

# CINEPLEX

MAGAZINE

## WHO YOU GONNA CALL?

**MELISSA  
MCCARTHY**  
TALKS  
GHOSTBUSTERS

**Inside**  
**CHRIS  
PINE**  
**MATT  
DAMON**  
**KRISTEN  
BELL**

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We're not going to write anything here about how the stars of the new *Ghostbusters* movie are all women. We don't really care, and neither does lead buster **Melissa McCarthy**. What matters to her is making a fun, and funny, movie. So think four women headlining the remake of a classic comedy is a big deal? Get over it

BY BOB STRAUSS

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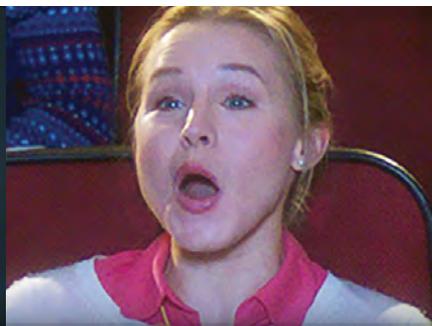
Nearly a decade after he appeared in his last Bourne movie **Matt Damon** returns for a fourth film, simply titled *Jason Bourne*. Why now?

BY COLIN COVERT

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*Bad Moms* star **Kristen Bell** on her cathartic new comedy about mothers who lose it, and why she and her co-stars could relate

BY INGRID RANDOJA





# SKETCHY CONNECTION

**H**ow predictable. If you'd asked me a couple of years ago who would be cast to take the places of Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, the late Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson in a reboot of 1984's *Ghostbusters* I'm pretty sure I would've come up with Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon, Leslie Jones and Melissa McCarthy.

Maybe not on the first guess, but second or third for sure. C'mon. They didn't exactly go out on a limb here, did they?

I know many were shocked by the idea that four women would replace four men in the beloved comedy franchise, while others found it novel and refreshing. But if you dig a little deeper you'll find a similarity between the new and old cast members that's more important than their differing reproductive organs.

## Saturday Night Live.

Based on an idea by *SNL* alum Aykroyd, who also played Dr. Ray Stantz alongside fellow *SNL* icon Murray as Dr. Peter Venkman, the original *Ghostbusters* could be considered an unofficial *Saturday Night Live* movie.

You may not realize this, but Aykroyd wrote Murray's part for *SNL* great John Belushi. Unfortunately, Belushi died of a drug overdose before the film went into production. Aykroyd also wrote a part for Eddie Murphy, who was *SNL*'s biggest star at the time. Murphy's tenure on the ground-breaking sketch-com show came to an end the same year *Ghostbusters* came out. That was also the year *Beverly Hills Cop* hit theatres, and it was scheduling conflicts between the two films that forced Murphy to say no to *Ghostbusters*.

Of course Ramis, who played the third Ghostbuster, Dr. Egon Spengler, came from *Saturday Night Live*'s spiritual sketch-com sister, Canada's *SCTV*, while the fourth Ghostbuster, Ernie Hudson — he played Winston Zeddemore — was the only Ghostbuster who'd never been on a sketch-com series. (Ramis's *SCTV* co-star Rick Moranis played geeky accountant Louis Tully, a role written for John Candy, also of *SCTV*, who wouldn't commit to the project but did show up in Ray Parker Jr.'s video for the "Ghostbusters" song.)

Now look at this month's re-do. Kristen Wiig, Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones all found fame on *Saturday Night Live*, the latter two are still going strong on the New York-based mainstay of weekend television. And it's no stretch to say Wiig and McKinnon are among the strongest cast members *SNL* has seen in the past decade, as Aykroyd and Murray were in the late 1970s.

All of this, naturally, makes McCarthy not the Peter Venkman of the new cast as many have anointed her, but the Winston Zeddemore. Like Ernie Hudson, she's the only cast member who has never held down a regular job on a sketch-com series. We're not too worried about her ability to keep up, though. Along with Wiig, McCarthy has been one of the strongest forces in bringing women to the forefront of big-screen comedies in the past five years. Both starred in 2011's *Bridesmaids*, the film that gave Hollywood the slap in the face it needed to realize that X and Y chromosomes do not determine the quality of one's comic timing.

In "They Ain't Afraid of No Ghosts," page 40, **Melissa McCarthy** explains what she thinks is, and isn't, important when it comes to bringing *Ghostbusters* back to life.

Elsewhere in this issue we have interviews with **Matt Damon** for *Jason Bourne* (page 32), **Chris Pine** for *Star Trek Beyond* (page 28), **Zac Efron** and **Adam DeVine** for *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates* (page 22) and **Kristen Bell**, another funny woman, for *Bad Moms* (page 36). ■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR

PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

EDITOR MARNI WEISZ  
DEPUTY EDITOR INGRID RANDOJA  
GRAPHIC DESIGNERS KATIE CRANE,  
LUCINDA WALLACE  
VICE PRESIDENT, PRODUCTION  
SHEILA GREGORY

CONTRIBUTORS COLIN COVERT,  
MELISSA SHEASGREEN, BOB STRAUSS

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# SNAPS



## POSTER BOY

**Ryan Gosling** spots someone he knows at the Hollywood premiere of *The Nice Guys*.

PHOTO BY ALBERT L. ORTEGA/GETTY



## JEDI HAND JIVE

**Mark Hamill** can't hide his excitement at the Belfast International Airport. He's on his way to Malin Head, the most northerly point of Ireland, to shoot *Star Wars: Episode VIII*.

PHOTO BY CHARLES MCQUILLAN/GETTY



## MATURE MOORE

**Julianne Moore** is transformed into a senior citizen on the New York set of director Todd Haynes' latest, *Wonderstruck*.

PHOTO BY ZELIG SHAUL/KEYSTONE



## BALDWIN'S DARK SIDE

We always knew **Alec Baldwin** sympathized with the dark side. Here the actor cuddles up to **Darth Vader** at the New York Philharmonic's Spring Gala, "A John Williams Celebration."

PHOTO BY BRENT N. CLARKE/GETTY

## SIGNATURE MOVE

**Lupita Nyong'o** takes time out from the Broadway run of *Eclipsed* to sign her caricature at Sardi's. She's earned rave reviews for her performance as a teen caught up in Liberia's civil war.

PHOTO BY ROMMEL DEMANO/GETTY



## HAVANA VIN

**Vin Diesel** is in Havana, Cuba, to take in the Chanel fashion show that stretched down the city's Paseo del Prado boulevard.

PHOTO BY ADALBERTO ROQUE/GETTY

# IN BRIEF



## FRIENDLY, AND FAMILIAR?

The digital Mark Rylance with co-star Ruby Barnhill in *The BFG*. INSET: Mark Ryance

MARK RYLANCE PHOTO BY JUSTIN TALLIS/GETTY

PHOTO BY NICHOLAS HUNT/GETTY

**T**hink you recognize the Big Friendly Giant in this still from director Steven Spielberg's fantasy film *The BFG*? He looks so familiar, yet that face is made more of pixels than pores.

It's Mark Rylance, the British stage and screen actor who Spielberg turned into an Oscar winner by casting him as Soviet spy Rudolf Abel in the 2015 Cold War thriller *Bridge of Spies*.

With the magic of motion-capture technology, Rylance's gentle face, and countenance, were transferred into the film's titular, animated giant.

Fortunately, Rylance was able to draw on familiar territory during the unfamiliar process.

"For me, it was not unlike being in a rehearsal room of a theatre play, before you go onto the set," Rylance told a room full of reporters at the

Cannes Film Festival, where the movie had its premiere.

"And sometimes there aren't props, and a lot of people standing around, and you have to use your imagination."

—MW

Ellen Page

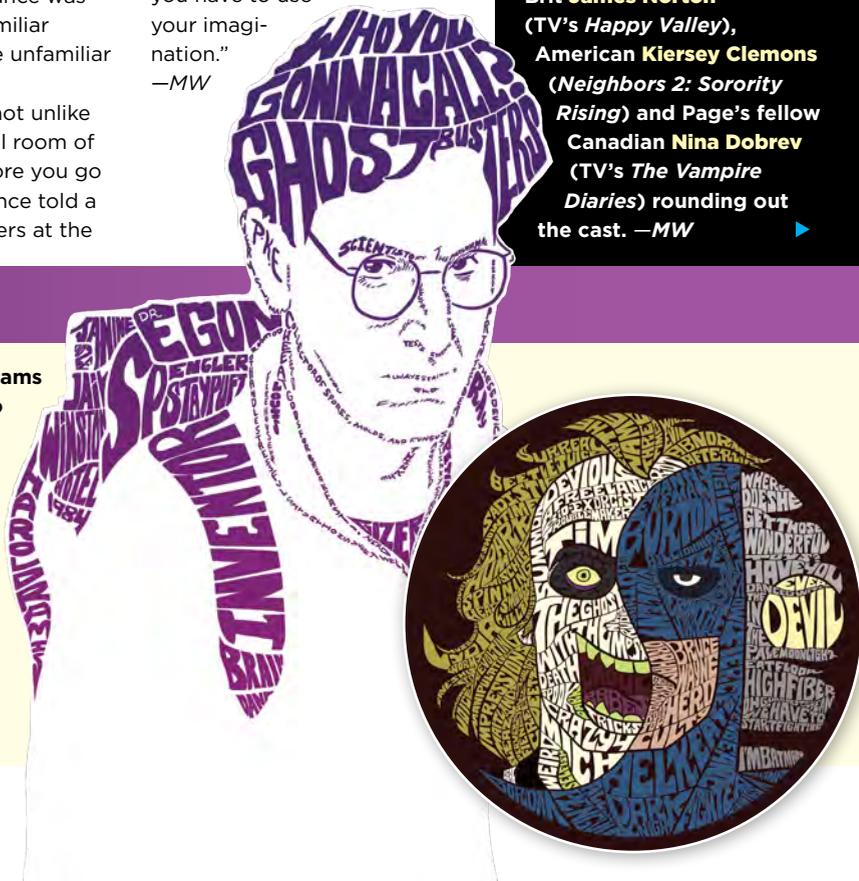
## On Home Turf: FLATLINERS

Ellen Page is coming home this summer. Sort of. The Halifax native will spend this month and next a few provinces away in Toronto shooting a remake of *Flatliners*.

