

CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

Inside
JENNIFER
LAWRENCE
HENRY
CAVILL
DEEPA
MEHTA

Toronto
International
Film Festival
KICKS OFF BIG
FALL MOVIE
SEASON,
PAGE 34

IS THAT **JOSEPH** **GORDON-** **LEVITT?**

Behind the star's new look for **Looper**, TIFF's opening night film

HUNTED BY YOUR FUTURE

BRUCE WILLIS JOSEPH GORDON-LEVITT EMILY BLUNT
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY RIAN JOHNSON

LOOPER

SEPTEMBER 28

TERMINATION
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J U D G M E N T I S C O M I N G



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We explain how — and why — 31-year-old **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** was altered to look like 57-year-old Bruce Willis for the time-travel thriller *Looper*. The film kicks off the Toronto International Film Festival before opening across the country later this month
BY MARNI WEISZ

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BY SALAH BACHIR





FROM THE ACCLAIMED NOVEL BY
SALMAN RUSHDIE

MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN

A FILM BY ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE
DEEPA MEHTA

OCTOBER 26



So, You Wanna TIME TRAVEL...

Time travel is risky business. Not the disintegration and reintegration of the organic material that makes up your body (if, indeed, that's how it would happen). The plot device. Whether in a book, TV show or particularly a movie — where you have just two hours to set up a story, build to a climax, then tie all the loose ends together — time travel is fraught with opportunities for disaster. But it's also a chance for screenplay greatness.

In our cover story about this month's time-travel pic *Looper*, writer-director **Rian Johnson** likens penning a script about time travel to competing on TV's *The Iron Chef* (where the contestants don't know the "secret ingredient" until the show begins) but having his secret ingredient revealed to be sod.

I've been scrolling through lists of the best and worst time-travel movies and it's funny how often films from the same franchise, or versions of the same story, end up on both the best *and* worst lists. One such list on Metacritic.com has the 1960 adaptation of H.G. Wells' *The Time Machine* in the number-four spot on the best list, while the 2002 version of the same story, starring the usually compelling Guy Pearce, is on the worst list. Three *Star Trek* movies appear on the best list — *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home*, *Star Trek* and *Star Trek: First Contact* — and one on the worst, *Star Trek: Generations*. The very best time-travel movie of all time according to that list (and many others) is 1985's *Back to the Future*; and on the worst list you'll find *Back to the Future Part II*.

There are so many elements beyond the actual time-travel plot device that either make the concept come to life or doom it to failure — performance, direction, editing, music, special effects. But the central theme of these lists is that if you're going to use time travel in a script, don't just use it as a way around some troublesome logistical problem (How do we get Captain Kirk and Captain Picard in the same *Star Trek* movie?), create a great story that *makes sense*. Simple, I know.

Johnson's movie stars **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** as Joe, a hit man circa 2047, who works for a mafia organization that's based in the year 2077. When the mafia wants to kill someone, the victim is sent back to 2047 where Joe does the job, leaving the body in the earlier timeline where it can't be identified. But, one day, the mark sent back from the future is Joe's older self. Programmers at the Toronto International Film Festival chose *Looper* as their Opening Night Gala, so I'm guessing they think Johnson has taken that sod and made it into a delicious sod soufflé. I always thought truffles tasted a bit like sod, anyway. Johnson and Gordon-Levitt tell you more about the intricate process of making *Looper* on page 46.

Speaking of the **Toronto International Film Festival**, flip to page 34 for a rundown of some of the biggest movies opening at the glitzy event before coming to a theatre near you.

And filling out this issue, on page 32 we have **Jennifer Lawrence** on her next two films, *House at the End of the Street* and *Silver Linings Playbook*, **Deepa Mehta** talks *Midnight's Children* on page 44, and on page 28 we have an interview with **Henry Cavill** about this month's *The Cold Light of Day* and next year's Superman pic, *Man of Steel*.

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■ MARNI WEISZ, EDITOR

A close-up, profile shot of actor Salman Rushdie wearing a green military-style uniform and aviator sunglasses. He is holding the handlebars of a motorcycle, looking forward with a serious expression. The background is a soft, hazy blue and green.

FROM THE ACCLAIMED NOVEL BY
SALMAN RUSHDIE
**MIDNIGHT'S
CHILDREN**
A FILM BY ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE
DEEPA MEHTA

OCTOBER 26

SNAPS



EMMA'S LUNCH

On a break from shooting *Empire State* in New York, **Emma Roberts** grabs a slice of pizza.

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER PETERSON/
SPLASH NEWS



JESSICA'S PUP

Jessica Chastain cuddles her three-legged dog Chaplin on the New York set of *The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby: His*.

PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER PETERSON/
SPLASH NEWS

FANNING FLIES

Dakota Fanning shows great form while shooting a scene for *Very Good Girls* in New York's Battery Park.

PHOTO BY LAWRENCE SCHWARTZWALD/
SPLASH NEWS



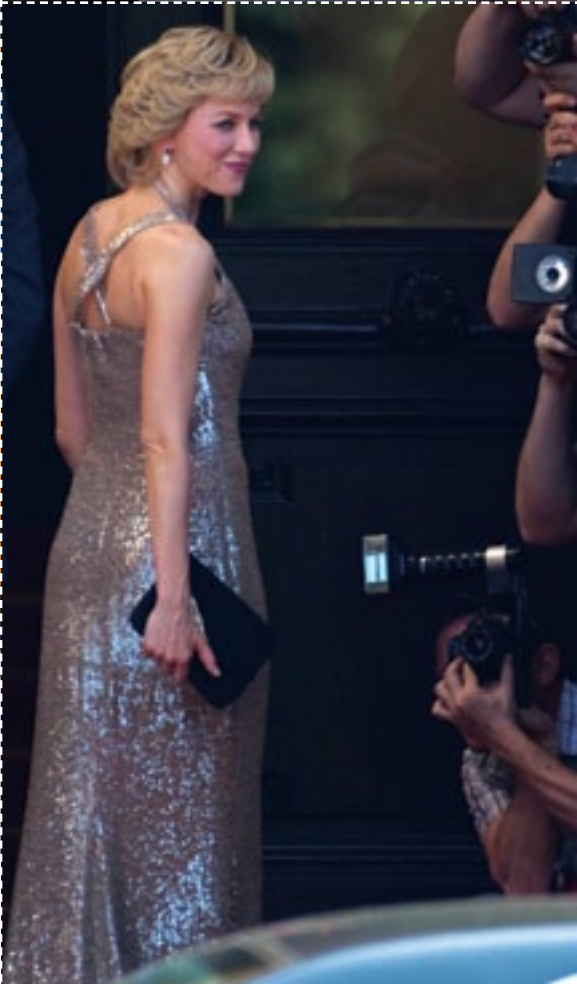
FROM THE ACCLAIMED NOVEL BY
SALMAN RUSHDIE

MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN

A FILM BY ACADEMY AWARD NOMINEE
DEEPA MEHTA

MIDNIGHT MEDIA PRESENTS AN ACCLAIMED FILMATION FRONTIER NOBLE NEMPO - SHANTON MEHTA PRODUCTION
A FILM BY DEEPA MEHTA PRODUCED BY DEEPA MEHTA AND DAVID HAMILTON "MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN" BASED UPON THE NOVEL "MIDNIGHT'S CHILDREN" BY SALMAN RUSHDIE
CASTING: SAVITA BHADRA, SHABANA GOSWAMI, RAJAT KAPOOR, SEEMA BHOWMIK, SHIVRAJ SAGHU, DEBHABATI, HEMANT KUMAR, SHAUL BICE, KULDESH KUMAR
ART: MAJUMDAR, CURIOUS DANCE, SONALI KHAN, JAS SHANK, SHABANA KUMAR, ANUPAM KUMAR, JAYDEE SHARMA
COSTUME DESIGNER: SALMAN RUSHDIE, HAIR: CALEB WITTEGANS, MAKEUP: DEEPA MEHTA, EDITOR: COLIN MORRIS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS: NITIN SARDHET, PRODUCED BY DEEPA MEHTA
SCREENPLAY BY ELIZABETH KROUSEN, STEPHEN MOULLEY, DIRECTED BY DAVID HAMILTON, PRODUCED BY DEEPA MEHTA

OCTOBER 26



COOL, INDEED

Keira Knightley and fiancé James Righton follow the sign while strolling through New York's SoHo neighbourhood.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



AMY + PAUL

Amy Poehler and Paul Rudd get married...on the Brooklyn Heights set of *They Came Together*.

PHOTO BY CHARLES GUERIN/KEYSTONE PRESS



RUN, JONAH, RUN

Jonah Hill hustles to greet fans at the L.A. premiere of *The Watch*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



WATTS AS DI

An early glimpse of Naomi Watts as Princess Diana while filming *Caught in Flight*.

PHOTO BY CHARLIE PURVEY/
SPLASH NEWS



LEO + TOBEY

On vacation in Hawaii, Leonardo DiCaprio points to something while snorkelling with his old buddy Tobey Maguire.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN BRIEF



READY FOR YOUR RIDE-ALONG?

As if following along with officers Taylor (Jake Gyllenhaal) and Zavala (Michael Peña) as they run afoul of a drug cartel isn't stressful enough, *End of Watch* writer-director David Ayers wants us to feel like we're right there with them. So, much of his movie — which has its world premiere at the

Toronto International Film Festival this month before opening on September 21st — is shown through the shaky lenses of the characters' handheld cameras, or grainy security-camera footage.

Is it just a gimmick? Ayers says no.

"I wanted to make it experiential," he explains during an interview at

Comic-Con. "So it's less about a gimmick...isn't this fun and aren't we clever for using security camera shots or whatever. It's more about establishing that cameras exist in the world and then using those cameras to see the movie, and then having Jake and Mike operate the cameras so now the characters are also creating the movie."



