

'MR. HOCKEY: THE GORDIE HOWE STORY'

CAST BIOS

MICHAEL SHANKS (Gordie Howe) – After a decade-long stint as fan favorite Dr. Daniel Jackson in the SyFy Channel's #1 hit show "Stargate: SG-1," Michael Shanks wasted no time testing the waters on the other side of the acting portal when the series wrapped in 2007. Since wrapping the record-breaking show, Shanks has been in high demand, starring on several hit shows, MOWs, and films.

Shanks recurred on USA's "Burn Notice" as Victor. His critically-acclaimed performance in the first half of season two set the stage for more fireworks as the remaining episodes began airing in early 2009. He appeared in a three-episode arc on the Emmy® winning drama "24" and recurred on the CW hit "Smallville" during its 10-season run as Carter Hall, aka Hawkman. Shanks played a nasty bad guy opposite Anne Archer in the Lifetime MOW "Judicial Indiscretion," as well as Pastor Matthew Winkler in the Lifetime MOW "The Pastor's Wife." On the big screen, Shanks can be seen in Warner Bros.' "Red Riding Hood" and in the highly anticipated Neill Blomkamp film "Elysium," starring Matt Damon and Jodie Foster.

Shanks recently wrapped the first season of NBC's "Saving Hope" as Dr. Charlie Harris. His comatose character found himself in an out-of-body experience, wandering the halls of the hospital. His other television credits include guest-starring roles on "CSI: Miami," "Stargate Atlantis," "Mr. Young," "Endgame" and "Supernatural," to name a few. Shanks also co-starred in the Emmy® Award-winning William H. Macy telefilm "Door to Door" and the film adaptation of Jack London's "Call of the Wild."

In his free time, Shanks, who lives with his family in Vancouver, enjoys playing hockey, rollerblading, golfing and spending time with his children.

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KATHLEEN ROBERTSON (Colleen Howe) - Kathleen Robertson's diverse projects and chameleon-like performances continue to impress audiences and critics alike. She stars in Gus Van Sant's Golden Globe® winning Starz political drama "Boss" as aid to Kelsey Grammer. Also percolating is the series "Your Time Is Up" about a wildly successful, yet deeply troubled psychologist for which she will write, produce and potentially star as the lead. This marks Robertson's second produced script within a year as the indie feature "Gravity Pulls," in which she stars and co-wrote, is also in the can. Her next film, Weinstein Co.'s "Seal Team Six: The Raid On Osama Bin Laden," is from the producers of "The Hurt Locker," and follows his demise.

Additionally, the drama "A Night for Dying Tigers," in which she stars, premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival. She more recently filmed the anticipated sequel to Writer/Director

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Don Shebib's 1970 Canadian classic "Goin' Down the Road," fittingly titled "Down the Road Again."

Robertson headlined IFC's Gemini Award-winning mockumentary style comedy series "The Business," for which she also served double duty as Executive Producer. The six-hour mini-series take on "The Wizard of Oz," called "Tin Man," in which she starred as the wicked sorceress sister to Zooey Deschanel, recently garnered SyFy's highest ratings in the network's history, along with multiple Emmy® nominations. Other films include a starring role in the dramatic thriller "Static," and the romantic comedies "Not Since You" and "Losing Control."

No stranger to the big screen, Robertson starred alongside Academy Award-® winners Ben Affleck and Adrien Brody in the thriller "Hollywoodland," which chronicled the mysterious death of George Reeves, TV's Superman. Robertson starred opposite Mark Ruffalo in IFC Films' sexual drama "XX/XY" that was in dramatic competition at Sundance Film Festival.

In direct contrast, Robertson also starred for Keenan Ivory Wayans in the sequel to Dimension Films' blockbuster, "Scary Movie." Previously, she collaborated with writer/director Gregg Araki on the films "Splendor," in which she starred as Veronica, a girl caught in the middle of a love triangle and "Nowhere," in which she portrayed the overbearing, purple-haired lesbian Lucifer.

Additional feature credits include "Beautiful" with Minnie Driver for director Sally Field, Bruce McCulloch's "Dog Park" and Sundance favorite, "Psycho Beach Party." Robertson has also co-starred with Bill Murray in director John McNaughton's comedy "Speaking of Sex," starred as notorious Canadian murderer Evelyn Dick in the grizzly 1946 true story "Torso," for which she garnered her third Best Actress Gemini Award nomination, and had a coveted cameo opposite Sean Penn in New Line Cinema's "I Am Sam." In addition, she appeared in the Adam Goldberg helmed "I Love Your Work" with Giovanni Ribisi and Franke Potente.

Robertson's film resume also includes the dramatic thriller "Last Exit," for which she received her second Gemini Award-nomination, "Player 5150" and "The Hill." Other credits include "In the Dark" opposite Charlotte Rampling, "Until the Night" with Norman Reedus, director Tim Hunter's "Control" alongside Willem Dafoe and Ray Liotta, and "Mall Cop," which marks director David Greenspan's first full-length feature after winning the Cannes Film Festival's coveted Pal, D'or for his short "Beancake."

Roberston's first foray into television since assuming the role of Clare Arnold on the hit FOX series "Beverly Hills, 90210" was the David E. Kelley drama "Girls Club," for which she received considerable critical praise.

A native of Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, Robertson currently resides in Los Angeles.

