

NOVEMBER 2014 | VOLUME 15 | NUMBER 11

CINEMA EX

MAGAZINE

Inside
EDDIE
REDMAYNE
JON
STEWART
JEFF
DANIELS

WHAT'S
HER SECRET?
HUNGER GAMES STAR

JENNIFER
LAWRENCE
TALKS ACTING,
OSCARS AND
MOCKINGJAY-PART 1

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15 HOLIDAY GIFT IDEAS TO GET YOU GOING, PAGE 36

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Jennifer Lawrence can play hardcore drama, milk a laugh and kick ass as a superhero. She returns as Katniss Everdeen in this month's *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 1*, and in this exclusive interview the 24-year-old Oscar winner talks about the inspiration for her *Hunger Games* character and the secrets of her acting success

BY MARNI WEISZ



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BY MARNI WEISZ





FEELING IT

Here's a question. Do you need a heightened sense of empathy to be an actor — to put oneself in someone else's shoes and pull off a convincing performance?

That's what empathy is, isn't it? "The ability to understand and share the feelings of another," according to the Oxford Dictionary. Pretty important stuff for thespians.

And yet when psychologist Thalia R. Goldstein, one of the few researchers to study the psychology of acting (and *Psychology Today*'s resident expert in the field), set out to prove that very point, that actors must have "unusually strong empathy," she was surprised to find it wasn't the case. She and her partners, Ellen Winner and Katherine Wu, tested the empathy levels of acting students and psychology students and found the psychology students had a slight edge in their ability to empathize.

Well, maybe Goldstein should talk to **Jennifer Lawrence**.

When I interviewed Lawrence for this month's cover story, the formidable talent (three Oscar nominations and one win before the age of 24) who has never taken an acting class said she thought empathy may be the key to her success.

"I have a hard time crying in real life, and somebody asked me, 'How can you cry on the spot when you're acting in a movie, but you can't cry in real life?'" she said. Then she started to think about empathy. "It's easier [for me] to feel empathy for somebody else, I can feel that very strongly, like when somebody tells me a story about something, and I can really feel it."

Now, Goldstein and her partners admitted their study was only a starting point and raised more questions than it answered. They also hypothesized that actors may have to shut down their empathetic reactions in real life because feeling others' emotions on a constant basis "is emotionally exhausting." And they wondered whether "negative personality traits that draw people to acting, such as narcissism or maladjustment, may stand in the way of feeling empathy." Ouch. An interesting point, though.

Here's my hypothesis. Perhaps while actors, in general, don't have a heightened sense of empathy, great actors such as Lawrence — the ones who completely transform themselves from role to role to role — do, and that's what separates them from the rest.

Just a theory. Go with it, Thalia. We're sure Lawrence will be more than happy to partake in whatever study you cook up next. And, whether it goes well or not, she'll feel for you — and with you — every step of the way.

For more insight into what's so darn special about Jennifer Lawrence turn to "Kat Came Back," page 32, my chat with the talented Louisville, Kentucky, native about her method, those Oscars and the penultimate *Hunger Games* movie, *Mockingjay - Part 1*.

Elsewhere in this issue we have an interview with **Eddie Redmayne** about his transformation into cosmologist Stephen Hawking for *The Theory of Everything* (page 22), **Jon Stewart** talks about taking a three-month hiatus from *The Daily Show* to make *Rosewater* (page 26) and **Jeff Daniels** explains his motivation for making the *Dumb and Dumber* sequel, *Dumb and Dumber To* (page 30).

Plus, on page 36 you'll find our first **Holiday Gift Guide** of the season. And if you don't find anything you like in there (though it's really good stuff, I swear) be sure to pick up next month's issue which will feature even more gift ideas.

■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR

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SNAPS



TRUE LOVE?

Antonio Banderas poses with his robot co-star from *Autómata* at the San Sebastian International Film Festival.

PHOTO BY KEYSSTONE PRESS



BICYCLE BUILT FOR FOUR?

That can't be safe.
Liev Schreiber, Naomi Watts and their two sons squeeze onto a bicycle for a ride through New York City.

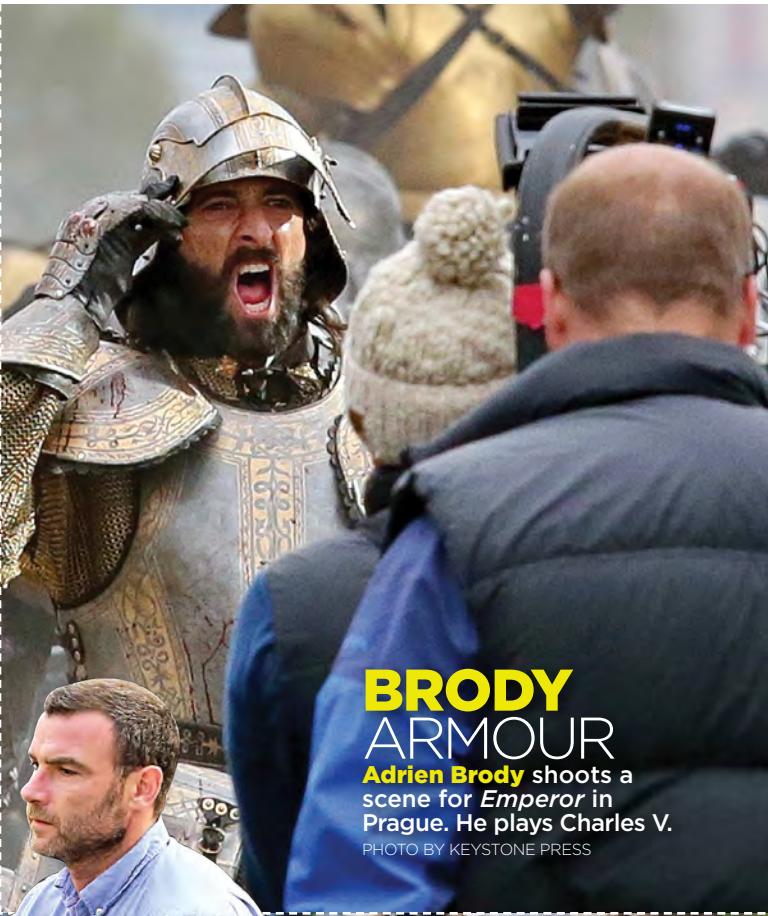
PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



BRODY ARMOUR

Adrien Brody shoots a scene for *Emperor* in Prague. He plays Charles V.

PHOTO BY KEYSSTONE PRESS



IN BRIEF

2001 REASONS TO SEE INTERSTELLAR

How's this for an honest answer? When asked by a fan at Comic-Con which movies inspired his new sci-fi *Interstellar*, director Christopher Nolan said, "I wouldn't want to give too complete a list because then when you see the film you'll see all the things I've ripped off. And I'm not joking when I say that."

Nolan did give up titles like *Star Wars* and *Blade Runner* as influences not only for

this film, but his career as a filmmaker.

And then he admitted that the single biggest inspiration for *Interstellar* — in which a group of astronauts led by Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway leave an arid Earth in search of fertile new planets — is Stanley Kubrick's trippy 1968 masterpiece *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Nolan recalled going to see a re-release of *2001* with his dad at a Leicester Square theatre when he was a child.



