



## **PRODUCTION INFORMATION**

The pack is back!

The all-new animated adventure, "The Ice Age Adventures of Buck Wild," continues the hilarious escapades of the beloved sub-zero heroes from the wildly successful global "Ice Age" franchise as they create more prehistoric pandemonium.

The Disney+ Original movie features the voices of Simon Pegg ("Mission: Impossible – Fall Out"), Utkarsh Ambudkar ("Free Guy"), Justina Machado ("One Day at a Time"), Vincent Tong ("Ninjago") and Aaron Harris, and is directed by John C. Donkin ("Ice Age: Continental Drift" and "Rio 2" producer). It is written by Jim Hecht ("Ice Age: The Meltdown," "Ice Age: The Great Egg-Scapade"), Ray DeLaurentis ("Fairly Odd Parents," "Bunsen is a Beast") and Will Schifrin ("T.U.F.F. Puppy") from a story by Jim Hecht, with Lori Forte (the "Ice Age" franchise) serving as executive producer.

### **A NEW ARCTIC ADVENTURE**

The thrill-seeking possum brothers Crash and Eddie have grown restless in Snow Valley. They need plenty of wide-open space to practice their extreme stunts and are eager for a bit of independence. Their older sister, the woolly mammoth Ellie, is over-protective and worries too much. Still, Eddie and Crash are like sons to Ellie and Manny (her woolly mammoth husband), whom they met following a devastating flood, and they have bonded to become a make-shift family.

Crash and Eddie sneak off to find a place of their own but soon find themselves trapped beneath the ice in the Lost World, an incredible and immense underground cave inhabited by dinosaurs and an assortment of unusual creatures. It is a land of danger, and one Ellie has forbidden them from ever visiting again, but they are rescued by their one-eyed weasel pal Buck Wild. Buck is the loveable, eccentric dino-whisperer and guardian of the Lost World and somewhat of a role model to the danger-seeking duo. For Buck, life is about the survival of the fittest, and Crash and Eddie are two creatures uniquely unfit to survive. Until now, Buck has lived a solitary existence



by choice, and he has no interest in that changing anytime soon, but he lets them tag along as he attempts to flee a big-headed dinosaur named Orson and his raptor posse. Once upon a time, Buck banished Orson to Lava Island, and now Orson is back and looking for revenge.

Together, they meet some new friends, including a carnivorous plant named Brenda and an unusually talented zorilla named Zee. Buck's female counterpoint, Zee, quickly befriends Eddie and Crash and teaches them to appreciate their resourcefulness and courage. As Manny and Ellie, with the help of Sid and Diego, search for the boys, Eddie and Crash join forces with Buck and Zee and embrace their newfound powers to help save the Lost World from dinosaur domination.

## **THE PREHISTORIC PERSONALITIES**

Comedy and loveable characters are mainstays of the "Ice Age" films. The characters narrowly escape power-hungry animal pirates and confront primitive humans, not to mention dangerous run-ins with seductive sirens, adorable mini-sloths and vicious sea monsters. They do it all with their own characteristic blend of humor and silliness.

Buck Wild, a beloved character from the previous films, checks off these boxes with flying colors! Simon Pegg, who has starred in hit independent films like "Shaun of the Dead" and "Run Fatboy Run," as well as blockbuster franchises like "Star Trek" and "Mission: Impossible," is the voice of Buck Wild. A one-eyed weasel with a thirst for adventure, especially when it comes to hunting dinosaurs, Buck's thrill-a-minute lifestyle has finally caught up to him, as he has evoked the wrath of the dinosaur Orson, who wants revenge.

"Buck is charismatic, funny and eccentric," says executive producer Lori Forte. "He's an explorer and adventurer who has been on his own in the Lost World for so long that he has a tentative relationship with reality at best. His only real relationships are with inanimate objects like pineapples, boulders or tree stumps, and he couldn't be happier. He even adopted a baby pumpkin named Bronwyn."

Director John C. Donkin adds, "Buck is the protector and peacekeeper of the Lost World, something he takes very seriously, even though he doesn't take himself too seriously. He has a strong moral compass and an unflappable optimism that is only matched by his loyalty. With profound respect for the Lost World, he loves that it's wild, dangerous and free. It's un-tameable. Unpredictable. Just like Buck."