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DYLAN PLAYFAIR (Marty Howe) — Dylan Playfair, the son of Jim and Roxanne Playfair, was born into a hockey family with both his father and uncle having played and coached in the NFL.

Playfair played hockey at an elite level until his passion for film took over in the summer of 2011, enticing him to move to Vancouver to pursue his career in film and TV. Playfair has already made a splash in his young career and can be seen onscreen as Stan in the Hockey Hall of Fame 3D production "Stanley Cup Odyssey," Trevor in the horror feature "Grave Encounters 2."

Playfair has studied at Vancouver Acting School and the Actors Foundry and is signed to Carrie Wheeler Entertainment Group in Canada and Industry Entertainment in the US.

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ANDREW HERR (Mark Howe) – Andrew Herr was born in London, Ontario and grew up in St. George, Ontario with his parents and his two younger brothers. Herr moved to Kingston before grade twelve where a friend casted him for the leading role in "Never Swim Alone" at the Sears Drama Festival. He caught the acting bug immediately.

Herr continued to appear in stage productions including *Dreamspyre* and *Les Miserables*. He also credits friend and mentor Len Whalen for helping him get a jump-start in acting. One of his most enlightening experiences was taking the Stratford Shakespeare Festival's Theatre Intensive program one summer before heading to University of British Columbia to pursue acting and continue his studies. He deferred a year to attend the William B. Davis Film acting school.

The role of Mark Howe in "Mr. Hockey: The Gordie Howe Story" is Herr's first leading role. This experience enabled him to combine acting with his hockey background playing Junior B hockey. Herr gained immense experience under the enthusiastic direction of Andy Mikita with talented actors including Michael Shanks, Kathleen Robertson, Lochlyn Munro, Martin Cummins, Teach Grant and Brad Turn

Herr has also had leads in productions "Ten in a Room," "Hold this Please" and a supporting role in "Latrinalia." He currently lives in Vancouver where he continues to work towards his Creative Writing Degree at UBC while acting in movies and television series.

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EMMA GRABINSKY (Cathy Howe) – Emma Grabinsky began her professional career at the age of 12 in the theatre, tackling the very difficult role of Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker* at the Playhouse Theatre in Vancouver, BC, for which she was nominated for a Jessie Richardson Award for Best Actress.

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Her first foray into film and television at the age of 13 began by landing one of the lead roles in a pilot for CBS called "The Damn Thropes." From then on her career moved at lightning speed, including three lead and guest star roles in "Haunting Hour" for the Hub Network, a co-starring role in the movie of the week "Knockout," a guest star in the CW Network hit "Supernatural."

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GRAHAM MAYES (Murray Howe) — At the age of 15, Graham Mayes knows his way around a film set. Born in Calgary and raised in Winnipeg, Mayes made his acting debut at age four in the thriller "Fear X," sharing the screen with John Turturro. At age eight, he played a murderous zombie child in "Clive Barker's The Plague." The same year, he portrayed the son of Ally Walker and Tim DeKay in the pilot for the HBO series "Tell Me You Love Me."

In 2007, Mayes, a French-immersion student who trained in acting at Prairie Theatre Exchange, was a Top 20 national finalist in audition rounds for the TV series "Are You Smarter Than a Canadian 5th Grader?" In 2010, he recorded the singing and speaking voice of Franklin the Turtle for Koba Entertainment's international touring production "Franklin & the Adventures of the Noble Knights."

Graham had a principal role in 2011 as Tom Cherry, the son of the hockey icon, in the CBC-TV miniseries "Wrath of Grapes: The Don Cherry Story II." Although "Mr. Hockey: The Gordie Howe Story" is his second hockey picture, his own favorite sport is football. He plays on his high school's Junior Varsity team. At the son of actor Stephen Eric McIntyre, Graham hopes one day to be cast opposite his dad in a father-and-son-story.

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MARTIN CUMMINS (Bill Dineen) – Martin Cummins's acting experience has been diverse. His credits include four seasons playing Nick, a starring role on "Poltergeist: The Legacy." The actor later went on to direct several episodes of "Poltergeist" and "The Outer Limits."

Cummins won the 2000 Genie Award for Best Supporting Actor for his gritty performance in Clemente Virgo's "Love Come Down," and in 2002, starred in a new televised series pilot, "T.R.A.X.," produced and directed by Renny Harlin.

Since winning his Genie, Cummins has worked non-stop. He has been seen on the big screen opposite Linda Fiorentino and Wesley Snipes in Kari Skogland's "Liberty Stands Still," and on the small screen in the British/Canadian six part mini-series entitled "Dice," of which his performance was nominated for a Best Lead Actor Gemini Award. Cummins was also part of the regular cast of James Cameron's hit show "Dark Angel" for the FOX network. Cummins has had recurring roles on several WB series, including Smallville, "The Mountain" and "Black Sash."

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Quadruple threat, Cummins directed, executive produced, co-wrote, and starred in the award-winning "We All Fall Down." He plays the tormented and self-destructive Kris, a character based on a close friend from the past. Kris, who lives with his girlfriend Ryan, is a drug-addicted artist on a steady downward spiral. The semi-autobiographical story of "We All Fall Down" is loosely based on Cummins's experiences in Vancouver's downtown eastside. Darcy Belsher plays a character named Michael, modeled on Cummins.

Most recently, Cummins had the starring role in "39: A film by Carroll McKane," an American independent feature film shot in Chicago.

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