

NOVEMBER 2010 | VOLUME 11 | NUMBER 11

CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

Inside

**HARRISON
FORD**

**KRISTEN
BELL**

**SAM
WORTHINGTON**

Brad Pitt

HOW
DID HE
**GET
HERE?**

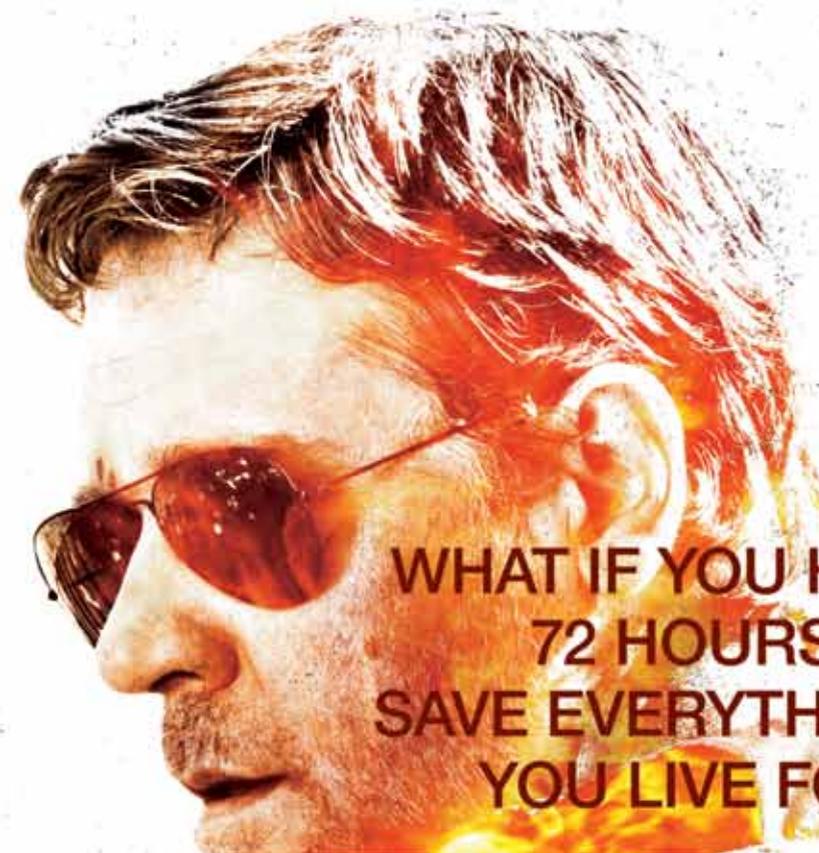
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IN THEATRES NOVEMBER 19

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Brad Pitt doesn't like to be pinned down. He's a matinee idol, serious actor, producer, part-time architect, father of six and Angelina's squeeze. Refusing to stand pat is Pitt's greatest strength, and he proves his versatility once more this month voicing a superhero in the family flick *Megamind*

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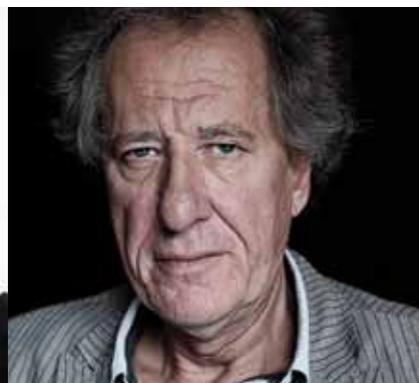
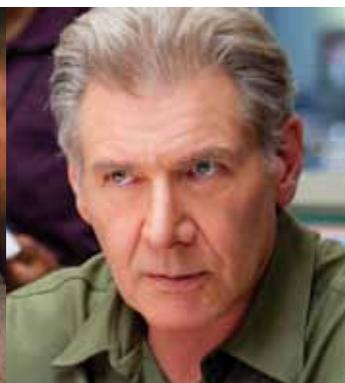
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what moves you

EDITOR'S NOTE



IT'S NOT EASY BEING BEAUTIFUL

Now, I'm not going to assume you think Brad Pitt is a good actor.

But if you do, which movie were you watching when you decided this guy had chops?

For me, it was *12 Monkeys* and his sputtering, cockeyed, psychiatric patient Jeffrey Goines. By this point Pitt had already made a few big films — *Se7en*, *Kalifornia*, *Legends of the Fall*. So why was *12 Monkeys* the first movie in which I took him seriously? Perhaps I've fallen prey to the Oscars syndrome — where a performance automatically jumps six or seven rungs up the ladder when a beautiful actor plays a character who is insane, overweight or unattractive. Not that Pitt's performance wasn't commendable.

In fact, I imagine he threw himself into that role precisely because he got to play an unappealing guy with ticks and quirks and a loose grasp on reality. Not exactly the Brad Pitt you want to lean over in a bar and ask your name. The upshot is that after seeing Pitt in *12 Monkeys*, I've taken him more seriously in everything that's followed. It's as if that performance is the foundation, and whatever attractively appointed rooms he's built above that foundation stand straighter and stronger because it's there, underneath, propping them up.

Another funny thing about the beautiful face of Brad Pitt. You'd think finding a flattering picture of the actor — not only one of the world's most attractive people, but also one of the most photographed — to use in your magazine would be among your day's easier tasks. But you'd be wrong. When he's not working, Pitt goes to great lengths to make himself unappealing to the camera — great lengths of beard, that is. Unless he's working on a film that requires him to be clean-shaven, Pitt prefers to cover that famous face in straggly tufts of hair. The situation peaked, quite literally, this past March when his beard reached reggae proportions. Everyone wondered what role the nest of chin hair was for. No role. Pitt finally admitted he was just bored.

Pitt doesn't have to feel guilty about exploiting his looks in this month's *Megamind*. Although he plays the fantastically attractive Metro Man, Pitt can't take credit for the character's face — that honour goes to the animators at DreamWorks. Turn to "The Complicated Life of Brad Pitt," page 42, to read more.

Elsewhere in this issue you'll find our chat with **Harrison Ford** about his new comedy *Morning Glory* (page 28); **Sam Worthington** on his next two films, neither of which employ green screen or 3D (page 34); **Geoffrey Rush** on next month's critically acclaimed *The King's Speech*, and next year's fourth *Pirates* flick, *On Stranger Tides* (page 38); and **Kristen Bell** explaining why *Burlesque* is no *Showgirls* (page 24). Really. She promises.

Plus, on page 49, you'll find our **Holiday Gift Guide**. It's filled with unique and inspiring ideas, plus lots of choices for the movie lover. Check back next month for a second installment.

■ MARNI WEISZ, EDITOR

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PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

EDITOR MARNI WEISZ
DEPUTY EDITOR INGRID RANDOJA
ART DIRECTOR TREVOR STEWART
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR ALIZA KLEIN
DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION
SHEILA GREGORY

CONTRIBUTORS MATHIEU CHANTELOIS,
PRAIRIE MILLER, BOB STRAUSS

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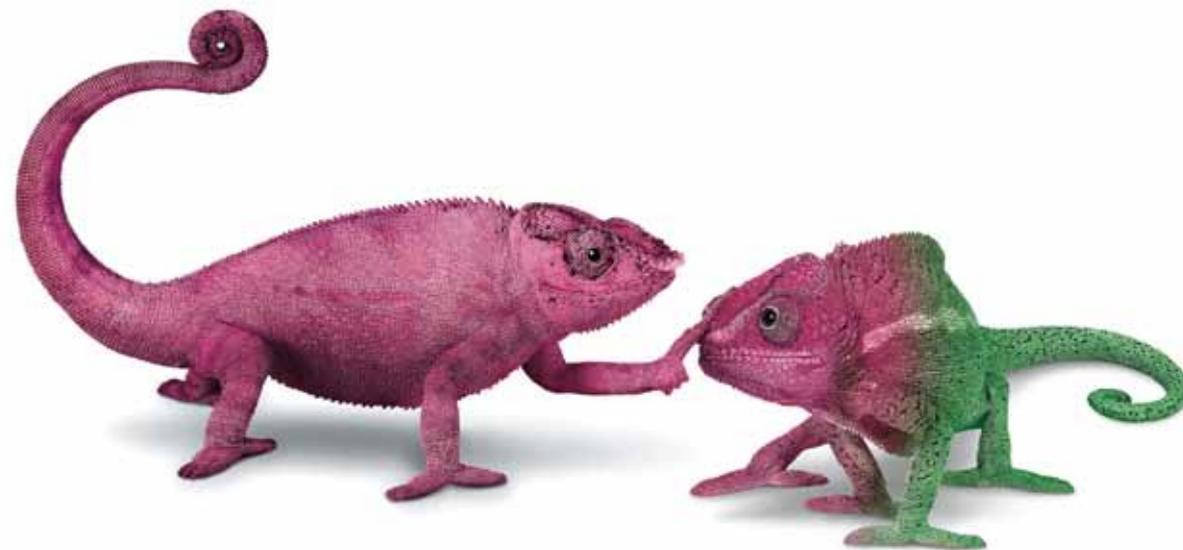
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SNAPS



KNIGHTLEY'S CHIC RIDE

Keira Knightley shoots an ad for Chanel in Paris.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



BLOOM WITH BURNS

Orlando Bloom on the Würzburg, Germany, set of *The Three Musketeers*.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



MIKE ON BIKE

Mike Myers cycles through New York City.

PHOTO BY LAWRENCE SCHWARTZWALD/SPLASH NEWS



FOCUS ON GOSLING

A fan shoots Ryan Gosling at the Toronto International Film Festival.

PHOTO BY TODD G/SPLASH NEWS



PARKER TAKES THE TRAIN

Sarah Jessica Parker, Matthew Broderick and the twins ride through a pumpkin patch in the Hamptons.

PHOTO BY DONNA MORAN/SPLASH NEWS

IN BRIEF



FRANCO MAKES THEM FAINT

First it happened at Telluride, and then it happened in Toronto — audience members fainting during Danny Boyle's *127 Hours*.

The thriller from the director of 2008's Oscar-winning *Slumdog Millionaire* tells the true story of mountaineer Aron Ralston. In 2003, Ralston was forced to take drastic measures to free himself after being pinned between two rocks.

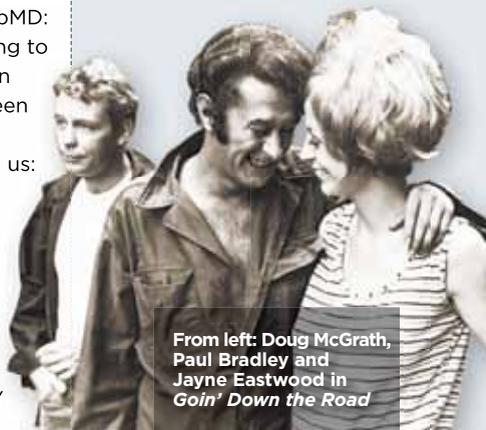
James Franco plays Ralston, and his performance in that

gory scene is so realistic that at least two people needed help from paramedics — and many more felt ill — when the film had its world premiere at the Telluride Film Festival in early September. A week later, similar stories were reported at the Toronto International Film Festival. The movie opens across the

country November 12th.

