

**things you didn't know about**  
**GRATTON, CHAIR**  
**BOARD, CANADIAN**  
**MISSION FUND**

the age of 10, I have taken notes on all we seen. I make a point of screening all commercially released in Toronto. The list is year away from reaching 30,000 titles.

can sing the title songs from all 32 Elvis movies, in order of production.

Despite being a busy executive, I prefer to most of my meetings and appointments in Toronto, summer and winter, improving environment and my waistline in the bargain. is for my unusually casual and disheveled frequent minor injuries resulting from being 'doored' by taxis on a regular basis.

## IN THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

### FIRST-TIMER ALISON REID'S BABY SET FOR SUMMER RELEASE

*The Baby Formula*, set for release in English Canada through Grindhouse Media on July 10, is the first full-length feature from stuntwoman-turned-director Alison Reid and has an inspired story behind its conception. When Reid heard news that the two actresses from her 2006 short film *Succubus*, Angela Vint and Meghan Fahlenbock, were both pregnant at the same time, she saw it as a perfect opportunity to create a sequel to the short. That meant she had to develop a script, find a crew and film the movie all within 10 months – no small feat.

She immediately got to work, hiring Richard Beattie, with whom she co-wrote *Succubus*, "to crank out a script." She then shot sporadically for nine months, using a rotating roster of available crew.

"We did it as bare bones as we possibly could," explains Reid, "and we were sometimes scrambling

to get a crew together. Because it was shot during the course of their pregnancy, it was like the development period and shooting period of production were melded."

*The Baby Formula* tells the story of a lesbian couple who conceive babies using their own stem cells – no men required. It was a subject Reid became interested in after reading an article about mice being impregnated through the use of artificial sperm. Although the film explores the science of baby making, Reid makes it clear that the story is really about human emotion.

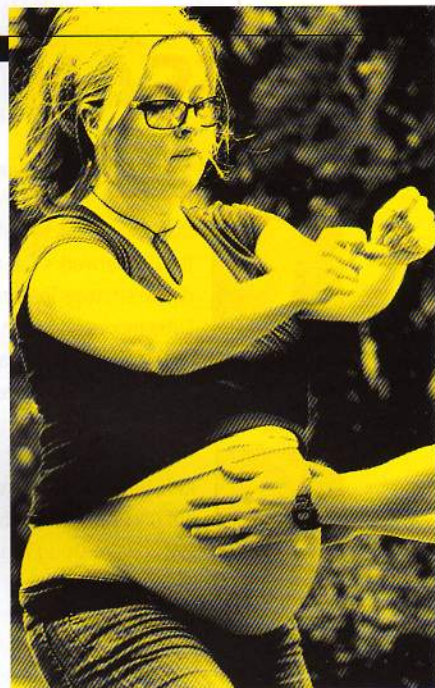
"The movie starts out about the science, but it ends up being about the family and the emotion. We are really all the same and have the same wants and needs no matter how we get there," she says.

The most intriguing aspect of this film is the way it manages to blur the line between fiction and reality. For instance, in the ultrasound scene, the actresses were looking at 3D images of their real babies. Because of moments like this, Reid was able to get very raw performances from the cast.

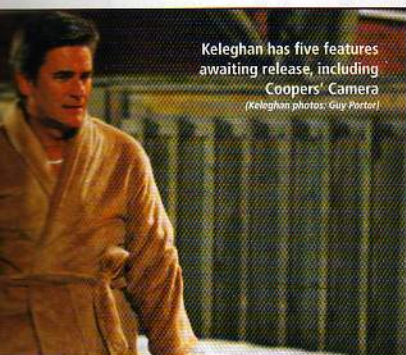
"The actors were dealing with real pregnancies, and they had real experiences to draw from. I definitely gave them full range to adlib. If you have good actors and you can give them freedom to use that creativity, then you can get some gems. We had some priceless moments that were generated by giving the actors freedom."

The film is produced through Toronto's Grindstone, which also has worldwide rights. It had its world premiere at the 2008 Montreal World Film Festival.

~ Amy Haggart



Angela Vint on set on *The Baby Formula*



Keleghan has five features awaiting release, including *Coopers' Camera* (Keleghan photos: Guy Porter)

and their true feelings for one another later in life. version, to be helmed in June in Northampton, will feature six real-life celebrity couples (including Michael and Pinsent, who have read it out loud and will have them drift from the text to addressing the camera about their actual relationships. à la *When*

of a teenage boy (Michael Seater) who, on a dare, marries his next-door neighbor (Stacey Farber).

Recent credits also include his role as a philandering millionaire father on Showcase's legal comedy *Billable Hours*, and voice-over work on the forthcoming Canwest primetime animated comedy *Producing Parker*, set behind the scenes at a TV talk show, and also featuring Kim Cattrall.

He is also fielding more phone calls after having opened himself up to the indie Canuck film world. He has recently shot five features awaiting release, including *Eating Buccaneers*, *The Bend*, *Gravy Train*, *Leslie*, *My Name Is Evil* (from *Monkey Warfare* director Reginald Harkema) and *Coopers' Camera*, turning down better-paying gigs for meatier roles and the chance to work with hungrier filmmakers.

"So much of the real cream is in some of those

Keleghan does a hilarious turn as smarmy Uncle Tim, who comes between his brother Gord (Jason Jones) and Gord's wife Nancy (Samantha Bee) on Christmas Day in 1985. The movie is currently slated for a Yuletide 2009 release through Boutique Films.

"I'm really lucky that we got him," says *Coopers'* director Warren Sonoda. "He just came in and was a true professional. He came in very ready. So many things happened and he was really calm and patient."

Sonoda also credits the actor's fearlessness. "He did a

**So much of the real cream is in some of those filmmakers who come up and have such driving ambition to make it good and will do anything to get it up there**

scene completely in his underwear. We didn't really talk about it. In the script, the character's in his underwear, so