

MARCH 2011 | VOLUME 12 | NUMBER 3

CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

Inside
**VANESSA
HUDGENS**
**BRADLEY
COOPER**

SPRING
FASHION
PREVIEW!

Emily
BLUNT
MAKES
SCI-FI
SEXY

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GETAWAY BLISS: THE TOP-5 CELEBRITY-OWNED VACATION SPOTS

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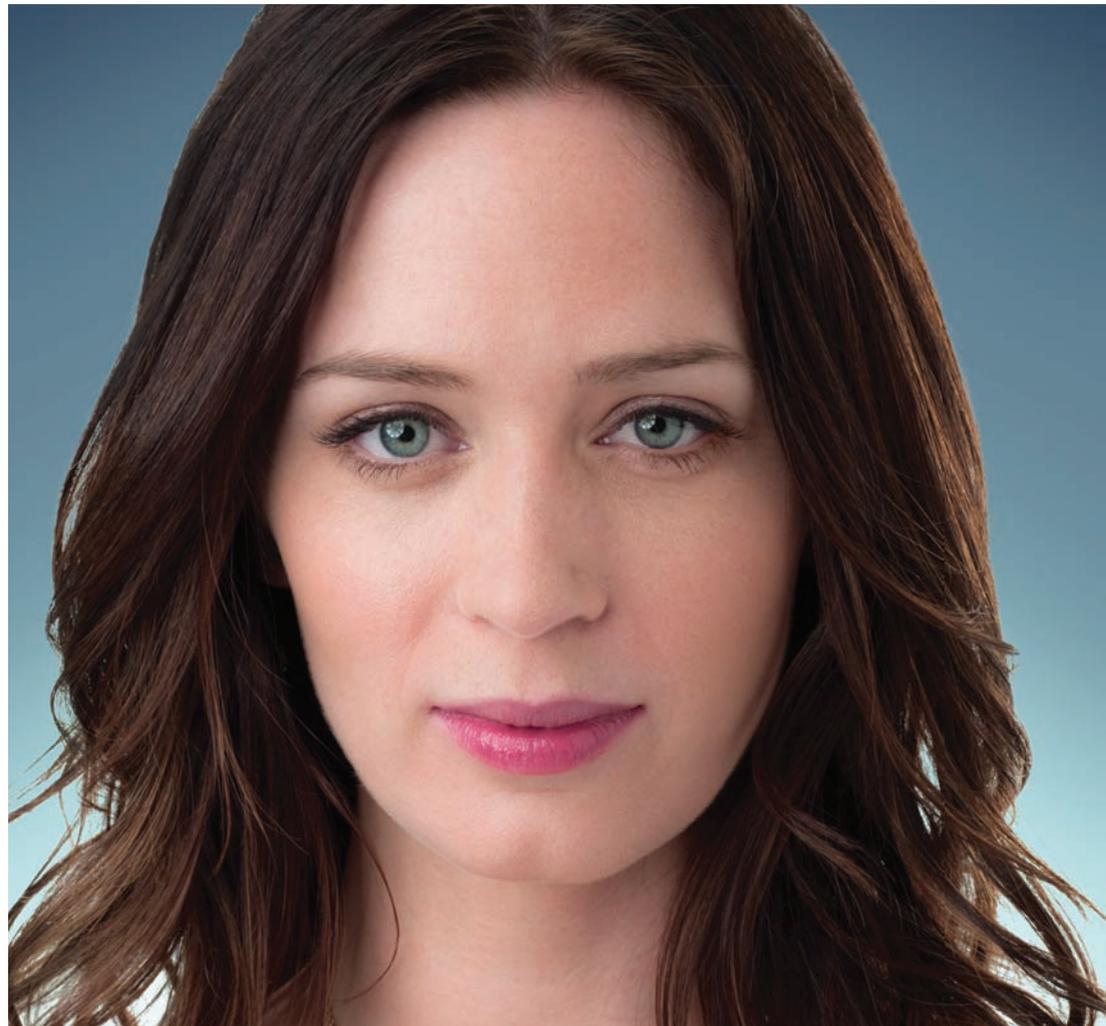
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BY MARNI WEISZ



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EDITOR'S NOTE



WHAT MAKES SCI-FI WORK?

When I was doing my undergraduate degree many, many, many years ago, I took a course called "Film and Fiction." You'd read a book, watch the film adaptation, and discuss. Yeah, I know. They didn't actually offer basket-weaving, so...

We covered most of the major genres — drama (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*), romance (*The French Lieutenant's Woman*), science fiction (*2001: A Space Odyssey*).

And the one concept that's stuck with me through the years came in the latter section.

The professor, a middle-aged blonde who had a habit of smiling as she spoke, asked us to throw out words associated with science fiction.

"Future." "Technology." "Space." "Universe." "Aliens." "Danger." "Time-travel." "Rocket ship." She dutifully wrote each one down, still smiling, but a bit forced. We weren't hitting the nail on the head.

Then someone shouted out "Philosophical." Ah. The light bulb lit. "Yes," she said. "Philosophical." She wrote the word above all the other words and drew a big circle around the whole package. Science fiction — when done right, anyway — is philosophical above all else. Even when the story is outlandish, the ideas prompt us to reflect on our world, often seeing it in a different light.

Take this month's big-screen offering *The Adjustment Bureau*, which is loosely based on a short story by science-fiction writer Philip K. Dick (whose *Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* inspired *Blade Runner*, which we also studied in that class).

The Adjustment Bureau asks to what extent we're in charge of our destinies. In the film's universe, men in smart suits and fedoras control all the major events in our lives. Or, in this case, the lives of a ballerina (Emily Blunt) and a politician (Matt Damon) — the drama arrives when they fall in love contrary to the master plan. In Dick's story these well-dressed men report to an old guy with long white hair who lives in the sky and sits in a big chair. Not so subtle...but not necessarily "God," as we're familiar with the concept, either.

No one (we hope) will walk out of this movie wondering whether men in fedoras really do control our lives. But many will walk out pondering what would have happened had they never met their husband or wife, or never bumped into that guy who gave them that tip that led to their current job.

In "Love, Fate and Driving in L.A.," page 38, **Emily Blunt** recalls the event that led her to become an actor, and reflects on some of her close calls — events that would have changed her life drastically had they unfolded differently.

On page 30 you'll find "You Think You're So Smart?," our interview with **Bradley Cooper** about *Limitless*, his thriller about brain power.

Vanessa Hudgens has two movies coming out this month, *Beastly* and *Sucker Punch*, both of which were shot in Canada. Read "Vanessa Hudgens Likes Us!," page 34, to find out how she spent her time off while on our side of the border.

And if you're looking for inspiration for a late-winter getaway, be sure to check out our countdown of the "Top-5 Celebrity-Owned Vacation Spots" on page 26.

■ MARNI WEISZ, EDITOR

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Cineplex Magazine™ is published 12 times a year by Cineplex Entertainment. Subscriptions are \$34.50 (\$30 + HST) a year in Canada, \$45 a year in the U.S. and \$55 a year overseas. Single copies are \$3. Back issues are \$6. All subscription inquiries, back issue requests and letters to the editor should be directed to *Cineplex Magazine* at 102 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Toronto, ON, M6K 1X9; or 416.539.8800; or cineplexmagazine@cineplex.com

Publications Mail Agreement No. 41619533.
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Cineplex Magazine, 102 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100,
Toronto, ON, M6K 1X9

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SNAPS



DEMI'S SNOW DAY

Demi Moore at the Sundance Film Festival in Utah.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



GERARD IN HAWAII

Gerard Butler learns to paddle.

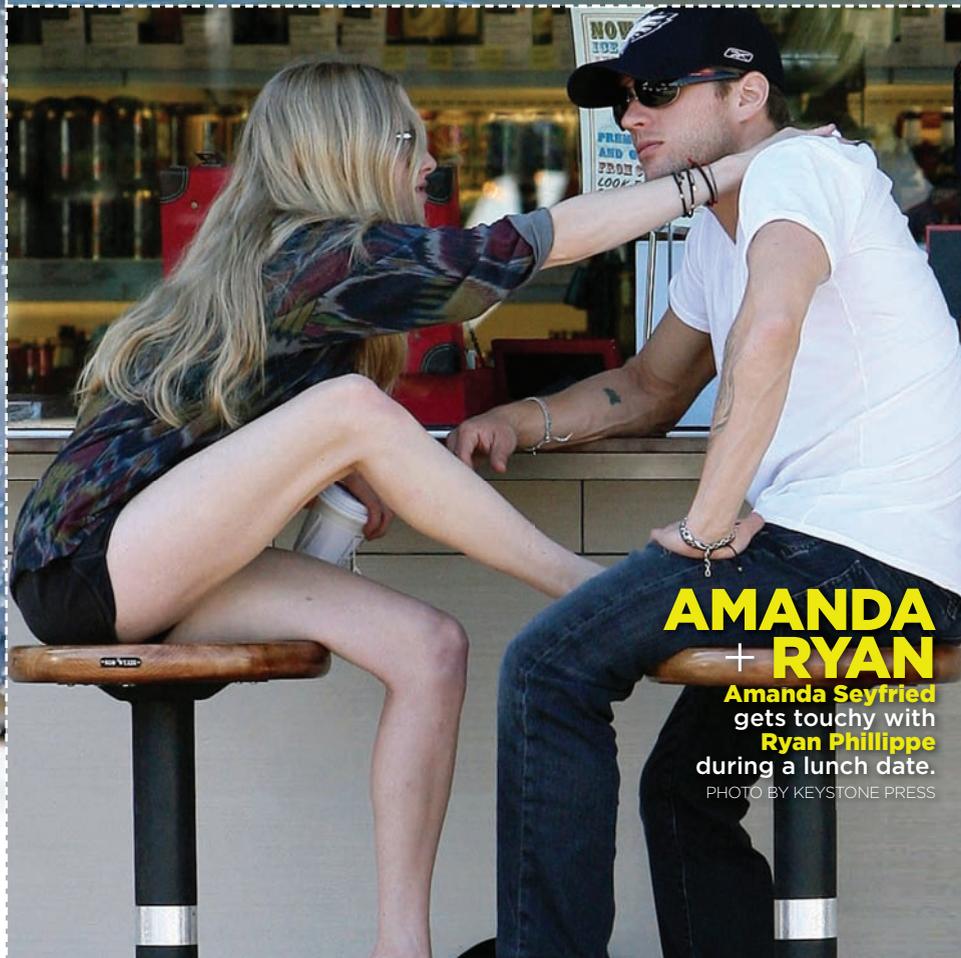
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REESE FEEDS CUBS

A lion cub gets a drink from Reese Witherspoon on the L.A. set of *Water for Elephants*.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



AMANDA + RYAN

Amanda Seyfried gets touchy with Ryan Phillippe during a lunch date.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



ZACH GETS GAS

Zach Galifianakis fills up his Vespa in Venice, California.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN BRIEF



CAPTAIN AND THE BIEB

Reports are, Richard Comely, the creator of *Captain Canuck*, may finally get the long-in-the-works, big-screen adaptation of his unabashedly Canadian comic book into production. Comely has even joked there may be a part for another Canadian superhero, Justin Bieber. So we asked him to come up with five ways he'd incorporate the Bieb. Here's what he said.

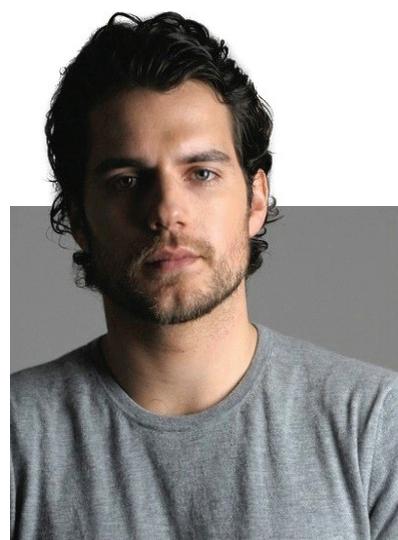
- 1) Bieber might be a Robin-like sidekick. I could see Ryan Reynolds as Captain Canuck and Bieber, with a French accent, as Kebec.
- 2) Bieber could be the one adaptation of his unabashedly Canadian comic book into production. Comely has even joked there may be a part for another Canadian superhero, Justin Bieber. So we asked him to come up with five ways he'd incorporate the Bieb. Here's what he said.
- 3) Bieber as the son of the

Prime Minister, controlled by evil masterminds determined to take over our government.

