won an International Emmy.

Returning to long form, Pryce has recently directed the romantic comedy TV movie "I Me Wed" for Lifetime, starring Erica Durance, and the Hallmark Channel Original Movie, "For the Love of Grace," starring Mark Consuelos along with Hallmark Channel's "The Good Witch," the network's highest-rated film of 2007 and "The Good Witch's Garden."

Pryce also recently directed a block of episodes for the hit Disney Channel series "Life with Derek," and the Canadian YTV series, "Family Biz."

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**G. ROSS PARKER (Writer)** – G. Ross Parker has writing credits for several television series and movies, including "Ruffian" for ABC, "The Harpers" for AMC, "Code Breakers" for ESPN, "The Ninth Man," "Rush" for USA, "Eden" for ABC, "Hitler: Rise of Evil" for CBS, directed by Christian Duguay, "Exodus 1947," "God of the Rodeo," "Kriminal" for HBO Films, "Confederates" for USA, "The Nastiest Man in the NBA," "Gemini Man," "Deadline," "Paramour," "An Arm & a Leg," "Pentagon Wars," "Remember Wenn," "Sesame Street" for CTW and Hallmark Channel's "The Good Witch's Garden."

Parker received the Writers Guild of America East Foundation Award for "Money's No Object" and the Peabody Award for "Great Space Coaster" for Claster TV.

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**ROD SPENCE (Writer)** – Rod Spence is the co-writer of all three "Good Witch" movies for the Hallmark Channel. Born and raised in the Midwest, Spence has traveled around the world as a freelance mechanical designer while pursuing a writing career. He loves writing family-friendly stories and has two scripts currently in development, one a feature film and one a television movie. His hobbies include art collecting and travel.

Spence is looking forward to relocating to Los Angeles which has already become his second home.

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