



Biography

NEIL MORRISSEY - Barry

Neil Morrissey became a household name playing the lead role of lovable loser Tony in six series and two Christmas specials of Hartswood Films' cult situation comedy MEN BEHAVING BADLY.

He trained at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Neil has made numerous other television appearances: THE JOURNAL (CBC); FOLLOW THROUGH (BBC); ROLL OVER BEETHOVEN (Central); TRAVELLERS BY NIGHT (TVS); CAT'S EYES (TVS); PLAYING AWAY; BLOOD RUNNER; GENTLEMEN AND PLAYERS; ELLIS ISLAND; PULASKI; 'Rocky' in BOON opposite Michael Elphick (Central); STUCK ON YOU (Carlton); REEVES AND MORTIMER (Channel X); TRAFFORD TANZI (BBC); A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO ADULTERY (Hartswood Films for Carlton TV); PARIS (Channel 4); CHEST (Granada); ROGER ROGER (BBC); THE VANISHING MAN (ITV); MY SUMMER WITH DES (BBC); HUNTING VENUS (ITV); JACK AND THE BEANSTALK (ITV); DIVE TO SHARK CITY (BBC); FLINT STREET NATIVITY (YTV); HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHAKESPEARE (BBC); MEN DOWN UNDER (BBC); two series of PARADISE HEIGHTS (BBC) and MURDER IN MIND (BBC).

His feature film appearances include: TRIGGERMEN; THE BOUNTY with Mel Gibson and Anthony Hopkins; THE BALLAD OF THE KID DIVINE, which he also produced; UP 'N' UNDER written and directed by John Godber and THE MATCH.

Theatre work includes SPEED THE PLOW (Duke of York); ROBIN HOOD (Chipping Norton); THE DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, MACBETH and WILLIAM TELL (all Crucible Theatre, Sheffield) and a critically acclaimed West End performance in A PASSIONATE WOMAN opposite Stephanie Cole (Comedy Theatre), which also toured in the South of England.



Biography

CLAIRE RUSHBROOK - Carrie

Claire Rushbrook is probably best known to audiences for her roles in two series of the BBC's LINDA GREEN and in Mike Leigh's SECRETS AND LIES. Other television appearances include: CASUALTY (BBC); THE TURNING WORLD (C4); TOUCHING EVIL (United Film & TV); CORONATION STREET (Granada); HE CAN'T STOP HERE (BBC); SPACED (C4); THE VISITOR (Tiger Aspect); THE SINS – FAITH (BBC) and STRETFORD WIVES (BBC).

Other film appearances include: CROCODILE SNAP; UNDER THE SKIN; SPICEWORLD; PLUNKETT AND MACLEANE; SHINER; DR SLEEP and A CHANGED MAN.

Theatre includes: WORLDS APART (Stratford East); THE CRUCIBLE (Sheffield Crucible); RICHARD II (Royal Exchange); GOOD NATUR'D MAN (Orange Tree); HATED NIGHTFALL (Royal Court/Tour); RAISING FIRES (Bush Theatre); UNCLE VANYA (Almeida/Tour); HINDLE WAKES (Royal Exchange); THREE SISTERS (Oxford Stage Company Tour/West End); FIFTY REVOLUTIONS (Whitehall Theatre) and FOOD CHAIN (Royal Court).



Biography

MARK WILLIAMS - Kirk

Mark Williams read English at Brasenose College, Oxford University. He is particularly familiar to cinema going audiences for his role of 'Mr Weasley' Ron's dad, in the HARRY POTTER films and to television audiences for regular appearances in four series of THE FAST SHOW for the BBC for which he is an original cast member and contributor.

Other numerous television appearances include: THE LAST FAST SHOW EVER; TED AND RALPH – A CHRISTMAS SPECIAL; OFF THE RAILS WITH MARK WILLIAMS (10 part series for the Discovery Channel); INDUSTRIAL REVELATIONS WITH MARK WILLIAMS (10 part series for the Discovery Channel); JUMPERS FOR GOALPOSTS (Sky); THE ROTTERS' CLUB (Company Pictures); STAR (Tiger Aspect); GRASS (BBC); DICK WHITTINGTON – ITV PANTO 2001 (Pozzitive TV as 'King Rat'); SHACKELTON (C4); RANDALL AND HOPKIRK DECEASED (Working Title); HAPPINESS (BBC); FUN AT THE FUNERAL PARLOUR I & II (BBC Choice); THE STRANGERERS (nine part series for Sky TV); GORMENGHAST (BBC); TUMBLEDOWN (BBC); RED DWARF; STORYTELLER; MAKING OUT (BBC); STUFF (BBC); GREAT EXPECTATIONS (Prime Time TV); BOTTOM (BBC); MERLIN (Noel Gay Television); DEAD AT THIRTY (Tiger Television); HARRY ENFIELD TELEVISION PROGRAMME (Hat Trick Productions); KINSEY (BBC as series regular 'Danny'); BAD COMPANY (BBC); THE HONEYMOON'S OVER (BBC pilot sitcom); HEALTH AND EFFICIENCY (BBC); 99-1 (Carlton); THE SHOOTING PARTY (Zenith); CHEF (Crucial Productions); THE BIG GAME; SEARCHING (Noel Gay Television); HUNTING VENUS (YTV); HAPPY BIRTHDAY SHAKESPEARE (BBC) and ANDERSON (Kudos Prods).

