

ONE PLANET

EX

AZINE



SUPER YEAR!

2016 MOVIE PREVIEW

BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

SUICIDE SQUAD

STAR TREK BEYOND

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY

AND MORE!

Henry Cavill (left)
and Ben Affleck
square off in
*Batman v Superman:
Dawn of Justice*

Inside
**KURT
RUSSELL**
**WILL
POULTER**
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Action abounds as superheroes and supervillains come out to play. We preview 2016's biggest movies and talk with three stars who'll be leading the charge — **Chris Evans** on *Captain America: Civil War*, **Henry Cavill** for DC mashup *Superman v Batman: Dawn of Justice* and *Suicide Squad's* **Margot Robbie**

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BY MARNI WEISZ



Gal Gadot and Ben Affleck in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*

COVER PHOTO BY CLAY ENOS, COURTESY WARNER BROS. PICTURES™ AND © DC COMICS





BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE!

Consider this editor's note counterprogramming to our **2016 Movie Preview**.

We've chosen nine spectacular films for this year's preview (page 38), but I'd be lying if I said the list isn't stacked with big-budget, tent-pole movies. I mean, how can you not include *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *Star Trek Beyond*, *Suicide Squad*, and the next *Avengers* and *Star Wars* movies?

Of course, this means smaller, thinkier movies can get lost amid the CGI rubble.

Don't get me wrong, we love CGI rubble, but we also love movies where the superhero is the screenwriter, and his or her weapons are a laptop and a good story. So, those nine films aside, here are five *more* films — many on a smaller scale — to ink into your 2016 calendar.

Director Richard Linklater's *Everybody Wants Some* (April 15th) captures a group of college baseball players just...being...college...baseball...players. It's Linklater's first film since 2014's Best Picture-nominated *Boyhood*, but even more exciting, it's being called the "spiritual follow-up" to his 1993 high school-set masterpiece *Dazed and Confused*. Like *Dazed*, it stars mostly no-names. But remember, that 1993 film introduced us to a kid named Matthew McConaughey, and even to his signature phrase, "All right, all right, all right."

Oliver Stone doesn't pull punches when it comes to politics. What will he do with the fascinating story of Edward Snowden? Find out on May 13th when Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays the NSA whistleblower in *Snowden*.

This year, for the first time since he wowed us with his song-and-dance skills on *The All New Mickey Mouse Club*, we get to see — and hear — Ryan Gosling sing! Gosling plays a jazz pianist, and Emma Stone is an aspiring actor, in the romantic musical *La La Land* (July 15th).

Michael Keaton is my favourite actor right now. Having all but disappeared from Hollywood's A-list, just over a year ago he swooped back in as *Birdman*'s lead, an unhinged actor trying to revive his career. Then, this past November, he showed up at the opposite end of the spectrum as *Spotlight*'s grounded, real-life *Boston Globe* editor, Robby Robinson. Again, brilliant. This year Keaton gets to feast on Ray Kroc, McDonald's notorious head honcho in *The Founder* (November 25th). That's what I call a happy meal.

December has become Jennifer Lawrence's month. *Silver Linings Playbook* (2012), *American Hustle* (2013) and *Joy* (2015) all came out in December. In 2016, JLaw's December release is *Passengers*, a trippy two-hander in which she and Chris Pratt play space colonists put into deep sleep for a decades-long journey to a distant planet...but who mistakenly wake up, and then have to live alone, together, for a long, long time.

Those release dates can't come soon enough for me.

Elsewhere in this issue, **Kurt Russell** talks Westerns, Tarantino and *The Hateful Eight* (page 32), we have **Pablo Schreiber** on *13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi* (page 36) and **Will Poulter** talks about *The Revenant*'s cold, Canadian shoot (page 30).

■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR

PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

EDITOR MARNI WEISZ
DEPUTY EDITOR INGRID RANDOJA
ART DIRECTOR TREVOR THOMAS STEWART
GRAPHIC DESIGNER KATIE CRANE
VICE PRESIDENT, PRODUCTION SHEILA GREGORY

CONTRIBUTORS BOB STRAUSS

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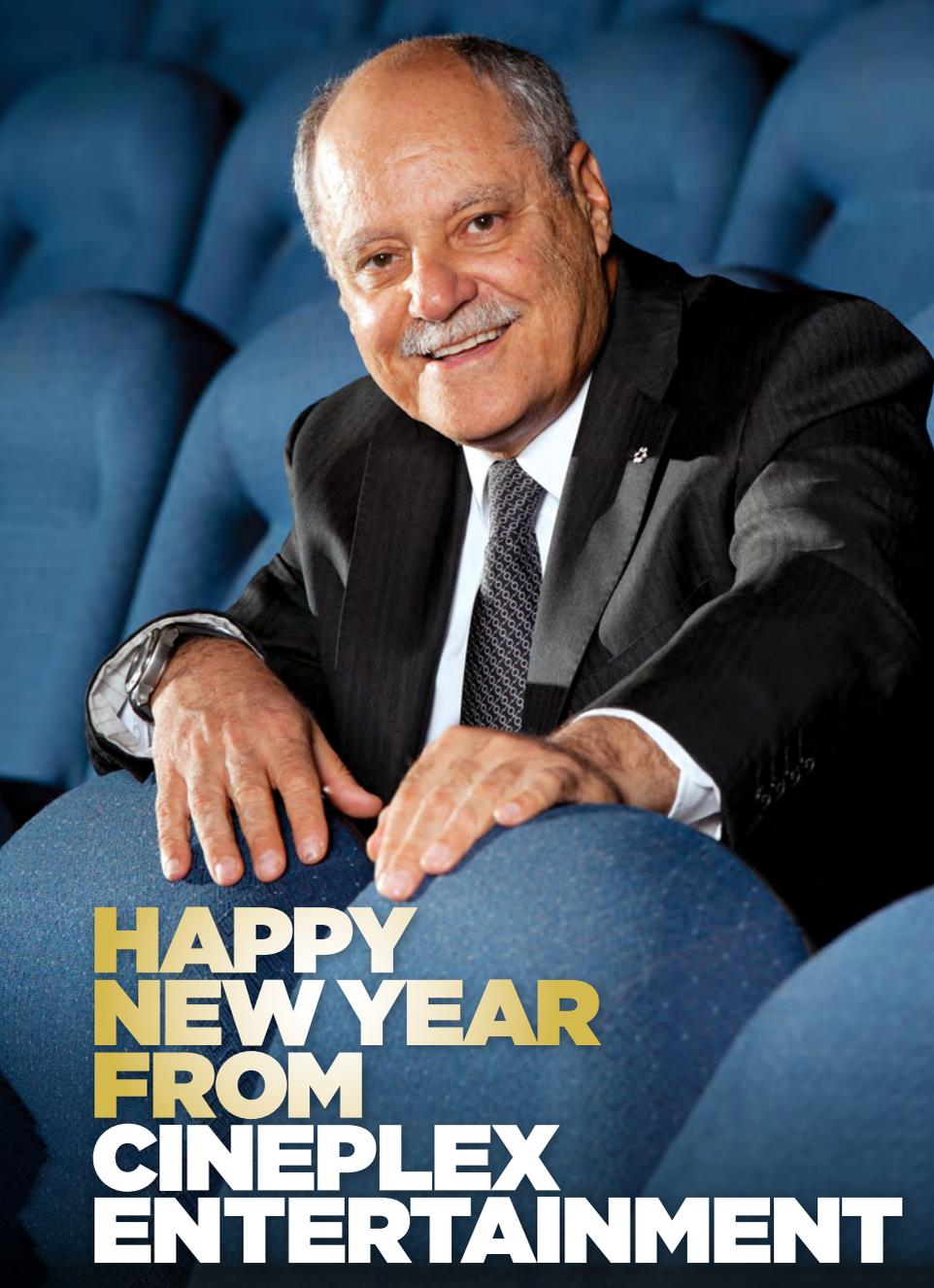
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HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM CINEPLEX ENTERTAINMENT

Welcome to the January issue of *Cineplex Magazine*. Writing this note each year gives me an opportunity to reflect on the year that was, and look forward to the year ahead. As we like to say here at Cineplex, it lets us “See the Big Picture.”

Thanks to you, we have just completed one of our most successful years, with blockbusters like *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, *Furious 7*, *Jurassic World*, *Minions* and *Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens*. By the time 2015 came to a close, we had welcomed more than 75 million guests to our 162 theatres across the country.

In 2015, we added Cineplex Cinemas Markham and VIP and Cineplex Cinemas Lansdowne and VIP to our circuit, and added VIP Cinemas to our newly renamed Cineplex Cinemas Yonge-Eglinton and VIP. In total, these theatres offer 10 VIP Cinemas, an IMAX, two UltraAVX, 3 D-BOX and 22 traditional auditoriums. Moving forward, we will open new theatres in several communities and renovate

others, as we continue to invest in providing you, our guest, with an exceptional entertainment experience.

Our SCENE loyalty program now boasts more than seven million members — making one in five Canadians a SCENE member. Over the years, we have proudly extended the reach of the program to more parts of the country and added more benefits to increase the value of the program for SCENE members. We will continue to do this in 2016 and beyond.

We also launched our popular Sensory Friendly Screenings program in 29 theatres coast-to-coast. The program, developed in concert with Autism Speaks Canada, provides an opportunity for individuals and families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder to enjoy new releases in a relaxed environment.

Thanks to everyone across Canada who participated in this year’s National Community Day. In a single morning, Cineplex theatres raised more than \$400,000 in support of our national charitable partner, Free The Children.

Looking ahead to 2016, we are very excited about our plans to develop The Rec Room, Canada’s premier social entertainment destination. The first location will open in the spring of 2016 in Edmonton, Alberta, with a second location to follow in Calgary, Alberta. We plan to open several more locations nationally over the course of the next few years, so stay tuned for more information about when The Rec Room

will open in your community!

ESports is quickly becoming a global phenomenon, and our recent acquisition of WorldGaming, a leading online gaming platform that facilitates tournaments for the competitive gaming community, provides us with a unique opportunity to bring the excitement and thrill of competitive videogaming to our guests.

The year ahead also offers numerous films to get excited about, including *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, *The Jungle Book*, *Finding Dory*, *Star Trek Beyond*, *Ghostbusters*, *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story* and the new movie to spring from the world of Harry Potter, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, to name a few.

On behalf of the entire Cineplex team, I wish you a wonderful new year filled with an abundance of joy and treasured moments. We hope you enjoy your year at the movies as much as we enjoy being your host.

ELLIS JACOB,
PRESIDENT AND CEO, CINEPLEX ENTERTAINMENT

PS4

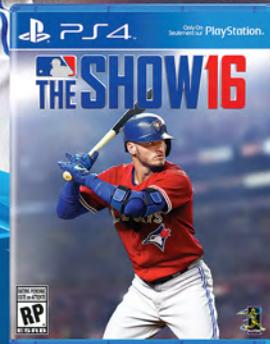
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SNAPS



BATCH AT BUCKINGHAM

It may look like **Benedict Cumberbatch** is shooting a period piece, but he's actually at Buckingham Palace to be appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire for his services to the arts and charity.

PHOTO BY ANTHONY DEVLIN/GETTY



GOOD POINT

Johnny Depp points at wife **Amber Heard** during the L.A. premiere of *The Danish Girl*. Heard plays a ballet dancer/model in the film.

PHOTO BY DAVID LIVINGSTON/GETTY



MONKEYING AROUND

Daniel Brühl and **Jessica Chastain** have fun on the Prague set of *The Zookeeper's Wife*. The film tells the true story of Jan and Antonina Zabinska, zookeepers who saved hundreds of people and animals from the Nazis.

