

TORTILLA SOUP

released by

Samuel Goldwyn Films

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TORTILLA SOUP

The Cast

Hector Elizondo
Jacqueline Obradors
Tamara Mello
Nikolai Kinski
Joel Joan
Paul Rodriguez
Elizabeth Peña
Raquel Welch

The Filmmakers

Directed by María Ripoll

Executive Produced by Samuel Goldwyn, Jr.

Produced by John Bard Manulis

Inspired by the Film "Eat Drink Man Woman"

Written by

Tom Musca & Ramón Menéndez and Vera Blasi

The foods of acclaimed celebrity chefs Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger

Distributor: Samuel Goldwyn Films

Release Date: August 2001

MPAA Rating: PG-13

TORTILLA SOUP

The Recipe

Three grown sisters try to cope with (and *live with*) their father who has one simple rule: be at home for Sunday dinner. Attendance is mandatory and non-negotiable. Tradition is not to be messed with. Heated talk, of course, is as common as jalapeños.

Bring to a boil a widowed father of three grown daughters.

Martin Naranjo (Hector Elizondo) is the family patriarch who's always got something simmering, both on the stove and beneath the surface. A classically trained master chef, his passion is his kitchen and his life's work is seeing his daughters happy, healthy, and secure.

Turn up the heat with the daughter in the middle.

Carmen (Jacqueline Obradors), is a beautiful and successful executive who's just been offered a dream job in Barcelona and the chance to make more money than she could ever have imagined. Yet it's not dollar bills that truly excite her but the tortillas, tomatillos, and chiles she's grown up with in dad's kitchen. Does she take the big bucks to please her father, or follow her heart into the kitchen to cook the seductive and rebellious foods she loves?

Mix in a strong-willed teenager.

Maribel (Tamara Mello) -- the baby of the family -- plans to leave the family nest in the fall to go to college. But destiny soon appears in the form of a hunky bohemian free spirit named Andy (Nikolai Kinski)... and college is suddenly off the agenda. Who needs college right away when you can see the world?

Stir in the oldest daughter, whose life is about to turn upside down.

Prim and proper schoolteacher Leticia (Elizabeth Peña) lives a life of quiet devotion – to her father, her pupils, and the Lord (the only true love of her life.) That is, until she starts receiving a series of mysterious love letters. Could they be the sweet confection of Orlando, the baseball coach (Paul Rodriguez) she sneaks furtive glances at from her classroom window?

Add a few surprises to the mix.

This is a family, so anything goes. There are always things simmering beneath the surface. Add Hortensia (Raquel Welch) to the pot -- a flamboyant and flirtatious grandmother hot for Martin -- and things get even spicier. What brews is a series of memorable Sunday meals, featuring tasty offerings and a bevy of delicious surprises. In this family, you bicker, fight, and disapprove. You also share, learn, and grow. But above all, you cook... and eat!

Presented by Samuel Goldwyn Films and Starz Encore Entertainment, and inspired by director Ang Lee's food film classic *Eat Drink Man Woman*, **TORTILLA SOUP** stars Hector Elizondo, Jacqueline Obradors, Elizabeth Peña, Tamara Mello, Joel Joan, Nikolai Kinski, Paul Rodriguez, and Raquel Welch — and the foods of acclaimed celebrity chefs Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger. Directed by María Ripoll, the film was executive produced by Samuel Goldwyn, Jr. and produced by John Bard Manulis. The screenplay was adapted by Tom Musca & Ramon Menendez and Vera Blasi.

PREPARING THE MAIN MEAL

About the Production

Producer Samuel Goldwyn had in mind a spicy story about family, food and romance centered around three rebellious sisters and a curmudgeonly father. What better source than “Eat Drink Man Woman,” the 1995 Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Language Film which Goldwyn himself had released? While that film had the themes Goldwyn was looking for - humor, the bittersweet ties of family - he wanted one additional ingredient: the universal tension between daughters who want to be independent, and fathers who want them to remain little girls.

“By highlighting those themes and changing the setting to America, we open up a whole new world,” says Goldwyn, Jr. “In this film, the father, (Martin, played by Hector Elizondo), instills the old-school values that he brought with him to this country just like our grandfathers did when they came here. Now his daughters have to deal with him and try to open his eyes to see that there are new ways of looking at things, that everybody makes mistakes and that you have to live your own life.”

“Certain parts of this story could have been tragic, but this family finds a way to persevere through humor and certainly food – a lot of food,” Elizondo adds.

A crucial element to the story was the casting of Martin, a widower who shares the roles of family patriarch and Master Chef extraordinaire. Martin lovingly prepares dishes of every imaginable variety in quantities which could feed an entire neighborhood. Elizondo immediately connected to and identified with the part. “This story is very close to me because I was an only parent raising a son,” he says. “What’s intriguing about this dynamic is his relationship with his daughters. Ironically, the daughter he’s having the most trouble with is the one who is most like him.

“Martin is looking at himself in the mirror and has second thoughts as to whether he wants Carmen to follow in his footsteps; someone who has spent his life in the kitchen. It’s what all parents go through, trying to help your kids accomplish something more than what you did.”

The family themes also attracted Jacqueline Obradors, who plays middle daughter Carmen. “You can’t help but think about family when you’re part of this movie,” she says. “Family, friends and the relationships you make are what is important.”

Then there are the three sisters who are still living at home with their father. As one might expect, it’s not always pleasant. “They all seem so different, but they have a lot in common,” says Peña. “All of them are evolving, moving on. This is what creates the animosity among them.”

For Raquel Welch, who plays an over-the-top neighbor looking for her next husband, all of the characters are special. “This is a film about real human circumstances,” she says. “These are people you want to spend time with. You’re charmed by them; not beaten over the head by them. I love that about this movie.”

