



CRITICS CHOICE WINNER  
TAYE DIGGS

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE  
MELISSA GEORGE

TONY AWARD NOMINEE  
DAVID HARBOUR

GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINEE  
JULIA STILES

# BETWEEN US



*"Julia Stiles delivers a searing performance"*

- Monsters and Critics

*"A bitter sardonic pleasure"*

- Movie City News

*"Hilarious and devastating"*

- BuzzFeed

*"★★★★★. Absolutely stunning, darkly comic"*

- Film Threat

Four Friends Two Couples One Night They Will Never Forget

A FILM BY DAN MIRVISH

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BUGEATER FILMED ENTERTAINMENT SKYSCRAPER GREYSHACK FILMS VOTV FILMS DAN MIRVISH  
TAYE DIGGS MELISSA GEORGE DAVID HARBOUR JULIA STILES ALISON B. BUCK TOBIAS ENHUS H. SCOTT SALINAS  
TRACEY GALLACHER TRACEY MOULTON RYAN URBAN DEAN GONZALEZ NANCY SCHREIBER ASC JOE HORTUA  
MICHAEL DAVID LYNCH JUDY KIM ELISABETH JERESKI ELANA KRAUSZ CHRISTO DIMASSIS VICTORIA GUENIER  
DANA ALTMAN BARRY HENNESSEY BRENT STIEFEL HANS RITTER MIKE S. RYAN JOE HORTUA  
JOE HORTUA & DAN MIRVISH DAN MIRVISH



# BETWEEN/US

A MONTEREY MEDIA PRESENTATION

STARRING:

JULIA STILES, TAYE DIGGS, MELISSA GEORGE AND DAVID HARBOUR

Writer/Producer/Director: **Dan Mirvish**

Executive Producer: **Brent Stiefel**

Producers: **Hans C. Ritter** and **Mike S. Ryan**

Screenplay by: **Joe Hortua** and **Dan Mirvish**

Based on the play by: **Joe Hortua**

Director of Photography: **Nancy Schreiber , ASC**

Editor: **Dean Gonzalez**

Production Designer: **Tracey Gallacher**

Original Score: **Tobias Enhus** and **H. Scott Salinas**

Casting by: **Alison B. Buck**

Darkly Comedic Drama

Runtime: 90 Minutes

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MPAA: "R"

# Synopsis

In this darkly comedic drama, two couples reunite over two incendiary evenings where anything can happen. Grace and Carlo are a newly married New York couple who visit their old friends Sharyl and Joel in their huge Midwestern home. Despite their wealth, the hosts are in a bitterly destructive marriage. A few years later, the couples reunite in New York, only to find tables turned.

## Director's Statement

"Between Us" is based on a hit Off-Broadway play written by Joe Hortua, but it is ironically my most personal film I've worked on to date. The characters and their circumstances are very much like my own: dealing with marriage and young children, and the struggle between having an authentic artistic career and a job that pays the bills, and even the roles of religion and spirituality in a modern life. I actually had a choice to adapt "Between Us" or a play called "Farragut North." I turned down the latter, which George Clooney eventually adapted into "The Ides of March." He did OK with it, and I have no regrets.

In adapting "Between Us," when I felt that the character Joel needed a visually cathartic moment to dramatize his emotional change, I needed to look no further than my own life: I'd recently fallen off a ladder and found myself in a wheelchair for 6 months with a severely broken leg and shoulder. I knew first-hand how that experience has the potential to change not only one's own life, but also how it affects a marriage. My own disability further inspired the script: I'd just been to Park City for Slamdance in my wheelchair and while hosting our annual sled-off, I realized the visual image of a wheelchair in the snow was both striking and original.

The challenge with adapting any play into film is how to make it more cinematic, and to use the conventions and tools of filmmaking to distinguish the piece from theater. There are three main things you can do in a movie that aren't easily done in a play: Change locations, move the camera to direct the audience's eye, and editing to re-alter the natural course of time.

