

Red Carpet: MICHELLE WILLIAMS, CHRIS HEMSWORTH, SCARLETT JOHANSSON



## the first motion picture from the creator of family guy



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JUNE 2012 | VOL <u>13 | №6</u>

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Michael Fassbender plays android David in the mustsee sci-fi Prometheus. Here, the critically acclaimed actor talks about finding the right tone, even the right walk, for director Ridley Scott's latest robot. Plus, Charlize Theron on the art of playing a baddie BY BOB STRAUSS

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her Take This Waltz director Sarah Polley, who gave the comedian a chance to show off her acting chops BY MARNI WEISZ

BY MARNI WEISZ

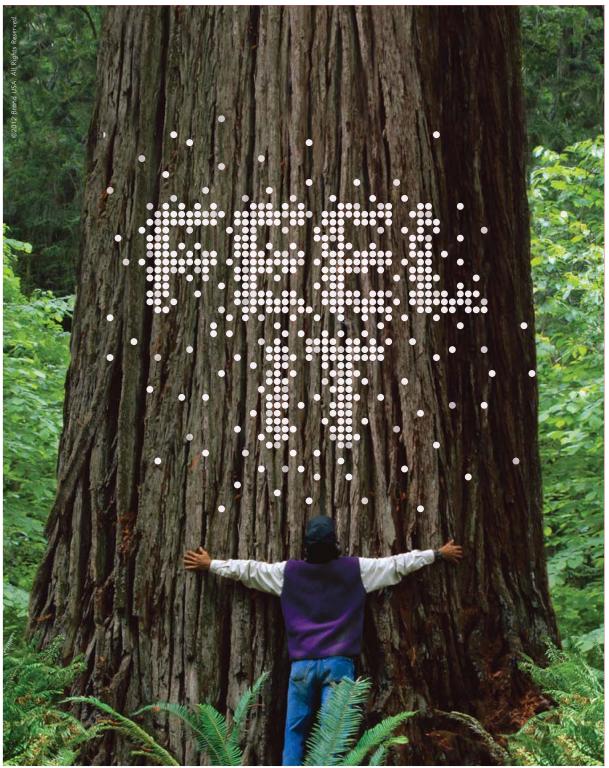






## Page 22

To celebrate our 150th issue, we've devised a quiz featuring tidbits from the biggest stars who've appeared in the pages of our magazine



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## **JES LATE**

ikipedia cites 1999 as "The Year That Changed Movies." Sadly, the website isn't referring to the launch of our magazine, a momentous occasion (for us, anyway) which happened in November 1999 — or a staggering 150 issues ago. The claim was pulled from a 1999 Entertainment Weekly article by Jeff Gordinier in which he hypothesized that the year's incredible slate of formula-busting films like The Matrix, Fight Club, The Blair Witch Project, Being John Malkovich, The Sixth Sense, American Beauty and Magnolia represented a revolutionary change sparked by young filmmakers who'd been "weaned on cyberspace."

"You can stop waiting for the future of movies. It's already here," wrote Gordinier. "Someday, 1999 will be etched on a microchip as the first real year of 21st-century filmmaking." How lucky for us it's the year

Re-reading our first 150 issues over the course of a few days, which I did to write our 150th Issue Quiz, page 22, was a great way to see if Gordinier's hypothesis was correct.

There have certainly been innovative movies made in the 13 years since — Memento, Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, WALL•E, Inception — but we've also seen the rise of the franchise, the comic book movie, the remake and the spinoff. Not that those genres haven't produced original and fantastic films — The Dark Knight, the Lord of the Rings trilogy, True Grit. But I'm not sure they're what Gordinier had in mind.

Then again, that article also inferred that old-school director Martin Scorsese was running on empty after releasing that year's "DOA dud" Bringing Out the Dead. Scorsese has earned four Best Director Oscar nominations since 1999, and won his very first statue for *The Departed* — a film we featured on the cover

I wonder what Gordinier would make of the movie on this month's cover, Prometheus, from visionary director Ridley Scott. The story is based in the universe Scott created for 1979's mind-blowing spacehorror Alien. But after Scott left the franchise, the property was watered down and watered down until there was nothing left but a squid puppet for hire who found work in a couple of shlocky Alien vs. Predator monster movies.

With Scott back at the helm, all of the movie geeks in our office are pretty darned excited about Prometheus (as is the rest of the industry). Our excitement also stems from what we've seen of cover boy Michael Fassbender's portrayal of uncanny android David. Find out what Fassbender thinks about the role in "Ridley's New Robot," page 38.

On a personal note, I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to creating our first 150 issues, including our deputy editor Ingrid Randoja, art director Trevor Stewart, assistant art director Stevie Shipman, the editor of our French magazine Mathieu Chantelois and our publisher and leader since Day One, the man behind the mag, Salah Bachir. Oh, and of course you, dear reader, for making us the most-popular movie magazine in Canada, and the seventh most-read Canadian magazine overall. Keep on reading.

**■ MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR



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ou might think the history/monster-movie mash-up Abraham Lincoln:

Vampire Hunter would be the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum's worst nightmare. You'd be wrong.

Despite the artistic liberties taken, the Springfield, Illinois, museum recently welcomed the filmmakers, even allowing them to slip behind the velvet ropes of their dioramas.

From left, that's screenwriter Seth Grahame-Smith, Benjamin Walker (who plays Lincoln), wax Lincoln, and director Timur Bekmambetov with his hand over his mouth.

Walker says despite the vampire angle, the movie (based on Grahame-Smith's novel) is largely accurate. "We did a lot of Lincoln research... it's just happenstance that they're vampires," he says. "It's really a movie about

Abraham Lincoln, the one that we know and love."

The prop builders even made Walker an exact replica of the pocket knife Lincoln was carrying the night he was assassinated. "You don't see it in the movie," says Walker, "it's in my pocket, there's no need for it, but that attention to detail, and who Lincoln was, and how he lived, is very present and real in the movie." —MW



Thought you saw a guy who looked a lot like Jake Gyllenhaal walking the streets of Toronto this spring? Guess what, it was Gyllenhaal, and he'll be in the city for another month shooting An Enemy.

Based on the novel The Double by José Saramago, the film stars Gyllenhaal as a man who spots his exact double in a movie, and sets out to find him. It's being helmed by Canadian director **Denis Villeneuve (whose** Incendies was nominated for an Oscar two years ago), and while filming just started two weeks ago, both Gyllenhaal and Villeneuve were spotted in Toronto as early as April. -MW

#### THE ART**of film**

Comic book fans know John Rozum as the writer behind monster titles like *Xombi* and *Midnight, Mass*. But when the Cape Cod-based writer needs a break from comics, he makes collages. This piece depicting a scene from Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* was created for a show celebrating Hitchcock at Gallery 1988 in Venice, California. "It really does scratch a different itch," Rozum says of his artwork. "Writing for me always seems more immediate and involves a lot of decision making at every step.... The tedious process of cutting out hundreds of tiny pieces of paper and fitting them together as a puzzle ends up being very calming and almost meditative." —*MW* 



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**Quote Unquote** 

The director, Rupert Sanders, conjured up images that absolutely transported you somewhere else, and it wasn't at all what I expected.