Playing alongside Welch gave Paul Rodriguez the opportunity to live out one of his boyhood fantasies. “I’m a migrant worker’s son. I’d love to say that my father took me to the movies and I said to myself, ‘Some day that’s going to be me up there.’ The reality is that I had a poster in my room of Raquel Welch. It was my motivation. Who’d have thought that I’d ever be in a film with her.”

PLATOS GRANDES

About the food

Aside from the heartwarming story and the powerful cast, the real star of the film is the food. Not only is it always paramount in the minds of the characters, it the glue that holds the family together. The movie begins and ends with the preparation of lavish meals, and it is over these dinners that the family comes together to eat, listen and understand.

“During the dinner scenes, I was thinking, ‘I don’t care about the acting. I just want to eat!’” says Rodriquez.

Adds Peña, “Food creates the atmosphere. And it’s nice to have a co-star who doesn’t talk back.”

Director María Ripoll adds, “It’s funny, no one ever really sits down and eats a meal. Every meal gets interrupted. But the display is always gorgeous. People will leave this movie hungry.”

The discussions about the food in the movie in fact play a role in underscoring the relationship between father and daughter. “Hector’s character and my character express themselves through food,” Obradors says. “He makes his meals traditionally. I like to add new things, new spices. He calls my dishes ‘mutts’ and that difference is at the heart of our relationship. It’s new ways versus old ways of doing things and looking at life.”

To help create the exquisite meals and counsel the actors on the art of cooking, the producers turned to the Too Hot Tamales – the alias of two of Los Angeles’ most renowned chefs of Mexican and Latin fare – Mary Sue Milliken and Susan Feniger. Mary Sue and Susan are the owners of the world-famous L.A. based restaurants *Border Grill* and *Ciudad*.

“It was important for us to work with Susan and Mary Sue on a filmmaking level because the food is much like the main characters – Martin’s dishes, which are traditionally inspired, and Carmen’s dishes, which are more a fusion style; they take chances but come from her father’s traditional way of doing things,” says producer John Manulis. “Mary Sue and Susan sort of embody both of those characters in various aspects of their personalities.”

This dichotomy between the traditional and the new is also true about Mary Sue and Susan’s restaurants. According to Milliken, “We’re strict about the tradition at *Border Grill* – no fusion. At *Ciudad*, our foods come from Central America, South America, the Caribbean, Spain, Portugal. So it’s a strange coincidence how the film mirrors what we do.”

At both restaurants, taste and authenticity are always the highest concerns. Says Feniger, “Our worry is that the food tastes great. We don’t always think about how spectacular it looks after it’s cooked.” According to Feniger, “At *Border Grill* we’re obsessed with everything being authentic -- doing whatever grandmothers, grandfathers, fathers and mothers do in the Mexican kitchen.”

To that end, Milliken considers the cactus salad, which Martin so lovingly prepares, as his signature dish. “We watch him go out in his yard and cut the cactus,” she says. “It’s the same thing you would see in traditional Mexican families; appreciating food from the preparation state to the plate.”

For Carmen’s signature dish? “I think it’s got to be the lamb with the orange salsa,” says Feniger. “The things she puts in it don’t traditionally go together, but she’s experimenting and it turns out wonderful.”

For the actors, working with the chefs on a film set “cooking school” was fun for all concerned. “They’re the fastest choppers I’ve seen,” says Elizondo. “I loved just watching them work.”

Likewise, the chefs enjoyed working on their first film. “Hector was a natural in the kitchen,” says Feniger. “We’d start to do something and he’d say, ‘I can do it,’ and he would.”

Says Milliken, “Jackie was a bit more timid in the kitchen but such a quick learner.”

Filming in Encino in the middle of a hot summer was just one of the obstacles the filmmakers encountered. For example, there was a whole suckling pig, a prominent feature in one of the film’s memorable dinner scenes, which turned out to be too big for the table. “It’s not like a fish where you can just replace it. We had to make it work,” said Feniger. “So Mary Sue had to saw it down and then put it back together to make it look right.”

“It was hard to keep the food looking gorgeous,” says Milliken. “We learned some tricks over time. We used a ton of dry ice to try to keep things looking fresh but it wasn’t easy.”

When asked if they would ever consider working on a film again, they answer, “Right after we finished, we looked at each other and said, ‘No way would we ever do this again.’ It was just so much work, so much preparation and then 18-hour days for two straight weeks. But now, sure, we’d consider it. Looking back, it was fun.”

ABOUT THE CHEFS

Too Hot Tamales - Food and Cooking Consultants

The big question prior to filming **TORTILLA SOUP** was, "How do we get the actors to look like they know how to cook?" Easy - hire two of LA's hottest chefs, appropriately called "Too Hot Tamales."

Classically trained chefs, Milliken and Feniger opened their first restaurant, CITY, in Los Angeles twenty years ago, and turned the culinary world upside down by serving rustic ethnic dishes from around the world. In 1985, the pair of gringas from the Midwest took their first of several road trips to Mexico, and returned to open a taco stand called Border Grill.

Today they are chef/owners of Border Grill restaurants in Santa Monica and Las Vegas, serving authentic home cooking of Mexico, and Ciudad in Downtown Los Angeles, serving seductive foods from South America, the Caribbean, Spain, and Portugal. They've written four cookbooks dedicated to the Latin kitchen, starred in 296 episodes of their popular Food Network series, "Cooking with Too Hot Tamales," and are coming to PBS with a new series, "Border Girls." Milliken and Feniger are also spokespeople for Whole Foods Markets for whom they have developed signature take-out foods such as "Turkey Albondigas Stew." As consultants for United Airlines, their dishes are served on flights to major cities in Mexico, Central and South America.

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ABOUT THE ACTORS

HECTOR ELIZONDO – Martin

A versatile actor with credits in television, film, and theatre, Hector Elizondo is considered by director/producer Garry Marshall to be his "good luck charm" and as such is offered a role in each of his movies.