On Home Turf

Daniel Radcliffe

PHOTO BY KOTE RODRIGO/KEYSTONE PRESS

THE F-WORD

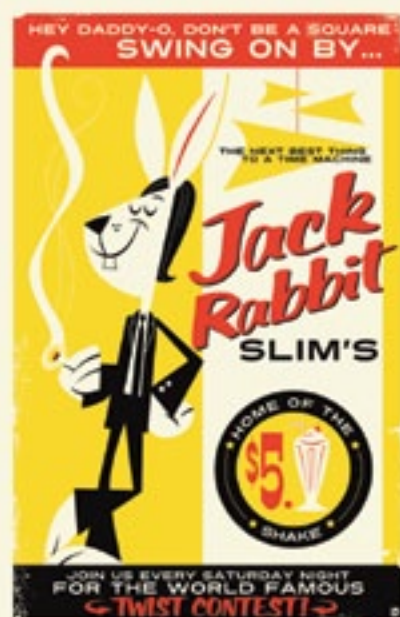
Daniel Radcliffe is in Toronto this month to shoot his very first romantic comedy, *The F-Word*. Keep your eyes peeled for the *Harry Potter* star and his leading lady, **Zoe Kazan** (*Ruby Sparks*), until about September 17th as they film the story of two twentysomethings who hit it off at a party but try to remain "just friends" because she has a boyfriend.

Behind the camera is **Michael Dowse**, the rising Canadian talent behind *Fubar*, *It's All Gone Pete Tong* and last year's *Goon*.

—MW

THE ART OF FILM

Philadelphia illustrator Dave Perillo really loves movies. "I've worked as a theatre usher, a projectionist and a video store clerk just 'cause I loved movies so much, and by working at those jobs I could watch them for free," he says, adding, "I'm also a fan of vintage advertising and typography, by doing these faux posters it gives me an opportunity to incorporate those elements into my art." Lots of artists are creating faux movie posters, but we like how Perillo's posters riff off movies without being *for* those movies, like the one promoting Jack Rabbit Slim's, the 1950s-themed restaurant from *Pulp Fiction*, and another for a battle of the bands featuring the most excellent Wyld Stallyns from *Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure*. See more of Perillo's work at www.montygog.blogspot.ca. —MW



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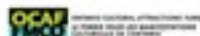
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► How did the animation geniuses at Pixar make *Finding Nemo's* underwater environment look so, well, watery? They identified five key components of the underwater experience and set their artists to work.

1 LIGHTING: The patterns of light that dance over the ocean floor and underwater objects, and the foggy beams that shine through from the surface.

2 PARTICULATE MATTER: The little bits of debris floating in the water.

3 SURGE AND SWELL: How the constant movement of the water pushes and pulls plants and aquatic life.

4 MURK: How things in the background lose their colour and become dark.

5 REFLECTIONS AND REFRACTIONS: The change in direction of a ray of light as it bounces off an object.

■ **First released in 2003, *Finding Nemo* gets a 3D re-release this month, and word is a sequel should hit theatres in 2016. —MW**

THE WOOKIEE WINS!

This Chewbacca cowl and face piece worn actor Peter Mayhew for the original *Star Wars* trilogy recently sold at a Profiles in History auction for \$172,000. Part of the reason it looks so real is that the eyes are based on casts taken from Mayhew's own closed lids. —MW



FESTIVAL ROUNDUP

The Toronto International Film Festival isn't the only show in Canada this season. There are plenty of great film festivals unspooling across the country

ATLANTIC

FILM FESTIVAL

Halifax, Nova Scotia

September 13-20

www.atlanticfilm.com

CINEFEST SUDBURY

Sudbury, Ontario

September 15-23

www.cinefest.com

OTTAWA

INTERNATIONAL

ANIMATION FESTIVAL

Ottawa, Ontario

September 19-23

www.animationfestival.ca

CALGARY

INTERNATIONAL

FILM FESTIVAL

Calgary, Alberta

September 20-30

www.calgaryfilm.com

VANCOUVER

INTERNATIONAL

FILM FESTIVAL

Vancouver, British Columbia

September 27-October 12

www.viff.org/festival

EDMONTON

INTERNATIONAL

FILM FESTIVAL

Edmonton, Alberta

September 28-October 6

www.edmontonfilmfest.com

FESTIVAL

NOUVEAU CINEMA

Montreal, Quebec

October 10-21

www.nouveau cinema.ca



DON'T DREDD THE REBOOT

“Help Wanted: Looking for a good, B-list actor, willing to work for a reasonable salary, need not show face.”

Perhaps not how actor Karl Urban — star of this month's *Dredd 3D*, about a futuristic law enforcement officer — would like to be remembered. But producer Andrew MacDonald admits those were the criteria for the film's leading man, since the character never shows his face.

“It was not going to be big-budget, plus we knew we had a character that couldn't take off his helmet,” says MacDonald. “So you can't then have a huge movie star whose face you don't see. We needed a great or good actor as opposed to a marquee name like Will Smith.”

Dredd is the second attempt to bring the *Judge Dredd* comic book to the big screen — 1995's *Judge Dredd* starring Sylvester Stallone was a bomb and fans say it failed largely because, unlike in the comic book, we saw Dredd's face. Urban, best known as *Star Trek*'s Bones, agrees. “Since he was created in 1977 he was the faceless representation of the law and an enigma and to do anything else just wouldn't have been Dredd.” —*MW*



Did you know?

This month's *Trouble With the Curve* marks the first time Clint Eastwood has acted in a movie he didn't direct since 1993's *In the Line of Fire*.

Quote Unquote

“There's never been a better time to be a woman who wants to kick butt in theatres than there is today.”

—*RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION* STAR
MILLA JOVOVICH



SPOTLIGHT

ZOMBIES DON'T STAND A CHANCE

Kevin Durand wants to have a good time, and getting to kill zombies in *Resident Evil: Retribution* fills the bill. “You know, it’s just one of those gigs where it’s pure fun,” says Durand over the phone from Georgia, where he’s shooting the new Atom Egoyan movie, *Devil’s Knot*. “Living inside this videogame movie, you just kind of immerse yourself and there’s a lot of physical joy in destroying zombies,” he says of the fifth *Resident Evil* movie.

Durand plays Barry Burton, a gun-toting weapons expert in the new installment of the apocalyptic film series. But would it surprise you to learn that the Thunder Bay native, whose strapping physique (he stands 6-foot-6) and steely features have landed him roles as baddies and tough guys in films such as *Cosmopolis*, *Real Steel*, *Smokin’ Aces* and TV’s *Lost*, began his career as a teen rapper who performed in a Thunder Bay roller rink before moving to Toronto to star in musical theatre?

Singing is one of his greatest joys, and you can hear him rapping for pal Russell Crowe on Crowe’s album *Gaslight*. Durand met Crowe while making *Mystery, Alaska*, and has subsequently appeared with Crowe in *3:10 to Yuma* and *Robin Hood*. The Australian star — whose nickname for Durand is “The Mighty Tree” — is both a friend and mentor to the Canadian actor.

“I endlessly feel like I’m receiving an education from him,” says Durand. “We all have people in our lives that we look up to and learn from, and the one I learn from is one of the greatest actors in the world.”

And now the 38-year-old Durand passes on his own words of wisdom to up-and-coming actors. “I tell young actors, be a good person and love what you do because if you’re a good person and you’re sitting on the set of a job that you love, people are going to feel that. And they’re going to walk away feeling happy and inspired that they met someone who is genuinely living their dream.” —INGRID RANDOJA



RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION
HITS THEATRES SEPTEMBER 14TH

PHOTO BY JEFF VESPA/GETTY

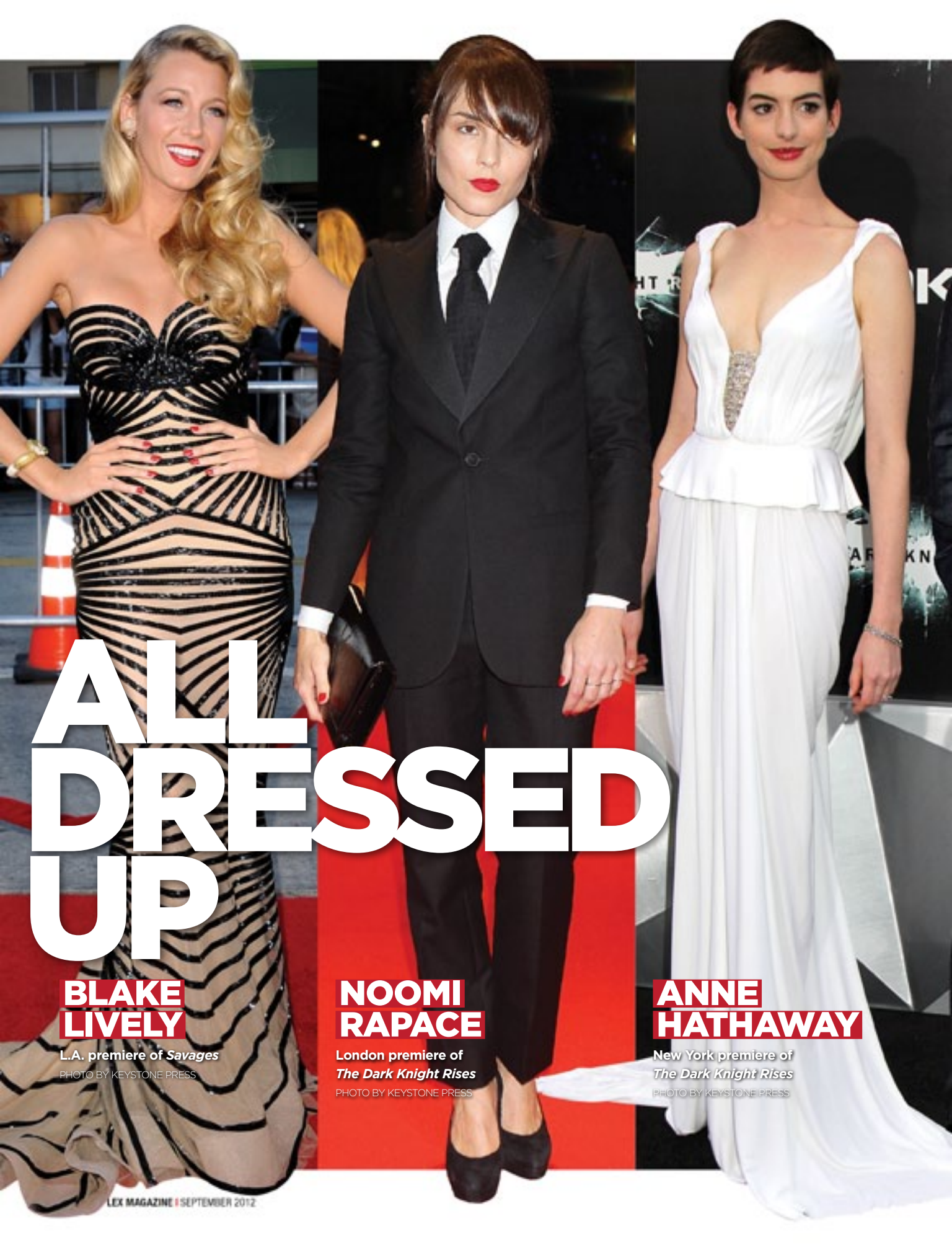
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ALL DRESSED UP

