

ASH VS EVIL DEAD

-SEASON TWO- PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

SAM RAIMI (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

Sam Raimi has directed one of the industry's most successful film franchises ever—the blockbuster *Spider-Man* trilogy, which has grossed \$2.5 billion at the global box office. All three films reside in the industry's top 25 highest grossing titles of all time.

In addition to the franchise's commercial success, *Spider-Man* (2002) won that year's People's Choice Award as Favorite Motion Picture, earned a pair of Oscar® nominations (for VFX and Best Sound) and also collected two Grammy® nominations (for Best Score and Chad Kroeger's song, "Hero"). The sequel, *Spider-Man 2* (2004) won the Academy Award® for Best Visual Effects (with two more nominations, Best Sound and Sound Editing) and two BAFTA nominations (for VFX and Best Sound), among dozens of other honors.

Most recently, Raimi is known for directing *Oz the Great and the Powerful*, a commanding prequel to one of Hollywood's most beloved stories. Grossing nearly a quarter of a billion dollars at the worldwide box office, *Oz* has also been elected for awards across the board, including a nomination at the People's Choice Awards for Favorite Family Movie, and winning Film Music at the BMI Film & TV Awards.

Apart from creating one of Hollywood's landmark film series, Raimi's eclectic resume includes the gothic thriller *The Gift*, starring Cate Blanchett, Hilary Swank, Keanu Reeves, Greg Kinnear, and Giovanni Ribisi; the acclaimed suspense thriller *A Simple Plan*, which starred Bill Paxton, Billy Bob Thornton, and Bridget Fonda (for which Thornton earned an Academy Award® nomination for Best Supporting Actor and Scott B. Smith landed a nomination for Best Adapted Screenplay); his baseball homage, *For Love of the Game*, with Kevin Costner and Kelly Preston; the western *The Quick and the Dead*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Sharon Stone, Russell Crowe, and Gene Hackman; and the supernatural thriller, *Drag Me to Hell*, with Alison Lohman and Justin Long.

Raimi began his career in his native Michigan after directing his own Super 8 movies as a teenager. He left his studies at Michigan State University to form Renaissance Pictures with future producer Rob Tapert and their longtime friend, actor Bruce Campbell, with whom he made his very first film, *Within the Woods*, a short horror film they used to raise money to make a feature. That resulting horror classic, *The Evil Dead* (1982), financed and produced with investments from local business people and doctors, became a hit at the 1982 Cannes Film Festival and spawned a sequel,

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Evil Dead 2: Dead By Dawn (1987), which, like the original, showcased Raimi's inventive, imaginative direction and offbeat humor.

Raimi next turned to the fantasy genre, writing and directing the comic book-inspired *Darkman* (1990), starring Liam Neeson and Frances McDormand, then followed with 1993's *Army of Darkness*, a comic sword and sorcery fantasy starring Bruce Campbell.

The mid-'90s also found Raimi producing two telefilms (with friend and partner Tapert) that would become the genesis of a pair of highly popular syndicated series—"Hercules: The Legendary Journeys" (on which he served as Executive Producer during the program's four-year run) and the successful companion series, "Xena: Warrior Princess" which aired from 1995-2001. His television work also includes executively producing the CBS series "American Gothic" and STARZ graphic sword and sandals series, "Spartacus: War of the Damned."

Raimi continued his collaboration with Tapert in his production company Ghost House Pictures, which produced such films as *The Grudge*, *Boogeyman*, *30 Days of Night*, *The Messengers*, and *The Possession*.

Raimi's work has been a favorite on the film festival circuit, with the filmmaker winning a Best Director honor for *Darkman* at the 1990 Sitges-Catalonian Festival in Spain; the Critics Award for *Army of Darkness* at the 1992 Fantasporto Festival in Portugal; the Golden Raven, also for *Army of Darkness*, at the 1992 Brussels International Festival; and a Grand Prize nomination for the same title at the Avoriaz Fantastic Film Festival in France. Raimi himself has also won the Saturn Award twice (*Spider-Man 2*, along with a George Pal Memorial Award) from the Academy of Science Fiction, Horror, and Fantasy.

Raimi is currently producing Season Two of the critically acclaimed series "Ash vs Evil Dead" and the upcoming Fede Alvarez thriller, *Don't Breathe*.

**BRUCE CAMPBELL
(EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)**

In 1979 with his Detroit friends, Sam Raimi and Rob Tapert, Campbell raised \$350,000 for a low-budget film, *Evil Dead*, in which he starred and co-executively produced. Completed piecemeal over four years, the film first gained notoriety in England where it became the best-selling video of 1983, beating out *Poltergeist*. After its appearance at Cannes, where Stephen King dubbed it "the most ferociously original horror film of the year," New Line Cinema stepped forward to release *Evil Dead* in the U.S.

After co-producing *Crimewave*, a cross-genre comedy, Campbell moved to Los Angeles and quickly gained a foothold producing or starring in genre films such as the *Maniac Cop* series, *Lunatics: A Love Story*, *Moontrap* and *Mindwarp*, a post-apocalyptic Jeremiah Johnson, during which he met his wife-to-be, filmmaker, Ida Gearon.

Campbell then rejoined his Detroit colleagues to star and co-produce the second and third films in the *Evil Dead* trilogy, completing 12 years of work on the cult favorite. This rough-and-tumble background was a plus as Campbell made his foray into television, first starring in the highly touted Fox series "The Adventures of Brisco County Jr.," then as a recurring guest-star on the hit

show “Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman.” With these under his belt, Campbell easily made the transition to director, helming numerous episodes and recurring as the King of Thieves in the #1 syndicated “Hercules: The Legendary Journeys,” and its follow-up phenomenon, “Xena: Warrior Princess.”

Bruce has since expanded his range on television, with appearances in Disney’s TV movies *Gold Rush*, and their update of *The Love Bug*. He teamed up with Fox again for the hit TV film *Tornado!*, and starred in NBC’s top-rated “In The Line of Duty: Blaze of Glory.” Following decidedly dramatic turns on the acclaimed series “Homicide: Life on the Street” and “The X-Files,” he enjoyed a recurring role on Showtime’s edgy TV industry comedy, “Beggars and Choosers” and showed his political prowess when he was cast as President Ronald Reagan in FX Network’s Emmy award-winning crime drama “*Fargo*.”