A native New Yorker, Elizondo first gained recognition on the New York stage for his portrayal of God in "Steambath," which earned him an Obie Award. High praise followed for his Broadway roles in Neil Simon's "Prisoner of Second Avenue," "The Great White Hope," and "Sly Fox," for which he received a Drama Desk Award nomination.

Elizondo won the raves of critics and the hearts of the public as the acerbic, but warm-hearted hotel manager in Marshall's mega-hit *Pretty Woman*. Another role equally satisfying to him was as Dr. Walters in the David E. Kelly hospital drama "Chicago Hope." Hector's other film and television credits include: *American Gigolo*, *Nothing in Common*, *Beverly Hills Cop III*, *Runaway Bride*, *The Flamingo Kid*, *The Other Sister*, *Frankie and Johnny*, "All in the Family," "Maude," "The Rockford Files," "Picket Fences" and "Hill Street Blues."

JACQUELINE OBRADORS – Carmen

Jacqueline Obradors has parlayed her starring role opposite Harrison Ford in Ivan Reitman's *Six Days, Seven Nights* into a string of coveted film roles. She will also star for director F. Gary Gray in New Line Cinema's anticipated thriller *Diablo* opposite Vin Diesel (Spring 2002). Obradors, whose *Six Days* role garnered a Blockbuster Entertainment Award nomination, will next be seen in Samuel Goldwyn Film's *TORTILLA SOUP* (Aug/Sept). The dramedy is inspired by Ang Lee's foreign-language hit *Eat, Drink, Man, Woman*. Additionally, she stars as the female lead in the anticipated F/X original series *Dope*.

She also provides a key voice for Disney's current hit animated feature *Atlantis: The Lost Empire* with Michael J. Fox for the creators of *The Lion King* Obradors most recently co-starred with Rob Schneider in Disney's hit comedy *Deuce Bigelow, Male Gigolo* and also appeared in the festival circuit award-winner, *Crossing Over*.

Beyond her feature work, Obradors has had an impressive run in television as well. She starred as a young detective with Elizabeth Perkins in NBC/Dreamworks' mid-season sitcom *Battery Park* for creator/producer Gary David Goldberg ("Family Ties," "Spin City") and also guest-starred on a four-episode arch of NBC's hit sitcom "Jesse" as Bruno Campos' ex-fiance.

Additional forays into television include *Killer App*. for director/producer Robert Altman, '68 opposite Dylan Walsh, *The People* with Bradley Whitford, and most recently a guest turn on the comedy *Some Of My Best Friends*.

ELIZABETH PEÑA – Leticia

With a starring role in Showtime's popular series "Resurrection Blvd" and a string of upcoming features, actress Elizabeth Peña is one of the entertainment industry's busiest actresses. Her artistic style and adventurous spirit make this award-winning actress a success on stage, film, and television. Peña is currently shooting the second season of Showtime's award winning family drama, "Resurrection Blvd" about the trials and tribulations of a close-knit Latino family that has a young, boxing hopeful in it's midst. "The boxing theme is really a metaphor for how the family deals with the world. You can knock us down, but you can't knock us out," explains Pena, who received the ALMA Award for "Best Actress in a New Series" for her role as 'Bibi', the strong-willed matriarch who works hard to hold her family together. "She's tough and spicy, but very big hearted." The show airs Tuesdays, at 10:00pm.

In addition to her series, Peña has also completed work on nearly half-dozen new films due for release over the next year. Her upcoming starring roles include the romantic comedy, *TORTILLA SOUP* with Hector Elizondo, due for release August 25 by Sam Goldwyn Films; Paramount's sci-fi spectacular,

Imposters with Gary Sinese and Madeline Stowe, Fine Line's tear-jerker, *Zig Zag* opposite Wesley Snipes and John Leguizamo, the independent feature *On The Borderline*, HBO's "Ten Tiny Love Stories," and the drama "Things Behind the Sun" with Eric Stoltz, which premieres the end of July on Showtime

Born in New Jersey and raised in New York, Peña grew up with an appreciation and passion for the arts. "My father was a playwright, actor, director, and novelist," says Peña, whose parents opened the off-Broadway theater, Latin American Theatre Ensemble. By the time I was eight years old, I knew I wanted to become an actress." While attending the High School of Performing Arts in New York, Peña kept busy honing her craft with repertoire theatre and television commercials. At seventeen, she landed her first major role in the award-winning independent feature, *El Super*, portraying 'Aurelita', a rebellious, Cuban-American teenager. "Everyone of us in that production was brand new. When they said 'make-up,' we all pulled out mirrors, and when they said 'lunch,' we got in our cars and drove to the local pizza place," said Peña. "Needless to say, it holds a special place in my heart."

After landing roles like a knife wielding waitress, a disco queen, and a gum-smacking drifter in films such as *Time Square*, *Fat Chance*, and *Crossover Dreams*, Peña moved to Los Angeles where she got her big break in Disney's hit comedy *Down And Out In Beverly Hills* opposite Richard Dreyfuss, Bette Midler, and Nick Nolte. "I gave my tape to the guard at the gate and asked him to deliver it to the casting director's office. Forty-five minutes later I got a call to come and meet with the director," says Peña, who played the sultry maid, 'Carmen'. "That was one of those movies where I arrived on the set at six o'clock in the morning and I didn't stop cracking up all day. I still had tears rolling down my face while I was driving home each night."

