

New in Town written by Minneapolis native

Written by



The movie "New In Town" opens nationally on January 30. The majority of the film's story is set in New Ulm, Minnesota.

New in Town is co-written by Ken Rance, native of Minneapolis. Rance graduated cum laude with a B.A. in Radio/Television/Film Production from the Howard University School of Communications in 1992. The following year, Rance moved to Los Angeles, California where he landed a position as an office production assistant on "ROC", the critically acclaimed FOX series. After "ROC", Rance worked as an assistant at the William Morris Agency.

In 1994, Rance was admitted to the CBS Television Executive Management Training Program where he developed the M.O.W. "Cyberstalk", for Norton Wright Productions/CBS Productions and coordinated the first annual, CBS/WGAw Television Writers Workshop for emerging minority writers.

In 1996, Rance sold his first motion picture screenplay "Scary Dates" to 20th Century Fox and was later inducted into the Writers Guild of America where he has served as Co-Chair for the Committee of Black Writers and Member-At-Large on the Committee Advisory Panel. Since then Rance has written and produced many film and television projects for several major studios and independent production companies.

Today, in addition to professional writing Kenneth Rance serves as a Time-Warner Mentor-in-Residence for the John H. Johnson School of Communications at Howard University and conducts screenwriting lectures across the country.

The "fish out of water comedy" New in Town stars Reneé Zellweger and Harry Connick, Jr. The film centers on a Miami business woman (Zellweger) who is sent to New Ulm, Minnesota, to restructure a butter manufacturing plant. She jumps at the opportunity knowing that a promotion is close at hand. What begins as a straight forward job assignment becomes a life changing experience as Lucy (Zellweger) discover greater meaning in her life, enamored by the charm of the town of New Ulm and its endearing residents and most unexpectedly, meets the man of her dreams Ted Mitchell, played by Harry Connick, Jr.

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The movie storyline is particularly relevant to the current economic time as the characters explore how to save the plant from closing when the community bands together. The characters are quirky and somewhat true to life with “New Ulm Nice” personalities and full-bodied spirit that is attributed to hearty Minnesotans.