**KRISTEN STEWART** ON SNOW WHITE AND THE HUNTSMAN



#### KINGDOM'S YOUNG SUBJECTS

For all the star power in *Moonrise Kingdom* (Bruce Willis, Bill Murray, Edward Norton, Frances McDormand, Tilda Swinton) the actors at the centre of the movie — and the centre of this photograph — Kara Hayward and Jared Gilman (both 13) didn't have a lick of professional acting experience between them.

"I had no clue what to expect because I'd never been in a movie or a commercial or anything, just school plays and plays at summer camp," says Hayward. "From reading the script on, it was all more than I thought it was going to be." She says the biggest surprise was that movies don't shoot in chronological order. —MW

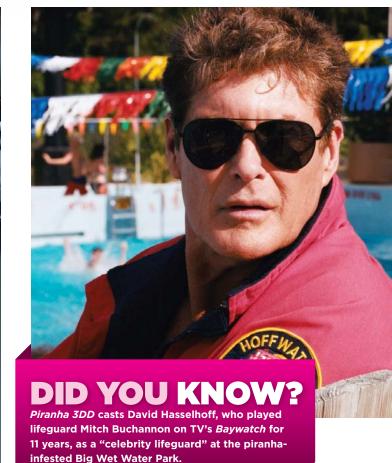


Seeking a Friend for the End of the World is about facing death and second chances, and the cast member with the most real-life experience may be a dog.

The film stars Steve Carell and Keira Knightley as Dodge and Penny, neighbours who bond during Earth's final days. At the start of the film, Dodge finds an abandoned dog with a note that reads "Sorry" pinned to its collar, and assumes that's the pup's name.

Dog trainer Sarah Clifford cast several look-a-like dogs she found at local animal shelters, including the one she named Mulligan, meaning "second chance."

"Mulligan was rescued from the shelter on the morning he was scheduled to be euthanized," says Clifford. "He learned the ropes, and was doing takes only two weeks after we took him out of the shelter." —MW



## **SPOTLIGHT**

# HOW TO PAINT A CHARACTER

efore making Take This Waltz, actor
Luke Kirby spent time researching his role
with an artist named Balint Zsako.
It's not that he plays Zsako in the film.
Kirby — who grew up in Guelph, Ontario,
but now lives in Brooklyn, New York — plays Daniel, a
rickshaw driver who woos his married neighbour Margot
(Michelle Williams) in director Sarah Polley's first film
behind the camera since Away From Her.

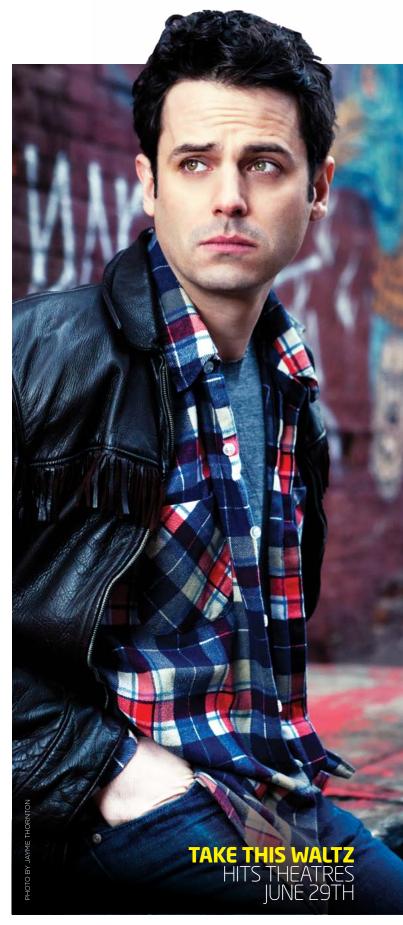
But, while Daniel drives a rickshaw by day, he's an artist by night, and the many drawings and paintings that fill his apartment were actually created by Hamilton-born Zsako, who now also lives in Brooklyn.

"When you have time to immerse yourself, you may as well dip yourself into as many pools as you can," says Kirby over the phone from L.A. where he's visiting a friend. "It informs things in some sort of organic way. You don't go in there with any specific motive, but you feel in some ways that you're filling the vessel [laughs.]"

Aside from the fact that both men are from Ontario but now live in Brooklyn, they had something else in common; Kirby also paints. "Lately I've been working with watercolour," he says.

So the two sat down and painted together. "He works with black ink a lot, and a quill-type pen, and he gave me a little jar of ink and a pen to take with me," recalls Kirby. "It was a really nice gift and functioned as one of the few talismans I brought with me on the project."

Would Kirby's portrayal of Daniel have been different had he not spent time with Zsako? "Impossible to say. I just don't know," he says after a long pause. "That kind of work informs things in such an organic manner that it's hard to capture them intellectually. It just functions as a way of trying to create real moments in time, in the now." —MARNI WEISZ



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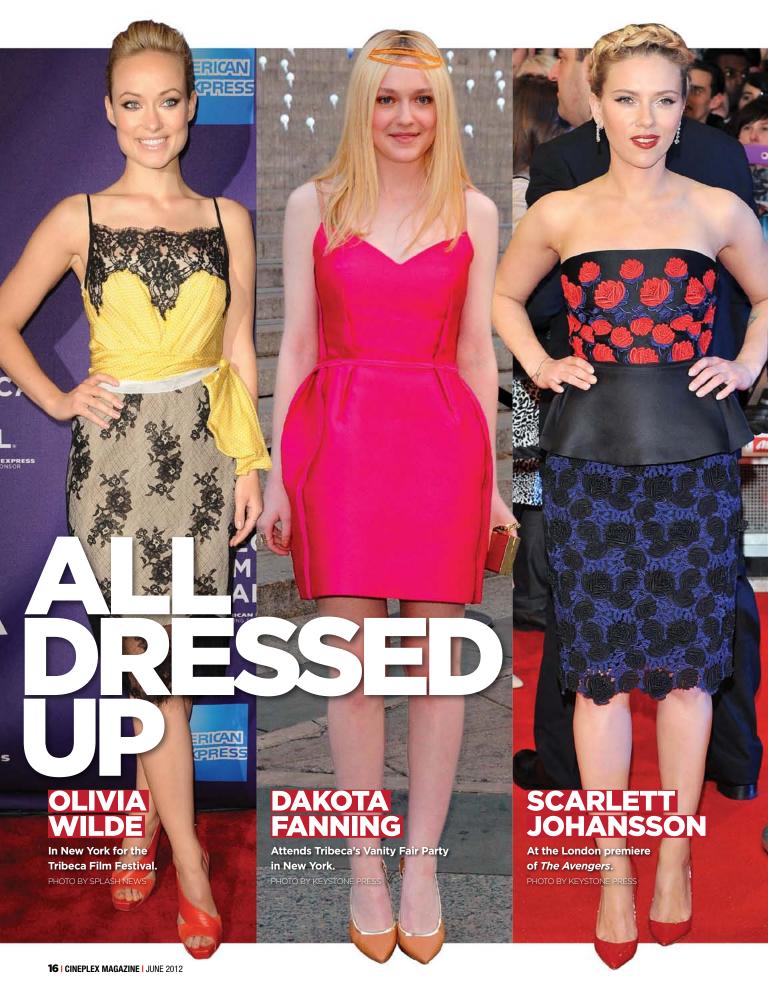
















