



## **TCA** WINTER 2012

### **HOUSE OF LIES – Premiere**

#### **Panelists:**

Don Cheadle (Series Star/Executive Producer)

Kristen Bell

Ben Schwartz

Josh Lawson

Dawn Olivieri

Glynn Turman

Matthew Carnahan – Creator/Executive Producer

Jessika Borsiczky – Executive Producer

Stephen Hopkins – Executive Producer

Martin Kihn – Author, *“House of Lies: How Management Consultants Steal Your Watch And Then Tell You The Time”* (Grand Central, 2012)

### **Episodes – 12, Half-Hour Episodes**

#### **Series Overview**

HOUSE OF LIES is SHOWTIME’s new dark comedy about all the screwed up ways big business is practiced these days. It premiered this past Sunday to 1.6 million viewers, besting the debut of the network's hit freshman series HOMELAND. The series, based on the hit tell-all book from best-selling author Martin Kihn (*House of Lies: How Management Consultants Steal Your Watch and Then Tell You the Time*), peels back the bull to reveal a world few know exists and fewer still have experienced. Meet Marty Kaan (Academy Award nominee Don Cheadle), the big-money earner at Galweather & Stearn, along with his hot, young team - The Pod - of big-balling power players – Jeannie (Kristen Bell), Clyde (Ben Schwartz) and Doug (Josh Lawson). Marty and The Pod's work life is all first-class, top-shelf, black Am Ex, the best suites at the nicest hotels. Marty is the ultimate power player and under his direction, this ruthless, pull-no-punches team is here to stick it to the man by beating the corporate suckers at their own game. Dawn Olivieri stars as his ex-wife and business competitor; Donis Leonard Jr. plays his pre-teen son; and Glynn Turman stars as Marty’s retired psychotherapist father. HOUSE OF LIES is created and executive produced by Matthew Carnahan. Jessika Borsiczky, Stephen Hopkins and Don Cheadle also serve as executive producers. HOUSE OF LIES airs Sundays at 10 p.m. ET/PT.

## BIOS

### **DON CHEADLE** **(Marty Kaan)**

DON CHEADLE has consistently turned in powerful performances on the stage and screen since being named the 'Best Supporting Actor' by the Los Angeles Film Critics for his breakout performance opposite Denzel Washington in *Devil In A Blue Dress*.

Cheadle's latest feature film, *The Guard*, which he produced and starred in, premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival and was released this past July by Sony Pictures Classics. Cheadle was last seen in Marvel Studios' *Iron Man 2* opposite Robert Downey, Jr.; and in *Brooklyn's Finest*, an ensemble crime thriller directed by Antoine Fuqua and co-starring Richard Gere and Ethan Hawke. He will next star in and direct a movie based on the life of jazz legend Miles Davis, will then star in *Iron Man 3* and is currently shooting Robert Zemeckis' *Flight*.

In 2008, Cheadle starred opposite Guy Pearce in Overture Films' *Traitor*, an international thriller which he also produced. Additional film credits include *Talk To Me*; the 2006 Oscar® winning 'Best Picture,' *Crash*, which Cheadle also produced; *Hotel Rwanda*, for which his performance garnered Academy Award®, Golden Globe®, Broadcast Film Critics Award and Screen Actors Guild® Award nominations for 'Best Actor'; *Ocean's Eleven*, *Ocean's Twelve* and *Ocean's Thirteen*, directed by Steven Soderbergh; Mike Binder's *Reign Over Me* with Adam Sandler; the Academy Award® winning film *Traffic* and *Out Of Sight*, both also directed by Soderbergh; Paul Thomas Anderson's critically acclaimed *Boogie Nights*; *Bulworth*, *Swordfish*, *Mission To Mars*, John Singleton's *Rosewood*, for which Cheadle earned an NAACP Image Award nomination; *Family Man*, directed by Brett Ratner and starring Nicolas Cage; *Colors*, *Hamburger Hill*, and the independent features *Manic* and *Things Behind The Sun*. Cheadle was recently honored by both the CineVegas Film Festival and the Los Angeles Film Festival and in 2007, received ShoWest's 'Male Star of the Year' Award.