Some advice from WebMD: If you feel like you're going to faint, sit in a bent position and put your head between your knees.

And some advice from us: Don't skip the movie — it got fantastic reviews. If you're squeamish, when it gets to that scene, just close your eyes and imagine Franco's having a bad trip in *Pineapple Express 2*. —MW



From left: Doug McGrath, Paul Bradley and Jayne Eastwood in *Goin' Down the Road*

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Released in 1970, director Don Shebib's *Goin' Down the Road* — which follows Maritimers Joey (the late Paul Bradley) and Pete (Doug McGrath) to Toronto in search of jobs, women and the pleasures of Yonge Street — is one of those movies that's almost inseparable from its SCTV parody. That's a huge compliment. It means it's a Canadian classic. Too bad SCTV isn't around to parody the sequel Shebib just shot in Toronto, *Down the Road Again*.

Forty years later, Joey dies, but not before sending Pete (McGrath again) a request to hit the road one more time and transport his ashes back to the East Coast. The film should hit theatres in 2011. ▶

The Art Of Film

A tribute to TV's *The Twilight Zone* at an L.A. gallery inspired Brooklyn-based artist Casey Weldon to create this triptych combining the classic 'Eye of the Beholder' episode with characters from the *Twilight* movies. The episode features a deformed woman wrapped in bandages. When the bandages come off she's beautiful and the doctors recoiling at her "disfigurement" remove masks to reveal pig snouts. Edward, Bella and Jacob can be yours for \$450 each through www.nineteeneightyeight.com.



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▶ SPIDER-MAN TREADS BROADWAY'S BOARDS

Julie Taymor's long-in-the-works Spider-Man musical, *Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark*, finally opens on Broadway November 14th with actor-singer Reeve Carney (above) in the lead, belting out tunes written by U2's Bono and The Edge.

The fresh-faced 27-year-old has had only two movie roles, spread out over 11 years — the young Ishmael in 1999's *Snow Falling on Cedars* and Ferdinand in next month's *The Tempest*, also directed by Taymor. But his band, Carney, has released three albums.

The production has been delayed many times, largely for financial reasons, and didn't get off the ground until Bono asked Canadian concert promoter Michael Cohl to step in and raise the money. Reports are the production ended up with a record-breaking \$52-million (U.S.) budget. —*MW*



Quote Unquote

"I'D QUITE LIKE THE GLASSES. I THINK THAT WOULD BE QUITE COOL. ACTUALLY, I MIGHT JUST STEAL THEM. BUT FOR GOD'S SAKE IT'S BEEN 10 YEARS, IF THEY CAN'T GIVE ME THAT..."

—HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS, PART 1 STAR DANIEL RADCLIFFE ON WHAT HE WANTS AS A SERIES SOUVENIR.



VEGETABLE OF THE MONTH

Retired electrical engineer Clive Williams recently dug this carrot, which bears a striking resemblance to *Toy Story 3*'s Buzz Lightyear, out of his garden in Oxfordshire, England. Pixar, you've got your idea for the fourth film.

NEW CINEPLEX APP

Check out the new Cineplex mobile app launching November 15th for iPhone. (BlackBerry, Android and iPad will follow shortly.) Download the app and get movie information at your fingertips. Watch videos, select your movie and theatre, then buy tickets via your phone and share your plans with friends.

A ticket invoice (in PDF) is sent to your email, which you can print at home and scan at the theatre, or you can enter your PIN code at a kiosk to redeem your ticket. SCENE members can also check their point balance.

REEVE CARNEY PHOTO BY GETTY; CARROT PHOTO BY SPLASHNEWS

Tim Bits

Tim Burton created this pen-and-ink sketch called "Romeo and Juliet" sometime in the early 1980s. It's just one of more than 700 items that make up "Tim Burton," a retrospective of the director's early years and film career on display at the TIFF Bell Lightbox in Toronto until April 2011.



PENN MOVES IN

One of the perks of having Sean Penn play you in a movie is that he shows up at your door, wanting to hang out.

Penn plays former diplomat Joe Wilson in this month's *Fair Game*, a dramatization of 2003's Plamegate, in which Valerie Plame was outed as a CIA operative in a column by late *Washington Post* writer Robert Novak. Plame's husband, Joe Wilson, had been critical of the Bush administration and Plame's outing was seen as a retaliatory move.

While Plame is played by Naomi Watts, it was Penn who Plame spent the most time with in the lead-up to filming. "He stayed with us for a few days in Santa Fe, where we now live, and followed Joe around," Plame said in a recent Manhattan interview.

So, did it feel like she was seeing double? "I wouldn't necessarily have picked Sean out of a lineup to play Joe Wilson, just in the physical sense," she says, "but that's why he's a great actor. He morphs into Joe. And I didn't think that I was watching Sean Penn. Sean is incredibly intelligent, and brings to every performance he does his amazing talent. I mean, that is why he is absolutely one of the best actors of his generation." —*Prairie Miller*



Above: Watts and Penn. This pic: Plame and Wilson



SHOESTRING HORROR

\$200= Cost of the most expensive prop used for *Monsters*, the \$100,000 horror flick opening nationwide this month. What was it used for?

"The jeep we turned on its side for the opening action sequence," reveals director Gareth Edwards. "Nothing says 'end of the world' like an upturned car! We spent a fair amount of money to hire it and promised the owner we wouldn't scratch it, then after all this effort I shot the sequence on the cheapest night-vision camcorder we could find, and everyone looked at me like, 'You're shooting with that thing?' But I don't think you can fake that cheap 'realistic' night-vision look without doing it for real."

SPOTLIGHT

KSEENIA **SOLO** DANCES WITH THE STARS

Ksenia Solo's talent landed her the role of Veronica, an ambitious dancer, in director Darren Aronofsky's *Black Swan*, a creepy psychological thriller set in the ballet world.

But she also got a leg up on the competition thanks to her mom.

The 23-year-old Solo — who was born in Latvia but moved with her family to Toronto when she was five — started dancing as a child. Then at 14 a back injury derailed her professional dance career and she turned to acting.

"It's always been a dream of mine to combine dancing and acting," says Solo on the line from Vancouver where she's shooting the second season of the CW series *Life Unexpected* (you can also catch her in the Showcase series *Lost Girl*).

Solo's dream came true when she auditioned for *Black Swan*, which stars Natalie Portman as a ballerina who suffers a breakdown after being plucked from the corps to star in *Swan Lake*.

"At my first callback I met Darren, and to be honest I was incredibly nervous," says Solo.

"Darren asked me if I could dance something, and I did, and then he actually asked my mom, who is a former prima ballerina and a choreographer if she would choreograph a piece for me. So after my audition we went into the studio and she choreographed a piece for me that we sent to him, and then I found out I got the role."

And did dancing on screen live up to her expectations?

"Doing the dancing was fantastic. It was incredibly tough, don't get me wrong, but it was a lot of fun. But my favourite scene is this scene I have with Natalie where I think she's lied to me about something and we get into a tiff. I got to work with the cream of the crop, she was amazing."

—INGRID RANDOJA

Black Swan
hits theatres December 1st

PHOTO BY JOHN BREGAR

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ALL DRESSED UP

KATIE HOLMES

A risky floral frock at *Variety's* Power of Women Luncheon in Beverly Hills.

PHOTO BY JEN LOWERY/SPLASH NEWS

EMMA STONE

The *Easy A* star hits the Hollywood premiere in peacock-inspired sequins.

PHOTO BY TONYA WISE/SPLASH NEWS

BLAKE LIVELY

A bold choice for "Fashion's Night Out: The Show" in New York.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

ZAC EFRON

Perfectly polished in a three-piece suit at the U.K. premiere of *Charlie St. Cloud*.

PHOTO BY YUI MOK/KEYSTONE PRESS

SOFIA COPPOLA

Watery blue's so apropos for the closing night of the Venice Film Festival, where her film *Somewhere* won *The Golden Lion*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

RUSSELL BRAND

The classic black suit with a rock star twist at the New York Film Festival's screening of *The Tempest*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN THEATRES

NOVEMBER 5



DUE DATE

Peter Highman's (Robert Downey Jr.) plan to get home to witness the birth of his baby is derailed when he discovers he's on the no-fly list. But he manages to hitch a ride with the world's most annoying aspiring actor (Zach Galifianakis). Hijinks ensue. Can't wait for the outtakes with these two seriously funny dudes having at it.



Naomi Watts in *Fair Game*

FAIR GAME

This political thriller is based on Valerie Plame's memoir, *Fair Game: My Life as a Spy, My Betrayal by the White House*, and stars Naomi Watts as CIA operative Plame, whose identity is exposed by the White House after her diplomat husband (Sean Penn) writes an anti-government article.

FOR COLORED GIRLS

Writer-director Tyler Perry adapts Ntozake Shange's

1975 play *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*. The play is a series of 20 poems, spoken by seven African-American female actors, that touch on issues such as rape, abortion and domestic violence. Tyler cast more than a dozen female actors, including Thandie Newton, Janet Jackson, Kerry Washington, Loretta Devine and Whoopi Goldberg, in an effort to open up the play for the big screen.