Peña's move to the West Coast proved prosperous over the years, as she has consistently won roles in numerous films. Among her big screen performances are the jilted 'Rosie' in *La Bamba*, "Marissa" in Steven Spielberg's production of *Batteries Not Included*, and "Jezebel" in Adrian Lyne's *Jacob Ladder*. She also co-starred in *Rush Hour* with Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker, *The Waterdance* with Academy-Award winner Helen Hunt, and she turned in an award winning performance in John Sayle's drama *Lone Star*, for which she received an IFP/West Independent Spirit Award and a Bravo Award for Best Actress in a Film. On television, Peña's credits include the film *Borderline*, the Emmy Award-winning "Drug Wars: The Camarena Story", Showtime's "Aldrich Ames: Traitor Within", "The Outer Limits", "Dead Man's Gun", and "The Second Civil War" with Beau Bridges. She also had a recurring role on "L.A. Law" and a starring role in the sitcom "I Married Dora". Peña also spent time behind the camera as producer and director of "Celebrando La Diferencia," a Latin, literature series for children with Richard Dreyfuss, and Alfre Woodard.

When she is not working, Peña enjoys spending time with her husband and two children, reading anything she can get her hands on, and gardening. "I can ignore the garden forever, but if I dig the first hole I can't stop," says Peña, who also likes to take long drives up the coast and people watch. "You can find out where people are going by the type of shoes they're wearing." As much as she enjoys her past-times, however, she still loves her work. Whether comedy or drama, she's up for the part. "I usually seem to have to cry at some point, but I do love comedy," she says. "As long as I've got good material, it doesn't matter. Acting is acting."

TAMARA MELLO – Maribel

Though born and raised in Southern California, Mello in her early years had no inclinations toward the entertainment industry. She began auditioning for roles as a hobby during her first year of high school. During a production of "Agnes of God," Mello caught the eye of a talent agent who asked her to sign on as a client.

She soon began appearing in guest starring roles on various television series, which lead to the ABC comedy "Nothing Sacred" as a series regular. Mello is currently in the ensemble cast of the WB series "Popular."

Film roles include *She's All That*, *The Spanish Judges*, and *Carlo's Wake*.

NIKOLAI KINSKI – Andy

Born in Paris to the late great actor Klaus Kinski, Nikolai trekked around the globe for four years with his French-Vietnamese mother before finally nesting in Northern California.

His cinematic debut was in his father's 1989 production of *Paganini*, a character that Klaus identified very closely with. Nikolai's next film was *Jamila*, a WWII drama shot in the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan that co-starred F. Murray Abraham and Jason Connery. Nikolai has also performed in the multimedia production of "Nosferatu," a film role made famous by his father in the 1979 remake.

PAUL RODRIGUEZ -- Orlando

Rodriguez, who was born in Mazatlan, Mexico, moved to East Los Angeles as a young boy. In 1977, after a stint in the Air Force, he entered Long Beach City College on the G.I. Bill, obtaining an Associate Arts degree.

He then went across town to California State University, intent on becoming an attorney. During an elective theatre course, he worked behind the scenes on a production of "The Glass Menagerie." Rodriguez' comic wise-cracks prompted his acting teacher to take him to the Comedy Store in Los

Angeles for "amateur night." The club's owner offered Paul the job of working the door and the opportunity for nightly stints on stage.

His first big break came while doing comedy warm-ups for "Gloria," a Norman Lear-created show. Lear ultimately wrote and developed a weekly series for Paul called "a.k.a. Pablo," which focused on the life of a Mexican-American family. Rodriguez went on to star in two other series, "Trial and Error" and "Grand Slam." His film credits include *D.C. Cab*, *Miracles*, *The Whoopee Boys*, *Quicksilver*, *Born in East L.A.*, and *A Million to Juan*, which he also directed. Rodriguez has also appeared on the cable series "Resurrection Blvd." with his **TORTILLA SOUP** co-star Elizabeth Peña.

RAQUEL WELCH -- Hortensia

Born Jo Raquel Tejada in Chicago, Illinois, actress Raquel Welch became an instant icon when she burst onto the movie scene in the science fiction classics, *Fantastic Voyage* and *One Million Years, B.C.* From this unforgettable beginning, Raquel went on to create several film heroines in such films as *The Three Musketeers* (Golden Globe "Best Actress" award), *100 Rifles*, *Hannie Colder*, and *Mother, Jugs and Speed*. Appearing in over forty films, Raquel has shown remarkable versatility - from roller derby queen in *Kansas City Bomber* to seductress in *Bedazzled*, to the outrageous Myra in the underground classic *Myra Breckinridge*. She currently has a role in *Legally Blonde* starring Reese Witherspoon.

Her unprecedented record-breaking triumph in Broadway's *Woman of The Year* was followed by much praise and nightly ovations when she replaced Julie Andrews in *Victor/Victoria*.

Raquel's television credits include *Central Park West*, *Seinfeld*, and *Spin City*. Her next tv role will be in PBS' forthcoming debut into series programming, *American Family*. Raquel portrays Edward James Olmos' sister who aspires to be an actress. Again as in *Tortilla Soup*, she is living next door and part of a winning ensemble that includes Sonia Braga and Constance Marie.

She is the recipient of this year's Imagen Foundation's *Lifetime Achievement Award*, which honors positive representations of Latinos and Latin culture. Raquel became a role model for women with the publication of *Raquel: Total Beauty and Fitness*. In addition to *The Raquel Welch Wig Collection*, she will be offering fans *Timeless*, a skincare line to be launched in September.

CONSTANCE MARIE -- Yolanda

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Marie's first entry into entertainment was as a dancer in David Bowie's Glass Spider Tour. When she returned to the U.S., she won the role of a series regular on the CBS series "Dirty Dancing."

Her first film role was in Gregory Nava's 1995 film *My Family/Mi Familia*. She re-teamed with Nava in *Selena*, portraying Jennifer Lopez' mother. After seeing her in *Selena*, producer Gary David Goldberg cast her as Michael J. Fox's love interest in "Spin City." She recently starred opposite Edward James Olmos in Gregory Nava's one-hour pilot "An American Family" on CBS.

