

April 6 , 2006

Four Join Cast of New Line's Nativity

Oscar Nominee Keisha Castle-Hughes To Portray Virgin Mary

LOS ANGELES (April 5, 2006) -- New Line Cinema has cast Keisha Castle-Hughes, Shoreh Aghdashloo, Ciarán Hinds and Oscar Isaacs in Nativity. The film, which follows the story of the Virgin Mary before the birth of Christ, is scheduled for a Dec. 2006 release and will begin shooting in May.

Castle-Hughes, who received an Oscar nomination for best actress in 2003 for her role in Whale Rider, will play Mary in the two year period leading up to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem.

Aghdashloo, an Oscar nominee for The House of Sand and Fog, will portray Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist. The role of King Herod will be played by Hinds (Munich, HBO's "Rome"). Isaacs (Syriana, Guerrilla) will star opposite Castle-Hughes as Joseph, Mary's husband.

Catherine Hardwicke (Lords of Dogtown, Thirteen) is directing Nativity, while Marty Bowen and Wyck Godfrey are producing. Mike Rich penned the script.

New Line production executives Toby Emmerich, Cale Boyter and Michael Disco are overseeing the project.

About New Line Cinema Corporation:

Founded almost 40 years ago, New Line Cinema is the most successful independent film company in the world. Its mission is to produce innovative, popular and profitable entertainment in the best creative environment. In addition to the production, marketing and distribution of theatrical motion pictures, the fully-integrated studio has divisions devoted to home entertainment, television, music, theater, merchandising and an international unit. In 2005, New Line partnered with HBO to form Picturehouse, a new theatrical distribution company to release independent films. A pioneer in franchise filmmaking, New Line's Oscar-winning The Lord of the Rings trilogy is one of the most successful film franchises in history. New Line is a division of Time Warner, Inc. (TWX).

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