Johnson Production Group

Press Kit

# One-Liner

What starts as an accidental engagement gradually becomes very real for designer Layla.

# Synopsis

Layla O’ Reilly is an aspiring designer who’s always dreamed of being a December bride. But when her fiancé leaves her — and winds up engaged to her cousin — she swears off love, focusing on advancing her career instead. When Layla tries to land her dream job as a house stager for Stanley Malcolm, owner of a prestigious local real estate company, he abruptly dismisses her. As Christmas approaches, Layla, urged by her aunt to let bygones be bygones, accepts an invitation to her cousin’s December wedding to her ex-financé. Without a date to the wedding after her friend falls ill and cancels, she reluctantly agrees to go with her ex’s friend Seth Murphy, a handsome investment banker who’s had a longtime unreciprocated crush on her, and is the guy responsible for introducing the bride and groom. When Layla’s family pities her at the reception for having been jilted, Seth, in an effort to save her from the embarrassment, gets carried away and announces that they’re engaged. A mortified Layla is forced to go along with it after learning that Stanley Malcom’s interest in her work may well be piqued now that she and Seth, his friend and client, are a couple. And when Seth is roped into entering his house in the annual Christmas Tour of Homes by his boss’s wife, he convinces Layla to turn his bachelor pad into a Christmas wonderland.

As the tour opening draws near, Layla works frantically to create a masterpiece of design and decorating that will hopefully beat out the home her ex-boss is decorating across the street, while impressing Stanley Malcom, one of the tour’s judges, and convincing him to hire her. Working side by side to adorn the house, Layla and Seth really get to know one another and soon, the faux couple begins to develop real feelings for each other. After Stanley declares Seth’s house the winner of the contest and offers Layla a job, she and Seth agree that it’s time for their pretend engagement to end, so with their families and friends assembled for a holiday celebration, Layla and Seth begin to act out their “break-up.” But when Seth unexpectedly drops to his knee and proposes, the young interior designer must decide if she’s ready to let herself fall in love and finally become the December bride she’s always wanted to be.

# Producers

Executive Producer  
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON

Executive Producer  
MAURA DUNBAR

Producer  
OLIVER DE CAIGNY

Supervising Producer  
NAVID SOOFI

# Key Cast

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| CHARACTER  Layla  Seth  Jack  Jessica  Aunt Lorraine |  | ACTOR  JESSICA LOWNDES  DANIEL LISSING  JAY HINDLE  PAULINE EGAN  KAREN KRUPER |

# Key Cast Biographies

## JESSICA LOWNDES

## Jessica Lowndes PictureAfter captivating audiences and critics alike with her powerfully dynamic portrayal of drug addicted pregnant teen actress Adrianna on the CW’s hit series “90210,” Jessica Lowndes (pronounced Lounds) quickly turned heads. In 2014, Lowndes played Bruce Willis’s love interest opposite John Cusack in the action thriller The Prince. The following year she starred alongside Will Ferrell and Kristen Wiig in Lifetime’s “A Deadly Adoption” as well as the summer feature film Eden opposite Nate Parker. Additionally, her horror film Abattoir premiered at the 2016 Los Angeles Film Festival in June. Lowndes broke the Internet earlier this year when she punked her fans into believing she was engaged to comedian Jon Lovitz. A native of Canada, Lowndes currently resides in Los Angeles.

## DANIEL LISSING

Daniel Lissing has starred in the popular Hallmark Channel original series “When Calls the Heart” in the role of Constable Jack Thornton for three seasons and will return for season four in 2017. One of Australia’s rising stars, Lissing played Lt. James King, a series regular on ABC’s “Last Resort,” directed by Martin Campbell (“Casino Royale”) and produced by Shawn Ryan (“The Shield,” “The Unit”). This highly sought after role gave Lissing the opportunity to star opposite Hollywood heavyweights Andre Braugher (Glory), Robert Patrick (Terminator) and Scott Speedman (“Felicity”). “Last Resort” was Lissing’s first role in the United States. He has added to his resume with recurring roles on the MTV/Blumhouse series “Eye Candy” and Bravo’s “Girlfriend’s Guide to Divorce.” Lissing also wrote, produced and starred in the short film The Answers, which was accepted to numerous festivals and won at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

Lissing has worked extensively in Australia, where he was a series regular on the ABC TV series “Crownies” and played the lead role of Ryan in the feature film The Cure by Director David Gould, which shot in New Zealand. Additional credits include the feature film John Doe by Director Kel Dolen and numerous television series including “Cops LAC” (Nine), “Out of the Blue” (Southern Star/BBC/TEN), “Packed to the Rafters” (Seven) and “Home and Away” (Seven).