In doing the adaptation of "Between Us," playwright Joe Hortua and I have attempted to do all three, while still preserving the essential dialogue, themes, characters and story that made the original play so successful. In the play, the whole first act was set in Joel and Sharyl's midwestern house over the course of one evening when Grace and Carlo come to visit. After the intermission, the setting changed to two years later in Grace and Carlo's New York apartment.

One of the biggest things we've done is to restructure the story – flashing back and forth in time between the two evenings, and also to other events in the couples' lives. The film also allows us to move more with the characters: Joel and Carlo go for a drive, getting lost in the Midwest; Grace has a dream of going to Buenos Aires; Joel struggles with his wheelchair through the snow; and we see Sharyl doing the bossa nova with her sexy Brazilian contractor. We also use stylistic elements to move the camera in and out of our sets, as transitions for the flashbacks. Other cinematic touches include the use of stylized set elements like the plasma screen and the large-format cameras to literally add another visual dimension to the scenes.

One note about sound is that we rehearsed the cast for two weeks and really nailed down the overlapping dialogue in the script. I was mentored by Robert Altman, and I used his sound

monterey media inc. 3

technique of giving each actor their own lavalier mic and recording each track (plus a boom) separately. This ensured the most naturalistic performances, guaranteed no ADR, and gave us maximum flexibility in post-production.

## Quotes

“★★★★★. An absolutely stunning, darkly comic study of two couples, whose lives and secrets travel a strange collision course. “

- Amy R. Handler, Film Threat

“A bitter sardonic pleasure.” - Ray Pride, Movie City News

“8 out of 10. With the quick-paced lyrical flow of David Mamet, the bluntness of Neil LaBute and the scathing realism of John Cassavetes, the dialogue proves that words can be much more dangerous than weapons.” – Don Simpson, Smells Like Screen Spirit

"Razor-sharp performances by a smashing quartet. Beats Polanski's CARNAGE at its own game. An incisive parade of mangled relationships exquisitely corralled by Director Mirvish. Entre Nous....preciously diabolical!" - Jake Jacobson, Westwood One

"The reality of this film, the skilled performances, and the tight script and dialogue made this film gripping." - Pamela Powell, Reel Honest Reviews

“Deliciously dark and complex” - TwitchFilm

“Julia Stiles delivers a searing performance in Dan Mirvish’s Between Us”

- Greg Ptacek, Monsters and Critics

“Thanks to a surprisingly strong cast, which includes Julia Stiles and Taye Diggs, Mirvish transforms this film into a captivating tale of two couples dealing with their evolving lives and marriages, and how the tables can turn in just a few years.” - Jory Carroll, SLUG Magazine

“Hilarious and devastating ... Dan Mirvish’s Between Us at Slamdance one of most powerfully acted intense and funny dramas I’ve seen in a long time.” - Richard Rushfield, BuzzFeed

“Ruthless” - Milenio

"Brilliant" - CineBLOG

"Intense" - Eugene Hernandez, Film Society of Lincoln Center

## Festivals



# CAST BIOS

## **TAYE DIGGS (Carlo)**

[www.imdb.com/name/nm0004875/?ref=tt\\_cl\\_t3](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0004875/?ref=tt_cl_t3)



An established star of film, television and theatre, Taye Diggs made his feature film debut starring opposite Angela Bassett in the box office hit “How Stella Got Her Groove Back.”

Diggs is currently in production on “The Best Man Holiday,” a follow up to the 1999 film “The Best Man,” which centered on a writer whose recent autobiography put him at odds with being the Best Man at his friend’s wedding. He is reprising his role as Harper

Stewart, and stars opposite Terrance Howard, Harold Perrineau, Morris Chestnut and Nia Long.

Additionally, Diggs will star as the lead alongside Kathleen Robertson in the TNT pilot, “Murder in the First.” The murder mystery is set in contemporary San Francisco and centers on two San Francisco Police Department homicide detectives, Terry Seagrave (Diggs) and Hildy Mulligan (Robertson), as they take on a case that seems more like a maze.

