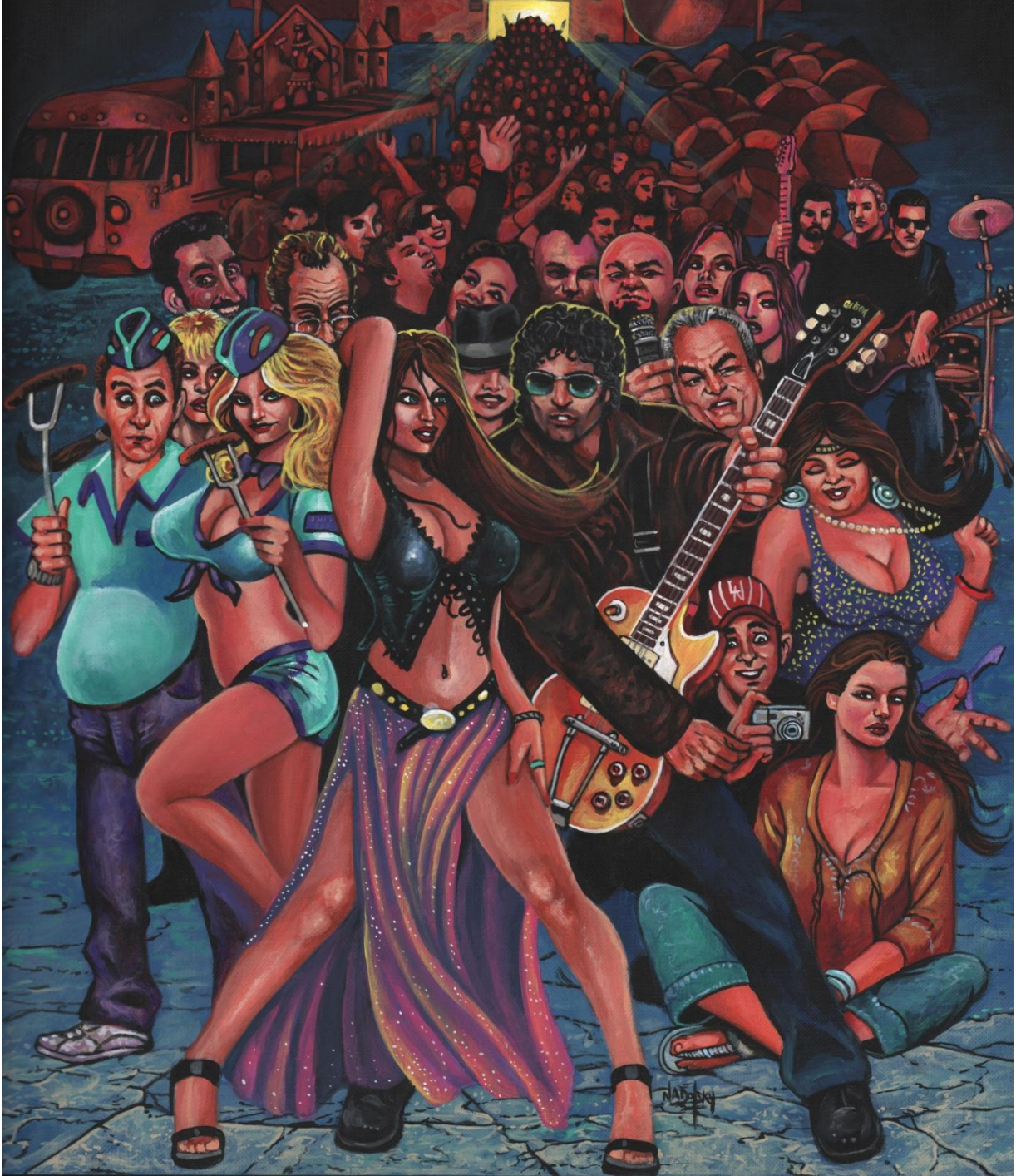


# *The Followers*



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BY DYLAN BANK AND MORGAN PEHME

**At The Followers' triumphant last show, forty years of their fans come together to bid farewell to the world's greatest rock band and to figure out what to do with their lives now that the music might finally be over.**

Since the '60s, The Followers have been the defining voice for generation after generation of America's youth. Like The Beatles did for Liverpool, The Followers transformed the sleepy town of Effort, Illinois into a place of rock n' roll legend. It was only fitting when the band picked their hometown as the site of their historic final gig.

