

About the Filmmakers

Carl Kress, Director & Editor

Carl Kress is an Academy Award[™] winning editor of feature films and broadcast television. An industry veteran that grew up in the midst of the Hollywood motion picture elite, Carl's illustrious film career began away from Hollywood, as a cinematographer, filming atomic bomb blasts for the United States Army in the mid 1950's. Editing, however, was in Carl's genetic code. His father, director, producer, and editor, Harold Kress, was twice awarded the Oscar[™] for editing and worked at both MGM and Columbia Pictures. Commencing with Carl's employment as an apprentice at Metro Goldwyn Mayer in 1959, his career as a motion picture editor spans over four decades. Carl edited *The Undersea World of Jaques Cousteau* and *Airwolf* for television. Some of the many films he has edited include *Hopscotch*, starring Walter Mathau, *Stroker Ace* and *Cannonball Run II*, starring Burt Reynolds, and the career making Jean Claude Van Damme classic, *Bloodsport*. In 1975 Carl was awarded the Oscar[™] for his editing work on *The Towering Inferno*. Retired to the mountains of Bishop, California, Carl's assistance was requested by a neophyte writer/producer, with nothing more than a script and a dream. Attracted by the script, Carl agreed to come out of retirement to make his directorial debut with *The Redemption*.

Steve Withem, Writer & Producer

Hoosier native and Indiana University alumnus, Steve Withem, fulfilled a lifelong dream with his efforts as an actor, writer, and producer of *The Redemption*. The acting bug first bit Steve in the early 1970's when he played the role of Murray, the Cop, in the community production of Neil Simon's *The Odd Couple*. Roles in *Damn Yankees*, *Everybody Loves Opal*, and *Teahouse of the August Moon* soon followed. After serving three years as a Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps, he returned to acting and entertained thousands each year with his stage performances for the entire five season run of "Theatre-In-the-Woods" at McCormick's Creek State Park near Spencer, Indiana. In the late 1970's, Steve used his writing skills and collaborated with Rick Dimond to write several songs for the jazz/rock fusion group *Streamwinner*, which spawned the careers of many notable musical talents, such as, Kenny Aronoff, Tom Borton, David Grissom, and Eric Wurst. Twenty years later, Steve and Rick collaborated again to produce the theme song and music for *The Redemption*. Steve's greatest assets are Cindy, his wife of twenty-nine years, family, and friends, which were all instrumental in the production of *The Redemption*.

Rick Dimond, Composer

Dr. Rick Dimond is an internationally renown teaching and performing musician. Rick earned three performance degrees, including his Doctor of Music, from the Indiana University School of Music. A distinguished faculty member of Henderson State University in Arkansas, Rick teaches percussion, jazz, and music theory to aspiring musicians by day. Rick founded and leads the critically acclaimed HSU NuFusion musical performing group that showcases the talents of many of Rick's students. Lurking deep within this mild mannered teaching musician is a charismatic performer of gigantic proportions that comes out at night to play tympani, marimbas, vibraphones, and anything else that he can strike with a mallet in the midst of the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. His talents as a musician and featured solo performer have been requested by symphony orchestras ranging from Fairbanks, Alaska to the Symphony of Southeast Texas. His reputation stretched to the far side of the world when he was asked to travel to the Orient to teach the talented young musicians of the prestigious Asian Youth Orchestra. The producer was "thrilled" with Rick's insightful and heartfelt musical creation for *The Redemption*.