**BLAKE
LIVELY**

L.A. premiere of *Savages*
PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

**NOOMI
RAPACE**

London premiere of
The Dark Knight Rises
PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

**ANNE
HATHAWAY**

New York premiere of
The Dark Knight Rises
PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



CHANNING TATUM

London premiere of *Magic Mike*

PHOTO BY GARETH CATTERMOLE/GETTY



KATY PERRY

London premiere of
Katy Perry: Part of Me

PHOTO BY IAN GAVAN/GETTY



TERRENCE HOWARD

"Best of Style Party"
in Philadelphia

PHOTO BY GILBERT CARRASQUILLO/GETTY

IN THEATRES

SEPTEMBER 7

THE COLD LIGHT OF DAY

Will Shaw's (**Henry Cavill**) pleasant yachting vacation with his family is ruined when his kin are kidnapped by mysterious people who want the suitcase Will's dad (**Bruce Willis**) stole from them. It turns out daddy works for the CIA, and now Will has to find out if shooting guns, jumping from buildings and thwarting international baddies runs in the family.

See Henry Cavill interview, [page 28](#).



Bradley Cooper and Zoë Saldana in *The Words*

THE WORDS

While visiting a Parisian antique store with his wife (**Zoë Saldana**), stalled novelist Rory Jansen (**Bradley Cooper**) finds a 1940s manuscript inside a valise, which he ultimately decides to pass off as his own work. When the novel — about the love affair between an American soldier and a French woman — becomes a huge hit, Rory is confronted by an old man (**Jeremy Irons**) who says Rory stole his book, and his life story.

FOR A GOOD TIME CALL...

Toronto director **Jamie Travis** makes his feature film debut with this raunchy comedy about frenemies Katie (**Ari Graynor**) and Lauren (**Lauren Miller**), who team up to operate a smokin' hot phone sex line. Look for Miller's husband, **Seth Rogen**, as an airline pilot who needs a little pick-me-up before heading to the cockpit.

CONTINUED ►

Styles vary by store. Visit winners.ca for location nearest you. *No purchase necessary. August 24/12-September 28/12. Odds depend on number of entries received per day. Skill test required. For Official Contest Rules visit winners.ca/puffer.

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Finding Nemo 3D

► FINDING NEMO 3D

Pixar gives its beloved animated tale of a clownfish father (**Albert Brooks**) desperately swimming the ocean in search of his lost son the 3D treatment, which should only enhance its already striking visuals. We can't wait to see the results, and listen to arguably Pixar's best-ever voice cast, which includes Brooks as the comically fearful dad, **Ellen DeGeneres** as the kind, but forgetful, Dory and **Willem Dafoe** as the crafty Gil, a fish looking to escape from a dentist's fish tank.

RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

In the fifth *Resident Evil* film, Alice (**Milla Jovovich**) teams with Rain Ocampo (**Michelle Rodriguez**), Carlos Olivera (**Oded Fehr**) and new recruit Barry Burton (**Kevin Durand**) to travel to virus-stricken hotspots such as Tokyo, Moscow and New York in search of a way to defeat the evil Umbrella Corporation. See **Kevin Durand** interview, [page 16](#). CONTINUED ►



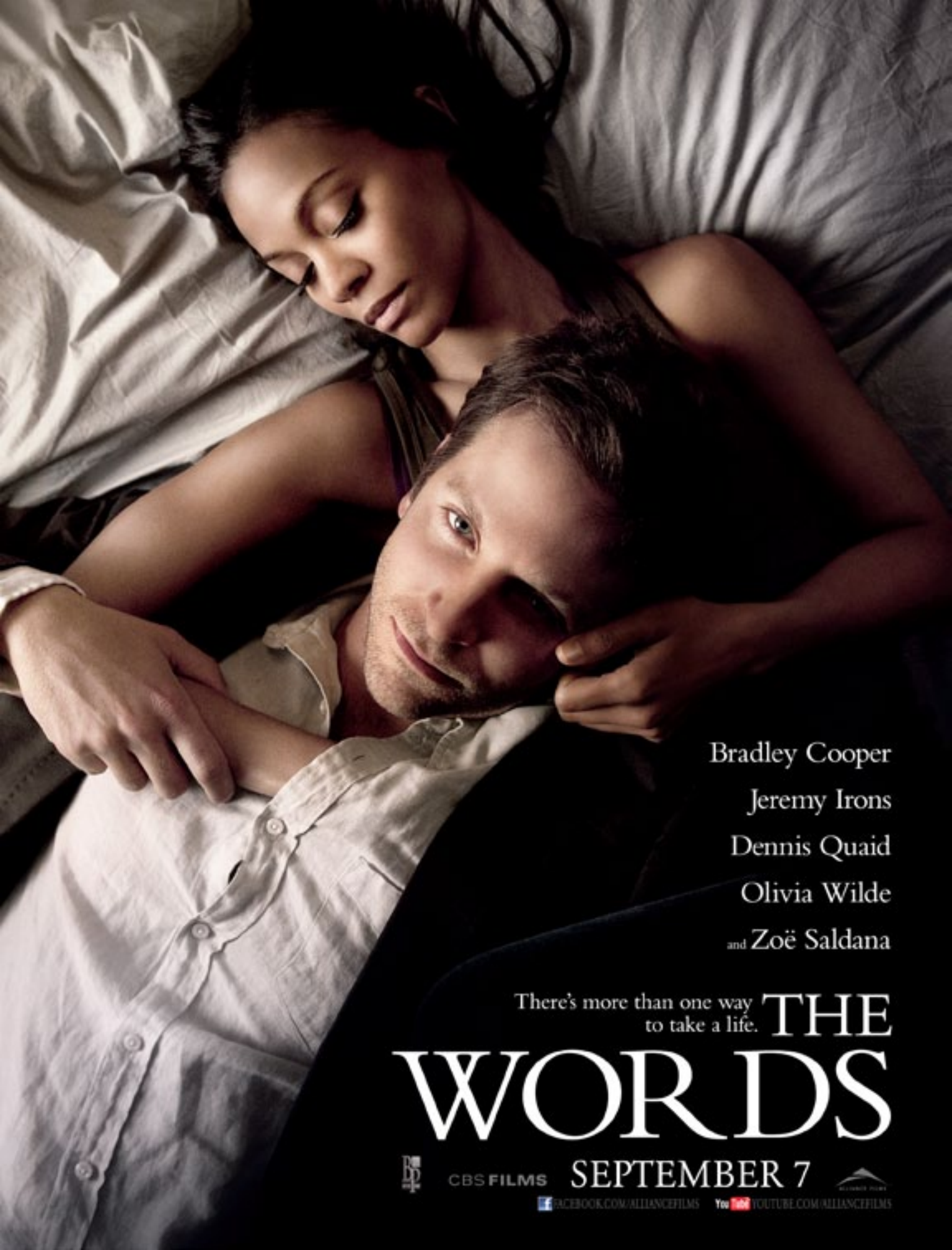
Milla Jovovich in *Resident Evil: Retribution*



The Perks of Being a Wallflower's Emma Watson and Logan Lerman

THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER

Author **Stephen Chbosky** directs the adaptation of his own popular 1999 teen novel about a socially awkward high school freshman named Charlie (**Logan Lerman**), who is befriended by two high school seniors — Sam (**Emma Watson**) and her gay stepbrother, Patrick (**Ezra Miller**) — who, while older, have problems of their own.



Bradley Cooper
Jeremy Irons
Dennis Quaid
Olivia Wilde
and Zoë Saldana

There's more than one way
to take a life.

THE WORDS



CBS FILMS

SEPTEMBER 7



[FACEBOOK.COM/ALLIANCEFILMS](https://www.facebook.com/alliancefilms) [YOUTUBE.COM/ALLIANCEFILMS](https://www.youtube.com/alliancefilms)

SEPTEMBER 21



10 Years' ensemble cast

10 YEARS

Channing Tatum, Justin Long, Rosario Dawson, Kate Mara, Anthony Mackie and Chris Pratt star in this bittersweet look at a group of friends returning home for their 10-year high school reunion.

ARBITRAGE

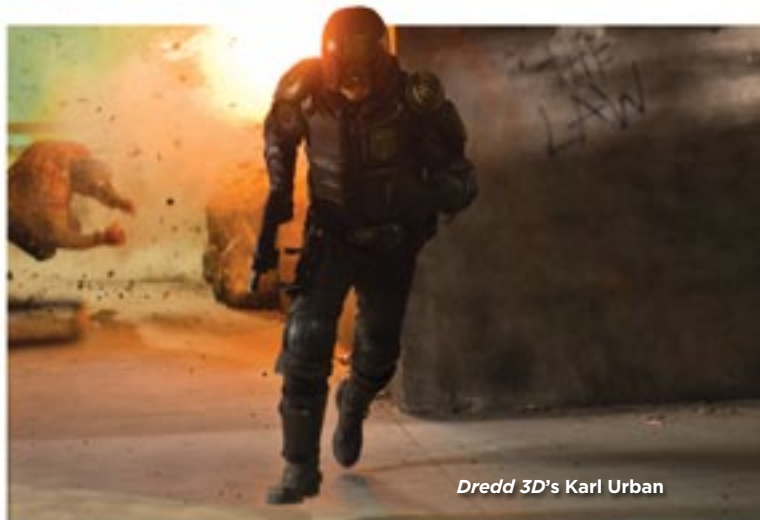
The nefarious, wheeling-dealing financial world is the setting for this thriller about a hedge fund magnate (**Richard Gere**) involved in a car accident in which his mistress is killed. He must hide his tracks from the investigating cop (**Tim Roth**) and his suspicious wife (**Susan Sarandon**) long enough to merge his almost bankrupt company with a larger firm.