At the invitation of ABC, Campbell ventured into the world of sitcoms with a recurring role on ABC’s Emmy-nominated “Ellen,” participating in one of the three touted “out” episodes. But Campbell didn’t abandon his film roots. During that time, he had featured roles in the blockbuster *Congo*, John Carpenter’s *Escape from L.A.*, and the award-winning independent crime drama, *Running Time*. He followed these up with roles in Paramount’s romantic comedy, *Serving Sara*, Jim Carrey’s *The Majestic*, and all three of Sam Raimi’s blockbuster *Spider-Man* movies. After a return to episodic television in the swashbuckling series, “Jack of All Trades,” Campbell took the title role in MGM’s cult sleeper *Bubba Ho-Tep*. His directorial debut, *Man with the Screaming Brain* premiered on the Syfy Channel, and Dark Horse Comics published the comic adaptation.

Campbell has since made the leap into other forms of entertainment, and is enjoying his role as an author with back-to-back New York Times bestsellers: a memoir entitled *If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor*, and his first novel, *Make Love the Bruce Campbell Way*.

In the multi-media industry, Campbell provided voices on cutting-edge video games for Activision, THQ and Nova Logic - and he also enjoyed voicing characters for Disney’s animated TV series “Tarzan” and the Warner Brothers feature *The Ant Bully*. He also voiced the character of Mayor Shelbourne in the animated hit *Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs*. In 2011, Campbell voiced the role of Rod “Torque” Redline in *Cars 2*, the sequel to the smash Disney animated feature. Most recently, Campbell directed and starred as himself in *My Name is Bruce*, a spoof of his B-movie career, then re-teamed with Disney for their fun-filled hit, *Sky High*.

In 2013, Bruce co-produced the hit remake of *Evil Dead*, joined his filmmaking pal Sam Raimi on *Oz The Great and Powerful*, and completed an impressive seven-year run on the spy show “Burn Notice,” USA’s #1 series on cable. Campbell continues to share his acting and filmmaking experiences by lecturing at universities, including Northwestern, Carnegie Mellon, and Stanford.

He currently resides with his wife, Ida Gearon, in Oregon

ROB TAPERT (EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

Rob Tapert is the longstanding producing partner of acclaimed director, Sam Raimi. Tapert and Raimi have been working together since they met at Michigan State University where they formed the Society for Creative Filmmaking. After producing the horror cult classic *Evil Dead*, Tapert

continued to collaborate with Raimi on *Evil Dead II: Dead by Dawn*, *Darkman*, and *Army of Darkness* and went on to serve as executive producer on Raimi's suspense thriller *The Gift*, starring Cate Blanchett and the action western *The Quick and the Dead*, starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Sharon Stone, and Gene Hackman. Tapert also executive produced the action features, *Hard Target* and *Timecop*, starring Jean-Claude Van Damme.

Tapert executive produced the long running worldwide sensation TV series "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys". He co-created "Xena: Warrior Princess", and executive produced "Legend of the Seeker" and the STARZ breakout hit "Spartacus." "Spartacus" and "Legend of the Seeker" both played in over 150 markets worldwide.

In 2002, Tapert and Raimi formed Ghost House Pictures with Mandate Pictures. Ghost House was conceived to produce feature films that would deliver great scares and offer horror fans a thrill ride experience. Tapert has since produced a string of #1 box office hits that started with *The Grudge*, which grossed \$187 million worldwide, and continued with *Boogeyman*, *The Messengers*, *30 Days of Night*, *The Possession* and the remake of *Evil Dead*. In 2009, Tapert produced Raimi's first directorial effort under Ghost House: the critically acclaimed *Drag Me to Hell*. Most recently he produced *Poltergeist* for Fox/MGM and *Don't Breathe*, a Sony/Screen Gems release for August 2016.

CRAIG DIGREGORIO
(EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, SHOWRUNNER)

Craig DiGregorio is a writer and producer, with a background in both genre and comedy including: "Workaholics," a Comedy Central sitcom starring Blake Anderson, Adam DeVine, and Anders Holm; "Chuck," an NBC action-comedy spy series starring Zachary Levi and Yvonne Strahovski; and "Da Ali G Show," an HBO variety show starring Sacha Baron Cohen.

IVAN RAIMI
(CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

Ivan Raimi is a screenwriter of many horror and fantasy-sci-fi films, as well as a comic book author. He is a frequent co-writer and collaborator with his brother, Sam Raimi. His film credits include: *Easy Wheels* (1987), *Darkman* (1990), *Army of Darkness* (1993), *Spider-Man 3* (2007), and *Drag Me to Hell* (2011). He is currently training for and helping to develop NASA's "Writers to Mars" program. When not writing for film and television, he practices emergency medicine in the Midwest.

CAM WELSH
(CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

When Cam Welsh was young, during school holidays he would stay with his uncle, Australian actor David Field, who worked in theatre. He would watch rehearsals, then see the audience filled shows, followed by the excitement of being snuck into the after parties. His eyes were opened to a whole new world, and he wanted to be a part of it. After a brief stint as an actor, he decided he was more suited behind the camera and turned to producing, directing, and writing.

Cam was introduced to the STARZ network family when he worked with “Spartacus” Show-Runner Steven S. DeKnight on a series called “Incursion” that never made the screen, but his talent was harnessed for Season Two of the splatstick- horror/comedy “Ash vs Evil Dead.”

“Being on a premium cable network like STARZ, we have the opportunity to push boundaries in both comedy and horror to give fans of the show an exciting ride,” said Welsh.