### **CROOKED ARROWS**

Brandon Routh stars as a mixed-blood Native American businessman who returns to his reservation hoping to expand its bingo parlour. In order to gain the support of the tribe, he agrees to coach the reservation's high school lacrosse team, the bottom dwellers in an elite prep school league.

#### **PIRANHA 3DD**

The sequel to the crowdpleasing horror pic *Piranha 3D* finds the school of prehistoric fish with razor-sharp teeth attacking a popular water park.

#### MOONRISE KINGDOM

In director Wes Anderson's topsy-turvy worldview, children suffer existential crises and adults act like children. Anderson's latest pic is set in a gloriously recreated 1965 summer camp, where young boy scout Sam Shakusky (Jared Gilman) entices local girl Suzy Bishop (Kara Hayward) to run away with him, leading the film's adults - including Bill Murray, Edward Norton, Bruce Willis, Frances McDormand. Jason Schwartzman and Tilda Swinton — to search for the missing couple.







#### MADAGASCAR 3: EUROPE'S MOST WANTED

When the Madagascar gang Alex the lion (Ben Stiller), Marty the Zebra (Chris Rock), Melman the giraffe (David Schwimmer) and Gloria the hippo (Jada Pinkett Smith) go searching for those pesky penguins in Monte Carlo, they attract the unwanted attention of the authorities. So, to keep a low profile, they join a travelling circus.



#### **ROCK OF AGES**

The film version of the Broadway musical uses '80s hair-band anthems to tell the story of star-crossed lovers Drew (Diego Boneta) and Sherrie (Julianne Hough). But this is a case where the supporting players outshine the leads. Tom Cruise wowed director Adam Shankman with his powerful pipes to land the role of washed-up rocker Stacee Jaxx, Alec Baldwin steps up to play a nightclub owner, Catherine Zeta-Jones struts her stuff as a rock-hating zealot and Malin Akerman is the journalist who falls under Jaxx's spell. See Malin Akerman interview, page 26.



#### THAT'S MY BOY

It's the Adam and Andy show as Adam Sandler teams with Andy Samberg for this comedy about crass, strip-club loving Donny (Sandler), who seeks out his estranged son Todd (Samberg), a successful hedge fund manager, to hit him up for the money to pay his back taxes.

#### **LOLA VERSUS**

Lola's (Greta Gerwig) world comes crashing down when her fiancé (Joel Kinnaman) breaks up with her three weeks before their wedding. Depressed that she'll soon turn 30 as a single woman, Lola takes up with a string of men looking for love in all the wrong places. CONTINUED >





#### SEEKING A FRIEND FOR THE END OF THE WORLD

How would you spend your last days on Earth if you knew a speeding meteor was about to hit the planet and annihilate all life? Dodge (Steve Carell) and his perky neighbour Penny (Keira Knightley) hit the road to find Dodge's high school sweetheart so he can face death with the one woman he truly loved.

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#### **PEOPLE LIKE US**

Struggling businessman Sam (Chris Pine) is shocked to learn that his deceased dad had another family prior to marrying his mom (Michelle Pfeiffer). And, his dad's will stipulates that Sam must deliver \$150,000 in cash to his daughter, Frankie (Elizabeth Banks), an alcoholic single mom. Can Sam save his business, help the sister he never knew and heal two families?

#### **TAKE THIS WALTZ**

Writer/director Sarah Pollev's second film focuses on the moral dilemma facing Margot (Michelle Williams), who's in love with her husband Lou (Seth Rogen), but also extremely attracted to her neighbour Daniel (Luke Kirby). And to complicate matters, Lou's sister, Geraldine (Sarah Silverman), is on to her. See Sarah Silverman interview, page 32.



#### **TYLER PERRY'S** MADEA'S WITNESS **PROTECTION**

Writer/director/actor Tyler Perry's seventh film featuring the outspoken Madea (Perry) finds the plucky senior taking in an alleged Ponzi scheme financier (Eugene Levy), his wife (Denise Richards) and kids, who've been assigned to the witness protection program.

#### G.I. JOE: RETRIBUTION

Zartan (Arnold Vosloo), the villain from G.I. Joe: The Rise of Cobra, poses as the U.S. President to orchestrate the extermination of the G.I. Joe operatives. A band of survivors, including Roadblock (Dwayne Johnson) and Snake Eyes (Ray Park), join forces with General Joseph Colton (Bruce Willis) to fight Zartan and his allies.



CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER IN BARRYMORE

SAT., JUNE 2, THURS., JUNE 7, SUN., JUNE 10

#### **FAMILY FAVOURITES**

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THE MET OPERA

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GOLDFINGER

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een reading our magazine since we launched in November 1999? Then don't worry, you'll do fine! In honour of our 150th Issue we've put together this quiz drawn from the pages of Famous (our name for the first 11 years) and Cineplex Magazine (our name for the past two). Over the years we've talked to everyone worth talking to in the movie industry — Tom Cruise, Brad Pitt, Scarlett Johansson, Tom Hanks, Angelina Jolie, Peter Jackson, Daniel Radcliffe, Natalie Portman, Steven Spielberg, Matt Damon, Jennifer Lawrence, Those Twilight Kids, and on and on...

So travel back to a time before Harry, before Bella and

Edward and even before *The Lord of the Rings* as we start the journey through our first 150 issues!

Our first cover featured Johnny Depp (and Christina Ricci) for Tim Burton's Sleepy Hollow. Depp has appeared on our cover many times since, but only once more for a Burton film. It was the only Depp/Burton collaboration to have a girl's name in the title. Name that film.