- 4) Bieber as a wild, singing bush dweller who leads a pack of female fanatics and blows up the oil and gas pipelines in the north.
- 5) Bieber as a singing, dancing, evil Messiah figure who runs for PM and wins the votes of all the females in the country. Captain Canuck has the thankless job of exposing him for what he really is.

The Art Of Film

If you've ever wondered what you, or a loved one, would look like as a zombie, Sudbury, Ontario, artist Robert Sacchetto is here for you. Sacchetto makes a living painting zombie versions of people who want to get in touch with their undead selves. He's even published a couple of zombie portrait books, including *Zombiehood Weekly: The Celebrity Dead Exposed*, which imagines decaying versions of such stars as, clockwise from top left, Scarlett Johansson, Joan Rivers and Ashton Kutcher. Order your own portrait at www.zombieportraits.com.



UNLUCKY NO MORE

You had to feel for Henry Cavill, the British actor just chosen to play the Man of Steel in Zack Snyder's Superman reboot.

Before that big break, Cavill had come *this close* to landing three of Hollywood's biggest action-hero parts — an earlier version of Superman (which became 2006's *Superman Returns*), James Bond and Batman — earning him *Empire* magazine's title "The most unlucky actor in Hollywood."

We talked to Cavill in Montreal last year on the set of his upcoming Greek gods pic *The Immortals*, where he said missing out on those parts actually kept him in acting.

"When [the earlier] Superman happened I thought, okay, this is a great, great big deal, and I got very close to getting it, so there's obviously something there that I have that interests directors...that kept me going for awhile.

"I was actually very close to throwing in the towel just before the Bond screen test happened but that kept me in the industry, there is a reason to stick around, I'm not just wasting my time here." —JR ▶

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DANNY BOYLE TO THE RESCUE

Freida Pinto's success has a lot to do with director Danny Boyle. He's the one who cast her in her first film, a little Oscar winner called *Slumdog Millionaire*. He also helped her get the title role in *Miral*, which is expected to have a limited release this month. Directed by Julian Schnabel (*Before Night Falls*), the drama follows an orphaned Palestinian girl living in Jerusalem after the creation of Israel.

"I got asked to audition in the middle of all the craziness surrounding *Slumdog Millionaire*," says Pinto during a recent interview in Toronto. There was no way she could get away to audition in person so Boyle stepped in, not only taping Pinto's audition, but reading lines with her on camera.

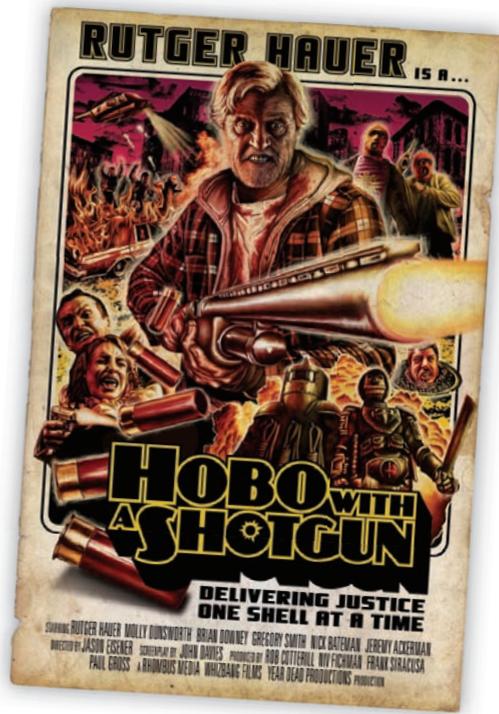
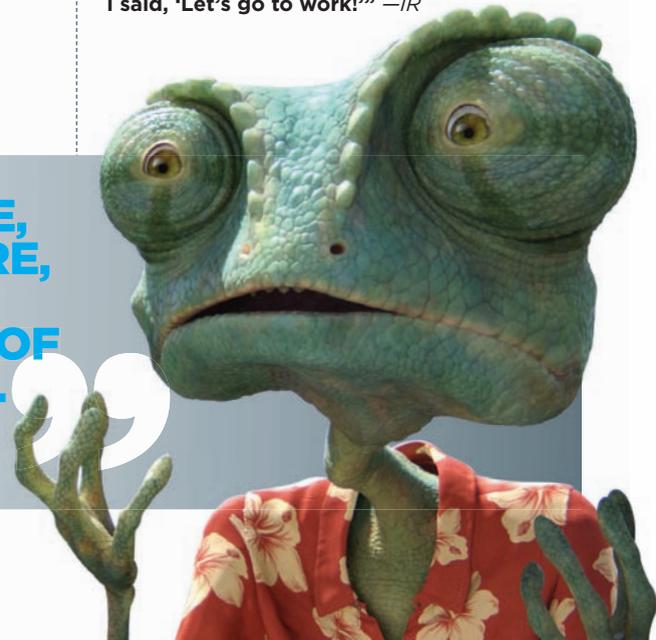
"When Julian received the audition tape he called me and he said, 'Congratulations, I really think you are Miral. I'm really convinced you can do it, but I have to say Danny Boyle's audition was amazing as well.' For weeks, we kept joking that he had a part in his movie for him, too."

—Mathieu Chantelois

Quote Unquote

INSTEAD OF MOTION-CAPTURE, IT'S SORT OF EMOTION-CAPTURE, USING THE ACTORS AS A REFERENCE FOR THE EMOTION OF THE ANIMATED CHARACTERS.

—JOHNNY DEPP ON VOICING THE TITULAR CHAMELEON IN *RANGO*



HALIFAX HOBO

How did Jason Eisener, a first-time, Halifax-based filmmaker, get Rutger Hauer to star in *Hobo With a Shotgun*, his salute to splatterfest pics? He just asked him.

Eisener got funding to make the pic after his *Hobo With a Shotgun* fake trailer won Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino's Grindhouse Trailer Contest at the 2010 SXSW Film Festival. Hauer was Eisener's first choice to play the Hobo, so he sent the actor, who was in South Africa, the script.

Hauer's agent warned him the filmmakers had little money, but Hauer was intrigued. After talking to Eisener over Skype, Hauer explains, "Jason and I were like brothers. I said, 'Let's go to work!'" —IR



FAIRY TALE WEDDING

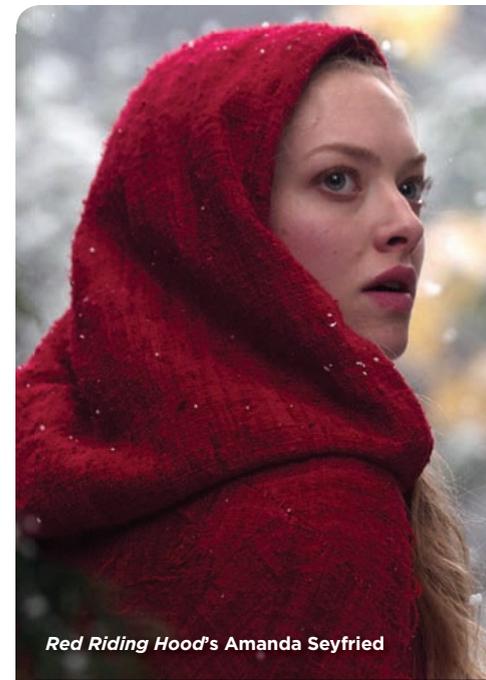
The Little Mermaid came out in 1989. Let's say the average age of the girls who saw it was nine. Those girls would now be 32 and, quite honestly, many are probably already married. Perhaps their second marriages will call for this gown inspired by the film's mermaid heroine, Ariel, or another of the princess designs in the **Disney Fairy Tale Weddings Collection** from Alfred Angelo — Belle, Sleeping Beauty, Cinderella, Jasmine, Snow White, Tiana. Expect to pay between \$600 and \$1200. The dresses started to land in stores throughout the U.S. and Canada last month.



GENIE AWARD STATUETTE CREATED BY SORELETTROG. COURTESY OF THE A.C.C.T.

I DREAM OF GENIES

On March 10th, the Genie Awards celebrate the best in Canadian film. But have you ever wondered why they're called the Genies? Judy Lung, communications manager for the Academy of Canadian Cinema & Television explains. "The Academy's founding members named it the Genie Awards to convey a sense of wonder and creativity, of something powerful and exciting that needed to be let out, like the genie in the bottle," she says. "Keep in mind, it was the late '70s!"



Red Riding Hood's Amanda Seyfried



The Village's Bryce Dallas Howard

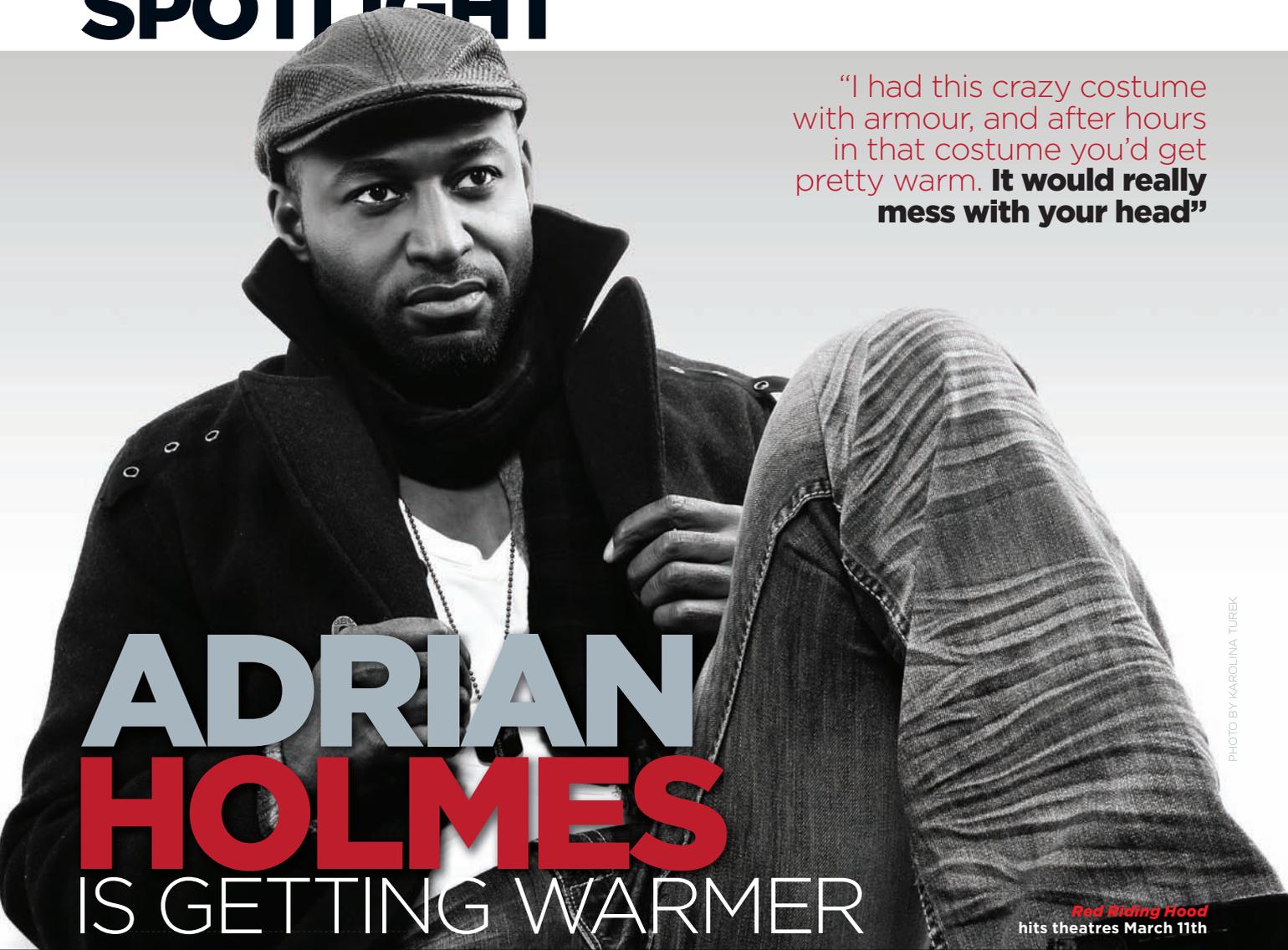
GIRLZ N THE HOODS

The comparisons between *Red Riding Hood* and the *Twilight* movies are obvious: werewolves, love triangle, director Catherine Hardwicke. But it's M. Night Shyamalan's *The Village* that *Red Riding Hood* evokes for us, and not just because of the hoods. Compare these excerpts from the two films' official synopses.