JOEL JOAN -- Antonio

One of Spain's most sought-after actors, Joel Joan makes his American film debut with **TORTILLA SOUP**. Since earning a degree in acting from the Institute de Teatro de Barcelona, Joan has appeared in a number of Spanish films that have included: *Platos Sucios*, *Periodistas*, *Sitges*, *Poble Nou*, *Monturiol*, *el senyor del mar*, *Rosita*, *Please!*, *La Buena Vida*, and *El Corazon del guerrero*.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

MARÍA RIPOLL - Director

María Ripoll says that the urge to make movies came to her from reading two books in particular: Francois Truffaut's classic book of interviews with Alfred Hitchcock and My Last Sigh, by her countryman, Luis Bunuel.

A lover of American films (Martin Scorsese, David Lynch and Elia Kazan are among her favorites), she trained as a film director at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles from 1990 to 1991. There she directed three short films: *Drink Up*, *Undercurrent*, and *The Living is Easy*. She also studied screenwriting and drama direction at USC.

Other directing credits include the short film *Bar*, which won first prize at the Huesca Festival in 1988; *Kill Me Later*, which won first prize at the Oberhausen Film Festival in 1993 and a Panavision Grant at the Houston Film Festival, and *Veo Veo*.

From 1994-95, Ripoll was a commercial director for Rodar and Rodar Productions in Spain. In 1996, her episode of *El Dominio de Los Sentidos (Every Sense Woman)* won the Audience Award at the Alcala de Benares Film Festival.

Her feature film *The Man with Rain in his Shoes (aka Twice Upon a Yesterday)* won the Audience Award at the Seattle Film Festival and the Sitges/Barcelona Film Festival, and was released in the U.S. by Trimark Pictures.

Ripoll continues working as a freelance director for Spain's Canal + and recently completed "A Flor de Pel," a television drama series for Canal 9, Spain.

SAMUEL GOLDWYN, JR. – Executive Producer

A risk taker and a survivor is the best way to describe Samuel Goldwyn, Jr. Having spent most of his life in the entertainment industry, Mr. Goldwyn has produced some of the industry's most ground-breaking and acclaimed films. His work has left an indelible impression on several generations of film audiences.

Mr. Goldwyn currently presides over The Samuel Goldwyn Company -- whose activities encompass feature film development, production and distribution. A long-time member of the Board of Governors of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, he also is an officer of the French Order of Arts and Letters. In 1997 at ShowEast, he was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association of American Exhibitors. Most recently, he was honored by the University of Connecticut with a Doctorate of the Arts.

Taking chances on films that no other studio would is an important element in Mr. Goldwyn's life. Some of these gems include bringing films based on Shakespearean scripts back into favor with Kenneth Branagh's *Henry V* and, later, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Never one to back away from controversy, he presented the AIDS drama *Longtime Companion* at a time when the American population and the media were avoiding the subject at all costs. *Desert Hearts*, another Goldwyn film, dealt with the then taboo topic of a lesbian relationship.

Three Goldwyn films have captured the prestigious Palme d'Or at Cannes David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*, Bille August's *The Best Intentions*, and Steven Soderbergh's *Sex, Lies and Videotape*. Foreign films are another passion, having released *The Best Intentions*, *3 Men and A Cradle*, Luc Besson's *La Femme Nikita*, the recent *Faithless*, and Ang Lee's Oscar-nominated classics *Wedding Banquet* and *Eat Drink Man Woman*.

He has also been a champion of fine documentary works, highlighted by the Oscar-winning *Hotel Terminus*, the multi-Award-winning *35 Up*, Sting's *Bring on the Night* and the critically-acclaimed *Mystery of Picasso*.

He has consistently found a talent pool in Great Britain, producing and presenting such films as *Gregory's Girl* from director Bill Forsyth, Anthony Minghella's *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, and the multi-Oscar nominated *Madness of King George* featuring first time first director Nicholas Hytner and "overnight" sensation Nigel Hawthorne.

As a producer, he has garnered a reputation as a "discoverer" of talent having provided the forum to launch the careers of numerous stars, producers, directors and writers. Goldwyn's *Mystic Pizza* introduced Julia Roberts as a leading lady, *Once Bitten* showcased the talents of then unknown comedian

Jim Carrey; *Hollywood Shuffle* served as the springboard for the talented Robert Townsend, and filmmaker Jim Jarmusch and his first film, *Stranger Than Paradise*.

Among the other films that Goldwyn has produced and/or distributed include *Better Than Sex*, *Solas*, *Greenfingers*, and *King of Masks*. Other notable company productions and releases include *Lolita* starring Jeremy Irons, *The Preacher's Wife* with Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston, *Big Night*, *I Shot Andy Warhol*, *Angels and Insects*, *To Live*, *A Prayer for the Dying*, *Sid and Nancy*, *Turtle Diary*, *Prick Up Your Ears*, *Black Robe*, *Mississippi Masala*, *The Playboys*, and *Dance with a Stranger*.

He also was responsible for the television phenomenon, "American Gladiators" which ran for seven seasons in the U.S. and around the world.

In 1987 Mr. Goldwyn took on the monumental task of producing the 59th Annual Academy Awards. The Academy invited him back the following year and Mr. Goldwyn was rewarded with an Emmy Award for Best Variety-Music Programming for his efforts on that show.

In the early 1970's he produced two successful comedies which helped set the tone for an emerging genre, the black film cycle, with *Cotton Comes to Harlem* starring Godfrey Cambridge and *Come Back Charleston Blue*. Two 1990s releases also helped pave the way for future works by black filmmakers *To Sleep with Anger* and *Straight Out of Brooklyn*.

The son of legendary producer Samuel Goldwyn and actress Frances Howard, Mr. Goldwyn was born and raised in Los Angeles. He later attended the University of Virginia where he majored in English and Drama.

After a stint in the Army during World War II, he went to work in England for J. Arthur Rank Productions as a writer and associate producer and also spent some time in various capacities in the London theatre. Returning to Hollywood, he worked for a short time as writer and producer at Universal Studios before once again joining the military in 1950. This time, he joined the staff of General Dwight D. Eisenhower, where he produced and directed documentary films. His "Alliance for Peace" won first prize at the Edinburgh Film Festival, serving as an auger of things to follow.