Who was Angelina Jolie talking about in 2001 when she told us, "With him, I feel I have so much meaning in life and I'm so clear.

just made me complete."



In 2002, Gwyneth Paltrow told us about something difficult she had to do while filming a scene for The Royal Tenenbaums, adding "Having to do a nude scene would have been easier." Was she talking about

A) EATING MEAT
B) SMOKING
C) SLAPPING A
CHILD ACTOR

In 2002 we interviewed Britney Spears for her big-screen acting debut, pictured here. Name that film.



provides for them,

shows love for his

do those things in

wife and kids.... I

my own life."

In 2004, which actor answered the question "What do you want for yourself at this point in your life?" with "What do I want? I want a world without war. I want a world without insanity. I want to see people do well, and I don't even think that it's as much of what I want for myself, it's more what I want for the people around me. That's what I want." A) TOM CRUISE **B) VIGGO MORTENSEN** C) ANGELINA JOLIE

Which actor told us this about his gay kiss in a 2005 movie? "What's the big deal? The majority of my straight male friends have also kissed other men. I think all men go through a phase where they find themselves attracted to a member of the same sex."

Daniel Craig told us he celebrated getting the role of James Bond in 2006's *Casino Royale* by

A) "GETTING VERY DRUNK ON VODKA MARTINIS" B) "TAKING AN ASTON MARTIN FOR A TEST DRIVE" C) "CALLING MY MUM"

CONTINUED

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Which teen idol who grew up partly in Toronto told us the following in 2009: "Oh my God, I would love to go back to Toronto, just for the shopping, first of all. I loved living there with all the shopping and the cool clothes. You guys are so much more ahead than we are."

A) Justin Bieber **B) Vanessa Hudgens** C) Miley Cyrus



In October 2010, **Matt Damon** graced the cover of our first issue as Cineplex Magazine. He had three movies coming out over the next few months — Hereafter, True Grit, and a sci-fi based on a Philip K. Dick short story. Name that film.

Before Avatar came out in

someone said of the film,

A) ACTOR LIAM NEESON

Was he talking about

"The hype is going to kill it."

2009, Sam Worthington told us

**B) DIRECTOR JAMES CAMERON** C) PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA

In an interview for 2011's The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1, Robert Pattinson told us his most memorable fan experience involved A) DRINKING HUMAN BLOOD B) CRASHING A *TWILIGHT*-THEMED WEDDING C) BITING A BABY **ANSWERS** 

ZO. C) arcnery

19. C) biting a baby 18. The Adjustment Bureau 17. B) director James Cameron 16. C) Miley Cyrus seriously,, 12. C) "taken it more and more capture what I was doing in one 14. A) "It's very hard to sum up or 13. B) Tara Reid 15. B) Beyoncé Knowles vodka martinis" 11. A) "getting very drunk on **Brokeback Mountain** 10. Jake Gyllenhaal for 9. A) Tom Cruise 8. Arnold Schwarzenegger 7. B) lan McKellen Reese Witherspoon 6. Legally Blonde star 5. C) unsettling 4. Crossroads 2. B) smoking 2. Billy Bob Thornton 1. Alice in Wonderland

The Hunger Games, she told us that while preparing to shoot the film she developed a love/hate relationship with A) WOODY HARRELSON B) PIZZA C) ARCHERY

Jennifer Lawrence for this year's

When we interviewed

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Malin Akerman is no stranger to rock bands, having led a couple herself. But performing a duet with Tom Cruise and playing his "love" interest (for lack of a better term) in **Rock of Ages**, that's beyond her rock and role dreams

■ BY ASHLEY JUDE COLLIE

If

music be the food of love, as Shakespeare once wrote, then Malin Akerman would add, well, rock on!

Canadian-raised Akerman, who gets to sing with Tom Cruise in this month's *Rock of Ages*, has first-hand experience with the musician's hard-knock life. She used to sing lead vocals for the

rock band The Petalstones, during which time she slept on a sofa in the band's studio. When she left the band in 2005 she took drummer Roberto Zincone with her, and they married in June 2007.

In *Rock of Ages*, Akerman draws on her vocal talents for a duet with Cruise, who plays has-been rock star Stacee Jaxx, and she was impressed with his singing. "Tom has a really good voice," says Akerman

over the phone from her Santa Monica home. "People may be surprised but he brought it like he brings everything. He looked and sounded like a real rock star. And he's got some pipes on him."

The film adaptation of Chris D'Arienzo's Broadway musical takes place in 1987 Los Angeles and revolves around two young people (Julianne Hough and Diego Boneta) full of hope in the city of broken dreams. When they meet, it's love at first sight, but their romance faces a series of challenges. Because the movie is set in the iconic hairband era of the 1980s, the soundtrack features the music of Bon Jovi, Def Leppard, Foreigner, Journey and Twisted Sister.

Rock on, indeed!

Akerman, now 34, was born in Sweden but grew up in Ontario where she was discovered at a St. Catharines shopping mall and became a Ford Model, an experience which eventually led to acting and roles in movies like *Watchmen, Couples Retreat* and *Wanderlust*. While she now lives in Los Angeles with her Italian-born husband and uses various Left Coast-isms — dude, chill, and I know, right? — she says she still misses Canadian staples like "Tim Horton's coffee, the best in the world ever, Pizza Pizza, and poutine — it's hard to find poutine in L.A."

She also used to figure skate in Canada and adds, "I'm such a dork I have my own skates which I take everywhere. I skated outdoors last winter in Santa Monica, and it was such a treat to skate not far from the Pacific."

## FEEL LIKE A STAR THIS SUMMER!

Your favourite foods may not be your best choices



Nutrition expert Dr. Mubina Jiwa, ND is the director of Toronto-based clinic Essence of Health and an associate professor at the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine

Food intolerances can cause sleeplessness, digestive and weight management issues, muscle and joint pain, headaches and skin problems. **Dr. Mubina Jiwa ND** explains what you should know

#### What is the difference between an intolerance and an allergy?

An allergy is an immediate, life-threatening reaction requiring medical intervention. The uncomfortable effects of food intolerances may appear up to three days after eating an offending food. Food intolerance causes discomfort and can effect wellbeing.

#### How do I know if I have a food intolerance?

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▶ In *Rock of Ages* she and Cruise are part of a big — and impressive — ensemble that includes Russell Brand, Paul Giamatti, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Alec Baldwin.

"Tom plays this washed-up rock star and I play reporter Constance Sack — what a name, right? I believe in him and am mad that he's let himself go. No one has really told him the truth or stood up to him, and I do. And that's what I loved about my role — she's smart, a strong woman who knows what she wants and goes after it," says Akerman, who tends to be funny and playful in interviews. "There's a bit of chemistry between Stacee and Constance and then I do get him into the sack, so to speak. Yeah, there's a bit of a love connection there."

