



presents

COFFEE DATE

A film by Stewart Wade

<http://www.dorianblues.com/> www.coffeedatethemovie.com

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SHORT SYNOPSIS

Todd (straight) ends up on a blind date with a gay man, Kelly—the result of a practical joke played by his brother, Barry. To Todd's surprise, he and Kelly strike up a friendship. They decide to take revenge on Barry by reversing the joke. After their “date,” the pair saunter past Barry holding hands. The joke works too well. Freaking out and convinced that Todd is gay, Barry calls their mother to break the news. Concerned, she arrives on the next plane. Despite his vehement denials, Mom now sees Todd's love of movies and theater, as well as his lack of interest in sports, as clear signs she'd previously missed. She is determined to prove to her son that she loves him no matter what. Nothing Todd says or does can convince her that he's actually straight! Soon, everyone in his life believes he is gay, despite his increasingly vehement denials. After an attempt to prove his heterosexuality with a sexy younger woman ends in disaster, he starts to wonder, could his feelings for Kelly be more than he'd ever suspected?

PRODUCTION NOTES

Coffee Date started out as a short film. It played at over 35 film festivals worldwide and won several awards. As writer/director Stewart Wade traveled around to different festivals, audiences kept asking him what happened next to Todd and Kelly, the two main characters. So even though the short was not written as part of a feature, he started thinking about what would happen if people really did start to believe that Todd was gay. While the script didn't exactly write itself, once the initial premise was solidified, the writing came easily because of how well Wade already knew Todd and Kelly.

That initial round of festival traveling was crucial in another aspect of bringing the feature to fruition. At the Palms Springs International Short Film Festival in 2001, **Coffee Date** won an Audience Award, beating out a short film that Sally Kirkland had produced and starred in called **Audit**. Although Kirkland didn't like losing, she was impressed by the **Coffee Date** short, and told Wade she'd like to work with him some day. Years later, when he sent her the feature script, she remembered him and the short, and actually picked up and read the script. She became the second actor to sign on (first was Elaine Hendrix, a longtime friend of executive producer Antonio Brown). Hendrix had also starred in Wade's short **Stag Party**.

Each actor who signed on seemed to help bring on the next. Comedian Jason Stuart was perfect for the role of Clayton. But the lead roles of Todd and Kelly were still proving difficult. Early on, we'd tried to get the script to our top choice, Wilson Cruz, but apparently hadn't had the correct address for his management because it had been sent back to us. When Jason heard this story, he said, "I'll just call him." Within days, Wilson had read the script and signed on.

We'd tried for months to get a script to Jonathan Silverman, but he appeared to be unavailable. As it turned out both Elaine Hendrix and Deborah Gibson knew him. They got the script to him – he loved it – and in the end we were able to work out a deal.

For Todd, we met with several "name" actors, but kept coming back to Jonathan Bray, an unknown who just nailed the role from his very first audition. Luckily, in the end, we all agreed that he was the one.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

WILSON CRUZ – Kelly

Wilson first came to national attention as Rickie Vasquez in the critically acclaimed TV show *My So-Called Life*, opposite Claire Danes and Jared Leto. His feature credits include *Johns*, *All Over Me*, *Joyride*, *Supernova*, and *Party Monster*. His theater credits include the role of Angel in both the national tour and the Broadway production of *Rent*. He just wrapped up a starring role in the acclaimed production of *Tick...Tick...Boom!* at the Coronet Theater. Among numerous guest-starring spots, Wilson had recurring roles on *Party of Five*, *West Wing*, and Logo's original series *Noah's Arc*.

JONATHAN SILVERMAN – Barry

Jonathan Silverman has starred in over 30 motion pictures, several Broadway plays and his own top ten television series. His film work includes *Class Action* with Gene Hackman, *Stealing Home* with Jodie Foster, *Broadway Bound* with Anne Bancroft, *Brighton Beach Memoirs* with Blythe Danner, the sequel to *The Odd Couple* with Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon, and the cult comedy *Weekend at Bernie's*.

On Broadway, Jonathan created the role of Eugene Morris Jerome in Neil Simon's *Broadway Bound* after starring in Mr. Simon's successful Broadway runs of *Biloxi Blues* and *Brighton Beach Memoirs*. He also starred with John Spencer in *Glimmer*, *Glimmer and Shine*, by Tony Award winning playwright Warren Leight for the Mark Taper Forum.