Exciting indeed. Along with his Co-Executive Producer credit for Season Two of “Ash vs Evil Dead,” Cam has also penned the second episode. Other television writing credits include episodes for “Midnight Sun” for MTV Networks and “Home and Away” for Network 7 for which he won the 2011 Australian Writers’ Guild award for Best Writing in a Television Serial. He also has acting, producing, & directing credits for “Home and Away,” acting credits for the Australian series “Wildside” and “All Saints” for Network 7, and Co-Executive Producer and Supervising Producer credits for NBC’s “Constantine” and TNT’s “The Last Ship” respectively.

Of his previous experience as a writer, Welsh says, “The writers rooms for ‘Constantine’ and ‘Incursion’ were made up of brilliant, funny, and talented people who did great work and also knew how to maintain a great sense of fun in the process. On ‘Ash vs Evil Dead,’ I am lucky enough to work in the same hilarious environment, plus, the show is absolutely BONKERS in the best possible way!”

When asked what “Ash vs Evil Dead” has in store for viewers in the upcoming season, Welsh says, “The audience can expect to see the world’s most out of condition superhero making the world a groovier but much bloodier place, with the help of his new family -- Pablo and Kelly -- and his old family -- boomstick and chainsaw.”

HANK CHILTON
(CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER)

Hank Chilton is a writer and producer whose credits include six years on Ryan Murphy's “Nip/Tuck” starring Dylan Walsh, Julian McMahon, and Joeli Richardson, on which he wrote 15 episodes and directed two. His other writing and producing credits include USA's “Covert Affairs” starring Piper Perabo and the CW's Sarah Michelle Gellar, vehicle, “Ringer,” as well as multiple pilots for various networks. Previous to working as a writer, Hank worked as a production supervisor on indie films such as *Girl* and *The Suburbans* as well as the Farrelly Brothers' *Me, Myself, and Irene*.

RICK JACOBSON
(CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, DIRECTOR EPS 201, 210)

A graduate of the California Institute of the Arts film program, Rick Jacobson began his professional directing career with legendary film producer Roger Corman. Corman hired the young filmmaker to direct the martial arts actioner *Full Contact*, Jacobson’s first full-length feature film, at the age of 22.

Jacobson went on to collaborate with Corman on several more projects including the pilot episode of “Roger Corman Presents,” an anthology series for Showtime. Jacobson was also a key figure in

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setting up and establishing Concorde Anois Studios, Roger Corman's Ireland-based production company employing more than 400 Irish workers full-time and hundreds more part-time.

With 15 feature films to his credit, Jacobson transitioned to television, becoming Series Director on popular television shows such as "Xena: Warrior Princess," "La Femme Nikita" and most recently, "Dominion."

In 2008 Jacobson, along with producing partner Eric Gruendemann, founded Bombshell Pictures. Their first production was *Bitch Slap*, a modern day take on the '70s exploitation films Jacobson and Gruendemann wrote and produced while Jacobson directed.

After a packed premiere at the Cannes Film Festival ignited enthusiastic international sales and a sold out screening at Toronto Film Festival's Midnight Madness, *Bitch Slap* has gone on to cult-like status with millions of passionate fans worldwide and a sequel in the works.

In recent years, Jacobson was called upon to direct the pilot episode of "Spartacus: Blood and Sand" for STARZ, where he defined the look and style of the groundbreaking series. The following three seasons, Jacobson moved into the role of Producer while continuing to direct the series' most demanding episodes, including the series finale.

Jacobson is currently tapped to direct the WWII feature film, *The Mighty Eighth* for Mandeville Films. A project that he wrote along with collaborator Kurt Johnstad (*300* and *Act of Valor*).

**MICHAEL J BASSETT
(CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER, DIRECTOR)**

Michael J Bassett is an English screenwriter and film director. His fantasy adventure feature film *Solomon Kane* and the horror sequel *Silent Hill: Revelation 3D* had worldwide cinema releases.

His other features include World War I horror, *Deathwatch* and the survival horror *Wilderness*.

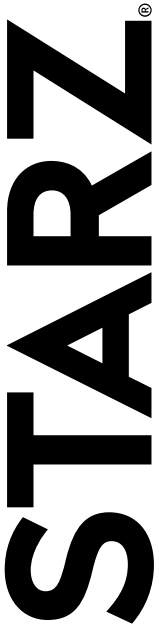
His television series work includes the STARZ shows "Da Vinci's Demons" and "Power" and as Co-Executive Producer, Co-Writer, and Lead Director of the Cinemax/HBO/Sky action thriller series "Strike Back" and Director for the NBC action shows "The Player" and "Blindspot."

**MOIRA GRANT
(PRODUCER)**

Moira Grant is one of New Zealand's leading line producers, with an extensive background in production for major international television series and feature films.

Before starting on "Ash vs Evil Dead," she was unit production manager for "Lumen," a TV pilot for TNT/Dreamworks. She has worked in various production roles on "Ash vs Evil Dead" and in Executive Producer Rob Tapert's productions.

Most recently she was Associate Producer on the three series (26 hours) of "Spartacus: Gods of the Arena," "Spartacus: Vengeance" and "Spartacus: War of the Damned," made in New Zealand for STARZ.



Prior to that, she was line producer for the first series of 20, one-hour episodes of “Legend of the Seeker” and Co-Producer for the second series. She was Production Manager of the feature film *Boogeyman* and Production Manager 2nd Unit for the feature *30 Days of Night*.

She began her association with Tapert’s Pacific Renaissance Pictures as Production Coordinator on the *Hercules* telemovies which preceded the “Hercules: The Legendary Journeys” series. She was also Production Coordinator for “Xena: Warrior Princess,” “Cleopatra 2525” and “Jack of All Trades.”

Her feature film credits for other producers include Line Producer on *Sione’s Wedding* (Samoan Wedding), Production Manager on *Perfect Creature*, *The Warrior’s Way* and Production Co-Ordinator for *The Piano*, *Whale Rider* and *Crush*.

**AARON LAM
(PRODUCER)**

Aaron Lam, a native Floridian who studied engineering, moved to Los Angeles in 2002 to pursue a career in film and television. But it was his unlikely past work experience as a nanny that would eventually lead him to where he is now.

