# A December Bride 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**

#### <u>CHARACTER</u>

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

#### **Key Cast Biographies**

#### JESSICA LOWNDES



in Los Angeles.

After 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

#### 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	Role
JESSICA LOWNDES	Layla
DANIEL LISSING	Seth
JAY HINDLE	Jack
PAULINE EGAN	Jessica
KAREN KRUPER	Aunt Lorraine
APRIL TELEK	Darcy
CASEY MANDERSON	Beckett
KEITH MACKECHNIE	Hank
	2001000

KURT EVANS	Stanley
DRUMMOND MACDOUGALL	George
BEVERLEY BREUER	Meredith
LARRY HOE	Minister
BRENDON JAMES ZUB	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 Andrew Pavel first assistant director second assistant director

James Crawford

associate producer

Patrick Macht Tanya Verin Heather Coutts Tim Lanham Jordan Macken Rob Vanpoelgeest Cooper Debeck	art director set decorator assistant set decorator lead dresser on set dresser dressers
Jesse Smith Patrick Macht Lindsay Sy	property master on set props assistant property master
Marecel Daniel Ashley Young Deni Langis Vanessa Messina	make-up artist hair stylist swings
Claudia Da Ponte Shana Cornish Ruby Gifford Nicolle Hanbury	costume designer on set costume supervisor truck costumers
Collin Morrison Justin Kamal Laurent Danis Charlotte Labelle Tom Bowser Steve Smith	camera operator first assistants camera second assistants camera
Margot Guirado Darren Robson	unit manager
Clyde Harrelson Daniel Leon Pitts Patric Shaw Jared Cheer Kenny Huynh Adam Hinds	gaffer best boy electric generator operator
Emma Osmand Kevin Saxby Ian Baylis Jesse Gordon	key grip dolly grip grips

Peter Gibson Brian Franklin Georgina Church Tracy Murray Jeff Charlton Chris McIlveen Barry Hunt	transport coordinator transport captain drivers security coordinator
John Rollins Brian McWha Effy Mensah	location manager assistant location manager location assistant
James Schoening Tony Poulsen	production sound mixer boom operator
Taliesin Sanford	script supervisor
Megan Turnbull	payroll accountant
Matthew Santoro Jamie Skelton Virgo Velasquez Austin Gourmet	production coordinator third assistant director assistant to maura dunbar catering
Ashley Kipping	craft service/first aid
Ciarra Cook	casting assistant
La Hilts Diane Chester	extras casting background coordinator
Coastal Clearance Chandler Fogden Aldous Law Corporation Front Row Insurance Brokers	script clearances legal services insurance
Troy Weinreich Leah Myers	assistant editor post production coordinator

Angelica Perez Anzures Evan Graves	second assistant editor visual effects
Finalé Post Production	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 Iaunched 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 docudrama 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 coproductions, 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