Returning to the U.S. in 1952, he picked up where he left off, working for a time under Edward R. Murrow at CBS News. He went on to co-produce the documentary series, "Adventure," which won a George Foster Peabody Award. In 1955, Mr. Goldwyn formed his own independent production company. Among the company's productions were *Man with a Gun* with Robert Mitchum, *Sharkfighters*, *The Proud Rebel*

with Alan Ladd and Olivia de Havilland, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, and *The Young Lovers*, which he also directed.

The new Goldwyn Company was founded in 1979 stemming from Mr. Goldwyn's vision for a motion picture company with the scope of a major studio and the heart of an old-fashioned family business. Using more than 50 classic American films owned by the original company as building blocks, classics such as *Wuthering Heights*, *Pride of the Yankees*, *Best Years of Our Lives*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Hans Christian Anderson*, and *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, the company continues to build a library of fine films.

In addition to his role as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer at The Samuel Goldwyn Company, Mr. Goldwyn serves as President of The Samuel Goldwyn Foundation, a non-profit organization with a primary interest in health, education and child services. The Foundation sponsors a yearly writing competition for the University of California system, which has a proven track record of launching the careers of talented young screenwriters. The Foundation also constructed the Hollywood Public Library in memory of Frances Howard Goldwyn and created the Samuel Goldwyn Foundation Children's Center, a day care center serving the entertainment industry.

JOHN BARD MANULIS - Producer

Mr. Manulis is President of Foundation Entertainment, dedicated to building a creative ecosystem within the film, theater, television and new media communities, and the CEO of Visionbox Pictures, a digital production company focused on producing and representing feature films and episodic series with both traditional and new media applications.

Manulis' producing credits include *The Basketball Diaries*, *Swing Kids*, *Daybreak* and *Foxfire*. As Head of Filmed Entertainment for Samuel Goldwyn Films, he supervised the production and/or acquisition of such films as *The Madness of King George*, *The Chambermaid*, *American Buffalo*, *Angels and Insects*, *I Shot Andy Warhol*, *Bent*, *Kissed*, *The Preacher's Wife*, *Big Night*, Adrian Lyne's *Lolita* and *The King of Masks*.

He has served as Senior Vice President of production for Chestnut Hill Productions, Vice President, Motion Pictures of Edgar J. Scherick Associates, and Head of Production for Nederlander Television and Film Productions, producing or executive producing projects.

VERA BLASI – Writer

Born and raised in São Paulo, Brazil, Vera Blasi moved to the United States and earned her BA from the College of Notre Dame in the San Francisco Bay Area. Following graduation, Blasi attended the American Film Institute in Los Angeles; where she received a Master of Fine Arts degree in screenwriting. Blasi also was the recipient of an AFI grant for her first screenplay "Stuff." Her first script, *Woman on Top*, became a feature film starring Penelope Cruz.

TOM MUSCA -- Writer

Tom Musca made his feature film debut as a writer-director with *Race*, his satire of a Los Angeles City Council election starring Cliff Robertson, Paul Rodriguez and CCH Pounder. *Race* was broadcast on and the Showtime pay cable network.

Previously, Musca produced and co-wrote *Stand and Deliver* with director Ramón Menéndez. The Warner Bros. film starred Edward James Olmos, who earned a Best Actor Oscar nomination, and featured Lou Diamond Phillips and Andy Garcia. *Stand and Deliver* won six Independent Spirit Awards (the most ever for a film).

Partnering again with Ramón Menéndez, Mr. Musca produced and co-wrote Hollywood Pictures' *Money For Nothing*, which starred John Cusack, James Gandolfini, Benicio del Toro, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Michael Madsen.

Raised in New Jersey, Musca is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Rutgers University and went on to earn a Masters of Fine Arts degree at UCLA Film School where he twice won the Rod Serling award. Immediately after graduation, he sold his first screenplay, *Little Nikita*, which starred Sidney Poitier and River Phoenix. Television credits include working as Executive Story Consultant as well as writing several episodes of the NBC television series *You Again?*

Mr. Musca's theatre credits include adapting *Stand and Deliver* for the stage and producing Mark Kemble's blacklist drama, *Names*, starring Dixie Carter, which was among National Public Radio's Top Ten plays for 1996.

RAMÓN MENÉNDEZ - Writer

Recently Menéndez co-wrote and is slated to direct *Kick it Up* which is currently in pre-production at the Disney Channel.

In feature films, Menéndez directed and co-wrote Hollywood Pictures' *Money For Nothing*, starring John Cusack, Benicio del Toro, James Gandolfini, Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Michael Madsen. Menéndez also directed and co-wrote Warner Brothers' *Stand and Deliver*, starring Edward James Olmos, Lou Diamond Phillips and Andy Garcia. Mr. Olmos received an Oscar nomination for his role. *Stand and Deliver* also won six IFP awards. The film also received the Imagen Award, the Christopher Award, and the Nosotros Golden Eagle Award.

In television, Menéndez directed an episode entitled *Given the Heir* for HBO's *Perversions of Science*, starring Yancy Butler and William McNamara. During a previous season, he directed an episode entitled *The Bribe* for HBO's *Tales From the Crypt*, starring Terry O'Quinn, Kimberly Williams, and Esai Morales. As a commercial director, Menéndez has created national and regional television spots for *Coca-Cola* and *Southwestern Bell*.

A native of Cuba, Menéndez has a B.A. in Theaters Arts from San Francisco State University. He holds an MFA from UCLA Film School. His first screenplay *Exiles* became a Samuel Goldwyn Award finalist. Menéndez continued his film studies in the Directors Program at the American Film Institute. After film school, Menéndez traveled throughout Central America with the *PBS* series *Frontline* and later as a stringer for *CBS News*.