Christopher Nolan (left) and Matthew McConaughey on *Interstellar*'s set

Leonardo DiCaprio



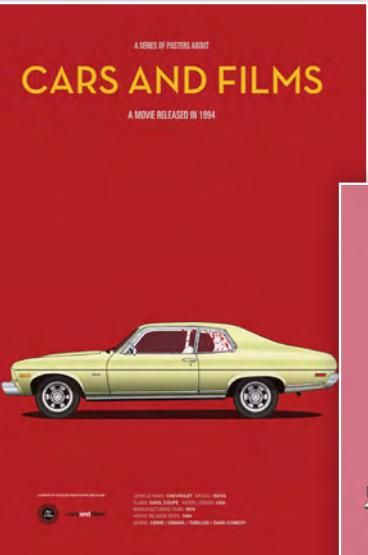
Both B.C. and Alberta play host to some pretty serious star power from now through the end of March as Leonardo DiCaprio, Tom Hardy, Will Poulter, Domhnall Gleeson and their director Alejandro González Iñárritu (*Birdman*) move in to shoot *The Revenant*.

The 1820s-set thriller will utilize landscapes in both provinces to tell the story of trapper Hugh Glass (DiCaprio), who is abandoned by his fellow frontiersmen after being mauled, and seriously injured, by a bear.

A casting call went out in August looking for an Alberta First Nations boy to play a pivotal role in the film. No acting experience required. —MW

THE ART OF FILM

Jesús Prudencio is a Spanish web designer and illustrator living in Seville who has combined two of his passions for a series called "Cars and Films." Prudencio noticed that a lot of artists were coming out with homespun movie posters and wanted to give the trend a novel spin by concentrating only on the cars featured in the films. "Not only legendary films, but also films that I admire and where the cars are not as well known," he says. The cheeky posters don't even include the movie titles. In case you can't figure these ones out, from left to right they depict vehicles from *Pulp Fiction*, *Thelma & Louise* and *The Shining*. Go to carsandfilms.com to see more. —MW



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► MOM MOMENT OF THE MONTH

That's Chloe Grace Moretz's mom, Teri, in the background trying to snap a shot of her famous daughter on the red carpet during *If I Stay*'s L.A. premiere. The real paparazzi tried to shoo mom away because she was getting in their pics. That's when Chloe turned around and yelled, "That's my mom!"



This portrait of Catherine the Great by 18th-century artist Vigilius Eriksen is just one of the master works featured in *Hermitage Revealed*, part of Cineplex's "In the Gallery" series. The guided tour through St. Petersburg, Russia's magnificent Hermitage Museum screens November 16th and 19th. For more info go to Cineplex.com/Gallery.



Quote Unquote

“It’s a really cool world that we’re creating, the San Fransokyo world, which is a mashup of San Francisco and Tokyo. It’s kind of slightly futuristic, *Blade Runner*-ish, you know, in a Disney way.”

—BIG HERO 6
DIRECTOR DON HALL





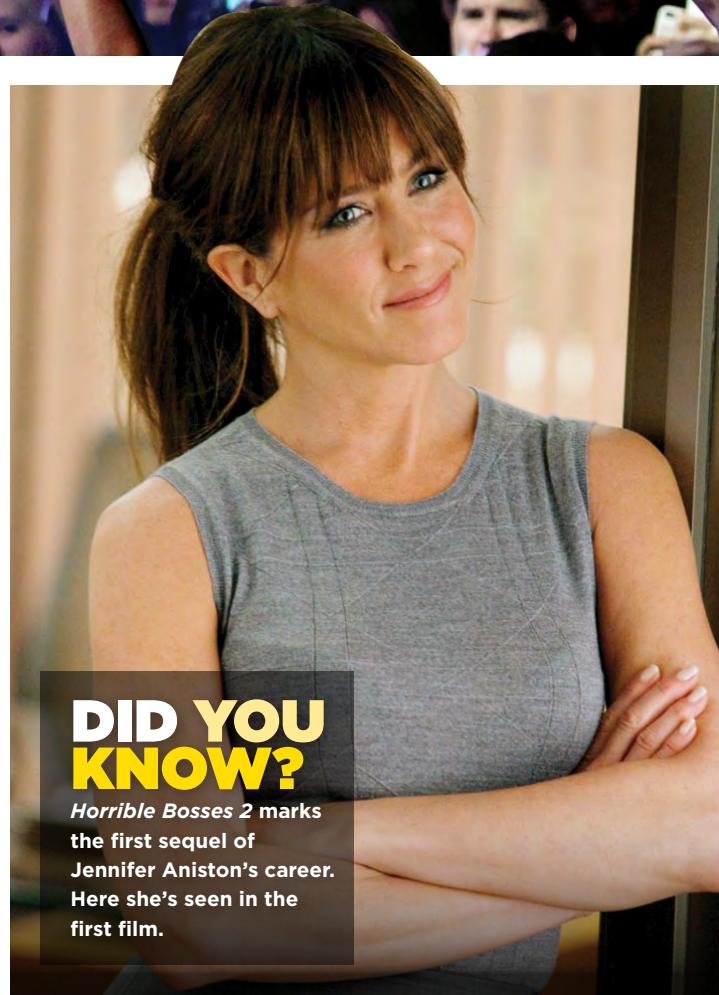
LETO IN THE PEG

Jared Leto, you photogenic fool. Just when we'd decided to take a break from running photos of you (there are too many great ones) you hoist the Canadian flag during a 30 Seconds to Mars performance in Winnipeg and force us to feature you yet again.



GOOD POINT

Considering the rabid nature of Benedict Cumberbatch's fanbase, the existence of two separate tumblr sites dedicated to pointing out how much the actor likes to point isn't all *that* surprising. The aptly named Benedictpointsatthings.tumblr.com and Cumberbatchpointingatthings.tumblr.com both feature candid and red-carpet images in which the English actor extends an elegant finger. Apparently, his animated incarnation is no different as we see in this still of the Cumberbatch-voiced wolf Agent Classified from this month's *Penguins of Madagascar*. —MW



DID YOU KNOW?

Horrible Bosses 2 marks the first sequel of Jennifer Aniston's career. Here she's seen in the first film.

SPOTLIGHT CANADA



HEARTBEAT
HITS THEATRES
NOVEMBER 21ST

Poetry in MOTION

If you're wondering whether to invest the time and ticket in the Halifax-shot flick *Heartbeat*, check out the gentle video poem "How to Be Alone" on star Tanya Davis' website, tanyadavis.ca.

Davis, who is a well-known spoken-word artist, musician and performer in Halifax (she was the city's Poet Laureate a few years back), says that 2010 short film was the seed of what became her first movie with long-time collaborator, director Andrea Dorfman.

"It's something that we both think about a lot and talk about a lot," Davis says of being alone. "Around the time that we made 'How to Be Alone' we had been having discussions, a lot, about the nature of solitude, the stigma around it, loneliness in society. So Andrea said 'Why don't we make it on how to be alone?'"

