Written by Robert ID1130 Thursday, 07 April 2005 11:53 -

Luda as "Anthony" in

"Crash" May 6th

On May 6th the movie Crash will be released. This dynamic feature brings us a distinguished cast including: Sandra Bullock, Don Cheadle, Matt Dillon, Jennifer Esposito, William Fichtner, Brendan Fraser, Terrence Howard, Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, Thandie Newton, Ryan Phillippe and Larenz Tate.

This is the directing debut of Academy Award® nominated writer/producer Paul Haggis ("Million Dollar Baby") from a story by Paul Haggis and a screenplay by Haggis and Bobby Moresco. CRASH is produced by Cathy Schulman, Don Cheadle, Bob Yari, Mark R. Harris, Bobby Moresco and Paul Haggis.

While super hot hip-hop rap artist Chris "Ludacris" Bridges has been embraced by music fans all over the world, he has become one of the most sought-after rising stars in the film industry.

With his debut performance as Tej in the John Singleton directed 2 FAST 2 FURIOUS, Ludacris has excelled in acting and has proven that the hip-hop rap artist in him is only one of his many talents. Ludacris next starts work on the Craig Brewer directed HUSTLE & FLOW, starring alongside Terrence Howard, DJ Qualls, and Anthony Anderson.

For the rap artist turned actor Chris "Ludacris" Bridges, sharing the screen with such an accomplished ensemble cast was not as daunting as it was exciting.

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"I was the freshman of the group," says Ludacris, who plays the car-jacker Anthony. "So, basically I am soaking it all in. I just try to absorb everything that's going on and learn from these talented actors and actresses that are out here doing their thing on this movie."

"I was really impressed with Chris," says writer/director Paul Haggis.

Producer Schulman calls Ludacris "a superstar and the great, great discovery of this movie. He's been a pleasure and I think the camera loves him. He has worked his butt off to do this role and might really surprise some of his fans."

Aside from first-timer Ludacris, Haggis wanted to take other risks in casting, believing that actors playing against type would further underscore the emotional impact of the words they say. "These actors are playing characters you haven"t seen them do before. It's wonderful to watch."

Schulman adds, "I expected that they would have fears of having to do such negative, morally reprehensible things, and the truth is they embraced it with the same professionalism and skill and talent that they approach easier and friendlier roles. They committed entirely and never for a moment brought the person, the star, into the equation."

A Brentwood housewife and her DA husband. A Persian store owner. Two police detectives who are also lovers. An African-American television director and his wife. A Mexican locksmith. Two car-jackers. A rookie cop. A middle-aged Korean couple...

They all live in Los Angeles. And during the next 36 hours, they will all collide...

Challenging and thought-provoking, Lions Gate Films' CRASH takes a provocative, unflinching look at the complexities of racial tolerance in contemporary America. Diving headlong into the diverse melting pot of post-9/11 Los Angeles, this compelling urban drama tracks the volatile intersections of a multi-ethnic cast of characters' struggles to overcome their fears as they

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careen in and out of one another's lives. In the gray area between black and white, victim and aggressor, there are no easy answers...

Funny, powerful, and always unpredictable, CRASH boldly reminds us of the importance of tolerance as it ventures beyond color line and uncovers the truth of our shared humanity.

Visit the Crash web site HERE

Watch the trailer and be sure to check out this movie May 6th.