

NEWS

'THE CHRISTMAS HEART'

PRODUCTION BIOS

PATRICIA HEATON (Executive Producer) — Patricia Heaton is, perhaps, best known for her role as Debra Barone on the award-winning series "Everybody Loves Raymond." She won two Emmy® Awards for her role in "Raymond" and was nominated seven times. In addition to her Emmy® wins, Heaton is also the recipient of the Best Comedy Actress award from the Viewers for Quality Television, a Screen Actors Guild award and three SAG nominations in the Best Actress category.

Heaton currently stars in the ABC comedy "The Middle" as Frankie, a super mom who is trying to find balance between her family and career in the midwest. The hit series received an early pick-up for its third season. Prior to that, Heaton starred opposite Kelsey Grammer in FOX's critically acclaimed comedy series "Back to You." She also starred in the Hallmark Hall of Fame film "Front of the Class."

Previously, Heaton garnered praise for the role as Stella in the Second Stage production of *The Scene*, by Theresa Rebeck. She received a Lortel Award nomination for her performance.

Heaton produced and starred in the TNT/FourBoys Films production "The Engagement Ring." She also starred in the TNT/Neil Simon production of "The Goodbye Girl" and ABC's "The Path to 9/11." Her feature film credits include "Memoirs of an Invisible Man," "Beethoven," "New Age" and "Space Jam."

In addition to her acting and producing credits, Heaton is a bestselling author whose book *Motherhood and Hollywood—How to Get A Job like Mine* was on the *New York Times* bestsellers list.

In 2001, Heaton co-founded FourBoys Films, a production company she runs with her husband David Hunt. FourBoys recent productions include "The Engagement Ring" for TNT and the documentary feature film "The Bituminous Coal Queens of Pennsylvania." FourBoys Films also produced the critically acclaimed film "Amazing Grace," directed by Michael Apted, in conjunction with Bristol Bay Productions. Most recently, FourBoys partnered on the web series "Versailles" for MyDamnChannel.com. Heaton appeared in the series, which was co-created, produced and directed by Hunt.

Heaton lives in Los Angeles with her husband and four sons.

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DAVID HUNT (Executive Producer) – Since graduation from The Juilliard School in New York City, David Hunt has worked extensively in film, television and on stage, with some of the industry's finest directors, including Clint Eastwood, Stanley Kubrick, Michael Apted and William Friedkin.

Hunt has played a variety of roles in a number of feature films including "The Dead Pool," "Jade," "The Black Velvet Gown," "The Engagement Ring," "Just Like A Woman," "Bobby Jones," "Trip to Tunis" and "The Deal" with William H. Macy and Meg Ryan. Hunt has had starring roles in the TV films "Closing Ranks," "The Bombmaker," "Anna Lee," "The Dancer's Touch" for ABC, "The Grid" for TNT/BBC, "Murder on The Orient Express" for CBS and "Miracle In The Woods."

A series regular in the TV series "The Chief," "Beck" and "The Dream Team," Hunt has also made appearances on TV shows including "Numb3rs," "Monk," "Everybody Loves Raymond," "Falcon Crest," "Nasty Boys" and "The Client" among many others. Hunt also appeared as Darren McCarthy in season six of "24" for FOX. Currently he can be seen on AMC's "Mad Men" and "Castle" for ABC.

Hunt's stage work includes *The Memory of Water* at the Manhattan Theatre Club, *Therese Raquin* and *Triumph of Love* with Paul Giamatti at The La Jolla Playhouse, *Progress* with Tony Shalhoub at The Long Wharf Theatre and *Hamlet* at the Baltimore Center Stage.

Hunt made his directorial debut with the film "The Bituminous Coal Queens of Pennsylvania" which won a Crystal Heart Award at the Heartland Film Festival in 2006. The documentary feature was produced through FourBoys Films, the production company he co-founded in 2001.

Other productions from the company include the films "The Engagement Ring" for TNT and the 2007 release "Amazing Grace" starring Ioan Gruffud, Albert Finney and Michael Gambon. Most recently, his comedy "Versailles," in which Hunt performed as actor, director and producer, debuted as a web series on MyDamnChannel. The company is currently in pre-production for the films, "Moment of Glory" and "Enslaved by Ducks" and has a number of TV shows in development.

