

**Over 2 MILLION people are waiting to see how
THEIR movie came out...**

Returning Mickey Stern



Net surfers slip 'Mickey' a cast

Mar. 31, 2000

By Paul Bond

More than 2 million Internet users played casting director for the Joseph Bologna-Penny Fuller starrer "Returning Mickey Stern," the debut movie from independent 2Life! Films and the first movie to be cast in cyberspace.

Michael Prywes, Victor Erdos and Jason Akel, besides founding 2 Life! and producing "Returning Mickey Stern," also created the Web site CastOurMovie.com, and let visitors to the site choose four leading roles (HR 12/17).

The Web site included photos of the actors who competed for the parts, as well as audition video and a synopsis of the movie. When all was said and done, Internet users chose Kylie Delre, Michael Oberlander, Sarah Schoenberg and John Sloan to star.

Bologna and Fuller were cast by the producers, who are still looking to cast the teenage lead and one other role.

The Web site creators and film producers said that their "cybercasting" experiment was so successful that they're considering forming an online company for casting movies and TV shows.

"One of the wonderful things that have come from this has been the studios that have approached us," Erdos said.

One idea Erdos and company are considering is a CastOurEpisode Web site for television shows.

"Wouldn't it be great if fans of 'Friends' could cast a guest star of an episode?" Erdos said. "What a great way to further involve the audience."

"Returning Mickey Stern" is the story of Mickey, an idealistic, communist-hating teenager in the 1950s whose life a half-decade later hasn't quite worked out the way he planned. An older Mickey, played by Bologna, spends his days thinking about the past, until meeting a 17-year-old who is suspiciously similar to himself at that age.

The movie, which has a tentative \$2 million budget, will begin shooting in September for a January release.

CONTACT: JOSEPH BRAD KLUGE 818.505.1767

2 Life! Films, LLC in association with
6738 108th Street
Forest Hills, NY 11375
718.263.6985

MANTICORE FILMS
12400 Moorpark Street #1
Studio City, CA 91604
818.505.1767



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