TORTILLA SOUP END CREDITS

Food and Menus Created and Designed by
Mary Sue Milliken & Susan Feniger

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Carmen

Jacqueline Obradors

Maribel

Tamara Mello

Eden

Jade Herrera

Andy

Nikolai Kinski

Letitia

Elizabeth Pena

Yolanda

Constance Marie

Hairdresser

Troy Ruptash

Jeff

Ken Marino

Martin

Hector Elizondo

April

Marisabel Garcia

Gomez

Julio Oscar Mechoso

Catering Assistant

Louis Crugnali

Hortensia

Raquel Welch

Antonio Urgell

Joel

Joan

Orlando

Paul Rodriguez

Snide Student

Ulysses Cuadra

April's Classmates

Mark de la Cruz

Eli Russell Linnetz

Baseball Umpire

Stoney Westmoreland

Jeff's Girlfriend

Karen Dyer

Additional Casting

United States

Junie Lowry Johnson C.S.A.

Libby Goldstein

Mexico City

Claudia Becker

Executive in Charge of

Production for

Starz Encore

Paige Orloff

Unit Production Manager

Lisa Howard

1st Assistant Director

Joel Morales

2nd Assistant Director

Lori Mellman

2ND 2ND Assistant Director

Jonathan Hennessey

Additional 1st Assistant Director

Eric Jones

Food and Additional

Photography Unit

Director

Lulu Zezza

Director of Photography

Mariana Sanchez de

Antunano

1st Assistant Camera

Joseph Solari

Camera Operator

Mariana Sanchez de

Antunano

1st Assistant A-Camera

John Grondorf1st Assistant B-Camera**Joseph Solari**2nd Assistant Camera**Becca Bender**Additional 2nd Assistant Camera**Adrian Rodriguez**

Video Assistant

Jesse James ChisholmAdditional 1st Assistant Camera**Jarrold Oswald**

Additional Video Assistant

Peter Alton

Stills Photographers

Phil Stern**Ann Johansson**

Steadicam Operators

Craig Fikse**Gary Camp**

Script Supervisor

Sharon Cingle

Additional Script Supervisor

Office Production Assistants

Brian Tyler, Christian Vigeland**Richard Harding**

Production Accountant

Marnice Wolfe

Additional Production Accountant

M. Terah Rahming

Assistant Production Accountants

Frank Ramey, Sandra Dixon

Production Sound Mixer

Bill Flick

Additional Production Sound Mixer

Bill Fiege

Boom Operator

Jim Thorton

Additional Boom Operators

Jeff Porrello**Steven Klinghoffer**

Sound Utility

Don Nelson

Art Director

John Mott

Art Department Coordinator

Angela Trujillo

Construction Coordinator

Shaun Gussin

Carpenters

Kyle Eickoff, Thomas Evans**Linda Kwam**

Production Supervisor

Miriam Jacobs

Production Coordinators

Joel Peterson**Stacy Parker**

Additional Production

Coordinator

Nina Womack

Assistant Production

Coordinator

Atsuko Ohtani Bailey

Set Production Assistants

Nathaniel Rundle**Denise Poore****Josh Weathersby**

Assistant to Mr. Samuel Goldwyn, Jr.

Rorrie Feinstein Assistants to

Mr. John Bard Manulis

Brooke Dammkoehler**Stephen Przybylowski****Sean Boyriven, Caryn Drake**

Art Department Production Asst.

Robert Seeley

Set Decorator

Julieann Getman

Assistant Set Decorator

Sherry Snodgrass

Leadman

Kevin Miller

Greensmen

Chris Dery, Vincent Dery

Swing Gang

Carl Studebaker**Leora Lutz****Micah Auerbach****Bryan Gettman****Chris Tunney and S.L.Wade**

Additional Swing Gang

Michael Carney**Stephen Bracken**

On-Set Dressers

Ryan Beyer**Charles Scaife II**

Additional On-Set Dresser

Ella Schmidt

Scenic

Keith St. Aubin

Propmaster

Kimberly Lombardo
Assistant Propmaster
Frank Lombardo
Additional Assistant Prop Master
James Marler

On-Screen Food Provided by
On-screen Food Provided by
**Border Grill &
Ciudad Restaurants, L.A.**

On-set Chef
Monique King
Joseph Cigliano
Set Costumers
Jeannie Kelly
Roberta Bile
Heather Hoffman

Key Make-up Artist
Rosie Duprat Fort
Key Hair Stylist
Lynda Walker
Mr. Elizondo's Make-up
Jeanne Van Dhue
Ms. Welch's Hair & Make-up
N. Kristine Chadwick
Assistant Make-up
Kim Tarver
Additional Key Make-up & Hair
Vera Zay
Additional Make-up & Hair Assistant
Kacey Welsh

Gaffer
John Barr
Additional Gaffer
Alan Goldenhar
Best Boy Electric
Frans Weterrings
Additional Best Boy Electric
Steve Crestol
Electrics
Jeffrey Maroun
Tony Bryan
Additional Electrics
Somsy Vejsiri
Patrick Murphy

Key Grip
Jody Hutchins
Additional Key Grip
Gregg Bridges

Anthony Cody
Additional Best Boy Grip
Mike Blanchet

Food Stylists
Christian Gomez
Karen Gillingham
Food Writer
Helene Siegle

Wardrobe Supervisor
Best Boy Grip
Grip
Matt Landry
Courtney Jones
Additional Grips
Danny Robinson
Robert King, Jr.