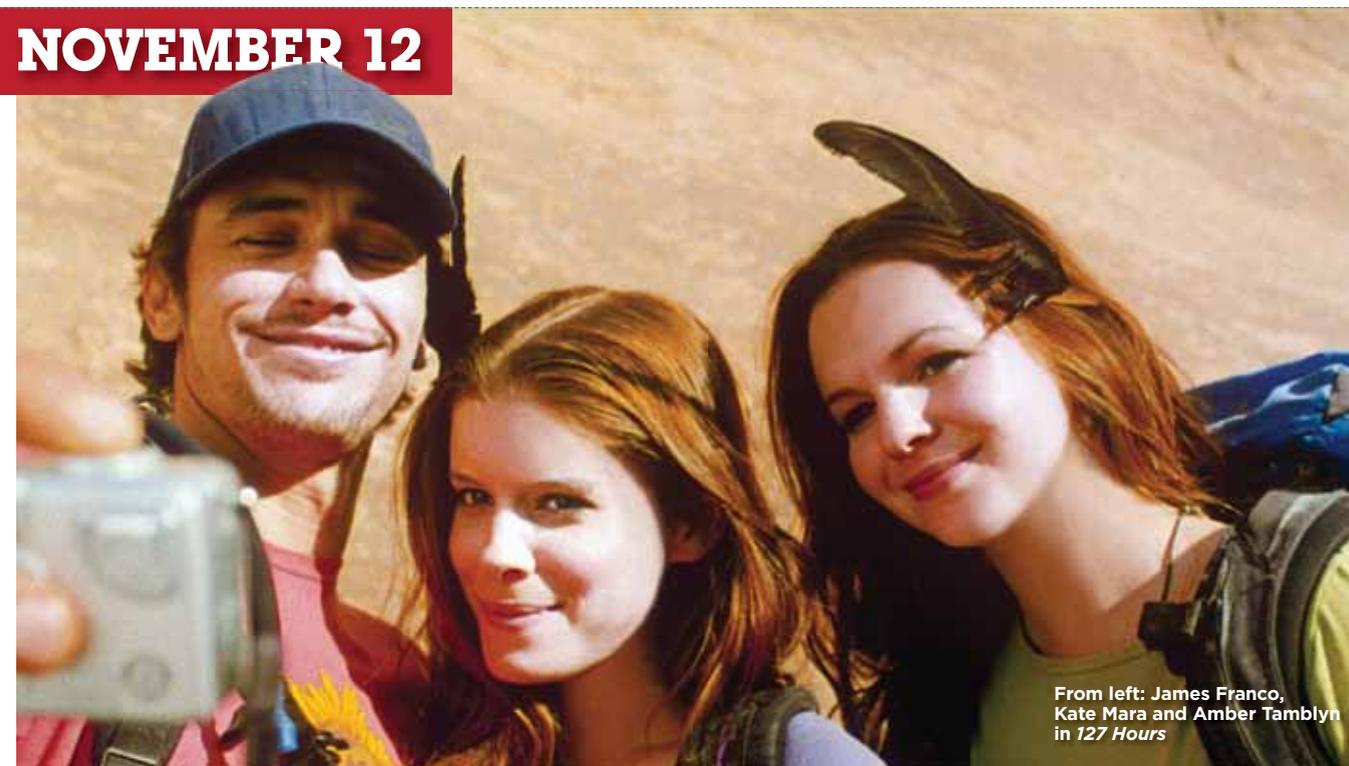
MEGAMIND

After alien villain Megamind (Will Ferrell) disposes of his longtime superhero rival Metro Man (Brad Pitt), he creates another nemesis, Titan (Jonah Hill), to battle. But Titan turns out to be more evil than Megamind, forcing the baddie to turn good. The folks at DreamWorks recruited some serious comedic talent, aside from Ferrell and Hill, listen for the voices of Tina Fey and David Cross. See Brad Pitt profile, page 42.



Megamind

NOVEMBER 12



From left: James Franco, Kate Mara and Amber Tamblyn in *127 Hours*

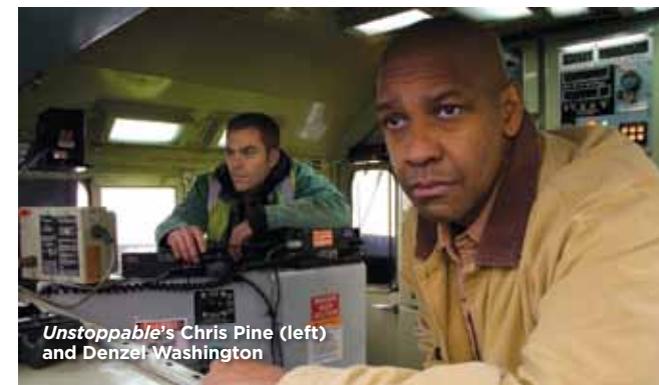
127 HOURS

James Franco is earning rave reviews for his turn in director Danny Boyle's telling of real-life hiker Aron Ralston's (Franco) harrowing tale of survival. In 2003, Ralston finds himself trapped — his arm pinned underneath a boulder — in a remote canyon in Utah for five days. Ultimately, he must decide between his arm or his life.

UNSTOPPABLE

In director Tony Scott's action-thriller, Denzel Washington and Chris Pine play railroad conductors who make it their job to stop a runaway train hauling hazardous chemicals from crashing headlong into a train carrying kids on a school field trip and setting off a lethal toxic explosion.

CONTINUED ▶



Unstoppable's Chris Pine (left) and Denzel Washington



SKYLINE

Aliens park above the Earth and suck our defenseless population into their ships like ants into a vacuum cleaner. Can a small band of humans defeat the invaders?



From left: Emily Blunt, Rupert Grint and Bill Nighy in *Wild Target*

WILD TARGET

Harry Potter star **Rupert Grint** puts down his wand to co-star in this comedy about a hitman (**Bill Nighy**) who not only saves the con artist (**Emily Blunt**) he is supposed to murder, but also an innocent bystander (Grint). The three then try to avoid the new hitman (**Martin Freeman**) sent to finish them off.

MORNING GLORY

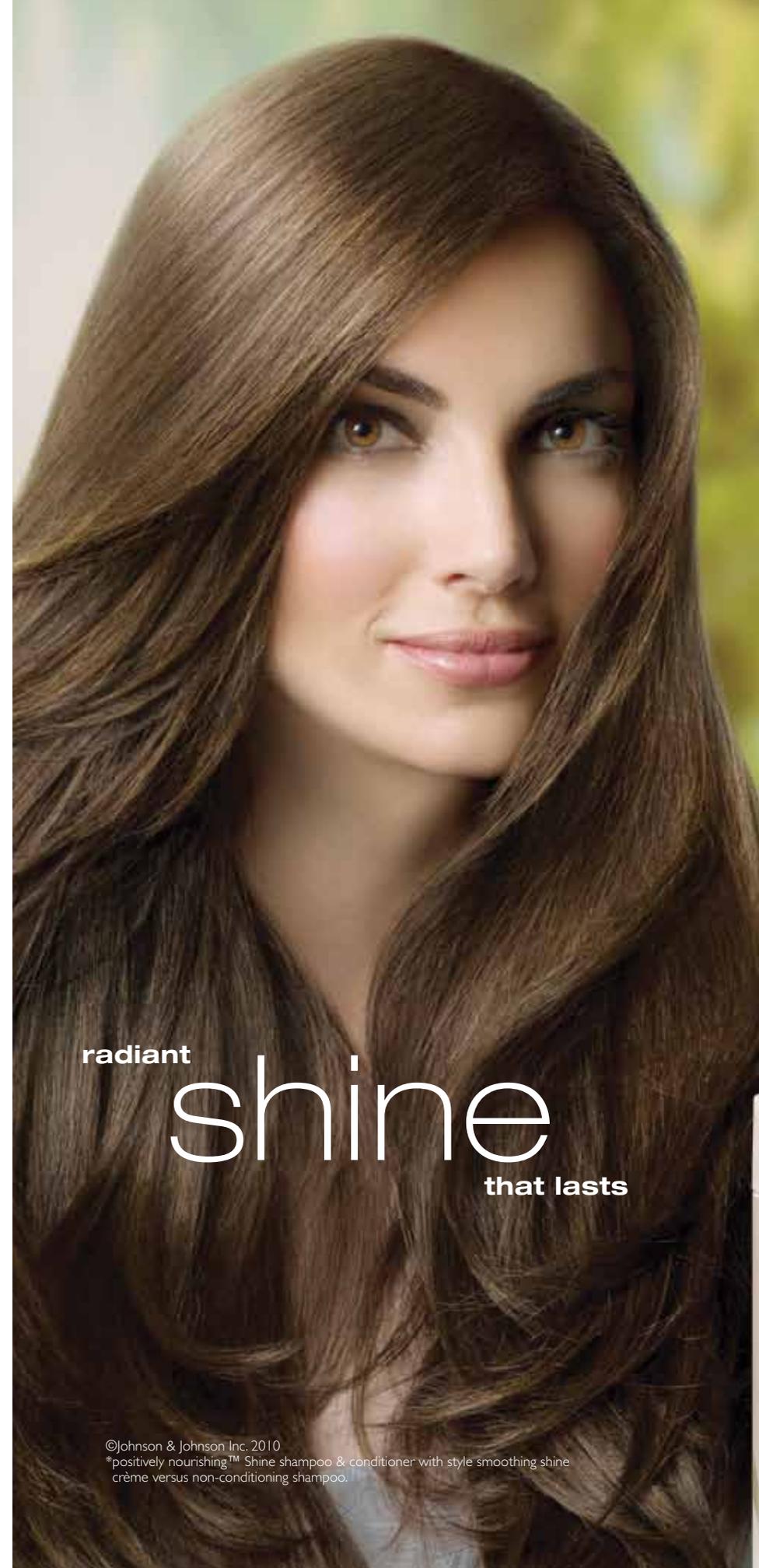
Becky Fuller (**Rachel McAdams**) takes a job producing TV's lowest-rated morning show and comes up with the bright idea of teaming grouchy news anchor Mike Pomeroy (**Harrison Ford**) with the show's perky host, Colleen Peck (**Diane Keaton**). Okay, so it isn't such a bright idea. See **Harrison Ford** interview, page 28.



MONSTERS

Aliens crash land in Mexico, and six years later half of the country, and parts of Central America, are under quarantine. Those living in the "Infected Zone" are forced to live alongside the creatures. Now two Americans — a journalist (**Scot McNairy**, left) and a tourist (**Whitney Able**) — must make their way through the dangerous zone in order to return home.

CONTINUED ▶



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NOVEMBER 19



HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HALLOWS: PART 1

It's the beginning of the end for the Harry Potter franchise as the last book comes to the big screen in two parts. In this opening segment, Harry (**Daniel Radcliffe**), Hermione (**Emma Watson**) and Ron (**Rupert Grint**) go on the run to search for the remaining Horcruxes while Voldemort (**Ralph Fiennes**) strengthens his hold on the wizarding world.

THE NEXT THREE DAYS

Canadian writer/director **Paul Haggis** brings us this thriller about a woman (**Elizabeth Banks**) who is sent to prison for murder. Her professor husband (**Russell Crowe**) believes she's innocent and spends three years appealing the conviction. But when the case is closed and she becomes suicidal, he decides he has no choice but to break her out of prison with the help of the only man (**Liam Neeson**) to have ever escaped that big house.

NOVEMBER 26



Sally Hawkins (second from right) leads the revolution in *Made in Dagenham*

BURLESQUE

Actor-singers **Cher** and **Christina Aguilera** unite to tell the well-worn tale of the small town girl (Aguilera) with the big voice who heads to L.A. and gets a job slinging drinks at a down-on-its-heels nightclub. If only the nasty star (**Kristen Bell**) and club owner (Cher) would just let her strut her stuff! See **Kristen Bell interview, page 24.**

FASTER

A bank robber (**Dwayne Johnson**) is released from prison and immediately sets out to kill all those who helped murder his brother.