Lam has worked with Rob Tapert and Sam Raimi for over 10 years since starting as Raimi’s assistant on *Spider-Man 3* in 2004. After the film, Lam segued to their horror production company Ghost House Pictures in 2007 where he produced a trio of digital series (*30 Days of Night: Dark Days*, *The Resistance* and *Zombie Roadkill*, that guest starred Thomas Haden Church and was directed by David Green).

Lam shifted to television in 2009 and worked with Tapert and Raimi on “Legend of the Seeker” and the STARZ Original Series “Spartacus,” that ran for four seasons. An avid photographer, snowboarder and professional dog lover, Lam is currently one of the Producers on the new STARZ Original Series “Ash vs Evil Dead.”

**CHARLES KNIGHT
(ASSOCIATE PRODUCER, POST PRODUCTION)**

Charles Knight is a Producer and Post-Production Producer with a particular interest in action/drama and his most recent projects have been VFX intensive. He has worked with Rob Tapert and Sam Raimi on their STARZ Original Series “Spartacus: War of the Damned” (Co-Producer/Associate Producer) and “Spartacus: Gods of the Arena” (Co-Producer).

His other long-running project was “Power Rangers,” for which he was Post-Production Producer or Supervisor on seven series. He has also worked on New Zealand TV drama series “Mercy Peak,” “The Market” and “Secret Agent Men,” along with the feature film *Sione’s Wedding* (Samoan Wedding).

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TONY TILSE
(DIRECTOR EPS 202, 203)

In 2010 the Australian Directors Guild recognized Tony's directing achievements with The Michael Carson Award for Excellence in TV Drama.

With a long list of television credits including "GP," "Correlli," "Fallen Angels," "Love Is A Four Letter Word," "Big Sky," "All Saints," "Crashburn," "The Cooks," "Blue Water High," "Police Rescue," "City Homicide," "Miss Fisher Murder Mysteries," and the mini-series "A Difficult Woman," which won a Silver Medal at the New York Television Festival, Tony Tilse is undoubtedly one of Australia's leading directors.

Co-producer and set up director of the television series "Lockie Leonard," which received an AFI and TV Week Logie Award as well as a BAFTA nomination, Tony was also setup director for the multi-award-winning Screentime series "Underbelly." His other credits include *Postcard Bandit*, *Go Big*, *Temptation*, *Small Claims – The Reunion*, *Murder In The Outback*, *Scorched*, *A Model Daughter – The Caroline Byrne Story*, *Panic At Rock Island* as well as working on all four seasons of the cult Syfy series "Farscape," the ABC/HBO Asia series "Serangoon Road," the HBO Asia horror mini-series "Grace," the STARZ series "Ash vs Evil Dead," and the much anticipated Stan series "Wolf Creek."

MARK BEESLEY
(DIRECTOR EPS 206, 207)

Mark Beesley will be a familiar name to fans of Rob Tapert and Sam Raimi's television series having directed episodes of STARZ's "Spartacus: Vengeance" and "Spartacus: War of the Damned." He's also been a regular director on Tapert/Raimi's many other TV series including "Xena: The Warrior Princess," "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys," and "Legend of The Seeker."

Beesley is part of a company of New Zealand actors, directors, and crew members recruited by Tapert and Raimi back in the 1990s when the pair first ventured into television with "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys" and "Xena: Warrior Princess."

These shows were filmed in New Zealand well before *Lord of the Rings*, and put New Zealand moviemaking and locations on the international map.

"My own Super 8 horror shorts were inspired by Sam Raimi and John Carpenter so the opportunity to work with the creators of those first three *Evil Dead* films was irresistible to a fan of horror and fantasy like me," says Beesley who jumped at the chance to direct "Xena: Warrior Princess."

"'Xena: Warrior Princess' was sprinkled with visual references to the *Evil Dead* films. But we never thought we'd get lucky enough to work on an actual *Evil Dead* project. Thanks to STARZ, my inner fanboy has finally had the opportunity to spray blood all over Bruce Campbell's face and for that I will be eternally grateful."

Many of the New Zealanders who worked on those early hit shows have gone on to work on Rob and Sam's other TV shows filmed in New Zealand, including "Legend of the Seeker," "Spartacus," and now "Ash vs Evil Dead."

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“Rob [Tapert] has managed to sustain a film community in New Zealand of like-minded souls who understand the Tapert/Raimi oeuvre and take pride in the pair’s long association with - and faith in - New Zealand talent.”

Beesley is an award-winning director who has directed episodes of hit New Zealand TV shows “Outrageous Fortune,” “The Almighty Johnsons,” “Westside,” and also international franchise “Power Rangers.”

He lives in Auckland, New Zealand with his wife and three children.

**NICK BASSETT
(ART DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION DESIGNER)**

Nick Basset began his relationship with the STARZ network as Art Director on “Spartacus: Gods of the Arena” stylized in ancient Rome and has bloomed into a beautiful romance, bringing him to the urban landscapes of Michigan on Season Two of “Ash vs Evil Dead.”

His television credits as Art Director span the fictional globe. Nick has overseen the design on shows such as “Young Hercules” starring Ryan Gosling for Renaissance Pictures, “Spartacus: Blood and Sand” for STARZ, and “Blood Crime” starring James Caan for Columbia TriStar. Other credits include “Ike: Countdown to D-Day” for A&E for which he got an Emmy nod and “Murder in Greenwich” for Columbia TriStar.

As Art Director for feature films, a highlight career of Nick’s was working with James Cameron on *Avatar* for Twentieth Century Fox, tasked with the build and detailing of aircraft and vehicles for the mega-blockbuster. He received the 2010 Art Director’s Guild Award for these efforts. On *Vertical Limit* for Columbia Pictures he had a challenging experience with the remote New Zealand location terrain.

Nick’s first horror film experience paired him with “Ash vs Evil Dead” Executive Producer, Rob Tapert on the set of *Boogeyman* for Ghost House Pictures. His other credits include Set Dresser in Fiji for Twentieth Century Fox’s *Cast Away*, and Supervising Art Director on *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny* for Netflix.

“We are lucky in New Zealand because we get to work with some of the best in the business,” said Bassett.