END OF WATCH

In this gritty, high-tension drama, two Los Angeles police officers — **Jake Gyllenhaal** and **Michael Peña** — become the targets of a drug cartel. Writer/director **David Ayers** just can't get enough of the macho world of cops; he wrote *Training Day* and *Dark Blue*, and directed *Street Kings*.

ROLLER TOWN

Canadian comedy troupe Picnicface brings us this comedy set in 1970s Halifax in which a bunch of friends boogie down at the local roller rink. But when some dim-witted bad guy wants to turn the rink into a videogame arcade, the friends strap on their skates ready to defend their disco domain.



Dredd 3D's Karl Urban

HOUSE AT THE END OF THE STREET

Although it opens this month, **Jennifer Lawrence** actually filmed this horror/thriller before *The Hunger Games*. She plays Elissa, who moves with her mom (**Elisabeth Shue**) into a nice home in a rural town, right next door to teenage Ryan (**Max Thieriot**), who survived a family tragedy when his sister murdered their parents. When Elissa and Ryan hook up, some scary stuff starts to happen. **See Jennifer Lawrence interview, page 32.**

DREDD 3D

Fans of the British comic book character were displeased with the first big-screen rendering of their futuristic vigilante hero — Sylvester Stallone in 1995's *Judge Dredd* — but the buzz is good for this flick that casts **Karl Urban** (*Star Trek*) as the face-shielding cop who eliminates criminal scum. Dredd and his rookie partner (**Olivia Thirlby**) are sent to dispatch drug lord Ma-Ma (**Lena Headey**), but have to enter an apartment building full of drug dealers and killers to do so.

CONTINUED ►



Jennifer Lawrence in *House at the End of the Street*

EVIL GOES GLOBAL

MILLA JOVOVICH
RESIDENT EVIL: RETRIBUTION

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► WON'T BACK DOWN

Based loosely on real events, this feel-good drama stars **Maggie Gyllenhaal** and **Viola Davis** as two mothers whose kids are struggling in the public school system. Determined to help their children, they band together to take on the huge task of transforming the school's bureaucratic system.



HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA

Adam Sandler voices Dracula in this animated 3D pic about Drac and his teen daughter running a hotel for monsters. Listen for **Kevin James** as Frankenstein, **Fran Drescher** as his Bride, **David Spade** as The Invisible Man, **Cee-Lo** as the Mummy and **Andy Samberg** as the human who stumbles across the hotel.

LOOPER

In the future, bad guys dispose of victims by sending them back in time, where loopers (hired killers) take care of them and leave a corpse that can't be identified (since it doesn't exist in that time period).

Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays a looper in a difficult situation when the victim that's sent for him to kill is the older version of himself (played by **Bruce Willis**). See **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** feature, **page 46**.

TROUBLE WITH THE CURVE

The 82-year-old **Clint Eastwood** stars in this dramedy about an old baseball scout who hits the road with his daughter (**Amy Adams**) for one last recruiting trip to check out a can't-miss pitching prospect. While on the road, his daughter falls for a former ballplayer (**Justin Timberlake**).

FRONT ROW CENTRE EVENTS

OPERA PRODUCTIONS IN 3D

CARMEN 3D
SAT., SEPT. 1

MADAM BUTTERFLY 3D
WED., SEPT. 5; SUN., SEPT. 9
& MON., SEPT. 10

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE
THE CURIOUS INCIDENT
OF THE DOG IN THE
NIGHT-TIME
THURS., SEPT. 6

BBC LAST NIGHT OF THE
PROMS 2012
LIVE: SAT., SEPT. 8

WWE LIVE VIA SATELLITE
NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS
SUN., SEPT. 16

CLASSIC FILM SERIES
SUNSET BOULEVARD
SUN., SEPT. 16; WED., SEPT. 19

SPECIAL CONCERT EVENT
MUSE
MON., SEPT. 17

QUEEN
HUNGARIAN RHAPSODY
THURS., SEPT. 20

STRATFORD SHAKESPEARE
FESTIVAL
THE TEMPEST
ENCORE: THURS., SEPT. 27

BOLSHOI BALLET
LA SYLPHIDE
SUN., SEPT. 30

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HERO IN TRAINING

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

Nine months to go before we see **Henry Cavill's** take on Superman in the much-anticipated *Man of Steel*. But this month we get a taste of Cavill as a different kind of hero — an accidental one — in the action thriller *The Cold Light of Day* ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

Henry Cavill took a break between the heroic roles of Theseus and Superman to play an everyday guy in *The Cold Light of Day*.

Perhaps unavoidably, though, the English actor's part in the suspense film turned into quite a display of derring-do.

"*Cold Light of Day* is an action thriller about different international secret services," says the heroically handsome actor during an interview

in Beverly Hills. "They're trying to attain a briefcase and I get stuck in the middle of it. I'm an average, regular Joe who has to do extraordinary things to survive, perform death-defying manoeuvres and risky stunts to save my family. One of the secret agents is using my family as a way of getting what they want."

Cavill's character, Will Shaw, is vacationing with relatives in Spain when his mother and brother are kidnapped. He soon learns that his father (Bruce Willis), who he thought worked for the government as a business consultant, is actually a CIA agent. After that Will becomes wrapped up with a series of questionable characters, including one of his dad's former colleagues, another CIA agent played by Sigourney Weaver.

"It was fantastic, as it is working with any actor with that kind of experience," says the 29-year-old of acting alongside veterans Willis and Weaver. "You just get to learn a lot — and it's good fun!" CONTINUED ►

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LEFT: *The Cold Light of Day's* Henry Cavill in a spot of trouble **BELOW:** Cavill as Superman in *Man of Steel*



"I don't let the pressure get to me because it's going to hinder my performance and, therefore, let people down," Cavill says of playing Superman

choose to ignore the pressure side of it and focus on doing justice to Superman."

The fourth of five brothers, Cavill left his bucolic isle for English boarding school at 13. While all of the brothers did school plays, Henry was lucky enough to be spotted by a casting director at one of his. That led to a role in the 2002 film *The Count of Monte Cristo*, and he's been working steadily ever since — most notably, until *Immortals*, on the cable TV series *The Tudors*.

It hasn't all been smooth sailing, though. Beside losing Superman the first time around, Cavill vied for the James Bond job that went to Daniel Craig and, reportedly, was under consideration for the Batman series that starred Christian Bale.

Cavill sees no reason to dwell on past could-have-beens, though. Nor to worry much about the future, considering how well things have actually been going.

"There are no goals or hopes, necessarily," he says. "I just want to tell good stories. That's the plan."

With, maybe, one exception.

"I would love the opportunity to play Bond!" ☑

Bob Strauss lives in L.A. where he writes about movies and filmmakers.

► The best part, though?

"The director [France's Mabrouk El Mechri] told me to stop working out and to eat, drink and be merry so I'd look more like a normal person," says Cavill, who had just come off a strict training regimen while filming, often shirtless, the Greek-god spectacular *Immortals*.

"So I ate and drank, and I was merry," he adds with a smile.

That happy interlude ended abruptly when Cavill got the call from *Man of Steel* director Zack Snyder (*300*, *Watchmen*). The actor couldn't complain.

"There's no better feeling than to get that call," Cavill says. "Actually, I was at home when the phone rang. It was an unknown number and I ignored it, then looked down and saw it was Zack Snyder. I was like 'Oh my God!' and he'd hung up at that stage. Fortunately, he called back."

Scheduled for release next summer, *Man of Steel* is the latest attempt to relaunch the comic book movie franchise to the heights it achieved in the 1970s and '80s. Cavill — who had tried out for the last stab at reviving the character, 2006's *Superman Returns*, but lost to Brandon Routh — thinks this version ought to do the trick.

"What I can say is that it's a modernization of the character and a very realistic view of one, obviously, very fantastic individual," he says. "It's an unreal situation, but it's approached from a very practical viewpoint. We wanted to make the character easier to identify with."

Although he didn't have access to comic books on the small Channel Island of Jersey where he was born, Cavill knows how important getting the granddaddy of all superheroes right is to millions of fans. He's also cognizant of the supposed Superman Curse: 1950s television portrayer George Reeves committed suicide, 20th-century movie star Christopher Reeve was paralyzed in a horse-riding accident and Routh...well, what exactly is Routh doing these days?

Perhaps following a catchphrase from a rival superhero series, Cavill approached the task with the attitude that with great power comes great responsibility.

"Very much so, yes," he says. "It's important to do the role justice. There are a lot of people relying on me to do this well. I gladly accept that responsibility, and it's a great one to have because it's a wonderful opportunity. I don't let the pressures get to me because that's going to hinder my performance and, therefore, let people down. So I