PHOTO BY RENATO MARZINI/SPLASH NEWS



BOURNE AGAIN

Matt Damon takes off his coat and gets down to work on the Berlin set of the upcoming *Bourne* movie.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



YOU LOOK PERFECT

Reese Witherspoon (left) and **Jessica Alba** check their makeup during the Baby2Baby Gala in Culver City, California.

PHOTO BY STEFANIE KEENAN/GETTY



SAY CHEESE SANDWICH

George Clooney takes a pic with the formerly homeless staff of the Social Bite sandwich shop in Edinburgh, Scotland.

PHOTO BY JEFF HOLMES/GETTY

IN BRIEF



PUPPET MASTER



A puppet raises money for the film *Anomalisa* (pictured above) on Kickstarter

Charlie Kaufman's stop-motion animated film *Anomalisa* won the Grand Special Jury Prize at the Venice Film Festival, has a 100 percent approval rating on Rottentomatoes.com, and was called "the most human film of the year" by *Esquire* film critic Matt Patches.

Maybe the puppet that took to Kickstarter.com to plead for funds to make the film independently had a point.

"We want to make *Anomalisa* without the interference of the typical

big-studio process," began the puppet. "As many of you know, the entertainment industry is filled with incredible scripts, written by incredible talent, that have not or will never get made. Or worse, they'll be changed into something that is nowhere close to what the original creator envisioned.

Asking for \$200,000 the campaign raised more than double that amount.

Kaufman (the strange brain behind such existentialist fare as *Being John Malkovich*, *Eternal Sunshine of the*

Spotless Mind and *Adaptation*) and his directing partner Duke Johnson adapted the animated gem from Kaufman's play of the same name, and used 3D printers to build their protagonists.

So what's the movie about? An angst-ridden motivational speaker for the customer service industry goes on a business trip to Ohio and connects, deeply, with a woman named Lisa.

After stops at 18 film festivals, *Anomalisa* hits theatres in Canada on January 8th. —*MW*



Vin Diesel

On Home Turf:

XXX: THE RETURN OF XANDER CAGE

So you thought the *xxx* series was dead? That's understandable.

After 2002's *xxx*, which starred **Vin Diesel** as an extreme athlete turned government operative, the franchise went off the rails with the tepid follow-up, *xxx: State of the Union* (2005). Ice Cube had the lead in that film, and Diesel was nowhere to be found.

But Diesel is back for a third film, *xxx: The Return of Xander Cage*, which is set to shoot in Toronto next month after kicking off production in the Philippines. No word yet on Diesel's co-stars, but **D.J. Caruso** (*Disturbia*, *I Am Number Four*) is expected to direct. —*MW* ▶

THE ART OF FILM

As a struggling artist, Brampton, Ontario's David Irvine used to visit thrift shops looking for old prints or paintings he could paint over to save on the cost of new materials. "One piece I came across at a yard sale was a seascape, and for some reason I had a vision of two reapers standing on the shore playing with a beach ball. I painted in this vision and posted it online where it sold immediately and generated a big response." Since then he's created a whole series of whimsical "Re-Directed Art" by inserting movie and pop-culture characters into pieces that would otherwise have ended up as landfill. See more at www.gnarledbranch.com. —*MW*



ICE CUBE

KEVIN HART



**RIDE
ALONG 2**

THE BROTHERS-IN-LAW ARE BACK

JANUARY 15





▶ THE GREAT DIGITAL FILM FESTIVAL

Here's the lineup for 2016's Great Digital Film Festival (February 5 to 11) — your chance to enjoy a carefully curated collection of timeless comedies, sci-fi and action pics back on the big screen.

- ▶ DIRTY HARRY (1971)
- ▶ RUNAWAY TRAIN (1985)
- ▶ STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN (1982)
- ▶ STAR TREK INTO DARKNESS (2013)
- ▶ BEVERLY HILLS COP (1984)
- ▶ SERENITY (2005)
- ▶ INCEPTION (2010)
- ▶ GHOSTBUSTERS (1984)
- ▶ BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA (1986)
- ▶ THE THING (1982)
- ▶ MAD MAX 2: THE ROAD WARRIOR (1981)
- ▶ MAD MAX: FURY ROAD (2015)
- ▶ THE DARK CRYSTAL (1982)
- ▶ LABYRINTH (1986)
- ▶ FROM DUSK TILL DAWN (1996)
- ▶ TRUE ROMANCE (1993)

Go to Cineplex.com/Events for times, locations and to buy tickets

The original *Ghostbusters* foursome. From left, Harold Ramis, Ernie Hudson, Bill Murray and Dan Aykroyd

Quote Unquote

Curiously, I feel easier with the lady in the van than with that lady with the hat on. It was much easier to be Miss Shepherd because she didn't mind how she looked, and it was such a relief because **Lady Violet was forever in those corsets and things that Miss Shepherd would never have dreamed of going near.**

MAGGIE SMITH COMPARES PLAYING HOMELESS SENIOR MISS SHEPHERD IN THIS MONTH'S *THE LADY IN THE VAN* TO PLAYING LADY VIOLET ON TV'S *DOWNTON ABBEY*



THE OTHER BLUE MAN GROUP

THE BAD NEWS: The release of the next *Avatar* movie is still at least two years away.

THE GOOD NEWS: You can get your Na'vi fix with the Avatar-themed Cirque du Soleil production, *Toruk: The First Flight*, which takes place on Pandora thousands of years before James Cameron's 2009 film, and just kicked off its tour of Canada and the U.S.

Montreal was the first Canadian stop, with dates from December 21st, 2015, to January 3rd of this year, Toronto picks up from January 7th to 10th, and Quebec City from January 14th to 17th. After several U.S. stops, the production returns to Canada for dates in Hamilton and London in May and Ottawa in June. Go to www.cirquedusoleil.com/toruk for more information. —MW



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KEEPING THE FAITH

Actors get to meet all kinds of interesting people in their line of work, but Lara Jean Chorostecki says getting to know the professional wrestlers who appear in *The Masked Saint* was special.

"I was never into the wrestling scene, I never watched it and I don't really understand it," she says on the line from her Toronto home, "but every single wrestler I met was probably the most congenial, sweet, wonderful, down-to-earth person, just absolute gems."

The Masked Saint focuses on wrestler Chris Whaley (Brett Granstaff), who leaves the ring to become a small-town pastor...and moonlights as a masked vigilante fighting injustice.

"I play Chris's wife, Michelle," says Chorostecki. "She's a woman of strong family values and isn't aware for much of the film of what he's doing, which is stopping crime in the city behind her back. You know, sometimes we see people in family films that have such high values and are so morally pure and perfect, and we really tried make her a human being, someone who is real and relatable."

The Brampton-born Chorostecki, who trained at Canada's Stratford Festival and studied at London's Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, has honed her craft predominately on TV, starring in shows like *Hannibal*, *Camelot*, *Copper* and *X Company*.

The Masked Saint marks her first foray into faith-based filmmaking, but it's not her last.

"I just played the Virgin Mary for *Joseph and Mary*, a TV movie. I guess I have a thing for family-friendly films lately," she says with a laugh. "Our director of photography on the shoot sent me a screenshot of me as Mary, and made the entire thing look like a painting. It's of me in the manger, and you better believe I used that as my Christmas Card."

—INGRID RANDOJA



PHOTO BY SHAUN BENSON

THE MASKED SAINT
HITS THEATRES JANUARY 22ND

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ALL DRESSED UP

JENNIFER LAWRENCE

At the Madrid premiere of *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 2*.

PHOTO BY GETTY

DAKOTA JOHNSON

In Tokyo for the opening of the Michael Kors Ginza Flagship Store.

PHOTO BY KOKI NAGAHAMA/GETTY

NAOMIE HARRIS

In Berlin for the German premiere of *SPECTRE*.

PHOTO BY ANITA BUGGE/GETTY



**EDDIE
REDMAYNE**

At the L.A. premiere of
The Danish Girl.

PHOTO BY JON KOPALOFF/GETTY



**ROONEY
MARA**

In L.A. for the Academy of
Motion Picture Arts and
Sciences' Governors Awards.

PHOTO BY ARAYA DIAZ/GETTY



**MICHAEL B.
JORDAN**

In L.A. for *Creed's* premiere.

PHOTO BY JASON LAVERIS/GETTY

IN THEATRES

JANUARY 8

THE REVENANT

A revenant is a person or ghost that comes back from the dead to terrorize the living, which is exactly what **Leonardo DiCaprio** does in director **Alejandro González Iñárritu**'s unrelenting Western. Set in 1823 and loosely based on real events, DiCaprio plays fur trapper Hugh Glass, who is mauled by a bear. His compatriots (**Tom Hardy**, **Will Poulter**) leave Glass to die, and one of them murders his son (**Forrest Goodluck**). However, Glass pulls through and treks through the winter wilderness to take revenge. See **Will Poulter** interview, [page 30](#).



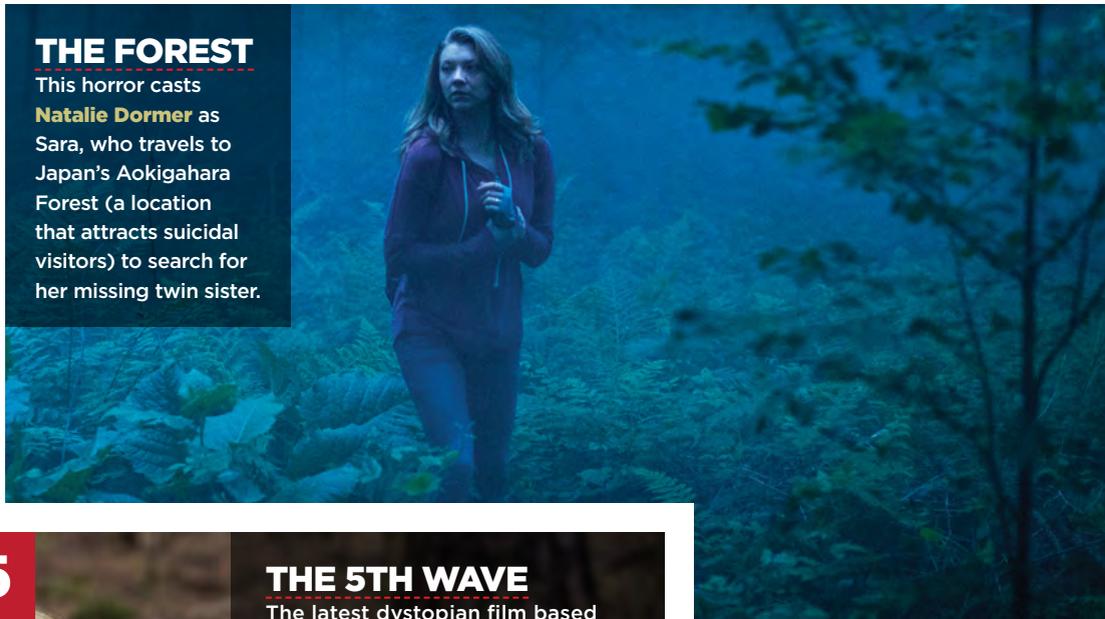
ANOMALISA

Critics are raving about directors **Charlie Kaufman** and **Duke Johnson**'s contemplative stop-motion animated film that features puppets created with 3D printers. The story finds depressed inspirational speaker Michael (**David Thewlis**) instantly falling for Lisa (**Jennifer Jason Leigh**), a non-descript woman he meets at a hotel. The two strangers make an intimate connection, but can it last?

THE FOREST

This horror casts

Natalie Dormer as Sara, who travels to Japan's Aokigahara Forest (a location that attracts suicidal visitors) to search for her missing twin sister.