On television, he starred in NBC's *The Single Guy*, from 1995-1997, which was created for him by Castle Rock Entertainment and Brad Hall. Other television appearances include *Friends* and *ER*, and ABC's upcoming *In Case of Emergency*, which will begin airing in January 2007.

SALLY KIRKLAND – Mrs. Muller

In addition to numerous stage and television appearances, Sally Kirkland has been in over 100 movies, including such classics as *The Sting* and *The Way We Were*. However, she is probably best known for her performance in *Anna* -- for which she garnered the 1987 Motion Picture Academy's Best Actress Nomination. For the same performance, she won the Golden Globe Award for Best Dramatic Actress. L.A. Times' critics Kevin Thomas and Sheila Benson named her performance in *Anna* as one of the Five Best Acting Performances by a Woman in the '80's. Sally also won the Independent Spirit Award for Best Actress.

Recently, Sally has been featured in movies such as *Ed TV* and *Bruce Almighty*, and has starred in many indie movies, such as *Adam and Steve*. She recently was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award by La Femme Film Festival. In addition to acting, Sally is also an acclaimed artist, an activist, a teacher, host of a weekly radio show, and an ordained minister. For more information, go to: www.sallykirkland.com.

DEBORAH GIBSON – Melissa

80's pop star Debbie Gibson has sold more than 16 million albums worldwide. But Deborah Gibson, all grown up, has myriad talents. She has appeared on Broadway in ***Cabaret***, ***Beauty and the Beast***, and ***Les Miserables***. She played Sandy in ***Grease*** in the West End, and Rizzo in the national touring company. She has also done national tours of ***Funny Girl***, ***Cinderella***, and ***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat***, and regional productions of ***Chicago***, ***Gypsy*** (opposite Betty Buckley), ***Company*** and ***Brigadoon***. In addition to her ongoing singing, songwriting, and live performing, Deborah just appeared on the Fox show ***Skating with Celebrities*** opposite World Champion Kurt Browning. For more information, go to: www.deborah-gibson.com.

JASON STUART – Clayton

Jason Stuart is one the countries top openly gay comic's. He has performed at the ***Montreal Comedy Festival***, ***Town Hall on Broadway*** and to 100,000 at the Millennium March. He is now touring all the mainstream comedy clubs with his new act, ***Looking For Mr. Right Comedy Show*** to sell out crowds across the U.S.A. As an actor, he had a recurring role on ***My Wife & Kids*** starring Damon Wayans and guest star spots on ***Fat Actress***, ***House***, ***Strong Medicine***, ***Providence***, ***Will & Grace***, ***The Drew Carey Show*** and ***Charmed***. In films he has been featured in ***A Day Without A Mexican***, HBO's ***Gia*** with Angelina Jolie, ***Ghosts Never Sleep*** opposite Faye Dunaway. His first starring role was in the romantic comedy ***10 Attitudes***, which he also co-produced. For more information, go to: www.jasonstuart.com.

ELAINE HENDRIX – Bonnie

Elaine has appeared in numerous television shows and feature films. Standout performances include the bitchy cheerleader from ***Romy and Michelle's High School Reunion***, Dennis Quaid's fiancé in ***The Parent Trap***, and the hip science teacher on ***Joan of Arcadia***. Those who have kids will remember her from the lead female role in ***Inspector Gadget 2***. She is also often recognized for her role in cult favorite ***What the #\$! Do We Know?*** Elaine just won a Best Actress Award from the Baja Film Festival for her work in the upcoming release ***Down the PCH***. She is currently recording her first album. For more information, go to: www.elainehendrix.com

LEIGH TAYLOR-YOUNG – Diana

Leigh Taylor-Young has earned high acclaim as an Emmy Award winning actress (for ***Picket Fences***) and international personality. With fifteen feature films and numerous television series to her credit, Leigh has also become a major spokesperson for "corporate" America and many other distinguished organizations. She has represented the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), as the keynote speaker in Nairobi, Kenya for the 20th Anniversary ceremonies, the Better World Society, MCI Corporation, Hands Across America, the American Cancer Society, the Institute for Individual and World Peace, and hosted the ***Muscular Dystrophy Telethon***. Leigh has appeared in over one hundred hours of television in such well known series as ***Peyton Place***, ***Dallas***, and currently, ***Passions***. For more information, go to: www.lty.com.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

STEWART WADE – Writer/Director/Co-Producer

Early in his career, two of Stewart's stage plays were produced locally (***Opening Night*** and ***Second Chance***). His first screenplay, ***On The Line***, was optioned by Joanna Lancaster (executive producer of ***Ruthless People***) and a screenplay called ***Wish List*** sold to German television. Directed by Wiktor Grodecki, the film was retitled ***Ich Wunch Die Liebe (I Wish to Live)*** and was so successful that it was subsequently released theatrically.