The original film came out in 1990 with Julia Roberts, Kevin Bacon, William Baldwin, Oliver Platt and Kiefer Sutherland as med-school students experimenting with near-death experiences. The remake sees Mexican actor **Diego Luna** (*Elysium*), Brit **James Norton** (*TV's Happy Valley*), American **Kiersey Clemons** (*Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*) and Page's fellow Canadian **Nina Dobrev** (*TV's The Vampire Diaries*) rounding out the cast. —MW ▶

## THE ART OF FILM

New York illustrator Josh Mirman discovered calligrams — a phrase or poem in which words are arranged to reflect their meaning — via the psychedelic posters of the 1960s and '70s. "It took years to figure out how to make it work just right, and by 2010, it clicked," he says. "It is a tiring and long process, my calligrams all drawn by hand, but I feel it's rewarding. Like completing a jigsaw puzzle, seeing everything form into one big item." Here you see Mirman's take on Harold Ramis from the original *Ghostbusters* and a mashup of two Michael Keaton/Tim Burton characters, *Beetlejuice* and *Batman*. See more at [joshmirman.com](http://joshmirman.com). —MW



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\*VIVIDATA 2015 Q4



From left: Ethan Hawke, Helen Mirren and Anne Hathaway

▶ **The ethical implications of military drones are proving** fertile ground for Hollywood, and it's no wonder. The decision to drop a bomb from an unmanned aircraft creates the type of moral quandary that film finds so irresistible.

In 2014's *Good Kill*, Ethan Hawke was a U.S. Air Force pilot whose job was to sit in a metal box in the Nevada desert and remotely fly a drone over the Middle East, dropping bombs on U.S. targets. Last year Helen Mirren played a British colonel who commanded a drone pilot to fire a missile on a target that included both terrorists and innocent civilians. Even this year's *London Has Fallen* started with a drone strike that sought to kill a terrorist, but hit only his family.

Now reports are Anne Hathaway is turning *Grounded* — a one-woman play in which she starred last year — into a film. The plot is very similar to *Good Kill*, but with a female fighter pilot opting for the relatively safe confines of a Nevada Air Force base drone operation after she becomes pregnant. —MW



## GONE FISHIN'

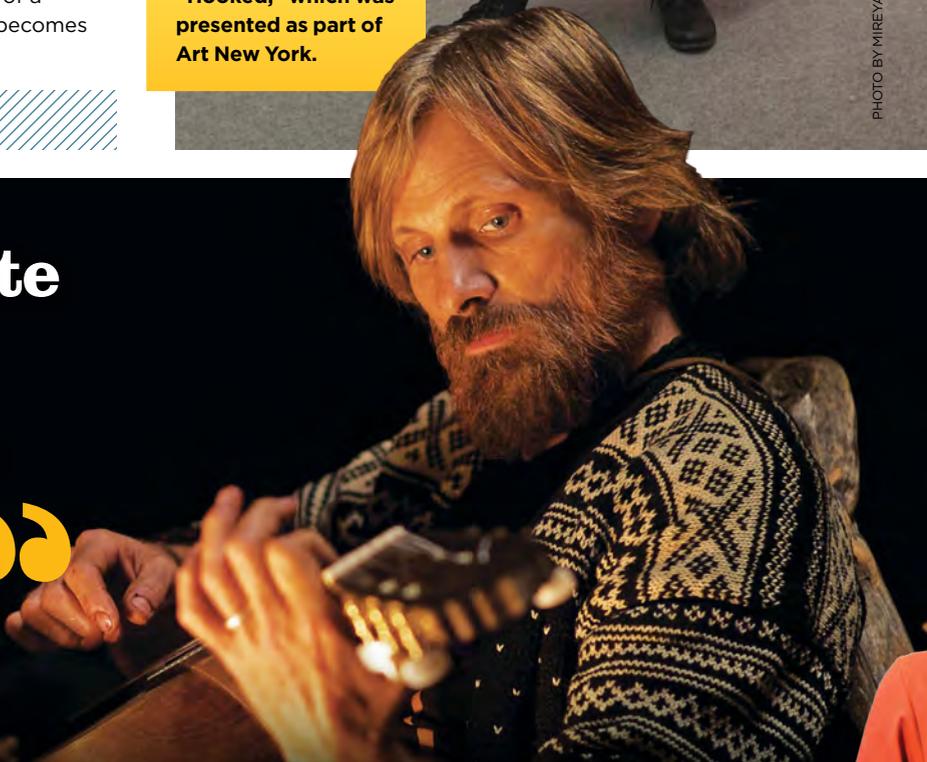
Oscar-winning actor Adrien Brody (*The Pianist*) is also a pretty good painter. Here he shows off the works in his fish-themed exhibition "Hooked," which was presented as part of Art New York.

PHOTO BY MIREYA ACIERTO/GETTY

## Quote Unquote

“The foundation of the story is love. We are what we love, I am what I give, what I learn from others and from life.”

—VIGGO MORTENSEN  
ON *CAPTAIN FANTASTIC*





Emma Bunton, centre, flanked by Jennifer Saunders (left) and Joanna Lumley (right)

# ABSOLUTELY STUFFED

Looking at the list of cameos in *Absolutely Fabulous: The Movie*, you have to wonder how much screen time is left for stars Joanna Lumley (Patsy) and Jennifer Saunders (Edina).

The ladies lined up more than 60 stars and semi-stars to populate their big-screen flick, which follows Patsy and Edina to the South of France where they hide out after Patsy accidentally knocks Kate Moss (cameo #1) off a ledge at a party.

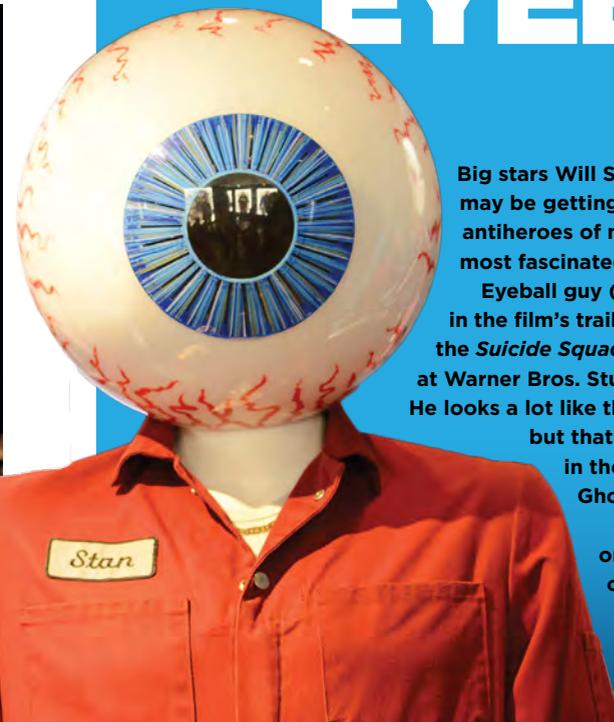
Keep your eyes peeled for Emma Bunton (a.k.a. Baby Spice), Gwendoline Christie, Rebel Wilson, Jon Hamm, Joan Collins, Dame Edna, Sadie Frost, Stella McCartney, Lily Cole, Cara Delevingne, Poppy Delevingne, Perez Hilton, Jerry Hall, Ruby Wax, Jean-Paul Gaultier and a steady stream of other European musicians, models and socialites. —MW



Tristan und Isolde's Nina Stemme

PHOTO BY KRISTIAN SCHULLER/METROPOLITAN OPERA

## WHO IS EYEBALL GUY?



Big stars Will Smith, Jared Leto and Margot Robbie may be getting most of the attention as the antiheroes of next month's *Suicide Squad*, but we're most fascinated with this giant eyeball character.