This past January, Diggs recently wrapped production after a six-season run on the ABC series, “Private Practice,” in which he plays the role of Dr. Sam Bennett. Diggs led a stellar ensemble cast including Kate Walsh, Tim Daly, Audra McDonald and Amy Brenneman. In 2009, he was honored for his role with the award for “Outstanding Supporting Actor in a Drama Series” at the 40th Annual NAACP Image Awards.

Additionally, Diggs has recently wrapped production on the following two films: “Baggage Claim,” a comedy about a flight attendant determined to get engaged before her youngest sister’s wedding with only 30 days to find Mr. Right; and “The Trials of Cate McCall,” a drama about a former hotshot lawyer, now in recovery and estranged from her family, who must take on the appeal of a woman wrongfully convicted of murder. Both are scheduled to be released in 2013.

Last September, Diggs’ first children’s book entitled “Chocolate Me” was published by Feiwell and Friends. The book, which tells the story of a relentlessly teased child who learns to appreciate what sets him apart from his neighbors, is illustrated by Diggs’ longtime friend Shane Evans.

In 2006, Diggs starred in the ABC drama “Daybreak,” which aired in November of that year. He also served as a Producer on the project. In 2005, Taye appeared in the feature film adaptation of the hit Broadway musical “Rent.” Diggs, who was part of the original Broadway cast, joined Idina Menzel, Rosario Dawson, Jesse Martin and Adam Pascal on screen. The same year, Diggs received stellar reviews for his portrayal of Captain Davenport in the Second Stage Theatre production of “A Soldier’s Play” in New York. His performance earned a nomination for “Distinguished Performance” from the Drama League Awards.

Also in 2005, Diggs starred in his television series debut in “Kevin Hill” on UPN. Diggs, who also served as a producer on the show, received the NAACP Image Award in the category “Best Actor-Television” for the role. Diggs has created memorable characters



in multiple guest appearances on hit television shows including “Ally McBeal” “Will & Grace,” “Ed,” “The West Wing,” “New York Undercover” and “Law & Order.”

In 2002, Diggs returned to his musical theater roots in the Academy Award winning film “Chicago,” directed by Rob Marshall and starring Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta Jones. The cast was honored with a Screen Actors Guild Award for Best Ensemble Performance. He also starred in “Brown Sugar,” opposite Sanaa Lathan, Queen Latifah and Mos Def as well as the futuristic thriller “Equilibrium.” The following year he starred in John McTiernan’s military thriller “Basic,” opposite Samuel L. Jackson and John Travolta.

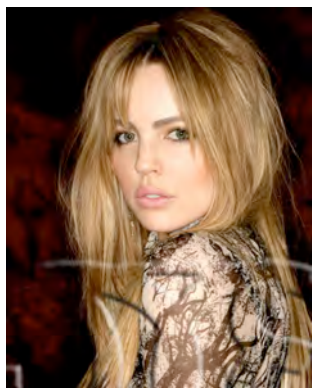
In 2000, Diggs appeared in “The Way of the Gun” opposite Benicio Del Toro and James Caan. 1999 was a prolific year for Diggs, starring in “The Wood” for director Rick Famuyiwa, as well as the romantic comedy, “The Best Man,” co-starring Nia Long and Morris Chestnut. His performance garnered him a NAACP image award nomination for “Outstanding Actor in a Motion Picture.” Other film roles include “Just a Kiss,” co-starring Marisa Tomei and Kyra Sedgwick, “The House on Haunted Hill,” “Go,” directed by Doug Liman and also starring Katie Holmes and Timothy Olyphant, “Drum,” “Cake” and “Malibu’s Most Wanted.”