THE VILLAGE: "In a quiet, isolated village in olde Pennsylvania, there lies a pact between the people of the village and the creatures who reside in the surrounding woods: the townspeople do not enter the woods, and the creatures do not enter the village."

RED RIDING HOOD: "Valerie's older sister has been killed by the werewolf that prowls the dark forest surrounding their village. For years, the people have maintained an uneasy truce with the beast, offering the creature a monthly animal sacrifice. But under a blood red moon, the wolf has upped the stakes by taking a human life."

SPOTLIGHT



"I had this crazy costume with armour, and after hours in that costume you'd get pretty warm. **It would really mess with your head**"

ADRIAN HOLMES IS GETTING WARMER

Red Riding Hood hits theatres March 11th

PHOTO BY KAROLINA TUREK

Adrian Holmes spent much of last summer in winter. Along with the rest of *Red Riding Hood's* cast — including Amanda Seyfried as the hooded one, and Gary Oldman as chief werewolf hunter — Holmes sweat through July and August inside a Vancouver sound stage, where a snowy, medieval village was built to house director Catherine Hardwicke's retelling of the Brothers Grimm fairy tale.

"The set was amazing.... It would be hot outside, so we'd walk into the set and it would be this winter wonderland that we would have to play as being cold," says the 36-year-old actor on the phone from his Kitsilano condo. "I had this crazy costume with armour, and after hours in that costume you'd get pretty warm. It would really mess with your head."

To keep the actors comfortable, big tubes pumped cold air onto the sound stage. "You could actually climb inside these tubes every now and then to cool off," explains Holmes. "You'd see my butt sticking out of this big yellow tube."

Born in England, Holmes moved to Vancouver when he was five and has been a professional actor for 20 years. Yet he's not shy to admit the past year has been "pretty overwhelming."

Just before shooting *Red Riding Hood* he played Halle Berry's love interest in *Frankie & Alice*, a drama expected out later this year. "There's not too many people on the planet who can say they not only worked with Halle Berry but got to play her love interest in a film," muses the actor. "I was a huge fan of hers growing up, like every other male with a pulse on the planet."

In *Red Riding Hood*, Holmes plays a West African Moor named Ikechi — Oldman's right-hand man in the werewolf-hunting biz. "My character is basically the muscle in the film, he's the brawn," says Holmes.

So, this film involves a werewolf, a love triangle (Red is in love with one man and betrothed to another), was filmed in Vancouver and directed by Hardwicke, who helmed the first *Twilight* movie. Comparisons to the *Twilight* franchise are sort of inevitable. Did the topic come up on set? "Not too much," says Holmes. "It wasn't until afterward that I really thought about it and saw that comparison."

"I'm not a huge fan of the *Twilight* series, to be honest with you," he says. "I think that this movie is going to be a much better film." —MARNI WEISZ

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ALL DRESSED UP

RENÉE ZELLWEGER

Classic glam at Berlin's Golden Camera Awards.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

HAILEE STEINFELD

Keeping it fun in L.A. for the Screen Actors Guild Awards.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

RACHEL McADAMS

Daring at the London, U.K., premiere of *Morning Glory*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

JOHN WATERS

Odd as ever in N.Y. for the Writers Guild Awards.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

HELENA BONHAM CARTER

Quirky at the BAFTA Los Angeles Tea Party.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

JOHN TRAVOLTA

Keeping warm in Berlin for the Golden Camera Awards.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN THEATRES

MARCH 4



THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU

Deceased sci-fi writer **Philip K. Dick** continues to provide fodder for filmmakers as his 1954 short story *Adjustment Team* gets the big-screen treatment. A politician (**Matt Damon**) falls for a ballerina (**Emily Blunt**), but their relationship was never meant to be, which means men in dark coats — the living embodiments of fate — come along to break them up. See Emily Blunt interview, [page 38](#).

MARCH 11



RED RIDING HOOD

Original *Twilight* director **Catherine Hardwicke** isn't quite done with werewolves and emotionally distraught heroines as she helms this horror about medieval village maiden Valerie (**Amanda Seyfried**), who's in love with a woodcutter but betrothed to another, and either of the men may be the werewolf that's terrorizing her village. **Gary Oldman** plays the ruthless hunter brought in to take care of the lycanthrope.

RANGO

Judging by the making-of feature that shows stars **Johnny Depp**, **Isla Fisher**, **Bill Nighy** and others acting out their scenes like little kids playing at recess, this animated flick looks like it was a blast to make. Depp voices Rango, a chameleon who wanders into a Western town overrun by bandits.

BEASTLY

To teach high school hottie Kyle (**Alex Pettyfer**) that looks aren't everything, a witch (**Mary-Kate Olsen**) turns him into a freaky-looking recluse who must find true love or be forever changed. Enter Lindy (**Vanessa Hudgens**), who sees past Kyle's appearance. See **Vanessa Hudgens** interview, [page 34](#).

BATTLE: LOS ANGELES

Aliens attack Earth and a platoon of tough-as-nails Marines (led by **Aaron Eckhart**) hunker down in Los Angeles and throw themselves into the seemingly lost cause of defeating the extra-terrestrials. See feature, [page 24](#).



Mars Needs Moms

MARS NEEDS MOMS

Disney's new 3D animated film casts **Seth Green** as Milo, who, like most kids, takes his hard-working mom (**Joan Cusack**) for granted. But when Martians kidnap mommy Milo can make amends by stowing away in their spaceship and rescuing her.

MARCH 18



JANE EYRE

Director **Cary Fukunaga** (*Sin Nombre*) said he wanted to focus on the "spookiness" that runs through **Charlotte Brontë's** 19th-century tale of orphan-turned-governess Jane Eyre (**Mia Wasikowska**), who's attracted to her employer — the gruff Mr. Rochester (**Michael Fassbender**) — despite feeling he's haunted by his mysterious past.



The Lincoln Lawyer's Matthew McConaughey

THE LINCOLN LAWYER

Defense attorney Mickey Haller (**Matthew McConaughey**) represents shady characters, which may explain why he conducts business from the back seat

of his Lincoln Town Car. Mickey is hired to represent rich Beverly Hills punk Louis Roulet (**Ryan Phillippe**), who's been charged with violently assaulting a woman, and even Mickey thinks this guy's trouble.

LIMITLESS

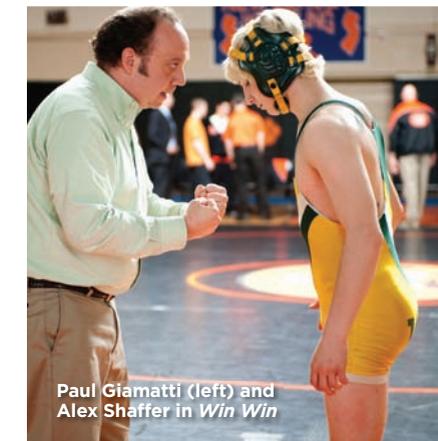
Eddie Morra (**Bradley Cooper**) was a promising writer, but laziness and a coke problem derailed his career. However, when Eddie pops an experimental pill called MTD-48 his brain reaches its highest potential, making him the smartest man in the world and the crown jewel in Carl Van Loon's (**Robert De Niro**) financial empire. There's one teeny-weeny problem — if Eddie stops taking the pill he'll die. See **Bradley Cooper** interview, [page 30](#).

PAUL

Imagine E.T. as a wisecracking, party-hearty alien voiced by **Seth Rogen** and you've got Paul, a visitor from another planet stranded in Nevada's Area 51. Paul's only chance to rendezvous with his peeps lies with two vacationing British sci-fi geeks (**Simon Pegg** and **Nick Frost**).

WIN WIN

Following his stellar turn in *Barney's Version*, **Paul Giamatti** plays lawyer and volunteer high-school wrestling coach Mike Flaherty, who's looking to cash in with star athlete Kyle Timmons (**Alex Shaffer**). But Mike didn't count on Kyle's mom (**Melanie Lynskey**) showing up fresh out of rehab and threatening to derail his plans. CONTINUED ▶



Paul Giamatti (left) and Alex Shaffer in Win Win



SUCKER PUNCH

Pack your drool cups fan boys, you'll need them for director **Zack Snyder's** latest visual extravaganza starring five comely actors — **Abbie Cornish, Emily Browning, Jena Malone, Vanessa Hudgens** and **Jamie Chung** — who play inmates locked in a mental institution, but who escape their real-life horrors by slipping into a fantasy world filled with dragons and guns. See **Vanessa Hudgens** interview, **page 34**.

▶ **HOBO WITH A SHOTGUN**

Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, filmmaker **Jason Eisener** makes his big-screen debut with this Grindhouse-inspired splatterfest starring **Rutger Hauer** as a vigilante hobo who dispatches human vermin in the most gruesome ways. We're not kidding, we're talking bloodpocalypse.

WEST IS WEST

The sequel to the 1999 British comedy *East is East* continues the story of a Pakistani fish-and-chip shop owner (**Om Puri**) struggling to raise his kids with traditional Pakistani values in 1970s England. The sequel finds him sending his troubled son (**Aqib Khan**) back to Pakistan to live with his first wife.

DIARY OF A WIMPY KID: RODRICK RULES

In this sequel to last year's hit kids comedy, Greg Haffley (**Zachary Gordon**) finds himself tormented by his older brother Rodrick (**Devon Bostick**), who feels it's his duty to teach his younger bro' some tough life lessons.



Zachary Gordon (left) and Devon Bostick in *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*

SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE BIG SCREEN

ANIMATED SHORTS
SPIKE & MIKE'S SICK AND TWISTED FESTIVAL OF ANIMATION
 WED., MAR. 2 & MON., MAR. 7

BOLSHOI BALLET
DON QUIXOTE
 SUN., MAR. 6

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA
NIXON IN CHINA (ADAMS)
 ENCORE: SAT., MAR. 12

LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR (DONIZETTI)
 LIVE: SAT., MAR. 19

IPHIGÉNIE EN TAURIDE (GLUCK)
 ENCORE: SAT., MAR. 26

L.A. PHILHARMONIC LIVE
GUSTAVO DUDAMEL CONDUCTS TCHAIKOVSKY
 SUN., MAR. 13

CLASSIC FILM SERIES
THE WIZARD OF OZ
 WED., MAR. 16 & SUN., MAR. 27

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FRANKENSTEIN
 LIVE: THURS., MAR. 17
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ALL RELEASE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

GET ME A MOVIE LAWYER!

Matthew McConaughey plays a lawyer who operates out of the back of his luxury car in this month's *The Lincoln Lawyer*, which got us thinking: Which movie lawyers would you want working your case? Here are our picks for the cinematic counsellors — defenders and prosecutors — we'd want on our side ■ BY INGRID RANDOJA



FOR THE DEFENSE:

LEAD COUNSEL

Atticus Finch (Gregory Peck, *To Kill a Mockingbird*)
His compassion, courage and magnificent courtroom voice will win over the most hard-hearted juror.