LOVE & OTHER DRUGS

Pharmaceutical salesman Jamie (**Jake Gyllenhaal**) charms the ladies with his doe eyes, and makes men very happy peddling a little blue pill called Viagra. Then he meets the free-spirited Maggie (**Anne Hathaway**). Which begs the question, what will it take to bring these two beautiful, and obviously made-for-each-other, folks together?

MADE IN DAGENHAM

In 1968, 187 female machinists working in Ford's Dagenham plant, located on the edge of London, went on strike demanding equal pay for equal work (they had been deemed "unskilled" by Ford bigwigs). This feel-good drama recounts the events, with **Sally Hawkins** playing Rita O'Grady, the English Norma Rae who leads the ladies in their fight for justice.

WASTE LAND

This acclaimed documentary, directed by **Lucy Walker**, focuses on Brazilian artist **Vik Muniz's** effort to help garbage pickers working in Jardim Gramacho, the world's largest landfill, located on the outskirts of Rio de Janeiro. Muniz makes huge art projects using the garbage and workers as subjects, which he then photographs and sells at high-end auctions.



Artist Vik Muniz in front of a garbage heap in *Waste Land*

NOVEMBER 24



Tangled

TANGLED

Disney's 50th animated film is a cheery adaptation of the *Rapunzel* fairy tale. Charming thief Flynn Rider (**Zachary Levi**) helps longhaired princess Rapunzel (**Mandy Moore**) escape from the tower that's served as a prison for most of her life. Princess Rapunzel finally gets her chance to shine — Disney has had the classic fairy tale penciled onto its to-do list since the 1940s, but other princess stories kept jumping the line.



Faster's Dwayne Johnson

SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE BIG SCREEN

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THE TEMPEST

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MON., NOV. 8

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA:

DAS RHEINGOLD (WAGNER)

ENCORES: SAT., NOV. 20 & MON., NOV. 29

BORIS GODUNOV (MUSSORGSKY)

ENCORE: SAT., NOV. 27

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BURLESQUE
HITS THEATRES
NOVEMBER 24TH

IT'S SHOWTIME

In her sexiest role yet, **Kristen Bell** goes toe-to-toe with Christina Aguilera and Cher — a couple of women who know something about putting on a sultry show — in **Burlesque**

BY BOB STRAUSS

K

risten Bell wants all of her guy

fans to know she hasn't abandoned them. Even if she has had three romantic comedies released in the last 12 months.

"Don't remind me," Bell says in mock exasperation during a recent Los Angeles interview. "I'm not interested in pigeonholing myself, and I'm very conscious of that. I'm also conscious of the fact that I need to take work when it comes around, and I'm not Meryl Streep. I can't be as picky."

Bell, who developed a dedicated following, both male and female, playing the teen TV detective Veronica Mars, hopes that her new movie, *Burlesque*, will make up a little for having put fellas through the likes of *Couples Retreat*, *When in Rome* and *You Again*.

Even if *Burlesque* is another nearly all-girl affair ("There were so many women on that set," Bell reports. "Stanley Tucci was pretty much the only guy; I don't know how he managed it"). And even though the film may not be quite as hot an item as its title suggests.

"It's not a nudie film by any stretch of the imagination," says Bell, 30, who plays Nikki, the temperamental diva of a dazzling, but underattended, L.A. cabaret revue. "It's not *Showgirls*, despite what you might think.

"It's a spectacle, it's beautiful, it's campy at points. But it's real. And it's not the kind of burlesque that America has associated with stripping. Its roots are in Vaudeville, more of a funny kind of tease."

For Bell, at least, it was the perfect antidote to drab rom-com formulas. "The movie is just fabulous, to be described in one word," she says. "There are so many beautiful costumes, so many amazing actors. It was just a lot of fun, and the most dress-up I've ever played for a role."

While beautiful costumes and playing dress-up may not be at the top of most guys' lists, the prospect of seeing Bell, Christina Aguilera (in her first major movie role) and *Dancing with the Stars* hottie Julianne Hough in at least some stages of undress ought to be enough.

And for the guys who aren't into that, there's always Cher, making her first screen appearance in seven years as the club's formidable manager, Tess. "I was intimidated at first to be working with all of these women, especially to be working with Cher," Bell admits. "But I was so pleasantly surprised. You very shortly realize that people who are asses don't really work a lot. If they're continuing in this business, they're probably amazing in movies and they're probably really nice to work with. We had a great time."

As you may have guessed, *Burlesque* is pretty much a musical, which should have been right in Bell's wheelhouse. She got her start singing and dancing in school and community theatre productions in the Detroit suburbs, and made her Broadway debut as Becky Thatcher in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*.

But Bell is no song-and-dance expert.

"I do have a musical-comedy background," she says. "But we danced with Michael Jackson's and Beyoncé's dancers. **CONTINUED** ▶



HOLLYWOOD'S GREAT GRUMP

Since the start of his career there's been one trait that unites **Harrison Ford's** performances — grouchiness. At 68, why should he change now? ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

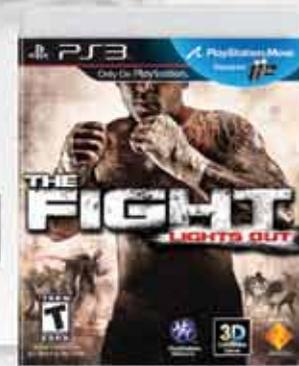
H

Harrison Ford's grumpy period continues with the new comedy *Morning Glory*.

"I play a retired network news anchor who is compelled by the two years remaining on his contract to come back and do morning television — which he, of course, loathes," explains Ford during a recent interview in Los Angeles. "And on the lowest-rated morning show in television history, which has somehow managed to hang on for 11 years."

This character, Mike Pomeroy, follows Ford's appearances as a combative research scientist in *Extraordinary Measures* and a snarling cameo as himself in Sacha Baron Cohen's last ambush comedy, *Bruno*. Now 68, the actor seems to be revelling in the cranky side of his personality. It's a character trait that lent comic relief to Ford's heroic performances as Indiana Jones and *Star Wars'* Han Solo, and underlined his work in films as diverse as *Hollywood Homicide*, *K-11: The Widowmaker*, *Six Days Seven Nights* and *The Mosquito Coast*. CONTINUED ►

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MORNING GLORY
HITS THEATRES
NOVEMBER 12TH



TOP: *Morning Glory*'s mismatched hosts Diane Keaton and Harrison Ford. **RIGHT:** Ford and Rachel McAdams

Counter to the evidence onscreen, though, Ford is a pretty happy man these days. He and his long-time companion, actor Calista Flockhart, wed earlier this year, and Ford's third time on the marriage-go-round apparently agrees with him. He's in fantastic shape for his age ("I play tennis and watch what I eat, that's about it," Ford says with a shrug). And if his forays outside of the action genre haven't been received as well in the new century as they once were, at least he's enjoying the work that comes an aging superstar's way.

Morning Glory, he insists, was a delight to make from start to finish.

"It's a script that [*Lost* creator] J.J. Abrams developed with Aline Brosh McKenna, who wrote *The Devil Wears Prada* and *27 Dresses*," Ford says. "It arrived full-grown and all set to play. The director, Roger Michell [*Notting Hill*], who I didn't know well at all, turned out to be one of the great pleasures of my career. He's terrific. And I just had a ball working with Rachel McAdams and Diane Keaton [who plays his morning show co-host]."

"Rachel plays the ambitious young executive producer whom the story is centred on," Ford adds. "So, for me, it's another character part, which is what I always wanted to do anyway. But funny, and touching, I'm really pleased with it."

Next up, Ford returns to the action-fantasy genre



DID YOU KNOW?

Harrison Ford may have drawn on his real-life experience in broadcast to play a TV anchor relegated to morning-show host in *Morning Glory*.

When Harry Ford was a senior at Maine Township High School (seen above) in Park Ridge, Illinois, his was the first student voice heard on the brand-new WMTH radio station, launched in 1959 by the school's electronics teacher.

The radio station is still functioning to this day.

"For me, it's another character part, which is what I always wanted to do anyway. But funny, and touching, I'm really pleased with it"

for Jon Favreau's comic book-based, sci-fi western *Cowboys & Aliens*. Due out next summer, the film sounds intriguing in its absurdity. Daniel Craig plays an amnesiac who turns up in an Old West town, and Ford plays the colonel in charge, who's described not just as grumpy, but "iron-fisted" in the film's official synopsis. And then, aliens from space arrive. The movie should appeal to a similar audience as Ford's last big hit, 2008's *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*, and with Favreau at the helm it'll be more kid-friendly than Ford's recent offerings. Not that his own kids are likely to be in the crowd opening weekend.

"My kids never watch my movies," says the actor, who has four grown children from his previous marriages and has adopted Flockhart's nine-year-old son, Liam. "They never did. None of my kids have ever shown any particular interest in the movies that I do. Liam has no interest in Indiana Jones."

Ford, however, still does. He is more than open to a fifth Jones pic. Though not, at least according

to him, because *Crystal Skull* was his biggest hit in years. He speaks about another Indiana Jones movie like the character actor he claims to be, focusing on how Indy might deal with his new family.

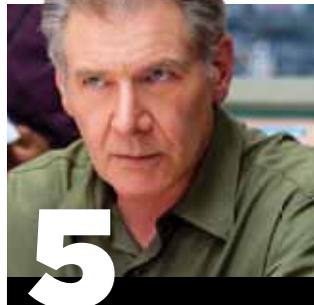
"I'd love to explore the new relationship with the kid, Mutt," Ford says of Shia Labeouf's character, whom Indy discovered was his son at the end of the last movie. "And I'd love to see how the Karen Allen character might fit into it all. It would be a pure pleasure to do it again."

Regardless of what happens, and despite the characters he's played lately, Harrison Ford doesn't seem the least bit grouchy about his current place in the movie world.

"I'm not front-page news anymore," he acknowledges. "But I'm as busy as I want to be and I still love my work. So I'm in good shape."

"Thank you very much for asking." ☑

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



5 GRUMPIEST HARRISON FORD QUOTES

1 STAR WARS' HAN SOLO: "Look, I ain't in this for your revolution, and I'm not in it for you, Princess. I expect to be well paid. I'm in it for the money."

2 RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK'S INDIANA JONES: "You want to talk to God? Let's go see him together, I've got nothing better to do."

3 WITNESS'S JOHN BOOK: "Lady, you take my picture with that thing and I'm gonna rip your brassiere off...and strangle you with it! You got that?"

4 BLADE RUNNER'S RICK DECKARD: "They don't advertise for killers in the newspaper. That was my profession. Ex-cop. Ex-blade runner. Ex-killer."