Shot amid Halifax's woolly hats and old bungalows, *Heartbeat* stars Davis as Justine, a twentysomething trying to define her relationship with an ex-boyfriend, exploring a potentially exciting new relationship, and — more importantly — figuring out how to reconnect with herself, a talented singer, songwriter and guitarist (much like Davis) who's in a personal and professional rut.

Though she'd done a "bit of theatre" before, Davis had no training as an actor and certainly hadn't done anything like this. So how did she react when Dorfman asked her to play Justine? "My impulse was 'Yes!' right away, and then I got nervous," says Davis. "But I like trying new things as an artist, I like changing what I'm up to because I like variety in life and I like to learn."

Heartbeat — which earned spots at the Toronto International Film Festival and Atlantic Film Festival before this month's theatrical release — also forced Davis to write a bunch of new songs for the soundtrack, some of which her character plays on a hand-painted guitar. Her poetry is woven into the story, too.

On a low-budget film like this, we wonder if Justine's thrift-store duds were hers as well. Some, she says, but she and Justine are not interchangeable. "I share similarities with the character, I'm a little bit more tomboyish than she is," says Davis. "She was a bit more frumpy than I am." —MARNI WEISZ



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ALL DRESSED UP

ANNA FARIS

In Las Vegas for the
iHeart Radio Music Festival.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IDRIS ELBA

In New York for the
Clinton Global Citizen Awards.

PHOTO BY PAUL ZIMMERMAN/GETTY

JESSICA CHASTAIN

In San Sebastian for a screening of
The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS





TINA FEY

At the L.A. premiere of
This is Where I Leave You.

PHOTO BY JASON KEMPIN/GETTY



REESE WITHERSPOON

In Nashville for a screening of
The Good Lie.

PHOTO BY RICK DIAMOND/GETTY



AL PACINO

In London for a screening of
Salomé and *Wilde Salomé*.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN THEATRES

NOVEMBER 7



Interstellar's astronauts
Matthew McConaughey
and Anne Hathaway

BIG HERO 6

This animated Disney film is based on a lesser-known Marvel comic book published in the 1990s. Genius teenager Hiro Hamada (voiced by **Ryan Potter**) and his tenderhearted robot Baymax enlist the help of friends Wasabi, Go Go Tomago, Honey Lemon and Fred to take on the mysterious criminal organization that threatens the city of San Fransokyo.



Big Hero 6

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

Eddie Redmayne gives an incredible performance as Stephen Hawking in this bio-pic that focuses primarily on his relationship with wife Jane (**Felicity Jones**). Despite suffering from a debilitating motor neuron disease, Stephen becomes a world-renowned cosmologist. However, it's Jane who must deal with the enormous demands of caring for him and their children. See **Eddie Redmayne interview, page 22.**



INTERSTELLAR

An overtaxed Earth will soon run out of food, so a group of astronauts — led by **Matthew McConaughey** — are sent through a newly discovered wormhole to find a planet that's suitable for human life. Director **Christopher Nolan** brings his epic sense of storytelling to this sci-fi that also stars **Anne Hathaway**, **Jessica Chastain**, **Michael Caine** and **Casey Affleck**.



Henri star
Victor Andres Turgeon-Trelles

HENRI HENRI

After living his entire life in an orphanage, the naive Henri (**Victor Andres Turgeon-Trelles**) is finally sent packing. His skill as an electrician brings him to a rundown mansion in rural Quebec where his inner kindness lights up the lives of those around him.

GEMMA BOVERY

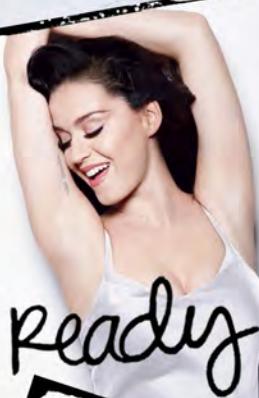
Gustave Flaubert's classic novel *Madame Bovary* is reimagined in this modern dramedy about English couple Charlie (**Jason Flemyng**) and Gemma Bovary (**Gemma Arterton**) moving to the French countryside where the sexually and romantically frustrated Gemma looks for love among the locals.

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NOVEMBER 14



► DUMB AND DUMBER TO

It's been 20 years since we last saw imbecile pals Lloyd Christmas (**Jim Carrey**) and Harry Dunne (**Jeff Daniels**) try to return a briefcase full of cash in *Dumb and Dumber*. They're back — along with original directors the **Farrelly Brothers** — for another installment of gross-out, idiotic fun that sees the duo searching for Harry's long lost daughter. **See Jeff Daniels interview, page 30.**

ROSEWATER

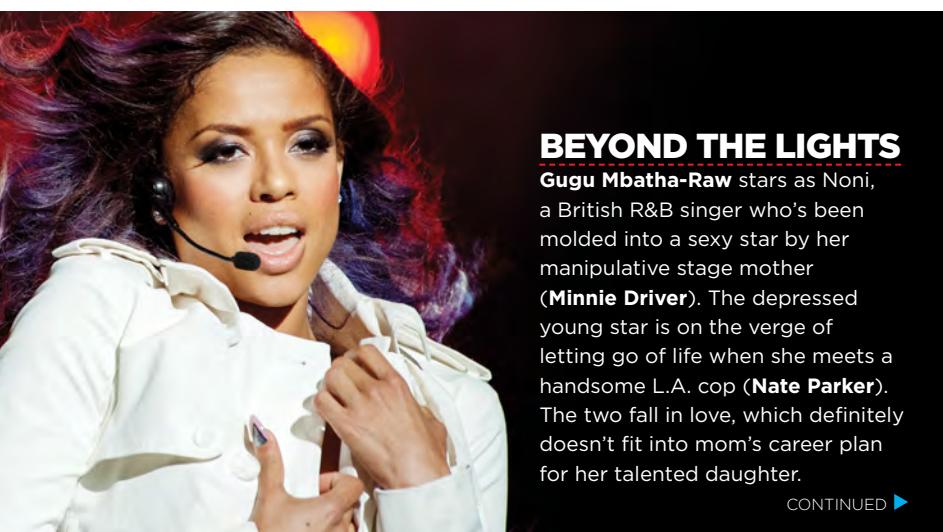
The host of TV's *The Daily Show*, **Jon Stewart**, makes his directing debut with this drama about Iranian-Canadian journalist Maziar Bahari (**Gael García Bernal**), whose reporting on Iran's 2009 elections — including a segment on *The Daily Show* — landed him in an Iranian prison. **See Jon Stewart interview, page 26.**

ELSA & FRED

The impetuous and fun-loving Elsa (**Shirley MacLaine**) is determined to make the dour Fred (**Christopher Plummer**) realize that it's never too late to embrace life or fall in love.



Rosewater's Gael García Bernal



BEYOND THE LIGHTS

Gugu Mbatha-Raw stars as Noni, a British R&B singer who's been molded into a sexy star by her manipulative stage mother (**Minnie Driver**). The depressed young star is on the verge of letting go of life when she meets a handsome L.A. cop (**Nate Parker**). The two fall in love, which definitely doesn't fit into mom's career plan for her talented daughter.

CONTINUED ▶

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NOVEMBER 21



► THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 1

The first film in the two-part *Hunger Games* finale finds Katniss (**Jennifer Lawrence**), her family and the survivors of the destroyed District 12 hiding in an underground compound. Led by President Coin (**Julianne Moore**), Katniss and the rebels plan a daring attack on the Capitol to rescue the brainwashed Peeta (**Josh Hutcherson**). See **Jennifer Lawrence** interview, page 32.