THE TEAM



Alan Dershowitz
(Ron Silver, *Reversal of Fortune*)
The Harvard professor is a canny tactician. And wouldn't you want the guy who cleared creepy Claus von Bülow of attempted murder working for you?



Lt. Daniel Kaffee
(Tom Cruise, *A Few Good Men*)
Easy on the eyes, but don't let his boyish appearance fool you, he'll go toe-to-toe with the toughest witnesses — and he can handle the truth.



Betty Ann Waters
(Hilary Swank, *Conviction*)
You know a woman who put herself through high school, college and law school will sweat bullets for you, and she has a knack for discovering DNA evidence.

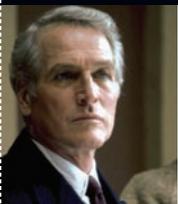


FOR THE PROSECUTION:

LEAD COUNSEL

Jim Garrison (Kevin Costner, *JFK*)
If the New Orleans D.A. can take on the Warren Commission, he can take on anyone and any case.

THE TEAM



Frank Galvin
(Paul Newman, *The Verdict*)
He may be an alcoholic, but Frank Galvin has scruples, won't be bought and sees the big picture. Also, his stirring final arguments are legendary in legal circles.



Kathryn Murphy
(Kelly McGillis, *The Accused*)
Impassioned assistant district attorney Murphy is a tiger in the courtroom and doesn't believe in cutting deals for evildoers.



Joe Miller
(Denzel Washington, *Philadelphia*)
Personal injury lawyer Joe Miller isn't afraid to face his own prejudices, and his clever legal mind surprises opponents who underestimate him.

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Season 25, Oprah Behind the Scenes

Fridays at 7pm ET/4pm PT

"The Oprah Winfrey Show" opens its doors to invite viewers behind the scenes for the making of the farewell season. Get an inside look at the passion, the pressure and the people that dedicate their lives to producing one of the most beloved shows in television history.



Ask Oprah's All Stars

Sundays at 7pm ET/4pm PT

Three of the best experts tackle your burning questions about health, wealth, and relationships. For the first time ever catch Dr. Phil, Suze Orman and Dr. Oz on stage together and take in their all-star advice!



Oprah Presents Master Class

Fridays at 9pm ET/6pm PT

Hand-picked by Oprah Winfrey for their unique impact on the world, Master Class offers an unprecedented first-person insight into the brilliant minds of the famous people we love, respect, like Jay-Z, Diane Sawyer and Oprah herself.



In the Bedroom with Dr. Laura Berman

Mondays at 9pm ET/6pm PT

Dr. Berman has the tips and tricks you and your partner need to uncover what's really going on between the sheets. No issue is off limits and she isn't afraid to talk specifics.



March just got a little brighter.

OWN

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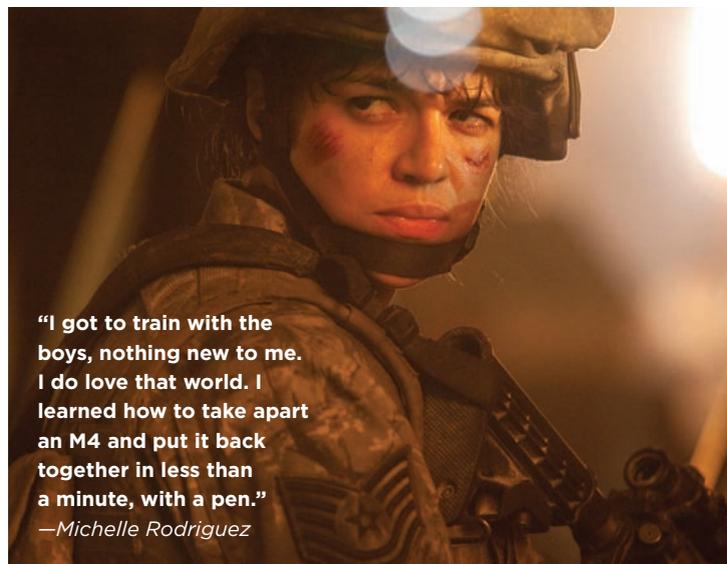
Battle TALK

Aaron Eckhart and **Michelle Rodriguez** play tough-as-nails Marines in director **Jonathan Liebesman's** alien invasion/war pic **Battle: Los Angeles**. The actors and director hit Comic-Con last year to share their insights into the film



"Jonathan got on the computer and pulled up YouTube and it was marines fighting in Fallujah, house to house, and he said, 'That's what I want the movie to look like,' and I said, 'I'm in.' And that's what we did, we actually made an urban combat alien movie, which has never been seen before."

—Aaron Eckhart



"I got to train with the boys, nothing new to me. I do love that world. I learned how to take apart an M4 and put it back together in less than a minute, with a pen."

—Michelle Rodriguez



"I think there's a part of a lot of people who love the sci-fi world who deep down inside kinda wish there were some sort of cataclysmic, apocalyptic occasion to pull out the bow and arrows and the guns."

—Michelle Rodriguez

"It's very intense and reminds me of movies I love, like *Black Hawk Down*, but with aliens in that world."

—Jonathan Liebesman



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Top-5 CELEBRITY-OWNED VACATION SPOTS

Robert De Niro, Francis Ford Coppola, John Malkovich, Robert Redford and Clint Eastwood aren't just great filmmakers, they also own some of the best hotels and resorts in the world

BY MARNI WEISZ



1

BEST TROPICAL FANTASY

Francis Ford Coppola's Blancaneaux Lodge in western Belize

WHAT'S THE STORY? Francis Ford Coppola was looking for a place that reminded him of the

Philippine jungle, where he shot *Apocalypse Now*, when he discovered this abandoned tropical hideaway in 1981. For 12 years, it was used solely as a private Coppola family retreat.

HOW IS COPPOLA INVOLVED? He chose the art and furnishings, and has his own unit. He even consults with restaurant staff on the menu.

WHAT MAKES THE LODGE SPECIAL? Location. Location. Location. It's surrounded by the 300-square mile Mountain Pine Ridge Forest Reserve, home to jaguars, crocodiles, tapirs and more than 310 species of birds.

WHAT AM I GOING TO PAY? Summer's the off-season here, that's when a single can squeeze into a Garden View Cabaña for \$180 (U.S.) per night. But if you want The Enchanted Cottage, with its private pool, during peak season expect to pay \$1,760 per night.

WHAT'S THERE TO DO? The Lodge offers more than a dozen guided excursions into the jungle. Explore caves, pools, Mayan archaeological sites, a butterfly farm, horseback ride through the rainforest or bird watch at sunrise.



2

BEST PLACE TO RELAX

Clint Eastwood's Mission Ranch in Carmel, California

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Clint Eastwood discovered this property when he was a 21-year-old recruit at nearby Fort Ord and the ranch was an inexpensive hotel where you could get a cheap meal. In 1986 he bought the dilapidated ranch, saving it from condo developers.

HOW IS EASTWOOD INVOLVED?

He stops by on a regular basis to visit with guests. He's consulted on renovations and major changes. He likes to check on his sheep.

WHAT MAKES THE RANCH SPECIAL?

Its history, which dates back to the 1800s, pervades each of the 10 buildings. In the 1850s the ranch was one of California's first dairies, and the restaurant is housed in the creamery.

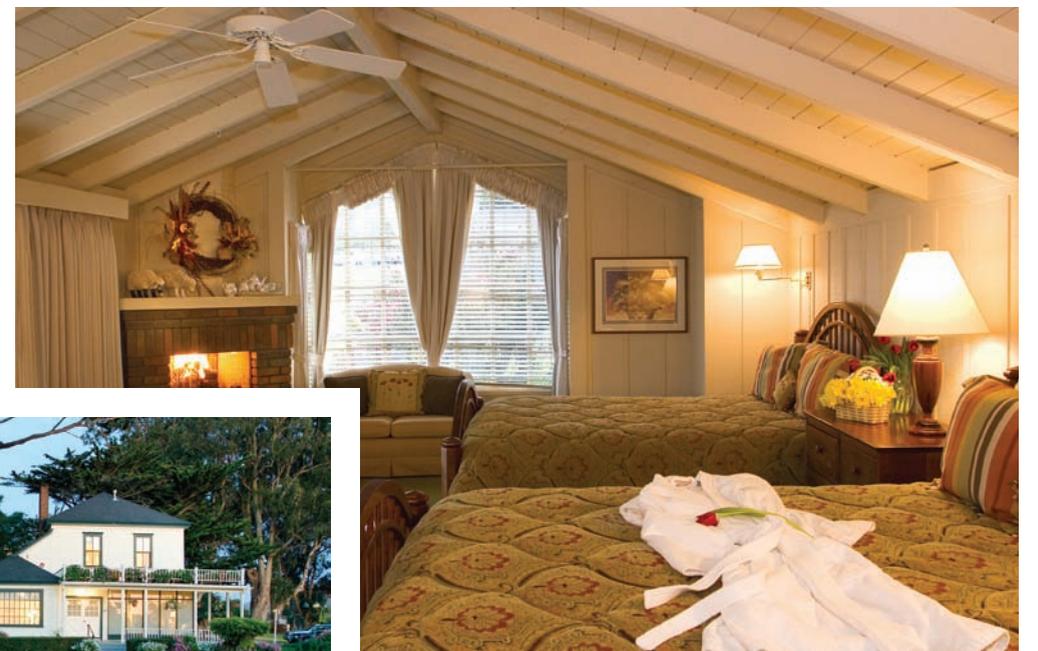
WHAT AM I GOING TO PAY?

The steal is the upstairs queen bedroom in the Farmhouse for \$120 (U.S.) per night, and the most expensive option is the Bunkhouse Cottage with two bedrooms, wrap-around patio and wet bar for \$310.

WHAT'S THERE TO DO?

Honestly, we'd just watch the sunset then retire to the piano bar, but there are tennis courts and hiking and biking trails, too.

CONTINUED ▶



3

BEST URBAN INDULGENCE

Robert De Niro's Greenwich Hotel in New York, New York

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Robert De Niro opened the hotel in his beloved Tribeca neighbourhood in 2008, right next to the Tribeca Grill, which he also owns.

HOW IS DE NIRO INVOLVED?

The hotel's publicist would say only that De Niro is "very involved on both a personal and business level."

WHAT MAKES THE HOTEL SPECIAL?

Carrara marble, Moroccan tile, reclaimed wood planks. And each room's unique, with individually selected books and artifacts.

WHAT AM I GOING TO PAY?

Prices range from \$495 (U.S.) for the 325-square foot Courtyard Room with queen bed, to \$5,500 for the 2,500-square foot N. Moore Suite, which has two bedrooms, 30-foot windows, dining room, kitchen, soaking tubs (note the plural) and office. But the hotel points out there is no charge for cribs or extra beds. Well then, book it.

WHAT'S THERE TO DO?

Spaaaa. A 250-year-old Japanese farmhouse was reconstructed inside the Shibui Spa to create a grounded atmosphere, and the swimming pool is "lantern-lit." Massages range from \$180 to \$290, but don't plan to stay at the HoJo and pop in for a rubdown. The spa's for hotel guests only.



4

BEST BUDGET

John Malkovich's The Big Sleep Hotel in Eastbourne, County of Sussex, England

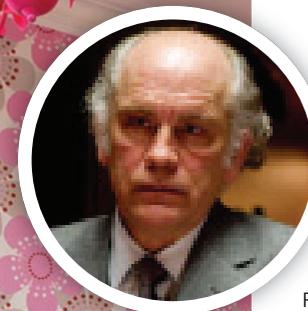
WHAT'S THE STORY? John Malkovich has been a major stakeholder in this cheap and cheerful hotel, and its two sister properties in Cardiff and Cheltenham, since 1999 when his friend, co-owner Cosmo Fry, invited him to invest.