Shortly thereafter, Stewart wrote and directed the short film ***Coffee Date***, which screened at over 35 festivals worldwide and won several major awards, including Best Short Film at the Honolulu International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and the Madrid Lesbian & Gay Film Festival, and the Jury Award for Comedy in the Bargain Basement Film Festival. It was released early in 2005 as part of a compilation of shorts titled ***Straight Men and the Men Who Love Them***. Stewart's most recent short, ***Stag Party***, has played at over 15 festivals. Stewart was recently named one of Outfest 2006 "Five in Focus" – feature film directors chosen as "the next wave of hot new talent."

CINDY PETERS – Producer

A graduate of Emerson College, Cindy has produced, written and directed many independent projects with varying themes including: estranged sisters, modern witchcraft and exploitable trust fund babies. She has worked professionally on such projects as, ***Transformers*** (DreamWorks), ***Six Feet Under*** (HBO), ***Mission Impossible II*** (Paramount), ***American Dreams*** (NBC) and ***Monk*** (USA) and has won accolades for 'Best Drama' at NACB (***This Is Not a Sales Call***), an EVVY for "Best Editor" (for ***No Name Fame***, a documentary she shot in NYC). She can proudly say she has worked on films with budgets of \$1.80 to \$180 million. Cindy is currently developing new projects for her company www.lucidfilms.com.

DAVID AVALLONE – Editor, Post-Production Supervisor

Since arriving in Los Angeles ago from his native New Jersey, David has worked at virtually every job listed in the credits of a movie. His experiences as a grip, electric, script supervisor, assistant director, post production supervisor (and so on) schooled him in the realities of the filmmaking process from every angle. As an editor, he's cut eight independent feature films, several award-winning shorts, a dozen trailers, as well as countless promos, music videos, infomercials and commercials. He directed and wrote the indie feature ***Kick of Death***, wrote four episodes of ***V.R. Troopers*** for Saban Entertainment, and wrote one book and four ***Star Wars*** short stories published by West End Games. David is the son of the late pulp fiction novelist Michael Avallone, and his pride and joy is the critically acclaimed internet serial ***Since Noon Yesterday*** based on his father's last novel. David writes, directs, produces, and edits the series, which can be seen on Ifilm at: www.ifilm.com/ifilmcollection/0/2064.

HOWARD WEXLER – Director of Photography

Born and raised in Hollywood, Howard started working at age 12 as an actor in educational films directed by his father, Sy Wexler for Churchill Wexler Film Productions. Since graduating from USC's film program, Howard has worked as a Director of

Photography on over 50 feature films, as well as numerous shorts, documentaries, educational, corporate and industrial film and video projects. Recent credits include **Johnny Morran**, **The Making of Touché**, and **The Thirst**. For more information, go to: www.howardwexler.com

JAMES J. AGAZZI – Production Design

Emmy-award winning James Agazzi received both a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Fine Arts degree from UCLA. Almost immediately upon graduating, he obtained an Assistant Art Director position working on the Danny Thomas and Bob Hope television specials being produced at NBC-TV. Eventually game shows made him a full-fledged Art Director. During this part of his career, he designed the original sets for such well-known game shows as **The Price is Right**, **Match Game**, **Now You See It**, **Classic Concentration** and **Cardsharks**.

James was able to make a transition to filmed television series and became the Production Designer for a series of popular shows—including **Hart To Hart**, **Paper Dolls**, **Shanon's Deal**, and **Moonlighting**. This led to mini-series and movies of the week—where he designed 9 MOW's based on Danielle Steele novels. He was also the Production Designer for Elizabeth Taylor's first major TV effort, **There Must Be a Pony**, as well as the biographical mini-series: **LIZ—The Elizabeth Taylor Story** and **The Beat Goes On: The Sonny and Cher Story**. This body of work brought the recognition of 9 Emmy Nominations (he won for his design work on **Moonlighting**).

