

[Preliminary 2011 Oscar Contenders: The Complete List](#)

We have our starting point, but where will it take us?

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THE CONTENDERS 2011



Casino Jack

Release Date: Release date not yet set

Distributor: Still looking for distribution

Directed By: [George Hickenlooper](#)

Cast: [Kevin Spacey](#), [Kelly Preston](#), [Jon Lovitz](#), [Barry Pepper](#), [Spencer Garrett](#)

Quick Thoughts: Kevin Spacey stars as disgraced Washington power broker Jack Abramoff in director George Hickenlooper's dramatization of Abramoff while Alex Gibney (*Taxi to the Dark Side*) is also releasing an Abramoff feature this year only his is a documentary. The two films will likely both be competing for Oscar placement, but obviously not against one another. Hickenlooper's film has already had a screening or two in L.A. and word is it could put Spacey in the Best Actor hunt. *Casino Jack* is one of many films expected to debut at Cannes in order to find distribution. Most notably, Hickenlooper brought in three-time Oscar nominee William Steinkamp (*The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *Out of Africa* and *Tootsie*) to edit the feature.