For his work on television, Cheadle received a Golden Globe® Award and Emmy® nomination for his remarkable portrayal of "Sammy Davis, Jr." in HBO's *The Rat Pack*. That same year, he received an Emmy® nomination for his starring role in HBO's adaptation of the critically-acclaimed, best-selling novel *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines. He also starred for HBO in *Rebound: The Legend Of Earl 'The Goat' Manigault*, directed by Eriq La Salle.

Well-known for his two-year stint in the role of "District Attorney John Littleton" on David E. Kelley's critically-acclaimed series *Picket Fences*, Cheadle's other series credits include an Emmy® nominated guest-starring role on *ER* and a

series regular role on *The Golden Palace*. He was also part of the stellar cast of the thrilling live CBS television broadcast of *Fail Safe*. He also had a recurring role on the hit series, *Fame*.

An accomplished stage actor, Cheadle originated the role of “Booth” in Suzan-Lori Parks’ Pulitzer Prize winning play *Top Dog Underdog* at New York’s Public Theatre under the direction of George C. Wolfe. His other stage credits include *Leon, Lena And Lenz* at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis; *The Grapes Of Wrath* and *Liquid Skin* at the Mixed Blood Theater in Minneapolis; *Cymbeline* at The New York Shakespeare Festival; *‘Tis Pity She’s A Whore* at Chicago’s Goodman Theater; and Athol Fugard’s *Blood Knot* at The Complex Theater in Hollywood. He also directed *Cincinnati Man* at the Attic Theatre and *The Trip* at Friends and Artists Theater in Hollywood.

In addition to his many acting honors, Cheadle was nominated for a Grammy® Award in 2004 for ‘Best Spoken Word Album’ for his narration / dramatization of the Walter Mosley novel *Fear Itself*.

**KRISTEN BELL**  
**(Jeannie van der Hooven)**

KRISTEN BELL will be seen this February in the Universal Pictures film *Big Miracle*, opposite Drew Barrymore and John Krasinski. She also recently wrapped filming, *Movie 43*, for the Farrelly Brothers, which is being released in April. Currently, Bell is filming the feature film, *Outrun*, for director Dax Shepard. Her other film credits include *You Again, Burlesque, When In Rome, Couples Retreat, Forgetting Sarah Marshall, Pulse, Serious Moonlight* and David Mamet’s *Spartan*. Bell’s television credits include *Veronica Mars, Deadwood, Heroes* and *Party Down*. Her Broadway credits include *Tom Sawyer* and *The Crucible*, opposite Liam Neeson and Laura Linney. Her Off-Broadway credits include *Reefer Madness* and *A Little Night Music*, both at The Kennedy Center in New York and the Ahmanson Theatre in Los Angeles.

**BEN SCHWARTZ**  
**(Clyde Oberholt)**

BEN SCHWARTZ is an Emmy® Award winning writer, actor and comedian. His feature film credits include *Peep World* with Rainn Wilson, Michael C. Hall and Sarah Silverman; as well as *Everybody’s Fine* with Robert DeNiro. Additionally, he had a role in *The Other Guys*, starring Will Ferrell and Mark Wahlberg and directed by Adam McKay. On television, Schwartz guest stars as “Jean-Ralphio” on NBC’s *Parks And Recreation* and in 2010, he played series regular “Bill Hoyt” on J.J. Abrams’ one-hour spy drama *Undercovers* for NBC. Schwartz has been writing, directing and acting in his own short films for some time. He had his own

segment on HBO's *Funny Or Die Presents* called *Terrible Decisions With Ben Schwartz* and has appeared in multiple CollegeHumor.com sketches, including the popular web series *Jake And Amir*. Schwartz was nominated for two Emmy® Awards and won the 2009 Emmy® for 'Outstanding Writing For A Variety, Music Or Comedy Special' for co-authoring Hugh Jackman's opening number for the 81<sup>st</sup> Academy Awards®. Schwartz was recently hired by Paramount to re-make the 1991 classic comedy *Soapdish* with producers Rob Reiner and Alan Greisman. He also sold an original pitch to Universal based on an idea by Brian Grazer with Imagine Entertainment attached to produce. He has co-authored three humor books through Harper Collins: *Grandma's Dead: Breaking Bad News With Baby Animals*, *Why Is Daddy In A Dress?: Asking Awkward Questions With Baby Animals*, and *Maybe Your Leg Will Grow Back!: Looking On The Bright Side With Baby Animals*. Schwartz is an alumnus of the Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre and continues to perform there regularly. For more info, visit his website <http://RejectedJokes.com/>