Eyeball guy (or gal, who knows?) appears briefly in the film's trailer and is already on display as part of the *Suicide Squad* section of "DC Universe: The Exhibit" at Warner Bros. Studios in Burbank, California. He looks a lot like the comic-book character The Orb, but that's not possible. The Orb lived in the Marvel Universe as part of Ghost Rider's world.

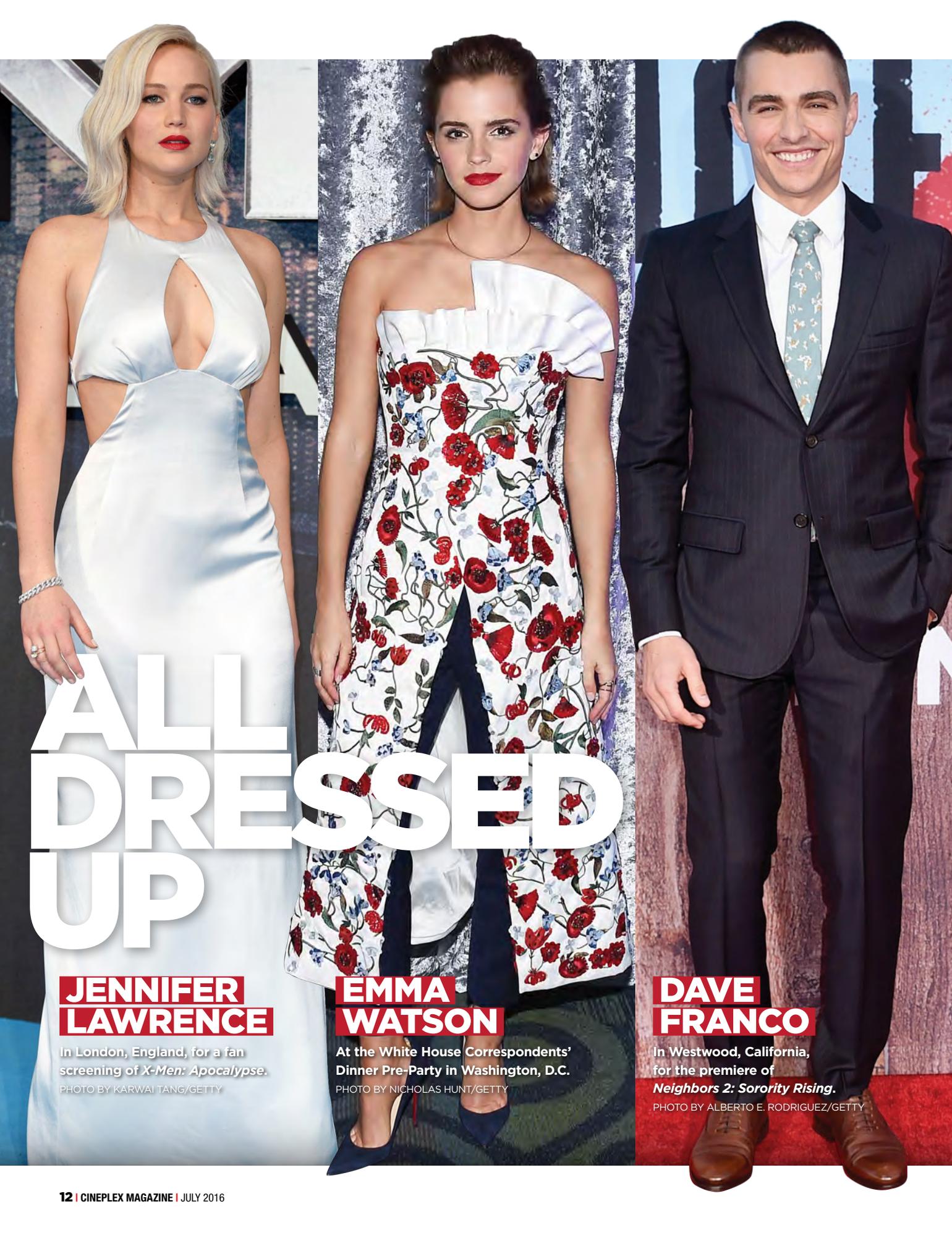
All signs point to Eyeball guy being one of The Joker's henchman. We'll find out for sure on August 5th. —MW

PHOTO BY ALBERT L. ORTEGA/GETTY

## GET YOUR MET TIX

Tickets for the Met Opera's 2016-2017 Season at Cineplex theatres go on sale this month — for SCENE and Met members on July 14th and for everyone else on July 22nd. Here's this year's lineup, go to [Cineplex.com/Events](http://Cineplex.com/Events) for dates and times.

- Tristan und Isolde* (Wagner)
- Don Giovanni* (Mozart)
- L'Amour de Loïe* (Saariaho)
- Nabucco* (Verdi)
- Roméo et Juliette* (Gounod)
- Rusalka* (Dvořák)
- La Traviata* (Verdi)
- Idomeneo* (Mozart)
- Eugene Onegin* (Tchaikovsky)
- Der Rosenkavalier* (Strauss)



# ALL DRESSED UP

**JENNIFER LAWRENCE**

In London, England, for a fan screening of *X-Men: Apocalypse*.

PHOTO BY KARWAI TANG/GETTY

**EMMA WATSON**

At the White House Correspondents' Dinner Pre-Party in Washington, D.C.

PHOTO BY NICHOLAS HUNT/GETTY

**DAVE FRANCO**

In Westwood, California, for the premiere of *Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*.

PHOTO BY ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY



**KIRSTEN  
DUNST**

At the Cannes premiere  
of *Café Society*.

PHOTO BY DOMINIQUE CHARRIAU/GETTY



**NAOMI  
WATTS**

In New York City for the  
Costume Institute Gala.

PHOTO BY GEORGE PIMENTEL/GETTY



**JARED  
LETO**

In New York City for the  
Costume Institute Gala.

PHOTO BY JOHN SHEARER/GETTY

## MONSTER MOVIE

**C**onnor Jessup didn't want to disappoint his director.

The Toronto actor plays Oscar, a gay teen, in director Stephen Dunn's acclaimed first feature *Closet Monster*.

Oscar lives in Newfoundland with his unhappily divorced father (Aaron Abrams) and dreams of leaving home to become a movie makeup artist. When he was a boy Oscar witnessed a violent gay hate crime that scarred him. Throw in living with a homophobic dad and it's no wonder Oscar has become a closeted teenager struggling with his sexuality.

"Stephen Dunn, this is his first feature, it's very personal to him," says the 22-year-old actor on the line from L.A. where he's doing press for the second season of TV's *American Crime* in which he plays another anguished teen, Taylor Blaine. "The film's not autobiographical, but there are a lot of elements that are very close to his heart, so I was inspired by Stephen and didn't want to disappoint him."

Jessup is all about taking on big challenges. While focusing on his acting career, which includes five seasons on TV's *Falling Skies*, he's also written and directed three short films, the first when he was just 16. A life behind the camera could turn out to be his true calling.

"I've directed a few shorts, so I've probably been a director on set for a total of 15 days in my life, and I've been an actor on set for hundreds of days in my life," he says. "So maybe the directing is like that shiny new thing and that's part of the appeal, but I will say that it's writing and directing where my mind wanders to when I can't sleep at night."

—INGRID RANDOJA



**CLOSET  
MONSTER**  
HITS THEATRES  
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PHOTO BY BEN MILLER

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# IN THEATRES

JULY 1



## THE BFG

Director **Steven Spielberg** catered to adult audiences with his past two films *Lincoln* and *Bridge of Spies*, but the moviemaker returns to family entertainment with this fantasy film based on the book by **Roald Dahl**. A little girl (**Ruby Barnhill**), the Queen of England (**Penelope Wilton**) and a Big Friendly Giant (Oscar winner **Mark Rylance**) team up to stop a group of nasty man-eating giants.



Ewan McGregor and Naomie Harris in *Our Kind of Traitor*

## OUR KIND OF TRAITOR

The latest **John le Carré** (*Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*) spy novel to hit the big screen stars **Ewan McGregor** and **Naomie Harris** as an English couple that gets mixed up with a Russian mafia money launderer (**Stellan Skarsgård**) who wants them to broker a deal with MI6 so he can defect.

## THE PURGE: ELECTION YEAR

The third film in this franchise marries gore with politics as a popular U.S. senator (**Elizabeth Mitchell**) proposes an end to the nation's annual legal bloodbath. This irks high-powered opponents who send a squad to take her out when the latest Purge begins.



## THE LEGEND OF TARZAN

Tarzan (**Alexander Skarsgård**) has left the jungle behind for a gentrified life in the English countryside with wife Jane (**Margot Robbie**). But when he agrees to return to the Congo as a trade emissary a nefarious Belgian colonel (**Christoph Waltz**) kidnaps Jane in order to lure the famed King of the Jungle into a trap. **CONTINUED** ▶

Zac **EFRON** Anna **KENDRICK** Adam **DEVINE** Aubrey **PLAZA**



They needed hot dates.  
They got hot messes.