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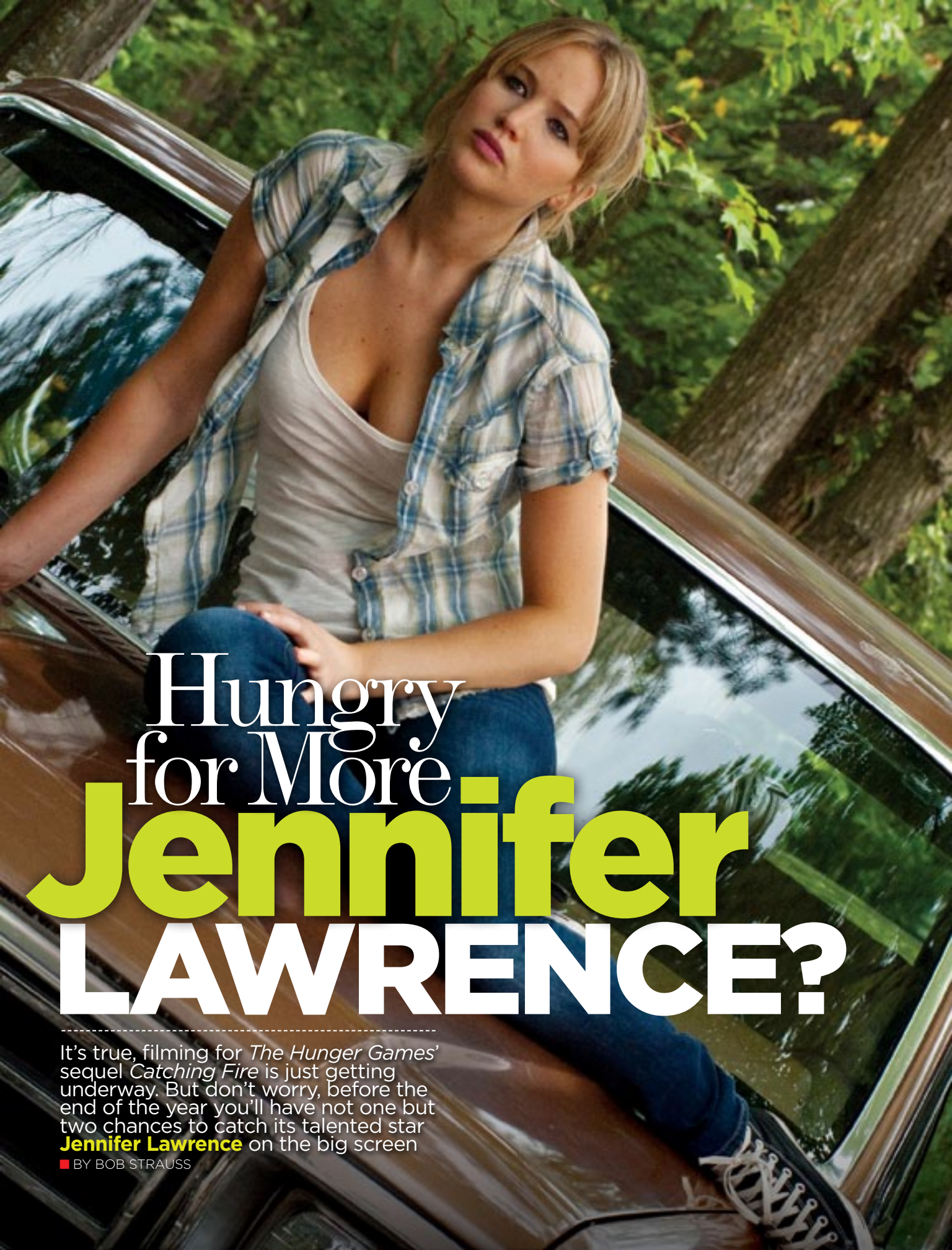


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Hungry for More **Jennifer** **LAWRENCE?**

It's true, filming for *The Hunger Games'* sequel *Catching Fire* is just getting underway. But don't worry, before the end of the year you'll have not one but two chances to catch its talented star **Jennifer Lawrence** on the big screen

■ BY BOB STRAUSS

“The progression of the fame was very quick,” says Lawrence. “In just a matter of months, people were screaming my name”



Jennifer Lawrence and Max Thieriot in *House at the End of the Street*
LEFT: Lawrence with Bradley Cooper in *Silver Linings Playbook*



There's no guarantee that Jennifer Lawrence's millions of new *Hunger Games* fans will follow their heroine to other movies. It has, after all, taken Kristen Stewart years to convince her loyal Twihards to try her out in different roles — a goal achieved (after many underseen indies) only this summer with *Snow White and the Huntsman*.

But this month we'll get our first inkling of how Lawrence will be received post-*Hunger Games* when the fright flick *House at the End of the Street* hits theatres. Then two months from now her talky farce *Silver Linings Playbook* — which co-stars Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro, and premieres at the Toronto International Film Festival — will show a much different side of the 22-year-old actor.

Filmed in Ottawa (filling in for small-town America) in the summer of 2010, *House at the End of the Street* is one of those horrors where all is not as it seems. “It’s about a teenage girl who moves into a new house with her mom, and finds out that this boy in the neighbourhood who she has a crush on her may not be as trustworthy as she thought,” explains Lawrence during a recent chat in Los Angeles.

That girl, Elissa (Lawrence), and her mom Sarah (Elisabeth Shue) move into a nice — and surprisingly affordable — house in a forested neighbourhood, only to learn that not long ago a girl in the house next door killed her parents and then disappeared into the woods. When the murderer’s brother Ryan (Max Thieriot), who had been living with relatives, returns to the property, Elissa is intrigued. She finds him sweet and sensitive, even something of a gentleman. Uh-oh. That doesn’t bode well...

“[It’s] a psychological thriller, which is something that I really wanted to do,” says Lawrence, who became the second-youngest Best Actress Oscar nominee two years ago for her stunning performance in *Winter’s Bone*. “And it was a very fun shoot, it was a blast, lots of running and screaming. I love the director, Mark Tonderai, who is also an actor and knows what to do with us.”

So, we presume, does the director of *Silver Linings Playbook*, David O. Russell. He coached Christian Bale and Melissa Leo to Best Supporting Actor Oscars for *The Fighter* the same year Lawrence earned her nod for *Winter’s Bone*.

Adapted from Matthew Quick’s novel, *Silver Linings Playbook* is a character-driven comedy that charts the rehabilitation of a former psychiatric patient (Cooper) as he moves back in with his parents (De Niro and Jacki Weaver) and tries to reunite with his ex-wife. Complicating that effort is Tiffany (Lawrence), a young

widow with a checkered past and certifiable impulses of her own.

Pretty funny in real life, Lawrence welcomed the chance to show off her comic chops, but says *Silver Linings* required a lot of acting, too. “Tiffany’s not cracking jokes, she’s not, like, my kind of funny,” Lawrence notes. “She’s funny in the sense that she’s dead serious in everything that she’s saying, but what she’s saying is absolutely nuts. She’s an ex-nymphomaniac, and knows from the second she meets Bradley Cooper, who just got out of a mental institution, that they’re meant to be together.”

Of course, what we really want to know is how the one-two punch of being history’s second-youngest Best Actress nominee and headlining *The Hunger Games*, one of the year’s biggest hits, has affected her own mental stability.

“I’m doing okay,” Lawrence assures. “It’s one of those things that’s so big you don’t even feel it, so I don’t really know how to react to it. I feel like I’ve been doing this for so long.... I know that I’m young, I started when I was 14. So in a lot of ways, I feel like I’m an actor, now I’m being recognized, and that’s what happens. The progression of the fame was very quick; in just a matter of months, people were screaming my name.

“It still hasn’t sunk in,” she adds. “I still go out looking like crap. And when I get recognized I still get weirded out. It’ll sink in soon, I can feel it starting to. But it hasn’t taken hold yet.”

As for her family back home in Louisville, Kentucky, Lawrence says her two older brothers aren’t into Hollywood stuff and, therefore, are immune to their little sister’s blazing success. Her parents, meanwhile, are just exhaling.

“They think it’s great,” she says. “It’s always worrisome when you have a kid like me who doesn’t like school and doesn’t like sports. I think there’s just a huge sense of relief in my family that, okay, at least she’s talented in something. And they’re happy for me because I’m happy.”

Bob Strauss lives in L.A. where he writes about movies and filmmakers.

By most accounts, the **Toronto International Film Festival** (September 6th to 16th) is the biggest film fest in the world. And if you live in Toronto, you have access to the screenings, the stars and maybe even a fabulous party or two. If you can't make it, relax, many top films screening here will make it to your local theatre before long, including opening night film *Looper*, which you can read about on page 46, and director Deepa Mehta's *Midnight's Children*; see our Q&A with Mehta on page 44

tiff

guide

For Festival-Goers... & Everyone Else

Top movies that'll dazzle Toronto audiences during TIFF (what the hip kids call the fest), and open in your city soon after

The Perks of Being a Wallflower

OPENS SEPTEMBER 20

While Daniel Radcliffe's every post-*Harry Potter* role is duly noted, former cast mate **Emma Watson** is quietly moving her career forward, choosing interesting roles in interesting movies. In this acclaimed coming-of-age tale, **Logan Lerman** stars as Charlie, an awkward high school freshman who falls for Sam (Watson), a bright senior who uses sex with older guys as a way of validating herself. Watson effortlessly slides into a role that's just racy enough to give her grown-up credibility without alienating her huge fan base.

CONTINUED ►



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► End of Watch

OPENS SEPTEMBER 21

Two L.A. cops (**Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Peña**) become the targets of a notorious drug cartel.

Argo

OPENS OCTOBER 12

You know it's fall movie season when superheroes step aside to let characters like a Canadian diplomat and a scruffy CIA agent save the day. Director **Ben Affleck's** third feature recreates the real-life 1979 "Canadian Caper," which sees unorthodox CIA agent Tony Mendez (Affleck) engineer the risky rescue of six American diplomats who, after the fall of the U.S. embassy in Iran, are trapped inside the home of Canadian ambassador Ken Taylor (**Victor Garber**).



Cloud Atlas

OPENS OCTOBER 26

The Wachowskis (who haven't directed a film since 2008's *Speed Racer*) team with **Tom Tykwer** to helm perhaps the year's most intriguing film — a look at one human soul moving through six different lifetimes, beginning in the 19th-century and ending in a post-apocalyptic future. Based on the award-winning book by British author **David Mitchell**, the all-star cast includes **Tom Hanks, Halle Berry, Hugh Grant** and **Susan Sarandon**.



Anna Karenina

OPENS NOVEMBER 16

Take a look at the trailer for director **Joe Wright's** adaptation of **Leo Tolstoy's** classic novel and be amazed.

Keira Knightly — who's worked with Wright twice before in *Atonement* and *Pride & Prejudice* — plays the doomed Russian aristocrat Anna Karenina, who forsakes her respected husband (**Jude Law**) to pursue an affair with a dashing Count (**Aaron Taylor-Johnson**). Wright shot most of the film in an old theatre where more than 100 sets were built to convey the story of Anna's public fall from grace.

CONTINUED ►

FESTIVAL 411

You can get the full slate of films playing at TIFF on their website — www.tiff.net/thefestival — where you can also purchase single tickets or ticket packages 24 hours a day. Or, if you live in Toronto and want to see a movie, don't be shy about joining a "rush" line as sometimes sold-out screenings have ticket holders who don't show up, and those seats are made available to the public 10 minutes before the screening.





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► DID YOU KNOW?