Film appearances include: AGENT CODY BANK II (MGM) as 'Inspector Crescent'; HARRY POTTER & THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN; HARRY POTTER & THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS (both Warner Bros); ANITA AND ME; HIGH HEELS AND LOW LIVES; THE FINAL CURTAIN; WHATEVER HAPPENED TO HAROLD SMITH; SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE as 'Wabash'. THE BORROWERS; 101 DALMATIONS; FEVER (BFI short film); PRINCE OF JUTLAND; HIGH SEASON; OUT OF ORDER and PRIVILEGED.

Mark spent three years touring with the Mikron Theatre Company. Other theatre credits include: THE FAST SHOW LIVE 2002 (UK tour); TOAST (Royal Court); THE FAST SHOW LIVE ON STAGE '98 (Apollo, Hammersmith); ART (Wyndhams Theatre); A DREAM OF PEOPLE (The Royal Shakespeare Company); MOSCOW GOLD (RSC); SINGER (RSC); AS YOU LIKE IT (RSC); THE CITY WIVES CONFEDERACY (Greenwich Theatre); DOCTOR OF HONOUR (Cheek by Jowl Theatre Co); FANSHEN (Royal National Theatre); THE PLAGUE YEAR and WILLIAM (both Royal Court Theatre Young Writers' Festival) and EVERYMAN (The Upstream Theatre Company).

Mark has also directed two plays at the 1996 Channel 4 Sitcom Festival, Hammersmith, BLEEDING HEARTS and IN EXILE.



Biography

MICHELLE GOMEZ - Michelle

Scottish actress Michelle Gomez trained at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Theatre.

Television appearances include: GREENWINGS; 'Janice' in two series of THE BOOK CLUB; READY WHEN YOU ARE MR MCGILL; MANCHILD (BBC); MY FAMILY (BBC); INSPECTOR REBUS (BBC Scotland); THE RAVEN (Gaumont); TAGGART (STV); THE BILL (Thames); PINKERTON FILES (BBC); THE LADY'S MAN (Granada Television); PARAHANDY (BBC); TAGGART (STV) and FIRST & LAST (BBC).

Films include CHROMOPHOBIA to be directed by Martha Fiennes; SUBTERRAIN (short); THE WRONG BLONDE; NEW WORLD DISORDER; MY WEST and SOFT TOUCH, part of the Irvine Welsh ACID HOUSE Trilogy.

Theatre includes: VAGINA MONOLOGUES (Arts Theatre, London & Royal Albert Hall); RELATIVE VALUES (Richmond and No 1 Tour); ABANDONMENT (Traverse Theatre, Edinburgh); THE PLEASURE MAN (Citizen's Theatre, Glasgow); CAVALCADE (Citizen's Theatre, Glasgow); SLEEP WITH ME (Royal National Theatre); OF BLESSED MEMORY (Kings Head); SEIZURE (Edinburgh Festival); HEAD STATES (Greenwich Theatre/ Edinburgh Festival); TRAINSPOTTING (Citizen's Theatre, Glasgow); THE DOUBLE (Citizen's Theatre, Glasgow); THE MERCHANT OF VENICE (Bruton Theatre, Glasgow); THE ANDROID CIRCUIT (Winged Horse Tour); THE MASTER BUILDER (Royal Lyceum Tour); THE COMMUNIST MANIFESTO (UK Tour); JACK AND THE BEANSTALK (The Mercat Theatre); BARRABAS (The Tramway, Glasgow); PLAY BOY (Boilerhouse Theatre Co – Edinburgh Festival Award); THE SNEEZE (The CCA); SKINNY SPEW (Chandler Studio) and FIND ME (The New Athenaeum).



Biography

SARAH QUINTRELL - Sinead

A talented and versatile young actress, Sarah Quintrell graduated from drama school just one year ago. She trained at Manchester Metropolitan School of Theatre for three years and quickly landed a small role as 'Janet' in ISLAND AT WAR for Granada, which was airing on ITV as CARRIE & BARRY was in production. She has also appeared as 'Jenny' in LOOK LIKE THE INNOCENT for Last Look Productions.

Sarah has appeared in the lead roles in a new play A/S/L (Age, Sex, Location) for Pilot Theatre Company at York Theatre Royal Studio as well as in a national tour of BLOODTIDE, also for Pilot Theatre.