Crash, one-half of the thrill-seeking twin brother possums, is voiced by Vincent Tong, whose credits include the T.V. show "Ninjago" and "My Little Pony: The Movie." Crash is hyperactive and fond of extreme sports. A loud-mouth daredevil prankster, Eddie is voiced by Aaron Harris, who, like his twin brother, wants to lead a life of adventure like Buck Wild.



Utkarsh Ambudkar, whose most recent films include “Free Guy” and “tick, tick...Boom!,” is the voice of the big-headed, egomaniacal dinosaur Orson, who wants to rule the Lost World. With his raptors at his side, Orson seeks revenge on Buck Wild, who banished him to Lava Island.

Justina Machado (“One Day at a Time,” “Six Feet Under”) is the voice of Zee, a zorilla often mistaken for a skunk with some slick moves and a killer scent (which has become her super-power). Zee is Buck’s female counterpart and someone with the courage to stand up to Orson and his unruly raptors. While looking after Eddie and Crash, she instills in them a sense of confidence and purpose.

“Zee is as graceful as she is powerful and independent, and she has a dedication to the Lost World itself, which is what Buck likes about her,” says Donkin. “He has that in common with her, but emotionally she is far more evolved than Buck. And unlike Buck, she is rooted firmly in reality. She carries with her a mission of justice and equality along with a mad set of skills.”

Manny, voiced by Sean Kenin Elias-Reyes, is a grouchy curmudgeon with a heart. The woolly mammoth is a devoted husband to Ellie and, begrudgingly, a father to Crash and Eddie. Big-hearted but dim-witted and foul-breathed, Sid, as voiced by Jake Green, is a sloth who is often clumsy and annoying.

Dominique Jennings is the voice of Ellie, the sweet woolly mammoth raised as a possum sister to Eddie and Crash. She is married to Manny and acts as the mother to her younger brothers. A saber-tooth tiger and pal to Manny and Sid, Diego, voiced by Skyler Stone, was at one time a fierce hunter.

## **REINVIGORATING THE FROSTY FRANCHISE**

Set in prehistoric times at the beginning of the Ice Age, the films in the “Ice Age” franchise revolve around a core group of colorful and unique creatures that walked the earth at that time. The vast, ice-covered landscape in which these extraordinary inhabitants reside is stunningly beautiful but filled with danger, and these mammals, both majestic and slothful, come together as a make-shift family to care for and protect one another.

“From the very first ‘Ice Age,’ we defined the concept of a *herd* as family. But, more importantly, our herd is a family that does not need to be related by blood,” says executive producer Lori Forte. “In film after film, we introduce many disparate and colorful characters who, ultimately, become part of the herd. As this diverse family continues to grow in size, their relationships evolve as well.”

“Our films center around the dynamics between family and friends -- what drives them apart and, more importantly, what keeps them together,” says director John C. Donkin. “And who doesn’t love to watch the evolution of a funny, loveable, yet dysfunctional family?”



“The Ice Age Adventures of Buck Wild” has more of everything audiences loved about the first five “Ice Age” films: more comedy, more action, more spectacular visuals, and more memorable new characters. The adventures, which have run the gamut from environmental threats like a meltdown or the continents splitting apart to an asteroid heading for earth, are primarily the backdrops against which the characters’ issues play out. The true journey at the heart of every “Ice Age” movie is always the characters’ personal stories and their emotional stakes.

The majority of the action takes place in the Lost World, a strange and fantastical place and a dino-eat-dino-eat-mammal world. “It is wild and powerful and as if it is frozen in time yet, still evolving,” says Donkin. “Who wouldn’t want to visit a world filled with super-sized reptiles, carnivorous plants and endless new dangerous places to explore, like the *Chasm of Death*, where you can laugh yourself out of existence? What other geological oddities, mysterious creatures or strange hybrids might be lurking in the Lost World? The possibilities are endless.”

