



CENTER FOR FILM, TELEVISION AND NEW MEDIA

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**NEW COMEDY STARRING: MICHAEL DOUGLAS AND ALBERT BROOKS**

**SPECIAL SCREENING TO BENEFIT  
UCSB CENTER FOR FILM, TELEVISION, AND NEW MEDIA**

***The In-Laws* Starring: Michael Douglas, Albert Brooks, Candace Bergen  
With special appearance by director, Andrew Fleming  
Thursday, May 22, 2003 at 7:30 P.M., Paseo Nuevo Theatre**

(Santa Barbara, Calif.) – After a series of dramatic films playing tortured lead roles, Academy Award-winning filmmaker/actor Michael Douglas must have relished the prospect of playing the simple role of a loving father of the groom. But the pre-wedding plans for *The In-Laws* are anything but simple. In this hilarious remake inspired by the 1979 hit comedy of the same title, *The In-Laws* is the story of two fathers with dramatically opposite lifestyles and personalities who are thrown together on the eve of their children's nuptials. The two prospective fathers-in-law, Steve Tobias (MICHAEL DOUGLAS) and Jerry Peyser (ALBERT BROOKS) suddenly find themselves embroiled in chaos and dragged into a series of perilous adventures that take the mismatched pair halfway around the world.

To best serve the fresh storyline, the producers tapped director **Andrew Fleming**, known for his work on such films as *Dick* and *The Craft*, to helm the project. Fleming, who was initially attracted by the story's irreverence, sees weddings as "a goldmine of comic inspiration. They become so complicated like giant machines that lurch forward on their own power. Even if the technical aspects come off without a hitch you're still left with two strange families that are supposed to instantly bond and love one another and that's rarely the case. We just took all that stress and emotional excess and amplified it by ten." Fleming was further enticed by the prospect of Michael Douglas and Albert Brooks as the combustible duo. "Weddings make people maniacal; they lose touch with reality," he says. "They're supposed to be solemn events but they usually end up as psychodrama. Having Michael and Albert at the core of all this psychodrama was just too good to pass up."

The film's Santa Barbara premiere (7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 22, Paseo Nuevo Cinema) benefits UCSB's Center for Film, Television, and New Media and the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

Tickets cost \$10 and are available at UCSB's Department of Film Studies (805-893-2347) and at the door. Director Andrew Fleming will be on hand at the screening to talk about the adventures of getting his film made and will take questions from the audience following the showing.

This screening is made possible by the generous efforts of UCSB alumnus Michael Douglas's production company, Furthur Films and Franchise Pictures. Theatre space has been donated for the event by Metropolitan Theatres. *The In-Laws* will be distributed by Warner Bros. Pictures, a Warner Bros. Entertainment Company.

The Center for Film, Television and New Media at UCSB is an interdisciplinary institute dedicated to research and teaching, based on the philosophy that film, television and new media are best studied in the context of a liberal arts education. If successful in our development efforts, the Center will be housed in a new building with state-of-the-art facilities capable of studying everything from silent films to the latest in digital media and satellite communications.