Diggs appeared on Broadway from late 2003 to early 2004 filling in for Norbert Leo Butz in the role of Fiyero in the Tony Award-nominated musical “Wicked,” and he has also appeared as Billy Flynn in the hugely popular musical “Chicago.” Previously, he starred in the Manhattan Theater Club’s “The Wild Party,” which was the winner of the Outer Critics Circle Award for “Best Off-Broadway Musical.” Diggs’ musical talents were first recognized in Broadway’s critically acclaimed Pulitzer Prize winning play “Rent,” with his role as Benny the landlord. His first job out of college, in 1994, was a coveted role in the ensemble cast of the five-time Tony Award winning musical “Carousel.”

Born in New Jersey, Diggs grew up in Rochester, New York, attending High School of the Arts. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Syracuse University, where he studied theater, and was discovered by an agent while performing in a showcase during his senior year in college.

Diggs resides in Los Angeles with his wife, actress Idina Menzel, and son Walker.

## CAST BIOS (cont.)



### **Melissa George (Sharyl)**

[www.imdb.com/name/nm0313534/?ref=tt\\_cl\\_t2](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0313534/?ref=tt_cl_t2)

Melissa George has emerged as one of the most promising actresses of her generation. She just completed work on the ABC pilot GOTHICA and most recently starred in the BBC's series Hunted. In 2011, she appeared in the critically acclaimed Australian series The Slap, which was nominated for a BAFTA TV Award for Best International Series. The series was also a nominee at the Festival de Television de Monte-Carlo for Outstanding International Producer and for Outstanding Actress for Melissa's performance. Other accolades for The Slap include five awards from the Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts (AACTA), the Equity Award for Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble in a Miniseries/Telemovie, and a nomination for the Royal Television Society Awards 'International Award' category. Melissa also received a Logie Awards nomination for her performance. She also starred in the A&E mini-series adaptation of Stephen King's novel Bag of Bones opposite Pierce Brosnan.

Melissa started performing in her early years as a champion roller-skater, touring around the world and amassing numerous awards, including national champion of Australia and a second place finish in the Junior Worlds. At the age of 16, George was cast in the popular Australian television series Home and Away, alongside Heath Ledger and Guy Pearce. Melissa was recognized for her work with several Logie Awards, the People's Choice Award for Best Actress and a BAFTA nomination for her portrayal of the leading character, Angel Brooks.

Her career turned a corner with the critically acclaimed and highly anticipated HBO original series In Treatment, starring Gabriel Byrne and Diane Weist. The series was executive produced by writer-director Rodrigo Garcia and Mark Wahlberg. Melissa played the complex role of a sexually addicted woman who falls in love with her doctor (Byrne). In Treatment won the AFI and was one of the top 10 TV shows of the year and earned Melissa Golden Globe and AFI nominations for her fierce portrayal of "Laura".

Following the success of In Treatment, Melissa was lauded for her "tour de force" performance in 2010's Triangle. This film chronicles the journey of "Jesse" through her five personalities and is said to be her finest performance yet. She also appeared in the broad comedy Swinging with the Finkels opposite Mandy Moore, Martin Freeman and Jerry Stiller. That same year, Melissa played the lead role opposite Sean Harris (Harry Brown), Eamonn Walker, Paul Anderson, Karel Roden and Ed Speelers in the action adventure film entitled A Lonely Place to Die.

Some of Melissa's most memorable TV appearances have been on the hit NBC show, Friends as the "lesbian nanny." She also appeared as "Lauren Reed" on ABC's hit show Alias and, in 2009, was asked to join Grey's Anatomy – the number one show in the USA as the character "Sadie".

In film, Melissa is known for playing the female lead opposite Josh Hartnett and Danny Huston in the Sony Pictures' Film 30 Days of Night, based on the graphic novel of the same title, which held the Number 1 spot on the US movie charts two weeks in a row. The film was directed by David Slade and was produced by Sam Raimi. She also starred opposite Josh Duhamel in Fox's Turistas, in which she filmed her entire role in Portuguese, and opposite Ryan Reynolds

in MGM's hit remake of The Amityville Horror, which grossed over \$100 million worldwide. Additional film credits include the comedies Sugar and Spice and Down with Love with Ewan McGregor and Renee Zellweger, Dark City with Kiefer Sutherland, Jennifer Connelly and William Hurt, The Limey with Terrence Stamp, directed by Steven Soderbergh, David Lynch's Mulholland Drive with Naomi Watts, and Derailed with Clive Owen and Jennifer Aniston. Melissa also starred in The Music Within, opposite Ron Livingston and Michael Sheen, which won the Audience Award at the AFI, and WAZ, directed by Tom Shankland and starring Stellan Skarsgaard, Tom Hardy, and Golden Globe winning actress Sally Hawkins.