JANUARY 15

THE 5TH WAVE

The latest dystopian film based on a Young Adult book trilogy and featuring a female lead casts **Chloë Grace Moretz** as 16-year-old hero Cassie Sullivan, a survivor of an alien takeover. "The Others" have nearly wiped out the human population, destroyed the planet's infrastructure and are undetectable as they are disguised as humans. Cassie, looking for her lost brother, joins a band of rebels fighting the invaders.

NORM OF THE NORTH

A polar bear named Norm (**Rob Schneider**) is shocked to learn a real estate developer (**Ken Jeong**) plans to build condos in his Arctic home. The polar animals then send Norm and three lemmings to New York to stop to the plan.

CONTINUED ▶



LEAVE TONIGHT
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JANUARY 15



▶ **RIDE ALONG 2**

This sequel to the 2014 hit comedy finds Ben (Kevin Hart) and James (Ice Cube) working as partners in the Atlanta police force. Ben is set to marry James' sister (Tika Sumpter), but before he says "I do" he and James head to Miami to bust a drug dealer (Benjamin Bratt) who's been flooding Atlanta with his product.

13 HOURS: THE SECRET SOLDIERS OF BENGHAZI

Transformers' director Michael Bay puts his explosive filmmaking style to good use in this recounting of the 2012 mission to rescue American diplomats under attack in Benghazi, Libya. Six military-trained security contractors — played by John Krasinski, Max Martini, Pablo Schreiber, James Badge Dale, Dominic Fumusa and David Denman — go above and beyond their job descriptions to enact the rescue. See Pablo Schreiber interview, page 36.

JANUARY 22



DIRTY GRANDPA

Soon-to-be-wed Jason Kelly (Zac Efron) and his widowed grandfather (Robert De Niro) drive down to Spring Break in Florida where grandpa lets his freak flag fly.

THE MASKED SAINT

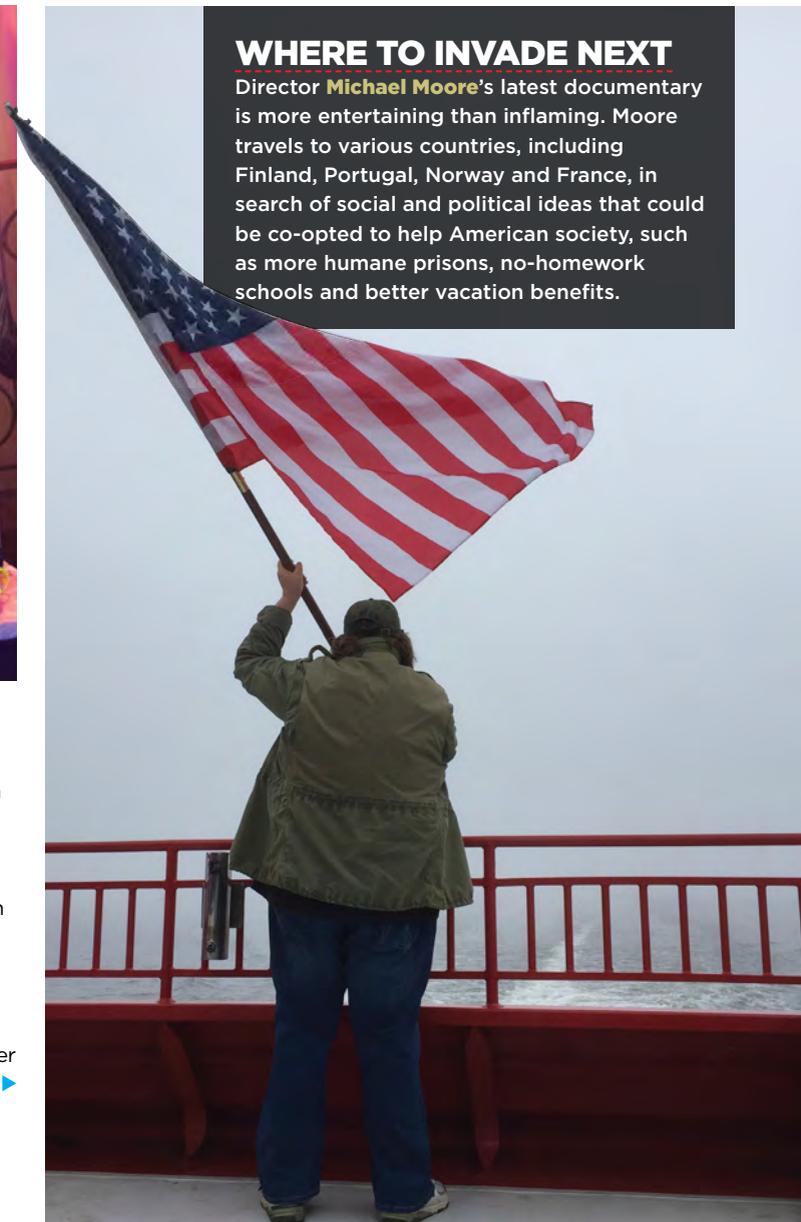
Former wrestler Chris Whaley (Brett Granstaff) leaves the ring to become a small town pastor. However, witnessing crime in his community he dons a mask and becomes a vigilante, hiding his identity from his wife (Lara Jean Chorostecki) and daughter. See Lara Jean Chorostecki interview, page 14.

THE BOY

Lauren Cohan, who plays Maggie on TV's zombie drama *The Walking Dead*, has her first starring movie role in this British Columbia-shot horror flick. Cohan plays an American nanny hired to take care of an English boy. Fair enough. But when she meets the boy, she realizes he's actually a creepy life-sized doll. It just gets scarier from there. CONTINUED ▶

WHERE TO INVADE NEXT

Director Michael Moore's latest documentary is more entertaining than inflaming. Moore travels to various countries, including Finland, Portugal, Norway and France, in search of social and political ideas that could be co-opted to help American society, such as more humane prisons, no-homework schools and better vacation benefits.





THE
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Maggie Smith and Alex Jennings in *The Lady in the Van*

▶ **THE LADY IN THE VAN**

Based on a true story, this British dramedy stars **Alex Jennings** as British playwright Alan Bennett, who befriends Mary Shepherd (**Maggie Smith**), a woman living in her van. Bennett graciously allows her to park the van in the driveway of his London home, not realizing the curmudgeonly Mary would stay for the next 15 years.

FIFTY SHADES OF BLACK

Fifty Shades of Grey gets the parody treatment in this comedy starring **Marlon Wayans** as kinky businessman Christian Black, who falls for the naïve Hannah (**Kali Hawk**). Co-starring **Jane Seymour**, **Fred Willard** and **Mike Epps**.



The Finest Hours' Chris Pine

THE FINEST HOURS

It's winter 1952 and a massive storm damages an oil tanker off the coast of Cape Cod. An inexperienced U.S. Coast Guard crew — led by Bernard C. Webber (**Chris Pine**) — embarks on a dangerous mission to rescue more than 30 men trapped in the sinking vessel. The film is based on the real-life rescue operation chronicled in the book of the same name.



KUNG FU PANDA 3

Kung Fu-loving panda Po (**Jack Black**) reconnects with his long-lost father Li (**Bryan Cranston**). They travel to a panda retreat, but while they are getting to know one another the villain Kai (**J.K. Simmons**) attacks the land, meaning Po must train his fellow pandas to fight back.

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THE STAR WARS UNIVERSE EXPANDS

BY MARNI WEISZ

By this point, you've probably already seen *Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens*, the first film of the *Star Wars* Sequel Trilogy (three films that follow *Return of the Jedi*), and are waiting for the crowds to die down so you can see it again. And, maybe, again.

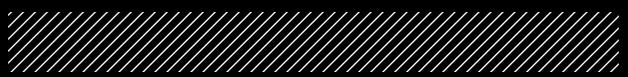
But after Luke, Leia, Han, Rey, Finn and Poe have vacated theatres for good, *Star Wars* fans will start to wonder, 'What's next?'

Most have a rough idea that *The Force Awakens* is just the first volley in a franchise revival plan that blasted off the day The Walt Disney Company bought George Lucas's Lucasfilm back in 2012.

But can even the most avid *Star Wars* fan tell you the precise name of the franchise's next film, or which two of the universe's characters are about to get spinoff flicks of their own?

Read on and all will be revealed. Or at least all that can be revealed, considering the top-secret nature of the most influential film franchise in movie history.

CONTINUED ►



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Felicity Jones (centre) in *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*

▶ Next Up...

ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY

RELEASE DATE: DECEMBER 16, 2016

The next *Star Wars* film to hit theatres is the first of three stand-alone movies that have been referred to collectively as the “*Star Wars* Anthology” series.

The film takes place before *Star Wars: Episode IV – A New Hope* (the 1977 film you may know simply as *Star Wars*).

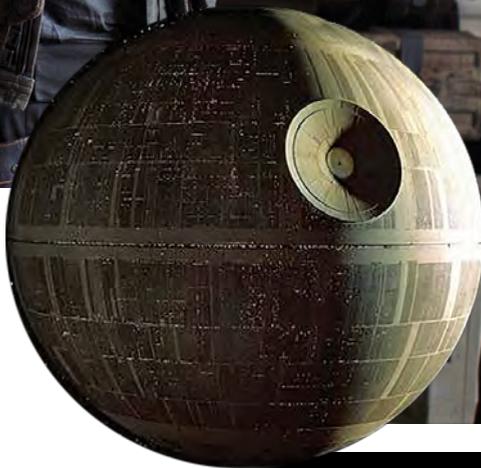
It stars Felicity Jones (a recent Oscar nominee for *The Theory of Everything*), Alan Tudyk, Forest Whitaker, Diego Luna and Mads Mikkelsen in a story about a group of rebels who try to steal the plans for the Death Star. Could those be the same plans that Princess Leia hides in R2-D2’s digital memory before sending the little droid off to find Obi-Wan Kenobi?

That story is based on an idea by long-time Industrial Light & Magic effects honcho John Knoll and the first draft was penned by Gary Whitta, who’s best known for the pretty good *The Book of Eli*, and the pretty bad *After Earth*. The script was then polished up by Chris Weitz (*About a Boy*, *Cinderella*) and filming got underway this past summer with Gareth Edwards (*Godzilla*) at the helm.

While producer Kathleen Kennedy has said we shouldn’t expect to see characters from the trilogies cross over into the stand-alone films, rumours persist that the reanimated likeness of the late Peter Cushing may show up in *Rogue One* as the evil Grand Moff Tarkin from *A New Hope*.

Plus, a teaser trailer shown at Star Wars Celebration last April (before filming began) combined the late Alec Guinness’s voice from Obi-Wan’s speech to Luke in *A New Hope* — “For more than a thousand generations, the Jedi Knights were the guardians of peace and justice in the Old Republic, before the dark times, before the Empire” — with an aerial shot of a Tie Fighter sailing over an unknown planet as the Death Star looms large in the sky.

So there’s that...



Then...

STAR WARS: EPISODE VIII

RELEASE DATE:

MAY 26, 2017

Nearly a year and a half from now we pick up where *The Force Awakens* leaves off with the still-untitled second film of the Sequel Trilogy.

Writer-director J.J. Abrams steps away to make room for writer-director Rian Johnson (*Brick*, *The Brothers Bloom*, *Looper*).

Though no plot is available, shooting has begun at Skellig Michael, an Irish island also used for *The Force Awakens*, and (SPOILER ALERT) reports are Mark Hamill has been seen on or near the set.

We know Benicio Del Toro will have a role, but he’s been coy about what that role will be. While at the Toronto International Film Festival to promote



PHOTO BY GETTY

Benicio Del Toro



PHOTO BY GETTY

Skellig Michael

Sicario, the actor told *Entertainment Tonight* that reports he plays the villain aren’t entirely accurate.