The only person not excited about seeing the show is GREY PIERCE, a talented young rocker who is also from Effort. He's lived in the shadow of The Followers his whole life—he's even stuck grinding out a living in a Followers cover band.

But Grey's got a plan to write himself into music history. Since all of the world's biggest rock n' roll fans will be camping out for days in his backyard to get tickets to The Followers show, Grey and his band are going to put on their own performance for everyone on line to prove that they're the future of rock.

As the line swells to over a hundred thousand strong, Grey finds himself in the center of forty years of hardcore Followers fans, and falls for a stunning young woman named EVER—the only person at the concert who's never even heard a Followers song before. Everything is going according to Grey's plan, but not everyone in his band is on board with Grey being in charge. IBSEN PAUL, his lead guitarist, is convinced Grey's blowing their big shot for a girl he just met.

On a whirlwind ride from the stadium parking lot to center stage at the biggest concert in history, Grey must find a way to keep his band together, win the girl, and become a star. But first, he must confront his worst enemy: the Followers themselves.

# The Followers

## The Pitch

Anyone worth talking to can tell you an amazing story about a concert they went to: about the people they met, the antics on stage, the adventure of getting in, getting kicked out for bullshit reasons, getting kicked out for *good* reasons, what drugs they took, who they went home with... Tell me that right now you're not thinking back to an unforgettable experience you had at a concert. Good or bad, it makes a great story.

*The Followers* is the first contemporary movie to bring this massively popular concert culture to life. It's a fast and funny romance that makes the fans the star of the show. It's an authentic depiction of what we all love about the concert experience and a thrilling fantasy that convinces the audience that everyone is just one great performance away from being a rock star.

Despite the rise of hip-hop and modern pop music, rock 'n roll is still the highest-grossing musical genre for live concerts. Eight of the top ten tours in 2010 were rock, with Bon Jovi (\$146 million), U2 (\$131 million), and AC/DC (\$122 million) as the top three grossing bands<sup>1</sup>, beating out pop superstars Lady Gaga and The Black Eyed Peas. Classic rock giants like The Eagles, The Rolling Stones, and The Who are still playing to sold-out stadiums all over the world, and their hits dominate movies, TV, and the radio.

In addition to the impressive profits of the top performers, rock is also the only genre that has an entire culture built around concert tours. Groups like The Grateful Dead and Phish are the titans of the live music industry with legions of fans that made following the band and travelling to every concert their entire lives for decades.

The Followers is the name of the fictional 1960s super group featured in the film. The band is a mixture of legends like The Rolling Stones, The Beatles, and The Grateful Dead. In the film, The Followers will be played by real-life rock giants, who will not only act in the movie, but

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<sup>1</sup> [www.billboard.com](http://www.billboard.com)

also perform the band's music. Their songs will be a combination of newly composed tunes for the film, and classic rock gems that have slipped through the cracks, and would seem new to even the most die-hard music fans.

But *The Followers* isn't just a movie for everyone who loves '60s and '70s rock. This is also a movie for teenagers who grew up obsessed with "High School Musical", and the wide-ranging audience that has flocked to "Glee". Like those hits, *The Followers* is also about a group of talented and attractive young people trying to make it big, their stories accentuated by great musical numbers. The lead in the film, Grey Pierce, and his band are ready-made to connect with the MTV demographic, and his love story with Ever Astor is the heart of the movie.