# MIKE AND DAVE

NEED WEDDING DATES

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS A CHERNIN ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION "MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES" ZAC EFRON ANNA KENDRICK ADAM DEVINE AUBREY PLAZA STEPHEN ROBY COSTUME DESIGNER JOHN BOALIHAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JEFF CAROINI DEBRA MCGHIRE  
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DIRECTED BY JAKE SZYMANSKI

**JULY 8**

#MikeAndDave  
MikeAndDave.com

**JULY 8**



**▶ THE SECRET LIFE OF PETS**

Max the terrier (**Louis C.K.**) loves hanging out with other pets while his human owner Katie (**Ellie Kemper**) is at work. However, Max's comfortable existence is threatened when Katie brings home the oversized Duke (**Eric Stonestreet**) who gets them lost in New York City. Listen for **Kevin Hart** as mentally disturbed bunny Snowball, **Lake Bell** as obese kitty Chloe and **Albert Brooks** as Tiberius the hawk.

**EAT THAT QUESTION: FRANK ZAPPA IN HIS OWN WORDS**

By piecing together archived interviews with **Frank Zappa** and footage from his concerts, German filmmaker **Thorsten Schütte** allows Zappa himself to explain his views on his music and life.

**CLOSET MONSTER**

Set in Newfoundland, this Canadian coming-of-age drama written and directed by **Stephen Dunn** stars **Connor Jessup** as a closeted gay teen who's haunted by a gay bashing he witnessed as a child. **See Connor Jessup interview page 14.**



**MIKE AND DAVE NEED WEDDING DATES**

Brothers Mike (**Adam DeVine**) and Dave (**Zac Efron**) have a way of causing havoc at family gatherings when they arrive solo, so they're instructed to bring dates to their sister's (**Sugar Lyn Beard**) wedding in Hawaii. They choose seemingly nice girls Tatiana (**Aubrey Plaza**) and Alice (**Anna Kendrick**), who in fact are female hellions. **See Zac Efron and Adam DeVine interview, page 22.**

**JULY 15**



*Tulip Fever's*  
Alicia Vikander

**TULIP FEVER**

This heady love story was actually filmed two years ago and is only now hitting screens. Set in 17th-century Amsterdam, it stars **Alicia Vikander** as the unhappy wife of a wealthy merchant (**Christoph Waltz**) who falls in love with the artist (**Dane DeHaan**) commissioned to paint the couple's portrait.

**GHOSTBUSTERS**

Girls just wanna have fun! Hollywood sees the feminist light and casts four funny ladies — **Kristen Wiig**, **Melissa McCarthy**, **Kate McKinnon** and **Leslie Jones** — in this reboot that finds the team (along with their personal assistant **Chris Hemsworth**) ridding Manhattan of supernatural creatures. **See Melissa McCarthy interview, page 40.**



**ABSOLUTELY FABULOUS:  
THE MOVIE**

Yes sweetie it's true, hard-partying fashionistas Eddy (**Jennifer Saunders**) and Patsy (**Joanna Lumley**) finally get their own movie 24 years after debuting on BBC TV. After Eddy accidentally pushes **Kate Moss** into the Thames (seemingly to her demise), Eddy and Patsy hightail it to the South of France where they plan to scam their way into lives of luxury.



**CAPTAIN FANTASTIC**

The utopian-minded Ben (**Viggo Mortensen**) and his wife Leslie (**Trin Miller**) are raising their six kids in the wilderness away from society. But when Leslie dies, the family returns to the city for the funeral and Leslie's parents (**Frank Langella**, **Ann Dowd**) decide they want to raise the brood themselves.

**CAFÉ SOCIETY**

Writer/director **Woody Allen's** latest pic is set in 1930s Hollywood where ambitious New Yorker Bobby Dorfman (**Jesse Eisenberg**) arrives to work with his high-powered uncle Phil (**Steve Carell**), an agent, and finds himself falling for Phil's secretary and former film ingénue, Vonnie (**Kristen Stewart**).

**LIGHTS OUT**

An evil spirit that only appears when the lights go out terrorizes a woman (**Maria Bello**) and her two kids (**Teresa Palmer** and **Gabriel Bateman**). CONTINUED ►

JULY 22



▶ ICE AGE: COLLISION COURSE

The fifth Ice Age pic finds Scrat blasting off into space and setting off a cosmic reaction that sends killer asteroids hurtling toward Earth. It's up to Manny (Ray Romano), Sid (John Leguizamo), Diego (Denis Leary) and the rest of the crew to stop the asteroids before it's too late.

STAR TREK BEYOND

With all the Star Wars hoopla it's easy to forget about that other massive sci-fi franchise. Director Justin Lin (Fast & Furious 6) replaced J.J. Abrams, who helmed the first two Star Trek films, and Simon Pegg (Scotty) co-wrote the screenplay that finds Captain Kirk (Chris Pine) and the rest of the crew of the U.S.S. Enterprise stranded on an alien planet and dealing with a nasty villain (Idris Elba). See Chris Pine interview, page 28.

JULY 29



JASON BOURNE

Director Paul Greengrass and star Matt Damon look to recreate the magic that made The Bourne Supremacy and The Bourne Ultimatum such stellar action flicks. In this fourth film of the series, Bourne is living a violent, lost life when he's drawn back to the CIA and uncovers the truth about his past. Co-starring Alicia Vikander, Tommy Lee Jones and Julia Stiles. See Matt Damon interview, page 32.



From left: Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis and Kathryn Hahn in Bad Moms

BAD MOMS

Three suburban moms — Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell and Kathryn Hahn — take a walk on the wild side when they rebel against a group of “perfect moms” (led by Christina Applegate). See Kristen Bell interview, page 36.

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# Q Brothers



Adam DeVine as Mike (left) and Zac Efron as Dave in *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates*

# ners

What could go wrong when a couple of party-animal brothers unwittingly hook up with a couple of hell-raising women for their sweet sister's destination wedding? **Zac Efron and Adam DeVine** prepare us for the mayhem of *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates*

BY MELISSA SHEASGREEN

## Zac Efron and Adam DeVine walk

into a dressing room backstage at CinemaCon, ready to talk about their new film, *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates*. Efron fixes his hair before stepping in front of the camera. DeVine makes fun of him.

Yup, these guys have fun with each other.

DeVine (TV's *Modern Family* and *Workaholics*) plays Mike, and Efron (*Neighbors 2: Sorority Rising*) is Dave in the comedy about two brothers who have a history of coming to family events solo, and ruining them with stunts that inevitably go haywire. Told that they must bring dates to their sister's destination wedding in Hawaii, the brothers go on a TV talk show to search for a couple of nice, well-behaved ladies.

Unfortunately, a couple of not-so-nice, not-so-well-behaved ladies, Alice (Anna Kendrick) and Tatiana (Aubrey Plaza), see it as an opportunity to get a free trip to Hawaii, pretend to be demure until it's too late, and then hilarity ensues.

# Q:

**What kind of movie is this?**

**DEVINE:** "It's a super fun movie.

It's like that cool type of movie where you can go with your guy friends, or if you're a group of girls, which we're not so I can't relate, but they can go together."

**EFRON:** "We've heard from them."

**DEVINE:** "Or you can go as a group. So it's not like a movie you

would feel uncomfortable taking your girlfriend to, or going with just a pack of guys. You can go in any conglomeration that you deem fit."

**So everyone can see this movie, that's what you're saying, right?**

**DEVINE:** "Oh, is that, is that a shorter way to say that? Okay, okay, you're good at this."

**Your counterparts in this movie, Aubrey and Anna, is it fair to say that you're outdone by them, or do your characters have some kick in them too?**

**DEVINE:** "I think we've got a little kick. Well, I think my character doesn't want to lose and sort of spins out of control and loses his mind about halfway through the movie, so it's really hard for him. Zac's character Dave is trying to find peace."

**EFRON:** "Yeah we recently ran an alcohol distribution company together. So I've very much been his kind of wingman for all this, his Iceman. Not Iceman. Goose? Goose. That's my [*Top Gun*] reference."

**DEVINE:** "I'm Maverick in this situation."

**EFRON:** "So over the course of the movie the girls sort of keep just outwitting us and outsmarting us. [Mike] progressively loses his, kind of, bearings."

**DEVINE:** "His Maverick-esque cool?"

**EFRON:** "His Mavericky-ness, yeah. And I kind of come in to the rescue and kind of boost him back up and we end up, maybe we save the day and maybe we don't."

**DEVINE:** "Maybe. I guess you've got to find out."

**EFRON:** "Hopefully Goose doesn't die."

CONTINUED ▶

**MIKE AND  
DAVE NEED  
WEDDING  
DATES**  
HITS  
THEATRES  
JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>



The fun-loving foursome, from left: Aubrey Plaza, Anna Kendrick, Adam DeVine and Zac Efron

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► **DEVINE:** “Tune in because really it’s a cliffhanger. You all have to tune in so we can make the second one.”

**EFRON:** “Yeah, please.”

**DEVINE:** “This is the first Fox is hearing about this, ‘We’re doing a second one!’”

**Is it fair to say that you’re still looking for wedding dates at the end of this movie?**

**DEVINE:** “You’ve got to stick around and then watch the second movie, which we’re definitely making, right?”

**What was it like just coming to set every day and hanging out? You guys look like you have a lot of fun together.**

**DEVINE:** “It was fun!”

**EFRON:** “I mean we were shooting in Hawaii so that part was awesome. We genuinely wanted to get to work every day to film, to wrap, to go surfing at night, and then do it all over again.”