HOW IS MALKOVICH INVOLVED? A stylish eccentric who has his own fashion collection, Malkovich advised on the hotel's interior design, assisting with colour choices and fabrics. The conference room is called The Malkovich Suite and features a portrait of the man himself.

WHAT MAKES THE HOTEL SPECIAL? The Big Sleep bills itself as "the first designer budget hotel in the U.K." Its tagline is "Formica, Fleece and Fur," a funky edict that has attracted a wide demographic of visitors.

WHAT AM I GOING TO PAY? In the off-season you can get a room for as little as £29 (or \$45) for a single and £35 (\$55) for a double, which includes continental breakfast. The most you'll pay is £135 (\$215) for a suite in summer. All rooms feature distinctive wallpaper, soft seating and oversized beds.

WHAT'S THERE TO DO? The hotel is adjacent to the new Towner Gallery of contemporary art, and is a short walk to the Congress, Devonshire Park, Winter Garden and Royal Hippodrome theatres.



5

BEST SKI RESORT

Robert Redford's Sundance Resort in Sundance, Utah

WHAT'S THE STORY? Robert Redford purchased a ski resort called Timphaven and the surrounding land back in 1969 intending to build a community committed to the arts, recreation and the environment. He renamed the area Sundance, after his character in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*, released that year.

HOW IS REDFORD INVOLVED? He consults with the general manager frequently, discussing everything from staff uniforms to building designs and cultural programming.

WHAT MAKES THE RESORT SPECIAL? Its spiritual aura. Hundreds of years ago the Ute Indians came to this canyon in summer to escape the heat and to hunt.

WHAT AM I GOING TO PAY? Spring, summer and fall provide the deals, when you can get a Standard Cottage Unit with queen bed for \$159 (U.S.). In the pricier winter season you'll pay up to \$759 per night for the top spot, but that's a Mountain Loft with private master bedroom, kitchen, deck, patio and loft sleeping area.

WHAT'S THERE TO DO? In winter, skiing, snowboarding and snowshoeing. In summer, hiking, biking and horseback riding. And, no surprise from the man who directed *A River Runs Through It*, there's fly-fishing all year round.





YOU
THINK
YOU'RE
SO SMART?

They say we only use 20 percent of our brains. In ***Limitless***, Bradley Cooper plays a guy who unlocks the other 80 percent by swallowing a pill. What was it like to play such a smartypants?

■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

Limitless casts Bradley Cooper as failed writer Eddie Morra, who's given a little pill called MTD that allows him to access parts of his brain no human has ever accessed. This makes Eddie terrifyingly smart, wealthy and addicted to a drug so powerful that he'll die if he stops taking it. Robert De Niro steps in as the businessman who bank-rolls Eddie, and won't let his golden ticket get away.

The handsome, suave Cooper seems the perfect choice to play a guy who has it all, and yet the man who trained at New York's famed Actors Studio, and who didn't really make his mark in Hollywood until his mid-30s, says success can be a dangerous thing. Cooper was in L.A. when we spoke with him by phone. Here he tells us about playing the perfect man, working with the legendary De Niro, and spending New Year's Eve in Bangkok to shoot *The Hangover 2*.

Who is more fun to play: the slacker writer Eddie, or the debonair brainy Eddie?

"Not even a question, the first. There were too many lines to memorize as the other one — and then trying to pretend I'm smart, forget it."

Slacker Eddie wears a grungy ponytail. It takes a brave man to rock a ponytail today.

"[Laughs.] That's true. I had long hair all through college and grad school pretty much. I made the mistake of always putting my hair back with a rubber band, which was the worst."

Did the chicks dig that?

"Did the chicks dig that? Umm, I thought it was cool, but I probably looked like an idiot most of the time."

This character has a great arc. Playing someone like that must be fun.

"Oh, yeah, it's wonderful. I couldn't believe I got the role, it was definitely one of the best scripts I've read in years and certainly one of the best characters I've read in years."

CONTINUED ►



Robert De Niro (left) gets his hooks into Bradley Cooper in *Limitless*

LIMITLESS
HITS THEATRES
MARCH 18TH

You've finished shooting *The Hangover 2*. How'd it go?
"It went wonderfully. It was the hardest film I've ever done, which I wouldn't have thought. I don't know, being in Bangkok over the holidays, we shot straight through 'til New Years from September, but I'm so excited to see the final product. If it turns out as good as it felt shooting it we'll be in a great place."

► How did you approach the role? Were there any books, music or movies you used for inspiration?
"Sure, yeah, I did have a personal object that, when I was Eddie on MTD, I had on me all the time, and there was a song I played every day as I was sort of getting into the mood. You can call it superstition, but I think whatever you have to do to help yourself believe the imaginary circumstance that you're going to live in, you do it, and it's also fun. You sort of see them as these little anchors that dig into the ground, so that when you go into this place you feel supported and confident."

Can I ask you what that totem was?
"You know, it's personal, so I'd rather not."

Does the film suggest humans aren't supposed to know everything, and success shouldn't be easy?
"It depends, it could go either way. It certainly presents a scenario in which you see the trappings and ramifications of someone who has access to this potential and what it can do."

You've worked hard to get where you are today, hosting and starring in TV shows, playing small roles. How different do you think your life would be if you had tasted success early on?
"Oh, I think it would have been problematic, very, very problematic, no question about it [laughs]. I can't even imagine, for example, being part of a movie like *The Wedding Crashers* or *The Hangover* if I was 22 as opposed to 32. I just think there is so much thrown at you. I think I would have thought a lot of stuff meant something more than it does, and it could have gone south, fast. So I was lucky to be part of successful movies when it was very clear to me why I do what I do. I was blessed with it not being an issue at all to navigate the waters of success in this profession."

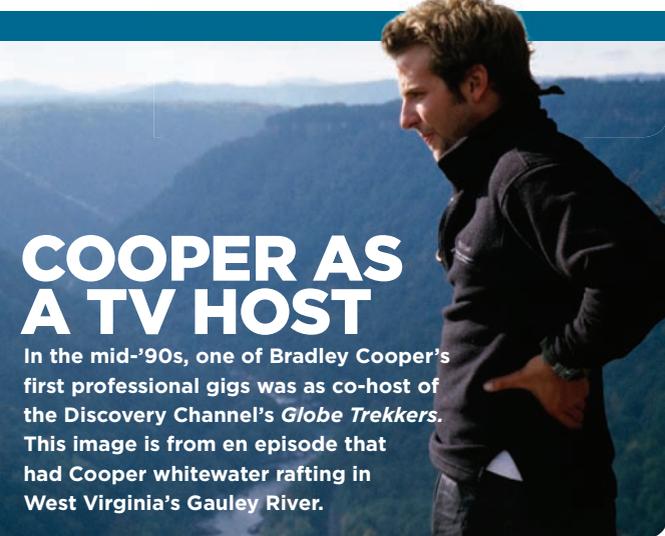
What was it like to work with Robert De Niro?
"Probably the greatest experience I've had to date working with another actor, not because he's better than any other actor I've worked with, but just from a personal standpoint. He was a major reason I became an actor, and to be able to act with him and see that he was so present and that he believes in what he says, to be on the receiving end of that was really wonderful."

Was the chemistry between the cast as good this time around?
"Oh, better."

Better?
"Oh, much better. Oh man, just so, so easy. After *Hangover* I shot *The A-Team* and *Limitless* and then went to *The Hangover 2* and I just realized even more what wonderful talents [Zach Galifianakis and Ed Helms] are. I mean you just don't get any better, they are so good."

After all the success you've experienced, do you have moments when you shake your head in disbelief, amazed that you're a working actor?
"All the time. I get the same feeling working with Robert De Niro as I did booking a Wendy's commercial and staying at a hotel and calling my parents and going, 'Yeah, there's actually a room, and they're paying for it, and there's a balcony.' But really there wasn't a balcony, but one of those windows that has a railing next to it. But it didn't matter, it was all good." ☑

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine.



COOPER AS A TV HOST

In the mid-'90s, one of Bradley Cooper's first professional gigs was as co-host of the Discovery Channel's *Globe Trekkers*. This image is from an episode that had Cooper whitewater rafting in West Virginia's Gauley River.

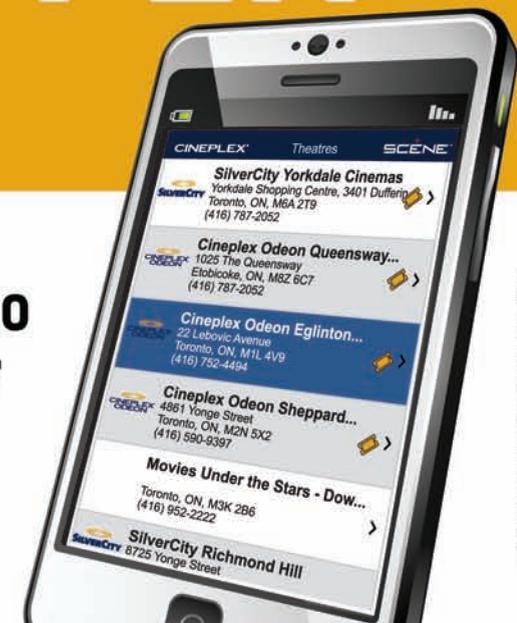
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SUCKER PUNCH
HITS THEATRES
MARCH 25TH



Vanessa Hudgens as Blondie in
Zack Snyder's *Sucker Punch*

VANESSA HUDGENS *likes us!*

She filmed *Beastly* in Montreal then zipped across the country to shoot *Sucker Punch* in Vancouver, and she had a great time in both cities. Really. She's not just saying that ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

Vanessa Hudgens is in flux. At 22, she's no longer the perky teen from the *High School Musical* franchise. That role, and Zac Efron — the long-term boyfriend that came with it — are in the past (though rumours about she and Efron may reconcile). And yet, she doesn't seem quite like an adult yet, either.

She's at a point where one month she may be shooting a teen romance aimed at 16-year-old girls, and the next month kicking ass in a hard-edged thriller aimed at, well, an older audience.

To be specific, those months were August and September of 2009, between which Hudgens made the move from the Montreal set of *Beastly*, a teen-aimed retelling of the Beauty and the Beast fairy tale, to Vancouver, where she zipped into a black leather bodysuit and picked up a machine gun to play Blondie (a brunette) in director Zack Snyder's *Sucker Punch*. As luck would have it, both are coming out this month.

Despite the fact both films were shot in Canada, the experiences of making them could not have been more different. *Beastly* was filmed in and around Montreal, taking advantage of the city's architecture and natural beauty, and *Sucker Punch*? "That was all inside on a sound stage every single day," says Hudgens on the phone from L.A.

Snyder, the man behind such fantasy fare as *300* and *Watchmen*, also co-wrote *Sucker Punch*, which takes place largely in an alternate reality concocted by an abused young woman named Babydoll (Emily Browning). After Babydoll is committed to a psychiatric hospital she escapes into a complex dreamscape and invites a bunch of her fellow patients, including Hudgens' Blondie, to come along.

"She's kind of a follower in the real world but once we go into the fight sequences she turns into an extreme badass," Hudgens says of her character.

CONTINUED ►



BEASTLY
HITS THEATRES
MARCH 4TH

LEFT: Vanessa Hudgens as *Beastly*'s good girl, Lindy
BELOW: *Sucker Punch*'s machine-gun toting heroines, from left: Jena Malone, Abbie Cornish and Hudgens



► Together the girls have to complete a quest in order to earn their freedom. "It's really interesting and extremely hard to put into words," says Hudgens. "But it's basically six movies all put together in one and with different settings, and it takes place in the Fifties and it's super kick-ass. It's classy, it's empowering and it's very moving."

And really intense. So when Hudgens had a bit of time off she was anxious to get out into Vancouver's fresh air and clear her head. "Oh my God, it's so gorgeous," she says. "During the summer it was so lush and green."