5 THE MOSQUITO COAST'S ALLIE FOX: "The people in New York live on pet food and they'll kill you for a quarter. You don't dare take a walk for fear of someone sticking a knife in your ribs. Think about it. If you stay home, they come in through the windows! Ten-year-old homicidal maniacs on every street corner."

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MORE THAN AN **ACTION** **STAR?**

Over the next year, two movies — ***The Debt*** and ***Last Night*** — will give North American audiences their first taste of **Sam Worthington** minus special effects, 3D and massive action scenes. Here, the media-shy Aussie explains why he's just glad he's working

■ BY MATHIEU CHANTELOIS

Sam Worthington is reading a name off his list of interviews. "It's Mathieu, right?" With his thick Australian accent, he struggles through the French pronunciation.

It's a Saturday morning in late September and the 34-year-old actor is in Toronto for Gala Presentations of two of his films at the Toronto International Film Festival: *The Debt* and *Last Night*, both of which are expected to hit theatres in the next year. He looks relaxed in jeans and a washed-out, grey Pearl Jam T-shirt. And he insists on pronouncing my name right before he takes a seat.

"When I do interviews, I always ask for the name of the person in front of me," he says. "It's the same thing when people take a picture with me. It's out of consideration for everyone else. You know my name, now I know your name. So if we do a photo, we kind of know each other, right? Half of the time it

makes things a lot easier, a lot smoother. I should not be any fu-king more special than anybody else because of my damn job! It's silly."

Pretty considerate, for somebody who has a reputation for finding interviews excruciating. When I ask whether it's true that he hates talking to journalists, he laughs, then admits: "Yes, I do! Journalists are the necessary evil. I have to sell movies, so I sit with you to sell movies. It's not answering the same questions all day long that bothers me. I just repeat the same answers over and over. It's easy! What I find ridiculous is to have people asking me about myself. It's quite funny to be honest with you."

Before playing a 10-foot-tall blue Na'vi in last year's *Avatar*, and a Greek god in this year's *Clash of the Titans*, before fans were asking for pictures, and journalists asking the same questions over and over, there was a Sam Worthington who was making a living doing theatre, TV and indie films in Sydney, Australia. One early morning in 2006, he took a good look at himself in the mirror. He remembers this moment clearly.

"I did not like the person I was seeing. I didn't know what exactly I did not like. If I could have named it, I would have changed it. Even now, I don't know what it was.... I did not like how I felt when I woke up. I was pretty successful at acting, but that was not the problem. It had fu-king nothing to do with my work. It had to do with my life."

So he sold everything and moved to Los Angeles with two suitcases and two grand in cash. Four years later, he's one of the most in-demand actors in Hollywood. And he likes to keep busy. He's currently shooting the crime thriller *Man on a Ledge* with Amy Adams, and will jump back into his armour for *Clash of the Titans 2* right after that.

"I'm working non-stop because I can. I love working. Most people work 11 months a year, why shouldn't I? For many years I was unemployed. I sat on my butt for 12 months wishing I had a job. Now I have the opportunity to work, so I work," he explains.

CONTINUED ►

PHOTO BY ARMANDO GALLO/RETNA/CORBIS



“Journalists are the necessary evil. I have to sell movies, so I sit with you to sell movies”



Top left: Jessica Chastain, Sam Worthington (centre) and Marton Csokas in *The Debt*
Above: Worthington and Eva Mendes in *Last Night*

► He had his first long break since moving to L.A. earlier this year. “I did not like it. I never want to stop working. Usually, when you go to different places, do different things and meet different people, it’s considered a holiday. That’s my fu-king job!”

Expect to see a very different Worthington on screen in 2011 — neither in 3D nor as an action hero. In the political thriller *The Debt*, which was directed by John Madden and is awaiting a release date, he plays one of three Israeli Mossad agents assigned to kidnap a Nazi war criminal in East Berlin, circa 1965. When things don’t go as planned, they’re left to fabricate a story and live with their lies decades later. “I think we all have little demons that we’re holding in. I certainly have some,” he says.

He had to explore some of his demons for the upcoming marital melodrama *Last Night* by first-time filmmaker Massy Tadjedin. Worthington and Keira Knightley play a well-to-do couple whose fidelity is tested over the course of one long night, during which he spends time with an attractive co-worker (Eva Mendes) while on a business trip in Philadelphia and she encounters a former flame (Guillaume Canet) on the streets of New York.

“I was just coming out of a relationship [with Australian actress Maeve Dermody. He’s now dating stylist Natalie Mark]. I could see myself in every one of the characters. I’ve been every single one of them. I’ve been the guy who has been complaisant in a relationship. I’ve been the one who tries to lure the girl away from the other guy. I’ve been the tempter and the tempted. And I’m still the four of them!”

For Worthington, one new thing about these films was the pace of shooting: “Everything was done in eight weeks. I’m used to spending at least six months on set. It was too short for me,” says the actor who spent a year on the set of *Avatar*, a film that cost more than \$200-million (U.S.) to make but made more than \$2.7-billion worldwide.

“When you’re in a movie like *Avatar*, when you look at the figures that this movie made, and you divide that by 12 bucks a ticket, you start to understand how many people have seen your ugly head, you start to lose your anonymity, it’s weird,” he says. But not weird enough to dampen his excitement about shooting the sequel.

“I phoned James [Cameron] on his birthday. He told me he’s writing up the *Avatar* book, novel, or encyclopedia, or bible, whatever he’s calling it. When he finishes it, he will be in a good headspace to give it a run for the second one.”

And Worthington will drop everything to work with the director again. “Always,” he says. “This guy saved my life. I have no idea why this guy believed in me so much. Now he’s my mate.”

Worthington feels much better about the guy he sees in the mirror these days. “But there is a chance that, one day, I will wake up again and look at myself in the mirror and not like the guy that I’m seeing. It’s the constant battle that I have, anyway. It scares me.”

The interview comes to an end. “It’s Mathieu? This time I pronounced it right? You’re hilarious, dude. I can’t believe you asked me why I hate journalists,” says the actor, picking up his interview list, ready to welcome the next journalist. ☐

Mathieu Chantelois is the editor of
Le magazine Cineplex.

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

An 18-year-old Sam Worthington dressed in Victorian garb to play despicable Bill Sykes in a 1994 production of *Oliver!* at John Curtin High School in Perth, West Australia.



PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

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ROYAL TREATMENT

A film about a stuttering king has the potential to be a bit blah. But great performances, including one by **Geoffrey Rush** as a speech therapist treating the monarch, has elevated *The King's Speech* to Oscar contender ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

The winner of the People's Choice Award at this year's Toronto International Film Festival was a movie that, to be honest, sounds pretty dry on paper.

The King's Speech stars Colin Firth as King George VI (the current Queen Elizabeth's dad), a reluctant monarch forced to be King after his older brother, Edward VIII (Guy Pearce), abdicates to marry American divorcee Wallis Simpson. A big part of the problem is that George — born Albert and called Bertie by the family — suffers from a terrible stutter. Pressed by his wife, Queen Elizabeth (who we knew as the Queen Mum, and who's played beautifully by Helena Bonham Carter), Albert seeks help from an unorthodox Australian speech therapist named Lionel Logue (Geoffrey Rush). Yeah, yeah, seems like a nice little period piece that will appeal to monarchists and brandy sippers.

But with humour, stellar performances and impeccable direction from Tom Hooper (*The Damned United*), what could have been a little-seen docudrama was the hit of the festival and is already garnering Oscar buzz. And for Rush, it's just one of two interesting films he has coming out next month. The other, *The Warrior's Way*, is a Korean Western that gets a limited release on December 3rd.

With wild hair, Rush looks more like *Pirates of the Caribbean's* Barbossa than the polished Logue on the day we sit down in Toronto. No surprise, since he's on a break from filming the fourth *Pirates* movie, *On Stranger Tides*, in Hawaii.

What struck you about the script for *The King's Speech*?

"I first got the script in a fairly unorthodox way. It was in a brown paper package at my front door like an orphaned child. A neighbour of mine knew this woman in London who wanted to produce it as a play and on the coverlet it said 'Please forgive me Mr. Rush for sending this to your home, blah blah blah,' and I read it and I went wow, great story."

CONTINUED ►

Q



Geoffrey Rush as Lionel Logue in *The King's Speech*

THE KING'S SPEECH

HITS THEATRES
DECEMBER 10TH

“There’s a lot of humour and I wanted that to be part of Lionel’s personality, because he uses that as a way of disarming people and relaxing them”

You play a drunk?

“I play the town drunk. And I was thrilled ‘cause I got to shoot it in New Zealand. It was mostly green screen. We had scenery but the film was almost permanently in these heightened sunsets. It has a very Asian artwork kind of magical feel to it, and I didn’t have to ride a horse, and I got to be in a Western.”

Is the fourth *Pirates* done?

“No, we’re midway through, and the convenience of scheduling means that they’re all filming in Los Angeles on scenes that I’m not involved in, allowing me to do this. I’ve been commuting back and forth between Hawaii and Australia.”

How does the fourth movie relate to the original trilogy?

“It’s a fresh story. Although, there’s a teaser at the end of the last film about going to find the Fountain of Youth. They have sourced [the plot] from a novel called *On Stranger Tides*, which I have not read, because the writers of the screenplay have provided my document. The film script, you know, that’s what we’ll be working on.”

Disney’s head of production said this *Pirates* will be scaled down, that they want it to be on a more human level.

“Because of the financial crisis, you know, Disney — America — is kind of pulling its belt in, but they don’t seem to be reigning in imagination, because the film has got new piratical themes in it. I thought by the time they’d done monsters and gods and swashbuckling and curses and all of that I thought, well, what’s left? But they’ve got mermaids in this one and the mermaid stuff is going to be amazing, you know. They’ve got Blackbeard, [who] was an authentic pirate of the period. And wily Barbossa, without giving away too much, is a survivor, and there’s a change [laughs].”

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.



Rush as *Pirates'* Barbossa

► When I read the plot synopsis, it sounded pretty dry. But the film was anything but.

“It didn’t seem dry to me because I could see in David Seidler’s original play-script version that there’s a lot of humour and I wanted that to be part of Lionel’s personality, because he uses that as a way of disarming people and relaxing them and luring them into a sense of therapeutic play.”

Did you know the story before you read the script?

“I know a lot about what I call the ‘A Plot’ — the big historical events of the abdication and the death of George V, and I did know that [Albert] was a stammerer and that going into public life was traumatic for him.... I knew nothing about Lionel Logue — and the fact that he was an Australian character, failed Shakespearean actor, [made it a] semi-autobiographical piece for me.”

Not long before shooting started you were given Logue’s diaries. That must have helped.

“I went to London three weeks before we started shooting...when I arrived [Tom Hooper] said, ‘Guess what? I found diaries, notebooks, letters, photos, given to us by the grandson of Lionel.’ We got a hell of a lot of stuff out of the diaries that went into the screenplay.”

