

**Pathfinder Home Entertainment Presents**  
**A 2 Life! Films Production in association with Manticore Films**

# **RETURNING MICKEY STERN**

**a new old comedy.**

**WINNER: Grand Jury Prize – Best Feature**  
**Festival Internazionale Indipendente di Roma**  
**Rome, Italy**

**WINNER: Audience Award – Best Feature**  
**Tiburón International Film Festival**  
**Marin County, California**

**WINNER: Jury Prize - Best Debut Feature**  
**Long Island International Film Expo**  
**Nassau County, New York**

**DVD Distribution:**  
**Greg Hatanaka**  
**Pathfinder Home Entertainment**  
**310.664.0440**

**Format: 1:1.85    Running Time: 1 hour, 31 minutes    Sound: DTS Surround (Dolby SR)**



**MPAA #39513**

## **RETURNING MICKEY STERN**

***Mickey Stern remembers a time of big dreams and no regrets, a time when he had a few more hairs on his head and fewer in his ears.***

***1950:*** Mickey Stern (*Joshua Fishbein*), a wildly naïve 17 year old kid, discovers the magical Fire Island for the first time. There, he meets his true love, Leah (*Kylie Delre*), and courts her. Mickey wants the American Dream - to wear pinstripes as a New York Yankee, to find riches and fame and love, and to fight the "Commiss" in Korea. But, their love doesn't overcome everything, and he and Leah go their separate ways. Full of regrets, Mickey finds himself wishing he could turn back time...

***FIFTY YEARS LATER:*** Mickey (*Joseph Bologna*) still has dreams of playing for the Bronx Bombers and bringing the world's last remaining "Commiss" to justice. He returns to Fire Island with his best friend Harry (*Tom Bosley*), the New York Bagel Czar. Mickey discovers that the magic has not left Fire Island. He meets a young woman named Ilana, who bears an uncanny resemblance to Leah. But even more shockingly, he meets a young man who is, quite literally, a 17 year old version of himself. Michael Joshua Stern, the checkout boy at the Seaview Market, shares Mickey's name, his childhood appearance, and his stubborn-as-a-broken-down-mule personality. Michael is Mickey!

***This is Mickey's chance to right past wrongs, and he has just one week to do it. He teaches Michael how to become a better ball player and how to be a better man. But with slicked-back hair and hormones in maximum overdrive, Michael might not have what it takes to romance Ilana. Ultimately, Mickey discovers that love cannot be forced, it must be earned, and sometimes, love can be found in the strangest of places.***

## **ABOUT FIRE ISLAND, NEW YORK**

Fire Island is New York's colorful wonderland. Just 50 miles from Manhattan, this summer paradise, a spit of barrier beach off the coast of Long Island, was once feared by New Yorkers because of its reputation as a dangerous haven for Indians, pirates, and ghosts. Later, it became known for its rumrunners and its role as a World War II observation platform.

Fire Island is now known as a haven for vacationers seeking the "simpler life." Each community has a distinctive personality: among them, Ocean Beach is Fire Island's tourism lifeline where people of all ages dance the night away; Seaview is a family community with a large Jewish population and a synagogue founded by author Herman Wouk; Ocean Bay Park is the getaway of "group-rental time-share" singles; Point O'Woods is a private gated Christian community; Cherry Grove is the nation's first gay community; the Pines is home to movie moguls and millionaires. Despite Fire Island's diversity, its visitors universally bow to the needs of the National Seashore: there are virtually no cars—transportation is in the form of red wagons and bicycles. Dunes are sacred and must not be trampled, and deer roam freely. Fire Island is a world that holds on to the magic of a quaint yesteryear, when man was still ruled by the elements of nature.