HEARTBEAT

Set in Halifax, this indie dramedy sees singer/songwriter Justine (**Tanya Davis**) trying to rekindle her love of music after breaking up with her boyfriend. See **Tanya Davis** interview, page 12.

THE HOMESMAN

Tommy Lee Jones directs and stars in this Western about a gritty spinster (**Hilary Swank**) who teams with a down-and-out frontiersman (Jones) to take three mentally unstable women from Nebraska back east to a sanatorium.



FAMILY FAVOURITES

- RANGO**
SAT., NOV. 1
HOTEL FOR DOGS
SAT., NOV. 8
HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 3D
SAT., NOV. 15
MADAGASCAR 3: EUROPE'S MOST WANTED
SAT., NOV. 22
THE LEGO MOVIE
SAT., NOV. 29

THE METROPOLITAN OPERA

- CARMEN (BIZET)**
LIVE: SAT., NOV. 1
ENCORES: SAT., NOV. 29; SUN., NOV. 30
MACBETH (VERDI)
ENCORES: MON., NOV. 10; SAT., NOV. 15
THE BARBER OF SEVILLE (ROSSINI)
LIVE: SAT., NOV. 22

- IN THE GALLERY VIKINGS FROM THE BRITISH MUSEUM**

- SUN., NOV. 2; WED., NOV. 5
DAVID BOWIE IS
THURS., NOV. 6
HERMITAGE REVEALED
SUN., NOV. 16; WED., NOV. 19

- NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE OF MICE AND MEN**
THURS., NOV. 6;
THURS., NOV. 13; SUN., NOV. 23;
MON., NOV. 24

- BIG APPLE CIRCUS LIVE METAMORPHOSIS**
SAT., NOV. 8

- CLASSIC FILM SERIES GONE WITH THE WIND**
SUN., NOV. 9; WED., NOV. 12;
MON., NOV. 17

- DANCE SERIES THE BOLSHOI BALLET THE PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER**
ENCORE: THURS., NOV. 20

- WWE SURVIVOR SERIES - 2014**
SUN., NOV. 23

NOVEMBER 26



Charlie Day (left) and Jason Sudeikis in *Horrible Bosses 2*

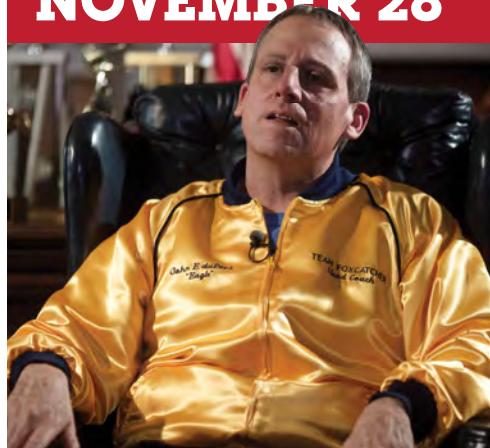
HORRIBLE BOSSSES 2

Inept criminals Nick (**Jason Bateman**), Kurt (**Jason Sudeikis**) and Dale (**Charlie Day**) survived their initial brush with crime; trying to kill their bosses in the first film. Here they kidnap the son (**Chris Pine**) of the guy (**Christoph Waltz**) who cheated them in a business deal.

PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR

The penguins from the *Madagascar* films (and their own animated TV series) star in this origin tale that explains they are in fact secret agents recruited by an all-animal spy force led by a wolf (**Benedict Cumberbatch**) to take on a mad genius octopus (**John Malkovich**).

NOVEMBER 28



FOXCATCHER

Director **Bennett Miller** (*Moneyball*, *Capote*) casts **Steve Carell** in the decidedly unfunny role of mentally unstable multimillionaire John du Pont, whose obsession with Olympic wrestlers Mark (**Channing Tatum**) and Dave (**Mark Ruffalo**) Schultz leads to tragedy.

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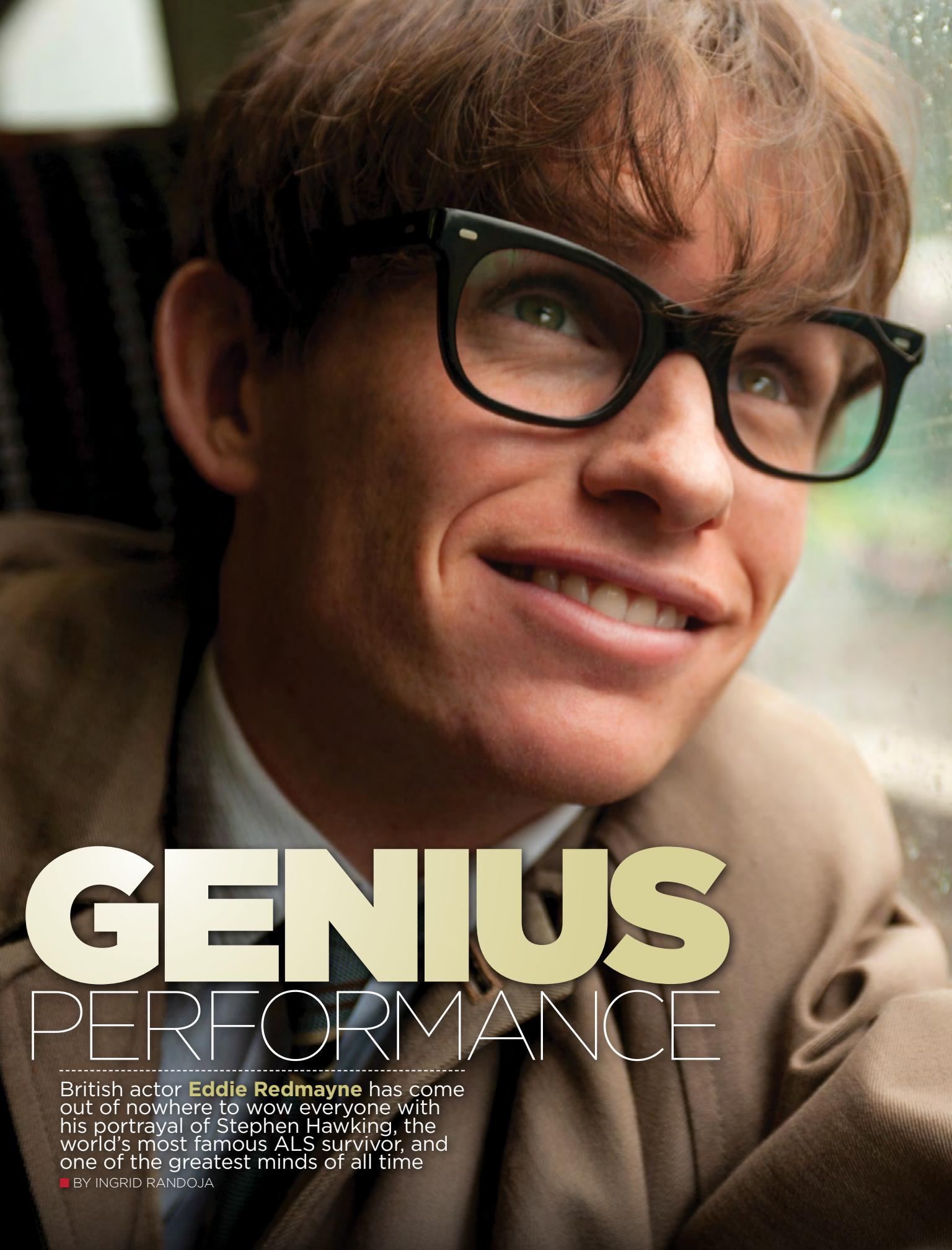
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GENIUS PERFORMANCE

British actor **Eddie Redmayne** has come out of nowhere to wow everyone with his portrayal of Stephen Hawking, the world's most famous ALS survivor, and one of the greatest minds of all time

BY INGRID RANDOJA

His performance is remarkable.

