



The Spiritual
Cinema Circle

CWG Films, LLC

Present

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

Based on the Conversations with God books by Neale Donald Walsch
Produced & Directed by Stephen Simon Starring Henry Czerny

Running Time: 109 minutes

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CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

THE CAST

NEALE DONALD WALSCH	Henry Czerny
LIORA	Vilma Silva
FITCH	Bruce Page
CHEF	Abdul Salaam el Razzac
CARLY	Zillah Glory
SUNNY	Ingrid Boulting
BOB	Joe Ivy
ROY	Michael Goorjian
SHARON	Carolyn Hennesy
OSCAR	Jerry McGill
GEORGIA	Ruth DeSosa

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

THE FILMMAKERS

Producer & Director
STEPHEN SIMON

Written by
ERIC DELABARRE

Based on the *Conversations with God* books by
NEALE DONALD WALSCH

Executive Producer
GAY HENDRICKS

Film Editor
SHERRIL SCHLESINGER

Composer
EMILIO KAUDERER

Director of Photography
JOAO FERNANDES

Production Designer
RENEE PRINCE

Costume Designer
MURIEL STOCKDALE

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

PRODUCTION NOTES

Adapted from the books by Neale Donald Walsch, that inspired and changed the lives of millions worldwide, CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD tells the true story of when, at the lowest point in Walsch's (Henry Czerny) life, he asked God some very hard questions. The answers he got from God/within became the foundation of an internationally acclaimed book series, that has sold over 7 million copies and been translated into 34 languages. The film chronicles the dramatic journey of the down and out Walsch, who inadvertently becomes a spiritual messenger and best-selling author.

Industry veteran and producer/director Stephen Simon had long aspired to bring CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD to the screen. "My film career has been dominated by the quest to make films out of three extraordinary books -- the first two as a producer and the third as producer/director," he says. "First, it was SOMEWHERE IN TIME, which took almost 5 years from the time I first read it, until the film was released. Next, WHAT DREAMS MAY COME took almost 20 years. Now, CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD has been in my head and most importantly, my heart for almost 10 years. For the past decade, I have dreamed of making Neale's very emotional, provocative and surprising journey into a movie. As a filmmaker, my guiding principle has been that this film had to be from and of the heart."

Over the past ten years, Neale Donald Walsch received offers to turn his book and life story into a film. He turned them all down. However, due to his enthusiasm for WHAT DREAMS MAY COME, the Academy Award-winning film that Simon produced in 1998, the two became friends. Walsch says that Simon has an "extraordinarily high level of artistic integrity, vision and willingness to collaborate," and therefore, he finally agreed to have his story told on the big screen.

Principal photography on CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD began November 7, 2005. It was shot over the course of five weeks in and around beautiful Ashland, Oregon and the nearby Rogue Valley.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

ABOUT THE CAST

HENRY CZERNY (Neale Donald Walsch)

One of Canada's most respected dramatic actors, Henry Czerny has earned acclaim on stage, television, and in feature films, both in his native land and in Hollywood. Born and raised in Toronto, Czerny cut his professional teeth on Shakespearean and classical theater following his graduation from Canada's National Theater School in 1982.

His blood-chilling portrayal of a priest running an orphanage for young boys in the 1993 CBC-produced miniseries "The Boys of St. Vincent," provided Czerny with the needed star-making turn. In 1994, the critically acclaimed role earned Czerny a 1994 Canadian Gemini award for "Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Dramatic Program or Miniseries."

He got his break in Hollywood after playing a father in the CBS tele-movie "Ultimate Betrayal: The Rodgers Sisters Story," (1994). Shortly thereafter, he was cast as the manipulative and clever chief of CIA operations opposite Harrison Ford in CLEAR AND PRESENT DANGER (1994). Czerny has subsequently kept very busy, appearing in Canadian and Hollywood feature films and in television movies. His film credits include JENIPAPO (1995), MISSION IMPOSSIBLE (1996), THE ICE STORM (1997), KAYLA (1998), THE EXORCISM OF EMILY ROSE (2005), FIDO (2006) and THE PINK PANTHER (2006). He is currently on location in Ireland shooting "The Tudors," a 10-part series for Showtime.

VILMA SILVA (Liora)

A company member of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival since 1994, Silva has played Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, Celia in *As You Like It*, Rosaura in *Life Is a Dream*, Viola in *Twelfth Night*, Queen Anne in *The Three Musketeers*, Lise in OSF and Kennedy Center productions of *The Magic Fire*, and Yolande and Lynx in *Daughters of the Revolution* in the OSF and Berkeley Repertory Theatre productions and the touring productions to Birmingham Repertory Theatre in England, the Barbican Theatre in London and the La Jolla Playhouse, in San Diego, CA.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

She has also performed various roles at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Dallas Theater Center, The Group Theatre (Seattle), American Conservatory Theater, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, San Jose Repertory Theatre, El Teatro Campesino, and Sundance Institute Playwrights Lab.