**DEVINE:** “What was cool is like there was never a kind of a snoozer scene, every scene was fun to do and you’re with fun people like Zac or Anna and Aubrey.... And when you weren’t shooting and having a ton of fun you were like jumping off waterfalls, like off cliffs into lagoons, and swimming with sharks, and trying to surf, and hurting yourself doing so.”

**Rough life.**

**DEVINE:** “Yeah it was a tough summer.”

**Were you guys able to go off script?**

**EFRON:** “Well, we would always go in with a script in mind and then once, I’d say somewhere around day three, we just kind of threw it out the window and Jake would kind of just throw us [alternative versions] and we knew the goal and the direction of the scene, and we would just go for it.”

**DEVINE:** “Szymanski, Jake Szymanski, our director.”

**EFRON:** “Yes.”

**DEVINE:** “Not like a [random] guy named Jake who was like, ‘I don’t know, maybe *this* idea!’ Like the director of our movie. Yeah, and he would like throw ideas at us and we’d take them and we’d run.... You improv so much that when I watched the movie I was like, ‘I don’t remember saying any of that.’ Because you say so much, you keep like talking and talking and talking that, like, you don’t remember what you said six minutes ago and then that’s what they end up using.”

**What do you think will surprise audiences most about *Mike and Dave Need Wedding Dates*?**

**DEVINE:** “I think people are going into it thinking this will be a funny comedy, but on top of it, it has like real heart and you actually care about these characters. And the screenings I’ve been to you see, like when my character is kind of down on his luck, and he’s getting sad and you hear, ‘awww,’ like poor guy. And that’s because Jake Szymanski, our director, did such a great job building each scene, and each scene builds, and builds. By the time you get to that point you are like, ‘I care about these guys.’”

.....  
*Melissa Sheasgreen is a content producer for Cineplex Entertainment.*

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# READY TO HIT WARP FEED?

If you thought the first two films of the *Star Trek* reboot were fast-paced, imagine exploring space with Justin Lin, director of four *Fast and Furious* movies, at the helm. Star **Chris Pine** gives us a peek under the hood of the franchise's latest offering, *Star Trek Beyond* ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

**C**hris Pine boldly leads the U.S.S. *Enterprise* crew to a place they hopefully haven't gone before in *Star Trek Beyond*, the third outing of the rebooted movie and TV...well, enterprise.

This time there's a new skipper behind the scenes, too, as the director of 2009's *Star Trek* and its 2013 sequel *Into Darkness*, J.J. Abrams, jumped ship to helm the revival of an even more legendary space-opera franchise with *Star Wars: The Force Awakens*. That left *Beyond*'s warp drive in idle for a bit, until the man who made four *Fast and Furious* films, Justin Lin, took the com.

"Justin had a hard gig, man," Pine notes in a hotel just off L.A.'s famed Sunset Strip. "He came in at the very last minute to take over what is a behemoth task of making a giant studio tent-pole film with *Star Trek*."

"But with Justin's incredible sense of camera movement, incredible sense of story, his sense of action obviously, I think we're going to have something more akin to the first film," reckons the 35-year-old, third-generation Hollywood actor. "It's fun, it tackles really big themes but in a way that I think we always do best, which is what I feel will appeal to the fans of old and hopefully invite new fans in."

*Beyond*'s arrival comes in the 50th anniversary year of creator Gene Roddenberry's ground- and barrier-breaking sci-fi show's television debut. It's also the first *Trek* to be released since the 2015 death of beloved, original Mr. Spock portrayed by Leonard Nimoy (last seen on screen in *Into Darkness*), which can't help but cast a bit of a pall on the golden celebration.

Shot primarily in British Columbia last year, *Beyond* underwent some substantial reshooting in March. And of course there is concern that Lin's predilection for supercharged action over plot plausibility may not be the right sensibility for a series that, from the start, gave intellectual, emotional and political depth as much weight as special effects, often more.

Pine assures, however, that *Beyond*'s script — in which the *Enterprise* is wrecked midway into its first five-year mission, and its captain must ensure Spock (Zachary Quinto), Dr. McCoy (Karl Urban), Uhura (Zoe Saldana), Scotty (Simon Pegg), Sulu (John Cho) and Chekhov (Anton Yelchin) survive on a very strange planet — fully grounds the story in *Trek* tradition.

"Doug Jung and Simon Pegg took over writing duties, and it was a great combination," the actor says. "Simon knows us all so well and, obviously, comedy is his forte [Pegg has written such self-starring laughers as *Shaun of the Dead* and *The World's End*]. My favourite part of the series has always been the comedy, where our tone can go broad and fun. Though obviously not as broad as, say, *Guardians of the Galaxy* nor as self-referential as the other Marvel movies, but our own brand of kind of '80s pop sensibility, which

J.J. did really well and I think Simon has internalized and knows like the back of his hand.

"Combine that with Doug, who we all got very close with and who was very amenable to" **CONTINUED ▶**



Chris Pine (left) with director Justin Lin on the set of *Star Trek Beyond*

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“With Justin’s incredible sense of camera movement, incredible sense of story, his sense of action obviously, **I think we’re going to have something more akin to the first film”**

► our suggestions and take on things, and I think we have a story that’s 50 years of *Star Trek*-worthy.”

Pine tries a new take on another kind of pop-culture institution next month in the modern-day Western *Hell or High Water*, in which he and Ben Foster play bank-robbing brothers in the crosshairs of Jeff Bridges’ soon-to-be-retiring Texas Ranger.

And next year Pine will be Steve Trevor in the first big-screen theatrical feature about one of the most iconic pop-culture figures of the past 75 years, Wonder Woman.

As the love interest of the super-powered Amazonian princess, played by Israeli actor Gal Gadot and introduced several months ago in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice*, Pine will play an early 20th-century American male confronted by female power on a scale to which, at the very least, he is unaccustomed.

“Gal is killing it and creating a fierce but really beautifully vulnerable Wonder Woman who I think fans will adore,” Pine reports.

“To put it really simply, I’m playing Steve as a man in any generation faced with encountering a woman of such incredible, incredible physical prowess and ability who’s seemingly not of this world. It’s just a matter of playing that reality, set in a time when women were thought of as ‘less than.’ That’s the reality I’m working with.”

Talk about where no man has gone before. Beyond indeed. ☑

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



Simon Pegg with Sofia Boutella in *Star Trek Beyond*

## TO BOLDLY GO... TO SCOTIABANK THEATRE VANCOUVER

Aside from playing Scotty for the third time, Scottish actor/writer Simon Pegg also co-wrote the script for *Star Trek Beyond*. He was in Las Vegas for CinemaCon when we asked him about shooting parts of the film in Vancouver.

“Most of it was shot in Vancouver,” he exclaims.

“I still have my Cineplex app on my phone which I used to go and play the little game [Cineplex TimePlay] before the film started because when you’re filming in a city and you have a lot of time on your hands, you know, I was always down at the Scotiabank watching movies.

“And we took over Vancouver. It became quite a usual sight to see the crew of the Enterprise in some restaurant on Robson or something.... It was such a welcoming place. The crews there are fantastic and it was a really, really wonderful time because we were all away from home, of course, so we got to spend more time with each other as friends as well.

“So we will always have Vancouver.”

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# BOURNE AGAIN

Nine years after **Matt Damon** last played Jason Bourne, the actor returns for his fourth turn as the amnesiac super-soldier. Only now Bourne remembers everything. And he wants answers. Here Damon explains why it was finally time to revisit his most famous action hero

■ BY COLIN COVERT



**“Why would he come back now?”**

So asks Tommy Lee Jones' stern CIA chief about the surprise return of Jason Bourne, the tough-as-nails rogue field agent played by Matt Damon. After three films where the fugitive agent couldn't be intercepted, followed by a decade spent off the grid (and movie screens), he's back for the aptly titled *Jason Bourne*.

Why would he come back now? Damon, director Paul Greengrass, Universal Studios and a huge fanbase simply wanted to see Bourne born again.

Before Damon played Jason Bourne in director Doug Liman's 2002 franchise kickoff *The Bourne Identity*, his career largely consisted of sensitive dramatic parts or supporting comic roles. Few of them showcased the Oscar-winning skills he displayed as co-writer and star of 1997's *Good Will Hunting*.

Transforming into an elite fighting machine showed Damon could be a master of intense action sequences too. He has described the character as a sort of ninja ordinary Joe — a poker-faced good guy who kills people when necessary but keeps a sense of decency about him.

“It appealed to me on an intuitive level because it wasn't like anything I had done before,” Damon says over the phone from Los Angeles. “I've played some villains in my time but I think I get cast as an Everyman a lot. Those guys tend to be the protagonist.”

Damon was already quite familiar with author Robert Ludlum's bestselling thrillers when the project came up.