As for their duet, she enthuses, "It was surreal. We do Foreigner's 'I Want to Know What Love Is,' a classic love song. Dude, come on, the guy's going on 50, running about the stage like he is a rock god! He really pulled it off like he always does, from *Risky Business*, dancing to Bob Seger's 'Old Time Rock and Roll,' to *Top Gun* singing 'You've Lost that Lovin' Feelin," to him belting out another classic like 'Wanted Dead or Alive' in this movie."

She was also impressed by Cruise's offset demeanour. "There's an aura around him. He's professional, positive, upbeat, always smiling, always encouraging. I

mean, it's crazy how huge of a star he is yet he's actually a real person, so down to earth. He engages everyone on the set, cast and crew. I love working with veterans like him or with people like Paul Rudd and Jennifer Aniston [which she did for *Wanderlust*]. You see why they are where they are, why they get such great roles, why directors want to work with them, it's evident on and off the set."

"Tom plays this washed-up rock star and

I play reporter **Constance Sack** 

name, right?"

As alluring as she looks on stage, Akerman is modest about her singing skills and admits that music is challenging for her, but says she loves facing her fears. So aside from singing in *Rock of Ages*, she and her drummer husband have created a new band that plays jazz, blues and reggae. Akerman says they were visiting New Orleans when they were inspired by all the small bands playing around town. "We really got into them calling each other cats. How cool is that? So, for the fun of it, Roberto and I came up with Malin and the Mystikats."

They've started writing their own songs and are also using their music to support green groups like The Environmental Media Association which, in turn, supports efforts like The Brita FilterForGood Music Project. Akerman explains that the project encourages fans to use filtered water and reusable bottles instead of bottled water at music events. "I work on movie sets but I've also played music shows, and the goal is to make concerts sustainable. What a great way, an easy step, to prevent thousands of thrown away water bottles."

Another interesting challenge for Akerman is dealing with dyslexia, something Cruise has also faced. It's a condition that might be a nightmare for an actor but she explains, "It's not a huge handicap because it's part of my life and my mother had it as well. It's more of a challenge when I'm under pressure. I have a mild case of it and it really only affects me during table reads," she says in reference to the first read-through of a script before filming starts. "But you learn to focus, deal with it and move on."

Which is good, because we see a lot of table reads in Malin Akerman's future.

Ashley Jude Collie is a Canadian writer living in Los Angeles.

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## Dancing Kings

Get up close and personal with the actors who bare all playing strippers in the summer's hottest pic, *Magic Mike* 

BY MATHILDE ROY

#### **Channing Tatum**

CHARACTER: Mike "Magic Mike" Martingano, mentor to young stripper The Kid.

YOU KNOW HIM FROM: Three films in the past three months — The Vow, 21 Jump Street and G.I. Joe: Retaliation.

BEST ASSET: Life experience.

Magic Mike is based on Tatum's experience working as a stripper when he was 19.

THOUGHTS ON NUDITY:

"In modeling, you're always naked. And I grew up in Florida, where you're always sort of in a swimsuit or basically naked. I'm not really shy." —Entertainment Weekly

MAGIC MIKE HITS THEATRES JUNE 29TH







comedian Sarah Silverman dives into

**new territory** By Marni Weisz

For years, when someone asked Sarah Polley

which person, living or dead, she'd most like to have dinner with, her answer was Sarah Silverman, the actorcomedian famous for her raunchy sense of humour.

So it's no surprise that when Polley was casting Take This Waltz, which she wrote and directed, she found a role for Silverman. The film is an anti-romance starring Michelle Williams and Seth Rogen as Margot and Lou, a married couple thrown into turmoil when Margot falls for their neighbour (Luke Kirby). Silverman plays Geraldine, Lou's sister and a recovering alcoholic.

It's not a large role, but it's a challenging one for Silverman, perhaps best known for making the hilarious viral video "I'm f-cking Matt Damon" while she was dating talk-show host Jimmy Kimmel. (She and Kimmel are no longer together.)

One particular challenge was shooting a lingering, hyper-real nude scene in which Margot and Geraldine take a shower with a bunch of other women after swim class. "[Sarah] was very deferential when she asked me about it, and I'm sure with all the women she approached," says Silverman, who's now 41 years old. "But the truth is I trust her so much and I really think she has such a vision and I respect her, and you get this feeling with Sarah that you want to please her so I guess there was no thinking about it."

Silverman was at the Toronto International Film Festival for the movie's world premiere when we spoke about relationships, that shower scene and the night Polley finally got her wish and met Silverman for dinner to discuss the project.

> Tell me about your dinner with Sarah Polley.

"It was in Los Angeles, we went to Hugo's, we both got a breakfast salad. Scrambled eggs on tumeric rice and salad, and it was delicious. And we talked and talked and talked and talked. It was very comfortable and laughy."

#### What did you talk about?

"We talked about the script, we talked about relationships, we talked about that she watched my show [the now-defunct The Sarah Silverman *Program.*], which always makes me happy because I loved my show... and it's the rare odd person that is into it."

#### On the Internet Movie Database they say your trademark is "misleading sarcasm," would you agree with that?

"In a million years I wouldn't guess that, but I like that, I can see that, sure.... For me, for a long time I thought of my angle on things as being CONTINUED > ignorant arrogance, an arrogant ignorant [laughs]."



## **TAKE THIS WALTZ** HITS THEATRES JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup>

#### "You get this feeling with Sarah that you want to please her," **Silverman says of director Polley**

## ➤ You say you were touched to be considered for this movie because people don't usually think of you for dramas. Your character is still pretty funny, but are you hoping to get into more serious material?

"Yeah. I don't make a big master plan for myself and I don't look at my career as a whole, I just keep my overhead really low and I'm free to do anything I want in any medium."

#### Tell me about that.

"I own my Saab, I own my apartment, I've had my car for eight years, I do not want for much. I have everything I need, I love my life, I have any comforts I need, I don't need a big space, and that way I don't have to do something because I need money."

#### So why this film?

"This film, I did for the money [laughs]."

#### Yeah right, there's big money in Canadian film.

"Nah, the fact that it's Sarah Polley, the fact that the script is perfect, so thoughtful and funny and beautiful. It's not comedy but I think of it as a drama where the characters have really good senses of humour, you know?"

#### Sarah Polley's not someone I necessarily think of as funny.

"She's really funny. She's hilarious."

#### What's the funniest thing she's done, or said, to you?

"She and her brother have a very funny relationship. Her mother passed away when she was 11 and her brother called her while we were shooting the movie and she checked the message later and I guess she never picks up and he's like, 'Hey it's your mother using your brother to communicate with you but I guess you're not picking up,' so a very dark humour, very funny."