On television, she has played Zenaida in "Redwood Curtain" Hallmark Hall of Fame, (1995), and Pamela Mossman in "A Cry in the Night," NBC, (1991).

BRUCE PAGE (Fitch)

After a thriving career as a high school teacher, Bruce Page returned to acting, something he'd loved in college, in 1990. Working primarily out of the Boston area, he concentrated on film. In 1996, after roles in several independent films, stage shows, and a few commercials (most notably an ESPN spot for the initial Extreme Games), he and his family moved to the West. Shortly thereafter, an offer to star in a limited run, Off-Broadway show brought him and his family back East. He did several stage shows within a short period. Next, Clint Eastwood cast him in MYSTIC RIVER (2003), he landed the starring role in an Italian production RING OF THE BISHOP (2004), and most recently, Phillip Noyce and Blake Masters cast him in the Showtime series "Brotherhood."

ABDUL SALAAM EL RAZZAC (Chef)

A founding member of the African-American Penumbra Theater in St. Paul, Minnesota, Abdul has directed productions at the Beverly Hills Playhouse, Zephyr Theater, Los Angeles Theater Company, and Glaxa Theater and is a company member of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

He earned the Los Angeles *DramaLogue* Award for best director for Oliver Mayer's *Joe Louis Blues*, an NAACP Image Award for his performances as Toledo in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom* and Spencer in *Etta Jenks*, and he also received a Los Angeles Drama Critics Award for Toledo in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*.

He has also appeared on popular television shows such as "Martin", "Star Trek: The Next Generation," "General Hospital," "Becker" and "Frasier" among others. On the big screen, Abdul has acted in PRETTY WOMAN (1990), 8 MILE (2002), GLORY (1989), MALCOLM X (1992), TERMINATOR 2: JUDGEMENT DAY (1991) and more.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

ZILLAH GLORY (Carly)

The eldest of seven children, Zillah grew up in a small town in Minnesota and now enjoys life on the road as an actress touring for theatre companies. She has performed in many musicals and theatre productions. Some of her favorite roles include: Maggie in *Cat On A Hot Tin Roof*, Beatrice in *Much Ado About Nothing*, Alex in *On The Verge* and Reggie Fluty in *The Laramie Project*. Zillah currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina and appears nightly in the Queen City's equity hit, *Shear Madness*.

INGRID BOULTING (Sunny)

Ingrid Boulting spent the first seven years of her life in South Africa. After a move to London at the age of 15, a fashion editorial for *Bazaar* magazine launched her successful modeling career. She worked with some of the greatest photographers such as Richard Avedon (in whose books she appears), David Bailey, Irving Penn and more.

She soon followed the family tradition of her father (film director and producer John Boulting) when at age 18 she began touring in repertory with the Oxford Playhouse. She acted on stage, in TV and films with actors such as Orson Wells, Lawrence Harvey, Olivia de Haviland, Nicole Williamson, and starred opposite Robert DeNiro in *THE LAST TYCOON* (1976).

She gave up her acting career soon after her daughter was born, and settled in Ojai, California with her family. *CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD* marks her return to the silver screen.

JOE IVY (Bob Friedman)

Joe Ivy has been a performer and a director in theatre, and an actor in film for over 30 years. As a member of AEA, SAG, and AFTRA, he has directed or appeared in over 60 plays and more than 35 film and television productions. He is also a familiar face in commercials.

Over the course of his lengthy career, he has won awards too numerous to mention. Joe has been married to a costume designer/actress for 20 years and has a son who is currently attending college.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

MICHAEL GOORJIAN (Roy "The Morning Boy")

Michael's is a familiar face in American living rooms, where he was a regular guest star on the television series "Growing Pains" (1985) and then as a regular on the ABC hit show "Life Goes On" (1989). At age 22, he snagged his first Emmy Award for Best Supporting Actor as an autistic boy in the CBS TV movie "David's Mother" (1994). The next morning, he was signed to join Nicolas Cage and Elisabeth Shue in LEAVING LAS VEGAS (1995). Also in 1994, Michael began a successful three-year run in the role of Justin Thompson in "Party of Five."