The Grouse Grind, a steep hiking trail going up Grouse Mountain, made for a good break. "I remember doing that and hating it and loving it at the same time, you know what I mean? Going up to the top when it was snowing was so beautiful. Me and my sister and my mom went up and made snowmen," Hudgens recalls.

Shooting *Beastly* in Montreal wasn't quite as intense, but Hudgens insists the movie still has some teeth. "We took Beauty and the Beast and stripped it of everything," she says. "We made it edgy and modern and it has a little sexy love story in there."

Based on the 2007 novel by Alex Finn, the film stars Alex Pettyfer as Kyle, a shallow high school student whose nasty attitude and obsession with physical beauty motivates a witch (Mary-Kate Olsen) to transform him into a monster. Kyle has one year to make a girl fall in love with his "ugly" self in order to lift the curse and Hudgens' character, Lindy, is his best bet.

Despite the fact that the Beauty and the Beast story has been around, in one form or another, for hundreds of years, Hudgens admits that, initially, she thought it started with Disney's 1991 animated feature. "I did, until I really looked into it," she says with a laugh. "And it fascinates me that people still have not caught onto [the message].... Now more than ever kids are extremely fascinated with the Hollywood glamour and it's not how it is, but that's all that you see."

While parts of *Beastly* were shot on a sound stage, other parts were filmed on location around Montreal, which stood in for New York. "We found this amazing Victorian house that we shot in; that was [Kyle's] house that he was hidden

away in," says Hudgens. "It had beautiful Victorian borders on the edges. It was just gorgeous. And then we also shot in this house [where] Leonardo DiCaprio shot *Aviator*, it was a beautiful countryside house, we spent about two days there."

When she was bored she'd rent a bike and head down by the water, or go to her favourite French restaurant, *Le Pied de Cochon*, for the fois gras poutine. "Oh my God, probably the best thing I've ever had," she says.

"I would walk around old Montreal, the cobblestone streets and the French restaurants and the jazz. I was there during the jazz festival and I remember walking out on my balcony and hearing [sings] 'I just called, to say, I love you,' and I'm like, 'Oh my God, is that Stevie Wonder?' And sure enough just down the street on the massive screen he's swaying back and forth, singing a classic."

Happily, Hudgens discovered she could move around Montreal without much hassle. "I'm really good at keeping my head down," she says. "I really had a chance to walk around and do whatever. Me and Mary-Kate were walking around Old Montreal and I think she got recognized once and I didn't even get recognized [laughs]."

After this month — the first in which Hudgens has had two movies released just weeks apart — it might not be so easy. ☑

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.



PLEASE TELL US IT'S NOT REAL

We're not sure about this bear-hood sweater Vanessa Hudgens recently wore in Santa Monica, but when we asked her to sum up her personal style she told us, "I go back and forth between so many different things. I end up always coming back to the beachy bohemian look but stray to kind of a rocker, kind of the Western cowboy to Indian princess. I'm all over the place." —MWW

SIDEBAR PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

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LOVE, FATE & DRIVING IN L.A.

How much control do we really have over our lives? **Emily Blunt** ponders the question as ***The Adjustment Bureau***, her sci-fi that pits fate against free will, hits theatres ■ BY AMBER NASRULLA

Emily Blunt sighs as she tells me how easily this interview may never have happened. Last summer, the British actor was out with a friend in L.A., where she lives, when a bus ran a red light and nearly smashed into the car she was driving. By chance, her friend was telling a story that distracted her, so Blunt didn't see the light turn green and was slow to move into the intersection. Otherwise, the bus, coming from the left, would have hit her door straight on.

"Thank God she was talking," Blunt says during our interview at a posh Beverly Hills hotel. While telling the story she nibbles on a wedge of watermelon dipped in yogurt, but she's clearly still shaken months after the incident. "Can you imagine if I'd advanced as soon as the light had changed? I had to jam on the brakes to avoid the bus. It was coming so fast that it would've been over for me."

Fate, it seems, is the topic of the day. It was fate that saved Blunt from a horrific collision, and fate is the backdrop for her new film, *The Adjustment Bureau*.

Blunt plays dancer Elise Sellas, whose chance meeting with David Norris (Matt Damon), a politician running for Senate, could cost both of them their lives. Unbeknownst to Elise and David, everyone has a

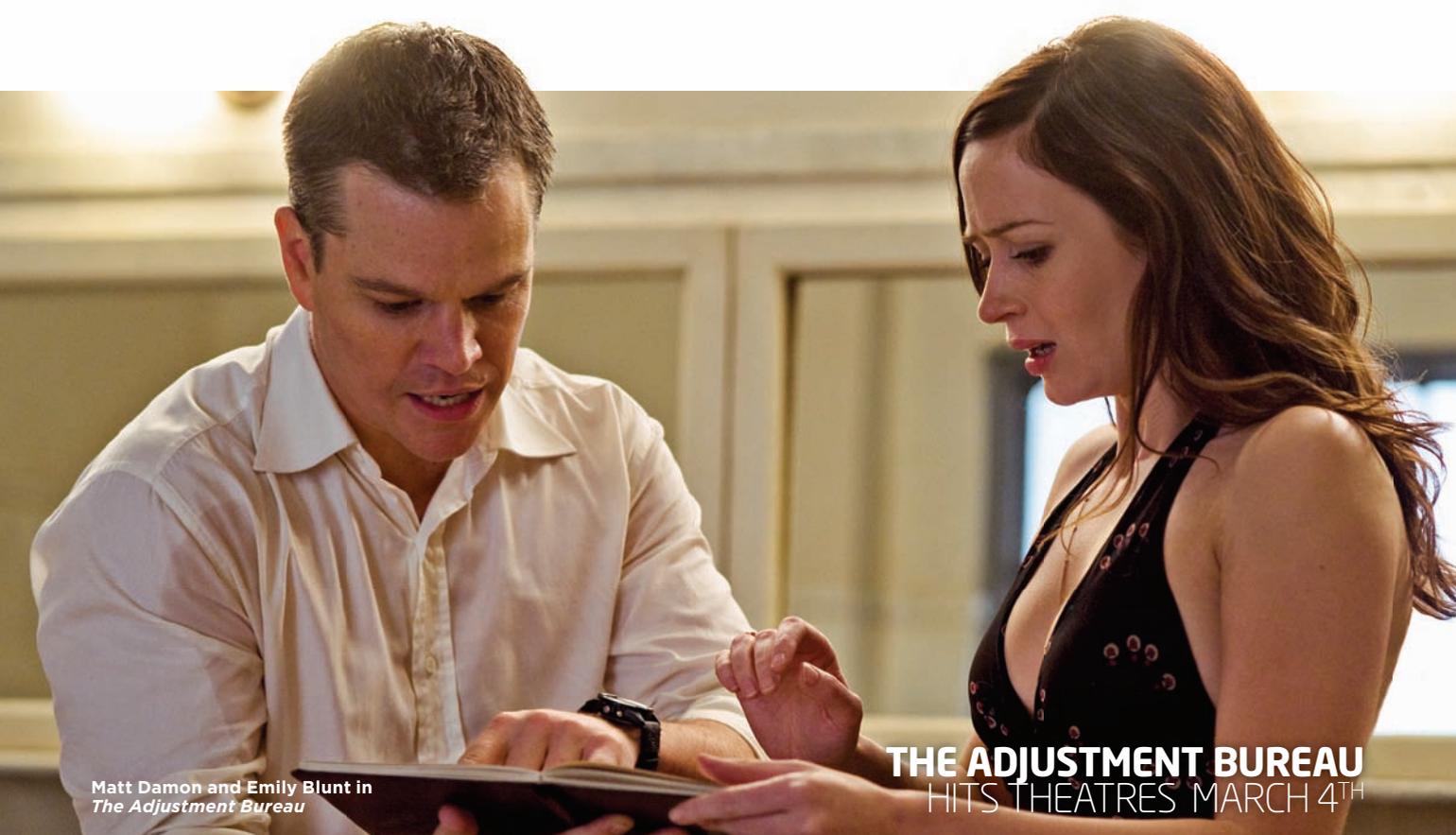
predetermined destiny, and David and Elise are not supposed to fall in love. So when David pursues Elise it throws the world off-kilter and the menacing Adjustment Bureau, a tangible governing department that controls the directions of our lives, steps in to restore order.

"The film definitely plays on people's paranoia," says Blunt, "there's the Big Brother effect of constantly being watched and manipulated." Think of it as *The Truman Show* spliced into *The Manchurian Candidate*.

The Adjustment Bureau marks screenwriter George Nolfi's directorial debut and was shot in the fall of 2009 in New York's Greenwich Village and mid-town Manhattan. Nolfi based the script on the 1954 short story *Adjustment Team* by Philip K. Dick, whose works have spawned some of the most popular sci-fi movies of the past three decades, including *Blade Runner*, *Total Recall* and *Minority Report*. But while those films were loaded with special effects, don't expect that here. *The Adjustment Bureau* is a contemporary thriller with a love story, mystery and intrigue, says Blunt. It's more psychological. "You have to will [Elise and David] to overcome the odds against them. You have to believe in these two," she says.

Today, with her hair pulled back in a high ponytail, and wearing no makeup or nail polish, the 28-year-old could easily pass for a teenager. It's hard to believe she's old enough to be married; she looks so much younger in person. But Blunt did, indeed, tie the knot last July, marrying fellow thespian John Krasinski (*The Office*) in Como, Italy.

However, she's vowed to keep mum on the relationship. "It's very vital to be protective," she says. Asked to comment on the pros and cons of being a celebrity couple, she says, "Oh yikes, CONTINUED ►



Matt Damon and Emily Blunt in *The Adjustment Bureau*

THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU
HITS THEATRES MARCH 4TH

► I can't go into that. There are no cons! It's wonderful to have a shared understanding. Everything to do with being in this business." After a beat, she teases, "What else you got?"

We return to the subject of fate because it was fate that sparked her interest in the dramatic arts. Blunt developed a stutter at age seven, which plagued her until she was 14. That's when a teacher urged her to act in a school play. When she balked, the teacher nudged her along by suggesting she adopt a Northern English accent for the part. Surprisingly, her stutter disappeared once she was on stage.

Blunt's stutter can return when she's nervous, stressed or on the phone, particularly when she can't use her hands to gesture or her face to express opinions. For the animated feature *Gnomeo & Juliet*, released last month, she stepped into a soundproof booth and did her first voice work — playing a red-frosted garden gnome who falls in love with a blue-suited garden gnome (James McAvoy) during a lawn feud. Did she stumble over her words? Not at all.

"I wasn't in real-life mode, I was in work mode," she says, "So I think you do naturally distance yourself from any problems you might have in your own world. Something just clicks. I can't fully explain it."

Blunt has worked steadily since her breakout role in 2006's *The Devil Wears Prada*, in which she played a beleaguered, but tart, assistant to Meryl Streep's punishing fashion editor. She got a Golden Globe nomination for her efforts, and was nominated for another Golden Globe last year for her portrayal of the

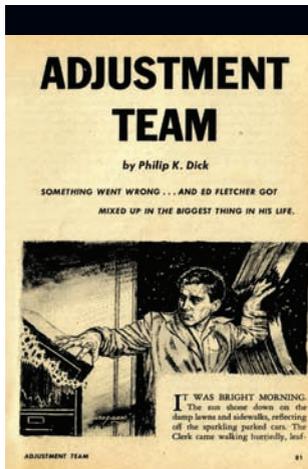
adolescent monarch in *The Young Victoria*. Yet she insists that such accolades don't matter. "I get more validated by getting jobs than awards," she says. "If I missed out on a job that would hurt profoundly more than if I'd missed out on an award."

As for future jobs, Blunt has three diverse films in the works.

There's *Looper*, a time-travelling thriller co-starring Bruce Willis; *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen*, in which she plays an expat working on a project to spawn fish in Yemeni waters; and a hush-hush cameo in *The Muppets*.

How did she select those projects? "I try to challenge myself. I thrive off of the worry and concern and insecure thoughts [of vastly different roles] because I think that can lead to a really good place creatively," she says. "All these jobs are an adventure for me. I'm entering into the unknown!"