While everyone knows dinosaurs did not exist during the Ice Age, the filmmakers have fabricated a world where some dinosaurs have survived and live underground in the Lost World. The myth was first introduced in the first film where Sid comes across many animals, including a dinosaur, trapped in ice and frozen in time.

“Ice Age” defrosted the box office when it hit theaters in the Spring of 2002, grossing over \$380 million worldwide. A series of successful films followed, as did a number of short films and television specials. To date, the “Ice Age” franchise has amassed more than \$3.2 billion worldwide at the box office.

The “Ice Age” franchise titles are currently available on Disney+. They include:

#### THEATRICAL FEATURE FILMS

- “Ice Age” (2002)
- “Ice Age: The Meltdown” (2006)
- “Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs” (2009)
- “Ice Age: Continental Drift” (2012)
- “Ice Age: Collision Course” (2016)

#### TELEVISION SPECIALS

- “Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas” (2011)
- “Ice Age: The Great Egg-Scapade” (2016)

### **IT’S TIME TO GET BUCK WILD!**

“The Ice Age Adventures of Buck Wild” begins streaming on Disney+ January 28, 2020.



## ABOUT THE TALENT

**SIMON PEGG (Buck Wild)** co-wrote and co-starred (as Tim Bisley) in the worldwide acclaimed cult television show "[Spaced](#)." After two groundbreaking seasons, he developed and co-wrote, with Edgar Wright, the critically praised feature "[Shaun of the Dead](#)," starring as the eponymous hero, Shaun. The film has since been voted one of the best British comedies ever made by many, including [Empire Magazine](#) and Channel 4.

After conquering zombies, award ceremonies and the rest of the world, Pegg and Wright reprised their debut movie success with the smash-hit follow-up feature, "[Hot Fuzz](#)," in which Pegg starred as über cop Nicholas Angel. Pegg then went on to star in the David Schwimmer-directed feature film, "[Run Fatboy Run](#)," and as the anti-hero, Sidney Young, in "[How to Lose Friends and Alienate People](#)," alongside Kirsten Dunst and Jeff Bridges.

Simon Pegg and Nick Frost returned to the screen together in their co-written feature film "[Paul](#)," with a cast that included Seth Rogen and Sigourney Weaver and also completed the final installment of their 'Three Flavours Cornetto Trilogy' in style with "[The Worlds End](#)," once again directed by Edgar Wright, which received unanimous critical acclaim worldwide.

Pegg's other notable credits include Steven Spielberg's "[The Adventures of Tintin](#)"; John Landis' "[Burke & Hare](#)"; voicing Reepicheep in "[The Chronicles Of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader](#)"; and Buck in "[Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs](#)" and 2016's "[Ice Age: Collision Course](#)." He was also seen boldly going into the J.J. Abrams-directed global hits "[Star Trek](#)" and "[Star Trek: Into Darkness](#)," playing the iconic role of Montgomery Scott (Scotty) as well as co-writing and starring in 2016's "[Star Trek Beyond](#)."

He also reprised his "[Mission: Impossible 3](#)" role of Benji Dunn twice more in the global blockbusters, "[Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol](#)" and "[Mission: Impossible - Rogue Nation](#)." Pre "MI - Rogue Nation," Pegg kicked off 2015 with the much talked about modern rom-com "Man Up," starring alongside Lake Bell and taking an executive producer role. He also had a very well kept secret role in the all-conquering "[Star Wars: The Force Awakens](#)," playing junkboss Unkar Plutt, as well as having a behind-the-scenes role as a sounding board for Abrams.

2018 saw Pegg take on dual duties as both Ogden Morrow and the voice of The Curator in Steven Spielberg's hugely successful adaptation of Ernest Cline's novel "[Ready Player One](#)," as well as once again putting on his "M.I." team hat (and mask) as Benji Dunn in the worldwide smash hit, "[Mission: Impossible - Fallout](#)."

Pegg and Frost also announced the birth of their new production company, Stolen Picture, with their first major release being the brand new Amazon Prime ghost-hunting series "[Truth Seekers](#)." With recent roles such as a much talked about cameo in Amazon Studio's adaptation of popular comic-book series "[The Boys](#)" and the voice of The Chamberlain in Netflix's "[The Dark Crystal: Age Of Resistance2](#)," Pegg also starred alongside Juno Temple in Katharine O'Brien's intimate look at the devastating impact of mental illness in "Lost Transmissions." He has



just wrapped the next installment of “Mission: Impossible,” and commenced shooting “The Undeclared War” for Channel 4, alongside Mark Rylance.