In *The Theory of Everything*, actor Eddie Redmayne (*Les Misérables*) plays world-renowned cosmologist Stephen Hawking, from his days as an active — but intellectually uninspired — university student, to a man in his 50s who is almost completely incapacitated due to physical affliction.

However, the film is about more than just an acting tour de force. Based on Jane Hawking's book, *Travelling to Infinity: My Life with Stephen*, it's an inspiring love story in which Jane (Felicity Jones) weds Stephen knowing he's been given just two years to live. Yet Stephen soldiers on, the couple has children and Jane grows increasingly unhappy in a marriage that demands so much of her.

We caught up with Redmayne during the Toronto International Film Festival. The freckle-faced, 32-year-old British actor (he looks considerably younger) radiates happiness, smiling often, and is eager to chat about the role of a lifetime.



After you landed the role did you think, "What have I gotten myself into?"

"When you're lucky enough to get any part, you're thrilled, and then normally what happens is that a couple of days later you start feeling scared. For this, the thrill thing was pretty high, just ecstatic, but it lasted under a second before it became complete trepidation and fear."

Stephen Hawking has Motor Neuron Disease (MND), which refers to a family of diseases, including ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis), correct?

"Right, you have upper neurons and lower neurons. If your upper neurons go there is a stiffness and rigidity, if your lower neurons go then there is a wilting. ALS, by definition, means you have both things happening. But different patients have different parts that are affected, like with Stephen."

CONTINUED ▶

THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING

HITS THEATRES NOVEMBER 7TH



Lovely couple: Stephen (Eddie Redmayne) and Jane Hawking (Felicity Jones) on their wedding day

► There is a definite progression to Hawking's physical decline. How did you prepare for that part of the performance?

"There isn't any movie footage of Stephen when he's younger, but there are a lot of photographs. I found as many photographs as I could and went to this ALS clinic in London and worked with the amazing Dr. Kate Siddle. She would look at them. It was like a microscopic dissection, so that was evidence."

What kind of evidence?

"Like there's a photograph of Jane and Stephen on their wedding day and he has a [cane]. And the fact he needs it there, rather than having placed it away for the photo, was a key. The other key was that they're holding hands, and you can see that rather than holding hands, his hand is on top of hers and he's leaning. So that's an amazing clue, 'Oh, he's got lower motor neuron here and upper motor neuron there.'"

By the end of the film you've morphed into the Hawking we recognize today, the small man in the big wheelchair.

"I'll tell you the weird thing that I found, that as Stephen went further down the road physically, and you could use less, weirdly it took up more energy. Because you don't just collapse, everything is about using all these internal muscles and controlling your eye blinking, the pace of that. Often you were sweating by the end of the take even though you weren't moving."

It must be sobering because although your job is to convey Stephen Hawking to audiences, it can seem hollow talking about "acting" it when so many people suffer from MND and ALS.
"Yes, every day I got up out of the chair, even if I were in pain, I got up out of the chair."

You met with Hawking before filming, what was that like?

"The thing that was overwhelming when Felicity and I met him is that he just emanates this kind of humour, wit and love of life. And even though he can move very few muscles in his face, he had one of the most expressive faces. So it's that kind of joy and humour that I took away from that meeting."

I find it amazing Jane and Stephen didn't have help for so long. Was it Stephen's stubbornness, or perhaps an English thing where you don't ask for help?

"It's a very good question and I think it's a mixture of those things. I think there is a stiff upper lip quality to which you refer, and it's Stephen. We shot more scenes that ended up not being in the film, and definitely he would not have help. It was, 'I want to do it alone.' My brother has two young babies and the idea of coping with that, with also having to do all the heavy lifting of this man, all day, every day, is pretty incredible."

The film does a very good job of not judging their relationship. Every marriage is unique, and their relationship was most certainly unique.

"I think it is so sweet that you say you don't judge them because that is everything we tried to do. A journalist just came in and asked, 'Is Hawking a jerk?' And I was like, 'Really?' How can you judge these people? What we tried to do is that when you leave the theatre you think, 'I love that person and I see their flaws,' and 'What would I do in the same situation?'" □

Ingrid Randoja is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine.



Harry Lloyd (left)
with Redmayne



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ROSEWATER

HITS THEATRES NOVEMBER 14TH



Rosewater trio:
From left, Gael García Bernal,
Jon Stewart, Maziar Bahari

STEWART TALKS ROSEWATER

It took a personal connection to a harrowing story to inspire **Jon Stewart** to step out from behind his desk at *The Daily Show* and try his hand at directing. As *Rosewater* hits theatres, the funnyman explains why that connection was only the beginning ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

Five years ago, Iranian-Canadian journalist Maziar Bahari was in Iran to cover the country's contentious 2009 elections for *Newsweek* when he was interviewed by *The Daily Show*'s Jason Jones for a satirical report in which Jones joked about being a spy. A short time later Bahari was arrested by Iran's Revolutionary Guard, accused of being a spy, and thrown in the notorious Evin Prison. During Bahari's 118-day interrogation his spot on *The Daily Show* was one piece of "evidence" used against him.

So you'd think guilt might have been the prime motivator when Jon Stewart, host of *The Daily Show*, decided to make his feature-film directing debut with *Rosewater*, a powerful drama based on Bahari's book about the experience, *Then They Came For Me*.

Yes and no.

"Guilt was certainly the immediate motivator," says Stewart during an interview this past September at the Toronto International Film Festival, "but that's not the type of emotion that can carry you through the type of dedication or passion that you need to try and make this as well as you can make it."

"And beyond that," Stewart continues, "the first thing Maziar did was reassure us all, as narcissistic as Americans like to be, it really wasn't us. It turns out the Iranian government had a crackdown planned even for people who did not participate in *Daily Show* sketches."

You'll remember this as the time of the Green Revolution, the protests that swept Iran when Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was re-elected as president despite reports his opponent Mir-Hossein Mousavi was the real victor.

Bahari (played by Gael García Bernal here) filmed the protests and submitted his footage to the BBC, knowing the act would place him at great personal risk. And that act, more than Bahari's *Daily Show* appearance, led to the knock on his door one morning.