A former student of Carrington Polytech in Auckland, now known as Unitech, Nick built his career as carefully as he builds his sets. Exploring jewellery and furniture design fresh out of school gave him the practical skills that lead him into working for a model maker. From there, he got into television prop-making and then landed a job as a Runner for the art department on the New Zealand show “Hightide” starring Rick Springfield. From that point on, he worked his way up the ranks, spending as much time as possible on sets learning how to collaborate with other departments for the best end result.

"I love working on projects that require the art department to create entire worlds. On *Avatar*, seeing the Samson Helicopter come to life with such high levels of finish and detailing was really rewarding. These sets were all combined to make a believable environment."

Regarding his work on "Ash vs Evil Dead" Nick says, "Designing the world of Ash Williams is a really fulfilling process. This is such a great genre to work in. Somewhere between superhero and horror, what could be more fun? I had to think: if Ash went to the cabin for a holiday, what did his hometown look like? This was my starting point. The producer gave me the opportunity to do a quick road trip around North Michigan. I drove from small town to small town gathering thousands of photos along the way."

Fun indeed as Nick has created the dismal world of Elk Grove, Michigan: Ash's hometown he abandoned 30 years ago... and not much has changed. Nick's vision of the fictional Michigan town is depressingly fantastic and truly sets the mood for what Ash and his team have to face in Season Two.

"Lucky for me, the people in my art department are amazing and thrive on the details and research. It is a great project to be involved in."

DAVE GARBETT
(DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY 201, 202, 203 206, 207, 209, 210)

David Garbett won the New Zealand Film Awards 2014 Best Cinematography award for his first feature film as Director of Photography, *Everything We Loved*. He had previously won the New Zealand Film & TV Awards 2008 cinematography award for the TV series "Ride with the Devil," his first TV series as Director of Photography.

He was Director of Photography on "Spartacus: War of the Damned" and "Spartacus: Vengeance" and was Second Unit Director of Photography on "Spartacus: Gods of the Arena."

He previously worked for "Spartacus" and "Ash vs Evil Dead" Executive Producer Rob Tapert on "Legend of the Seeker" as Second Unit Director of Photography, having been promoted from 'A' Camera Operator/Steadicam Operator on the first series.

He was Director of Photography on two seasons of the BBC TV series "Atlantis," Director of Photography for the New Zealand feature film *Chief Gary* for Field Theory Productions and Second Unit Director of Photography on the U.S. feature film *Z for Zachariah* and Second Unit 'A' Camera Operator/Steadicam Operator for *Underworld 3: Rise of the Lycans*.

KEVIN RILEY
(DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY 204, 205, 208)

Kevin Riley, who runs rental company CineStuff with his wife Rita, played a key part in setting up the New Zealand Cinematographer's Society. But his long screen career wasn't a straightforward progression.

Unconvinced his long-time interest in photography could be turned into a career, Kevin Riley left school to become an electrician. Increasingly unenthused by the task of crawling under people's houses, he got a job in the early '80s as a Sparkie at TVNZ, handling studio maintenance. Sent to

help out when a generator broke down on a location shoot, Riley noticed lighting crew standing around drinking coffee while waiting between shots. It was clearly time for a transfer to the lighting department.

Soon Riley was “rigging lights on all manner of vehicles, scratching my head over the lighting plan for *Hudson and Halls*, and hauling miles of cable around Eden Park during the 1981 Springbok test.”

Riley wasn't in television long before going freelance as a lighting assistant and generator operator. Next came many gigs working as gaffer (whose job is to sort out the technical complexities of powering and setting up lights). Riley built up experience — and lighting gear — while working with talented cinematographers Leon Narbey, Allen Guilford, and Simon Raby. When it got to the point where Riley had begun to anticipate Narbey's lighting setups, Narbey suggested it was time he step up and start shooting footage himself.

In 1993 Riley commanded the camera for the first of a number of shorts: the stylish, offbeat *La Vie en Rose*. Soon he was put in charge of second unit photography on Rob Tapert fantasy series “*Xena: Warrior Princess*.” The late '90s rushed by in a high-speed blur of fight scenes and fantastical kingdoms.

On the final season of Tapert's “*Hercules: The Legendary Journeys*,” Riley graduated to the key job of Director of Photography. He did the same for the whole run of spin-off show “*Young Hercules*,” and the two short-lived Tapert series that followed: “*Jack of All Trades*” and “*Cleopatra 2525*.”

There have been occasional fantasy outings since, most notably shooting alternating episodes of “*Legend of the Seeker*” (for which Riley won an Aotearoa Television Award in 2011). But he has also worked on his share of local stories, including combined Director of Photography and Camera Operator duties across seasons of “*Street Legal*,” “*Mercy Peak*,” and later, “*Nothing Trivial*.”

He also found time to shoot American tele-movies *The Vector File* and *Wendy Wu*, and re-joined Leon Narbey to aim a second camera at the animatronic whale of *Whale Rider*, and the epic meal scene that dominates *No. 2*.

In 2005, Riley's lighting company Reel Lights morphed into CineStuff, which rents out a variety of equipment to filmmakers. A few years after that he attended the 50th anniversary of the Australian Cinematographers Society. Back home, he went door-to-door — starting with those who had taught him his craft — campaigning for a similar organization in New Zealand.

Leon Narbey agreed to become the New Zealand Cinematographer's Society's first President, with Riley as Chairperson, sorting the society's structure. The aim was “to foster the art of cinematography in New Zealand, share the knowledge, and give recognition to our most accomplished cinematographers through our own accreditation system.”

MARC HIRSCHFELD
(CASTING DIRECTOR, LOS ANGELES)

Emmy[®] Award-winner Marc Hirschfeld was appointed Executive Vice President, Casting, NBC Universal Television Entertainment, in June 1999 and served in that capacity through December

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2008. During his tenure he was responsible for overseeing casting for all NBC Entertainment, Syfy, Bravo, and USA Network scripted programs. Additionally, he consulted on unscripted programming, specifically in the area of hosting and celebrities for NBC primetime reality programming as well as for NBC News and special projects. As the senior executive in charge of talent at NBCU, Hirschfeld was responsible for On-Air diversity in all of NBC Universal's scripted series and spearheaded all NBC network talent diversity initiatives and programs.

