

JAMIE
HECTOR

OBBA
BABATUNDÉ

WOOD
HARRIS

ROGER GUENVEUR
SMITH

N'BUSHE
WRIGHT



JOY ROAD

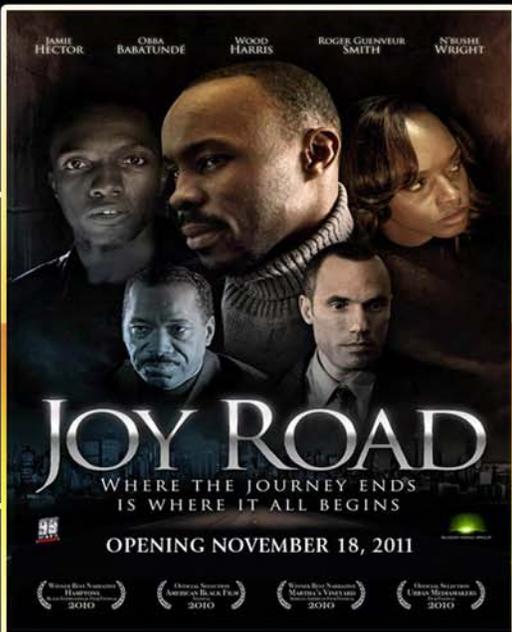
WHERE THE JOURNEY ENDS
IS WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

MEDIA PACKET

P R E S S R E L E A S E K I T

WWW.JOYROADMOVIE.COM

EMAIL INQUIRE: JOYROADTHEFILM@GMAIL.COM



NARRATIVE FEATURE—88 MIN
DIRECTED BY HARRY DAVIS

SYNOPSIS

A GRITTY URBAN DRAMA, **JOY ROAD**. STARS **WOOD HARRIS** (*THE WIRE*) AS **TONY SMALL**, AN ATTORNEY WHO IS A HAPPY PART OF THE EMERGING URBAN MIDDLE CLASS IN **DETROIT**.

BUT THEN HIS SISTER, **NIA'S** (**NE'BUSHE WRIGHT**, "*BLADE*"), BOYFRIEND, **BIG BOY** (**CHRISTIAN "TRICK-TRICK" MATHIS**) IS ARRESTED FOR MURDER; **TONY'S** COMFORTABLE LIFE SEEMS TO UNRAVEL.

FORCED TO RETURN TO THE STREETS THAT HE FOUGHT SO HARD TO ESCAPE, **TONY** HAS TO DEAL WITH AN OLD NEIGHBORHOOD NEMESIS, **FLIP** (**JAMIE HECTOR**, "*THE WIRE*") WHO CAUSES HIM TO ASK WHO REALLY RUNS THE STREETS.

MORE THAN JUST A RIVETING DRAMA, **JOY ROAD**. EXPLORES IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FOR **BLACK AMERICA**. SUCH AS, THE CONCEPT OF THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX AND ASKS HOW FAR WILL GLOBAL CORPORATIONS GO TO MAKE THEIR PRISON BUSINESSES A SUCCESS?

OR, IN A CITY LIKE **DETROIT**, WHERE THE WEALTHY, WORKING CLASS AND STREET THUGS ARE ALL **BLACK**, WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THERE IS NO ONE TO BLAME WHEN THINGS GO WRONG BUT **US**?

OR, AS IS SAID IN THE FILM, "OUR LEADERS USED TO COME FROM THE SCHOOL, NOT IT'S THE STREETS—THAT'S BECAUSE THOSE WHO WENT TO SCHOOL... NEVER CAME BACK." WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUNG URBAN PROFESSIONALS ABANDON THE NEIGHBORHOODS OF THEIR BIRTH?

JOY ROAD. EXPLORES WHAT HAPPENS WHEN **TONY SMALLS** HAS TO GO BACK TO THE STREETS WHERE HE WAS RAISED TO LEARN HOW TO TRULY BE HIS OWN MAN.

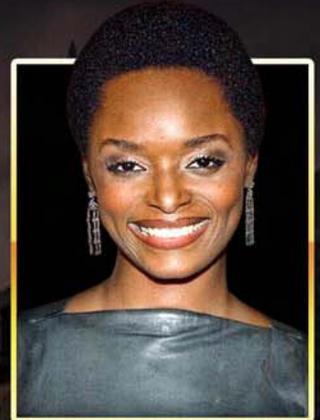


The Cast



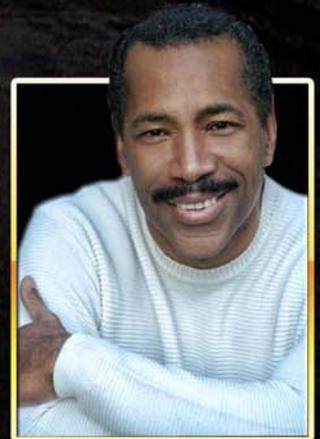
WOOD HARRIS (BORN OCTOBER 17, 1969) IS AN AMERICAN ACTOR, PERHAPS BEST KNOWN FOR HIS ROLES AS AVON BARKSDALE IN THE HBO TELEVISION DRAMA THE WIRE AND AS JULIUS CAMPBELL IN THE MOTION PICTURE REMEMBER THE TITANS

NEW YORK NATIVE N'BUSHE WRIGHT ATTENDED THE MANHATTAN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS. SHE TRAINED AS A DANCER AT THE PRESTIGIOUS STUDIOS OF ALVIN AILEY AND MARTHA GRAHAM.



