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 Morris Communications Company

April 13, 2010

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GETTING BUSY WITH ROBERT DOWNEY JR.

New York (May 2010): Putting on 20 pounds of muscle isn't the only way Robert Downey Jr. toughened up before his performance in *Iron Man 2*. This native New Yorker has gone from busing tables, to breakout box office success, to breaking the law.

Now back in Hollywood's good graces, he is following up an Oscar nominated performance in *Tropic Thunder* (2008) and a Golden Globe for *Sherlock Holmes* (2009) with his return as the armored avenger in the *Iron Man* franchise. No stranger to the spotlight, Downey Jr. made his screen debut at age 5 in *Pound* (1970), written and directed by his father. "That was when I realized that acting was a discipline," he recalls. The years to come would land him in the headlines for both critical successes and arrest and rehab.

Currently Downey Jr. is in New York City to promote *Iron Man 2* on ABC's *Live With Regis & Kelly* and *Good Morning America* and CBS' *Late Show With David Letterman*. "I don't get scared any more," he says. "I just get busy." And busy he will be – filming a *Sherlock Holmes* sequel, and releasing his next film, *Due Date*, this year.

For more from "Downey's Upswing" by Bob Cannon visit innewyork.com or pick up a complimentary copy of *IN New York* beginning May 1, at concierge desks of the city's finest hotels and residential buildings.

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