Among the dozens of television series cast during his term at NBC Universal, Hirschfeld supervised the original casting of NBC series such as the Emmy[®] Award-winning "The Office," and "30 Rock," "Heroes," "My Name Is Earl," "Friday Night Lights," and "Southland" among others. On the cable side he supervised the casting of USA Network hits "Psych," "Burn Notice," "In Plain Sight," "Starter Wife," "Royal Pains," and "White Collar." At Syfy Network, he shepherded the original casting of "Eureka," "Warehouse 13," and the Battlestar Gallactica prequel "Caprica."

Since his departure from NBC Universal, Hirschfeld has returned to his casting roots, putting together the ensembles for a diverse slate of series including the upcoming drama "Ransom" and the Kevin James comedy "Kevin Can Wait" for CBS, "The Shannara Chronicles" and "Sweet/Vicious" for MTV, "Hannibal" for NBC, "Marco Polo" and "Hemlock Grove" for Netflix, "Black Sails" and Season Two of "Ash vs. Evil Dead" for STARZ, "Last Man Standing" starring Tim Allen for ABC, and "The Jim Gaffigan Show" and "Happily Divorced" starring Fran Drescher for TVLand. Hirschfeld also operates a casting consultant business and supervises all casting for STARZ, AMC Network, and eOne Television. Other clients include BBC America, Sundance Channel, CMT, IFC, and Gaumont International Television.

Prior to joining NBC as Executive Vice President of Casting in June 1999, Hirschfeld spent 12 years establishing Liberman/Hirschfeld Casting, which he founded with partner Meg Liberman, as one of the nation's largest and most successful casting agencies.

Hirschfeld received multiple Emmy nominations for casting the NBC comedy series "Seinfeld" and in 1998, won the Emmy for Outstanding Casting for a Miniseries or Movie for his work on "From the Earth to the Moon." Hirschfeld has also been recognized by his peers in the Casting Society of America with more than 30 nominations and six Artios Award wins for Outstanding Achievements in Comedy Episodic, Pilot, and Daytime Casting, and became the recipient of the CSA's highest honor, the Hoyt Bowers Award, in November 2007 in recognition of his body of work.

During his tenure with Liberman/Hirschfeld Casting, Hirschfeld and his colleagues were also responsible for casting the ensembles for the critically acclaimed NBC series "3rd Rock from the Sun" and "NewsRadio," as well as "The Larry Sanders Show" for HBO, "The Nanny" for CBS, and "Party of Five," "Married with Children," and "Mad TV" for Fox. He and his associates also cast television series such as "The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd" for NBC, "The Wonder Years," "The Drew Carey Show," "The Norm Show," and "It's Like, You Know..." for ABC, "It's Garry Shandling's Show" and "That '70s Show" for Fox, "Dilbert" for UPN, and the feature films *Awful Nice*, *The X-Files: Fight the Future*, *Playing by Heart*, and Larry David's directorial debut, *Sour Grapes*.

Prior to opening his own firm, Hirschfeld served for five years as Director of Talent for Norman Lear's Embassy Television. Hirschfeld, who currently maintains offices and residences on both the east and west coasts served for 10 years as a member of the executive committee and advisory

board of the HBO U.S. Comedy Arts Festival and the Casting Executive Peer Group Committee of the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. He is a graduate of Syracuse University.

STUART TURNER
(CASTING DIRECTOR, NEW ZEALAND)

Stuart Turner's agency, Catch Casting cast the Rob Tapert/Sam Raimi-produced feature *Evil Dead* (2013).

Catch Casting has cast many other films, television dramas and commercials, including Niki Caro's *The Vintner's Luck*, the New Zealand-United Kingdom feature *Tracker* and the critically acclaimed New Zealand feature *Weight of Elephants*. Most recently, Turner oversaw the New Zealand casting for the pilot "Lumen" by Amblin Entertainment Dreamworks Studios in Association with TNT and Director Joe Johnson and Taika Waititi's latest feature, *Hunt for the Wilder People* starring Sam Neill.

Turner trained as an actor at Toi Whakaari New Zealand Drama School. His acting work includes the roles of Spherus in "Xena: Warrior Princess" and Leutis in "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys."

BARBARA DARRAGH
(COSTUME DESIGNER)

Barbara Darragh is an Emmy-nominated New Zealand costume designer with numerous feature film and television drama credits. Her Emmy nomination was for the STARZ Original Series "Spartacus," produced by Rob Tapert. She also designed costumes for Tapert's five *Hercules* telemovies that preceded the "Hercules: The Legendary Journeys" series.

She won the New Zealand Film Award (2014) for her costume design of *The Dead Lands*, the Maori martial arts movie directed by Toa Fraser now released in the U.S. She also designed costumes for *Beyond the Edge*, the ascent of Everest docudrama directed by Leanne Pooley and produced by *The Dead Lands'* producer Matthew Metcalfe.

She won New Zealand Screen Awards for costume design on *River Queen* (2006), directed by Vincent Ward and *The End of the Golden Weather* (1992), directed by Ian Mune. Other feature films include *Bridge to Terabithia*, *The Frighteners* directed by Peter Jackson and several of New Zealand's early features including *The Last Tattoo*, *The Footstep Man* directed by Leon Narbey and *Came a Hot Friday* by Ian Mune.

VANESSA HURLEY
(MAKEUP AND HAIR DESIGNER)

A self-taught makeup artist, Vanessa Hurley, did a hairdressing apprenticeship straight out of school and received a Trade Certificate in Hairdressing. While living in London and doing make up on drag queens, Vanessa got a call from her father who was working as a sound man on 2nd Unit "Xena: Warrior Princess" telling her the show was looking for a full-time makeup artist to join the team. That position ended up to be Lucy Lawless' personal makeup artist, a job Vanessa did for six years.

