

The Christmas Ring

Johnson Production Group Press Kit

One-Liner

A reporter searches for the love story behind an antique engagement ring. With the help of the ring's owner's grandson, they learn the legacy his grandparents left behind.

Synopsis

Reporter Kendra Adams searches for the love story behind an antique engagement ring with the inscription, "My Christmas Love 1947." With the help of Michael, the grandson of the ring's owner, they learn the legacy his grandparents left behind as well as the sacrifices they both made for what was most important – love.

Producers

Executive Producer
MAURA DUNBAR

Executive Producer
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON

Producer
NAVID SOOFI

Key Cast

<u>CHARACTER</u>	<u>ACTOR</u>
Kendra Adams	NAZNEEN CONTRACTOR
Michael Jones	DAVID ALPAY

Key Cast Biographies

NAZNEEN CONTRACTOR



Born in Mumbai, India and raised in Nigeria, Africa until the age of seven, Nazneen quickly became well versed in world travels and a variety of cultures at a very young age. She attended boarding school in London before her family moved to Toronto, Canada where she spent the majority of her young adulthood and studied classical ballet. It wasn't until the age of 16 when she realized she actually wanted to pursue acting seriously. One year into her studies at University, Contractor went to an open call audition for the play Pericles at the

prestigious Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Ontario, Canada, landing the female lead role. Contractor was immediately offered the opportunity to enroll in Stratford's conservatory program, shortly thereafter joining the cast of A Midsummer Night's Dream as Hermia.

By the third season with the company, Contractor set her sights on a career in film and television, quickly booking a regular role in the Anthony Hines (Borat, Bruno) produced Fox pilot, "The Papdits." While the show didn't end up getting picked up to series, soon after Contractor landed the role of Layla Hourani in "The Border," a Canadian produced drama for CBC. The series aired worldwide, garnering Nazneen a Golden Nymph Award nomination at The Montecarlo Television Festival.

Upon moving to Los Angeles, Contractor booked the role of Kayla Hassan in the eighth season of the hit Fox drama series, "24." Other roles soon followed including a recurring role on CBS comedy "Rules of Engagement" starring David Spade. Contractor later joined the cast of the final season of hit drama "Covert Affairs," opposite Piper Perabo, before landing the role of Farah Nazan in NBC's revival, "Heroes Reborn." On the film front, Contractor appeared as Rima Harewood in the record-breaking Paramount feature film, Star Trek Into Darkness, directed by another one of her industry heroes, JJ Abrams.

Nazneen most recently starred as "Zara Hallam" in the Frank Spotnitz produced drama series, "Ransom." She also proudly voiced the role of "Synara San" in "Star Wars Resistance."

When not working, Contractor is an avid runner and yogi. Philanthropy is a huge priority for her and she supports such organizations as Second Harvest to feed the homeless, and Look Good Feel Better, supporting women with cancer. Nazneen lives in Los Angeles with her husband, children, and border terrier.

DAVID ALPAY



David Alpay is best known for his recurring role on the CW series "The Vampire Diaries" and being a regular on Showtime's "The Borgias" and "The Tudors." Alpay was also a series regular on the Canadian series "Billable Hours," and starred in several Hallmark Channel Original movies such as "Ice Sculpture Christmas", "Runaway Sleigh", and "Mistletoe Inn".

Alpay has starred in many feature films, most recently Birdland, Prodigals, and They're Watching. He also starred in the Sundance film Ten For Grandpa, and had a supporting lead in Man of the Year, alongside Robin Williams, Christopher Walken, Laura Linney, and Lewis Black. He also played a lead role in his first film, Atom Egoyan's Ararat, alongside Christopher Plummer, and appeared with Plummer again in Richard Attenborough's Closing the Ring, which also starred Shirley MacLaine.