#### What do you think the shower scene adds to the movie?

"You know, I knew she wanted it to be [in a hippie voice] 'Hey, women come in all shapes and sizes,' then I watched it and it really accomplished that, without the mocking tone I said it in. I really went, 'Wow.' You just put it out there, say what you're going to say. And women — I know with my girlfriends and sisters — we're naked in front of each other all the time whether we're trying on clothes or putting on things, you know?"

#### Umm, not really. I'm not.

"Really? With my close friends, or maybe it's just a comedy thing..."

### You play an alcoholic. I've read that you never drink because it makes you sick, did you do any research?

"You know, I don't drink but, as a comedian for the past 20 years, I have been surrounded by drunk people and alcoholics that are in the audience, and that are comedians, and that are my friends and people I'm close to as well as a couple friends that are in AA. And I did a lot of meditating on the relationships I have with all of that. My relationship with alcohol is that when I'm at a party, the second that first wave happens of people getting drunk, I'm gone. I know the sloppy drunk thing, I know the talking really close to your face and spitting, but I think the real professional alcoholics, that when you meet them they're in AA, you cannot even imagine them drunk. Alcoholics that really get pro at it, being married with kids, they cover it."

#### Did making this movie make you see relationships differently? You're single now, but were you in one at the time?

"I was in one at the time, but making this movie didn't alter my outlook on love."

#### Which is what?

"I don't know anymore. [In a singsong voice] 'Love, love, I believe in love.' But I'm at a point in my life where it would have to be even better than being alone, you know? I like my alone life. I mean, I love being with friends and I love kissing and loving someone to pieces, but it's hard to find someone who doesn't ultimately start judging you and your choices. Men like to quash you, I just want someone who's happy with himself, happy with his life, he doesn't have to quash mine."



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# **PROMETHEUS** HITS THEATRES JUNE 8<sup>TH</sup>

nown for his challenging roles

in art-house films like *Hunger* (he played starving IRA leader Bobby Sands), *Shame* (a sex addict) and *A Dangerous Method* (father of analytical psychology Carl Jung), Michael Fassbender looks absolutely relieved when describing his part in director Ridley Scott's sci-fi thriller *Prometheus*.

"I am playing a robot," says the 35-year-old actor over coffee at a Beverly Hills restaurant. "It'll be a good excuse, the critics can't say, 'Oh, he was very wooden in that.' I can say, 'I was supposed to be!"

To be more accurate, Fassbender — who was born in Germany but raised in Ireland — plays an android called David who is part of the Prometheus spacecraft's crew. After identical inscriptions are found at archeological digs across Earth, indicating that aliens contacted — or maybe even created — ancient man, he and his human crew mates (Charlize Theron, Idris Elba, Guy Pearce and the original Girl with the Dragon Tattoo Noomi Rapace) are sent to a distant world to find the E.T.s.

The humans look down on David as a servile machine and resent him for his superior physical and intellectual capacities, but David isn't so sure they are any less programmed than he is. Questions about the extent of their differences grow more urgent as events on the faraway world turn deadly.

Despite his earlier joke, Fassbender says David required a good deal of actor's prep. The synthetic man's walk, for example, is a unique combination of yoga and Olympic high diver Greg Louganis's gait.

And getting David's behaviour just right was a challenge equal to some of the actor's most serious roles. "I wanted to avoid attitude, make him appear like he's kind of in neutral most of the time," says Fassbender, wearing a tweed jacket and matching newsboy cap. "But you also have to hint at a few human characteristics, as if he might have something like a soul."

Scott, of course, made his name as a director with such are-they-oraren't-they-androids classics as 1979's *Alien* and 1982's *Blade Runner*. Though best known for his visual flair, the 74-year-old English filmmaker proved just as open to letting the actors explore their characters as the more erudite directors with whom Fassbender has worked.

"You find when you meet these sort of characters like Ridley Scott, they have the confidence to go, 'I'm not sure how we're going to do this one," says Fassbender. "Then they get everybody together and ask, 'What do you think?' That's great, rather than trying to disguise the fact that they're not sure about a scene, and therefore sort of bullying people around about a scene. On the other hand,





▶ he's so precise. But he has this collaborative thing. No idea is stupid until you put it up there and take a look at it. And I don't mind looking stupid, either; I prefer to put it on its feet than talk about it."

Speaking of *Alien*, there's been much discussion about *Prometheus'* relationship to that outer space horror in which the crew of the space ship Nostromo (including Sigourney Weaver, Tom Skerritt, John Hurt and Ian Holm as the android Ash) battle a terrifying extra-terrestrial aboard their vessel. We know *Prometheus* takes place in the *Alien* universe before the events of that film; so is it a prequel?

"I wouldn't say it's a prequel," Fassbender cautions, then teases, "What it is, when you see it, you sort of go, 'Oh, okay.' What was revealed to us in the *Alien* movies is just a tiny part of this world. That's what we realize. There are threads to it that we can relate to, that's for sure, and so it's familiar territory to us. But it's a whole new world."

And the actor is more than happy to be working in movies like *Prometheus* and last year's *X-Men: First Class* (Fassbender played the young Magneto), despite receiving most of his praise for his extreme dramas.

"When I got into film, it was mainly the American films of the 1970s that inspired me," the London-based actor says of that decade's  $\,$ 

"I wouldn't say it's a prequel," Fassbender says of *Prometheus*. What was

# revealed to us in the *Alien* movies is just a tiny part of this world"

idea- and dialogue-driven films. "Going to the movies was an experience where you would have discussions about it afterward, sometimes days after.

"But that's not to say that I don't enjoy a good adventure ride as well," he adds with conviction. "An escape for an hour-and-a-half is cool too. I want to have both. One has sort of outweighed the other in recent years, but I think it's comin' round again!"

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



#### NO ASH REHASH

While *Prometheus* is considered a sort-of prequel to Ridley Scott's *Alien* (1979), Michael Fassbender — who plays the robot David in the new film — didn't watch *Alien* (or its many successors, which were not directed by Scott) before making this movie. Which is surprising, since *Alien* featured a similar humanoid robot, Ian Holm's Ash.

Instead, Scott instructed him to watch Lawrence of Arabia, which was not about an android, but an aloof British soldier (Peter O'Toole), and 1963's The Servant, about an all-seeing manservant (Dirk Bogarde) working for a wealthy Londoner.

"If you watch the film at the beginning, very carefully, what Michael does with the part of David is wonderful," Scott said at a recent press conference, "because he's walking around all by himself for the first five or six minutes and we think, 'Who is this person?' And you might think eventually, 'Is he a housekeeper, is he a butler, what is he?"