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"I learned a lot about fast turnaround TV on 'Xena'," said Hurley. These skills came in handy on other television shows as hair and makeup supervisor on "Doves of War" for Screenworks and especially as makeup artist on "New Zealand's Next Top Model." Other television credits as hair and makeup designer include BBC's mini-series "Tatau" filmed in Rarotonga, and "Go Girls." Hurley was also Makeup Supervisor for "Spartacus" a STARZ Original Series.

Vanessa's feature film credits include Hair and Makeup Designer for New Zealand horror film *Deathgasm* as well as being a part of the makeup team for Columbia Picture's *30 Days of Night*.

On the STARZ Original Series "Ash vs Evil Dead," Vanessa is tasked with not only creating the specific looks for each character, but factoring in all the additional makeup effects that come in to play from time to time.

"Seeing the characters getting covered in blood splatter is comedy gold, although it may not feel like it at the time. We try within the episode to take the level of blood back in stages so eventually they magically become clean again. There's a lot of on again, off again blood throughout the day, and we find cheap shaving foam works the best to remove any red stains. "

It comes together seamlessly, whether it's a glorious battle scene or dismal exploration into a crematorium waste tank, Vanessa and her team manage to keep the cast looking their best no matter what fluid is in play.

When asked what fans have to look forward to in Season Two of "Ash vs Evil Dead," Hurley said, "Season Two of 'Ash vs Evil Dead' seems even bloodier to me. Ash will have every bit of blood, slime and soot thrown at him. There are more character Deadites this season too. Some are even pretty."

**ROGER MURRAY
(PROSTHETICS DESIGNER)**

Roger Murray is one of New Zealand's leading film creatives and with his team at Main Reactor, has crafted a name for creative solution based props and effects for film and television for both New Zealand and international clients.

Roger Murray originally studied sculpture at ASA School of Art in Auckland before leaving in 1991. He exhibited successfully in Auckland and his 8mm film *Rotoscope* was shown at the Brussels, Philadelphia, and LAG Hamburg Film Festivals. In 1991, Roger began designing sets for fringe theatre. In 1993, he began working in film and television including "Shortland Street," *Mysterious Island*, and *Hercules*.

A couple of years later in 1995, Roger was asked to help set up the props workshop for "Xena: Warrior Princess." This led to him leading the props design for Pacific Renaissance shows' "Xena," "Jack of All Trade" and "Cleopatra 2525."

When these shows finished in 1999, Roger identified a growing need for a specialized props workshop to service New Zealand's growing film and television industry, and established Main Reactor, based in Auckland. Soon Main Reactor had become the props departments on

productions that included *Vertical Limit*, *Extreme Team*, *The Water Giant*, *The Chair*, “Redhead – The Story of Lucille Ball,” *The Boogeyman*, *Ike Days of Thunder*, and “*Madigan’s Quest*.”

In 2006, Roger and the Main Reactor team branched into the world of prosthetic effects. Beginning with *The Ferryman*, Roger Murray steadily won acclaim for his prosthetics design work on the “Legend of the Seeker” series (Pacific Renaissance – ABC) “Spartacus” (Pacific Renaissance – STARZ), and the *Evil Dead* remake. For his work on *Evil Dead* he was awarded the 2014 Fright Nights Award for Best Makeup and was nominated for a 2014 Saturn Award.

Roger remains committed to developing and contributing to the success of local films such as the upcoming *Deathgasam*, *What We do In the Shadows*, *The Deadlands* and in 2013, won the MOA for Best Makeup Effects for his work on *White Lies*.

Roger’s most recent credits are as Props Supervisor for *Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon II* and Props and Makeup Effects Designer for “The Shannara Chronicles.”

He continues to work on a wide variety of commercial projects with local and international film companies, most recently working on *Ginger Bear* for DDB, the *Crying Women* for Old Spice and the *cyborg suites* for Spark with Goodoil.

Roger has enjoyed a long and successful relationship with Rob Tapert and Chloe Smith, starting on “Xena” in 1995 and continuing to this day, with his work as Prosthetics Designer on “Ash vs Evil Dead.”

SHAY LAWRENCE (PROSTHETICS SUPERVISOR)

Shay Lawrence began his career in Australia mentored by Academy Award-winning makeup artist Peter Frampton. A decisive vigor and passion has been the driving force behind his craft for 20 years and as Prosthetic Supervisor of “Ash vs Evil Dead” Season Two and “The Shannara Chronicles,” Lawrence continues to positioning himself as a leader alongside the industry’s best makeup and FX artists.

Lawrence’s early prosthetic work in Australia on the TV series “Roar” was followed by his role as Makeup Department Head on *Molokai: The Story of Father Damien* a film by Paul Cox. A true account filmed in the actual location in Hawaii. A remarkably challenging first feature assignment with a heavy responsibility to communicate with makeup FX the harrowing disease and degenerative effects of Leprosy.

In 2012, Lawrence made the move to Auckland for producer Rob Tapert’s Pacific Renaissance series “Spartacus: Vengeance” and in turn remained for the following and final “Spartacus: War of the Damned.” Establishing himself in New Zealand, Lawrence worked on Peter Jacksons’ *The Hobbit Trilogy*. Other credits include *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny*, *The Water Diviner* and *Unbroken*. His New Zealand credits include *Hilary*, *The Almighty Johnsons*, *Westside*, and Lee Tamahori’s *Mahana*.

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**STUART THORP
(STUNT COORDINATOR)**

United Kingdom-born New Zealander Stuart Thorp has carved out a successful international career since his first work as a Stunt Performer on “Ash vs Evil Dead” Executive Producer Rob Tapert’s “Hercules: The Legendary Journeys” and “Xena: Warrior Princess” in the 1990s. He subsequently worked for Tapert on the STARZ Original series “Spartacus,” as well as the features *Boogeyman* and *30 Days of Night*.

Notable credits to date include working as Stunt Coordinator on James Cameron’s *Avatar* (for which he was a co-nominee for the Red Bull-sponsored Taurus Stunt Coordinator/Second Unit Director award) and Stunt Coordinator for *Zero Dark Thirty*, directed by Oscar-winner Catherine Bigelow.