“I'd been a fan of the books when I was a kid and Doug Liman just came to me with the idea. At the time he said, ‘Look, I don't relate to James Bond and I think there's a real vacuum there. There's room for a character for our generation. Kind of a spy for our generation.’ Then I read the script and I loved it. And really that was that,” he says.

The original *Bourne* trilogy introduced a gritty look and feel that lifted the genre from pure escapism to unprecedented heights of tension. *Bourne* films were *Bond* films really, *really* taking themselves seriously. Battling amnesia from the brainwashing that made him an international assassin, Bourne was like James Bond if he hated being 007, and M was the villain.

Without fancy gadgets from Q, Bourne improvised his deadly weapons from everyday materials, destroying enemies with hardcover books, ballpoint pens, lamp cords and bathroom towels.

The role boosted Damon's appeal hugely, and globally, and he happily returned for two sequels, 2004's *The Bourne Supremacy* and then 2007's *The Bourne Ultimatum*.

The stories were a natural fit for Damon, one of Hollywood's most outspoken liberals, because aside from being action movies they tapped into the fears we have about the spy industry infringing on our civil liberties. A deceitful guy wearing a tie and sitting behind a desk is the agent's greatest threat.

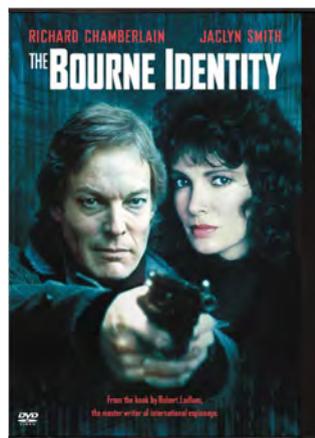
“The first three movies were kind of about the Bush presidency in a way,” Damon says. Bourne was a post-9/11 character being controlled by grim Washington, D.C., bureaucrats playing Cold War chess with human pawns. His battles were fresher, leaner and faster than any spy thriller in years, but they were founded on realism, Damon says, operating “in that world of absence of habeas corpus, and waterboarding.”

We haven't seen Damon as Jason Bourne since he and Greengrass, who helmed *Ultimatum* and *Supremacy*, walked away after the third film, in which Bourne regained his memory. In a franchise-focused industry where actors are often contracted to appear in multiple movies over many years, Damon only signed up for one *Bourne* film at a time. “We kind of had to wait for the world to change a little bit before bringing him back,” Damon says. “We would talk and revisit it every couple

CONTINUED ▶



Matt Damon and Julia Stiles are back together in *Jason Bourne*



## DID YOU KNOW?

Before Matt Damon brought Jason Bourne to the big screen, Richard Chamberlain took a shot at the amnesiac secret agent in a 1988 TV miniseries based on Robert Ludlum's novel. And, yup, that's *Charlie's Angels* star Jaclyn Smith as Marie, Franka Potente's role in the 2002 movie.



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► of years. We'd talk about whether there was a story to tell, was there a way to approach it that would be interesting enough for us to want to do it."

The *Bourne* franchise was on the cusp of supplanting James Bond as the new spy franchise of record until *Casino Royale* copied its grittier tone in 2006 and reinvigorated 007. Bourne waited at the side of the road, parked in neutral, while Damon took an eclectic array of roles for a spin.

He played a cowboy buffoon with a romantic streak in *True Grit*, flaunted a feathered Farrah Fawcett hairdo as Liberace's lover in *Behind the Candelabra* and squeezed into space suits as abandoned astronauts in both *Interstellar* and *The Martian*.

Meanwhile, Greengrass turned his lens to real-world-based international conflicts in *Green Zone* and *Captain Phillips*, and Universal tried to launch a sideline spinoff anointing Jeremy Renner, ever the promising newcomer, as a new action star. The result, 2012's *The Bourne Legacy*, grossed a good but not great \$276-million (U.S.) worldwide (compared with *Ultimatum's* \$443-million.)

Then, thank heavens, *Jason Bourne* arrived.

"I always said I'd be ready to do another one if Paul wanted to do it," Damon says. "It just took us years to decide that we wanted to. That there was something to state with the character, you know?"

"Now I feel it's kind of a post-Snowden world and what does that character have to say?"

Damon says the new film opens with a nighttime riot in destitute, austerity-ridden Greece, the birthplace of democracy, and climaxes with a high-speed nighttime smashup in upscale Las Vegas, a city



with financial issues of its own.

"By the time we got to shooting we were pretty confident in the story we were telling. I feel like it's really important to put this out in the world," he says. "It's got a really important message. Particularly with a presidential election coming up and everybody trying to divide us."

With Damon and Greengrass back in the fold the saga seems to have gotten back on track, and Damon, unfailingly polite, offers best wishes for his spy film's biggest competitor.

"The Bond franchise?" he muses. "Hopefully we can be as successful as them with our next one." ☑

Colin Covert is a film journalist based in Minneapolis, Minnesota.



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*Bad Moms'* unruly stars, from left: Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell and Kathryn Hahn



# Moms Gone WILD

She's bubbly. She's likeable. And, most importantly, she's funny. It's no wonder we see **Kristen Bell** pop up in comedy after comedy. Here she talks about wringing laughs from the pressures of parenthood in ***Bad Moms***

■ BY INGRID RANDOJA

**K**risten Bell was nervous. "I think we all went in going, 'Oh boy, we got six leading ladies, buckle up!'" Bell is referring to the six actors — herself, Mila Kunis, Kathryn Hahn, Annie Mumolo, Christina Applegate and Jada Pinkett Smith — who play the moms, both "good" and "bad," who face off in the raucous comedy *Bad Moms*.

"But everyone was so happy to be there, nobody had a bad attitude, everybody was nice," says Bell on the line from New York City. "And we were very giggly because the material we were working on was pretty perverted, which not a lot of us get to do very often, and those are the scenes that make you gut laugh."

Bell, Kunis and Hahn play three overwhelmed mothers who can't keep up with their kids' schedules and the overbearing demands of three seemingly perfect PTA moms — Mumolo, Pinkett Smith and Applegate. The pressure builds until the stressed-out mothers let loose and indulge in some very un-mom-like behaviour.

CONTINUED ▶

**Wonder what they do all day?**

**THE SECRET  
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IN THEATRES AND REAL D 3D

**JULY 8**

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**BAD MOMS**  
HITS THEATRES  
JULY 29<sup>TH</sup>



Quiet down in front!  
From left: Bell, Kunis and  
Hahn let loose at the movies

“I don’t always have the time to arrange the kids’ food into little cute creatures, sometimes you just slap it on the plate and say, ‘Eat, we gotta go!’”

► “These moms band together at their school and buck the system a little bit against the PTA moms and say, ‘We may do it differently, but all types of parenting can work.’”

Bell believes the cast was chosen very carefully.

“I could personally relate to the feelings of wanting to raise your kid right, not wanting to mess up, and how impossible it can feel at times,” she says, “and I think that’s why they hired all these actresses who are all moms, I think they wanted everyone to have a personal connection to the material.”

Bell, who is married to actor Dax Shepard, is the mother of two girls: three-year-old Lincoln and 19-month-old Delta. She says that, although *Bad Moms* is funny, it also highlights the more serious notion that parents, especially mothers, should not expect to be perfect, nor should they judge themselves too harshly.

“With social media we see an edited, perfect version of what parenting looks like. I am not *too* insecure when it comes to my own parenting,”

she says with a laugh, “and I just choose not to beat myself up when I don’t have things perfect at home. I don’t always have time to arrange the kids’ food into little cute creatures, sometimes you just slap it on the plate and say, ‘Eat, we gotta go.’”

Bell is in New York doing press for her upcoming TV show *The Good Place*, about a not-so-nice woman who is mistakenly sent to heaven and works hard not to get sent back down to Earth. It’s just the latest comedic effort from the 35-year-old star who is embracing her natural talent for making people laugh.

“It really is instinctual,” she says. “I feel if I don’t know it immediately, if I read it and don’t think I can deliver that joke, then I’m not really sure how to do it. It’s hard if you can’t see it, but most of the material I’ve tackled has been instinctual and I just know.”

“But it’s interesting, as I grew older I recognized that not everybody can do every part,” she notes.

“I had a hunger and a desire to work so badly when I was young that I thought I could play absolutely every role. Then I realized there are certain intangibles about your personality that come through. I know one of mine is that I am not intimidating. I am small and bubbly and have a likeable quality, so it’s particularly funny when you see me being nasty. Comedy comes in oppositions, and so maybe I wouldn’t be the best for every part, and as I got older I was okay with that. I didn’t have to have jealousy or envy about someone else getting the role.”

*Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of  
Cineplex Magazine.*

## PREPARED FOR THE JOB

All six stars of *Bad Moms* are also moms off-screen. Here’s a look at their broods

### KRISTEN BELL AND ACTOR/ HUSBAND DAX SHEPARD

Daughter Lincoln (age three)  
Daughter Delta (age 19 months)

### MILA KUNIS AND ACTOR/ HUSBAND ASHTON KUTCHER

Daughter Wyatt  
(age 21 months)

### KATHRYN HAHN AND ACTOR/ HUSBAND ETHAN SANDLER

Son Leonard (age nine)  
Daughter Mae (age seven)

### JADA PINKETT SMITH AND ACTOR/HUSBAND WILL SMITH

Son Trey (age 23)  
Son Jaden (age 18)  
Daughter Willow (age 15)

### CHRISTINA APPLIGATE AND MUSICIAN/HUSBAND MARTYN LENOBLE

Daughter Sadie (age five)

### ANNIE MUMOLO AND ACTOR/HUSBAND TIM LOVESTEDT

Two kids (no names, genders or ages have been reported)

# Wonder what they do all day?

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LIFE OF

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**JULY 8**

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# They Ain't Afraid NO GHOSTS



Meet the new Ghostbusters, from left:  
Kate McKinnon, Melissa McCarthy,  
Kristen Wiig and Leslie Jones

# d of STARS



There are many things the cast of the new ***Ghostbusters*** ain't afraid of. The supernatural entities invading New York. The ghosts of the franchise's past that loom as large as the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man. Even the swarms of male naysayers who don't want to see four women take over ghost-busting duties. Lead buster **Melissa McCarthy** explains why there's no need to be scared ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

**F**ans have been clamouring for a third *Ghostbusters* movie for more than a quarter century. Now they're finally getting it, a reboot simply called *Ghostbusters* like the first, 1984 supernatural comedy blockbuster.

But there are those who, before seeing a frame, have convinced themselves they won't like it. There's just no pleasing some people.

Or perhaps, more specifically, it's hard to get certain aging fanboys past their nostalgia-addled prejudices to accept the potentially brilliant idea that, instead of a bunch of geeky male parapsychologists combating an ectoplasmic attack on New York City, this time it's a team of nerdy women strapping on the proton packs.

"For me, I'm just like, eh, we're only rebooting that story," notes one of the new Ghostbusters, Melissa McCarthy. "To me, it's just like if men were rebooting it. It's not like we're walking around talking about, 'We're gonna get ghosts with lipstick in our high heels!' We're still just scientists."

McCarthy's Abby Yates leads a Murderers' Row of contemporary comic geniuses — her *Bridesmaids* co-star Kristen Wiig and current *Saturday Night Live* standouts Kate McKinnon and Leslie Jones — against the slime-spewing threat coming up from Manhattan's subways.

Although the quartet roughly mirrors the group originally played by Bill Murray, Dan Aykroyd, the late Harold Ramis and Ernie Hudson — with Chris Hemsworth's hot receptionist as a sex role-reversed combination of the Annie Potts and Sigourney Weaver characters — McCarthy wants to assure fans that no one's trying to do Dr. Peter Venkman or Egon Spengler with makeup.

"We're completely new characters," she says during a Los Angeles interview. "I'm not the female equivalent of Dan Aykroyd or Bill Murray. Totally new characters."

Canadian comedy icon and the director of the first two films, Ivan Reitman, spent decades trying to get the band back together following 1989's *Ghostbusters II* but met roadblock after roadblock, primarily due to Murray's dissatisfaction with proposed storylines. The franchise's reins were eventually turned over to writer/director Paul Feig while Reitman remained on as a producer of the new *Ghostbusters*. Murray, Aykroyd and other surviving original cast members reportedly make cameo appearances.

Having guided McCarthy and other funny women through such hits as *Bridesmaids*, *The Heat* and *Spy*, Feig — with the help of co-writer Katie Dippold — made sure the new *Ghostbusters* script respected the feminine point-of-view no matter how much its heroines got slimed.

"The fact that we're women does put a different spin on it, sure," McCarthy acknowledges. "But it's not like we're now going, 'Thank God we've got these curling irons and eyelash curlers!' I think people should know from the movies that Paul Feig makes that that's not the agenda. He writes good characters, he writes real people and he writes people in unusual circumstances. It's still the same heroic story of four unlikely people saving New York City." CONTINUED ►

**GHOSTBUSTERS**  
HITS THEATRES  
JULY 15<sup>TH</sup>



The Ghostbusters get busy

Go to [CINEPLEX.COM/MCCARTHYMOMENTS](http://CINEPLEX.COM/MCCARTHYMOMENTS) for the top times Melissa McCarthy made us laugh out loud



## WHAT A SAINT

Melissa McCarthy's movie career has taken off largely because, despite that cherubic face, this woman is able to launch into raunchy tirades that would make Andrew Dice Clay blush.

But her *Ghostbusters* character, Abby Yates, seems more in line with McCarthy's softer, sweeter TV roles, like loving wife Molly of *Mike & Molly*, and klutzy, kindhearted chef Sookie St. James (pictured above) of TV's *Gilmore Girls*.

Sookie was such a beloved part of the show that word McCarthy wouldn't return for *Gilmore Girls'* four-episode Netflix revival made it feel like there was a Roquefort puff-shaped hole in the project.

Fortunately, in April, McCarthy announced during an appearance on *Ellen* that *Gilmore Girls* creator Amy Sherman-Palladino had indeed found a way to squeeze her into the filming schedule, adding, "I'm very happy to go back to Stars Hollow."

Huzzah, as shopkeeper and Town Selectman Taylor Doose would say. Or should have, if he never did.

*Gilmore Girls: Seasons* is expected to hit Netflix later this year. —MV

► For McCarthy, the chance to be a Ghostbuster was a dream all around.

"For sure I was a fan of the original," she says. "And this one was a blast to shoot. I love those women, I love Paul, I loved everything about it and I think people are going to be really excited to see it."

Although she's working more frequently now with her director/husband Ben Falcone (*The Boss*, *Tammy*), McCarthy was eager to go a fourth round with Feig, who directed her to a Supporting Actress Oscar nomination in *Bridesmaids*.

"I always talk about Paul saying 'Dealer's choice! Dealer's choice!'" she notes. "He wants you to do what you want to do before we do the scripted version. If you have an idea, he's like, 'Don't even tell me, just do it.' He hires the people that are right and trusts them, then lets them rip with it."

That includes Jones, whose character, subway worker Patty Tolan, was criticized for appearing to be an African American stereotype and the only non-intellectual Ghostbuster when the film's polarizing trailer dropped in March.

"Leslie's the fish out of water, she knows the city better than we do and she knows the underground stuff, which is crucial," McCarthy explains. "It's still four unlikely heroes."

Regardless of the controversies it's triggered, *Ghostbusters* marks the biggest film yet in McCarthy's own, somewhat unlikely rise to Hollywood superstardom.

Raised on a farm outside of Chicago, McCarthy, now 45, began her improv career in New York while also studying at the prestigious Actors Studio. In the late 1990s she moved to Los Angeles and joined the seminal live comedy troupe The Groundlings (where she met her husband), then made her first television appearance on cousin Jenny McCarthy's self-titled show.

The regular role of Sookie St. James on TV's *Gilmore Girls* gave glimpses of the sweet and sometimes severely salty comic persona McCarthy would eventually grow into a powerful signature brand. In 2010 the six-season run of *Mike & Molly*, in which she and Billy Gardell starred as lonely, overweight Chicagoans who fall in love, began.

*Bridesmaids'* success launched McCarthy's film career into the stratosphere less than a year later, but she kept playing the Emmy-winning role of Molly Flynn until the show's final episode this spring.

"It was, certainly, working with the nicest group of people in the world," she says of *Mike & Molly's* cast and crew. "We had a very weird thing where, the day we all met we felt like we had been together for 10 years. Our kids were always on set, it was a total family atmosphere and I miss it."

The movies McCarthy makes these days are hardly family-friendly; horror hybrid *Ghostbusters* may, ironically, be her most appropriate comedy for the younger set in years. But it's largely the raunchiness she applies to her do-or-say-anything movie characters that's made her Hollywood's most bankable female actor.

Appreciate that, fanboys.

"Apparently I was, like, a drunk sailor in a previous life," McCarthy jokes. "There is a freedom to how loose and how open those movie sets are. When you're really, really allowed to do it, you can go as far as you possibly can. So I have no self-stoppers, I feel okay to try anything." ❏

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

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BY INGRID RANDOJA



## GARFIELD'S LAKE TRIP

**Andrew Garfield** is joining **Dakota Johnson** for the crime thriller *Under the Silver Lake* set in modern-day Los Angeles. Director **David Robert Mitchell**, who creeped out audiences with his indie horror movie *It Follows*, is keeping the plot under wraps, but shooting gets underway later this summer.



## WILL CRANSTON HIT JACKPOT?

**Bryan Cranston** is circling the remake of the Norwegian action comedy *Jackpot*, about a man who mysteriously wakes up in a strip club, holding a gun and surrounded by dead bodies. The original film is based on a story by famed crime writer **Jo Nesbo**. **Will Gluck** (*Annie*) directs.