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A.J. MOREWITZ (Executive Producer) – A.J. Morewitz is President of Television at FourBoys Entertainment, the production company started by Patricia Heaton and David Hunt. Morewitz is responsible for leading the company's day-to-day operations while building a slate of projects that reflect the taste and sensibility of its partners.

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Prior to joining FourBoys, Morewitz was Executive Vice President of Television at Krasnoff-Foster Entertainment, where he co-executive produced the NBC comedy "Community," starring Joel McHale and Chevy Chase, among other projects.

Before Krasnoff-Foster, Morewitz spent six years running Conan O'Brien's NBC-based production company, Conaco, where he was responsible for all aspects of development and production. In his first year at the company, Morewitz co-executive produced the NBC reality show, "Lost," in addition to co-executive producing "Beat Cops," a pilot for Fox. Morewitz would subsequently co-executive produce the NBC comedy "Andy Barker, P.I.," in addition to co-executive producing or executive producing four other pilots for networks during his tenure.

Morewitz's first job in television was at USA Networks, where he began as a Manager of Original Series Development. Later, he was promoted to Director of Original Series Development, where he oversaw development and production on drama and comedy pilots and series.

Prior to joining USA Networks, Morewitz was based in Washington, D.C., where he worked for President Bill Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, initially as a member of the National Advance Staff for the Clinton/Gore 1996 Presidential Campaign, later for the 1997 Presidential Inaugural Committee, and finally for the White House Advance Office. Working as a site lead, Morewitz was responsible for all aspects of presidential and First Family visits both domestically and internationally. Duties on official visits to the Philippines, Spain, Austria, Panama, Africa, China, Russia, Haiti, and the Czech Republic included working in conjunction with embassy officials and host country government representatives.

Before heading to Washington, Morewitz began his career in the entertainment industry working on the feature side of the business for producers Lynda Obst ("Hope Floats," "The Fisher King") and Gary Foster ("Tin Cup," "Sleepless In Seattle").

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NORMAN DENVER (Executive Producer) – Norman Denver was born in Vancouver BC, Canada but moved to London, England shortly thereafter.

He graduated from the University of Buckingham with an LLB Law Degree and a Diplome Juridiques from the Universite D'Aix-Marseille. The following year (1982) he was called to the Bar as a Barrister of the Middle Temple.

Norman arrived in Canada in 1985 where he soon began working in commercials at The Partners Film Company before breaking into TV production on the Paramount TV show "Friday the 13th" the series. He then went onto production manage numerous TV shows for Sonny

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Grosso, "Top Cops"(CBS) and "Gangsters"(CBS) before continuing his career as a "The Line" producer on the highly successful series "Due South"(CBS/CTV). Since then Norman has gone on to work on a number of successful shows for Global ("Blue Murder"), Showcase ("G-Spot," "Show Me Yours") and HBO/TMN ("The Line," "Living in Your Car.")

Multilingual in German French and Spanish, Norman has worked across the globe in Africa (Romeo Dallaires' Rwanda based feature "Shake Hands with The Devil" and the South African shot CBC miniseries "Whisky Echo") as well as in both Germany and Namibia ("Lexx : The Dark Zone"). Norman has consulted on features and TV Series for production in both Cuba and France. He also worked as a production supervisor on the New York based "The Awful Truth with Michael Moore." He has worked across Canada on projects in both Halifax, Nova Scotia ("Major Crime" -CBC miniseries) and Winnipeg, Manitoba ("My Awkward Sexual Adventure" – Canadian Feature Film) Norman recently coproduced the Independent Canadian Aborigine Feature "Kissed by Lightning" which has received numerous awards across North America and Europe.

Norman has been nominated twice for a Gemini for "Best Series"- Drama. He is currently in development on 2 new features and will be working with E1 on the highly acclaimed TV series "Call me Fitz" this fall.