Where were you when you read them?

“I was reading them at night. We were rehearsing, or workshopping, by day, and I’d come in and say, ‘What about this bit right here?’ And Tom would go ‘Fantastic.’”

Towards the end of the movie there’s a scene where Firth, as Albert, and Jennifer Ehle, as your wife, meet for the first time. It’s a very funny and dramatic scene, and the audience was tittering because Firth and Ehle played Darcy and Elizabeth in *Pride and Prejudice*. Was the scene amped up for that reason?

“No, I don’t think that’s a selling point for a movie. To take people from something they did 15 years ago and put them into a haphazard scene. If Jennifer had played Queen Elizabeth you might say I’ve got them back together, like a Hepburn and Tracy film, but no I think Jennifer was very keen to play the role, so that was great.”

Your other film coming out this month, *The Warrior’s Way*, is something completely different.

“The thumbnail sketch I give, and I don’t really like marrying two forms of films, but the best shorthand I can say is it’s sort of like the *House of Flying Daggers* meets *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*. I’m the ugly.”

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THE COMPLICATED LIFE OF BRAD PITT

Acting. Producing. Procreating. Rebuilding New Orleans. Keeping Angelina happy. **Brad Pitt's** a busy guy. No wonder his latest job is a smallish voice role in the animated feature **Megamind** ■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

W

hen Does Brad Pitt sleep?

When he's not starring in, or producing, movies — he's got 27 reported projects on his docket — he's spending time with partner Angelina Jolie, helping care for their six young kids, or he's sitting behind a desk designing eco-friendly homes, or he's touring the globe on humanitarian missions.

And this is no longer the golden-haired young man whose beauty blinded viewers in films such as *A River Runs Through It*, *Legends of The Fall* or *Troy*; Pitt turns 47 next month, rapidly edging toward the half-century mark.

It seems Brad Pitt believes sleep is overrated.

Looking closely at his career, and life, we see he's always been a restless soul, searching for ways to escape anything that resembles a set plan.

In this month's *Megamind* he voices his second animated character, Metro Man (he was Sinbad in 2003's *Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas*), playing third string to Will Ferrell and Tina Fey.

It's not something you'd expect from one of CONTINUED ►

PHOTO BY GUY KINZIGER/GETTY

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Clockwise from top: Metro Man (voiced by Pitt) promotes his good-guy image in *Megamind*; Pitt as All-American Paul Mclean in *A River Runs Through It*; and seducing Geena Davis in *Thelma and Louise*

MEGAMIND
HITS THEATRES
NOVEMBER 5TH



Clockwise from top: Pitt as *12 Monkeys*' twitchy mental patient; Tyler Durden in *Fight Club*; getting high in *True Romance*; frolicking with Juliette Lewis in *Kalifornia*



PITT'S NEXT FOUR

THE TREE OF LIFE (dir. Terrence Malick)
Shot in 2008, this long-delayed drama (Malick is notorious for fiddling with his films) casts Pitt as a controlling, 1950s father whose selfish behaviour affects his son. **RELEASE DATE: Unknown**

HAPPY FEET 2 (dir. George Miller)
Pitt voices the shrimp-like Krill #1, while pal Matt Damon is Krill #2 in the animated sequel. **RELEASE DATE: November 18, 2011**

MONEYBALL (dir. Bennett Miller)
Pitt plays Oakland Athletics GM Billy Beane, who eschews baseball wisdom in favour of statistics to build his low-payroll baseball team. **RELEASE DATE: 2011**

WORLD WAR Z (dir. Marc Forster)
Having lived through the global human-zombie war, Max Brooks (Pitt) travels the world documenting other people's survival stories. **RELEASE DATE: 2012**

► Earth's most sought-after stars, but that's Pitt. Perhaps he did this one so his kids could finally watch one his films — copies of *Se7en*, *Fight Club* and *Inglourious Basterds* probably aren't mixed in with the stacks of *Dora the Explorer* DVDs at home.

And don't think that Pitt took the job lightly, *Megamind* director Tom McGrath told MovieJungle.com that the actor threw himself into the role. "When he came in to do this part, he was so physical with it that we couldn't even contain him behind a stand. I had to give him a handheld mic.... [Then] he was able to just walk around the whole stage and really get into the whole character. Because of the physicality, you can really feel it in the film, in his voice."

Pitt's need to break constraints is what brought him to Hollywood in the first place.

Growing up Baptist in a conservative Missouri family, Pitt did what was expected of him; attended church, played sports in high school, went to college (studying journalism and advertising), until one day his true spirit simply broke through.

"It was literally two weeks before graduation," he told *Newsweek's* 2007 Oscar Roundtable. "I saw everyone signing up to go do their jobs and I realized I had a love for films, and I always kind of lamented that I didn't have the opportunity, and it just hit me, literally, one night — I'll go do it. I was 22. So I did two weeks of work, made a couple of hundred bucks, loaded up the car and moved to Beverly Hills, actually Burbank. I was doing extra work within a week."

It took 14 minutes of screen time in 1991's *Thelma and Louise* (and those xylophone abs) to kick-start his career. But the looks that

launched a career also weighed on him. While promoting *Meet Joe Black*, Pitt told *Esquire UK*, "The way people focus on my looks, I feel like a girl walking past construction workers."

It was after making 1992's *A River Runs Through It* that Pitt realized he couldn't be the pinup Hollywood wanted him to be. At 27, and on the verge of stardom, Pitt took off for Amsterdam for three months to re-examine his career.

"I rented a little basement apartment on the canal, and that was the extent of it: a bike, a Walkman, and three couch cushions to sleep on," he told *GQ* magazine in 2005. "Then I came back and did *Kalifornia* and *True Romance*."

Breaking the hearts of swooning fans and teen-magazine editors, Pitt actively sought out roles that encouraged him to mar his beauty — *Kalifornia*, *True Romance*, *Snatch*, *12 Monkeys* — supporting the plea he was really a character actor trapped in a leading man's body.

And then, in the late '90s, the need to create *things* rather than characters took hold of Brad Pitt. Architecture, not acting, started to fuel his imagination.

You can trace Pitt's interest in architecture back to 1999, when he helped his father develop a building site in his hometown of Springfield, Missouri. By 2000 he was busy redesigning the 1910 Arts and Crafts mansion he bought with his then wife, Jennifer Aniston. ("I'm interested in ways to make minimalism seem warm," he told *Esquire UK* in 2000.)

He apprenticed in architect Frank Gehry's office, helping Gehry design a seaside complex in East Sussex, Britain. And in 2006 he

created his Make It Right Foundation, which designs and builds eco-friendly homes in New Orleans' Katrina-devastated Ninth Ward.

Pitt credits his interests outside of moviemaking for enriching his film career.

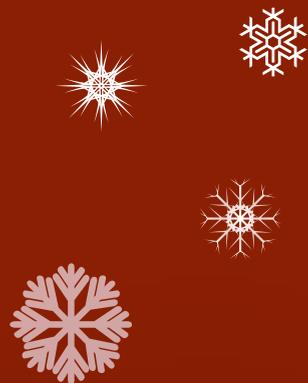
"I think when I started I had this idea that the films I did defined me in some way," he told the Oscar Roundtable, "and I don't feel that way anymore. I mean I'm a father now and there are other things that are very important to me, and funny enough, I love films more than I ever have."

"What it came down to for me, was this idea that I had this real quest to live my own interesting life, and at the end of the day the films will be what they are. My personal life will be bigger than that,

and consequently, for me, my work's gotten better 'cause there's been a real ease to the approach of it and I have more respect for it, and I enjoy it more. It's a paradox for me."

He calls it a paradox, we call it Brad Pitt's gift; his ability to make us look beyond the handsome, All-American features to see a work-in-progress. Unable to sit comfortably at the head of Hollywood's table of leading men, Pitt is at his best when he turns his back on everyone's expectations and follows his own path. The irony is that we may start to see even more of him on screen the busier he becomes off screen, and that can only be a good thing. ☑

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine.



Glowing Reviews

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For the Home

Handmade, fair-trade ornaments from Ten Thousand Villages will last a lifetime, like this hand-painted clay **Nativity Star** (\$12, www.tenthousandvillages.ca) from Peru.



Urban Tree Salvage is a Canadian company that turns wood from trees that have died in the City of Toronto into furniture and home accessories, like these **Maple Platters** (\$40 and up, www.urbantreesalvage.com).



These colourful **Cloth Reindeer** (\$30 each, HomeSense) are made with recycled materials...perhaps ghosts of Christmas sweaters past.



Save money and bottles by making soda at home with **SodaStream** (\$169, www.sodastream.ca for locations), an eco-friendly sparkling water maker.



Newfoundland artists Allison Earle and Lisa McKay are behind **Jellybean Row's** whimsical recreations of **St. John's Homes** (\$25+, www.jellybeanrow.com). Each piece stands on its own, or mix and match to create your own street. ▶



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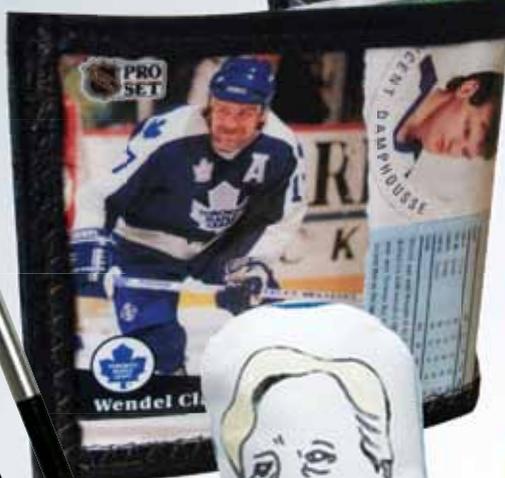
Just for Fun

Lancaster, Ontario, artist Isabella Campbell made her first **Hockey Card Wallet** (\$28, www.readmyhips.ca) for her brother from one of his forgotten cards. Custom orders available.

For those who get Udon noodle cravings while camping, finally an answer — **Vargo ChopstiX** (\$16, Mountain Equipment Co-op). They're lightweight, collapsible and come with a carrying case meant to make use in the backcountry a snap.



Rolling Stone called **Buckeyballs** (\$35, Hallmark Stores) the "Toy of the Year." Comprised of powerful mini-magnets the stress-relieving toy can be snapped together, torn apart and molded into all sorts of shapes and patterns. Addictive.