In 1997, he took leave of the "Party" scene to become a filmmaker. He wrote and sold screenplays and starred in movies such as SLC PUNK! (1999), SOMETHING MORE (1999), and THE INVISIBLES (1999), which he co-produced. His latest effort, ILLUSION, starring Kirk Douglas, which Goorjian wrote, directed and also stars, and HAPPILY EVER AFTER, both premiered on the festival circuit in 2004. ILLUSION took 1st Place Feature and the Audience Choice Award at the Spiritual Cinema Circle's first annual Festival-at-Sea, 2005.

CAROLYN HENNESY (Sharon)

Carolyn Hennesy is a Los Angeles native who trained at the American Conservatory Theatre and Royal Academy of Dramatic Art. She was the recipient of the 2000 Natalie Schafer Award for Outstanding Comedic Actress, as well as The Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle and Ovation Award for her work in the play "The Fan Maroo."

She has been in over 100 theatrical productions spanning the LA regional and international theater scenes. Carolyn is a familiar face on television with regular, guest star and recurring roles on "Girlfriends," "Misconceptions," "Barbershop," "Life of Leisure," "What I Like About You," "Half and Half," and "That '70s Show."

Her feature films include, BULL RUN, OUTTA SYNC, TERMINATOR 3, LEGALLY BLONDE 2, THE POLAR EXPRESS and WAVE BABES.

Carolyn is also an accomplished writer and currently is awaiting the publication of her series of Young Adult novels: "Pandora: A Chronicle of Miss-Adventures."

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

JERRY McGILL (Oscar)

Jerry McGill is an actor, writer, filmmaker and quadriplegic whose life path it is to help people with disabilities become featured more prominently in the media.

At 16-years-old, Jerry McGill became the youngest member of the National Theatre Workshop of the Handicapped (NTWH). In an actors' benefit performance of "A Christmas Carol," he starred as Tiny Tim, opposite Christopher Reeve.

Shortly thereafter, McGill left the NTWH for the 52nd Street Project, another theater company in Manhattan, where he became the company's first actor with a disability. There, he found himself working with such performers as Lili Taylor, Frances McDormand and Martha Plimpton.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD marks McGill's film debut.

RUTH DeSOSA (Georgia)

Ruth DeSosa is a multi-lingual Air Force "kid" who went to thirteen schools and two universities in the US and abroad. Her travels kept her very interested in different cultures and languages and also fueled her desire to communicate through acting.

She began her professional career in the theater working for nine years and performing in back-to-back shows, playing diverse roles from drama to comedy and back again.

Currently, Ruth is working regularly in all theatrical mediums: voice-over, stage, film, TV, cartoons, and commercials. One of her favorite roles was playing young Indiana Jones' mother in George Lucas' TV series, "The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles."

Ruth resides in the multi-cultural Historic West Adams district of Los Angeles in a 1909 craftsman home which will soon be listed in Los Angeles' Historic Register.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS

STEPHEN SIMON (Director / Producer) was mentored by Hollywood greats such as Ray Stark and Dino De Laurentiis. He is a highly regarded and well-respected veteran producer in his own right, with over 30 years experience in the entertainment industry. He has produced and/or supervised the production of more than 20 motion pictures and has presided over three major Hollywood production companies.

Simon's feature film work includes the Academy Award® Winning **WHAT DREAMS MAY COME** (starring Robin Williams and Cuba Gooding Jr.), the classic **SOMEWHERE IN TIME** (starring Christopher Reeve and Jane Seymour), **ALL THE RIGHT MOVES** (starring Tom Cruise) and **BILL AND TED'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE** (starring Keanu Reeves), among many others.

For the smaller screen, his television credits include executive producer of the Emmy® nominated made-for-television movie "From Homeless to Harvard: The Liz Murray Story" and the executive producer of "The Linda McCartney Story."

Simon is also an author. He wrote **The Force Is With You: Mystical Movie Messages That Inspire Our Lives** (Hampton Roads, 2002), and he co-wrote **Spiritual Cinema: A Guide to Movies That Inspire, Heal, and Empower Your Life**, (Hay House, 2005) with Gay Hendricks, both of which are indispensable works on the genre of "spiritual cinema."

In addition, he is a co-founder and spokesperson of Cinema Circle, Inc., the parent company of The Spiritual Cinema Circle, a monthly DVD subscription service for motion pictures, and the Transformational Book Circle, a monthly book club.