Melissa George currently resides in New York City.



**David Harbour (Joel)**

[www.imdb.com/name/nm1092086/?ref\\_=tt\\_cl\\_t5](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm1092086/?ref_=tt_cl_t5)

David Harbour has gained a reputation as a performer facile in film and television as he is on stage. He recently completed a Broadway run opposite Al Pacino in Glengarry Glen Ross and was nominated for a Tony Award for his performance in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?.

David most recently completed work on the feature film A Walk Among The Tombstones opposite Liam Neeson. He has co-starred in many films including End of Watch, Revolutionary Road, Thin Ice, Brokeback Mountain, The Green Hornet, Quantum of Solace, W.E. and Between Us.

Television credits include recurring roles on HBO's "The Newsroom" and "Pan Am".

A New York native, Harbour graduated from Byram Hills High School in Armonk, New York, just north of New York City. In 1977 he graduated from Dartmouth College with a double-major in drama and Italian. He soon impressed theatrical critics and audiences alike, appearing in Lanford Wilson's Fifth of July and in such Broadway productions as The Merchant of Venice also opposite Al Pacino, Tom Stoppard's The Invention of Love and The Coast of Utopia at Lincoln Center Theater.



## CAST BIOS (cont.)



### **Julia Stiles (Grace)**

[www.imdb.com/name/nm0005466/?ref=tt\\_cl\\_t1](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0005466/?ref=tt_cl_t1)

Called "one of the most fearless and talented actresses in Hollywood" by the Los Angeles Times, Julia Stiles continues to exhibit a rare sophistication in the characters she plays on screen and on stage.

Stiles was last seen as 'Veronica' in SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK (The Weinstein Company), opposite Bradley Cooper, Jennifer Lawrence, Robert DeNiro and Chris Tucker, directed by David O. Russell. An adaptation of Matthew Quick's novel, Silver Linings, the film is about a man who suffers from a mental collapse, is released from a health facility, and is determined to find the silver linings in his life. SILVER LININGS PLAYBOOK has been named The American Film Institute's 10 Best Films of 2012 and has been nominated for four 2013 Golden Globe Awards including "Best Motion Picture - Comedy or Musical," four 2013 SAG Awards including "Best Ensemble in a Motion Picture" as well as eight 2013 Academy Awards including "Best Picture." Julia also recently starred in Hallmark Hall of Fame's THE MAKEOVER on ABC opposite David Walton and Camryn Manheim.

Julia can next be seen in the upcoming independent feature, BETWEEN US opposite Taye Diggs, directed by Dan Mirvish. BETWEEN US is an adaptation of Joe Hortua's off-Broadway play. Julia can also be seen in the independent feature, IT'S A DISASTER directed by Todd Berger starring opposite America Ferrera and David Cross.

Stiles will next take on the role of 'Sarah' in AGUAS ROJAS, a Jonathan King/Participant film. Production will begin in mid-February and will shoot in Columbia. The film will be directed by the Spanish filmmaker named Lluís Quilez.

Additionally, she will be seen playing groundbreaking screenwriter Frances Marion in the Jennifer DeLia-directed Mary Pickford film THE FIRST, based on Eileen Whitfield's biography Pickford: The Woman Who Made Hollywood. THE FIRST with Poverty Row's Billy Bates, will be produced by Said Zahraoui and Dominick Fairbanks.