“I don’t know if he’s a villain. People are saying that, but it’s like they read a different script than I read,” he said. “It’s nice to keep people in the dark, a little bit of mystery is good. If they want to believe it’s the villain, then good.” **CONTINUED ▶**

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Harrison Ford as Han Solo
INSET: We nominate Anthony Ingruber for the prequel role



▶ **After That It's...**

UNTITLED HAN SOLO STAR WARS ANTHOLOGY FILM

RELEASE DATE: MAY 25, 2018

This prequel delves into the life of the young Han Solo before he met up with Luke and Leia.

Solo has yet to be cast, but it being a prequel set before *A New Hope* we don't expect to see Harrison Ford in the role. May we recommend Anthony Ingruber, the actor/Harrison Ford impersonator who lived in Canada for several years and played the younger version of Ford in last year's *The Age of Adaline*?

The film will be directed by the duo behind *The LEGO Movie*, Phil Lord and Christopher Miller, and written by another duo, the father and son team of Lawrence and Jon Kasdan. Dad Lawrence co-penned *The Empire Strikes Back*, *Return of the Jedi* and *The Force Awakens* – so he knows his Jabba the Hutt from his Boba Fett.

Don't Forget The Parks!

Here's the concept art for the new *Star Wars* lands that are coming to California's Disneyland and Florida's Disney World. Each is expected to span about 14 acres and include a ride that puts you in the middle of a battle between the First Order and the Resistance. When will they open? That's as big a mystery as the plot of *Star Wars IX*, but don't start researching hotels and airfare for a few years.



Daisy Ridley, seen here in *The Force Awakens*, is expected to return

Are You Still With Us?

STAR WARS: EPISODE IX

RELEASE DATE: 2019

Back to the Sequel Trilogy!

This time it's writer-director Rian Johnson's turn to give up the director's reins, though he does remain as writer. Director Colin Trevorrow, whose huge moneymaker *Jurassic World* was just his second feature film, steps behind the camera to shoot Johnson's script, the storyline of which remains a mystery.

We know... The details are getting as thin as the atmosphere around, um, well, is there a planet with a thin atmosphere in the *Star Wars* universe? No one ever wears a space suit.



Boba Fett

And Finally...

UNTITLED BOBA FETT ANTHOLOGY FILM

RELEASE DATE: 2020, MAYBE?

Originally, this film about the origins of bounty hunter Boba Fett was set to come out before the Han Solo film. But things got muddled when its director, Josh Trank, lost the job amid negative reports from the set of his ultimately doomed *Fantastic Four* movie.

The film will probably still be made, but don't expect to see it in theatres before 2020.





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THE REVENANT
HITS THEATRES
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What was the most physically uncomfortable moment for you on set?

“Umm, being submerged under water, getting dunked.”

How cold was the water?

“I don’t know the exact temperature, but it was unreal. There was a genuine danger of hypothermia. All the right safety precautions were taken, obviously, but it was incredibly cold and we did it so many times. I almost froze up in that moment. When you start feeling your brain struggling to compute what’s going on because you are so cold, that’s an uncomfortable moment.”

Is there a line you straddle where you don’t complain, you want to be a team player, but you also have to look out for your own well-being?

“Yes. Absolutely. On this job there really needed to be a team ethos, there needed to be camaraderie, because the shots were so ambitious. We were using natural light, we were shooting on location and takes were

often so, so long that it relied on everyone being really on it, making sure all our moves were choreographed and in synch before we filmed. But you don’t want to be that guy who’s like, ‘Umm, hold on, I’m a little cold.’ You don’t want to shut down this kind of circus, this theatrical production that we went through every single day.”

Why do you think Alejandro chose you to play Bridger?

“I don’t know, I obviously asked myself that question when I got the role and I probably asked myself that question a few times on set. Alejandro said to me that the reason he chose any of us is that he’s interested in what’s in an actor’s eyes, and he looks into their eyes searching for emotional baggage that you can use, draw on, and turn to in order to create the character, especially in those tougher moments. That’s what he said, so I guess he saw some emotional baggage in me.”

Did making this film whet your appetite for the outdoors, or do the opposite?

“I have to be honest, after shooting this movie I was very excited about being indoors. But, yes, I think it did enhance my appreciation for nature. I think actually watching the film on the big screen makes me appreciate nature a lot more.”

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine.

STRONG WILL

Freezing temperatures. Punishing conditions. Wrenching story. **Will Poulter** talks about shooting *The Revenant* in the Canadian wilderness ■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

Will Poulter spent eight grueling months — mostly in Alberta and British Columbia — shooting director Alejandro González Iñárritu’s violent, stunning epic *The Revenant*.

The British-born actor, who turns 23 this month, plays fur trapper Jim Bridger, a man haunted by the decision made by the callous John Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy) to leave wilderness guide Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) to die after he’s been mauled by a bear. Yet Glass survives, and sets out on an arduous journey to seek revenge.

We caught up with Poulter in Toronto where he spoke about making the film.

Q: You were told to expect harsh conditions, but were you surprised by just how difficult it was?

“There really was no preparing myself for just how cold or how brutal the weather was. I had never experienced anything like it. But the weather is

an integral part of the film; it’s almost a character in the film itself. It wasn’t about fighting against the weather, it was about collaborating with it as best we could.”



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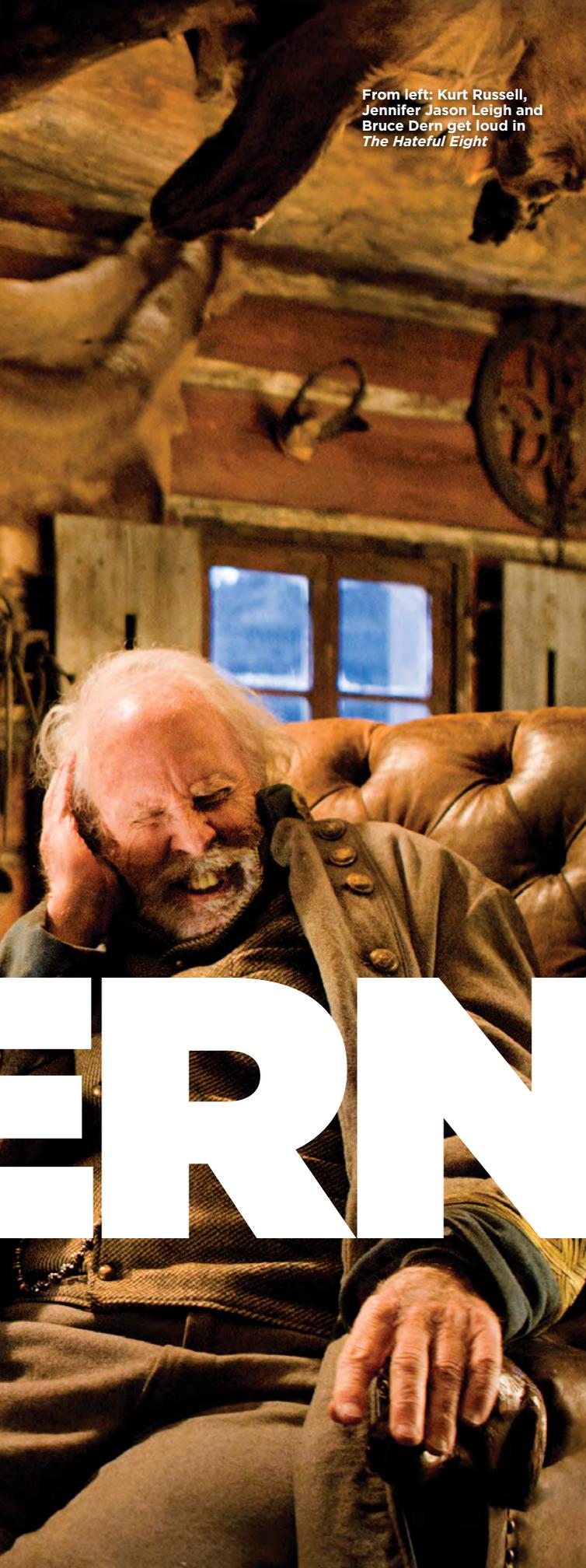


Go to CINEPLEX.COM/HATEFULEIGHTVIDEO
for interviews with the cast

WESTERN MAN

Quentin Tarantino knew exactly what he was doing when he cast **Kurt Russell** as a grizzled bounty hunter in his Old West tale *The Hateful Eight*. The 64-year-old actor has been drawn to Westerns since he was knee-high to a grasshopper

BY BOB STRAUSS



From left: Kurt Russell, Jennifer Jason Leigh and Bruce Dern get loud in *The Hateful Eight*

THE HATEFUL EIGHT OPENS WIDE JANUARY 8TH

ERN

Kurt Russell can barely hide his glee, so he doesn't really try. The veteran actor (he's been working 53 of his 64 years on Earth) not only got to make two movies in his beloved Western genre back-to-back, *Bone Tomahawk* and *The Hateful Eight*, but the latter was written and directed by his friend Quentin Tarantino. They'd previously worked together on 2007's *Death Proof*.

"My Western experiences go way back," Russell recalls via phone. "My first television series was *The Travels of Jaimie McPheeters* in 1963/64, and then *The Quest* in the '70s. Then *Tombstone*." He played legendary lawman Wyatt Earp in that 1993 movie.

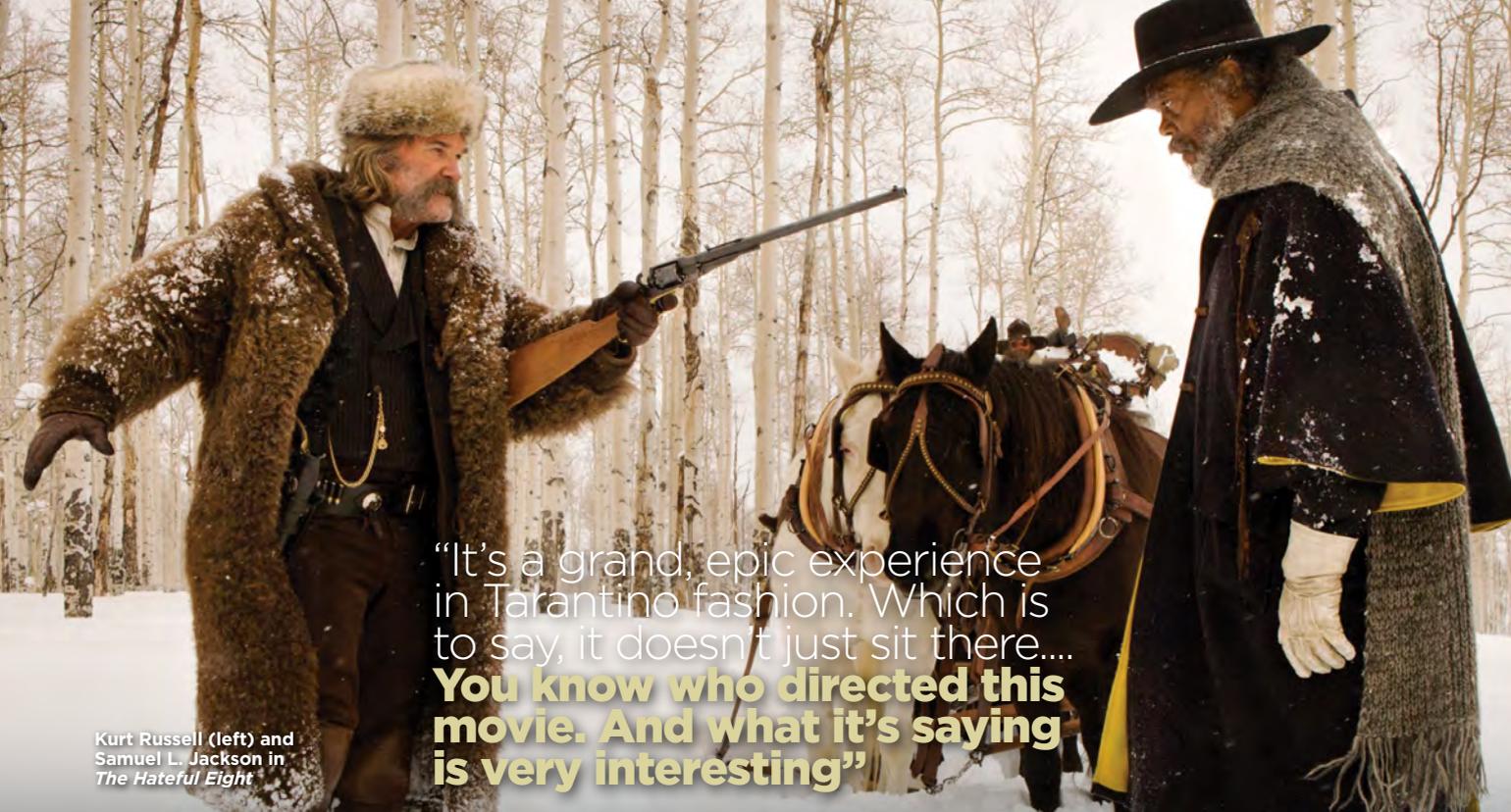
"There's something about Westerns that makes me feel very comfortable in them," says Russell, who has also worked in every type of drama, comedy and other genre Hollywood's dreamed up. "I feel comfortable in that era, there's no question about that. I like what it is, I like the things you get to do. I like the travel aspect of it, man and horse. The relationship between men and women. The thing that stands out for me, I suppose, is the difference in the aspects, culturally and socially, of men today and men just 120 years ago. It's incredible how different we look at life and how we behave.