Lissing is also a popular singer/songwriter and performs to packed houses all over Sydney. He has performed for the Australian troops serving overseas in East Timor (Pacific Islands) and was formally recognized for his peacekeeping efforts by the Australian Defense Force.

Lissing was chosen by Inside Film Magazine as one of “Australia’s Rising Talents” in their June/July 2012 issue and Australia’s TV Week Magazine included Lissing in their recent ”Australia's Sexiest Blokes on Television” issue.

# Production Credits

### Full Cast

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| [**Actors**](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm7589451/?ref_=ttfc_fc_cl_t1)  JESSICA LOWNDES  DANIEL LISSING  JAY HINDLE  PAULINE EGAN  KAREN KRUPER  APRIL TELEK  CASEY MANDERSON  KEITH MACKECHNIE  DEAN MONROE MCKENZIE  JANNEN KARR  KURT EVANS  DRUMMOND MACDOUGALL  BEVERLEY BREUER  LARRY HOE  BRENDON JAMES ZUB | **Role**  Layla  Seth  Jack  Jessica  Aunt Lorraine  Darcy  Beckett  Hank  Peter  Mrs. Hardwick  Stanley  George  Meredith  Minister  Cooper |

### Produced by

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Timothy O. Johnson |  | executive producer |
| Maura Dunbar |  | executive producer |
| Oliver De Caigny |  | producer |
| Navid Soofi |  | supervising producer |

### Directed by

David Winning

Based on the book by  
Denise Hunter

### Written by

Karen Berger

### Music by

Russ Howard III

### Director of Photography Anthony Metchie, csc

### Film Editing by

Fabiola Caraza

### Casting By

Penny Perry  
Judy Lee

### Production Design by

Harry Brar

### Crew

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| Ken Shane | first assistant director |
| Andrew Pavel | second assistant director |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| James Crawford | associate producer |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Patrick Macht | art director |
| Tanya Verin | set decorator |
| Heather Coutts | assistant set decorator |
|  |  |
| Tim Lanham | lead dresser |
| Jordan Macken | on set dresser |
| Rob Vanpoelgeest | dressers |
| Cooper Debeck |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Jesse Smith | property master |
| Patrick Macht | on set props |
| Lindsay Sy | assistant property master |
|  |  |
| Marecel Daniel | make-up artist |
| Ashley Young | hair stylist |
| Deni Langis | swings |
| Vanessa Messina |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Claudia Da Ponte | costume designer |
| Shana Cornish | on set costume supervisor |
| Ruby Gifford | truck costumers |
| Nicolle Hanbury |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Collin Morrison | camera operator |
| Justin Kamal  Laurent Danis | first assistants camera |
| Charlotte Labelle |  |
| Tom Bowser | second assistants camera |
| Steve Smith |  |
| Margot Guirado |  |
|  |  |
| Darren Robson | unit manager |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Clyde Harrelson | gaffer |
| Daniel Leon Pitts | best boy |
| Patric Shaw | electric |
| Jared Cheer |  |
| Kenny Huynh |  |
| Adam Hinds | generator operator |
|  |  |
| Emma Osmand | key grip |
| Kevin Saxby | dolly grip |
| Ian Baylis | grips |
| Jesse Gordon |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Peter Gibson | transport coordinator |
| Brian Franklin | transport captain |
| Georgina Church  Tracy Murray  Jeff Charlton | drivers |
| Chris McIlveen |  |
|  |  |
| Barry Hunt | security coordinator |
|  |  |
| John Rollins | location manager |
| Brian McWha | assistant location manager |
| Effy Mensah | location assistant |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| James Schoening | production sound mixer |
| Tony Poulsen | boom operator |
|  |  |
| Taliesin Sanford | script supervisor |
|  |  |
| Megan Turnbull | payroll accountant |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Matthew Santoro | production coordinator |
| Jamie Skelton | third assistant director |
| Virgo Velasquez | assistant to maura dunbar |
| Austin Gourmet | catering |
|  |  |
| Ashley Kipping | craft service/first aid |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Ciarra Cook | casting assistant |
|  |  |
| La Hilts | extras casting |
| Diane Chester | background coordinator |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Coastal Clearance | script clearances |
| Chandler Fogden Aldous  Law Corporation | legal services |
| Front Row Insurance Brokers | insurance |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Troy Weinreich  Leah Myers  Angelica Perez Anzures  Evan Graves  Finalé Post Production | assistant editor  post production coordinator  second assistant editor  visual effects  picture post production colourist  online editors |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Cinescope Sound | audio post production |
| Gregor Phillips | supervising sound editor |
| Gregor Phillips | re-recording mixer |
| Eric Mouawad | dialogue editor |
| Craig George | sfx editor |
| Matt Smalley | foley artists |
| Alex Macia |  |
| Devon Quelch |  |
|  |  |