The scene in which the Revolutionary Guard, led by a man identified only as Rosewater (Kim Bodnia), enter Bahari's home and search through his belongings allowed Stewart to inject a few grams of humour into an otherwise harrowing story. Rosewater finds various DVDs — *The Sopranos*, the 1968 Italian film *Teorema* — holds them up and asks if they're porno. No, replies an incredulous Bahari. Then Rosewater holds up an *Empire* magazine with Megan Fox on the cover and asks the same question. "Well, it could be," admits Bahari.

Stewart took a three-month hiatus from *The Daily Show* to shoot the film in CONTINUED ▶



Gael García Bernal
as Maziar Bahari

► Jordan last summer. Meanwhile, in nearby Egypt the June 30 Revolution erupted, resulting in the removal of that country's president, Mohamed Morsi, from office. "And, you know, listen, we were 45 miles from the Syrian border," says Stewart. "It's a very tenuous situation no matter where you are."

In person, the 51-year-old New Jersey native easily switches between earnest and hilarious, no surprise to anyone familiar with his show and its deft use of humour to illuminate serious issues. As he descends a spiral staircase into the hotel suite where the interview's to take place he instantly transforms into Blanche DuBois, chirping, "I've always depended on the kindness of strangers."

Bahari — also in Toronto for the festival — is in tow, but takes off for another interview before we sit down.

Stewart says screening the film in Toronto is special since Bahari, while born and raised in Tehran, moved to Canada during the Iran/Iraq war at the age of 18 and was educated here (he studied Communications at Montreal's Concordia University). Although Bahari now spends most of his time in London, England, he does still have an apartment in Toronto, which he currently rents out. "It was funny, when we got here he was like, 'Ah... I have to go, the apartment I have here flooded, my tenant, I have to go,'" recalls Stewart imitating Bahari's soft-spoken demeanour.

When asked about the risks of making this film for Bahari — who was released only after signing a false confession and agreeing to become a spy for Iran — Stewart says, "I don't know how much more risk Maziar could have placed himself in. Obviously the Iranian



Stewart (right)
and Bernal (left) on set

government is not pleased with him.

"They work on intimidation, as do many governments," Stewart continues. "I want to make it clear that this cannot be easily dismissed as the function of one two-dimensional, evil government in one two-dimensional, evil part of the world. That's not what this is. It's a far more complicated and nuanced scenario and a far more complicated and nuanced culture.... You know, he still gets the calls and he still gets the intimidation, but he's made the decision that he believes this is important and this should be told."

Stewart is not blind to the fact that the story is being told largely through his own filter — that of an American with relatively little exposure to Iranian culture. But he says his first approach didn't excite Bahari. "I talked to Maziar a lot about my original idea, which is, we'll do it in Farsi and it'll be a completely Persian cast. And he was saying,

'Yes, yes. But don't you want people to see it?'

"I think as the idea grew," continues Stewart, "I sort of had this idea of a quiet inauthenticity, which is not to pretend that I know more about the culture. If you are Iranian, this is going to be a simplistic and reductive version of what that culture is and what that country is, but if you are not, I think it presents a more nuanced view of a country that we too easily dismiss as two-dimensional."

In the end, few of *Rosewater*'s cast members are from Iran, or even the Middle East. Aside from Maziar's

mother and sister, played by Iranian-born actors Shohreh Aghdashloo and Golshifteh Farahani respectively, Bernal is Mexican, Bodnia is Dutch, English-born Greek actor Dimitri Leonidas plays Davood, the Iranian driver Bahari hires in Tehran, and Turkish actor Haluk Bilginer plays Bahari's late father, an apparition of whom whilsts away the days with his son in prison.

BIG HELP

With all the brilliant directors Jon Stewart has met through *The Daily Show* you know he must have had a few on speed dial while working on his first film.

So who was the most helpful?

The prize goes to director Kathryn Bigelow, who shot both *The Hurt Locker* and *Zero Dark Thirty* in Jordan, where *Rosewater* was made.

"She was very kind about giving advice about how to execute the things you needed to do there," says Stewart. —MW

"I think Shohreh and Gol are the heart and backbone of the movie. His sister is the heart, his mother is the backbone," says Stewart. "It was important for me to have those kind of foundational roles." But beyond that, he says, "It was important to expand the playing field of the cast and to not make it about an actor's ability to capture a particular southern Tehran accent, but to create a palette, a quiet inauthenticity, that would allow the story to step to the fore."

And if you're wondering whether the whole experience changed the way *The Daily Show* approaches interviews, Stewart says, "We were always cognizant of the consent of the interviewed, and consequence, but we really had not ventured outside of the United States, and I think sometimes that's sobering — not the consequence of it, but dealing with regimes where certain forms of communication are not settled law." □

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.

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Jim Carrey (left) and Jeff Daniels return in *Dumb and Dumber To*

DUMB AND DUMBER TO
HITS THEATRES
NOVEMBER 14TH

But the one movie people always ask about is *Dumb and Dumber*, the ridiculously funny 1994 comedy starring Daniels as dumb Harry and Jim Carrey as dumber Lloyd. Although it took them 20 years, this month the writing-directing team comprised of brothers Bobby and Peter Farrelly present us with *Dumb and Dumber To*.

"They're into middle age and they're even dumber than before," Daniels explains. "That's what the Farrellys pitched us and what makes it so much fun, that these two characters are oblivious to their own stupidity. But there's no meanness to it at all."

Over those 20 years, Daniels says fans have frequently asked about a sequel (no one counts the 2003 prequel *Dumb and Dumber: When Harry Met Lloyd*, which starred neither Daniels nor Carrey). Often these fans tell Daniels their favourite part of the movie is the famous "toilet scene" in which Harry discovers that Mary's (Lauren Holly) toilet is broken only after making a substantial, laxative-laced contribution.

Daniels recalls, "When we did that scene I was thinking, 'This is either the beginning of my career or the end of it.' But they're telling us it's going to be great and they were right.

"A few years afterwards I met Clint Eastwood for the first time," Daniels continues, "and he tells me he just saw the movie and that scene happened to him for real when he was on a date and ate some bad shellfish. Dirty Harry's favourite scene is the toilet one!"

"But the scary thing is, in this new movie we're doing things that make the toilet scene look lame. I'm not kidding, the Farrellys have topped that."

For Daniels, another great thing about doing this sequel was reuniting with his pal Carrey whom he calls a "comedic genius."

"You go from portraying big issues in *The Newsroom*, saying Aaron Sorkin's Oscar-winning dialogue [Sorkin won Best Adapted Screenplay for *The Social Network*], to playing Harry again. But it was surprisingly easy. You just sort of leave all that intellectualism at the door and slip back into Harry. Jim and I had such a good time making this one, with the other guy always there to help with the setup or making a line work. And it's not often that happens."

So how will the public feel about this gross-out sequel? Daniels says, "You never know in this business, but I like our chances with the Farrellys." □

Ashley Jude Collie is a Canadian writer living in L.A.

Jeff Daniels talks about losing a few IQ points to resurrect his beloved idiot Harry for *Dumb and Dumber To*

■ BY ASHLEY JUDE COLLIE

Jeff Daniels — longtime celebrated star of stage and screen — has been riding a new wave of acclaim the past couple of years thanks to his role as broadcaster Will McAvoy on Aaron Sorkin's HBO TV series *The Newsroom*.