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LEAH PASUTA KATZ (Associate Producer)- Katz began her career in the Entertainment Industry in 2000, after she graduated from the University of Winnipeg, Faculty of Arts with a B.A. in Theatre and Psychology. Katz then spent the next 5 years wearing many hats as an Associate, Project Manager and Marketing Director for Protos International and John Aaron Productions (Film).

In 2005, Katz founded Fusion V Inc. which specialized in Event Production for corporations and charities. Fusion V Inc. produced a range of events throughout Canada and the United States, including events for Canada's 2010 Olympic/Paralympics Athletes, Homecoming for actor/musician Russell Crowe and numerous VIP events, including one for Canada's Prime Minister Paul Martin

In 2007, Fusion V Inc. began working exclusively with Los Angeles based Baruch/Gayton Entertainment Group, handling Production Management, Operations and Project Director roles on large scale Live Events in LA and throughout the United States.

Her productions with Fusion V Inc. include the *Hollywood Bowl "Hall of Fame" Opening Night Concerts* with past inductees Liza Minnelli, Garth Brooks, Santana, BB King, Trisha Yearwood, Roger Daltrey and Placido Domingo; in addition to the Blue Man Group, Sir Anthony Hopkins, Jack Black, Charlize Theron & Kevin Spacey.

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She was also involved in the production of the *Stadium Of Fire 4th of July Spectacles* with featured Performances by Brooks and Dunn, Corbin Bleu, Miley Cyrus and the Jonas Brothers. At the *Philadelphia Academy of Music Anniversary Concerts*, there were featured performances by Rod Stewart, Billy Joel, James Taylor and Sting. During the *Fidelity FutureStage Launch Event Concerts*, simulcast via satellite in four cities (LA, Houston, Boston, and Chicago), the featured performances included Dominic Monaghan, Joan Cusak and Jamie Foxx.

In 2010, Katz decided to branch out and become more involved in Film. Fusion V Inc. became Peridot Entertainment/Four Seasons Films. Peridot Entertainment is based in the United States/Canada and Four Seasons Films is a Manitoba Production and Service company, involved in the producing of independent, joint ventures and serviceproductions with the frequent filming bonus. In 2011, Four Seasons Films produced the "Making Of..." and documentary for the feature film "The Divide" directed by Xavier Gens ("Hitman") and starring Michael Biehn, Rosanna Arquette & Milo Ventimiglia.

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GARY YATES (Director) — Gary Yates boasts an impressive resume with several films and awards to his name. He directed, produced and wrote the feature films "High Life," starring Timothy Olyphant, "Niagara Motel" starring Craig Ferguson and "Seven Times Lucky" starring Kevin Pollak. In addition to feature films, Yates has worked on several television films including "Smoke Screen," "Wedding for One," "Taken in Broad Daylight," "Maneater," "Eye of the Beast" and the Hallmark Channel Original Movie "Lucky Christmas."

Yates' film "Niagara Motel" won him two DGC Award nominations for best feature film and best direction feature film, one Genie Award nomination, and a Golden Goblet Award nomination. The film was also an official 2006 selection in the Shanghai International Film Festival. His film, "Seven Times Lucky" won a Genie Award for best original song, two Genie Award nominations, two DGC award nominations, a City TV Award Vancouver International Film Festival and was officially selected at the Toronto International Film Festival, Rome International Film Festival, Dublin International Film Festival and Shanghai International Film Festival.

Yates continues to write, direct and produce for both film and television.

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MICHAEL HEATON (Writer) – Award-winning journalist Michael Heaton has made a name for himself as the "Minister of Culture," offering his views on the world of pop culture for the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* column of the same name since 1987. Prior to that, he held reporting jobs at *People* magazine and at the *San Francisco Examiner*. He is a graduate of Kent State University.

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The brother to actress Patricia Heaton and son to legendary Plain Dealer sportswriter Chuck Heaton, Heaton has also written four books, including co-writing *Motherhood and Hollywood* with his sister in 2002. He has also written *Best of Minister of Culture*, a collection of his columns, in 1992; *I'll be Right Back: Memories of TV's Greatest Talk Show*, the autobiography of TV host Mike Douglas; and *Truth and Justice for Fun and Profit*.

Recently, Heaton was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize for a feature on 9/11. He is married with three daughters.

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