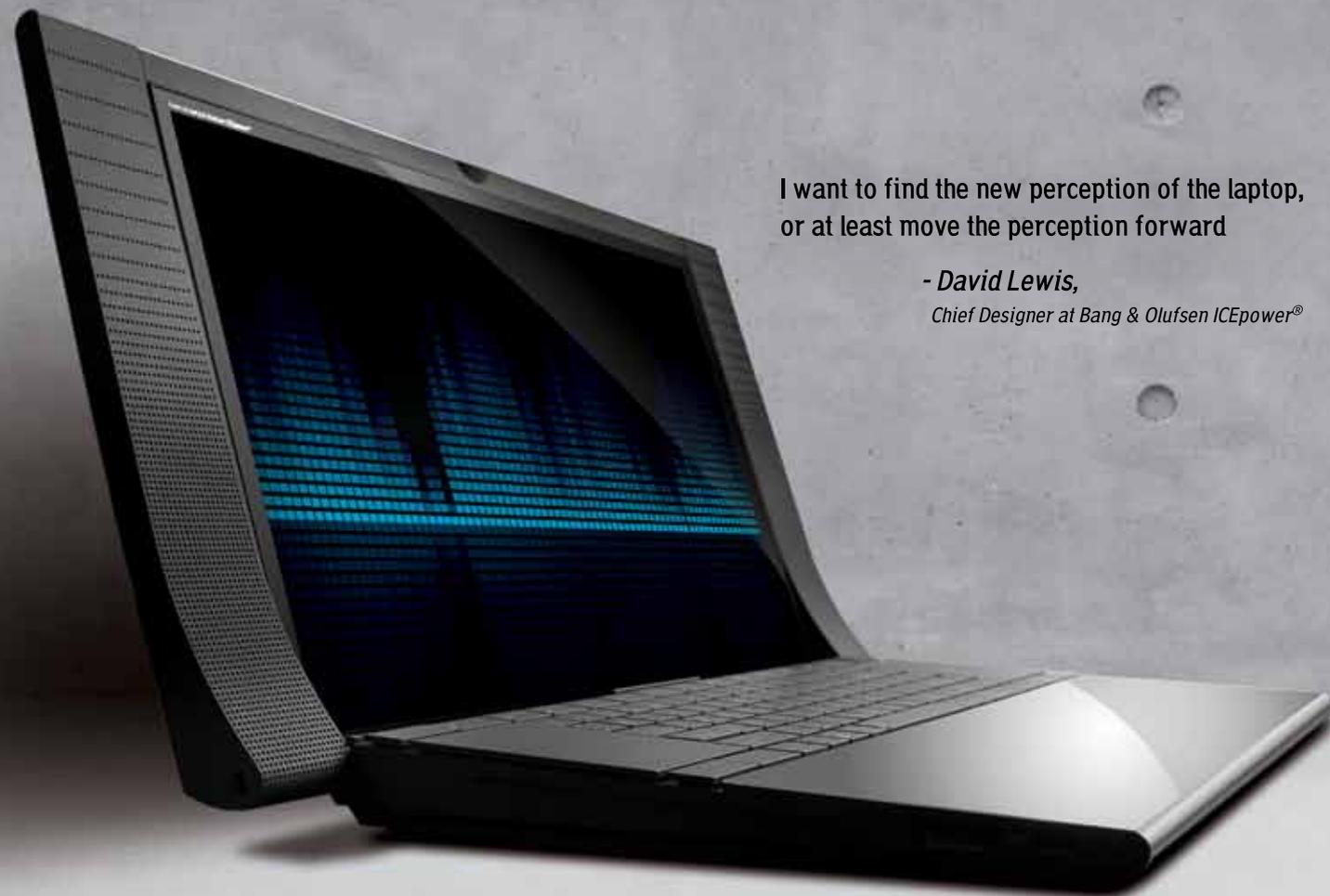


Michael Jackson was an avid videogame fan in life. And now in death he's still releasing titles, the latest being **Michael Jackson: The Experience** (\$50, major retailers). Moonwalk, dance, sing and face off against other players as either the King of Pop or a member of his dance crew.

Create your own political drama with Ottawa-based textile artist Gabe Thirlwall's **Politician Finger Puppets** (\$15 to \$20, www.fishonfridays.ca or the One of a Kind Show in Toronto, November 25th to December 5th). Shown here, from left: NDP lovebirds Olivia Chow and Jack Layton, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and former Toronto Mayor David Miller. ▶



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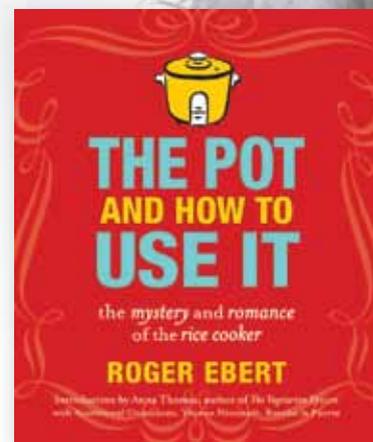
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For the Movie Lover



Zach Galifianakis's babysitting skills are immortalized in **The Hangover Baby Carrier T-shirt** (\$20 U.S., www.entertainmentearth.com). And the sequel's just six months away!

Canadian actor Rachel Lefevre will always be Victoria to us. That's why we love the fact Tonner Dolls doesn't even offer a Bryce Dallas Howard version of the **Victoria Twilight Doll** (\$180 U.S., www.tonnerdirect.com). And if you're not into *Twilight*, you can re-enact scenes from *Fugitive Pieces* or next month's *Barney's Version*.



We'll read anything Roger Ebert writes, including **The Pot and How to Use It** (\$17, major book sellers), a cookbook exploiting the various uses of the lowly rice cooker (use it for spaghetti, jambalaya and chicken dishes). Although he hasn't eaten solid food in four years due to surgery for thyroid cancer, Ebert still appreciates good cooking.

It's been a quarter-century since the quintessential '80s flick hit theatres. **The Goonies 25th Anniversary Collector's Edition** (\$40, major retailers) includes outtakes, cast and director commentary, Cyndi Lauper music video for "The Goonies 'R Good Enough" and a board game!



Through December, a portion of proceeds from **Cineplex Gift Cards** (various denominations, Cineplex theatres) will support the Starlight Children's Foundation. This card was designed by 11-year-old Aidan Downey who suffers from Acute Lymphatic Leukemia.

There are 1,290 pieces in **LEGO's Hogwarts Castle** (\$175, LEGO stores). Architectural details include Dumbledore's office with sliding stairs, Slytherin and Gryffindor common rooms, and the Great Hall.



Jam-packed with your favourite things, **The Sound of Music 45th Anniversary Limited Edition Collection** (\$99, major retailers) includes a hand-painted music box, reproduction of the 1965 souvenir program, 100-page scrapbook, plus a full-length documentary, sing-a-long, trivia and location quiz.



Pepperoni, the final frontier. Boldly slice pizza with the **Star Trek Enterprise Pizza Cutter** (\$25 U.S., ThinkGeek.com).

Remember that scene in *The Empire Strikes Back* where Luke takes refuge inside the steaming carcass of a dead Tauntaun? Now you do. Relive it with this **Tauntaun Sleeping Bag** (\$100 U.S., shop.starwars.com).

The movie toy of the season is the **Tron Zero Gravity Light Cycle** (\$35, major toy retailers). It drives up walls and even on the ceiling, upside-down. ▶



Fashion Finds



We love Flik Flak's colourful new **Batman: The Brave and the Bold** children's watch (\$55, Swatch Boutiques). Bam.



What's special about Brilliant Earth's jewellery? All pieces are made with recycled metals and gems sourced from ethical mines. This **18K White Gold Open Leaf Pendant** (\$750 U.S., www.brilliantearth.com) uses Canadian diamonds — as does most of the California company's diamond jewellery.

Hard to get more Canadian than a toque made of wool socks. It's the **Pook Toque** (\$26, www.pooktoque.com), a fully reversible winter hat created in St. Mary's, Ontario. Justin Bieber has one.



Quebec-based Magenta Studio incorporates your photos into quality scarves, bags and jewellery. Or have a shot of your baby discreetly sewn into the lining of a **Silk Tie** (\$99 and up, www.magentaphoto.com for locations). Better than whipping out those wallet pics.



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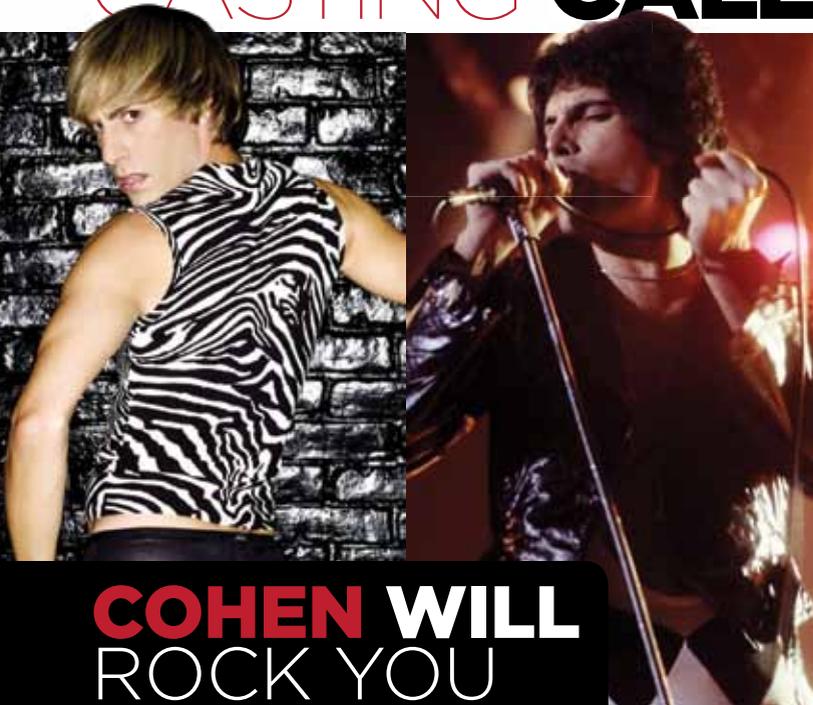
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CASTING CALL



COHEN WILL ROCK YOU

Sacha Baron Cohen (left) should dig out his *Borat* mankini, it'll come in handy when he plays outrageous singer **Freddie Mercury** (right) in a bio-pic of the band Queen, to be penned by *Frost/Nixon* and *Hereafter* screenwriter **Peter Morgan**. Cohen bears a striking resemblance to Mercury — minus Mercury's noticeable overbite — but the big problem will be disguising Baron Cohen's height; he stands 6' 3" while Mercury topped out at 5' 9".