Stiles recently finished shooting CLOSED CIRCUIT (Focus Features) directed by John Crowley. She portrays 'Joanna' opposite Eric Bana, Rebecca Hall, Jim Broadbent and Ciarán Hinds. CLOSED CIRCUIT is about two defense lawyers who find their lives in jeopardy while assigned to a terrorism case. Focus Features have set the film for a wide release on August 28, 2012.

Julia has also been exploring the exciting new world of digital media and content. She stars in the WIGS channel web series, BLUE directed by Rodrigo Garcia and can be seen in the Season Two premiere which is available online on Friday, March 15th. Julia also teamed up with WIGS to create the upcoming web series PALOMA which Stiles wrote and directed.

In 2011, Stiles received Emmy and Golden Globe nominations for her work on Showtime's critically acclaimed series DEXTER opposite Michael C. Hall. She portrayed a mysterious

## CAST BIOS (cont.)

woman who develops a distinct relationship with DEXTER throughout the course of Season Five.

Over the years, Stiles has made her mark on the big screen starring in the BOURNE Trilogy opposite Matt Damon (THE BOURNE IDENTITY, THE BOURNE SUPREMACY and THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM); three Shakespearean film adaptations: Michael Almereyda's HAMLET, O, TEN THINGS I HATE ABOUT YOU , for which she earned a 2000 MTV Movie Award for Best Female Breakthrough Performance and the Chicago Film Critics Award for Most Promising Actress.

She also earned critical praise starring in Patrick Stettner's independent feature, THE BUSINESS OF STRANGERS, opposite Stockard Channing. The film premiered at the 2001 Sundance Film Festival and the Toronto International Film Festival.

Additional film credits include SAVE THE LAST DANCE, for which she was nominated for two MTV Movie Awards, and David Mamet's STATE & MAIN, with William H. Macy, Alec Baldwin, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and Sarah Jessica Parker. That film won a 2000 National Board of Review Award for Best Ensemble Cast. She starred opposite Liev Schreiber in the remake of the 1976 horror classic THE OMEN, as well as opposite Julia Roberts in MONA LISA SMILE.

Stiles began her career on stage at La MaMa Theatre, and has since appeared in Shakespeare-in-the-Park's TWELFTH NIGHT, both the London and Broadway revival of David Mamet's OLEANNA with Aaron Eckhart and Bill Pullman respectively; and opposite Mia Farrow in James Lapine's FRAN'S BED.

Stiles also wrote and directed a short film RAVING starring Zooey Deschanel, for ELLE magazine's film series. The film premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and on the Sundance Channel.

She is a graduate of Columbia University.

# CREW BIOS



## **Dan Mirvish (Director)**

Dan Mirvish is an active director, screenwriter, producer and author. He was mentored by Robert Altman on his first film, "Omaha (the movie)", which led him to co-founding the upstart Slamdance Film Festival that runs concurrent with Sundance. His film "Open House" led the Academy Awards to controversially rewrite their rules on the Best Original Musical category. Mirvish also co-wrote the critically-acclaimed novel "I Am Martin Eisenstadt."

## **Director's Filmography:**

- "Between Us" - feature, 2012 (director, co-writer, producer)
- "How to Win an Oscar Award" - short doc, 2011 (director)
- "The Last Republican" - tv pilot, 2008 (director, writer)
- "The Few & The Proud" - short, 2007 (director, writer)
- "Sheldon" - short, 2007 (director, writer)
- "A Message from the President of Iran" - short, 2007 (director, writer)
- "Half Empty" - feature, 2006 (writer, producer, cinematographer)
- "Open House" - feature, 2006 (director, writer, producer)
- "Omaha (the movie)" - feature, 1995 (director, writer, producer)