Location Manager
Peter Costelli
Additional Location Managers
John Winston, Kojo Lewis
Assistant Location Manager
Lance Stockton
Layout Gonzo
Wayne Miller

Security
Roy Roman Ruiz, Sr.
Craft Services
Tony Pasquale Marchese
Catering
Wild Wild West
David Roubos

Transportation Coordinator
Jay Norof
Transportation Captain
Ed Adams
Drivers
Shelly Russell
Loren Bess
Buddy Petrucelli
Troy Gould
Moe Blay
Tim Crutchfield
Stoyan Malcheu
Tony Ruiz
Medics
Roy Irwin
Alicia Richards
Deeya Loram
Paul Cottrell

Stand-ins

Hector Alberto
Madison Gray
Kelly Cortez

Studio Teachers

Tom McGowan

Jan Citron

Ron Shannon

Animal Wrangler

PHD Animals, Kathryn Segura

Special Effects Coordinator

Frank Ceglia

Post Production Supervisor

Lulu Zezza

Post Picture Supervisor

Emanuel Pereira

Post Production Services Provided by

The Digital Difference

Kevin Hearst

Chris Miller

Dee Dee Davis

Supervising Sound Editor

Sandy Gendler

1st Picture Assistant Editor

Angela Catanzaro

Dialogue Editors

Scott G. Haller

Kira

Sound FX Editor

Brad North

Foley Supervisor & Editor

Kris Garfield

Re-recording Mixer Temps

Lance Krive

Additional On-Line Editor Temps

Glenn Rose

Sound Conformists

Nancy Nugent

Clare Freeman

Mark Lanza

Duplication

Rachael Desmond

Re-recording Facility

Enterprise Post

Supervising Executive

Brian B. Murray, M.P.S.E.

Re-recording Mixers

Stan Kastner

Robbie Bartholomew

Recordists

Ryan Davis

Todd Morrissey

Dolby Sound Consultant

Trevor Ward

Principal ADR Recorded at

Woodholly Productions

ADR Mixers

Sam Aronson

Steve Nafshun

Group ADR Recorded at

Warren Dewey Sound Design

Group Mixer

Warren Dewey

Loop Group

ADR Voice Services

Burton Sharp

Foley Recorded at

EFX/Wilshire Stages

Foley Mixer

Shawn Kennelly

Foley Artists

Joni Rowe

Sean Rowe

Laura Macias

Gregg Barbanell

Music Editor

Chris McGeary

Assistant Music Editor

Richard Stewart

Main Title Design

Alessandro Zezza

Digital Post Production Provided by

Complete Post

daVinci Colorist

Marc Wielage

On-Line Editor

Robert Douglas

Film Recording and Titling Provided by

CFI Imaging Group

Film Recording and Compositing

Steve Fagerquist

Negative Cutter

RD Cutting, Rick Downey

Color Timer

Dana Ross

Legal Services Provided by the Law Offices of

Kenneth Meyer
Wyman, Isaacs, Blumenthal &
Lynne (Cheryl Nelson)
Mitchell, Silberberg & Knupp
Payroll Services Provided by
Axium Payroll Services
Camera Equipment Provided by

Plus 8 Video & Panasonic
Grip & Electric Equipment Provided by
Leonetti Company

Music

“Sem Contencao”

Performed by Bebel Gilberto
Written by Bebel Gilberto, Richard Arling and Gerry Cameron
Courtesy of Six Degrees Records
Under license from Crammed Discs
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps”

Performed by Doris Day
Written by Joe Davis and Osvaldo Farres
Courtesy of Columbia Records
By arrangement with Sony Music Licensing

“Cuchi-Cuchi”

Performed by Los Amigos Invisibles
Written by Jose Luis Pardo and Mauricio Arcas
Courtesy of Luaka Bop, Inc.

“Les Portes Du Souvenir”

Performed by Les Nubians
Written by C. Lia Faussart and L.N. Faussart
Courtesy of Virgin France, S.A.
Under exclusive license to Om Town, a division of Higher Octave Music, Inc.

“Sem Contenao” (One Rascal Remix)

Performed by Bebel Gilberto
Written by Bebel Gilberto, Richard Arling and Gerry Cameron
Courtesy of Six Degrees Records
Under license from Crammed Discs
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“A Bailar”

Performed by Patricio Castillo
Written by Scott Nickoley, Patricio Castillo and Jamie Dunlap
Courtesy of Marc Ferrari/Mastersource

“Si En Un Final”

Performed by Eliades Ochoa
Written by Juan Arrondo
Courtesy of Virgin Records Espana, S.A.
Under exclusive license to Higher Octave Music, Inc.

“Lagrimas Negras”

Performed by Cuba LA
Written by Miguel Matamoros

Courtesy of Narada Productions, Inc.

“Outro Lado”

Performed by Zuco 103
Written by Kruger, Schmid and Vieira
Courtesy of Six Degrees Records
Under license from Crammed Discs
By arrangement with Ocean Park Music Group

“Call Waiting”

Performed by Zap Mama
Written by Marie Daulne
Courtesy of Luaka Bop, Inc.

“La Verdolaga”

Performed by P18
Traditional – arrangement by Toto La Momposina
Courtesy of Tabata Tour/Virgin France, S.A.
Under exclusive license to Higher Octave World,
a division of Higher Octave Music, Inc.

“Amado Mio”

Performed by Pink Martini
Written by Doris Fisher and Allan Roberts
Courtesy of Heinz Records

“Hoy Me Voy”

Performed by Sergent Garcia
Written by B.Garcia
Courtesy of Labels/Virgin France, S.A.
Under exclusive license to Higher Octave World,
a division of Higher Octave Music, Inc.

“La Pluma”

Performed by Bloque
Written by Ivan Benevides and Ernesto Ocampo
Courtesy of Luaka Bop, Inc.

“Si Estuvieras Aqui”

Performed by Los Amigos Invisibles
Written by Jose Luis Pardo and Mauricio Arcas
Courtesy of Luaka Bop, Inc.

“Perhaps, Perhaps, Perhaps”

Performed by Lila Downs
Written by Joe Davis and Osvaldo Farres
Courtesy of Narada Productions, Inc.

