

Distributed by INDICAN PICTURES*

Starring

**Harold Ramis, John McNaughton,
John Sayles & Forest Whitaker**

in

“AMERICAN STORYTELERS

Executive Producer
Clearwater Pictures

Produced & Edited by
Kevin Mukherji

Co-Producer
Allen Hayden

Director of Photography
Michael C. Clark

Sound
Luis Frausto

Production Design
Gary Yates

Composer
Penka Kouneva

Directed by
Kevin Mukherji

Press Contact:
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Running Time: 90 min

* A division of Independent American Pictures

Production notes:

AMERICAN STORYTELLERS is a unique feature documentary film where four of the brightest storytellers share their visionary thoughts. In an age of MTV style interviews and cutting edge entertainment, celebrities appear to promote their latest projects.

For this documentary, on the other hand, I sought to make a film where the subjects will not talk about life and art without the pretense of selling their latest project. Instead I chose to create an environment where they freely express their individual thoughts, ideas and opinions without sound bites, cutaways or interruptions by the interviewer. The editing I kept at a minimum as to not shape or morph their answers... I wanted to keep it real. The "silent host" developed as an idea to keep the focus on the storyteller, not the interviewer.

The four filmmakers featured rarely do interviews, yet they are prolific in American storytelling. John Sayles was the first person interviewed, followed by my old friend, Forest Whitaker. I had the pleasure of working with John McNaughton in a great, but less publicized film titled, NORMAL LIFE. Harold Ramis was the next one chosen because he has made audiences laugh for over 20 years. I chose these four filmmakers because of their candor, honesty and their successful body of work. I loved the fact these filmmakers have not overexposed themselves like some directors. The idea when I started out interviewing filmmakers was to "pick their brains" and get underneath the skin's surface to find out what makes them tick.

I do hope I've succeeded in creating an inspirational interview where the message and thoughts expressed will be just as interesting 25 years from now. This film is more than just about filmmaking, it's about getting out there and making your dreams become a reality. There are future plans for additional installments of AMERICAN STORYTELLERS.

Biography: Kevin Mukherji

Kevin Mukherji grew up in Chicago Illinois. By age seven Kevin was providing neighborhood entertainment with his animated shorts. By age 15 he had completed over 50 films on Super 8 and VHS and at 16 yrs. Old made a broadcast documentary titled, CAR FEVER depicting antique cars. Studying at Chicago's north side Steuben High Kevin made music video's for local Chicago bands and finished his studies with a MFA in filmmaking from Northern Illinois University. Kevin's body of work includes, directing, writing, producing, editing, director of photography in over 100 films, documentaries, industrials and TV shows. Kevin has also acted in such films as: NORMAL LIFE by John McNaughton, HILLSIDE STRANGLER, U.S. MARSHALLS, BRAT 2, TWO RIVERS and DEATH AND TAXIS. Kevin recently appeared as Dr. Mishra in the CBS TV show, "Without A Trace" and directed two features: AMERICAN STORYTELLERS, starring John McNaughton, Harold Ramis, John Sayles and Forest Whitaker. The second is titled: DEATH AND TAXIS with an established cast and shot on location in Chicago. Kevin currently resides in Los Angeles.

John McNaughton:

Henry: Portrait Of A Serial Killer, Speaking Of Sex, Mad Dog And Glory, Wild Things, Normal Life.

John is currently in production on "RedLiners".

Harold Ramis:

Animal House, Caddyshack, Stripes, Ghostbusters, Club Paradise, Analyze This, Groundhog Day, Analyze That.

Harold is a successful actor, screenwriter and director.

John Sayles:

Return of Secaucus 7, Matewan, Eight Men Out, Passion Fish, Lone Star, Limbo, Sunshine State, Casa de los Babys.

John is currently at work on Silver City and can be seen as an actor in independent films as well.

Forest Whitaker:

Fast Times at Ridgemont High, Platoon, Crying Game, Ghost Dog, Panic Room, etc. As a director – Strapped, Waiting To Exhale, Hope Floats

Forest is currently in post-production on First Daughter.