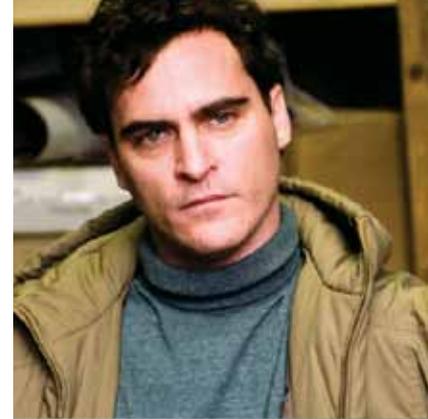
What's Going on With... DUNE

Fans of **Frank Herbert's** classic 1965 sci-fi novel *Dune* have been waiting for someone to make a decent movie out of the book. **David Lynch's** 1984 adaptation (pictured above), starring **Kyle MacLachlan**, **Patrick Stewart** and **Sting**, was reviled, and the 2000 TV mini-series was just okay. Director **Peter Berg** was set to helm the 2012 remake, but he left earlier this year to steer the game-into-movie flick *Battleship*. Now it's up to French director **Pierre Morel** (*Taken*) to guide the ambitious project. Morel threw away Berg's working script and started over, telling MTV News he wanted to remain "respectful to the original novel."



WEISZ DOES 360

Rachel Weisz looks to spice up her career with *360*, a drama to be directed by **Fernando Meirelles** (who guided her in *The Constant Gardener*) about the sexual entanglements linking a variety of people. No word on who will fill out *360's* sexy cast.



PHOENIX RISES

Now that we all know **Joaquin Phoenix** was pretending to be a complete train wreck the last two years for the mockumentary *I'm Still Here*, he can get back to acting in movies people want to see. Phoenix is set to star with in-demand **Mia Wasikowska** (*Alice in Wonderland*) in an untitled comedy from director **Steven Shainberg**, who gave us the peculiar pics *Secretary* and *Fur*.



Fresh Face LUKE EVANS

You may remember **Luke Evans** as Apollo in *Clash of the Titans*, but the Welsh-born actor has set his sights higher up the pantheon of Greek Gods, landing the role of the young Zeus in next year's holiday fantasy flick *The Immortals*. His swashbuckling skills are also put to good use in the upcoming *The Three Musketeers*, in which he plays the rakish Aramis. Evans, who began his career starring in London stage musicals, had a breakout 2010 appearing in six films.



PORTMAN CIRCLES SNOW WHITE

Rumours are, **Natalie Portman** is interested in playing Snow White in producer **Brett Ratner's** not-so-nice version of the fairy tale, *The Brothers Grimm: Snow White*. Ratner wants to take the Disneyfied story back to its nastier roots, which includes changing the dwarves from miners to robbers, and tossing in some dragons.



WAHLBERG DEALS IN CONTRABAND

Mark Wahlberg's memories of pulling petty crimes while growing up in a tough Boston neighbourhood will come in handy for his upcoming project *Contraband*, a remake of the Icelandic film *Reykjavik-Rotterdam*. Wahlberg plays a former smuggler who returns for one final job hauling booze between Iceland and the Netherlands, but of course the task goes terribly wrong. **Kate Beckinsale** co-stars in the thriller due in 2012.

ALSO IN THE WORKS ▶ It looks as if **Taylor Swift** could replace troubled **Lindsay Lohan** in the rom-com *One Night With You*. ▶ **Tobey Maguire** will star in, and produce, *Good People*, about a couple that finds a load of cash in its deceased tenant's apartment. ▶ The soon-to-be *Officeless* **Steve Carell** is eyeing *Burt Wonderstone*, which focuses on a magician dealing with the onstage death of his partner. ▶ Swedish star **Michael Nyqvist** will play the baddie in *Mission: Impossible IV*.

AT HOME

November's BEST DVD AND BLU-RAY



TOY STORY 3

NOVEMBER 3

Before heading off to college Andy packs his toys in a garbage bag destined for the attic. But when that bag is accidentally left on the curb for the garbage truck, the toys make a dramatic escape...only to end up at a daycare where a fuzzy bear named Lots-o' rules with an iron paw. Bonus features include the *Day & Night* short film, animated anecdotes about life at Pixar and Buzz Lightyear's Mission Logs.



SCOTT PILGRIM VS. THE WORLD

NOVEMBER 9

Nerdy Toronto bass player Scott Pilgrim (**Michael Cera**) falls for hot delivery girl Ramona Flowers. And she's actually interested. But only if he can defeat her six evil ex-boyfriends, and one ex-girlfriend, in hand-to-hand combat. Includes deleted scenes, bloopers, photo galleries and a trivia track.



DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL

NOVEMBER 16

This 3D animated retelling of the classic has **Jim Carrey** as the voice — and the face — of Ebenezer Scrooge thanks to motion-capture technology that makes the animated characters freakishly lifelike. You'll have to get the four-disc Blu-ray set if you want to see it in Disney 3D.



THE EXPENDABLES

NOVEMBER 23

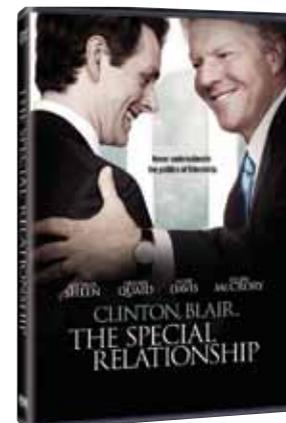
It's sort of like *Ocean's Eleven*, but with mercenaries instead of thieves. Barney Ross (**Sylvester Stallone**) and his band of highly skilled fighters (including **Jason Statham**, **Jet Li**, **Randy Couture** and **Dolph Lundgren**) are hired by the mysterious Mr. Church (**Bruce Willis**) to assassinate a merciless dictator.



EAT PRAY LOVE

NOVEMBER 23

Frustrated with her New York life, a restless writer (**Julia Roberts**) leaves her husband (**Billy Crudup**) and takes off to find herself in Italy, where she eats, India, where she prays, and Indonesia, where she finds love with an ex-pat (**Javier Bardem**). Based on the bestseller by **Elizabeth Gilbert** and directed by *Glee* creator **Ryan Murphy**.



Something Special

THE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP

NOVEMBER 30

For those who saw — and loved — **Michael Sheen** as British Prime Minister Tony Blair in *The Queen*, it was frustrating that the sort-of sequel to that theatrical hit, *The Special Relationship*, got the made-for-TV treatment, airing on HBO. Well, frustrating for those who don't have HBO. Finally, the DVD is released. This time Sheen plays Blair in the mid-1990s as he forms a special bond with U.S. President Bill Clinton (**Dennis Quaid**).

Games

Why We Love...



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What is the Class Action Lawsuit About?

The lawsuit challenges the accuracy of Gillette's advertisements for the M3Power Razor ("M3P"). Plaintiffs claim Gillette's advertisements that the M3P "raises or stimulates hair up and away from the skin" were false and misleading and violated consumer-related laws in the USA and Canada. In mid-2005, Gillette deleted those representations from its ads. Gillette denies all the allegations but has agreed to the proposed settlement to resolve this class action.

Who Is A Class Member?

Settlement Class Members include all persons in the USA or Canada who obtained an M3P in the USA between **May 1, 2004 and September 30, 2005**, or in Canada between **May 1, 2004 and October 31, 2005**. Persons who purchased the M3P for re-sale are **excluded** from the Class.

What Does The Proposed Settlement Provide?

Gillette has agreed to make \$7,500,000 available to a Settlement Fund. The fund will be used to provide Settlement Class Members who submit a valid, timely claim with **either** a refund (a minimum of \$13 US or \$16.25 Canadian, depending on the place of purchase) for their M3P, **or** up to two \$5 US rebates (up to a total of \$10 US, or the equivalent in Canadian dollars) for any M3Power blades and/or any Fusion or Fusion ProGlide razor purchased before **May 2, 2011**, **or** a new Gillette manual men's razor as a replacement, and other relief.

Claims are limited to one per person and three per household. If claims exceed the amount available for settlement benefits, claimants for replacement razors will not receive a benefit and the refunds and rebates will be reduced pro-rata. If claims do not exceed the amount available for settlement benefits, class members may receive additional benefits.

Who Represents Me?

The U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts has appointed Ben Barnow, Barnow and Associates, P.C. and Robert M. Rothman, Robbins Geller Rudman & Dowd LLP as Settlement Class Counsel. Subject to Court approval, Gillette will pay fees, costs, and expenses of Settlement Class Counsel, as well as incentive awards to the individual plaintiffs who brought the lawsuit. These amounts will not be deducted from the settlement fund. You may hire your own attorney, if you wish, at your own expense.

What Are My Legal Rights?

If you do not want to be legally bound by the proposed settlement, you must exclude yourself in writing, postmarked by **March 4, 2011**, and sent to the Settlement Administrator at the address below. If you stay in the Settlement Class, you may file a claim. Your claim must be postmarked by **May 2, 2011**. You may object to any aspect of the proposed settlement. Your written objection must be postmarked by **March 4, 2011**. You also may request in writing to appear at the Final Fairness Hearing. The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing on **March 25, 2011** at 2:00 p.m. to consider whether the proposed settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and the motion for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses. If objections have been received, the Court will consider them at this time.

How Do I Obtain Further Information?

This is only a summary of the proposed settlement. For a more detailed Notice on the proposed settlement, a copy of the Settlement, and how to file a claim:

Call: 1-877-506-4030 (Nous parlons français)

Visit: www.m3powersettlement.com

Write: M3Power Settlement, P.O. Box 1051, Fort Erie, ON L2A 6C7

MORE MOVIES ▶ RAMONA AND BEEZUS (NOVEMBER 9) ▶ CHARLIE ST. CLOUD (NOVEMBER 9) ▶ GROWN UPS (NOVEMBER 9) ▶ THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT (NOVEMBER 16) ▶ THE LAST AIRBENDER (NOVEMBER 16) ▶ LOTTERY TICKET (NOVEMBER 16) ▶ THE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE (NOVEMBER 30) ▶ KNIGHT AND DAY (NOVEMBER 30)

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LAST WORDS



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—Jessica Wilson, Ottawa, Ont.

"I would love to have the dress Glinda the Good Witch wore in *The Wizard of Oz*.

First time I saw it, I thought, 'Wow, now that is some Halloween costume!'"

—Lucy Valente, Gilford, Ont.

"Give me the keys and ownership papers to the Millennium Falcon please!"

—DJ Winterburn, Orillia, Ont.

"Definitely the One Ring from the *Lord of the Rings*. Just being able to put it on and wear it around, hoping to turn invisible would be worth the Ring Wraith poke in the shoulder."

—Josh Stark, Thunder Bay, Ont.

"Clint Eastwood's cowboy hat from *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*."

—Brian Cahill, Hamilton, Ont.

"I want to own Rosebud, the sled from *Citizen Kane*. After all, one of the best movies in history is spent looking for this one thing called Rosebud. Long before the One Ring or the Ark of the Covenant, there was Rosebud!"

—Philippe Lemieux, Saint-Eustache, Que.



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GOD OF WAR

GHOST OF SPARTA

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