He was Assistant Stunt Coordinator for all three films in the *Chronicles of Narnia* trilogy: *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, *Prince Caspian* and *The Dawn Treader*, as well as Nicholas Cage’s *Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance*.

His most recent film is *Mechanic: Resurrection*, starring Jason Statham. Before that, he did *Jupiter Ascending* for the Wachowskis. He was member of the team nominated for the SAG Stunt Ensemble award for the recent critically acclaimed David Ayer/Brad Pitt war actioner, *Fury*. He also worked in Morocco on the Paul Greengrass feature *Green Zone*, starring Matt Damon.

Also interested in developing the New Zealand industry, he served as president of Stunt Guild of New Zealand 2004-2010.

Stuart is excited to be back for Season Two of STARZ’s “Ash vs Evil Dead” and to be part of expanding the ‘Evil Dead’ Universe.

**BRENDON DUREY
(SFX SUPERVISOR)**

For over 20 years, Brendon Durey has enjoyed his work in special effects immensely. Where else can you assault the main cast of any given production with cannons designed to douse them with various “food-safe” liquids and substances? Some even ask for more!

Durey’s feature film credits include SPFX Coordinator for FOX’s *X-Men: Wolverine* and SPFX Supervisor for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon 2: The Green Legend* for Iron Knight Productions and Renaissance Picture’s *Boogeyman* as well as many other New Zealand-based productions.

For television, Durey kicked off his career on “Xena: Warrior Princess” and “Hercules” series. He excelled as an SFX Supervisor for such shows as and the STARZ Original Series “Spartacus,” where he met “Ash vs Evil Dead” Executive Producer Rob Tapert. As SFX Supervisor for Season One of “Ash vs Evil Dead,” Durey knew he had some high expectations for his end results. Fans and critics alike responded with nothing but praise.

“Practical effects are a huge part of the *Evil Dead* franchise. Fans of the films and show expect blood and we work tirelessly to bring their expectations to the screen with help from the

prosthetics, props and VFX crews,” said Durey of the team effort that goes into making “Ash vs Evil Dead” a fan favorite.

Working in conjunction with the prosthetics and VFX teams, Durey’s special effects team brings the blood, making every lost limb, severed head or chainsaw stab bloodier, gooier and more disgusting. Managing the technical aspects that go into a blood cannon or the choreography surrounding a fiery scene, Durey and his team take painstaking precision around their planning, testing, and delivering. Managing pneumatics, hydraulics, and explosives along with safety, atmosphere, and weather enhancements, the special effects in “Ash vs Evil Dead” capture the raw essence of the franchise using state-of-the-art equipment.

Brendon hints, “Season Two promises not to disappoint. With new creatures come new substances to accompany them. Exciting sets and battles call for explosive compliments! All in all the fans should fasten their seat belts because this is going to be a wild ride!”

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**TIM CAPPER
(VFX SUPERVISOR)**

Tim Capper saw *Star Wars* in 1977 and knew at that moment, he wanted to work in entertainment. Since then, he has had a successful film and television career spanning almost 30 years.

His feature film credits include work on Peter Jackson’s *The Frighteners* for Universal Pictures as Video Compositor and as VFX Supervisor for New Zealand-based films *Slow West* for Film4 and *Eagle vs Shark* for Unison Films directed by Taika Waititi (*Boy*).

For television, Tim flourished as a VFX Supervisor for such shows as “Xena: Warrior Princess” and “Spartacus” a STARZ Original Series, linking him with “Ash vs Evil Dead” Executive Producer Rob Tapert. He also served as onset Visual Effects Supervisor for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny* for Netflix as well as “The Moe Show,” a popular children’s show in New Zealand. Another project Tim has on his plate is co-creating an animated sheep series called “Robert and Sheepy” with his brother Guy Capper and “Flight of the Conchords” star Jemaine Clement.

Making a somewhat complex and twisted show like “Ash vs Evil Dead” takes an equally complex and twisted group of artists, technicians, and logistics wizards.

“One of the things about the show this year is the way VFX are working closely with the Prosthetics team at Main Reactor. Whenever we add any digital help to the creatures and gore, we're doing everything we can to continue the look and feel that Roger Murray's team creates. If we can make our digital tricks look like the physical ones, then the audience should enjoy our contribution and not even notice them.”

Tim reflects, “A hugely satisfying experience is being a part of the organism that takes in the writer's and director's vision and gets to be part of making it something the fans can really enjoy.”

MATT CORNELIUS (PROPERTY MASTER)

When his father who worked for TVNZ got him an on-set holiday job, the die was cast for Matt Cornelius' career with props.

"It was working with the complex and diverse props that really drew my interest to the film industry. That combined with learning from and working with talented crews and actors really made the industry an exciting career prospect," said Matt of his decision to pursue this field.

Feature film credits as Property Master include *Bridge to Terabithia* (Buena Vista), the 2013 remake of *Evil Dead* (TriStar Pictures) and *30 Days of Night* (Columbia Pictures). Other credits include on-set Property Assistant on *The Chronicles of Narnia: the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Walt Disney Pictures), Property Master for *The Warriors Way* (Rogue), and on-set Art Director for the New Zealand film *The Dead Lands*.

His television credits as Property Master include "The Shannara Chronicles" for MTV, "Power Rangers Megaforce" for Mar Vista Entertainment, and "Legend of the Seeker" for ABC Studios. Cornelius' body of work in telefilms is comprised of New Zealand-based productions *Avalon High* and *Johnny Kapahala: Back on Board* for the Disney Channel.

Like trying to pick a favorite child, Matt has many treasured props he has created. From Elf swords, armor, and demon weapons for "Shannara Chronicles" to the Green Destiny sword for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny*, Matt enjoys the challenge of designing a complex prop. When it comes to "Ash vs Evil Dead," the chainsaws make the top of his list.

Matt says of working in the film and television business, "My main philosophy on set is that film making is a 'process'-driven medium and that stress and pressure can slow and stall the processes. Don't get stressed it doesn't help the film."