## **ABOUT MICKEY STERN**

Mickey J. Stern was born July 5, 1932 in Poughkeepsie, New York. The son of a carpenter and a homemaker, Mickey began playing stickball at the age of four with a broomstick his father had fashioned. Two years later, the family moved to Mill Basin, Brooklyn, and he picked up the game of baseball immediately. He holds the all-time RBI record at Monroe High, a record that is more than 50 years old. The New York Yankees signed him the day he graduated from Monroe. He and Mickey Mantle were billed as the "Magnificent Mickeys" in the New York press, but Mickey Stern never ended up playing for the Bronx Bombers; the Korean War changed everything. Instead, he was sent to Boston in 1952 as a backup utility player for the Red Sox. His big-league career lasted seven months; a wild pitch by Sammy "The Cap" ended his stint with the Bosox. Depressed, Mickey coached high school ball for four years, and then became a professional magician. In 1971, he performed on "The Tonight Show," and he still performs every once in a while. Mickey currently spends his winters in Flushing, Queens, and his summers in Robin's Rest, Fire Island. If you ever see him, ask him to tell you his life story—this summary just scratches the surface.\*

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

***Returning Mickey Stern* was shot and printed in 35mm for under \$2 million, a shoestring budget for 35mm films. With a “run ‘n gun” shoot, we shot 75,000 feet of film, compared to millions of feet often shot for Hollywood films**

***Returning Mickey Stern* was the first 35mm feature comedy ever to be shot in Fire Island, New York. The Incorporated Village of Ocean Beach passed bylaws allowing movie production to take place there.**

**The island is a place of magic and romance. Many romantic relationships popped up among the crew and cast during principal photography, and a few endure to this day. Two crew members, who had never met before principal photography, eloped soon after production. Was it the magic of Fire Island? Hmmm...**

**Cars are not allowed on the island. As a result all equipment, cast, and crew were transported via golf carts.**

**The community of Ocean Beach was heavily involved with the production of *Returning Mickey Stern*, especially members of the Police Department and EMS. The film and equipment was stored in the local jail; after all, who breaks into jail?**

**Filming occurred before and after Rosh HaShanah, the Jewish New Year. The whole cast and crew participated in a New year’s feast prepared by Rachel Doering. At the Seaview Synagogue, Tom Bosley and Sarah Schoenberg were called to the *bima*—the podium—for an *aliyah*—an honor.**

**The film was shot almost entirely on Long Island.**

**The cast and crew came from several states including New York, New Jersey, Arizona, and California, and countries including USA, Canada, Israel, Great Britain, Hungary, Japan, Brazil, and Australia.**

**Principal photography lasted 19 days. The last day of principal photography was the director’s 26<sup>th</sup> birthday. The cast and crew gave him an autographed shirt as a birthday present. That, and a completed film.**

## **THE CAST OF RETURNING MICKEY STERN**

**JOSEPH BOLOGNA (Mickey) and RENÉE TAYLOR (Jeannie):** In 1965, Joseph Bologna married writer/actress Renée Taylor; they wrote the Broadway play "Lovers and Other Strangers," in which Joseph Bologna made his professional acting debut. They then collaborated on the screen version, which earned them their first Oscar nomination and critical acclaim. In 1971, the duo co-wrote "Made for Each Other," which marked Mr. Bologna's feature film acting debut. The feature was re-released in 1985 and has developed a tremendous cult following ever since. Bologna and Taylor received an Emmy Award for co-writing the television special "Acts of Love and Other Comedies." They wrote and co-starred in the HBO special "Bedrooms," for which they received a Writers Guild Award. In between writing projects, Joe Bologna's acting career flourished. His feature film credits include: "My Favorite Year," "The Women In Red," "Blame It On Rio," and many others. He was also seen playing Adam Sandler's father in the box office hit "Big Daddy." On TV, Joe made guest appearances on "The Nanny," playing the lover of Sylvia Fine, the Emmy-nominated role played by Renée Taylor, and they also "appeared" in "Dr. Dolittle 2" together. In addition to her role on "The Nanny," Renée Taylor has also appeared in such movies as "The Producers," and "White Palace" and recently appeared in the Billy Crystal-directed Home Box Office smash hit "61\*" as Babe Ruth's wife.