On television, Alpay has guest starred in a number of hit television series, including Lifetime's "Drop Dead Diva;" CBS's "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation;" USA's "Royal Pains;" TNT's "Rizzoli & Isles" and "Fairly Legal;" Starz's "Crash;" and FOX's "Dollhouse." Most recently, Alpay starred in Lifetime's drama series, "The Lottery," guest-starred in Hulu's "Castle Rock," and had recurring roles in "Quantico", "Proven Innocent", and "Suits".

Production Credits

Full Cast

Actors	Role
NAZNEEN CONTRACTOR	Kendra Adams
DAVID ALPAY	Michael Jones
KAZUMI EVANS	Sarah
CHELSEY REIST	Trish Jones
KLARC WILSON	Scott Jones
MILO SHANDEL	Paul
COLLEEN WHEELER	Linda
VERONIKA HADRAVA	Cathy
SAM QUINN	Cady
BEVERLY ELLIOT	Jane
JUSTIN STONE	Peter
PETER ANDERSON	Samuel

Produced by

MAURA DUNBAR	executive producer
TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON	executive producer
NAVID SOOFI	producer

Directed by

TROY SCOTT

Written by

ANNA WHITE

Cinematography by

MIKE KAM

Film Editing by

JASON NIELSEN

Casting By

JUDY LEE

Production Design by

HEATHER COUTTS

Producer Biographies

MAURA DUNBAR – Executive 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).

Maura is a member of the Producers Guild of America.

TIM JOHNSON – Executive Producer

Tim Johnson is among the most active and reliable producers in the business thanks to top rate productions and global distribution appeal.

Johnson is also responsible for producing the international hit series, *DR. QUINN, MEDICINE WOMAN* for CBS for over 5 seasons. During his 100-episode tenure, 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.

Johnson has produced over 150 movies, 15 globally released series for every major US network - including ABC, Disney, CBS, NBC, Netflix, FOX and Sony.

JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP

The Johnson Production Group contracts globally to produce television 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.

NAVID SOOFI –Producer

Navid is the primary producer for Novus Ordo Seclorum. Navid’s passion for filmmaking along with his business and engineering background plays an important role in creating a successful and transparent business model. Navid has been in the entertainment industry for more than 13 years and has produced over 50 feature films, TV shows and commercials that have been featured on national television, international theatres, and new media platforms. His credits include Over the Moon in Love, The Mistletoe Secret, Random Acts of Christmas, Love Unleashed, Identity Theft of a Cheerleader, and A Mother on the Edge.

Billing Block

HALLMARK CHANNEL along with JOHNSON PRODUCTION GROUP Presents
“THE CHRISTMAS RING” Starring NAZNEEN CONTRACTOR & DAVID ALPAY
Casting by JUDY LEE Production Designer HEATHER COUTTS
Edited by JASON NIELSEN Director of Photography MIKE KAM
Executive Producers MAURA DUNBAR TIMOTHY O. JOHNSON
Produced by NAVID SOOFI Written by ANNA WHITE Directed by TROY SCOTT



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

The Canadian Film or Video Production Tax Credit

Canada

© MMXX Johnson Production Group Inc. All Rights Reserved



Meta Data

LONG (max 3000 characters) synopsis

Reporter Kendra Adams searches for the love story behind an antique engagement ring with the inscription, "My Christmas Love 1947." With the help of Michael, the grandson of the ring's owner, they learn the legacy his grandparents left behind as well as the sacrifices they both made for what was most important – love. (321)

MEDIUM (max 500) synopsis

Reporter Kendra Adams searches for the love story behind an antique engagement ring with the inscription, "My Christmas Love 1947." With the help of Michael, the grandson of the ring's owner, they learn the legacy his grandparents left behind as well as the sacrifices they both made for what was most important – love. (321)

SHORT (max 100 characters) synopsis

A reporter seeks the love story behind an antique engagement ring with the the owner's grandson. (96)

5 KEY WORDS

Romance, engagement, reporter, grandson, legacy