# BETWEEN/US

## PRODUCTION STILLS

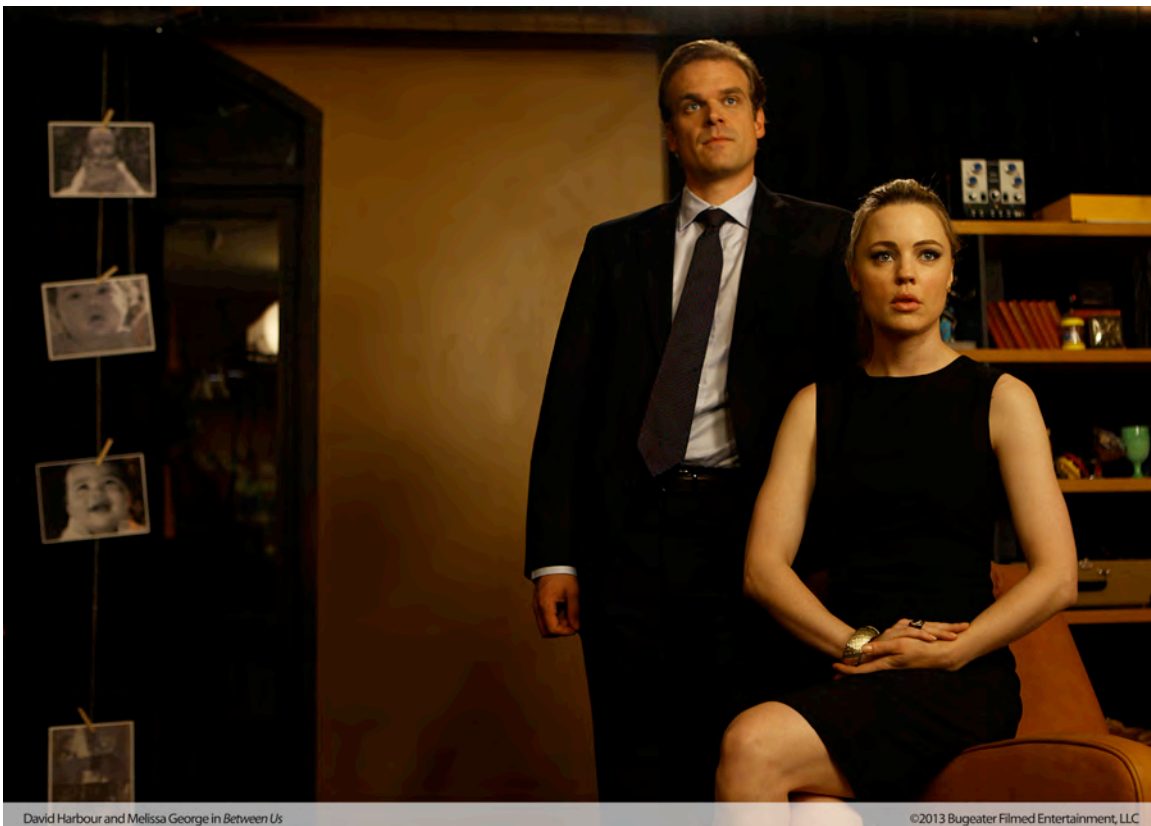
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Courtesy monterey media



Julia Stiles, Melissa George, David Harbour and Taye Diggs in *Between Us*



David Harbour and Melissa George in *Between Us*

# PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Julia Stiles in *Between Us*

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David Harbour, Julia Stiles, Taye Diggs and Melissa George in *Between Us*

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# PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Melissa George, David Harbour, Taye Diggs and Julia Stiles in *Between Us*

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Melissa George in *Between Us*

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# ABOUT THE COMPANY

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Within recent months, monterey media films have been nominated for a Golden Globe Award®, Independent Spirit Award®, and NAACP Image Award® and include films premiering at the Sundance Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, and the Tribeca Film Festival, as well as being honored on Roger Ebert's 10 Best Independent Films list.

monterey distributes across all platforms and media including theatrical, it's direct relationships with major pay-per-view and video-on-demand providers, television networks including HBO, Showtime, DIRECTV, Starz, Lifetime, Speed Channel, PBS, Super Channel, and USA Network, on Blu-ray & DVD, non-theatrical and to the educational market. monterey media holds the honor of being the first video market licensee of the American Film Institute.