**TOM BOSLEY (Harry):** Tom Bosley's career has spanned more than 50 years in theatre, movies and television. In 1959, Tom won a Tony for his role as Fiorello LaGuardia in the namesake musical, "Fiorello!" Bosley was so famous that in 1961 he obtained 300 votes to be elected mayor of New York without being on the ballot. In 1962, Tom acted in his first movie "Love with the Proper Stranger", with Steve McQueen and Natalie Wood; he won the "International Laurel Award" for his performance. He also acted in "The World of Henry Orient" with Peter Sellers, in "Divorce American Style" with Debbie Reynolds and Dick van Dyke, and performed in episodes of "Bonanza", "Bewitched", "Get Smart", "Streets of San Francisco"; he was Teddy in "The Debbie Reynolds show" and "The Dean Martin Show" (1971-1972). His 11-year role as Howard Cunningham on "Happy Days" began in 1974, and he was nominated twice for an Emmy. After "Happy Days", Tom Bosley co-starred in "Murder She Wrote", as Sheriff Amos Tupper, from 1984 to 1988. From 1989 to 1991, he starred in "Father Dowling Mysteries" in the title role. He has returned to the theater in recent years, starring in Disney's long-running Broadway hit "Beauty and the Beast" and he starred as Captain Andy in "Show Boat."

**CONNIE STEVENS (Eloise):** In a career that has spanned over 30 years, Connie Stevens has gained worldwide popularity and recognition as a musician, producer, and actress. Connie was the first artist signed on the newly formed Warner Brothers Records. She recorded two mega-hits in the early sixties, "Kookie Kookie (Lend Me Your Comb)", a duet with Ed "Kookie" Burns, and the #1 album in the country in 1961, "Sixteen Reasons". Her role as Cricket Blake in the hit series "Hawaiian Eye" made Connie Stevens a household name. Connie's career as an actress began with roles in films like "Eighteen and Anxious," "Young and Dangerous," "Party Crashers," and "Rock-a-Bye Baby" with Jerry Lewis. Eventually these roles led to "Cricket Blake" in the TV series "Hawaiian Eye", which ran on ABC for four years. In the early 1960's, Connie appeared with heartthrob Troy Donahue in a series of films which include "Parish" and "Palm Springs Weekend". Connie later appeared in "Two on a Guillotine" and "The Grissom Gang". She then returned to the 1950s with a role in "Grease 2" starring Michelle Pfeiffer. Some of Connie's other films include "Back to the Beach", with Annette Funicello and Frankie Avalon, and "Tapeheads", starring Tim Robbins and John Cusack. On Broadway, she was Neil Simon's "Star Spangled Girl," starring with Anthony Perkins and Richard Benjamin. Connie has also been one of America's premiere live performers, headlining in Las Vegas for over 15 years and the larger theater venues all over the United States.

Four members of the younger cast were chosen on CastOurMovie.com, the first web site ever to invite the Internet audience to choose the stars of a movie. The worldwide audience chose Sarah Schoenberg as Dina, Kylie Delre as Ilana, Broadway star Michael Oberlander as Ben, and John Sloan as Joe. In addition, the young cast includes Joshua Fishbein as Michael, Broadway star Brett Tabisel as Young Harry, and two-time Emmy-nominee Kristina Sisco ("As The World Turns") as the Pretty Teen.