2021 proved to be quite a year for multi-hyphenate **UTKARSH AMBUDKAR (Orson)**, one of the freshest, smartest, most relevant voices in the business right now. He currently stars as Jay, the one character who can’t see or interact with the spirits that haunt his new home in the acclaimed single-camera CBS comedy “Ghosts.”

This summer, Ambudkar appeared in the 20th Century feature, “Free Guy,” opposite Ryan Reynolds, Taika Waititi, Jodie Comer, Joe Keery and Lil Rel Howery, and he also joined the casts of the critically acclaimed Netflix series “Never Have I Ever” and “Special.” Next year, Ambudkar will be seen in Universal’s romantic comedy “Marry Me,” starring Jennifer Lopez.

Ambudkar’s film credits include the Sundance darlings “Blindspotting” and “Brittany Runs a Marathon.” In the latter, Ambudkar is the romantic lead to the titular character (Jillian Bell), an underachieving hot mess of a 27-year-old woman who decides to take control of her life -- one New York City block at a time. His features resume also includes Universal’s “Ride Along 2” with Kevin Hart and Ice Cube, with whom he also co-starred in “Barbershop 3,” “Game Over Man!” “The Broken Heart Gallery” and “Godmothered.”

A rapper and creative force from a young age, Ambudkar was an original member of The Beatards, a NYC-based underground hip-hop group (early aughts) that performed alongside acts like Santigold, Azealia Banks, G-Eazy, Public Enemy, Questlove and more. His work with the Beatards eventually helped Ambudkar land the role of Donald, a member of the competitive Treblemakers in “Pitch Perfect,” with Anna Kendrick, Elizabeth Banks and Rebel Wilson.

Following “Pitch Perfect,” Ambudkar snagged the role of Rishi in “The Mindy Project.” More recently, for television, he played Raj, a young, charismatic announcer pitted against Hank Azaria’s Brockmire in the second season of the IFC series. Ambudkar’s television credits also include Showtime’s “White Famous,” where he regularly stole scenes as a Hollywood agent; “House of Lies,” with Don Cheadle; TNT’s “Legends”; a recurring arc on ABC’s “The Muppets”; and a guest role on Hulu’s anthology series, “Dimension 404.”

In 2016, Ambudkar played Apu’s nephew Jay, the first Indian-American actor to lend his voice to “The Simpsons.” A year later, in comedian Hari Kondabolu’s documentary “The Problem with Apu” (2017), Ambudkar discussed the cultural ripple effects of one of the few South Asian characters on T.V.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Ambudkar trained at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. While in New York, he acted in various plays and received a Lucille Lortel Award nomination for his work in “Animals out of Paper,” by Rajiv Joseph at the Second Stage Theatre.



Originating the role of Aaron Burr in the developmental readings of “Hamilton,” Ambudkar later reunited with Lin-Manuel Miranda as part of the improvisational rap group Freestyle Love Supreme, named in tribute to the John Coltrane jazz suite. Accompanied by keyboards and beats, the group performs spoken and sung numbers that are created in real time based on suggestions from the audience. The group performed at a variety of festivals and venues around the world, and episodes ran on Pivot in 2014 and Seeso two years later. Ambudkar and his cohorts reconvened for Freestyle Love Supreme’s Broadway run at the Booth Theater to rave reviews. Thomas Kail (“Hamilton,” “In the Heights”) directed and produced along with Miranda, Jill Furman and Jon Steingart. The filmed version recently garnered a GRAMMY Award® nomination.

Ambudkar’s debut album “Vanity” dropped in 2019 and was quickly followed by “Petty.” In 2020, he released “The Misfits EP” and single “Self Respect.” His brand of raw and melodic hip-hop addresses race, the first-generation immigrant experience, politics and Hollywood and also features Ambudkar’s old rap crew, including Miranda, “Blindspotting’s” Daveed Diggs and Rafael Casal, and a variety of South Asian artists such as Das Racist’s Heems, Brooklyn Shanti, Kaly and Samora Pinderhughes.