"Boy, I'll tell ya, political correctness was not part of the daily routine back then," adds the actor who plays bounty hunter John Ruth in *The Hateful Eight*. "I love this one line that Jennifer Jason Leigh says about my character when approached by Tim Roth. He says, 'Yes, I think we were a little too polite to point that out.' She points at me and says, 'He don't have that problem.' It's a guilty pleasure."

Set in Wyoming not long after the U.S. Civil War, *The Hateful Eight* strands Ruth and his prisoner, Leigh's Daisy Domergue, at a snowed-in stagecoach stop with six other, well, dislikable hombres played by Roth, Samuel L. Jackson, Michael Madsen, Bruce Dern, Demian Bichir and Walton Goggins. The film not only gave Russell the opportunity to behave incorrectly and mess with horses, hats and vintage weapons, but to grow out the handlebars he'd started for *Bone Tomahawk* to truly Cinemascope proportions.

Which was appropriate not just for the character, but for the fact that Tarantino and cinematographer Robert Richardson shot *The Hateful Eight* in glorious widescreen Ultra Panavision 70, a photochemical film technology not used since around the time Russell was a boy on *Jaimie McPheeters*.

The film recalls the 1960s height of grand, antiheroic movie Westerns like Sam Peckinpah's *The Wild Bunch* and Sergio Leone's cynical, striking Italian films, and the genre's zenith of television popularity (Russell appeared in episodes of *Gunslinger* and *Daniel Boone* too). **CONTINUED ▶**



Kurt Russell (left) and Samuel L. Jackson in *The Hateful Eight*

“It’s a grand, epic experience in Tarantino fashion. Which is to say, it doesn’t just sit there....
You know who directed this movie. And what it’s saying is very interesting””

► It’s not an attempt to revive any of that, though.

“It’s a straightforward Western,” Russell reports. “It pays some tribute to the fabulous Sergio Leone style of Spaghetti Westerns. It pays respect to the ’50s, ’60s and ’70s TV Westerns. It pays tribute to old Westerns, it pays tribute to some revisionist aspects of it. But what’s interesting about it is it’s very much Quentin Tarantino’s Western. It’s not a hybrid of sorts, like *Django Unchained* is, I think, very connected to Blaxploitation. This is a straightforward, sit down, take your time and get into the 70 mm experience. Y’know, that stagecoach is gonna go from the left side of the screen all the way to the right side of the screen. And my mustache is gonna go all the way from the left side of the screen to the right side of the screen!”

It almost didn’t happen. When an early draft of his screenplay leaked online at a time when only a few potential cast members had had a chance to read it, Tarantino swore he would never make the movie. Not long after, though, he staged a live reading of the script with volunteer actors at a trendy, downtown Los Angeles movie palace. It was all good luck for Russell.

“Quentin and I hadn’t worked [together] since 2007,” he notes. “He called up in the spring of 2014 and wanted to do a reading of the script and wondered if I would do that. I said, ‘Yeah, I’d love to, I’d love to just hang with you for a little while.’ The next thing I knew, we were going to do it in front of an audience, then we did it in front of 1,200 people. I realized he was watching that, watching how it was playing for an audience.

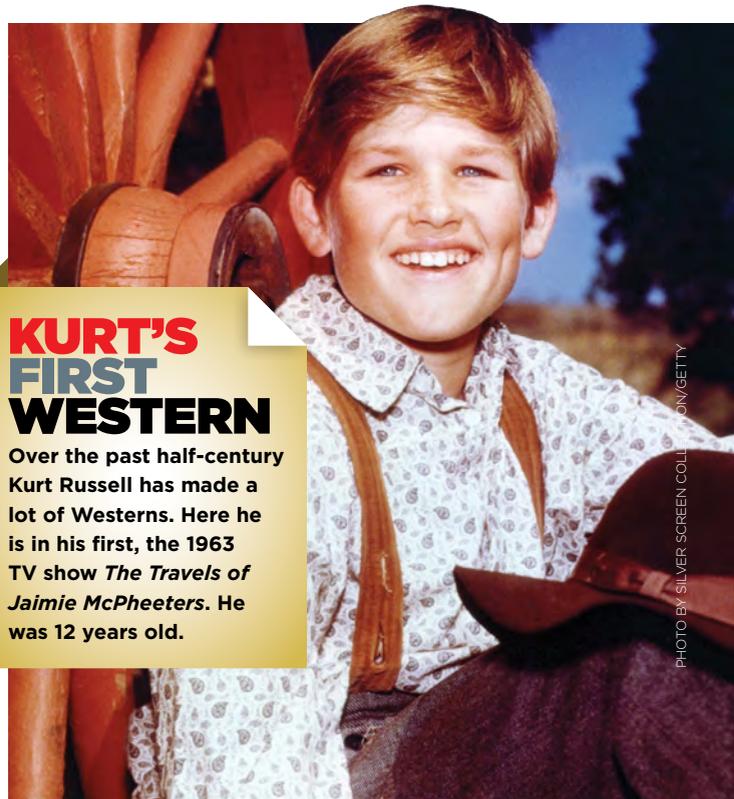
“Then he changed it a lot, he had a lot of rewriting to do. I didn’t know if he was going to make the movie or not, but then he called up later on and said, ‘Yep, let’s make the movie.’”

The production still had problems, though. Lack of snow near its Telluride, Colorado, locations caused a weeks-long start delay last winter and disrupted the subsequent shooting schedule. And speaking of speech that’s perceived to be politically incorrect, the film is now being boycotted by many American police organizations following Tarantino’s appearance at a New York protest in October where he made remarks criticizing the police killings of unarmed suspects.

People who like Tarantino movies, of course, appreciate them for his words and the other writerly qualities he brings to them. Russell says that if anything makes *The Hateful Eight* stand out from other Westerns, it will be the filmmaker’s singular approach.

“It is a grand, epic experience in Tarantino fashion,” Russell says. “Which is to say, it doesn’t just sit there. It plays with time, it plays with things you learn about the characters as time goes down, and it is kind of a mystery. Who did what and why, and who’s who? When you watch it, you know who directed this movie. And what it’s saying is very interesting.”

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



KURT'S FIRST WESTERN

Over the past half-century Kurt Russell has made a lot of Westerns. Here he is in his first, the 1963 TV show *The Travels of Jaimie McPheeters*. He was 12 years old.

PHOTO BY SILVER SCREEN COLLECTION/GETTY

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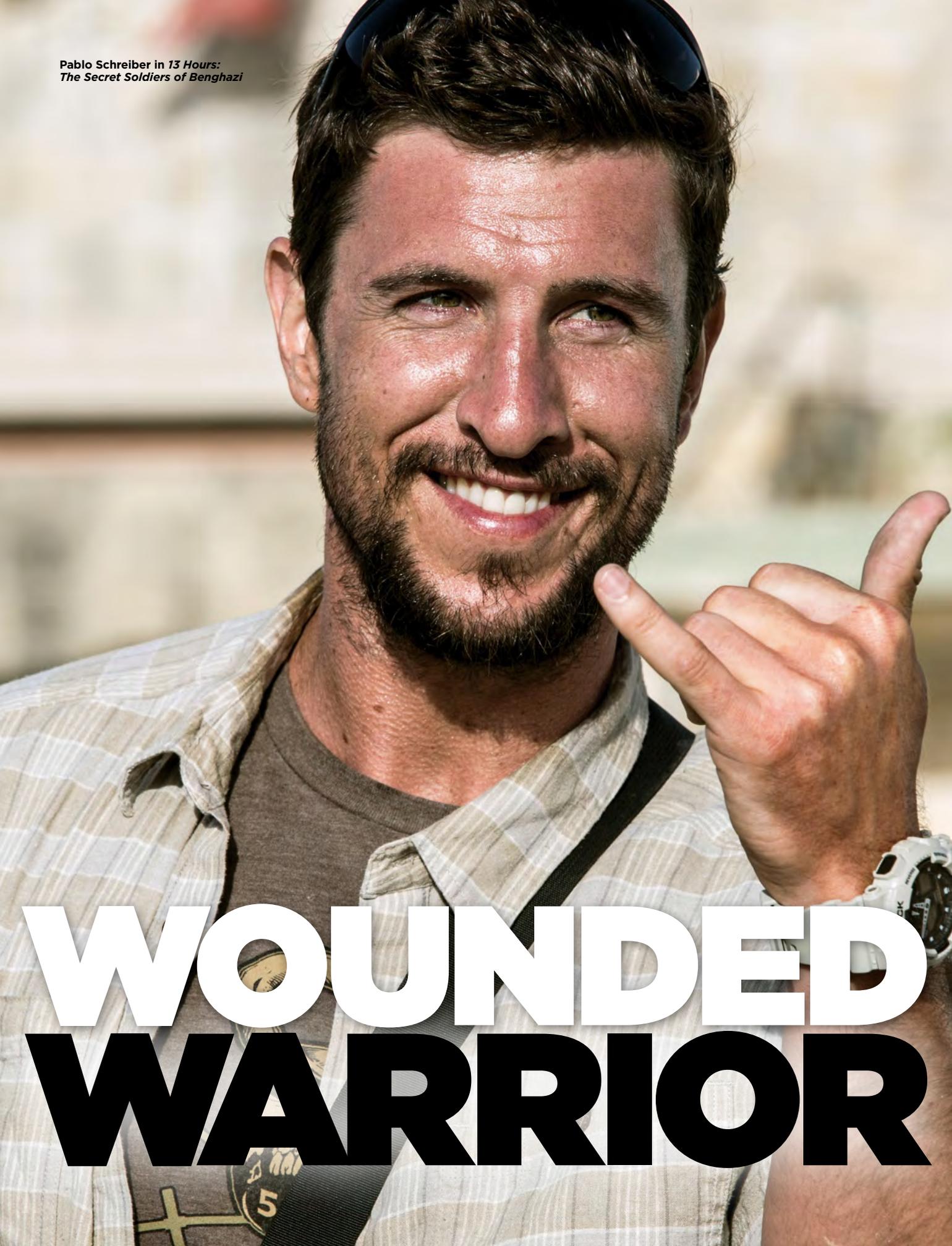


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Pablo Schreiber in *13 Hours:
The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi*



WOUNDED WARRIOR

13 HOURS: THE SECRET SOLDIERS OF BENGHAZI

HITS THEATRES JANUARY 15TH



Pablo Schreiber was, quite literally, broken and torn while making *13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi*. But for the Canadian-born actor, telling this story was worth it ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

Pablo Schreiber is driving home from his physiotherapy appointment in Encino, California, when he calls from a dying cell-phone that might not last the trip.

