

SPECIAL GUESTS

Guest Host



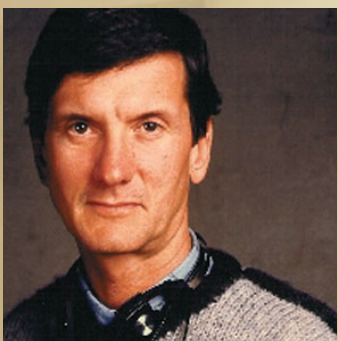
SAMANTHA EGGAR

Discovered on stage, Samantha Eggar first appeared on screen in *The Wild & The Willing*. For her work in William Wyler's *The Collector*, she earned the Palme d'Or as Best Actress at Cannes and an Oscar nomination. Among her many film credits are *Dr. Dolittle*, *Walk Don't Run*, *Mareth Line*, *The Molly McGuires*, *The Brood* and *The Astronaut's Wife*.

Eggar's television credits include starring opposite Yul Brynner in the ABC version of "Anna and the King," the remake of *Double Indemnity* and "Love Among Thieves" opposite Audrey Hepburn and Robert Wagner. She recently completed a turn as the wife of the Vice President (played by Donald Sutherland) on the acclaimed series "Commander in Chief."

Presenter

JOHN BADHAM



John Badham directed the stylized *Dracula* (1979), starring Frank Langella and Laurence Olivier. He has earned the reputation of an "actor's director" through a career impressive in range and diversity. In 1977, he guided a then-unknown John Travolta in *Saturday Night Fever*, which has gone on to become one of the highest-grossing films of all time. His career hit another high point in 1983, when two films he directed that year, *Blue Thunder* and *WarGames*, received four Academy Award® nominations. Since then he's collaborated with such luminaries as Kevin Costner, Mel Gibson, Johnny Depp and James Garner in films that have won both critical praise and box office success.

Badham is also a prominent television producer and director. He served as an executive producer for and directed several episodes of the Steven Bochco drama "Blind Justice." He received two Emmy® nominations for his work on the '70s series "The Senator" and "The Law," and has directed episodes of "The Shield," "Just Legal," "Night Gallery" and "The Streets of San Francisco."

Badham did undergraduate work at Yale in philosophy, and received his master's degree from the Yale School of Drama. He is Professor of Media Arts at The Dodge School of Film and Media at Chapman University in Orange, California.

Presenter

CHARLES DURNING



Charles Durning's impressive 50-year acting career has been crowned by a Tony Award® and nominations for two Oscars and four Emmy awards. As a 17-year-old infantryman, Durning was among the first wave of men to land on Omaha Beach. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded three Purple Hearts and a Silver Star. We are honored to have him introduce tonight's featured composition from the upcoming film *Flags of our Fathers*.

Durning's role in *The Sting* established him as one of the country's leading character actors. He has more than 70 films to his credit, including *The Front Page*, *Dog Day Afternoon*, *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, *Tootsie*, *Dick Tracy*, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, *Home for the Holidays* and *State and Main*. His television credits are equally impressive, including his Emmy-nominated performance in "Queen of the Stardust Ballroom," "Death of a Salesman," "Evening Shade" and "First Monday." He can currently be seen as the hilariously debauched father of Denis Leary's character in "Rescue Me."

Presenter

SYDNEY POLLACK

Tonight's program will feature a composition from the film *Havana*, produced and directed by Sydney Pollack.

Pollack's 20 films have received 46 Academy Award nominations including two for Best Picture. His film *Out of Africa* won seven Oscars including Best Picture and Best Director for Pollack. He won the New York Film Critics' Award for his 1982 film *Tootsie*, and the David di Donatello Award for *Three Days of the Condor*.

His film acting roles include Woody Allen's *Husbands and Wives*, Robert Altman's *The Player*, Robert Zemeckis' *Death Becomes Her* and Stanley Kubrick's *Eyes Wide Shut*. On television he has appeared on "Mad About You" and "Will & Grace."

In 1985 he formed Mirage Productions. Under that banner, he's produced films including *Presumed Innocent*, *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *White Palace*, *Major League*, *Searching For Bobby Fischer*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *Cold Mountain*. In 2000, writer/director Anthony Minghella became a partner in Mirage Productions.

Pollack is a founding member of The Sundance Institute and The Film Foundation, and is Chairman Emeritus of The American Cinematheque. He is also on the Board of Directors of The Motion Picture and Television Fund.



Presenter

MICHAEL SHAMBERG



Michael Shamberg and Stacey Sher are partners in Double Feature Films, which produced *World Trade Center*. Their next effort is *Freedom Writers* (to be released January 2007), written by Richard LaGravenese and starring Hilary Swank as a young teacher who inspires her class of at-risk students to learn tolerance and pursue education beyond high school. Also being released next year is *Reno, 911* based on the Comedy Central hit series they produce.

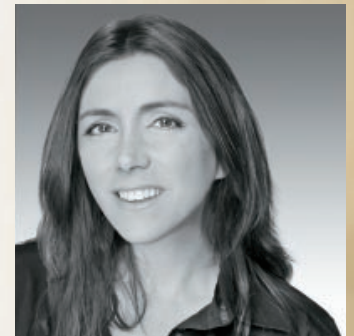
Shamberg and Sher produced the Academy Award-nominated films *Erin Brockovich*, *Pulp Fiction* and *The Big Chill*.

Shamberg's other credits include *Garden State*, *Along Came Polly*, *Camp*, *Out of Sight*, *Reality Bites*, *Get Shorty*, *Gattaca*, *Living Out Loud*, *Man on the Moon*, and the Oscar winning *A Fish Called Wanda*.

Sher's other credits include *Garden State*, *Along Came Polly*, *Camp*, *Out of Sight*, *Reality Bites*, *Get Shorty*, *Gattaca*, *Living Out Loud* and *Man on the Moon*.

Presenter

STACEY SHER



Presenter

GINA TORRES

Gina Torres currently stars in the new hit Fox drama "Standoff," also starring Ron Livingston, as the head of the FBI's Crisis Negotiation Unit. She will also star this February in the Fox Searchlight film *I Think I Love My Wife*, directed by and starring Chris Rock. In the coming year, she will be seen in Lionsgate's *Five Fingers* and the independent dramas *Jam* and *South of Pico*. Her previous film credits include *Serenity*, *The Matrix Reloaded* and *The Matrix Revolutions*, as well as the independent films *Hair Show* and *Fair Game*. Torres' television credits include very popular roles on "Alias," "The Shield," "Angel," "24," "Firefly" and "Cleopatra 2525."

The youngest of three children, Torres grew up in the Bronx. She is a graduate of the Fiorello LaGuardia School of Music & Arts and began her acting career onstage in New York in such productions as "Dreamgirls," "The Best Little Whorehouse Goes Public," "Face Value," "Blood Wedding" and "A Raisin in the Sun." Torres resides in Los Angeles and New York with her actor husband Laurence Fishburne.