PHOTO BY JOHN PHILLIPS GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET

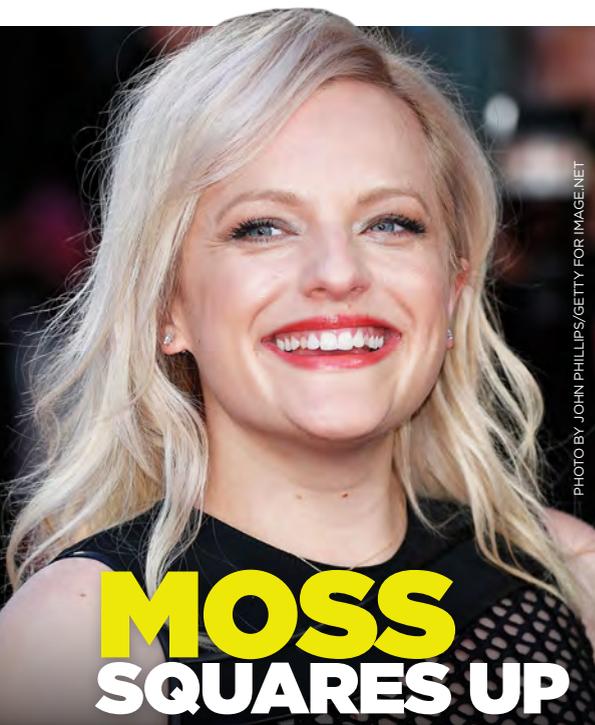


PHOTO BY JOHN PHILLIPS GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET

## MOSS SQUARES UP

Filming is underway on *The Square*, which stars **Elisabeth Moss** as a reporter covering a controversial art exhibit that shakes up society. The dark dramedy is directed by rising Swedish helmer **Ruben Ostlund** (*Force Majeure*).

## WHAT'S GOING ON WITH...

### THOR: RAGNAROK

A stellar cast is busy filming the third Thor pic, *Thor: Ragnarok*, under the watchful eye of director **Taika Waititi** (*What We Do in the Shadows*) in Australia. Series mainstays **Chris Hemsworth**, **Tom Hiddleston** and **Idris Elba** are joined by newcomers **Cate Blanchett** as the villain Hela, **Jeff Goldblum** as the Grandmaster, **Karl Urban** as Skurge the Executioner and **Tessa Thompson** who replaces **Natalie Portman** as Thor's new love interest. And look for big green guy Hulk (**Mark Ruffalo**) to make an appearance. *Thor: Ragnarok* hits screens November 3rd, 2017.

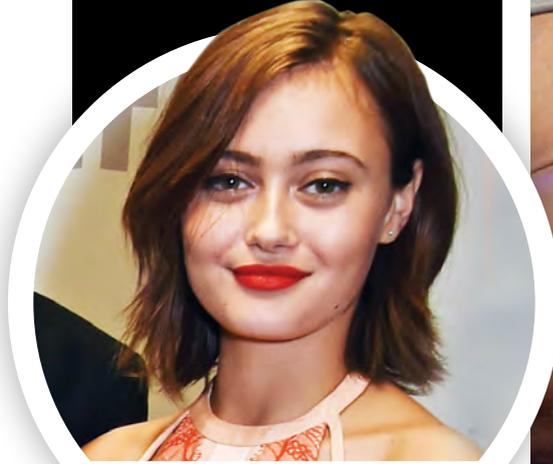




PHOTO BY PAUL ZIMMERMAN/GETTY

# MYERS IS BACK!

Mike Myers' last feature film role was in 2009's *Inglourious Basterds*, but the Canadian funnyman is finally returning to the big screen in the thriller *Terminal*, which stars Margot Robbie as a mysterious woman who makes life difficult for a pair of hit men (Max Irons, Dexter Fletcher). We don't know what character Myers plays, but we do know he's been cast alongside the equally amusing Simon Pegg.



# FRESH FACE ELLA PURNELL

You may recognize Ella Purnell as the younger version of some of Hollywood's biggest stars. The 19-year-old portrayed the young Keira Knightley in *Never Let Me Go*, the young Angelina Jolie in *Maleficent* and this month she's the young Jane (Margot Robbie) in *The Legend of Tarzan*. She does, however, lay claim to her very own character, Emma Bloom, the love interest of Jacob Portman (Asa Butterfield) in the upcoming *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*.



# JOHNSON IS JANSON

Universal Pictures can't get enough of late spy novelist Robert Ludlum's creations. His forgetful spy Jason Bourne has his own successful film franchise starring Matt Damon, and now Dwayne Johnson is officially on board to play Paul Janson in *The Janson Directive*. Janson is an ex-superspy who's hired to rescue a kidnapped billionaire, but the plan fails and he's forced to run for his life. There are four Janson books so Johnson could be beating up bad guys on screen for years to come.

PHOTO BY JESSE GRANT/GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET

**ALSO IN THE WORKS** ▶ Oscar Isaac plays a murdered man who leaves behind a trove of videos that point to his killers in *A Foreigner*. ▶ *The Bookshop* casts Emily Mortimer as a woman who opens a bookstore in a sleepy, 1950s English seaside town. ▶ Milla Jovovich portrays a drug lord in director James Franco's post-apocalyptic drama *Future World*. ▶ Eddie Redmayne lends his voice to *Early Man*, Aardman Animation's latest stop-motion pic. It's about a tribe of caveman who invent soccer.

PHOTO BY DAVID M. BENNETT/GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET



# Finding **Her Place**

**“My leading men had been dogs and horses.”**

That’s Elizabeth Taylor referring to her various co-stars up until she was cast opposite Montgomery Clift in director George Stevens’ 1951 melodrama *A Place in the Sun*.

Taylor, the child star of MGM films such as *Lassie Come Home* and *National Velvet*, was just 17 when Stevens asked her to play Angela Vickers, the wealthy socialite who falls in love with George Eastman (Clift), an

ambitious, but poor, young man who is already engaged to pregnant factory worker Alice Tripp (Shelley Winters). Desperate to get rid of Alice, George resorts to extreme measures.

Although still a teenager, Taylor exudes a worldly sexuality that is unsettling for one so young, but she would mature into and harness that magnetic sex appeal, and emerge as one of Hollywood’s most celebrated stars. —INGRID RANDOJA

**A PLACE  
IN THE SUN**

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## BARBERSHOP: THE NEXT CUT

RENT IT JULY 5

Barbershop owner Calvin (**Ice Cube**) has seen his Chicago neighbourhood change from family-friendly to gang-friendly, and sets out to clean up his community. Co-starring **Cedric the Entertainer**, **Nicki Minaj** and **Common**.



## THE BOSS

RENT IT JULY 5

**Melissa McCarthy** once again shows off her slapstick skills playing disgraced business tycoon Michelle Darnell, who moves in with her former personal assistant (**Kristen Bell**) and starts a take-no-prisoners brownie business.

## KEANU

RENT IT JULY 12

The wry, socially conscious humour of comedy duo **Jordan Peele** and **Keegan-Michael Key** anchors this action-packed romp that sees straight-laced cousins Rell and Clarence teaming up with gangstas to rescue their stolen cat Keanu.



## EVERYBODY WANTS SOME!!

RENT IT JULY 12

*Boyhood* director **Richard Linklater** returns to his fun-loving filmmaking roots with this college sports pic set in the 1980s that stars **Blake Jenner** as freshman baseball pitcher Jake, who moves into a house with his raucous teammates and gets an education in partying.



## ALLEGIANT

RENT IT JULY 12

The third film in the *Divergent* series finds Tris (**Shailene Woodley**) and Four (**Theo James**) escaping Chicago and taking refuge at the Bureau of Genetic Warfare. The bureau's leader (**Jeff Daniels**) promises he'll help stop the various factions in Chicago from going to war with one another. But can our heroes trust him?



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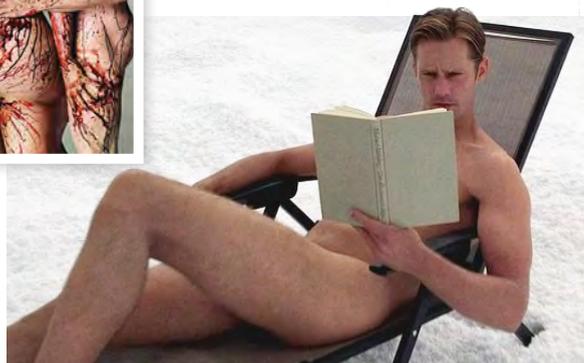
# FINALLY...



# SKIN IN THE GAME



PHOTO BY KEVIN WINTER/GETTY



**A**lexander Skarsgård may not be the first actor you'd think of for the role of Tarzan. He's blond; in Edgar Rice Burroughs' book Tarzan had long black hair. He's Swedish; Tarzan was the son of a British lord.

But even if Skarsgård — who plays the king of the jungle in *The Legend of Tarzan* — isn't perfect for the role at first glance, the role is perfect for him. That's because he's really comfortable with his clothes off.

Here he is, clockwise from top left, in *The Legend of Tarzan*, presenting alongside Samuel L. Jackson at this year's MTV Movie Awards, on TV's *True Blood*, in 2012's *Disconnect*, in 2011's *Straw Dogs*, and (centre inset) on a *Rolling Stone* cover promoting *True Blood*.

—MARNI WEISZ

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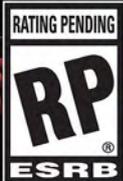
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