He's still recovering from a back injury sustained eight months earlier while he was bulking up to play an Army Ranger turned security operative in director Michael Bay's *13 Hours: The Secret Soldiers of Benghazi*.

"I was having to lift a lot of weight and eat a lot of food and I ended up injuring my back by doing some dead lifts that I won't ever do again," says Schreiber, who was born in British Columbia and lived under the shadow of the Rockies until age 12.

Many will recognize the 37-year-old as *Orange Is the New Black*'s merciless prison guard George "Pornstache" Mendez, who's now rotting away in his own prison cell after getting a prisoner pregnant. (He didn't really, but that's another story.) Schreiber's list of credits, however, is long and varied, including stints on binge-worthy TV shows *The Wire*, *Weeds* and *Law & Order: Special Victims Unit*. He also earned a Tony nomination for his part in the Broadway production of *Awake and Sing!*

Pablo (who is not Latin; his folks were just Pablo Neruda fans) is the younger half-brother of actor Liev Schreiber. They have the same father but grew up thousands of miles apart — Pablo in Winlaw, B.C., and then Seattle, and Liev mostly in New York. "Liev and I didn't meet until I was 16," he says.

The younger Schreiber gets back to B.C. every couple of years to see his mom, a therapist who operates an Airbnb in Vancouver, and a brother in Kelowna.

This month he plays Kris "Tanto" Paronto in *13 Hours*, which was shot in Malta (standing in for Libya) last year. Paronto was a member of the Global Response Staff — former elite soldiers handpicked to protect the CIA and others in dangerous parts of the world — that sprang into action when the American diplomatic compound in Benghazi was attacked in 2012.

"They spent 13 hours in gruelling battle defending against this attack," says Schreiber. "I think one thing that's particular to this story is the confusion that they faced because they're in Libya, they're in Benghazi, they've been invited by the Libyan government to be there...but there's a real sense of confusion about not knowing who your friends are."

Schreiber insists the movie is not political, and says he doesn't have much time for the Benghazi hearings that have stretched on and on. "What's happening now with the Benghazi stuff is it's being used by the right to crucify Hilary [Clinton, Secretary of State at the time of the attack], who I have no personal feelings about, good or bad, but it's so nakedly partisan."

It must have been agonizing to film this movie with that bad back.

"Yeah, I wish the legacy of physical injury ended there," says Schreiber, "but I also tore my MCL [a knee ligament] while I was there and I fell off a pickup truck and broke my wrist."

What? How?

"I tore my MCL jumping off a cliff. Malta is this beautiful island in the Mediterranean and there's all these amazing locations where you can go cliff jumping and I jumped off a really high cliff and I wasn't, apparently, prepared to land safely," he says.

The broken wrist came a couple days later while Schreiber was shooting a scene where he had to climb into the back of a pickup truck.

"I was trying to hide the MCL injury from Michael Bay," he says, laughing, "and so instead of climbing into the back of the pickup truck, which I physically *couldn't* do, I suggested that I just hop on the back of the pickup truck which had its back down and open."

On the first take the driver gunned the engine and Schreiber went flying off the back, breaking his wrist. But doctors couldn't cast it because a broken wrist was not part of Kris Paronto's story.

"Luckily, I was scheduled to come back to L.A. for a weekend for the premiere of *The Brink*, a TV show that I was doing. While I was in L.A. they sent me to a specialist who had a hard-shell brace made that they then painted skin tone. I wore that for the rest of the film and apparently they took it out in post."

Schreiber spent a fair bit of time with the real Kris Paronto before filming, learning his story and even going to a shooting range with the vet. Then, after the film wrapped, Schreiber and his two sons stopped by Paronto's place in Nebraska during one of their many cross-country road trips. They set up their pop-up camper on Paronto's property, because that's just how this big celeb from Winlaw, B.C., rolls.

"I was raised on 11 acres in a town of 300 so I always say my best friends when I was growing up were trees," he says.

As for the rest of Schreiber's 2016, the big question is, will Pornstache be back for Season Four of *Orange Is the New Black*?

"Umm, I'm not allowed to tell you that," he says as his phone conveniently starts to cut out.

But through cracks and hisses, with his few remaining seconds of connectivity, Schreiber does offer, "Obviously he's a character that did a lot for me and I had a real affinity for. He'll live in my heart forever." ■

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.



For a peek at some of
2016's hottest films go to
CINEPLEX.COM/2016BESTVIDEO



2016 MOVIE

PREVIEW

It's going to be another *super* year as massive superhero (and supervillain) movies bring drama, battles and adventure to theatres on a ginormous scale. But there's still room for zany comedies, family films and sci-fi. Here's just a tiny taste of the year's big offerings ■ BY BOB STRAUSS AND INGRID RANDOJA



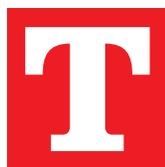
Adversaries Batman (Ben Affleck, left) and Superman (Henry Cavill) square off in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*



Jesse Eisenberg as Lex Luthor

Superhero Smackdown!

BATMAN V SUPERMAN: DAWN OF JUSTICE



he most recent Superman reboot, 2013's *Man of Steel*, had its share of critics. Including, apparently, DC Comics' other superstar, Batman.

The sequel coming in March, *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, pits a very angry Dark Knight, played this time by **Ben Affleck**, against *MoS's* **Henry Cavill** over conflicting philosophies re: world-saving collateral damage (a theme shared with rival Marvel's *Captain America: Civil War*). The *Dawn of Justice* part of the title references the movie's introduction of Wonder Woman (**Gal Gadot**) and perhaps other future members of the Justice League of America, DC's answer to Marvel's Avengers. *Man of Steel* and *Batman v Superman* helmer **Zack Snyder** is already working on two upcoming Justice League movies.

Cavill is good-natured about his first Superman movie's lukewarm reviews as he reveals what little he's allowed to about the expansive second chapter.

"The reception of my first Superman movie, from what I've read, was fairly mixed," the English actor says via phone from New York. "Everyone I've spoken to enjoyed the movie, but [not] unlike if you're going to meet a stranger in the street, they're not going to badmouth you to your face. There's no intentional move, I don't think, in *Batman v. Superman* to address any issues that people had with *Man of Steel*. It's just a continuation of that storyline and they continue to develop that world and introduce new characters."

Cavill adds that, perhaps more than world-building, he's excited to explore new aspects of his brooding, conflicted, Earth-saving alien.

"I think maybe people may look down on some popular-culture stuff, but they're actually very complicated and interesting characters," he says. "Superman especially, he's just wonderfully rich and one of those things, for me, that's just enjoyable to play. There's so far you can go with it; if you really, really delve deep into the character, there's so much you can do. It's just about exploring it within the vehicles and finding what you want to do. He's going to have some very interesting character development in this one." —BOB STRAUSS

CONTINUED ►

Opens
MARCH 25

Opens
FEBRUARY 5

George Clooney
in *Hail, Caesar!*

Coens + Comedy

HAIL, CAESAR!

In a year when all-star casts are lining up to play superheroes and supervillians, the **Coen Brothers** assemble their own cast of big stars for one of their typically screwy comedies. Set in 1950s Hollywood, the pic stars **Josh Brolin** as a movie studio fixer who receives word that the studio's biggest star, Baird Whitlock (**George Clooney**), has been kidnapped from the set of his swords-and-sandals epic. **Scarlett Johansson, Tilda Swinton, Channing Tatum, Ralph Fiennes, Jonah Hill** and **Frances McDormand** pop up as various Hollywood types who get mixed up in the action.

Opens
NOVEMBER 18

Eddie Redmayne
as Newt Scamander

Redmayne Meets Rowling

FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM

We knew we weren't going to get another Harry Potter pic, but Potter originator **J.K. Rowling** did us the huge favour of blasting open the Potterverse by writing an all-new tale set 70 years before the Potter stories. We can't think of a better actor than British Oscar-winner **Eddie Redmayne** to play wizard, writer and beast wrangler **Newt Scamander**, who heads to New York City to mingle with the Yankee magical community.



From left: Jennifer Lawrence,
Rose Byrne, James McAvoy
and Lucas Till

Opens
MAY 27

Apocalypse Now

X-MEN: APOCALYPSE

Director **Bryan Singer** brings his stylish *X-Men* origins trilogy to an epic conclusion. Finally, a terrifying villain worthy of the X-Men's attention: Apocalypse (**Oscar Isaac**), the world's first — and most powerful — mutant. The cosmically enhanced baddie calls on Magneto (**Michael Fassbender**) to help him cleanse the Earth of its inferior beings, leaving Charles Xavier (**James McAvoy**), Raven (**Jennifer Lawrence**) and a team of young mutants to stop him.

Choosing Sides

CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR

A

t the conclusion of last year's *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, the superhero group's members scattered amid complaints about how much of the world they tore up while saving it.

That conundrum comes home to roost this May in *Captain America: Civil War*.

Chris Evans' Cap leads an independence-minded group of Avengers against heroes aligned with his former colleague Tony Stark/Iron Man (**Robert Downey Jr.**), who believes some regulation and oversight of super-activities is in order.