And unlike *Alien* and Scott's *Blade Runner* (1982), both of which feature androids masquerading as humans, Scott said, "We make no secret that [David's] a robot, android or replicant because there's no point in hiding that anymore. It's such a part of the science-fiction genre." —*MW* 





hen Charlize Theron was told to come to the Prometheus set on days she had no scenes to shoot she was confused, so asked director Ridley Scott why she was needed. "And he'd say, 'I just want you to stand in the corner and lurk."

Theron is getting awfully good at being bad.

Prometheus casts Theron, now 36, as menacing Meredith Vickers, a stern employee of Weyland Corp., "the company that has sent out this spaceship into this mission," Theron explains during a recent press event in Paris.

Vickers travels to the far reaches of the universe with the crew of the Prometheus spaceship so she can monitor their investigation into the origins of mankind.

But, unlike Theron's two other recent meanies — the evil queen in this month's Snow White and the Huntsman and the unrepentant, self-absorbed narcissist in December 2011's Young Adult (for which she earned a Golden Globe nomination), Vickers does evolve.



# "My character, and all of the characters, towards the end of the film have a more **personal connection to this journey," Theron says of** *Prometheus*

"There's definitely a mystery, an uneasiness, we don't really know each other," Theron says of the crew's relationship at the beginning of the film; but Vickers changes as the story progresses. "My character, and all of the characters, towards the end of the film, have a more personal connection to this journey that they're taking."

It's not news that Theron is good at being bad. Her greatest triumph and only Oscar win — came from playing real-life serial killer Aileen Wuornos in 2003's Monster. But playing so many unlikeable characters doesn't mean she's repeating herself. It's hard to think of three more different films to make back-to-back-to-back than Young Adult (a Jason Reitman comedy), Snow White and the Huntsman (a dark fairy tale) and Prometheus (a deep-space sci-fi).

"Every time, you start somewhat from scratch," Theron says of moving between different worlds. "You can't really come into the new job carrying leftovers. But for me it's somewhat easy because I've never worked with two directors that are similar. I've never worked with material that you approach the same way. I think that's what makes it fun and makes it interesting. I don't think I would ever want to go and do something that was just regurgitated from the last job."

As for Scott, who's sitting next to her at this event, Theron says, "I've always said that out of Ridley's generation of filmmakers there's a handful that are iconic and I think that for every actor, there's one of those guys that you've always dreamed of working with and Ridley was that for me - Sir Ridley."

Another plus is that Scott's films often feature strong female characters. In 1979's Alien, which takes place in the same fictional universe as Prometheus, Sigourney Weaver's Ripley was the steely heroine; and here both Theron and Noomi Rapace play iron women.

"All my female characters in all the films I've done are usually really, really strong," Scott chimes in. "I think it comes part and parcel from my mother. She was four-foot-eleven and she used to kick my brother, Tony Scott, and my ass regularly so I got used to really strong women, and accept strong women. They win, you win. Over and out." -MARNI WEISZ

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#### **CARIBBEAN SUMMIT**

2:00 PM Ernest Ranglin, with Jay Douglas and

Everton "Pablo" Paul Calypso Rose

8:00 PM Kobo Town 9:00 PM Michael Rose

Presenting (KIA)

Additional L'ORÉAL Support:



#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 10**

#### ETHIOPIQUES: THE HORN OF AFRICA

2:00 PM Debo Band 3:00 PM **Abyssinian Roots** 

#### **RUFUS TO THE MAX**

8:00 PM The Rufus Songbook 9:00 PM **Rufus Wainwright** 

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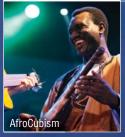
#### FUTURISTIC MULTI-KULTI HIP-HOP MASHUP

8:00 PM **Nomadic Massive** 9:00 PM Deltron 3030

Presenting (KIA)

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#### **TUESDAY, JUNE 12**

#### BUENA VISTA WEST AFRICA

8:00 PM **Fatoumata Diawara** AfroCubism 9:00 PM

Presenting (KIA)

Additional

MATRIX DIESEL



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# Loreena McKennitt

#### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13**

#### FROM THE MUMMERS DANCE TO THE MIST **OF AVALON**

8:00 PM **Jayme Stone** 9:00 PM Loreena McKennitt

Presenting





#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 14**

#### **ROCKIN' REVOLUTIONARIES**

Quique Escamilla 9:00 PM Michael Franti & Spearhead

Presenting

8-00 PM

Additional MAYBEL LLINE



#### **FRIDAY, JUNE 15**

#### **RED-HOT RAP FROM HAVANA AND TUSCANY**

8:00 PM Telmary 9:00 PM Jovanotti

Presenting OUG

Additional MAYBELLINGE



#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 16**

#### **CANADIAN TITANS OF ROOTS TUNE-CRAFT**

Dan Mangan 3:00 PM Kathleen Edwards

#### **BALKAN BEAT BLOWOUT**

8.00 PM Lemon Bucket Orkestra

Shantel and the Bucovina Club Orkestar

ARNIER VICHY L'ORÉAL



#### **SUNDAY. JUNE 17**

#### MELLOW CELLO

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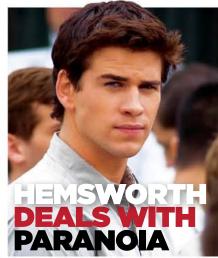


They are a couple of Oscar winners looking for a hit. Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson will team up in Saving Mr. Banks, about the real-life relationship between Walt Disney (Hanks) and P.L. Travers (Thompson), the Australian author of the book Mary Poppins. It took Disney 14 years to convince Travers to give him the movie rights for her children's tale, and while the film went on to become a huge success, she hated it. The Blind Side director John Lee Hancock helms the pic that's due out next year.

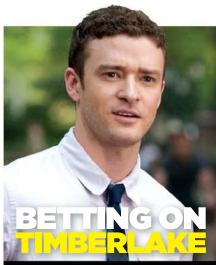




At 44, Nicole Kidman is too old to play the young Grace Kelly, and she's even pushing the envelope for the just announced Grace of Monaco, set during Kelly's reign as Princess of Monaco. The film takes place between 1961 and 1962, when the then 33-year-old Kelly took on France's Charles de Gaulle, who challenged Monaco's standing as a tax haven for the rich. Oliver Dahan (La Vie en Rose) will direct.



The Hunger Games' Liam Hemsworth's stock is rising fast. The Aussie grabbed the lead in Paranoia, an espionage thriller focusing on rival telecom companies. We're sure the 22-year-old Hemsworth will glean acting tips from his older cast mates — Harrison Ford and Gary Oldman. Production begins this summer with Robert Luketic (The Ugly Truth) behind the camera.