TIFF isn't just for university-trained film aficionados and lifelong cinephiles. It's for kids, too! *Finding Nemo 3D* and *Hotel Transylvania* will both screen as part of the "TIFF Kids" programme before opening nationwide later this month on **September 14th and 28th** respectively.



Silver Linings Playbook

OPENS NOVEMBER 21

If you thought **Jennifer Lawrence** stepped up to the plate in *The Hunger Games*, look for her to hit it out of the park with this dark comedy about a mentally unstable young woman (Lawrence) who falls for her neighbour (**Bradley Cooper**), who's just returned home after spending time in a psychiatric hospital. Directed by **David O. Russell** (*The Fighter*).

The Impossible

OPENS DECEMBER 2012

We know it won't be easy to watch, but it probably won't be easy to look away either. Spanish director **Juan Antonio Bayona** navigates stormy waters for this drama based on the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that devastated the surrounding countries and their people. **Ewan McGregor** and **Naomi Watts** play a couple vacationing in Thailand with their three children when the killer wave hits.



Hyde Park on Hudson

OPENS DECEMBER 7

It's curious casting, **Bill Murray** as American President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who in 1939 plays host to England's King George VI (**Samuel West**) and Queen Elizabeth (**Olivia Colman**) at his summer home in upstate New York. He also welcomes his distant cousin, Margaret Suckley (**Laura Linney**), with whom he begins a romantic relationship. It's a weekend that could alter world events as war looms in Europe, and Roosevelt's marriage to Eleanor (an unrecognizable **Olivia Williams**) is tested. **CONTINUED ►**

TIFF COVERAGE ON CINEPLEX.COM

Looking for up-to-the-minute TIFF news, interviews with A-list stars in Toronto to screen their films, photo galleries, and trailers for movies playing at the fest? You'll find it all at www.cineplex.com/tiff.

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◀ The Place Beyond the Pines

OPENS 2013

Blue Valentine actor

Ryan Gosling and director **Derek Cianfrance** fit hand-in-glove creatively, so we're excited to see the results of their second teaming, a multi-generational drama set in the town of Schenectady (which is a Dutch derivation of an Iroquois phrase meaning "The Place Beyond the Pines"). The plot follows a motorcycle stunt rider (Gosling) who robs a bank to provide for his wife (**Eva Mendes**) and child, and the cop (**Bradley Cooper**) who hunts him down.

▶ Quartet

OPENS 2013

You just have to look at *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* to know worldwide audiences love watching seasoned actors strut their stuff.

Dustin Hoffman, himself a wily veteran, makes his directing debut with this dramedy, set in a home for retired musicians, that finds four retired opera singers — **Maggie Smith**, **Tom Courtenay**, **Pauline Collins** and **Billy Connolly** — bickering over a concert they've agreed to perform together.

▶ To the Wonder

MOST LIKELY 2013

What's this — another film from **Terrence Malick**? *The Tree of Life* was released last year, which makes two pics in two years from a director who once waited 20 years between films — 1978's *Days of Heaven* and 1998's *The Thin Red Line*. The very visual filmmaker gives us a love story between a man (**Ben Affleck**) grieving the end of his marriage and a woman (**Rachel McAdams**) he meets in his hometown in Oklahoma.



Other TIFF Movies Opening Soon...

GREAT EXPECTATIONS

Helena Bonham Carter plays Mrs. Havisham in this latest adaptation of Dickens' classic novel.

IMOGENE

A playwright (Kristen Wiig) fakes her own suicide to win back an ex-boyfriend.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Director Joss Whedon shot his take on Shakespeare's play at his house in just 12 days.

THE COMPANY YOU KEEP

A former radical (Robert Redford) is exposed by a reporter (Shia LaBeouf) in this thriller directed by Redford.

THE ICEMAN

Michael Shannon portrays real-life mafia hit man Richard Kuklinski.

RUST & BONE

This critically acclaimed French-Belgian love story finds whale trainer Marion Cotillard falling for an unemployed man.

THE SESSIONS

A man living in an iron lung (John Hawkes) looks to lose his virginity.

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SAY CHEESE!

The Toronto International Film Festival is your chance to take pics of, or even with, some of the world's biggest stars

GARNER FAVOUR

Jennifer Garner leans in for a lovely photo with this fan at last year's *Butter* premiere.

PHOTO BY GEORGE PIMENTEL/GETTY



TIFF'S RED CARPET

Mingling with the stars

HELLO, MADONNA!

Some of last year's biggest crowds showed up to see **Madonna**, in town for *W.E.*

PHOTO BY GEORGE PIMENTEL/GETTY



CHEEKY CHANNING

A lucky fan makes full facial contact with *10 Years* star **Channing Tatum** at last year's fest.

PHOTO BY ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY



AT EASE, GERRY

Gerard Butler has fun with the crowd before last year's screening of *Machine Gun Preacher*.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL TRAN/GETTY

DATING ADVICE | When it comes to love, short guys don't come up short.

If you're a single lady looking for love, maybe it's time to look down. "Tall guys are so 2009," says self-titled love expert Mandy Maneater. "Short guys are hot hot hot!" she proclaims, licking her finger, pressing it to her hip and making a sizzling sound. Lately a lot of beautiful women seem to be pairing up with men who barely come up to their bosom. So what's with the sudden rise of these little Lotharios?

We talked to three women who have thrown away their preconceptions – and their heels – and found love with a shorter man.

"I love everything about Pee Wee, except for his unfortunate nickname," Kate G. gushes. "We really see eye to eye. Well, not literally, but you know what I mean."

"I never used to picture myself with anyone less than six feet tall," says Jenn R. "But then I met Sal, and I just felt so comfortable around him. Plus, he takes up way less room on the couch."

"I was getting a crick in my neck from having to look at all those tall guys, so my doctor actually prescribed that I start dating men 5'4" and under. I've never been happier or in less pain!"

Sociologist June Judypants has her own theory of why shorter men suddenly measuring up "Tall in a bit of a bubble. They can just stand there, casting long shadows and women will adore them. Short guys try harder go-getters. Plus, they are help adorable. You can't help love

but love them the way you love a chihuahua, or a compact car."

So what do these shorter men have to say about the fact that they are all the rage these days? We got responses like "finally," "that's what I'm talkin' about!" and "call me."

In short, there's never been a better time to date a man of smaller stature. They are this season's hottest accessory! That's all, folks. Toss that tall tomcat to the curb and try a pint-size hottie on for size.

I won't let this award go to my head.

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Mehta's Midnight

Deepa Mehta teams with her good friend Salman Rushdie to bring his sprawling, magical book *Midnight's Children* to the big screen ■ BY SALAH BACHIR

Among the most anticipated Canadian films screening at this year's Toronto International Film Festival is the fantastical *Midnight's Children*, helmed by Indian-born Canadian director Deepa Mehta (*Water, Bollywood/Hollywood*) and written by Salman Rushdie, based on his own Booker Prize-winning novel.

The film tells the story of two baby boys born right at midnight on August 15, 1947 — the day India becomes independent from Great Britain. One baby, Shiva, is born to a rich Muslim family, the other, Saleem, to a poor Hindu woman. But in an act of political rebellion a nurse switches the two boys, and their lives are exchanged.

Filmed largely in Sri Lanka with a cast drawn from around the world, *Midnight's Children* stars Indian actor, singer and writer Siddharth as Shiva, and British-born Satya Bhabha as Saleem. But it's Rushdie himself — as the older Saleem, looking back at his life — who narrates this generations-spanning tale.

We spoke with Deepa Mehta shortly before the start of the film festival.

Q: What attracted you to the book?

"I was in Delhi when I read the book and I remember it created such a sensation and people were saying, 'Where were you when you first read the book?' It was almost like, 'Where were you when Kennedy died?' It was that kind of a feeling that doesn't happen amongst a lot of the people that I knew that

were in Delhi.... It's character that drives the story forward and the character of Saleem, for me, was this vulnerable, sweet, in fact, he was

the most unexpected hero. He didn't have any of the sort of heroic qualities that one associates with protagonists. He was an ordinary person and what it did was that anybody could be a hero. He made heroism accessible to all us mortals, which is something that's fascinating."

What would you say is the central message of the book?

"It's, in a way, a coming-of-age story. It's a huge saga about a family and a protagonist, you know, the hero of the family, in fact, who tells the story. And his story is the story of his grandparents, it's a huge saga. That's what it is really — family, love, tragedy, romance."

Everyone thought it was un-filmable. How do you tackle a project like that?

"I think there was a moment in the beginning where I was quite intimidated about what we were trying to do or hoping to accomplish. And then very consciously I made the choice of saying, 'I'm not going

to ever think this way otherwise I'll be paralyzed by fear.' So I just focused on the characters...and nothing else."

What was it like working with Salman Rushdie?

"It was fabulous. We really had a great time.... It's not just enough to be friends, which we were before we started working together — but many a friendship has collapsed under the pressure of making a film. I think his sense of humour, his love for film, I think has a lot to do with understanding that they're totally different; really understanding that the two — books and films — are different mediums and you have to do for cinema [things that may be] cringe-worthy for the writer of the book but is absolutely essential for cinema. I think that really helped."

What clicks for you when you say, "I must make this film."

"Well that's my sort of test. If I feel that if I don't make this film I won't die, there's no point in making it.... Salman called the book, I think, his love letter to India and, you know, I could understand that because it's such a loving and a balanced look at India. And a look that's actually from the outside and I didn't think about that until I'd finished making the film.... That it is my love letter to the country of my birth. And I could not have done it if I wasn't a Canadian. It took me being a Canadian to look at this book and say, 'I really want to make it.'"

Is it the separation, the duality, of being outside the country and looking back?

"I think that has a lot to do with it. The duality, I think just being outside, because it's taken me a long time to accept the fact that there is a duality...because for the longest time I really didn't want to be anything else except Indian. So when I accepted the fact that I was Canadian I think *Midnight's Children* happened." ■

Salah Bachir is the publisher of Cineplex Magazine.

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BEHIND JOSEPH GORDON- LEVITT'S KILLER LOOK

Does **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** remind you of anyone in this shot from the time-travel sci-fi **Looper**? Here the actor explains how (and why) he transformed into a younger version of one of Hollywood's famous icons for the role ■ BY MARNI WEISZ



When Joseph Gordon-Levitt's parents, Dennis and Jane, came to visit their son on the set of *Looper*, they were unsettled by what they saw. There was their boy with that shock of brown hair and that same voice they knew so well, but with a different nose, different mouth, different brows and lighter eyes.