In 2013 Daniels earned a Primetime Emmy and a Golden Globe nomination for playing McAvoy, and this year the spry handsome 59-year-old received yet another Emmy nomination for the show that kicks off its final season this month.

He has more than 50 film credits to his name, including such critically acclaimed projects as *Terms of Endearment*, *The Purple Rose of Cairo*, *Gettysburg*, *Pleasantville* and *Speed*, and has worked with directing legends like James L. Brooks, Woody Allen and Mike Nichols.

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Liam Hemsworth and
Jennifer Lawrence lead the
charge in *The Hunger Games:
Mockingjay - Part 1*

THE HUNGER GAMES:
MOCKINGJAY – PART 1
HITS THEATRES NOVEMBER 21ST

at CAME BACK

At the end of the last *Hunger Games* movie, **Jennifer Lawrence's** heroic Katniss Everdeen was yanked from the competition, leaving her shocked and confused. In an exclusive interview, the Oscar-winning actor explains where this month's **Mockingjay - Part 1** picks up, reveals her surprising inspiration for the character, and shares her homemade recipe for good acting ■ BY MARNI WEISZ

Jennifer Lawrence says she was about six years old when she first gave acting a shot. It wasn't in a community theatre production or a fast-food commercial; it was in her aunt's loo. "I remember watching my aunt just tell a story, I was probably five or six, and I went into the bathroom. I didn't even look in the mirror, it wasn't about imitating or anything, but I remember I watched her, I watched her mannerisms," recalls Lawrence, now 24, over the phone from an L.A. junket for *The Hunger Games: Mockingjay - Part 1*, the third of four movies based on Suzanne Collins' books. "In that bathroom, at her house, when I was six was the first time I ever felt myself feel like somebody else, if that makes any sense and doesn't make me sound like a psycho."

To this day, observing people is the only acting lesson the three-time Oscar nominee (and one-time winner for *Silver Linings Playbook*) has ever taken.

"Your whole acting class is out there in the world," Lawrence says matter-of-factly. "You're portraying real people, so watch real people. And, sometimes, whether it's a mannerism or a physicality, sometimes it sticks with

me and then I'll start maybe feeling like that kind of person in the middle of a scene. I know that sounds weird."

Since we're here to talk about *The Hunger Games*, I wonder whose mannerisms inspired her portrayal of Katniss Everdeen, the noble hero of the first Young Adult film franchise to score with critics as well as fans since Harry Potter.

"I borrowed from men, mostly, who were quieter than me," she says.

Men?

"Yeah, I know that's a very weird thing to say but I never really channelled a woman for Katniss. I was the only feminine part of Katniss and I felt like that was enough because I'm not very feminine anyway," she says with her famous throaty laugh.

Last year's *Hunger Games* movie, *Catching Fire*, ended abruptly as Katniss was unexpectedly rescued from her second round of games in two years by her mentor Haymitch (Woody Harrelson) and Plutarch (the late Philip Seymour Hoffman), who, until that moment, we thought was working for the repressive government. It was a rescue that left our heroine as surprised and disoriented as the audience. So where do we pick up in *Mockingjay - Part 1*?

"Katniss wakes up in District 13, a District that she didn't know existed, and her entire home is gone, Peeta is gone," explains Lawrence. "So she really has to kind of rebuild herself from scratch. She's had a nervous breakdown from everything that's happened in the two back-to-back games, and losing Peeta."

As is the norm these days, the final book CONTINUED ▶



IT'S A WRAP

Even though we have a fourth *Hunger Games* movie to look forward to next November, filming has wrapped on the franchise. And both Jennifer Lawrence and her co-star Liam Hemsworth, who also spoke with *Cineplex Magazine*, recall a very special moment after their wrap party.

"On the last night we all laid and held each other like puppies," says Lawrence, the other puppies being Hemsworth, Woody Harrelson and Josh Hutcherson.

Hemsworth remembers the same moment.

"We all just felt how strong the relationship was and how strong the bond was that we'd developed over the years," he says. "We've shared so many pivotal points in our lives together. It's really something that all of the people around us can't relate to, it's us looking out at it. It's a very unique experience." —MW

► in Collins' trilogy has been split into two films, *Mockingjay – Part 2* comes out next November. So where does this month's movie leave off?

"Oh God, I don't want to tell you that," says Lawrence. "It's a really great ending, and you guys are going to be pissed."

The Louisville, Kentucky, native (she now rents a house in L.A.) is a journalist's dream. Perhaps the most in-demand actor in Hollywood, she answers every question so thoroughly you feel like it's the first time she's done an interview — until she cuts herself off with a self-deprecating jab like, "that sounds weird," or "I'm rambling" or "I'm afraid that I sound psychotic."

She's as quick and funny as you'd expect. When asked to describe her surroundings she says, "I'm in an empty, giant conference room by myself. It looks like *The Shining*." When I start a question with, "In person, you come off as quite goofy and fun," she jumps in with "...but in real life I'm evil!"

An evil genius, perhaps. Of all the actors in Young Adult franchises, Lawrence is the only one who's managed to make mainstream, celebrated films between each leg of her franchise. Think of director David O. Russell's *Silver Linings Playbook* (she won that Best Actress Oscar), Russell's follow-up *American Hustle* (nominated again) and *X-Men: Days of Future Past* (\$745-million worldwide at the box office). No one else — not Kristen Stewart, not Robert Pattinson, not Daniel Radcliffe, not Lawrence's co-stars Liam Hemsworth and Josh Hutcherson — have managed that feat.

Catch November's
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The Hunger Games'
President Snow,
Donald Sutherland

What's so different about her?

"I don't really know how I was able to get so lucky," she says. "I just know that I didn't want to stop. There were times when I was tired and, well, I did want to stop, I did want a break, and that's when David told me about *American Hustle* [laughs] and I went, 'Well....'

"A really big fear of mine going into this franchise," she continues, "was people would only be able to ever see this character when they looked at my face, and that's one of the worst things that could ever happen.... In my job I want somebody to lose themselves in whatever character I am at the time."

Lawrence is currently prepping for her third movie with Russell. She'll play the title character in *Joy*, about a struggling single mom who invents the Miracle Mop and becomes rich. "I'm blessed to know David, to have a relationship with him, and that he wants me to be in his movies," she says. Russell must feel equally blessed to have found her, and for the Oscar nods and wins she's brought to his projects.

Speaking of which, Lawrence became a member of the Academy in 2011, after her nomination at age 20 for *Winter's Bone*. So did she vote for herself when nominated for *Silver Linings Playbook* in 2013 and *American Hustle* in 2014?

"I voted for Lupita," she says, referencing *12 Years a Slave*'s Lupita Nyong'o, who took home this year's prize. But what about the first time, when Lawrence won for *Silver Linings Playbook*?

"I voted for Lupita," Lawrence says again, laughing. "I'm kidding. I'm basically hinting that I maybe voted for myself the first time. In my defense, it was not me, my mother did it and I told her not to [getting comically huffy], but I was secretly not that upset that she did."

It won't be at all surprising if Jennifer Lawrence (or her mother) has the opportunity to vote for herself again in the near future, maybe even for one of the final two *Hunger Games* movies. □

Marni Weisz is the editor of Cineplex Magazine.