CARRIE & BARRY is Sarah's first major television role.



Biography

SIMON NYE - Writer

Simon Nye was born in 1958 in Burgess Hill, Sussex. He translated books on Wagner, Matisse and Braque before turning in his late twenties to fiction, publishing two novels. He started writing for TV in 1990, adapting his first novel *MEN BEHAVING BADLY* into a situation comedy produced by Hartswood Films. The show transferred to BBC1 for the third series when the ITV Network failed to re-commission despite the series winning the British Comedy Award for Best ITV Comedy. *MEN BEHAVING BADLY* went on to win a raft of awards including the 1996 Royal Television Society Award for Best Situation Comedy/Comedy Drama and became the most-repeated comedy show in the 1990s. Simon Nye also won the 1995 Writers' Guild of Great Britain Award for Best Situation Comedy, and in 1996 was nominated for both *MEN BEHAVING BADLY* and *IS IT LEGAL?* The show bowed out at Christmas 1998 after six series and several Christmas specials. Simon was Executive Consultant on the American version of *MEN BEHAVING BADLY*, which was based on the UK series. Over thirty episodes were broadcast on NBC TV.

His comedy drama series *FRANK STUBBS PROMOTES*, starring Timothy Spall as a low-life wheeler-dealer-cum-ticket-tout, was based on his second novel *WIDEBOY*. Two series were broadcast. *IS IT LEGAL?* - produced by Hartswood Films - ran to two series on network ITV and a third on Channel 4 and won the Best ITV Sitcom Award at the British Comedy Awards. *TRUE LOVE*, a one-hour romantic comedy film produced by Granada TV starred Emma Wray. Simon adapted it into the comedy-drama *MY WONDERFUL LIFE*, which ran for three series. His critically acclaimed comedy drama series *HOW DO YOU WANT ME?*, starring Dylan Moran, screened on BBC2 and ran for two series.

Simon has written four pantomimes for ITV. *JACK AND THE BEANSTALK*, *CINDERELLA* starring Frank Skinner, *ALADDIN* starring Martin Clunes and *DICK WHITTINGTON*. Simon adapted *THE RAILWAY CHILDREN* into a two-hour film for ITV. He also adapted *POLLYANNA*. Two series of *BEAST*, a sitcom set in a vets' practice, were shown on BBC1 as was Simon's family comedy for Hartswood Films, *THE SAVAGES*.

Simon translated *DON JUAN* for a production at the Sheffield Crucible. The Theatre Royal, Bath produced the play again this summer. His translation of *ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST* took London's Donmar Warehouse by storm.

Simon's comedy *WILD WEST* starring Dawn French and filmed in Cornwall ran for two series on BBC1 and his Bafta-nominated sitcom *HARDWARE* is gearing up for a third series on ITV. Two other projects have already been filmed: *PRIDE*, a film for the BBC featuring real lions and computer animation, due for broadcast this Christmas, and *BEAUTY*, a one-off comedy drama based on "Beauty & the Beast" starring Martin Clunes, scheduled for broadcast this September on ITV. *TUNNEL OF LOVE*, a 90 minute film for ITV starring Jack Dee, is currently in production.

Current projects include changed-format deals in the UK to remake Simon's UK series *THE SAVAGES* with CBS and *HARDWARE* with ABC.



Biography

SUE VERTUE - Producer

Sue Vertue started her working life as a Production Manager in the commercials world before joining Tiger Television in 1989. She began producing in 1991 and her credits whilst there include: 9 of the 14 television programmes made of the internationally renowned comedy MR BEAN (ITV) which won many awards around the world, including an ACE and an Emmy; THE VICAR OF DIBLEY (co-producer, BBC1), starring Dawn French (BAFTA nomination and Emmy winner 1998); HOSPITAL, a comedy starring Greg Wise and Bob Peck which was commissioned by Channel 5 for their opening night (Banff Award for Best Comedy 1998); GREAT RAILWAY JOURNEYS: HONG KONG TO ULAN BATAR (co-producer, BBC1), presented by Clive Anderson; THE LAST ENGLISHMAN (BBC1), an hour long period drama starring Jim Broadbent (BAFTA nomination for Best Single Drama) and GIMME GIMME GIMME, the sitcom for BBC2 written by Jonathan Harvey and starring Kathy Burke and James Dreyfus (two British Comedy Awards nominations, BAFTA nomination), which successfully transferred to BBC1.

Sue left Tiger Aspect at the end of 1998 to produce COMIC RELIEF 1999 for the BBC (British Comedy Awards winner). This six hour live show broke all records for the amount of money raised on the night. In April 1999 Sue joined her mother Beryl Vertue's company Hartswood Films where she produced another series of GIMME, GIMME, GIMME (now in association with Tiger Aspect) – again frequently top of the BBC2 weekly ratings. Their first project together was COUPLING for BBC TWO, followed by THE SAVAGES for BBC ONE, written by Simon Nye and starring Geoffrey Palmer, Marcus Brigstocke and Victoria Hamilton.

