



## CORPORATE PROFILE

Established in 1987 by Joseph Pierson and Jon Glascoe, CYPRESS FILMS, INC. is an independent New York-based television and film production company. Since its inception, Cypress has written, financed, produced, directed and/or distributed more than forty hours of popular, award-winning programs for television markets worldwide, including half a dozen made-for-cable movies and one miniseries.

Cypress was founded twelve years ago with the partners' screenplay adaptation of Dylan Thomas' classic prose poem *A Child's Christmas in Wales*. The film, for which the company raised all of the financing, was released by PBS to instant critical acclaim, sold profitably throughout the world, and has gone on to become a staple of holiday programming watched by millions each year.

In 1989, Cypress successfully closed an international distribution deal with which the company, in partnership with Atlantis Releasing, deficit-financed and produced dozens of hours of television, including the Emmy-winning *Lost in the Barrens* for the Disney Channel, and TNT's four-hour miniseries *The Sound and the Silence*, winner of the CableAce for "Best International Movie or Miniseries."

The success of those films attracted the attention of the private-placement investment community who helped finance several more projects; among them, *Sodbusters*, starring Kris Kristofferson (Atlantis/Showtime), *Julian Po* (Fine Line), starring Christian Slater and Cherry (Showcase), starring Shalom Harlow.

In 1995, Cypress developed, co-produced and co-financed Kurt Vonnegut's short story *Harrison Bergeron* as a feature-length film for Showtime. The movie, starring Sean Astin, Christopher Plummer and Buck Henry, was cited by Mr. Vonnegut as "important as the best work of the sorely missed Paddy Chayefsky." The *New York Daily News* called it "the best telemovie of the year."

In 1997, Cypress developed and produced *Julian Po*, an independent feature film distributed by Fine Line and New Line International. The film, starring Christian Slater and Robin Tunney, made a widely praised debut in competition at the Deauville International Film Festival and was released on 75 screens nationally. *Variety* hailed *Julian Po* as "a beautifully controlled fable whose profound underpinnings are buoyed by luminous comic timing." *Julian Po* is now available on video.

In 1999, Mr. Glascoe and Mr. Pierson co-produced and co-directed *Cherry*, an independent romantic comedy starring Shalom Harlow, David McCallum, Aleksa Palladino, Heather Matarazzo, Laurel Holloman, Donovan Leitch and Isaach de Bankolé. *Cherry* premiered at the Los Angeles Independent Film Festival on April 18, 1999 and is being distributed internationally by Showcase Entertainment. Janet Maslin of the *New York Times* called *Cherry* a "funny, warmhearted...easygoing date movie." After a limited theatrical release in New York in late 1999, *Cherry* was released on video exclusively at Blockbuster Video stores nationwide and on the Sundance Channel.

Most recently, Mr. Pierson directed *EvenHand*, a drama about cops in a small fictional Texas city. *EvenHand* was shot on location in San Antonio, Texas in March 2001 and stars Bill Sage and Bill Dawes.

The company's long-term goals are to develop and produce a manageable number of programs simultaneously; to keep overhead low; to influence the markets for those shows; to balance the predictable returns of television with the upside potential of theatrical movies; to maintain a share of copyright; and to keep making modestly budgeted, high quality, concept-driven films for a worldwide marketplace in the environment of an experienced and stable company.