*The Followers* is also about wish fulfillment. By the end of the movie, you're jamming on stage with rock legends, gazing out at a sold-out stadium of adoring fans. This experience has already made hundreds of millions of dollars in another market: video games. Games like Guitar Hero and Rock Star have been a cultural phenomenon, selling a whole new generation on the thrill of rock 'n roll, and making them long to be rock stars. Amazingly, no movie has tapped into this mania yet.

*The Followers* is a comedic love story that will connect with teens, Baby Boomers, and everyone in between who grew up on rock. It's an ode to the concert experience and the great bands that bring us together. This is the movie that the 103 million fans<sup>2</sup> who paid to see a concert last year have been waiting for.

### **Project Synopsis**

Influences: *American Graffiti*; *Almost Famous*; *High School Musical*; *The Last Waltz*; "Glee"; *Hair*; *Tommy*; *Rock n' Roll High School*; *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*

Budget: \$20-\$40 Million

Rating: PG - 13

Location: A stadium and its parking lot.

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<sup>2</sup> [http://www.billboard.biz/bbbiz/content\\_display/industry/news](http://www.billboard.biz/bbbiz/content_display/industry/news)

Audience: 13 to 70 - *The Followers* is truly a cross-generational movie, tapping into both the vibrant youth culture and Baby Boomers, whose icons from the '60s and '70s still dominate pop culture.

Soundtrack: Every movie puts out a soundtrack, but this movie will have something better - *The Followers: Greatest Hits*. The music will span the modern era, starting with the style of early 1960's bubblegum singles, then evolving over the decades, with everything from anti-Vietnam anthems to '80s pop and 21<sup>st</sup> century remixes. The soundtrack can even be sold at the theaters where the movie is playing.

The Band: The four members of *The Followers* will be made up of rock legends, making this the newest "super-group" in the tradition of chart-topping bands like Velvet Revolver, Audioslave and The Traveling Wilburys.

Tour: The excitement and press surrounding the movie will be heightened by a high-profile tour, which will make *The Followers* the can't-miss multimedia event of the year. Franchises like "High School Musical" have proven America's appetite to see their screen idols live on stage – except this show will be cool.

Video Game: *The Followers* takes us on a journey from being a fan to a star, and a rock video game can put the viewer right in the middle of the action. This video game will take fans deeper into the rock-star experience than ever before, integrating the viewer into the performances and the story, with extra scenes that weren't in the movie.

"The Followers"

an original screenplay by

Dylan Bank & Morgan Pehme

Registered WGA East

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# Grey Pierce:

Justin Timberlake - *The Social Network*, *Bad Teacher*



Jared Leto - *30 Seconds to Mars*, *Chapter 27*



Adrian Grenier - "*Entourage*", *The Devil Wears Prada*



Shia LaBeouf - *Transformers*, *Eagle Eye*

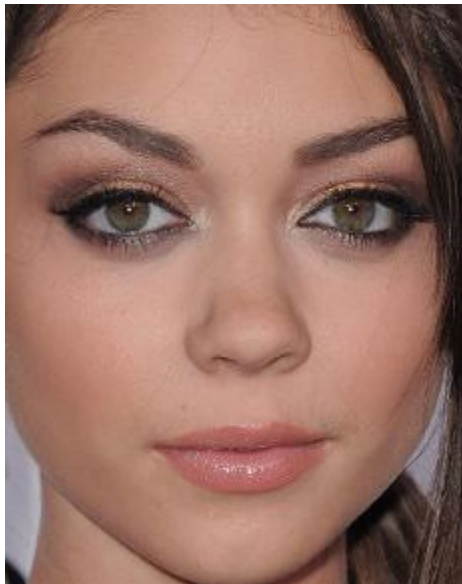


## **Ever Astor:**

Blake Lively – *The Town*, *Green Lantern*



Sarah Hyland – “*Modern Family*”, *Geek Charming*



Amanda Seyfried - *Little Red Riding Hood*,  
*Mamma Mia*



Sarah Paxton – *New Year’s Eve*, *Superhero Movie*

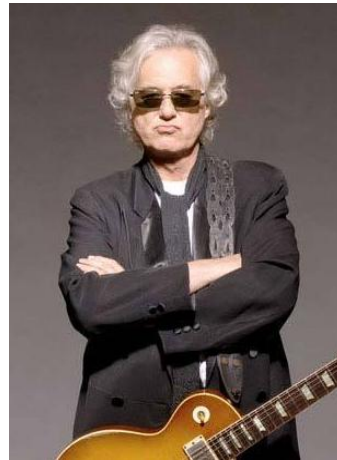


## The Followers:

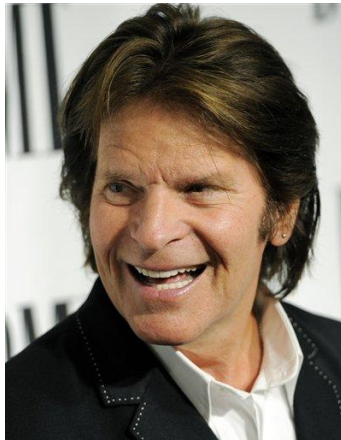
Tom Petty



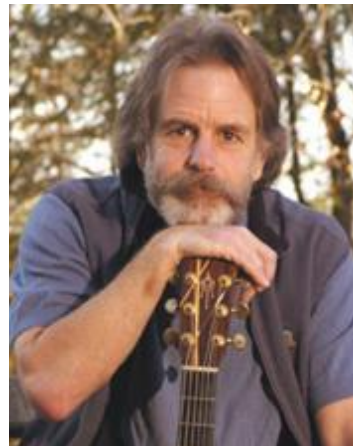
Jimmy Page



John Fogerty



Bob Weir



Bob Dylan



Robbie Robertson





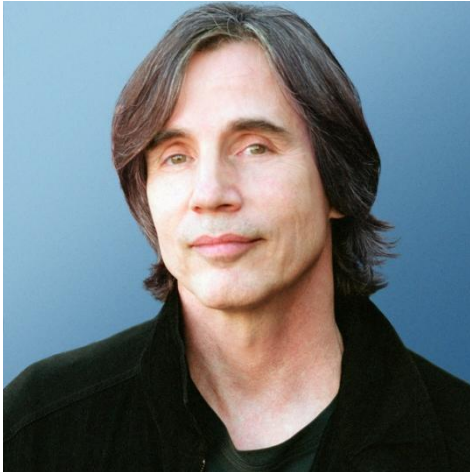
Don Henley



Billy Joel



Jackson Browne



Joe Walsh



Neil Young



Lou Reed



**Zelda:**

Gwen Stefani – *No Doubt*, *The Aviator*



Alexis Bledel – “*Gilmore Girls*”, *Post Grad*



**Rain:**

Kathy Bates – *Titanic*, *The Blind Side*



Kathleen Turner – *Marley & Me*,  
“*Californication*”