Freelance writer Amber Nasrulla works in Toronto and L.A.



MAKING ADJUSTMENTS

Although *The Adjustment Bureau* claims to be based on Philip K. Dick's 20-page short story *Adjustment Team*, it couldn't be a looser adaptation. There isn't even a love story in Dick's version, which was published in the short-lived science-fiction magazine *Orbit* in 1954. The main character, an office worker rather than a rising politician, is already married. Instead of falling in love with the wrong woman, his mistake is arriving to work late and finding his co-workers have been turned to dust, or "de-energized," while the *Adjustment Team* is carrying out an "update." —*MW*



NEW AXE EXCITE
EVEN ANGELS
WILL FALL



SPRING MIX

Without pastels on the runway can it really be spring?

Absolutely. This season, fashion's colour-wheel has cycled past the muted pinks and blues and headed right into vivid brights, bold prints and pristine, unsullied whites. Think of the most exuberant colours in your crayon box, because a child-like love of colour will serve you well in the coming months

BY LIZA HERZ

Front Row



PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

Keira Knightley (centre) and *Harry Potter's* Clémence Poésy (far right) look on at Chanel, where Karl Lagerfeld lightened the classic Chanel jacket with hot pants and peep-toe booties.

VITAMIN C

(MAX MARA)

Orange is fashion's chameleon: cheery at Tory Burch, or achingly glamorous at Lanvin. Paired with white and tan, it's even edgy at Rag & Bone. Max Mara showed orange's whimsical side with this Muppet-textured jacket over a bandeau and softly draped trousers. Makeup fans can get their dose of vitamin C from bright orange lipstick, try Clarins Rouge Prodige in Clementine, or a nail colour like OPI's new "Y'all Come Back Ya Hear".

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



NEUTRALS TERRITORY

(MICHAEL KORS)

Last fall's big craze for neutral shades from camel to caramel goes from '70s cool to modern and sexy this spring. Neutrals get the Michael Kors sex-it-up treatment here with fluid, wide trousers, a contrasting bright white top and a generously cut coat for rumpled ease that takes the starch out of the classic trench.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

OPPOSITES ATTRACT

(GUCCI)

Cool girls wear head-to-toe black? Nuh-uh. Try turquoise, orange and purple, like Frida Giannini's trend-defining look at Gucci. Inspired by last year's Yves Saint Laurent 1970s retrospective in Paris, everyone from Giannini to Marc Jacobs and Diane von Furstenberg paired electric-hued separates in clashing combinations. Even neons are back, and no longer merely an '80s homage, just a defiant way to tell winter to get lost.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

CONTINUED ▶





ANIMAL MAGNETISM

(BURBERRY PRORSUM)
Fashion's love affair with leopard continues. Designers like Roberto Cavalli and John Galiano love their spots, while Burberry Prorsum's Christopher Bailey offered a master class in mixing, pairing a purple leopard print with a studded biker jacket and a vivid pink clutch. (Great Canadian fashion steal: Danier's leopard scarf is a fun, reasonably priced riff on the iconic Stephen Sprouse print for Louis Vuitton.)

PHOTO BY YUI MOK/KEYSTONE PRESS



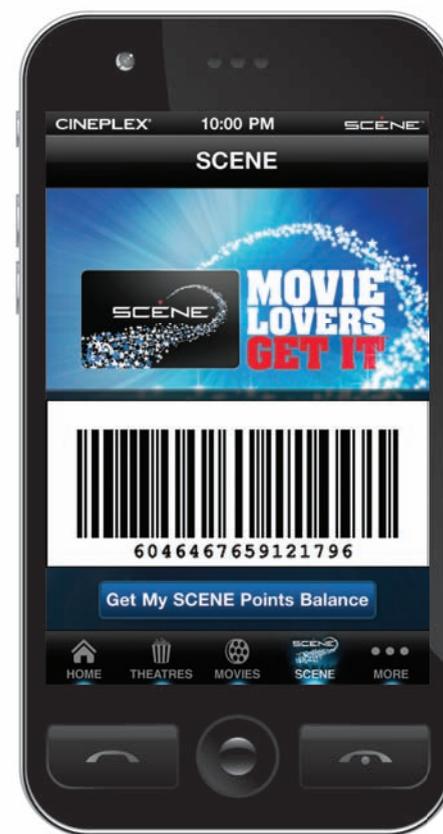
CRISP & CLEAN

(CALVIN KLEIN)
Loose, minimalist, streamlined whites were everywhere, from The Row to Narciso Rodriguez and in Sarah Burton's ruffled waistcoats for the late Alexander McQueen. But it's these sheer layers at Calvin Klein that we love — no extraneous frills allowed. Key add-ons? Nothing more than a swipe of lip balm, a chunky shoe and a Tide stain remover pen tucked away in a pocket.

PHOTO BY FERNANDA CALFAT/GETTY FOR MERCEDES-BENZ/IMAGE.NET

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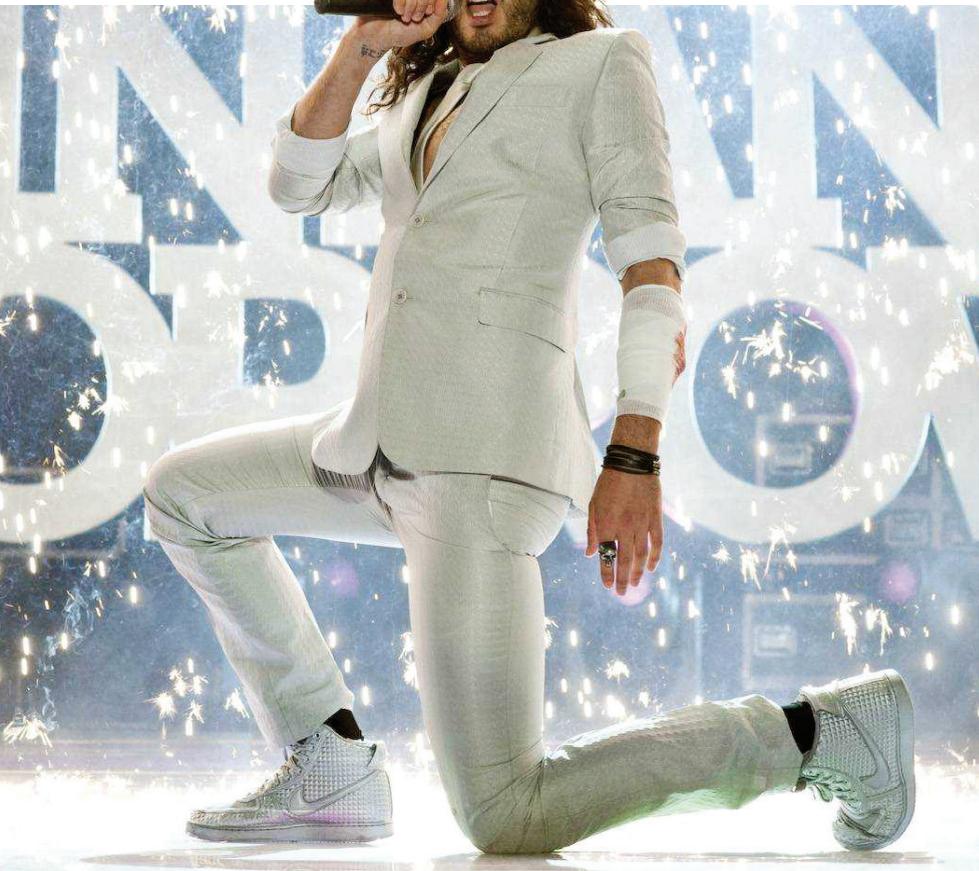
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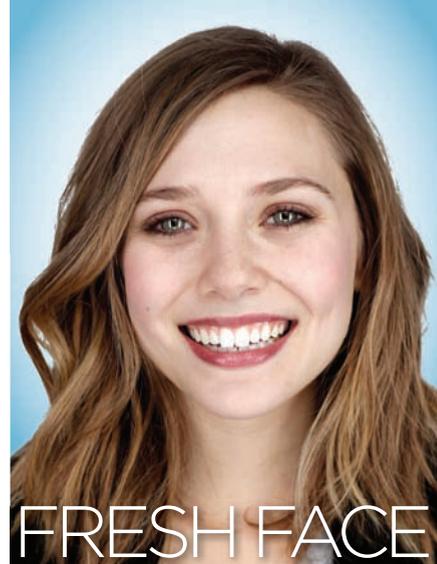
ROCK ON RUSSELL!

Broadway's hot musical *Rock of Ages* is set to become a movie with **Adam Shankman** (*Hairspray*) behind the camera. Shankman's on the lookout for actors who can belt out '80s hair-band tunes, and **Russell Brand** is very interested. The outrageous actor earned the rock 'n' roll seal of approval when he not only played a rock star in *Get Him to the Greek*, but recorded 16 songs for the movie's soundtrack. Filming is set to start this summer with a 2012 release date.



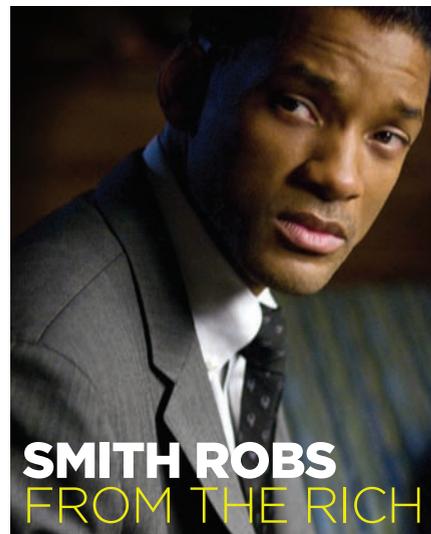
WASIKOWSKA IS STOKED

Mia Wasikowska replaces **Carey Mulligan** in *Stoker*, penned by *Prison Break* star **Wentworth Miller** (under the pseudonym Ted Foulke). Aussie star Wasikowska plays an eccentric teen dealing with her strange uncle after her father's death.



FRESH FACE ELIZABETH OLSEN

We, like the rest of the world, were surprised to learn that not only is there another Olsen sister, **Elizabeth Olsen** (who's three years younger than twins **Mary-Kate** and **Ashley**), but that she's considered the most talented Olsen. The 21-year-old Elizabeth made waves at this year's Sundance Film Festival starring in two films: the tongue-tying *Martha Marcy May Marlene*, about a young woman who escapes a cult, and the horror pic *Silent House*. And she's just been cast alongside **Robert De Niro** and **Sigourney Weaver** in director **Rodrigo Cortes'** (*Buried*) psychological thriller *Red Lights*.