**JOSH LAWSON  
(Doug Guggenheim)**

JOSH LAWSON, after graduating from the National Institute of Dramatic Art in Sydney in 2001, went on to star in a multitude of Australian television programs including *Sea Patrol*, *Chandon Pictures*, *Wilfred*, *All Saints*, *Home And Away*, *Underbelly*, *The Librarians* and the critically acclaimed, hit comedy improv series *Thank God You're Here*. His recent work in the upcoming film *The Wedding Party* earned him a 'Best Actor' award at the Los Angeles Movie Awards, and 'Best Actor' at the New York City International Film Festival.

During this time, Lawson was also part of the critically acclaimed improv comedy troupe "160 Characters", and toured around the world in various festivals with the company. He wrote award-winning plays, including *Shakespearealism*, *The 11 O'Clock* and *Work In Progress*, and also wrote for the multi-award-winning Australian sitcom *Stupid, Stupid Man*. In his brief time in the States, Lawson has starred in the ABC comedy *Romantically Challenged*, and led the soon-to-be-released feature films *Crave* and *Freeloaders*. Lawson made his directorial debut with his short film *After The Credits*, which he also wrote. This film won 'Best Comedy' at the LA Shorts Festival and was nominated for an Australian Writers Guild Award. Lawson is currently developing a new comedy series in Australia, as well as a play for the acclaimed Belvoir Theatre in Sydney. In January, he will be seen in the film *Any Questions For Ben?*

**DAWN OLIVIERI  
(Monica Talbot)**

DAWN OLIVIERI could be described as resilient yet tempered, honest and sincere, stunningly beautiful and an actress with undeniable raw talent. Over the

past five years, Olivieri has appeared in top television projects, including *How I Met Your Mother*, *Cold Case*, *Entourage*, *Las Vegas*, *Knight Rider*, *Stargate: Atlantis*, *Trust Me* and *My Boys*. Throughout 2009 and 2010, Olivieri starred in the farewell season of the award-winning NBC series *Heroes*, which gave her national and international recognition. She also appeared on the hit series *True Blood* in the summer of 2010 and can be seen with a recurring role in the hit CW series *The Vampire Diaries*, playing the new love interest of Ian Somerhalder's character "Damon Salvatore."

**GLYNN TURMAN  
(Jeremiah Kaan)**

GLYNN TURMAN, Emmy® Award winning actor, started his career at the tender age of 12 in the landmark Broadway production of *A Raisin In The Sun* with Sidney Poitier and Ruby Dee. He has performed in such plays as Athol Fugard's *My Children, My Africa*, *Ceremonies In Dark Old Men*, *What The Wine Sellers Buy*, *Eyes Of The American* and Turman's own autobiographical one-man show, *Movin' Man*. His many film credits include *Burlesque*, *Takers*, *Sahara*, *Kings Of The Evening*, *Men Of Honor*, *Deep Cover*, *Gremlins*, *J.D.'s Revenge*, *Light It Up*, *The Serpent's Egg*, *The Inkwell*, *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*, and the cult classic *Cooley High*. Turman was just recently seen in the J. J. Abrams and Steven Spielberg film *Super 8*, and will soon be seen in *John Dies In The End* and *The Obama Effect*.

In 2008, Turman scored his first Emmy® win as 'Outstanding Guest Actor in a Drama Series' for *In Treatment*. Other television series and roles include, *A Different World*, *Resurrection Blvd.*, *Big Apple*, *The Wire*, *The Defenders*, *Scrubs*, *Southland*, *FlashForward*, *In Treatment*, *CSI*, *The Bernie Mac Show*, *Law And Order: Criminal Intent*, *Buffalo Soldiers* and *Minstrel Man*. He's won three NAACP Image Awards, including a 'Lifetime Achievement Award for Theatre'; the 2010 Pan-African Film Festival Lifetime Achievement Award and the 2010 LA Stage Ovation Award for 'Outstanding Lead Actor' as "Memphis" in August Wilson's *Two Trains Running*; a Los Angeles Critics Award nomination, a Dramalogue Award and multiple NAACP Image Award nominations. Turman is currently working on his autobiography *Movin' Man*.