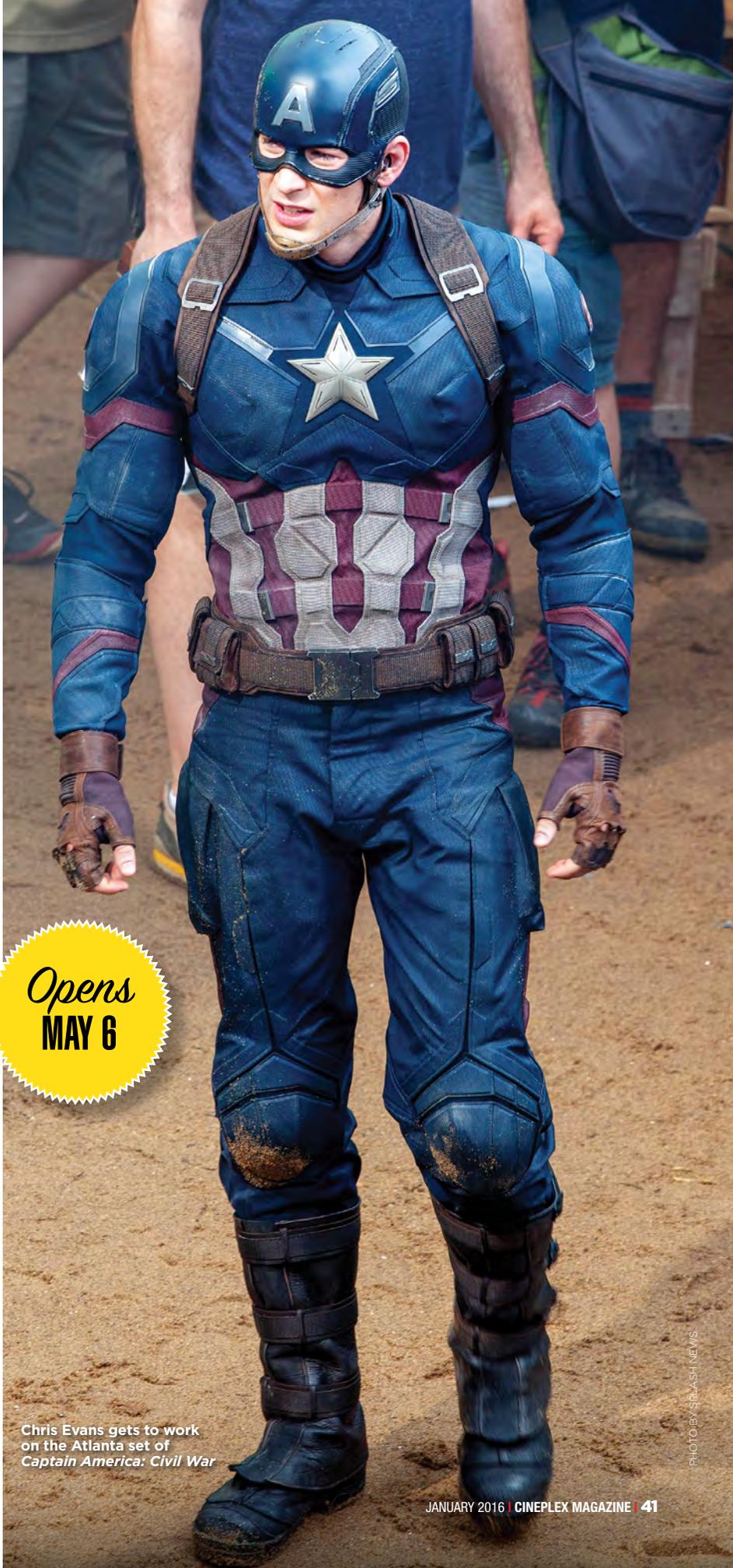
Scarlett Johansson's Black Widow, **Elizabeth Olsen's** Scarlet Witch, **Paul Rudd's** Ant-Man, **Paul Bettany's** Vision, **Jeremy Renner's** Hawkeye, **Sebastian Stan's** Winter Soldier, **Anthony Mackie's** Falcon and **Don Cheadle's** War Machine are among those choosing sides. The film will also introduce **Chadwick Boseman's** Black Panther and **Tom Holland's** Spider-Man to the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

"There's a great parallel that they draw between my character and Tony Stark," says Evans, whose Cap alter ego Steve Rogers is a World War II-generation patriot resuscitated in our time. "It's something we can all relate to in terms of how we perceive our own society and culture, in terms of what is best for people. You can go right down to Democrat and Republican; everyone has a different opinion of what's best.

"You have this team of people who are destroying every city they go to, but they're saving the world," Evans adds regarding *Civil War*, which is based on a 2006 comic book crossover series and directed by **Anthony and Joe Russo**. They made the previous Cap sequel, *The Winter Soldier*, which many critics consider Marvel's best movie. "So it's a matter of, do we monitor these people or do we let them monitor themselves? The beautiful thing with *Civil War* is that no one's right and no one's wrong; it's just your personal opinion.

"We're going to have a nice evolution where you have a guy like Cap, who grew up with structure — he was a soldier and he liked hierarchy, he liked the chain of command. Now, all of a sudden, you have a guy who used to love the system not so sure about trusting it. And a guy like Tony Stark, who used to buck the system and dance to the beat of his own drum all of a sudden thinking, maybe we need some order." —BOB STRAUSS

CONTINUED ▶



Opens
MAY 6

Chris Evans gets to work on the Atlanta set of *Captain America: Civil War*

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

Opens
AUGUST 5



Margot Robbie (in pigtails) at the centre of *Suicide Squad*'s class photo

So Bad They're Good

► SUICIDE SQUAD

Suicide Squad, the big DC Comics' supervillain mashup movie coming out in August, features a number of infamous bad guys sprung from prison under the condition they perform life-threatening covert missions. Such renowned antagonists as *Batman*'s Joker (played this time by Oscar winner **Jared Leto**), Killer Croc (**Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje**) and Deadshot (**Will Smith**), *The Flash*'s Boomerang (**Jai Courtney**), *Justice League* nemesis Enchantress (**Cara Delevingne**), as well as El Diablo (**Jay Hernandez**) and Slipknot (**Adam Beach**), make up this dangerous crew.

But the *Suicide Squad* character making the biggest impression in teaser trailers is Harley Quinn, another Bat-favourite. Played by Australian beauty **Margot Robbie** as a baseball bat-wielding psycho with smudged eye makeup, the former psychologist (and Joker's sometimes lover) looks like a breakout role for the scene-stealer from *The Wolf of Wall Street* and *The Big Short*.

"Harley is creepy, violent, crazy — all of the things that I aspire to be!" Robbie jokes during an interview at a suburban Los Angeles hotel. "No. It's the fun of living vicariously through someone who is doing things that I would never do in real life."

Although the film offers Robbie her pick of leading men (**Ben Affleck**'s *Batman* makes an appearance, **Scott Eastwood** reportedly has a role and **Joel Kinnaman** plays Rick Flagg, the poor guy charged with leading all of these lunatics), it was her *Focus* co-star Smith whom she really wanted there for moral support.

"I enjoyed working with Will so, so much that I was overjoyed when I heard that we would be working together again," she enthuses. "I actually texted him when I heard he was in negotiations to be in *Suicide Squad* and kept peer-pressuring him, 'You'd better be taking this movie!' He obviously signed on for his own reasons, but I was so incredibly happy that we got to do Round Two. He's awesome on set and awesome off set. He's just a really, really good person."

—BOB STRAUSS



Opens
JUNE 10

Fish Tale FINDING DORY

It was **Ellen DeGeneres'** hilarious, wistful turn as forgetful fish Dory that helped turn Pixar's *Finding Nemo* into 2003's highest-grossing film. More than a decade later we dive back into the ocean and join her as she searches for her lost family. Listen for the perfectly cast **Diane Keaton** as Dory's mom and **Eugene Levy** as her dad.

Opens
DECEMBER 16

Rebel, Rebel

ROGUE ONE: A STAR WARS STORY

The *Star Wars* train keeps rolling with a trip into the past, specifically the events that precede the original 1977 film, *A New Hope*. And what's particularly exciting here is that it looks like a woman will be carrying the action as British actor **Felicity Jones** (*The Theory of Everything*) plays a rebel who leads a team trying to steal the plans for the Death Star.

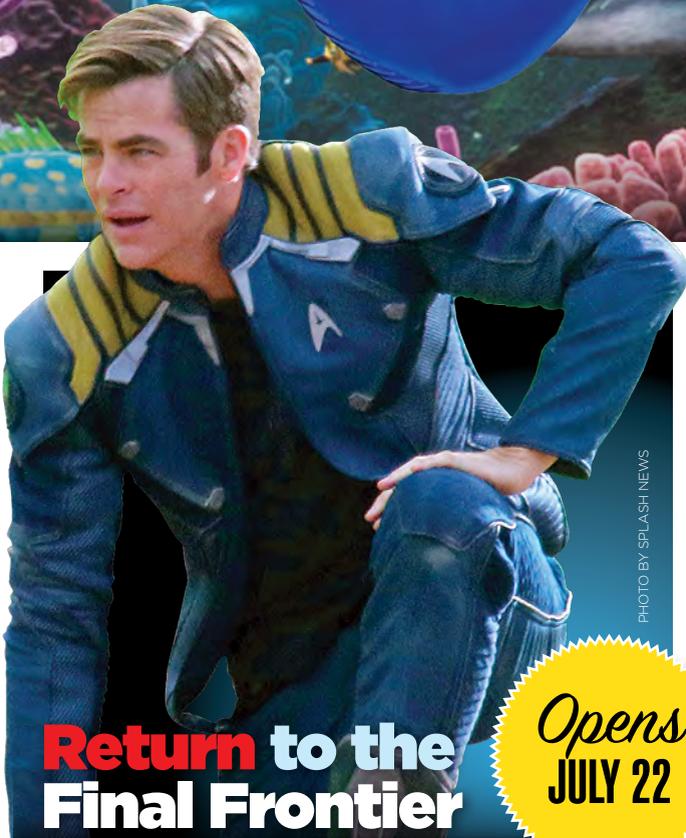


PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

Return to the Final Frontier

Opens
JULY 22

STAR TREK BEYOND

With all the *Star Wars* hoopla it's easy to forget there's a new film from another massive sci-fi franchise hitting screens this year. *Star Trek Beyond* is the 13th film in the series, and while we don't know exactly what adventures await Kirk (**Chris Pine**), Spock (**Zachary Quinto**), Uhura (**Zoe Saldana**) and a villain played by **Idris Elba**, we do know *Star Trek* cast member and mega-fan **Simon Pegg** (Scotty) worked on the script, which bodes well for discriminating *Trek* fans.

BY INGRID RANDOJA



RUDD AND SKARSGÅRD SAY YES TO MUTE

Director **Duncan Jones** (*Warcraft*) has spent 12 years working on *Mute*, and will finally start shooting the sci-fi thriller in March. Set in a futuristic, *Blade Runner*-like Berlin, the movie casts **Alexander Skarsgård** as a mute bartender who goes in search of his missing girlfriend. His investigation leads him to the city's underground where he meets a strange American surgeon (**Paul Rudd**) who holds the key to her whereabouts.



RAPACE EYES WINEHOUSE

Noomi Rapace is circling the role of British singer Amy Winehouse in the bio-pic based on the famed chanteuse who died of alcohol poisoning at age 27. Writer-director **Kirsten Sheridan** (*August Rush*) says the pic, *Amy Winehouse*, will celebrate the singer's tragic life. It comes on the heels of director Asif Kapadia's acclaimed 2015 documentary, *Amy*.



WHAT'S GOING ON WITH...

TOP GUN 2

A sequel to 1986's beloved bromance *Top Gun* has been in the works for a decade, but only now are the pieces falling into place. **Tom Cruise** returns as hotshot pilot Maverick, and **Val Kilmer** confirms he's back as Iceman. **Tony Scott**, who directed the original and was interested in helming the sequel, passed away in 2012 and producer **Jerry Bruckheimer** still hasn't landed a director. **Justin Marks** (*The Jungle Book*) is penning the script, which reportedly focuses on drones vs. aircraft warfare.



BULLOCK PLANS HEIST

The move to remake male-dominated films with female casts is officially underway. We've got the female-based *Ghostbusters* hitting screens in July, and now word is **Sandra Bullock** will lead a group of ladies planning a heist in a reboot of *Ocean's Eleven*. Bullock takes on the role originally played by **George Clooney**, who is acting as a producer on the film. **Gary Ross** (*The Hunger Games*) directs.



DEPP'S MILK RUN

Johnny Depp's stellar turn in *Black Mass* doesn't mean the 52-year-old actor has abandoned family fare. Depp already has *Alice Through the Looking Glass* and *Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Men Tell No Tales* in the can and now he'll team with director **Edgar Wright** (*The World's End*) for the adaptation of **Neil Gaiman's** children's book *Fortunately, the Milk*, about a dad who comes back from a trip to buy milk and tells his kids about his adventures with aliens and time travel.



FRESH FACE NICK ROBINSON

Twenty-year-old **Nick Robinson** stars opposite **Chloë Grace Moretz** in this month's sci-fi pic *The 5th Wave*. It's the Seattle native's follow-up to colossal hit *Jurassic World*, in which he played eldest brother Zach. He has also completed the indie pic *Being Charlie*, in which he plays a drug-addicted teenager who meets a troubled girl in rehab. While it has screened at film festivals, *Being Charlie* has yet to land an official release date.

