

T.D. Jakes Releases *Jumping the Broom*

Just in time for Mother's Day, T.D. Jakes released *Jumping the Broom*—a new film that promotes love, happiness and strengthening family ties—over the weekend. Jakes joined forces with Tracey E. Edmonds, Curtis Wallace, Elizabeth Hunter and Glendon Palmer to produce *Jumping the Broom*, which is being released by TriStar, a Sony Pictures Entertainment Company.

Jumping the Broom is a romantic comedy about the clash between two families from different backgrounds during a weekend wedding. With wit and wisdom, *Jumping the Broom* explores the cultural and spiritual challenges of abstinence, motherhood, family and relationships, alongside themes of forgiveness, family secrets and misperceptions. The all-star cast includes Angela Bassett, Loretta Devine, Julie Bowen, Paula Patton, Laz Alonso, Mike Epps, Tasha Smith, Gary Dourdan, Valarie Pettiford, Vera Cudjoe, Meagan Good, Romeo Miller, DeRay Davis and Pooch Hall.

A new mom herself, leading-lady Paula Patton spoke about motherhood, support from her mom and making the decision to star as Sabrina in *Jumping the Broom*. "I read the script and I loved it," says Patton. "It was a hard decision because I had just had my son and I wasn't planning to go back to work so quickly. I talked with my mom and she decided to come on the road with me," she continued. "With the support of my mom and my husband, we were able to get through it and I am so thankful we made this movie. I love it."

Jumping the Broom is the third movie produced by T.D. Jakes, who has a first-look deal with Sony Pictures. Jakes' previous big screen credits include *Woman, Thou Art Loosed*, starring Kimberly Elise, Loretta Devine and Clifton Powell, and *Not*

Easily Broken, starring Taraji P. Henson, Morris Chestnut and Jenifer Lewis. In addition to producing *Jumping the Broom*, Jakes also has an on-screen role in the film as Pastor James, the minister who counsels Jason (Laz Alonso) and Sabrina (Paula Patton) and performs their wedding ceremony.

"This movie is appropriate for any person of faith," says Jakes. "There are inspirational factors in the movie that deal with real-world challenges within our culture, and yet it is funny and offers an opportunity to laugh, talk and share a wonderful dialogue with friends and family over Mother's Day weekend. I want everyone to come out and see it!"