**MATTHEW CARNAHAN  
(Creator/Executive Producer/Writer)**

After ten years in New York working as a playwright and director (*Live Bait*, *Velvet Elvis*, *The Elephant Trainer's Apprentice*, *Snap*, *Dogamerica*, *The Knees Of A Cellist*), MATTHEW CARNAHAN received the Chesterfield Fellowship from Steven Spielberg. He went on to write *Driveaway* for Tom Hanks at Disney and to

adapt his play, *The Knees Of A Cellist* for MGM. He wrote and directed the short film, *Mailman*, produced by Sandra Bullock, which premiered at The Sundance Film Festival, and went on to 12 more festivals and a long run on Bravo. The following year at Sundance, Carnahan premiered his feature directorial debut, *Black Circle Boys* (written during the Chesterfield Fellowship), to critical acclaim. Carnahan's documentary about former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, *Rudyland*, won IDFA and Palm Beach and played on *Reel Life*, the HBO/Cinemax documentary series. His novel, *Serpent Girl*, was published by Random House in 2006 to rave reviews and three editions, then published in paper (as *Copping Free*). On television, Carnahan created the series *Trinity* and *Dirt* (starring Courteney Cox), which ran for two seasons. Carnahan is next slated to direct *Serpent Girl*, which he has adapted for the screen, and is currently working on his second novel, *Sweet Mary Sings At Midnight*.

**JESSIKA BORSICZKY**  
**(Executive Producer)**

JESSIKA BORSICZKY began her career in HBO's movie division going on to oversee some of the network's high profile and acclaimed projects including *If These Walls Could Talk* and *61\**, directed by Billy Crystal and starring Barry Pepper and Thomas Jane. Later, she ran director Jan de Bont's production company, Blue Tulip. Borsiczky followed up her tenure there as co-head of Gavin Polone's production company, where she produced a diverse slate of television pilots and series including the NBC drama mini-series *Revelations*, the highly-rated *The Sports Illustrated Swimsuit Model Search*, and the Cheech Marin comedy, *The Ortegas* for Fox. Her film work there included producing the horror film, *Population 436*, starring Jeremy Sisto.

Since forming her own production company, Refugee Productions, Borsiczky's projects have included *The Promotion*, a comedy written and directed by Steven Conrad starring John C. Reilly and Seann William Scott. Borsiczky most recently ran ABC's *FlashForward*, serving as an Executive Producer along with David S. Goyer and Brannon Braga.

**STEPHEN HOPKINS**  
**(Executive Producer)**

STEPHEN HOPKINS began his career designing, first as a comic book storyboard artist and then as an Art Director for numerous commercials and music videos. He then went on to direct music videos, commercials and stage plays in the U.S., Australia and Europe. Hopkins' feature film directorial debut was an Australian film titled *Dangerous Game*. He later directed *A Nightmare On Elm Street 5: The Dream Child*, *Predator 2*, *Judgment Night*, *Blown Away*, *The*

*Ghost And The Darkness* and *Lost In Space*. He directed the pilot for and served as a director and co-executive producer on the long-running series *24*. He was nominated for a Golden Globe® for 'Best Dramatic Series,' a DGA Award for 'Outstanding Directing' and two Emmy® Awards – one for directing and one for producing *24*. He also directed the pilot for CALIFORNICATION for SHOWTIME.

Hopkins also directed the critically acclaimed, Emmy®-nominated series *Traffic*; *The Life And Death Of Peter Sellers*, which was selected for the 'Palme d'Or' competition at the 2004 Cannes Film Festival and later was nominated for a record-breaking 16 Emmy® Awards and won six, including a 'Best Director' Award, a Critics Choice Award, two Golden Globe® Awards, a SAG® Award and a DGA Award nomination for 'Best Director.' Additional credits include *The Reaping*, *The Unusuals*, *Sleepyhead* (UK), *Pablo's Hippos* and *Seberg*.