## **Ibsen Paul:**

Gavin Rossdale – *Constantine, How To Rob A Bank*

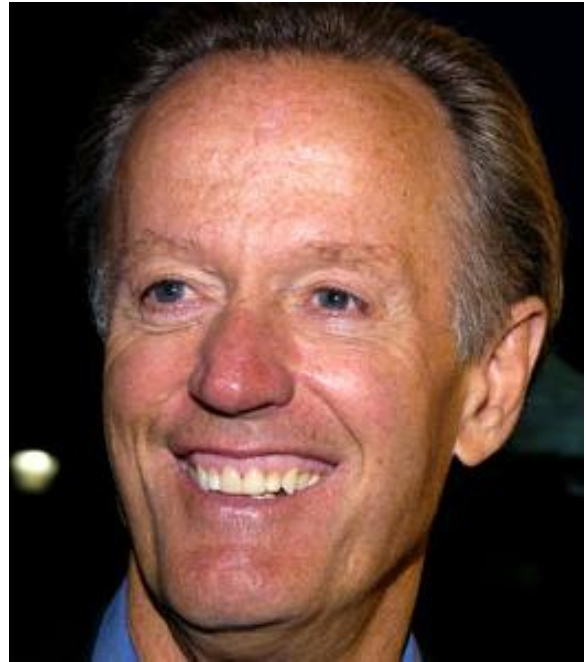


Freddie Prinze Jr. – *"24", New York Serenade*

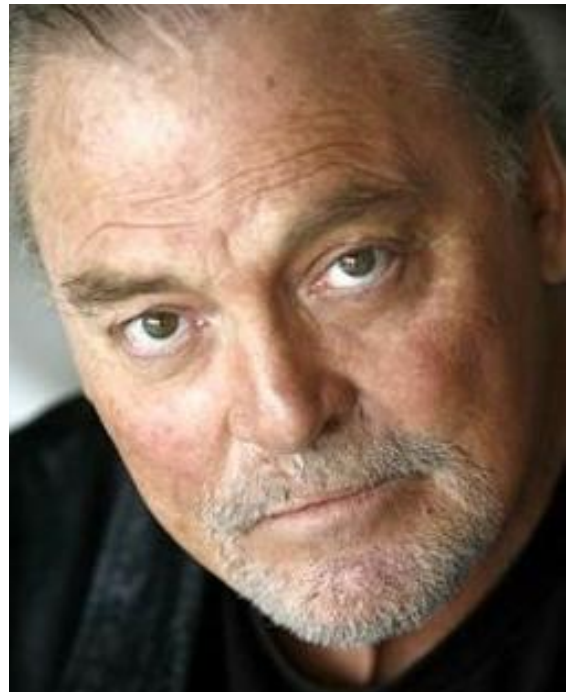


## **The Judge:**

Peter Fonda – *Ghost Rider, Wild Hogs*



Stacey Keach – *W., Up In Smoke*



**Cliff:**

Johnny Galecki – “The Big Bang Theory”,  
*Hancock*



Seth Green – *The Italian Job*, *Austin Powers*



**Sapphire:**

Julianna Guill – “Glory Daze”, *Friday the 13th*



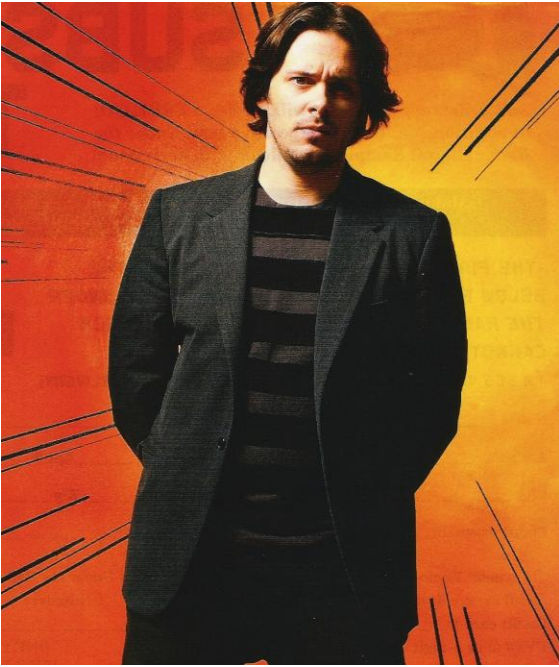
Madison Riley – *Grown Ups*, *Fired Up!*



**Director:**

Will Gluck – *Friends With Benefits, Easy A*

Edgar Wright – *Saun Of The Dead, Hot Fuzz*



Greg Mottola – *Superbad, Paul*



DJ Caruso – *Disturbia, Eagle Eye*