Sue has now produced four series of COUPLING, winner of the Silver Rose of Montreux and of the Best TV Comedy Award at the 2003 British Comedy Awards and starring Jack Davenport, Sarah Alexander, Gina Bellman, Kate Isitt, Ben Miles, Richard Coyle and Richard Mylan. The fourth series was being broadcast as CARRIE & BARRY was in production.



Biography

MARTIN DENNIS - Director

Martin Dennis was born in Toronto and grew up in Canada and later in Surrey. He studied Drama and Theatre Arts at Birmingham University before becoming a Stage Manager with the M6 Theatre Company. He joined the BBC in 1980 as a Floor Assistant, progressing to Production Manager on 'ALLO, 'ALLO, DON'T WAIT UP, HI-DE-HI and THE KENNY EVERETT SHOW.

In 1987 Martin became the Director of 'ALLO, 'ALLO and adapted the show for the US market. He also adapted the American sitcom WHO'S THE BOSS? for the UK, turning it into the highly successful THE UPPER HAND, which he directed for three series for Central. In 1991 he directed the first series of MEN BEHAVING BADLY for Hartswood Films, and went on to direct all the subsequent series and specials.

Other directing credits include JUST A GIGOLO for Central; DOWNWARDLY MOBILE for YTV; MY GOOD FRIEND for Hartswood Films; three series of Simon Nye's IS IT LEGAL? also for Hartswood; PAUL MERTON IN GALTON & SIMPSON'S... for Central; THE GRIMLEYS starring Nigel Planer for Granada; the comedy series HIPPIES for the BBC; BEAST (BBC); four series of COUPLING for Hartswood Films and BBC TWO; Simon Nye's THE SAVAGES for BBC ONE also for Hartswood; BLACK BOOKS for Channel 4 and CARRIE & BARRY for Hartswood Films and BBC ONE.



Biography

BERYL VERTUE – Executive Producer

One of Britain's most respected producers, Beryl has an enviable track record of international success. Originally an agent for renowned comedy writers Spike Milligan, Eric Sykes, Ray Galton, Alan Simpson and Johnny Speight, and comedy stars

Tony Hancock and Frankie Howerd, in the early sixties she formed Associated London Films. There she was Associate Producer on THE SPY WITH A COLD NOSE,

Executive Producer on the silent comedy THE PLANK starring Eric Sykes and

Tommy Cooper, followed by the feature film versions TILL DEATH US DO PART, STEPTOE AND SON, UP POMPEII and a score of comparable films.

In 1967 Robert Stigwood invited Beryl to join his company where she became Deputy Chairman and pioneered the original concept of selling basic television formats to Europe and America. Two such formats became big hits in the USA – TILL DEATH US DO PART became Norman Lear's long-running series ALL IN THE FAMILY, whilst STEPTOE AND SON became SANFORD AND SON. Beryl then produced several star-studded Movies of the Week for all three American Networks. She produced the BEACON HILL series, based on UPSTAIRS DOWNSTAIRS for CBS, and ALMOST ANYTHING GOES based on IT'S A KNOCKOUT for ABC. Beryl's early producing credits include the series THE PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE and, one of her favourite achievements, Executive Producer on the film TOMMY starring Jack Nicholson, The Who, Elton John, Eric Clapton and Tina Turner.

In the Eighties, Beryl left the Stigwood Organisation to form Hartswood Films, which has since become one of the UK's leading independent producers. Her television credits include: For comedy: six series and several specials of the multi-award-winning MEN BEHAVING BADLY; MY GOOD FRIEND; IS IT LEGAL?, four series of COUPLING for BBC2 and CARRIE & BARRY for BBC1. The Format of Coupling was sold to NBC for an American Series. For Drama: CODE NAME KYRIL; A WOMAN'S GUIDE TO ADULTERY; THE ENGLISH WIFE; WONDERFUL YOU and BORDER CAFÉ. Documentaries include: GOING TO CHELSEA; OFFICERS AND GENTLEMEN; THE RED BARON; IN LOVE WITH ELIZABETH; THE WAR BEHIND THE WIRE and THE WELSH GREAT ESCAPE.

Later this year Beryl will be producing a theatrical film, ME AGAIN, a comedy thriller written by Steven Moffat to be directed by Stephen Hopkins ("The Life and Death of Peter Sellers", "24").

Beryl received an OBE in the 2000 New Year's Honours List for Services to Independent Television Production. She is a Fellow of the Royal Television Society and also in the RTS Hall of Fame. This year she received a BAFTA, the Alan Clarke Award for Outstanding Creative Contribution to Television.