A talented and versatile actress, **JUSTINA MACHADO (Zee)** continues to endear audiences and earn critical acclaim for her work on stage, television and film. Machado starred in the hit comedy “One Day at a Time,” a re-imagining of the Norman Lear classic, opposite Rita Moreno. The Emmy Award®-winning series follows three generations of a Cuban American family living under one roof. Machado plays Penelope, a newly single war veteran raising her two children with the help of her mother (Moreno). In 2018, Machado earned her first Critics’ Choice Television Award nomination. She was also awarded two Imagen Foundation Awards for best actress and one for best voice-over actor, and the show won for best comedy. Machado and “One Day at a Time” both earned Broadcast Film Critics Association award nominations in 2019.

Machado is well-known for her role as Vanessa Diaz on HBO’s “Six Feet Under,” which ended its five-season run in 2005 with an impressive accumulation of award nominations and wins, including a SAG Award® for outstanding performance by an ensemble in a drama series.

Additionally, Machado appeared alongside Gina Rodriguez as Darci Factor in CW’s Emmy Award®-nominated comedy series “Jane the Virgin,” and voiced the character Carmen in Disney’s animated series “Elena of Avalor.”

In film, Machado was recently seen in Lifetime’s “Switched before Birth” and in Netflix’s “All Together Now.” Subsequent films include “The Purge: Anarchy,” which was released by Universal, Bernard Tevenier’s “In the Electric Mist,” opposite Tommy Lee Jones, “The Accidental Husband” opposite Uma Thurman, and the independent film “Pedro,” which debuted at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival.

Machado has worked extensively on stage in Chicago where her thespian career began. Her early theatrical credits include more than 20 productions. In 2009, Machado made her Broadway debut in the Tony Award®-





winning musical “In the Heights,” starring Lin-Manuel Miranda. In 2010 Machado joined the production of award-winning director George C. Wolfe’s “A Free Man of Color.”

Additional television credits include “Superstore,” “Queen of the South,” “Grey’s Anatomy,” “Ugly Betty,” “E.R.,” “Welcome to the Family,” “Private Practice,” “Desperate Housewives,” “Devious Maids,” “The Fosters” and “Murder Police.”

In animation, Machado can be heard “The Ice Age Adventures of Buck Wild,” Adult Swim/HBO Max’s “Tuca & Bertie,” Dreamwork’s “Dragons: The Nine Realms” for Hulu and Peacock, and Disney Jr.’s “Pupstruction.” Previously, she has voiced roles in “Scoob!” and “Harley Quinn,” among others.

Machado currently lives in Los Angeles.

**VINCENT TONG’s (Crash)** career began on stage performing in “West Side Story,” “La Cage Aux Folles” and “Beauty & the Beast.” After several T.V. appearances (“Arrow,” “Fringe” and “Flashpoint”), he finally realized a childhood dream of becoming a cartoon character, voicing lead characters on “Lego Ninjago,” “Lego Jurassic World,” “Mega Man Fully Charged,” “Death Note,” “Iron Man Armoured Adventures,” “My Little Pony,” “Super Monsters,” “The Deep” and “Voltron Force.”

He has also voice directed award-winning video games for Klei Entertainment. Tong is a five-time UBCP/ACTRA Award nominee and a four-time Leo Award nominee.

**AARON HARRIS (Eddie)** is a New York-based voice actor, comedian, writer and performer. He attended McGill University in Montreal for music and jazz performance and spent several years touring and recording with the indie rock band, Islands.

He studied improv at the Magnet Theater in New York and has performed his character-based comedy throughout the city. He has done voice work for commercial projects and is currently working on another animated series. In his free time, he explores all things astrology and gives tarot readings.

## **ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS**

**JOHN C. DONKIN (Director)** earned an Academy Award® nomination in 2003 as the producer of “Gone Nutty,” an animated short film created at Blue Sky Studios featuring the popular Scrat character from the “Ice Age” films. He has since gone on to work on additional “Ice Age” titles, including “Ice Age: Continental Drift” and “Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs.” Additional film credits include “Rio” and “Rio 2,” both of which he produced.