NEALE DONALD WALSCH'S (author **Conversations with God**) life was transformed when in 1992, he fired off an angry letter to God, asking the questions from his heart. To his great surprise, he received an answer. This divine dialogue lasted for over three years and became a book that has astounded seekers all over the world with its simplicity and truth. The dialogue continued and has now expanded into five volumes of wisdom and insight.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

Neale Donald Walsch has been a newspaper reporter and managing editor, a radio station program director, public information officer for one of the nation's largest public school systems, creator and owner of his own advertising and marketing firm and a nationally syndicated radio talk show host. He has now "retired" from his career in communications arts to pursue his vision of a world in which people no longer live in fear of God or of each other.

Walsch travels extensively throughout the world, speaking to audiences and sharing the messages of the **Conversations with God** material. His newest book is **Home with God, in a Life That Never Ends**, published by Simon and Schuster.

GAY HENDRICKS (Executive Producer) is the author of twenty-plus books in the areas of relationships, business and personal transformation including such bestsellers as **Conscious Loving** and **The Corporate Mystic**. With his wife of twenty-five years, Dr. Kathlyn Hendricks, he has co-founded several organizations including The Hendricks Institute, which offers seminars in relationship transformation and body-mind wellness.

Dr. Hendricks, along with Stephen Simon, is one of the founders of The Spiritual Cinema Circle, which offers inspiring features, shorts and documentaries to members around the world each month.

ERIC DELABARRE (Screenwriter) began his career with Executive Producer Dick Wolf on NBC's *Law & Order*. After six years with *Law & Order*, Eric left Universal Television to become a freelance writer/director. He went on to write, produce and direct "*Stop the Cycle*," a national anti-smoking commercial for the American Lung Association. Subsequently, DelaBarre was nominated for Best Director in the national commercial category for the *ITS Monitor Award*.

In 1999, he wrote, produced, and directed his debut film *Kate's Addiction* and was awarded Filmmaker of the Future at the Newport Beach International Film Festival. His work has been seen on HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, Starz, Encore, and the USA Network.

More recently, DelaBarre's debut book, *Why Not: Start Living Your Life Today* has been endorsed by NY Times best-selling authors Mark Victor Hanse and John Gray as well as *ABC News*, *Awareness Magazine* and *Publisher's Weekly*.

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

SHERRIL SCHLESINGER (Film Editor) began working in film in the mid-1980's in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. In the budding entertainment industry of southern Africa she had the opportunity to work in production and post-production on both international and local features films. In 1990, Schlesinger relocated to Los Angeles and has worked as an editor, visual effects editor and post-production coordinator/supervisor on features and documentaries. She has also cut theme park films, working with 70mm circle vision and 3D-animation, and included IT'S TOUGH TO BE A BUG (It's A Bug's Life spin-off) for Disney and Pixar.

EMILIO KAUDERER (Composer) Latin Grammy award winner Emilio Kauderer's film credits include the score CULTURE CLASH IN AMERICCA directed by Emilio Estevez, GOD BY MOMO directed by Leo Ricagni and Adolfo Aristarain's A PLACE IN THE WORLD which was nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film. In collaboration with Stewart Copeland, Kauderer composed the main title song and additional music for Showtime's "Dead Like Me" series, a 2004 Emmy nominee for best score.

Kauderer was the recipient of the Sundance Institute's Fellowship to the Composer's Lab. He also was honored by the New York's Jewish Heritage Museum when they selected him as the composer of the music for the museum's main exhibit.

JOAO FERNANDES (Director of Photography) is a native of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. He has lived in the U.S. for the last 35 years, first in New York where he attended New York University Film School, then in Los Angeles and now in Ashland, Oregon.

As a director of photography, over the years he has worked in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and the U.S. on some 18+ feature films including ONE MAN'S HERO with Tom Berenger, GIDEONS WEB with Charlton Heston and Carroll O'Connor and ROAD TO GALVESTON with Cicely Tyson and Piper Laurie, as well as fifteen television movies and three television series.

RENEE PRINCE (Production Designer) left academia for show business after earning a graduate degree researching dolphin intelligence and the nature of consciousness. She worked as an art director, set decorator, scenic artist, and sculptor on over thirty feature films including THE ABYSS, PACIFIC HEIGHTS, WHAT THE BLEEP DO WE KNOW, INDIGO, ROSE RED, ARMY OF DARKNESS and ALAN QUARTERMAIN AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD. She

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD

also worked on the popular television series "The Wonder Years," as well as Madonna's controversial music video for the hit single, "Like a Prayer."

MURIEL STOCKDALE (Costume Designer) has enjoyed a varied career in the entertainment industry for over 26 years and has created outstanding costumes for some of the finest producers of film, TV and live entertainment. Among these are Disney, CTW, NBC, CBS, PBS, ABC, Elizabeth Ireland McCann, The Public Theatre and dozens of U.S. and European regional theaters.