SMITH ROBS FROM THE RICH

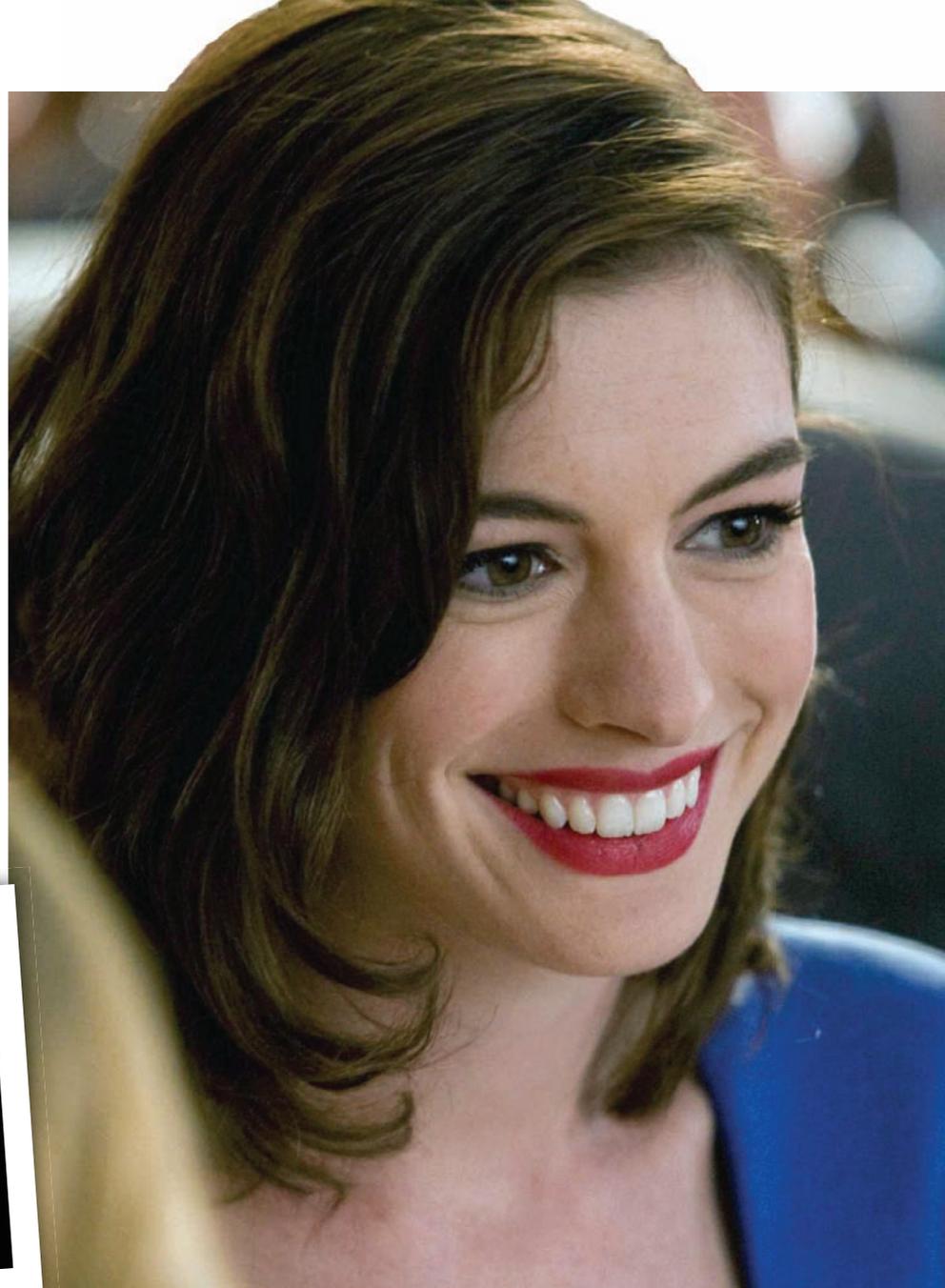
Errol Flynn, Kevin Costner, Sean Connery and Russell Crowe have all played him, and now you can add **Will Smith**'s name to the list of cinematic Robin Hoods. The **Wachowskis** have penned a modern action version of the tale that they'll direct with Smith in the lead. But it could be some time before the directors start production, as they have a considerable slate of films already queued up.



What's Going On With...

POLTERGEIST

First set to go into production before MGM Studios went into bankruptcy, this remake of the 1982 horror is back on, snagging a director (*House of Sand and Fog*'s **Vadim Perelman**) and a 2013 release date. Could the supposed "Poltergeist Curse" lead to casting woes? Four actors who appeared in the first two *Poltergeist* movies — including **Heather O'Rourke**, who played little Carol Anne — died within six years of the first film's release.



HATHAWAY'S MENTAL ISSUES

After **Anne Hathaway** struts her stuff as Catwoman in the new Batman pic, she'll play **Bradley Cooper**'s mentally disturbed neighbour in the adaptation of **Matthew Quick**'s novel *The Silver Linings Playbook*. Rumour is **David O. Russell** will direct the movie, which is due out in 2013.

ALSO IN THE WORKS ▶ **John Travolta** is in talks to star as mobster John Gotti in an upcoming bio-pic. ▶ **Naomi Watts** nabbed the role of J. Edgar Hoover's (**Leonardo DiCaprio**) secretary in *J. Edgar*. ▶ *The Hobbit* adds 16-year-old **Sairse Ronan** to its growing cast list. ▶ **Dame Judi Dench** will return as M in the 23rd James Bond pic, rumoured to be titled *Red Sky at Night*.



CHEADLE MAKES WAR

Don Cheadle has confirmed that his *Iron Man* character, War Machine, will get his own Marvel film. Cheadle told MTV that work on the script had begun and that War Machine would not be appearing in 2012's superhero smorgasbord *The Avengers*.

AT HOME

March's BEST DVD AND BLU-RAY

127 HOURS

MARCH 1

Your couch will seem extra comfy as you watch this true story of mountaineer Aron Ralston (**James Franco**) from its cushy confines. Ralston made the near-fatal mistake of going for a hike in a Utah canyon without telling anyone, and when he got trapped inside a crevice, with one arm pinned under a rock, he took drastic measures to free himself. The Blu-ray includes "Search & Rescue," about the real-life mission to find Ralston.



JACKASS 3

MARCH 8

Farts. Poop. Pee. We know we have your attention, but in a good way? If so, **Johnny Knoxville**, **Bam Margera**, **Chris Pontius** and the gang are coming to DVD and Blu-ray this month with their third collection of stupid (and we mean that in the best possible way) stunts. Bonus material includes deleted scenes and outtakes, so more of the same.



HEREAFTER

MARCH 15

Director **Clint Eastwood** focuses on the supernatural in this subtle drama that interweaves three storylines. **Matt Damon** plays a reluctant psychic trying to live a normal life, **Cécile De France** is a French journalist who has a near-death experience, and **Frankie** and **George McLaren** play twin brothers who are separated by tragedy.



TANGLED

MARCH 29

On her 18th birthday, an iron-willed Rapunzel, wielding an iron frying pan as a weapon, finally has her chance to escape the tower that's been her prison since she was a tiny tot. Her evil mother (who's not her real mother) has kept Rapunzel there to harvest her beautiful hair, which has the power to keep mommy young.

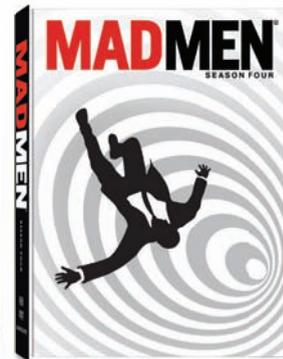
MORE MOVIES ▶ **BURLESQUE** (MARCH 1) ▶ **LOVE AND OTHER DRUGS** (MARCH 1) ▶ **FASTER** (MARCH 1) ▶ **MORNING GLORY** (MARCH 8) ▶ **THE NEXT THREE DAYS** (MARCH 8) ▶ **THE SWITCH** (MARCH 15) ▶ **SKYLINE** (MARCH 22) ▶ **FAIR GAME** (MARCH 29)

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Something Special

MAD MEN: SEASON FOUR

MARCH 29



Could it be the last season? Probably not, but as we go to press AMC and Lionsgate are still without a deal and creator **Matthew Weiner** has yet to start writing season five. So grab the fantastic fourth season and watch it again, from the the early days of the new ad agency to the shocking conclusion featuring Canadian **Jessica Paré** as the series' surprising new skirt.

Games

Why We Love...



DRAGON AGE II

MARCH 8

(PS3, XBOX 360, PC)

Coming from Edmonton's BioWare, this RPG is sure to go the extra mile in letting us craft our own character — gender, appearance, class, even personality.

National Theatre Live

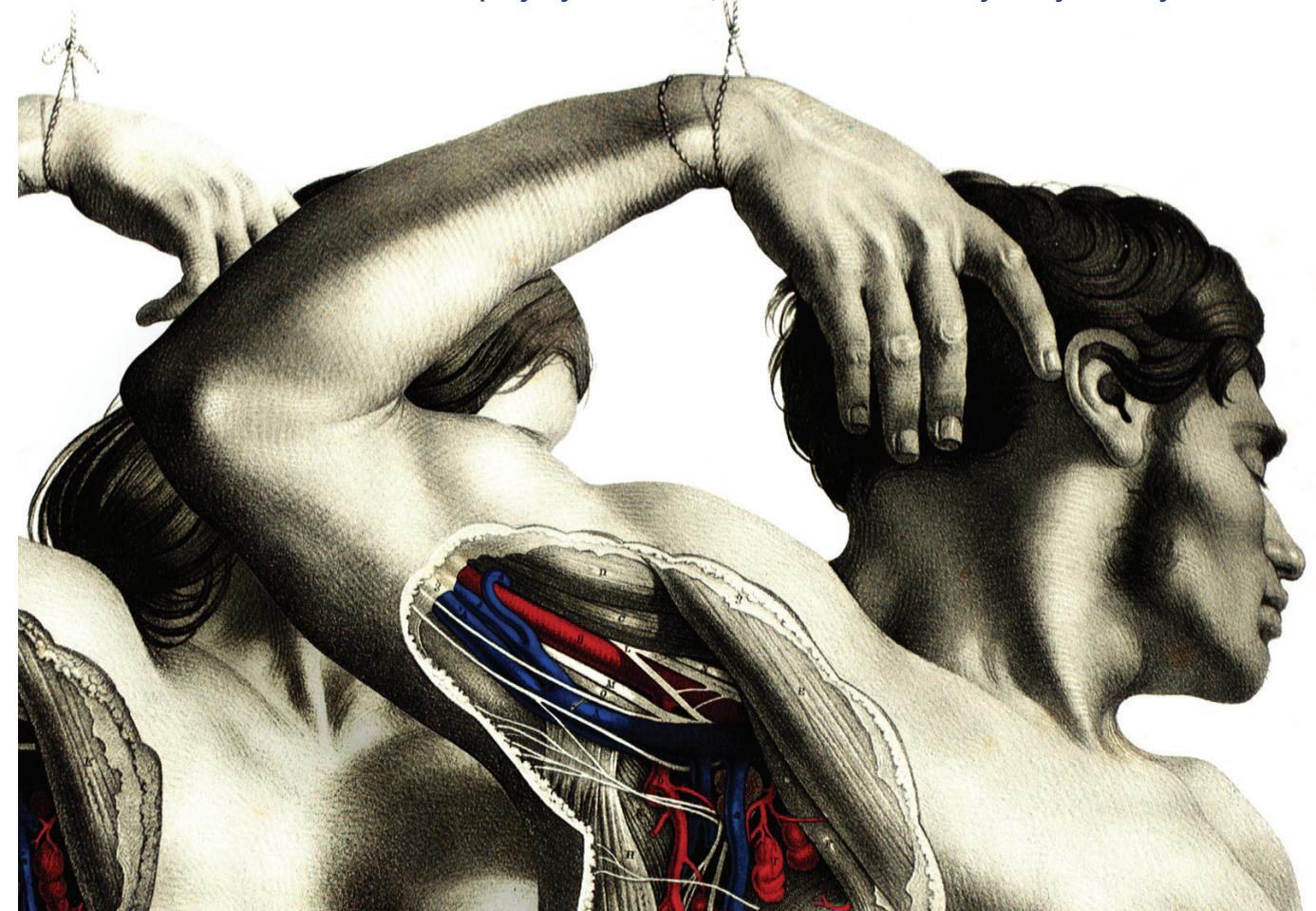
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directs

Frankenstein

a new play by Nick Dear, based on a novel by Mary Shelley



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PHOTO BY GEORGE FIMENTEL/GETTY

RIGHT BACK AT YA

When a radical Baptist church announced it would protest the Sundance screening of Kevin Smith's horror film *Red State* — in which an evil church kidnaps small-town teens — Smith fans mounted a counter-protest bringing their own signs. We love the play on the ubiquitous "God Hates Gays" slur Smith hoists here, but some of our other favourites were "I'm a Happy Jew," "Your Daughter Hit on Me Last Night," "God Hates Signs," and simply "Happiness." Smith plans to self-release the film, taking it on tour over the next few months prior to a wider release in October. —MW



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