Donkin came to Blue Sky Studios in 1998 as a technical director; one of his first projects was to help complete the company’s Academy Award®-winning short film “Bunny.” He developed the production pipeline for Blue





Sky's first animated feature film project, "Ice Age," before becoming the film's associate producer, managing the production and its 160 person production crew. Since then, Donkin has produced several other Blue Sky Studios projects, including "Robots," directed by Chris Wedge; Blue Sky's Academy Award-nominated short film "No Time for Nuts" (produced with Lori Forte); "Aunt Fanny's Tour of Booty" and "Surviving Sid."

Donkin began his computer animation career in 1983 when he joined the world-renowned CCRG (Computer Graphics Research Group) at Ohio State University. Shortly thereafter, he began working as a senior animator at Cranston/Csuri Productions. He directed animation for the IMAX film "Antarctica" and was part of the development team for the visualization software toolkit apE, also at Ohio State University.

Donkin holds a bachelor of fine arts degree in cinematography and a master's of art degree in computer animation and art education from Ohio State University.

**JIM HECHT (Co-Screenwriter)** is a writer, producer and director. Best known for his work on the "Ice Age" movies, particularly "Ice Age: The Meltdown," he started out as part of the late-'90s Nickelodeon heyday, working on projects like "All That," "Keenan & Kel," "Guts" and "Fairly Odd Parents." Along with Max Borenstein, he is a creator of Adam McKay's HBO series, the Untitled Lakers Project, starring Adrien Brody, Sally Field, John C. Reilly, Jason Segal and Jason Clark. Based on the Jeff Pearlman book, Showtime, the series chronicles the drama of the 1980's Showtime Lakers of Magic Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabar, Pat Riley and Jerry Buss.

Since graduating from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University with a degree in film and television, **RAY DELAURENTIS (Co-Screenwriter)** has worked steadily as a writer, producer and creative consultant. After an early development deal at 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox, he worked on varied pilots, co-wrote a number of feature films and wrote "Providence" for NBC.

Becoming a father inspired him to focus his creative efforts on the world of kids and family entertainment. He has since worked for countless independent entertainment companies, and has had overall development deals with The Jim Henson Company, Fox Family Entertainment, Warner Bros. Kids and Nickelodeon. While story editing and producing hundreds of episodes of animated television (including four seasons of "The Fairly Odd Parents"), he has been nominated for two Annie Awards and four Emmys®. He is currently developing an animated series based on a New York Times best-selling children's book and writing streaming movies for 20th Century Studios/Disney+. The feature projects include the next installment in the "Ice Age" franchise, the next installment in the "Rio" franchise and an animated feature version of the "Night at the Museum" movie franchise for 21 Laps Entertainment and Disney+.

**LORI FORTE (Producer)** began her career in feature animation at Disney, where she was the creative executive on the Academy Award® nominees "Toy Story" and "Runaway Brain." During her tenure at Disney, she was also



involved with “The Lion King” and “Pocahontas.”

Forte then became a producer for Fox Animation Studios, where she developed several feature film ideas. Having always been fascinated by the ice age and the majesty of its unique creatures, Forte came up with the idea to make a movie that captured that icy world and its extraordinary inhabitants.

A movie franchise was born when “Ice Age” sub-zero heroes Manny, Sid, Diego and Scrat – and their incredible world – arrived in movie houses around the globe. Forte went on to develop and produce the sequels, “Ice Age: The Meltdown,” “Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs,” “Ice Age: Continental Drift” and “Ice Age: Collision Course.” She produced the Academy Award®-nominated short “No Time for Nuts” (with John C. Donkin) and animated feature “Ferdinand.”

Previously, Forte was a development executive at NBC-TV, where she helped develop the comedy series “Dear John” and “Empty Nest.” She also held key duties on the series “The Days and Nights of Molly Dodd” and “Alf.” Forte then joined Columbia Pictures Television, where she was vice president of comedy development, overseeing a variety of pilots and series, including “Parker Lewis Can’t Lose.”

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