ROGER GUENVEUR SMITH, THE AWARD WINNING ACTOR AND WRITER MAKES HIS DIRECTORIAL DEBUT IN 2004 WITH WHO KILLED BOB MARLEY, PRODUCED ON LOCATION IN JAMAICA BY STEVEN SODERBERGH. SMITH STARRED IN SODERBERGH'S INNOVATIVE HBO SERIES K.STREET. THE ACCOMPLISHED ACTOR WILL ALSO APPEAR IN DIMENSION FILMS' "SHADE WITH SLYVESTER STALLONE AND JAIME FOXX.

OBBA BABATUNDÉ (BORN DECEMBER 1, 1951) IS AN AMERICAN ACTOR OF STAGE AND SCREEN, KNOWN FOR HIS EMMY-NOMINATED PERFORMANCE IN THE TELEVISION MOVIE MISS EVERS' BOYS, A NAACP IMAGE AWARD-NOMINATED PERFORMANCE IN THE TV MOVIE INTRODUCING DOROTHY DANDRIDGE, AND A TONY AWARD-NOMINATED ROLE FOR HIS PERFORMANCE AS C.C. WHITE IN THE ORIGINAL CAST OF THE 1981 BROADWAY MUSICAL DREAMGIRLS.



JAMIE HECTOR (BORN OCTOBER 7, 1975) IS AN HAITIAN-AMERICAN ACTOR WHO IS KNOWN FOR HIS PORTRAYAL OF MARLO STANFIELD ON THE CRITICALLY ACCLAIMED HBO SERIES THE WIRE.

Harry Davis

PRODUCER DIRECTOR



filmmaker who brings his intellectual insight, unique perspective and eye for the disempowered to bear when telling the stories that otherwise go untold.

OPENING NOVEMBER 18, 2011



AMC Empire 25, 234 West 42nd St., New York, NY - (888) 262-4386



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PRESS RELEASE

NEW URBAN DRAMA CHALLENGES THE PRISON INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

‘JOY ROAD’ debuts in New York Friday, November 18 at the AMC Empire 42nd Street, Director, Harry Davis’ Hybridization of Humanism and Realism

A defense attorney in Detroit, desperate to leave his career behind, is begged by a relative to represent, the alleged leader of the city’s most notorious gang.

New York, NY -- Approximately 150 of the nation’s leading, critics, celebrities, Media, film makers, academics and investment firms will be brought together by Blazar Media Group for a special screening and to share in Producers: Kevin Edwards, Karin Chien, Charles A. Murphy III, George N’Namdi, Steven Traylor, Michael Phillips and Harry Davis’ ‘JOY ROAD’ Opening on, Friday, November 18, 2011, two movie showings per day, at the AMC Empire, 234 West 42nd Street, New York, NY 10036-0000, <http://www.joyroadmovie.com>, 212-405-2204 or mp@blazarmediagroup.com. At heart of the film and more pertinent today than ever, we discover “What happens when there is no one else to blame but us?”

Written by Jack Haigis, Harry Davis and Greg Pak. co-starring Roger Guenveur Smith, N’Bushe Wright and Obba Babatundé this urban drama, JOY ROAD, stars Wood Harris, star of the critically-acclaimed television drama “The Wire,” as a defense attorney forced to take on a client that he doesn’t want, his sister’s thug boyfriend, Big Boy who stands accused of murder. Played cleverly by rapper, Christian “Trick Trick” Mathis, Big Boy challenges everything that Harris’ character, Tony Small, thinks about himself, his comfortable middle class life, and the rough neighborhood that he left behind. The film is named after the long-stretching Wayne County thoroughfare and is set on Detroit’s west side, Joy Road.

Harris’ character, Tony Small, is pulled back into the neighborhood he worked so hard to escape. Believing in the system and its minions would only work against Tony as he faces off against an old neighborhood nemesis,

Flip (Jamie Hector, The Wire), who is all too clear about who he is and what he stands for. But who really controls the Criminal Justice System in Detroit? Are the gods Tony prays to who he thinks they are? And who really runs the streets? Tony must find answers to these questions as he navigates a spellbinding and emotionally charged journey back to his old neighborhood, Joy Road.

JOY ROAD was a winner at the Martha’s Vineyard African American Film Festival, The Hamptons’ Black International Film Festival, was selected as one of Blackvoices.com, “5 Films to See in 2011.”

“JOY ROAD’s theme of the price that must be paid when a family is divided – is universal.” – Actor, Wood Harris

JOY ROAD will debut in New York on, Friday, November 18, 2011, two movie showings per day, AMC Empire, 234 West 42nd Street, NY, NY 10036, http://www.fandango.com/joyroad_148906/movieoverview Arrangements for the Opening are being handled by Blazar Media Group. For further information, contact Michael Phillips, 212-405-2204 or mp@blazarmediagroup.com, <http://www.joyroadmovie.com>.