## **THE PRODUCTION STAFF BEHIND RETURNING MICKEY STERN**

**Michael Prywes (Producer, Writer, Director)** graduated from Northwestern University's Creative Writing for the Media Program, and also graduated from UCLA's Professional Screenwriting Programs. In 1996, he launched Chicagoland's "Jewish Theatre Ensemble" theater company (which recently co-produced a project with Steppenwolf Theater Company), earning him the Elie Wiesel National Prize for Jewish Arts and Culture. In addition to directing, the filmmaker also teaches "Screenwriting 101" at Queens College and St. John's University, and has been hosted as a guest lecturer at UCLA and NYU. *Returning Mickey Stern* is Michael's feature debut; it has been a Finalist for the LAIFF Grant Program and the Long Island Film Festival Best Script Competition, and won 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Long Island Film Foundation's Grant Competition. He is in development on *In Search of the Big Thallus*, *Mating Habit*, and *King of Summer* (both projects he has written), and an action-thriller for a studio.

**Victor Erdos (Producer)** is an honors graduate of the University of Toronto, as well as UCLA's Independent Film Producer's Workshop. Hailing from Canada as a stage actor and director, Victor is an accomplished performer in film, television and radio. He has been featured with such well-known acting professionals as Kevin Spacey and Denis Leary in Ted Demme's film *The Ref* and, playing the role of Bobby Kennedy, he co-starred with Patrick Dempsey in Harry Winer's ABC mini-series *JFK: Reckless Youth*. Victor's involvement behind the scenes has continued to grow since his arrival in Los Angeles in 1994. He has worked for such notable industry concerns as Walt Disney Feature Animation, Buena Vista Pictures Marketing, Warner Bros., Director/Producer (and fellow U of T graduate) Norman Jewison's Yorktown Productions.

**Jason Akel (Producer)** is an honors graduate of Northwestern University's film program where he received the department's top award. In 1994, he produced a short film entitled *T.T* (Gold Award at the Houston International Film Festival and the Silver Plaque at the Chicago International Film Festival). In 1996, he and Michael Prywes collaborated on a short film entitled "7<sup>th</sup> Grade Blues". Jason has worked at two studios, Turner Pictures and Pearson/All-American Television. Recently, he worked at Devin International, a successful independent production/distribution company. He oversaw critical aspects of the domestic theatrical release of one of the company's films, *Touch Me* (a top award-winner at the 1997 Toronto International Film Festival).

**Mark Smith (Director of Photography)** is a founding partner of E/S Pictures Incorporated. Mark has over twenty years of experience in the industry. He has worked extensively as a director of photography in 35mm film, beta cam, mini DV, and DV formats. Mark has also worked extensively as a producer of live and taped sports events for on-air broadcasts and cable networks. Some of his credits include Director of Photography for the following: *Returning Mickey Stern*, David Sigal's *The Look*, VHI's *Fan Club* (Red Hot Chili Peppers episode), *Sci Fi Happens* (promotional campaign that ran on the Sci Fi channel), *NCAA PSA Campaign for 1999 Final Four Tournament*, "24 Hours in a Bottle" (a behind the scenes look at the Tom Collins Tour of Champions) that aired on Turner Sports, *US Open Promotional Campaign* that aired on the USA Network, *1998 Winter Olympics Figure Skating Venue in Nagano, Japan* for Turner Broadcasting, *Turner Sports Olympic Features Unit* (spotlight on Olympic athletes), A & E Biography "Serpico" (one of the top 10 Biographies of the series) and as a cameraman for "On Hallowed Ground" (a documentary about street basketball that aired on Turner Broadcasting).

**Suzanne Pillsbury (Editor)** is a graduate of New York University's Film Program. She got her start on such Woody Allen movies as *Zelig* and *Hannah and Her Sisters*. Since then, she has worked on such notable films as *The Pelican Brief* and *Get Shorty*, and has edited many features including *The Bumblebee Flies Away* starring Elijah Wood and Jeanine Garafolo, and Abel Ferrara's *RX-Mas*.

**Joseph Brad Kluge (Executive Producer)** has worked in all aspects of film production and development. Among the many projects he has worked on: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Addams Family*, *Navy SEAL*, *Last Man Standing*, *True Colors*, and Castle Rock's recent production *Murder By Numbers*, starring Sandra Bullock. Joseph is a member of the Directors Guild of America.