"My mom was kind of freaked out because I was a lot like myself, but looked totally different," Gordon-Levitt recalls during a panel discussion at the WonderCon convention in Anaheim earlier this year. Another friend who came to watch Gordon-Levitt shoot couldn't even talk to his buddy because he was so unnerved that he sort of looked like himself, but sort of didn't.

"And, of course, that thrilled me because it means it's working, it means that I have transformed into someone else," says Gordon-Levitt, dressed sharp in a suit and tie for the occasion.

Looper — which has its world premiere at this month's Toronto International Film Festival before opening nationwide on September 28th — stars Gordon-Levitt as Joe. It also stars Bruce Willis as Joe. It's no coincidence that the characters share a name, they're the same character. Joe is a "looper" — a futuristic mob hit man who uses time travel to kill his mark and dispose of the body in the past. But when the mob decides to shut down the looper program they send the older Joe back in time so the younger Joe can kill him.

"I came up with the idea about 10 years ago at a point where I was reading a lot of Philip K. Dick," says the film's writer-director Rian Johnson during a panel at this year's Comic-Con in San Diego. But Johnson admits writing a story about time travel can be



"My mom was kind of freaked out because I was a lot like myself, but looked totally different," says Gordon-Levitt

a perilous exercise. "It's kind of like the *Iron Chef* [secret] ingredient that trips everyone up, 'You must cook with sod!'"

From the time he penned the tricky script, Johnson knew he wanted Gordon-Levitt to play the younger Joe. In fact, that's why the character is named Joe. "This was the first time that's ever happened to me in my life, that a writer wrote a part for me to play; and it was a real honour," says Gordon-Levitt.

The two have been friends since they teamed up for the 2005 indie noir *Brick*, about a high school crime ring, and it was always Johnson's hope that this film would be their follow-up. But once Willis was cast as the older Joe, Johnson realized, "Uh oh, they kind of don't look anything alike."

That's when prosthetic makeup designer Kazuhiro Tsuji was brought in. "We knew we weren't going to transform Joe to look like a young Bruce, but we figured if we can just do a little bit to the nose, a little bit with the lips, just to give enough of a hand hold so that you can go with it," says Johnson.

Even more than most actors, Gordon-Levitt is an artist — he plays guitar and drums, founded the website hitRECORD.org to encourage writers, musicians, filmmakers and other creative types to collaborate on artistic projects, has already directed several short films, and is currently working on his first feature behind the camera, *Don Jon's Addiction*, starring himself, Julianne Moore and Scarlett Johansson.

CONTINUED ►



Joseph Gordon-Levitt in *Looper*. **ABOVE:** Gordon-Levitt on set with director Rian Johnson

► And, from that artist's perspective, he loved every monotonous minute in the makeup chair with Tsuji.

"He's a mad genius, he's like an alchemist," says Gordon-Levitt. "He has this whole trailer and this huge shelf of various things, chemicals and brushes and it's all going on my face, which is fascinating because I get to watch an artist work and that's one of my favourite things, to just watch a great artist work, but then when your own face is the artist's canvas it's kind of a unique vantage point."

Makeup was just part of the transformation. While it's not unusual for an actor to study a real-life figure they're about to play in a film, it's a rare bonus to have the subject they're capturing right there during filming. Gordon-Levitt spent a lot of time with Willis on set and, of course, watched his movies, particularly *Sin City*, he says. "I would strip the audio out of the movies and put them on my iPod so I could listen to his voice over and over again and just find that character."

And the most striking thing Gordon-Levitt realized about Willis? How soft-spoken he is. The young actor leans into the microphone at the San Diego panel and, very softly, says, "He talks like this, this is how he has a conversation. You know why? Because he doesn't want other people listening to him, and also because he doesn't have to speak

up. And I think it goes to show, you know, a lot of guys — big, macho guys that talk loud and like to have a big presence in a room — they're sort of scared that they don't have a presence in a room. And a guy like Bruce who's not scared of anything, I would imagine, he doesn't have to raise his voice, he doesn't have to make sure that people know he's there. [Quietly] He talks like this."

Now 31, Gordon-Levitt should feel pretty confident in any room, too. Raised in Sherman Oaks, California, by activist parents who met working at a radio station, he's been a professional actor since he was six, with early roles as the young Norman in *A River Runs Through It* (1992) and, perhaps most memorably, as an alien trapped in a teen boy's body on TV's *3rd Rock From the Sun* (1996 to 2001).

Critically acclaimed performances followed in the aforementioned *Brick*, *(500) Days of Summer* (2009) and *Inception* (2010). But his career has ratcheted up a few notches this year. Aside from *Looper*, in July he hit the screen as a young cop in the blockbuster *The Dark Knight Rises*, August saw him star as a bike courier in *Premium Rush*, and in November he'll play Robert Todd Lincoln opposite Daniel Day-Lewis's Abraham Lincoln in Steven

Spielberg's *Lincoln*.

Few actors of his generation — perhaps Ryan Gosling, maybe James Franco — have done as good a job of avoiding bad scripts and waiting for the interesting ones as Gordon-Levitt. How has he done it?

"I made my money on a sitcom, so that's it," he says. "I'm lucky enough I don't have to support myself because I'm still cashing the *3rd Rock* cheques." ■

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.

DID YOU KNOW?

Joseph Gordon-Levitt's grandfather, Michael Gordon, was a Hollywood director. Among his more famous films are *Cyrano de Bergerac* (1950) with José Ferrer and the Doris Day/Rock Hudson romantic-comedy *Pillow Talk* (1959). —MW

Take Joseph Gordon-Levitt (left), add a pinch of Bruce Willis (centre) and you get looper Joe (right)



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Can't Wait For...

This is our favourite time of year for movies, when Oscar-calibre films mingle with big holiday releases. Here's a sneak peek at five movies that can't come soon enough for us

FRANKENWEENIE

OCTOBER 5

Tim Burton returns to his roots transforming a short film he made in 1984 into a full-length, stop-motion feature. Based on **Mary Shelley's** *Frankenstein* (surprise, surprise), it follows young Victor as he tries to reanimate his beloved, dead dog, Sparky.



SKYFALL

NOVEMBER 9

When a list identifying all of MI6's very secret agents is leaked to terrorists, James Bond (**Daniel Craig** in his third turn as 007) must eliminate the threat. Fingers crossed this 23rd Bond film is more *Casino Royale* than *Quantum of Solace*. CONTINUED ►

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▶ THE HOBBIT: AN UNEXPECTED JOURNEY

DECEMBER 14

Heart beating faster, palms clammy. It's been nine years since the last *Lord of the Rings* film, *The Return of the King*, and we've been waiting patiently for the start of **Peter Jackson's** prequel trilogy about Bilbo Baggins (**Martin Freeman**) as he joins the quest to reclaim lost Dwarf treasure.

DJANGO UNCHAINED

DECEMBER 28

Director **Quentin Tarantino** calls on his *Inglourious Basterds* pal **Christoph Waltz** and new collaborator **Jamie Foxx** to tell the story of freed slave Django (Foxx), bent on saving his wife from a ruthless plantation owner (**Leonardo DiCaprio**).



LES MISÉRABLES

DECEMBER 14

You had us at **Hugh Jackman**. The cast of the big-screen version of the musical *Les Misérables* has us very intrigued. **Hugh Jackman** as Jean Valjean. **Anne Hathaway** as Fantine. **Russell Crowe** as Javert. Then throw in **Sacha Baron Cohen** as Thénardier and **Helena Bonham Carter** as Madame Thénardier and, in all honesty, we don't care if any of them can sing.





2012 INDUCTEES

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Phil Hartman

Russ Jackson

Sarah McLachlan

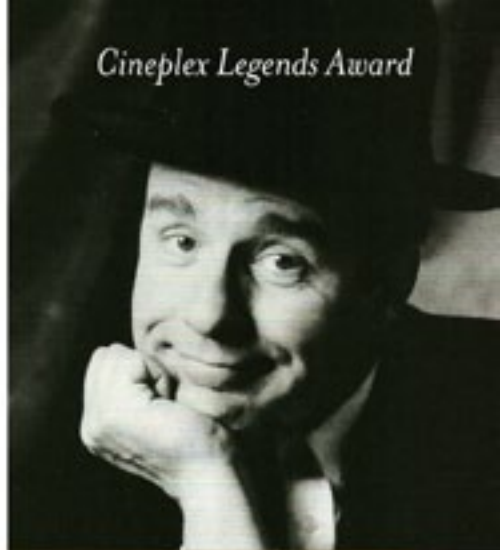
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CASTING CALL

■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

DUNST + MORTENSEN MAKE FACES

On the Road castmates **Kirsten Dunst** and **Viggo Mortensen** will reteam for the thriller *Two Faces of January*, based on the book by **Patricia Highsmith** (*The Talented Mr. Ripley*). The film follows a conman (Mortensen) and his wife (Dunst) who, believing they've killed a cop, run away to Istanbul. *Drive* writer **Hossein Amini** makes his directorial debut with the film, which starts shooting next month in Greece and Turkey.

HELMS TAKES VACATION

Here's a reboot we didn't see coming — New Line is bringing back the *Vacation* franchise, and has tapped **Ed Helms** for the lead role. He'll play Rusty Griswold, the now grown son of Clark Griswold (**Chevy Chase**), who takes his brood on a mishap-filled vacation. No word if Chase will return, but *Horrible Bosses* writers **John Francis Daley** and **Jonathan Goldstein** will direct.

RADCLIFFE GROWS HORNS

Daniel Radcliffe will star as Ig Perrish in the adaptation of the dark fantasy novel *Horns* by **Joe Hill** (who is, in fact, **Stephen King's** son). The story finds Perrish growing horns while searching for his girlfriend's killer, and the horns cause people around him to do horrible things and reveal their ugliest thoughts. Shooting starts in the fall with horror director **Alexandre Aja** (*Piranha*, *The Hills Have Eyes*) behind the camera.