Having played online-music maverick Sean Parker in The Social Network,
Justin Timberlake moves into the world of online gambling in the just announced Runner, Runner, a thriller about two men — Timberlake and Ben Affleck — who operate an offshore, online gambling empire.
Brian Koppelman — who wrote the acclaimed poker drama Rounders — penned the script, while Brad Furman (The Lincoln Lawyer) is set to direct.



# FRESH FACE CODY HORN

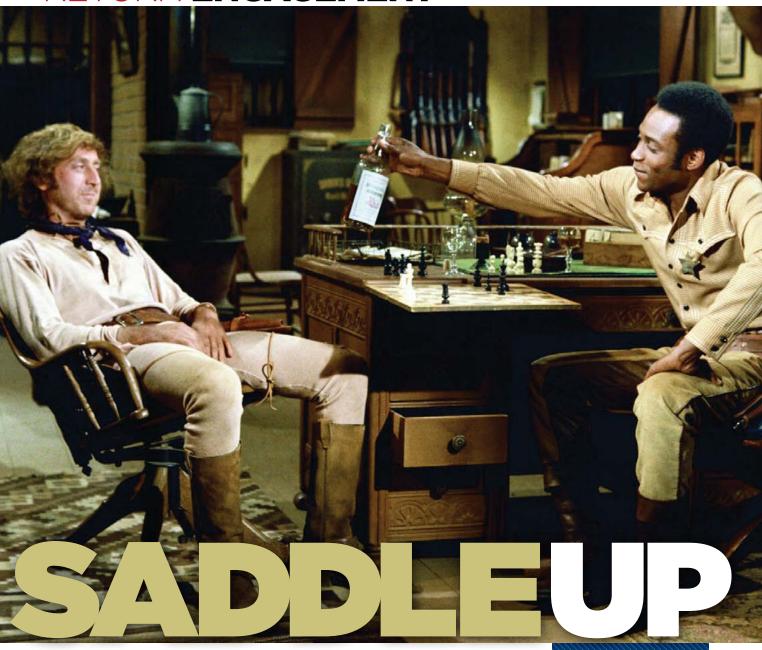
This month's stripper comedy Magic Mike features a cast of male hotties, but it's female lead Cody Horn who's creating buzz. Horn — the daughter of former Warner Brothers president Alan Horn — has appeared on TV's Rescue Me and The Office. Her refreshing natural screen presence hasn't gone unnoticed in Hollywood; she's also landed a role in the upcoming Jake Gyllenhaal cop drama, End of Watch.



#### ALSO IN THE WORKS Mad Men's January Jones

teams with Ed Harris for the Western Sweetwater. Jennifer Connelly will play Noah's (Russell Crowe) wife Naamah in Noah. Iron Man 3 casts both Ben Kingsley and Guy Pearce as villains in the series' next installment. Taylor Swift plays Joni Mitchell in Girls Like Us, about female singers who helped shape the 1960s music scene.

#### RETURN ENGAGEMENT



Imost 40 years ago, actor-writer-director Mel Brooks enlisted four writers, including an edgy, young, black comedian named Richard Pryor, to sit down with him and pen an outrageous comedy that would poke fun at prejudice, racial stereotypes, bodily functions, and the history of the Hollywood Western. Whew.

The result was 1974's hugely successful Blazing Saddles, starring Cleavon Little (pictured right) as black Sheriff Bart, who enlists the aid of alcoholic gunslinger The Waco Kid (Gene Wilder, left) and a town of racist white folks to help him stop land baron Hedley Lamarr (Harvey Korman) from taking over the town. The film — considered a classic — contains language that makes today's audiences squirm, which was exactly the point of Brooks' whole silly exercise. He wants us to understand just how absurd our preconceived notions about other groups of people are, and uses guffaws as his teaching tool. —IR

Blazing Saddles screens as part of Cineplex's Classic Film Series on June 13th and 17th. Go to Cineplex.com/events for times and locations.

# 

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#### SAFE HOUSE

JUNE 5

Denzel Washington plays
Tobin Frost, an unlikeable
CIA operative on the run.
After years in hiding, Frost
lands at a South African
safe house run by lessexperienced CIA man
Matt Weston (Ryan Reynolds),
which means tough times for
both of them when the bad
guys show up.



#### JOURNEY 2: THE MYSTERIOUS ISLAND

JUNE 5

Canadian **Brad Peyton** directs this eye-candy sequel to 2008's *Journey to the Center of the Earth*. This time, Sean (**Josh Hutcherson**) and his stepdad (**Dwayne Johnson**) are headed to a remote island to save Sean's grandpa from some mysterious peril.



#### WANDERLUST

JUNE 19

Harried New Yorkers George and Linda (Paul Rudd,
Jennifer Aniston) leave the
Big Apple when he loses his
job and her career falters. By
chance, they happen upon a
hippie commune where free
love reigns, and — after an
attempt to live with George's
obnoxious brother — decide to
give commune living a shot.

MORE MOVIES > ACT OF VALOR (JUNE 5) > MACHINE GUN PREACHER (JUNE 5) > W.E. (JUNE 5) > MAN ON A LEDGE (JUNE 5) > GHOST RIDER: SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE (JUNE 12) > IN DARKNESS (JUNE 12) > SALMON FISHING IN THE YEMEN (JUNE 26) > GONE (JUNE 26)

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# Something Special

WILFRED: SEASON 1

JUNE 19



The answer to the question, "Where has Elijah Wood gone?" is Wilfred, a well-received FX TV comedy about a guy (Wood) who sees his girlfriend's dog as a large man in a dog costume. For those who don't get FX, Season 1 comes out this month with more than 30 minutes of extra footage and additional doggie antics.



JUNE 26

PLAYSTATION 3, XBOX 360, WII. NINTENDO DS & 3DS

While most movie-to-game adaptations are duds, the concept of web-slinging around New York City actually works great for a videogame.



#### **BIG MIRACLE**

#### JUNE 19

John Krasinski plays an Anchorage TV news reporter who gets his big break with a story about three gray whales trapped in the ice off the coast of Alaska. Enter a cast of characters with various motives for saving said whales, including **Drew Barrymore** as an adorable environmentalist.



#### THE ARTIST

#### JUNE 26

Last year's best movie
(according to the Oscars)
was this delightful blackand-white romance about
washed-up silent film
star George Valentin
(Jean Dujardin, who won
Best Actor) and the up-andcoming starlet (Bérénice
Bejo) who still believes in him.



#### MIRROR MIRROR JUNE 26

The story of Snow White (Lily Collins), the fairest of them all, and the wicked Queen (Julia Roberts) who wants her dead is given an absurdist spin by director Tarsem Singh.

Armie Hammer steps in as the Prince, Snow White's one true love and the man the Queen wants to marry. Awkward.



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