**Cast (in order of appearance)**

Mickey Stern - Joseph Bologna  
Harry Mankelbaum - Tom Bosley  
Young Mickey/Michael - Joshua Fishbein  
Young Harry - Brett Tabisel  
Leah Ilana Rosenbloom - Kylie Delre  
Nurse - Charlotte Prywes  
Doctor - Arnie Prywes  
Older Leah - Joan Garnock  
Dina - Sarah Schoenberg  
Joe - John Sloan  
Jogger - Bernard Furmansky  
Ben - Michael Oberlander  
Pretty Teen - Kristina Sisco  
Soda Jerk - Josh Bitton  
Sales Woman - NaAma Ginat  
Bouncer - Ray Bressingham  
Lush - Robert Bressingham  
Jeannie- Renée Taylor  
Dr. Eloise Vanderwild - Connie Stevens  
Pick-up Artist - Jennefer Jenei

**Key Staff**

Writer, Director - Michael Prywes

Producers - Michael Prywes

- Victor Erdos  
- Jason Akel  
- Joseph Bologna

Director of Photography – Mark Smith

Editor – Suzanne Pillsbury

Composer – Jeff Jones

Executive Producers – Barry J. Charles

- Joseph Brad Kluge

Line Producer – Stacy Hope Herman

Associate Producer – Rebecca Breckel

Casting Director – Liz Lewis

Script Supervisor - Rebecca Breckel

Art Director - Nicole Pressly

Costume Designer - Jocelyn Worrall

Hair and Makeup - Kathleen Toner

Magic Consultant- "Magic" Al Garber

Production Sound Mixer - Anthony Viera

Rerecording Mixer - Tony Volante

Supervising Sound Editor- Doug Roberts

Wardrobe Provided by:

Beverly Hills Polo Club, Boss by I.G. Design, Fiorucci, Guess, Jockey, Kangol, Moe, Todd Oldham

Negative Matching - Noëlle Penraat, Inc.

Color Timing - David Pultz

Titles and Digital Opticals - HeavyLight Digital

**Featured Music:**

**“Cheers”**

Written by Roger Webb

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Don’t Make It Easy”**

Written by Eddie Jones

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“That’s All”**

Written by Ross Hardy/Brian White

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Heading Down The Road”**

Written by Alan Darby

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Party Party”**

Written by Alan Hamilton/Neil Angilley

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“It’s Brilliant”**

Written by Bill Baylis/Julie Tulley

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Got To Be Better”**

Written by Colin Kiddy

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Do You Know”**

Performed by Ron Sunshine and Full Swing

Written by Ron Sunshine and Craig Dreyer  
Published by Golden Bug Publishing (BMI) and  
Mighty Toad Music (ASCAP)

**“Party Mood”**

Written by Jack Trombey

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**“Reach Out and Touch”**

Written by Dermot Stewart

Courtesy of Rouge Music (ASCAP)

**“Who Do You Think You’re Fooling?”**

Written by Colin Kiddy

Courtesy of DeWolfe Music, New York, a division of Corelli/Jacobs Recording, Inc. (ASCAP)

**JEFF JONES’ S SCORE RECORDED AND MIXED BY STEVE PARRISH AT DESERT COAST PRODUCTIONS**

**MUSICIANS FOR ORIGINAL SCORE (COMPOSED BY JEFF JONES):**

Piano	PETE ELLISON
Piano	CHUCK LEICHNER
Bass	ADRIAN GOLDENTHAL
Percussion	JULIAN GOLDENTHAL
Percussion	ERMIRO DE SA
Steel Drums	STEVE BIGE

**\*The events and characters depicted in this motion picture are fictitious. Any similarity to actual persons, living or dead, or to actual events is completely coincidental.**

**But the magic is real.**

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