NIKLAS J. PALM – Costume Designer

Born in Sweden, Niklas graduated magna cum laude from New York's Fashion Institute of Technology. After an internship at Ralph Lauren, he made his way to Los Angeles where he obtained a Masters degree in Fashion Design from Cal State Los Angeles. After working on numerous feature films, television shows (including **Buffy the Vampire Slayer**) and commercials, Niklas recently received an Emmy for his work on HBO's **Carnivale**. For more information, go to: www.niklaspalm.com.

EBAN SCHLETTER – Composer

Emmy-nominated for his song "How High The Mountain" from **Mr. Show with Bob and David**, Eban is a prolific composer and songwriter. His best-known credits include **Dumb and Dumberer: When Harold Met Lloyd** and **SpongeBob Squarepants** (both the TV show and the movie). In addition to his extensive film work, Eban worked recently on **Fat Actress** and is currently working on Comedy Central's **Drawn Together**, as well as **The Ellen DeGeneres Show**.

CAST (in order of appearance)

Todd	Jonathan Bray
Barry	Jonathan Silverman
Kelly	Wilson Cruz
Marco	Tony Brown
Lesbian #1	Melissa Moore
Lesbian #2	Meredith Habif
Pretty Boy	Eduardo Kehl
Muscle Boy	Stephen Mastro Jr.
Melissa	Deborah Gibson
Trudy	Maggie Wagner
Clayton	Jason Stuart
Mrs. Muller	Sally Kirkland
Mrs. Orsini	Joanne Baron
Mrs. Donovan	Kristin Andersen-Groh
Salon Receptionist	Jessica Cabo
Bonnie	Elaine Hendrix
Matt	Thomas Saunders
Anthony	Peter Bedard
Michael	Marcus Reynaga
Teenage Boy	Jordan Halpern
Bartender (gay bar)	Matthew Harmon
Woman in red	Kristin Bray
Lisa	Margot Boecker
Diana	Leigh Taylor-Young
Diana's Assistant	Carol Ann Susi
Stripper	Spero Stamboulis
Cheryl	Clytie Lane
Ann	Judy Dixon
Sarah	Lisa Ann Walter
Security Guard	Terrell T. Himmelheber
Flight Attendant	Chris Keslar

CREW LIST

Writer/Director/Co-Producer	Stewart Wade
Producer	Cindy Peters
Executive Producers	Antonio Brown
	S. Eugene and Marjorie Margolis
	Dena Harman
	Eric Borsum
	Eric Miller
Associate Producers	Sally Kirkland
	Elaine Hendrix
	Meredith Habif
Director of Photography	Howard Wexler
Editor/Post-Production Supervisor	David Avallone
Composer	Eban Schletter
Production Sound Mixer	Daniel S. McCoy
Sound Assistant	Kathy Sanchez
Casting Director	Bing Tell
1 st Assistant Director	Cameron R. Penn
2 nd Assistant Director	W. Troy Rice
Location Scout/Manager	Natasha Giraldo
Production Design	James J. Agazzi
Art Direction	David T. Brewer
Prop Master	Jillian Suzanne
Script Supervisor	Kimberley J. Roper
Stedicam Operator	Christopher Gosch
1 st Assistant Camera	Rainy Rau
	James Firios
	Joseph Arenas
	Hiroyuki Fukuda
2 nd Assistant Camera	Charles R. Cohen
Costume Designers	Niklas J. Palm
	Annalisa Adams
Wardrobe Supervisors	Jennifer Nelson
	Marie Growden
Costumer	Lymaris Diaz de Villegas
Make-up/Hair Artists	Justin Moreno
	Alaisha Hellman
Electric/Grip	Matthew Warner
Still Photographer	Rebecca Paris Sapp
Additional Photography	David T. Brewer
Sound Designer	Henry Lee
Colorist	Jeffrey S. Chaves
Post Audio	Avilon Audio, Burbank CA
HD Online	Ted's Post Production
Productions Assistants	Drew Amavisca, Anne Lee Huffman, JJ Lewis, Elizabeth Ann Nord & Edward Schlesinger

FESTIVALS PLAYED

2006 Newfest

2006 Outfest

2006 Philadelphia International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

2006 Stonybrook Film Festival

2006 Rhode Island International Film Festival

2006 North Carolina Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

2006 Decafest, New Orleans

Coffee Date had a brief theatrical run in the Fall of 2006 and hit these markets at local art theaters: Los Angeles, Houston, Ft. Lauderdale, Atlanta and Dallas.