# Producer Biographies

TIM JOHNSON – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and an 'on time, on budget' reputation. Previously, he managed the production of ABC's THE DAYS (MINDSHARE/TOUCHTONE.) Prior to forming Johnson Production Group and Ignite Entertainment, Tim served as Head of West Coast Programming Executive and launched the successful series DOC (88 episodes,) SUE THOMAS, FBI, MYSTERIOUS WAYS, JUST CAUSE, PONDEROSA, CHRISTY, ITS A MIRACLE AND MIRACLE PETS.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN for CBS PRODS/SULLIVAN COMPANY for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, he also launched LIVE FROM THE RANCH with Orson Bean - a nationally syndicated talk show focusing on family values in America. He also developed and produced the original docu-drama COLD CASE for CBS network, which was the very first program to integrate television with the Internet.

Recent Projects:

Eat, Play, Love – Executive Producer

Sleepwalking in Suburbia – Executive Producer

The Stalker Club – Executive Producer

Infidelity in Suburbia – Executive Producer

Hunter's Cove – Executive Producer

Double Mommy – Executive Producer

Hearts of Christmas – Executive Producer

The Rooftop Christmas Tree – Executive Producer

A Snow Capped Christmas – Executive Producer

A December Bride – Executive Producer

The Mistletoe Promise – Executive Producer

Stalked by My Mother – Executive Producer

Stalked by My Doctor: The Return – Executive Producer

Backstabbed – Executive Producer

The Convenient Groom – Executive Producer

Killer Coach – Executive Producer

Tulips in Spring – Executive Producer

Hearts of Spring – Executive Producer

Stalked by My Doctor – Executive Producer

Becoming Santa – Executive Producer

Magic Stocking – Executive Producer

Just in Time for Christmas – Executive Producer

A Gift Wrapped Christmas – Executive Producer

A Mother's Instinct – Executive Producer

Ice Sculpture Christmas – Executive Producer

The Reckoning – Executive Producer

Bad Sister – Executive Producer

Family for Christmas – Executive Producer

Double Daddy – Executive Producer

Her Infidelity – Executive Producer

Stalked by My Neighbor – Executive Producer

Babysitter's Black Book – Executive Producer

A Gift of Miracles – Executive Producer

Strange Empire – Executive Producer

Sugar Daddies – Executive Producer

Paper Angels – Executive Producer

A Cookie Cutter Christmas – Executive Producer

Stranded in ParadiseFor Better or For Worse – Executive Producer

Baby Bootcamp – Executive Producer

Ring By Spring – Executive Producer

Sole Custody – Executive Producer

The Cheating Pact – Executive Producer

Deadly Spa – Executive Producer

Walking the Halls – Executive Producer

June In January – Executive Producer

Christmas in the City – Executive Producer

Snow Bride – Executive Producer

Dirty Teacher – Executive Producer

The Surrogate – Executive Producer

Merry In-Laws – Executive Producer

A Bride for Christmas – Executive Producer

Naughty or Nice – Executive Producer

Christmas Crush– Executive Producer

Teenage Bank Heist– Executive Producer

How to Fall in Love – Executive Producer

Home Invasion – Executive Producer

Final Sale – Executive Producer

Confined – Executive Producer

Tornado Valley– Executive Producer

The Wedding Dance– Executive Producer

Trust – executive producer

Toxic Skies– executive producer

Storm seekers – executive producer

Making Mr. Right – executive producer

Love Sick – executive producer

Just Breathe – executive producer

Devils Diary – executive producer

Swarm – executive producer

## JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television and motion picture content for international networks, studios and distributors. Based in Los Angeles and Vancouver, British Columbia, the company manages production, facilitates development and financing, procures distribution and guarantees quality and timely execution of its programs. While costs have gone up, so has the demand for quality. No longer is good enough, good enough. Johnson Production Group serves that segment when a show needs to be "A" quality, but produced efficiently enough to meet a locked budget. JPG specializes in value, protection of creative elements, and delivery of a quality finished product.