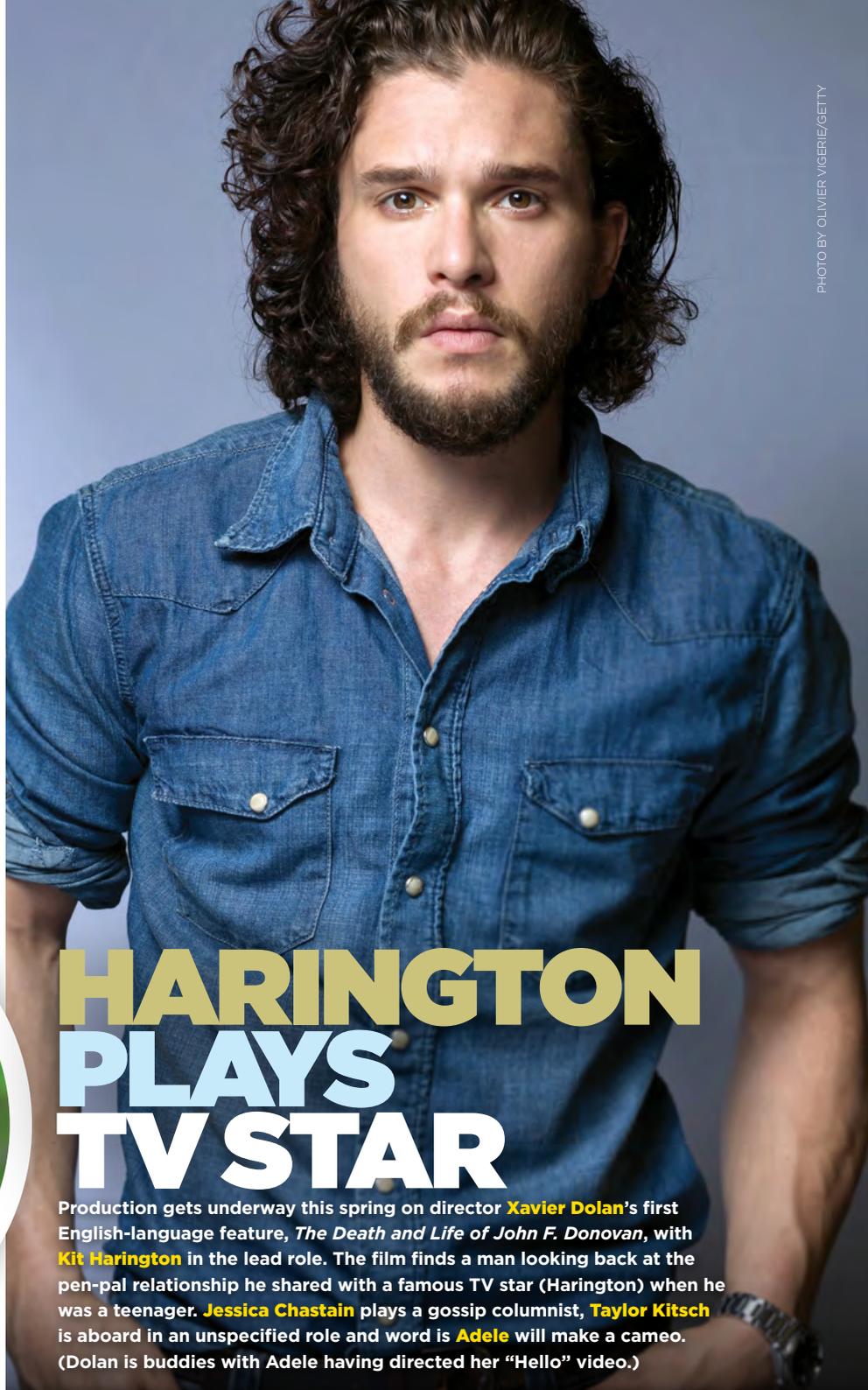


PHOTO BY OLIVIER VIGIER/GETTY

HARINGTON PLAYS TV STAR

Production gets underway this spring on director **Xavier Dolan's** first English-language feature, *The Death and Life of John F. Donovan*, with **Kit Harington** in the lead role. The film finds a man looking back at the pen-pal relationship he shared with a famous TV star (Harington) when he was a teenager. **Jessica Chastain** plays a gossip columnist, **Taylor Kitsch** is aboard in an unspecified role and word is **Adele** will make a cameo. (Dolan is buddies with Adele having directed her "Hello" video.)

ALSO IN THE WORKS ▶ **Robert De Niro** and **Jennifer Aniston** team up for *The Comedian*, which finds Aniston befriending De Niro's angry comic. ▶ **Julianne Moore** will star in the family film *Wonderstuck*, which intertwines the lives of two deaf children born 50 years apart. ▶ **Ralph Fiennes** voices Alfred in *The Lego Batman Movie*. ▶ *Toy Story 4* hits theatres June 15th, 2018, and will focus on the relationship between Woody (**Tom Hanks**) and Bo Peep (**Annie Potts**).

RETURN ENGAGEMENT



It's Complicated

Hollywood is full of good films made by actors who didn't get along.

Debra Winger and Shirley MacLaine despised each other while filming *Terms of Endearment*, Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams were at odds playing lovers in *The Notebook* and Humphrey Bogart couldn't stand his *Sabrina* co-stars William Holden and Audrey Hepburn.

Sabrina (1954), directed by Billy Wilder, casts Bogart as Linus Larrabee, the older and much

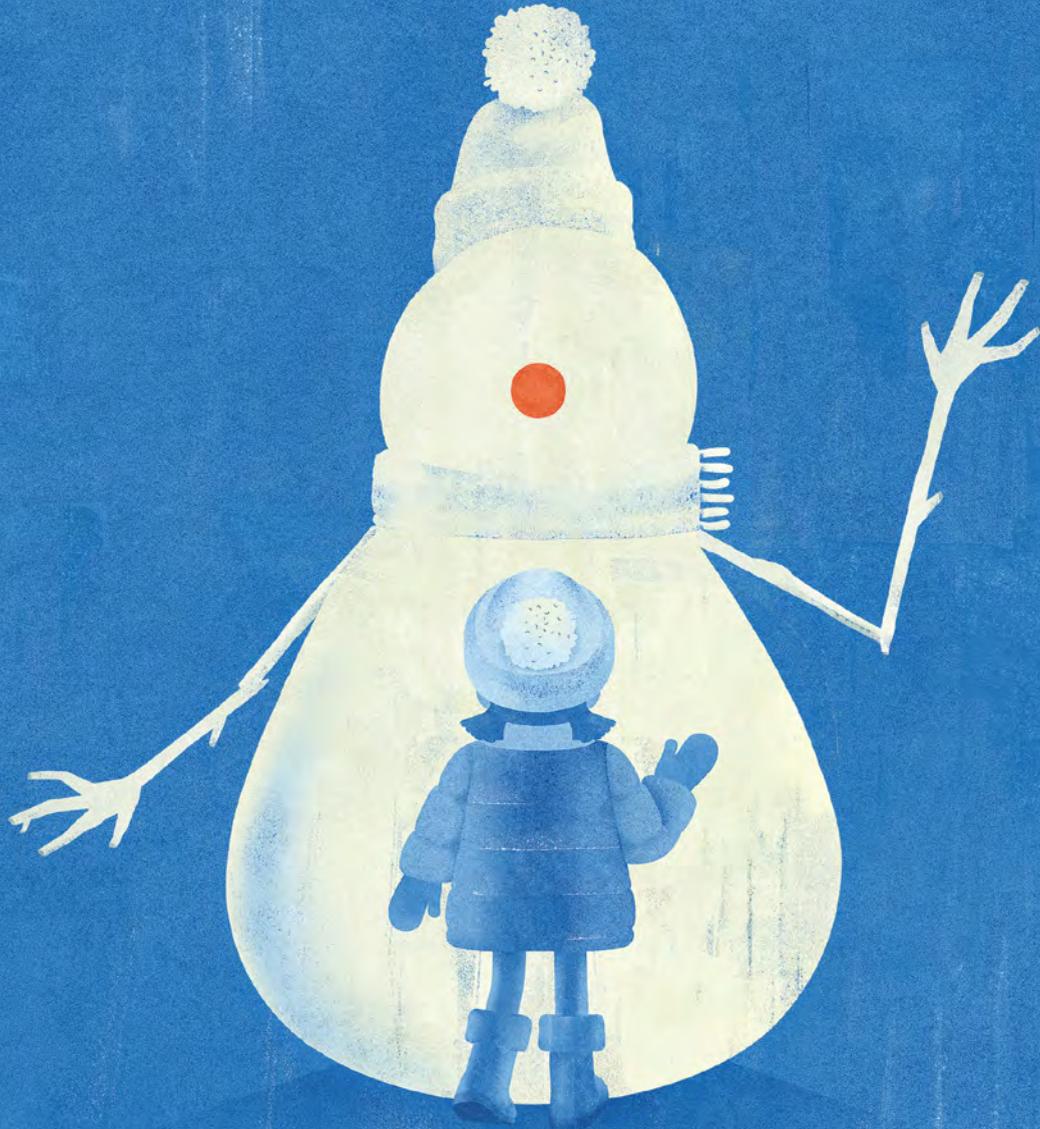
more responsible brother to playboy David Larrabee (Holden). David stuns his wealthy family when he makes a play for Sabrina (Hepburn), the chauffeur's daughter. It's up to Linus to break up the inappropriate match, and in doing so he falls in love with Sabrina.

Perhaps it was his own insecurity — playing the 54-year-old love interest to the 24-year-old Hepburn — that caused Bogart to berate his co-stars, but whatever the cause of his animosity it remains off-screen, allowing viewers to enjoy this witty, charming love story. —INGRID RANDOJA

SABRINA

screens as part of Cineplex's Classic Film Series on January 17th, 20th and 25th. Go to Cineplex.com/Events for times and locations.

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STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

JANUARY 5

Director **F. Gary Gray**'s take on the rise of N.W.A. — five guys from Compton, California, who popularized gangsta rap in the 1980s — presents the musical highlights N.W.A. fans expect, but also plays like a Greek tragedy as the members succumb to the excesses of fame, riches and power.



PAN JANUARY 1

Critics didn't love this imagined prequel to J.M. Barrie's Peter Pan tale, but many agree it's a visually stunning film that offers a fiery performance from **Hugh Jackman** as the pirate Blackbeard, who torments young Peter (**Levi Miller**) and his pal Hook (**Garrett Hedlund**).



THE WALK

JANUARY 1

Fair warning to those afraid of heights, this high-flying drama will have you gripping your seat cushions. **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** plays French tightrope artist Philippe Petit, who plans a death-defying walk across New York's newly built Twin Towers in 1974.



MAZE RUNNER: THE SCORCH TRIALS

JANUARY 1

The second *Maze Runner* pic finds the resilient teens who escaped the maze in the first film — and who are immune to the Flare virus — heading into the desert wasteland called The Scorch to search for a resistance group.



GOOSEBUMPS

JANUARY 12

This family-friendly horror pic with a meta twist casts **Jack Black** as **R.L. Stine**, author of the *Goosebumps* books, as he teams with a group of teenagers to capture monsters that have been released from his books.

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FINALLY...

TOYING WITH THE FORCE

Vesa Lehtimäki isn't the first photographer to turn his artist's eye to LEGO Star Wars minifigs. But the legion of moody images he presents in the coffee table book *LEGO Star Wars: Small Scenes From a Big Galaxy* are among the best we've seen. Experimental lighting and original scenarios (sometimes shooting outside in his garden) lend the Finnish snapper's pics a strange air of authenticity, considering they depict little bits of plastic. Here, clockwise from top, you see "Three Kings," "Chewie's Bad Day" and "Rancor's Sandpit." —*MW*



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