FASSBENDER'S KILLER ROLE

The videogame adaptation *Prince of Persia: The Sands of Time* may have underperformed at the North American box office (\$90-million) but it took in \$244-million overseas, making a big-screen adaptation of the similar videogame title *Assassin's Creed* more appealing, especially since the talented **Michael Fassbender** has agreed to star. Not only will the Irish actor play the lead character, a modern-day bartender who relives the memories of his assassin ancestors, he'll also co-produce through his film company, DMC. Filming starts this fall. ▶

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PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



WHAT'S GOING ON WITH...

World War Z

Brad Pitt doesn't make many missteps, but his attempt (he's starring and producing) to adapt **Max Brooks'** bestseller *World War Z* has been fraught with problems. The tale of humans battling a global zombie plague was pushed back from this December to Summer 2013, has a ballooning budget, needed a rewrite of the third act and five weeks of reshoots. Plus, Pitt and director **Marc Forster** have reportedly fallen out, making for a tense set. Let's hope they can bail out this sinking ship.



FRESH FACE NORA ARNEZEDER

A true triple-threat, 23-year-old **Nora Arnezeder** is a French singer-actor-model who's just beginning her Hollywood ascent. She studied dance and singing in Paris, became the face of Guerlain's fragrance *Idylle* in 2009, and made her English-language film debut in *Safe House* earlier this year. This month she appears in the **Bradley Cooper** pic *The Words* and she'll be seen opposite **Elijah Wood** in the horror film *Maniac*.



PALTROW GETS COOKING

Gwyneth Paltrow — who penned her own cookbook, *My Father's Daughter*, last year — is set to star in the adaptation of chef **Gabrielle Hamilton's** memoir *Blood, Bones & Butter*. Hamilton, who owns Prune restaurant, was a self-described lesbian who wanted to become a writer, but ended up married with two kids and operating one of New York's finest restaurants. No word on who will direct.

ALSO IN THE WORKS

► **Charlie Sheen** will play the U.S. President in director **Robert Rodriguez's** *Machete Kills*. ► *The King of Soho* casts **Tom Hiddleston** as real-life British porn king **Paul Raymond**. ► **Amber Heard** joins **Liam Hemsworth** and **Harrison Ford** in the corporate espionage pic *Paranoia*. ► Oscar winner **Jean Dujardin** will play a corrupt Swiss banker opposite **Leonardo DiCaprio** in *The Wolf of Wall Street*.

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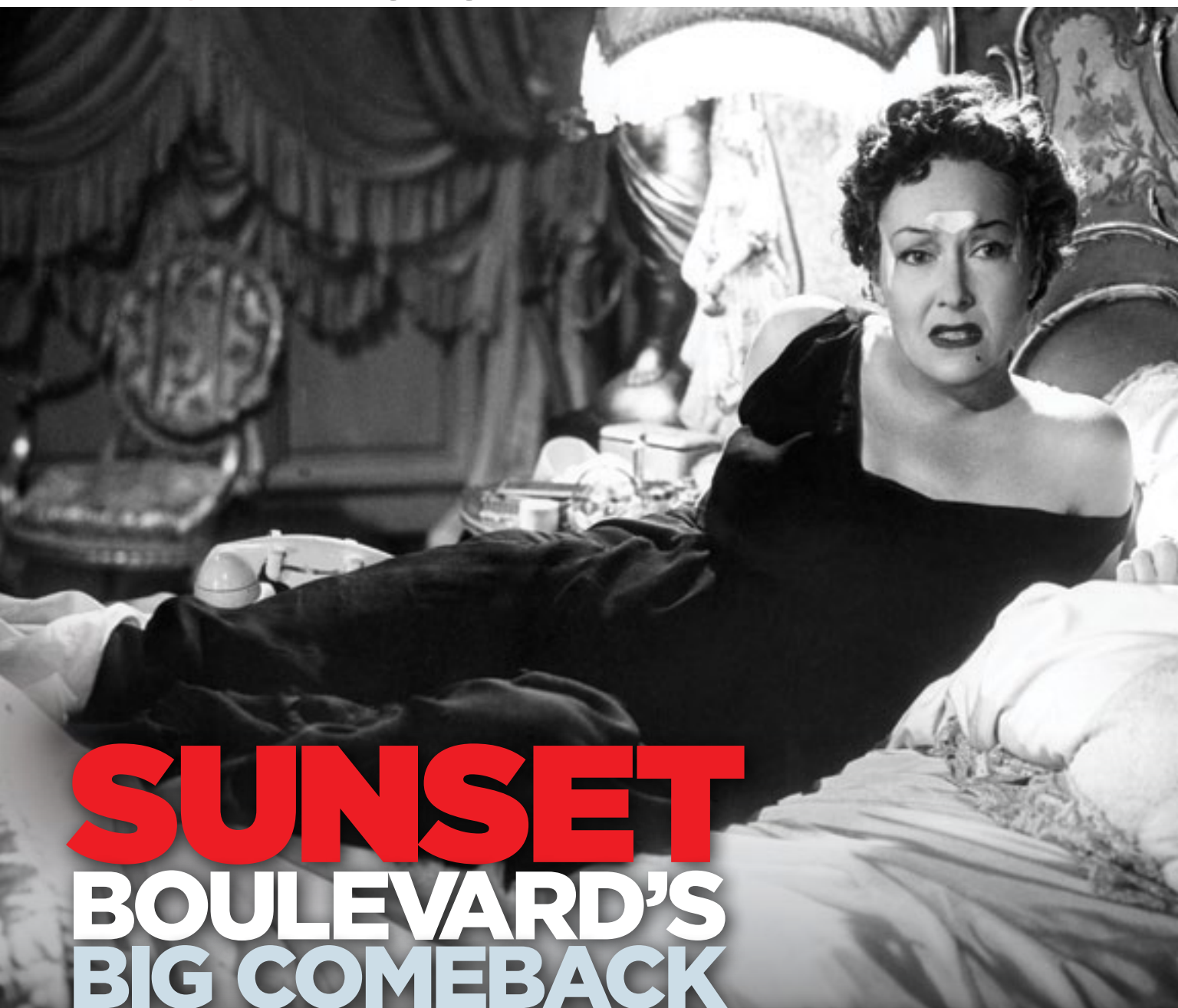


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SUNSET BOULEVARD'S BIG COMEBACK

It was the role no one wanted — *Sunset Boulevard's* Norma Desmond, a flamboyant, delusional silent film star who attempts a comeback with the help of a struggling screenwriter (played by William Holden).

Mary Pickford (among others) said no to *Sunset Boulevard's* writer/director Billy Wilder, but Gloria Swanson accepted, believing it could be a career-defining role.

Locked away in her tomb-like mansion where she plays bridge with other washed-up

silent stars (including Buster Keaton) and watches her old films, Desmond lives in the past but dreams of returning to the big screen, thus becoming a symbol of the cruel and transient nature of Hollywood glory.

Like her movie alter ego, Swanson was a huge silent film star who had also lived in a mansion on Sunset Boulevard. But, unlike Norma Desmond, when talking pictures took hold Swanson realized her career was on the downward slide and gracefully exited Hollywood, returning only when Wilder called. —IR

Sunset Boulevard screens as part of Cineplex's Classic Film Series on September 16th and 19th. Go to Cineplex.com/events for times and locations

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THE AVENGERS SEPTEMBER 25

With its clever script, well-written dialogue and some of the best one-liners of any film this year, it's no wonder fans lapped up this tale of Iron Man (**Robert Downey Jr.**), Captain America (**Chris Evans**), The Hulk (**Mark Ruffalo**), Thor (**Chris Hemsworth**) et al. who come together to keep Loki (**Tom Hiddleston**) from taking over our world. The DVD and Blu-ray feature a first for a Marvel Studios film — a gag reel.

Something Special

HARRY POTTER WIZARD'S COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 7

Last November, Warner Bros. released a bare-bones collection of the *Harry Potter* movies and everyone knew that, eventually, a super-duper collection with all sorts of bonus material and collectible items would arrive. Well, here it is — a 31-disc set with five hours of never-seen material and eight collectible items all packed in a beautiful box. But be warned, it'll cost you \$500.



SAFE

SEPTEMBER 4

This fast-paced thriller sees **Jason Statham** playing a New York cop-turned-cage-fighter who spontaneously saves a young girl (**Catherine Chan**) from scary-looking thugs on the subway, only to learn she's a math prodigy being pursued by the Russian mafia and the Chinese Triads.



THE FIVE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 4

Likeable actors **Emily Blunt** and **Jason Segel** pair up for a likeable rom-com about Tom and his fiancée Violet. After they become engaged Violet moves away — temporarily, at first — for a great job and the wedding is delayed and delayed and delayed.



THE CABIN IN THE WOODS

SEPTEMBER 18

One of the surprise critical hits of the year, this unusual horror from writer **Joss Whedon** and writer-director **Drew Goddard** stars **Chris Hemsworth** as one of a bunch of kids who head to a remote cabin for some good times only to find themselves trapped in a house of horrors.

Games



DEAD OR ALIVE 5

SEPTEMBER 25

PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360

Word is, this first installment of the sexy *Dead or Alive* series without franchise creator **Tomonobu Itagaki** has even better graphics, including more realistic looking models who sweat as the they fight.

MORE MOVIES ► **PIRANHA 3DD** (SEPTEMBER 4) ► **THE DEVIL INSIDE** (SEPTEMBER 11)
► **WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU'RE EXPECTING** (SEPTEMBER 11) ► **HYSTERIA** (SEPTEMBER 18)
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FINALLY...



CUT IT OUT

Frustrated that he couldn't find action figures for the TV and movie characters he loves, Jackson, Mississippi, illustrator Kyle Hilton decided to make his own dolls, like this one of Ryan Gosling as his *Drive* persona. "I grew up on action figures as a kid, and something about seeing a character personified by their most recognizable costumes and accessories was always the most exciting part about collecting them. So as an illustrator, and not much of a sculptor, that developed into this 2D paper doll format," says Hilton.

He's created a large collection of dolls (which you can find at <http://flannelanimal.tumblr.com/>) that range from the cast of TV's *Parks and Recreation*, *Breaking Bad* and *Arrested Development* to Chris Hemsworth in *Thor*. "I get really nice emails from time to time with pictures of the dolls cut out and sitting on someone's desk, which is really awesome to see," says Hilton. —MW



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