MAURA DUNBAR - Producer

Maura Dunbar is the President & CEO of Engage Entertainment(TM). She has over 25 years of extensive television programming experience as a senior level broadcast/cable executive, a creator and producer of original programming, and a highly successful media consultant. Her rich and diverse experience has made her a recognized expert in programming strategies, development, packaging, and production of original programming with a proven track record of identifying, buying, developing and overseeing production of over 250 television movies and mini-series, as well as an expertise in building a community around programming using new media and marketing platforms.

Previously, she was Senior Vice President of Original Programming and Development for the Hallmark Channel, where she launched the channel's franchise of original two-hour movies. Prior to that, Maura worked for 16 years as a creative executive in the program development department of ABC Entertainment. During her tenure at the network, she developed more than 300 hours of original made-for two-hour movies and minis. As Vice President of mini-series and special projects, Maura distinguished herself for her ability to develop and produce content that achieved both ratings and critical success as well as garnering numerous Emmy nominations and awards, such as Stephen King's The Stand, The Shining, Me and My Shadow: The Judy Garland Story (with Judy Davis), and Rear Window (starring Christopher Reeves).

OLIVER DE CAIGNY - Producer

Oliver De Caigny is a Canadian producer originally from Belgium, his background in financing, production, and post production makes his a well-rounded producer for any type of production. His experience in financing and production agreements (film and TV series and movies-of-the week), distribution agreements (both domestic and foreign) as well as international co-productions, Canadian tax credit, Telefilm Canada and Canada Media Fund incentives provides him with a well-rounded background in development, production and distribution for motion pictures, television series and productions.

Recent Projects

Eat, Play, Love –Producer

Sleepwalking in Suburbia –Producer

Woman on the Run

Infidelity in Suburbia –Producer

Sleigh Bells Ring – Producer

The Rooftop Christmas Tree – Producer

A Snow Capped Christmas – Producer

A December Bride – Producer

The Mistletoe Promise – Producer

The Convenient Groom – Producer

Tulips in Spring – Producer

Hearts of Spring – Producer

Becoming Santa – Producer

Magic Stocking – Producer

Just in Time for Christmas – Producer

A Gift Wrapped Christmas – Producer

A Mother's Instinct – Producer

Ice Sculpture Christmas – Producer

The Reckoning – Producer

Family for Christmas – Producer

Her Infidelity – Producer

A Gift of Miracles – Producer

Strange Empire (13 episodes) – Producer

Her Infidelity - Producer

Paper Angels - Producer

A Cookie Cutter Christmas) - Producer

For Better or For Worse – Producer

A Ring By Spring – Producer

June In January – Producer

Baby Bootcamp – Producer

A Badge Of Betrayal (aka Sole Custody) – Producer

R.L. Stine’s: The Haunting Hour (53 Episodes) – Associate Producer

A Bride For Christmas – Producer

The Dating Coach – Producer

Radio Rebel – Executive Producer

Seattle Superstorm – Producer

## Billing Block

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP Presents in Association with Odyssey Networks   
“DECEMBER BRIDE” Jessica Lowndes Daniel Lissing   
Casting by Judy Lee Penny Perry Production Designer Harry Brar Music By Russ Howard III Edited by Fabiola Caraza Director of Photography Anthony Metchie, csc   
Associate Producer James Crawford Supervising Producer Navid Soofi  
 Executive Producers Maura Dunbar Timothy O. Johnson Produced by Oliver De Caigny   
Based on the book by Denise Hunter Written by Karen Berger Directed by David Winning

 

The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit  


With the participation of the Province of British Columbia   
Film Incentive BC

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Meta Data

LONG (max 540 characters) synopsis

Aspiring interior designer Layla O'Reilly is dreading the Christmastime wedding of her cousin who's marrying Layla's ex-fiancé. Although Seth Murphy is the one responsible for introducing the bride and groom, she begrudgingly accepts his offer to be her date as she's out of options. Seth gets carried away at the reception and announces they're engaged, forcing a mortified Layla to keep up the pretense. But as the faux couple spends more time together they find themselves feeling something very real. (504)

MEDIUM (max 180) synopsis

After her date, Seth, pretends they are engaged at her cousin’s wedding, a mortified Layla has to keep up the pretense. The couple soon finds those romantic feelings are very real. (180)

SHORT (max 54 characters) synopsis

An accidental engagement becomes real for a designer (52)

5 KEY WORDS

designer, wedding, love, romance, Christmas