

Kimberly Hardin
Casting Director
BIOGRAPHY

Kimberly Hardin is a veteran casting director whose career spans over two decades in the entertainment industry and embodies an array of film and television projects, many of which helped launch the careers of some of Hollywood's leading urban talent. Her films are known to not only garner commercial success, but crossover success as well as critically acclaimed. To date, films Hardin has cast have grossed more than \$1 Billion Dollars Worldwide.

Currently she is finishing a film set to shoot in Australia in the fall starring Alexander England and Lupita Nyong'o from the Production Company Made Up Stories and Snoot Films. Kim has completed another film from the Producer's of Snoot as well.... Written by and Starring Daveed Diggs titled: "Blindspotting". Upon Completing that she jumped into a horror film for Blumhouse coming out in the fall as well called "Vengeange". The cast is full of young up and coming talent that will sure to be our future stars. Also, Coming out in 2018 from Lionsgate is "Traffik" Starring Paula Patton, Omar Epps, Laz Alonso, Roselyn Sanchez and Missi Pyle.

Ms Hardin discovered 3 of the top Series Regular's in the Hit TV Series "Snowfall" for FX which was Created, Written and Directed by John Singleton for the original pilot (Damson Idris, Sergio Peris-Mencheta, Malcolm Mays). She also discovered Danielle Monet Truitt for Mr. Singleton's other TV Series "Rebel" which also starred Giancarlo Esposito and Mykelti Williamson for BET.

In 2016 she cast the International Critical acclaim book turn film "Double Play", directed by Ernest Dickerson. Not only did she find talent from countries like Finland, London, and France, but also cast all local talent of 35 other roles on the Island of Curacao where the film was shot.

Hardin was the first to be hired to cast the Epic story of "Tupac" when Director Antoine Fuqua was originally attached. And was brought on once again when Director John Singleton was hired.

Although both directors walked away from the project, the talent she found for this tremendous role of 2 Pac (Marquis Rosales) was able to be used in the hugely successful film “Straight Out of Compton”. Director F. Gary Gray (with whom she cast his very 1st Film “Friday”, thanked her for this find.

Last year’s 2016 nominations for the NAACP Image Awards included her film “Brotherly Love” in 2 categories. Best Independent Film. Best Actress in a Leading Role. Queen Latifah was producer on both this film and “The Perfect Match” which Hardin also cast.

“Kicks” (Which Launched Kofi Siriboe and Starred Mahershala Ali) shown at the Tribeca film festival last year was quoted by Robert DeNiro to be “his favorite film of the festival that year ”.

Hardin cast Sony/Screen Gems ensemble hit “Think Like A Man,” based on Steve Harvey’s New York Times bestselling book of the same title, which grossed \$95 million, and its sequel, “Think Like A Man 2”.

Additional film credits include: the ensemble film for Sony/Screen Gems “This Christmas,” Tyler Perry’s “Madea Goes To Jail,” his highest grossing film to date for Lionsgate which netted \$90 million at the box office; the period drama “Cadillac Records” for Sony Pictures starring Adrien Brody, Jeffrey Wright, Beyonce, and Mos Def which songs were nominated for both Golden Globe and Grammy awards and won 7 other awards and 19 nominations; “Not Easily Broken,” for Sony/Screen Gems produced by T.D. Jakes and directed by Bill Duke; “Brooklyn to Manhattan,” an independent film starring Sean Faris, Clayne Crawford and Evan Ross; and she served as casting consultant on Sony’s hit “Karate Kid,” starring Jaden Smith, Jackie Chan and Oscar nominee and now Golden Globe winner, Taraji P. Henson.

Hardin is also a two-time collaborator with writer/director Craig Brewer, having served as casting director on his critically acclaimed independent hit “Hustle and Flow,” which received the Sundance Audience Award in 2006 and an Oscar nomination for the film’s star, Terrence Howard among other awards. Hardin also cast Brewer’s follow-up film “Black Snake Moan,” for Paramount Pictures, starring Samuel L. Jackson, Christina Ricci, Justin Timberlake and David Banner.

In earlier work, she collaborated with John Singleton, on “Hustle and Flow,” which he produced, and “Baby Boy,” a cult classic starring Tyrese Gibson and Taraji P. Henson which she discovered both.

Other work with Singleton include “Four Brothers,” for Paramount Pictures starring Mark Wahlberg, Tyrese Gibson and Andre 3000 and “High Learning,” starring Omar Epps, Michael Rappaport, Ice Cube, Cole Hauser and Jennifer Connelly in one of her 1st leading roles, for Columbia Pictures.

Among her casting credits include: “CB4” starring Chris Rock, Ice Cube’s hit films “Friday” and “Next Friday,” the hit film “2 Fast 2 Furious,” for Universal Pictures prior to it becoming a mega franchise, “ATL” for Warner Bros. Starring T.I., Lauren London, Keith David and “Deep Cover,” for New Line starring Laurence Fishburne and Jeff Goldblum, “Jason’s Lyric,” starring Jada Pinkett Smith in her first leading role, and Forest Whitaker. She also cast “Biker Boyz” starring Laurence Fishburne, Derek Luke and Meagan Good.

Hardin is most known for her keen eye for talent. Some of the careers she has helped launch are the following: Taraji P. Henson, Channing Tatum, Terrence Howard, Chris Tucker, Halle Berry, Jennifer Lopez, Tyrese Gibson, Ludacris, Jorge Garcia, Chris Kattan, Gabrielle Union, Meagan Good, Lauren London, Cedric the Entertainer, Derek Luke and Michael Rappaport just to name a few. She was also the first to introduce Idris Elba to Hollywood upon his first visit to Los Angeles. She personally took him to major Studio heads of casting to help him on his journey to stardom.

In 2015 she was brought out to South Africa to be the guest judge for a new show entitled “Top Actor” – South Africa which is a #1 show for that country. Hardin chose the Winner of the competition.

Also of note, in 2001 Hardin served as Director of Talent Development, Programs and Casting for ABC Television in what was a new undertaking. There, Hardin helped search for, hire and develop talent for the network’s primetime shows. Diversity showcases at all networks used her example from then to today.

As of 2017, Ms. Hardin is now a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures In addition to her membership to CSA