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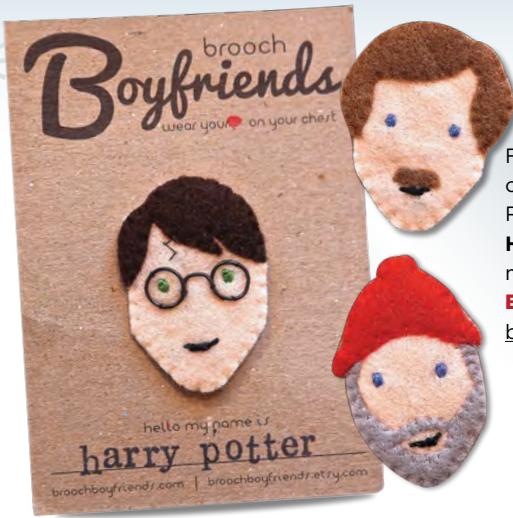
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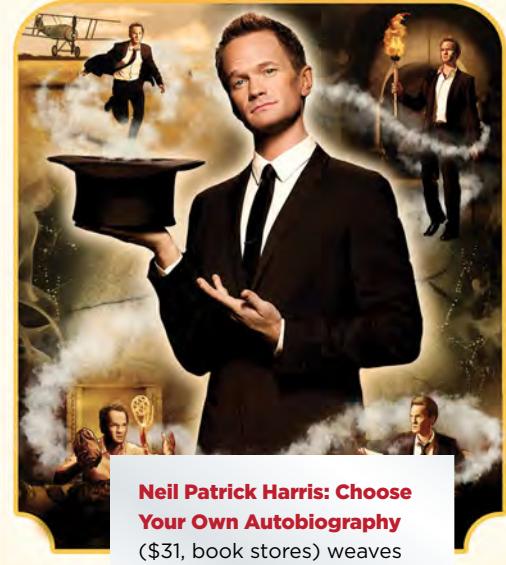
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CASTING CALL

■ BY INGRID RANDOJA



BOURNE AGAIN

Matt Damon and director Paul Greengrass said they were done with the *Bourne* franchise. But the pair that collaborated on the series' second and third films — *The Bourne Supremacy* and *The Bourne Ultimatum* — has agreed to come back for another installment. Originally, the two didn't feel like there was any point continuing the series after secret agent Bourne regained his memory, but now they say there is a new Bourne story to tell after all. The fourth film unspools July 16th, 2016.

ROBBIE ON THE MOUNTAIN

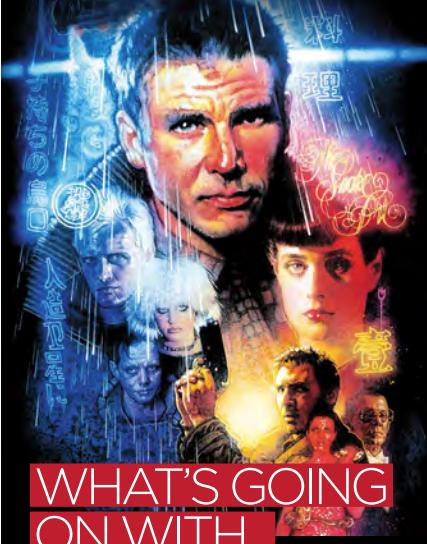
The Wolf of Wall Street's breakout star Margot Robbie teams with Charlie Hunnam for the adventure/love story *The Mountain Between Us*. The plot revolves around a writer (Robbie) and a doctor (Hunnam) who are both injured in a plane crash. Stranded on a snowy mountaintop, the duo must work together to survive.



JAMES BITES INTO UNDERWORLD

Divergent hottie Theo James is the new face of the *Underworld* franchise. James played vampire David in 2013's *Underworld: Awakening*, and the series will now focus on David rather than Kate Beckinsale's bloodsucker, Selena. Shooting gets underway in the spring.





WHAT'S GOING ON WITH... **BLADE RUNNER 2**

Blade Runner fans are both excited and worried — will director Ridley Scott's sequel live up to the 1982 original? Word is that screenwriter Michael Green has completed the script, which is now in the hands of star Harrison Ford for his approval. It will still be a few years until *Blade Runner 2* hits screens as Green is also working on the script for Scott's other sci-fi sequel, *Prometheus 2*, which blasts onto screens March 4th, 2016.



FRESH FACE JACK HUSTON

If there is a Hollywood royal family, it's the **Hustons**. Three generations of the clan have won Oscars — **Walter, John** and **Anjelica** — and now **Jack Huston**, John's grandson, is making his mark. The 31-year-old has just been cast as the lead in the remake of the 1959 classic *Ben-Hur*. You may recognize the British thespian from his roles in *American Hustle*, *Kill Your Darlings* and TV's *Boardwalk Empire*.

PHOTO BY NANCY KASZERMAN/KEYSTONE PRESS

PINKETT SMITH RETURNS

Jada Pinkett Smith last appeared on the big screen in 2008's *The Women*. Although busy producing and starring in TV shows such as *Hawthorne* and *Gotham* (seen above), Pinkett Smith has signed on to play a strip club owner in *Magic Mike XXL*, the sequel to the 2012 surprise hit *Magic Mike*. The cast from the first film, including **Channing Tatum**, **Matt Bomer** and **Joe Manganiello** return, but **Matthew McConaughey** declined to reprise his role as the hunky Dallas.

ALSO IN THE WORKS

► **Channing Tatum** plays a man who suddenly becomes a math wiz in *Struck by Genius*. ► Set in the roaring twenties, the musical *Ziggy* casts **Dane DeHaan** as a hunchback escape artist who falls for the fiancée (**Rooney Mara**) of a jealous man. ► **Julia Roberts** joins **Gwyneth Paltrow** and **Chiwetel Ejiofor** in the thriller *Secret in Their Eyes*. ► **Orlando Bloom** is considering reprising his role as Will Turner in the fifth *Pirates of the Caribbean* film, *Dead Men Tell No Tales*.

AT HOME

■ BY LEO ALEFOUNDER

NOVEMBER'S BEST DVD AND BLU-RAY

MALEFICENT

NOVEMBER 4

The big bad from Disney's *Sleeping Beauty* (1959) gets the chance to reveal her backstory in this live-action reimagining of the classic fairy tale. A perfectly cast **Angelina Jolie** is the titular good-hearted fairy who crosses over to the dark side as she seeks revenge on her human neighbours for the pain and suffering they have inflicted upon her.



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2

NOVEMBER 11

Five years of peace in the Viking village of Berk is shattered when a band of ruffians begins capturing the dragons. Luckily, Viking boy Hiccup (voiced by **Jay Baruchel**) and his trusty fire-breather Toothless are on hand to save the day.



22 JUMP STREET

NOVEMBER 18

Cops Jenko (**Channing Tatum**) and Schmidt (**Jonah Hill**) go undercover again in the sequel to 2012's surprise hit *21 Jump Street*. This time the duo infiltrates a college campus to investigate a drug-trafficking ring, and heads down Mexico way for a predictably raucous Spring Break.



FRANK MILLER'S SIN CITY: A DAME TO KILL FOR

NOVEMBER 18

Four more tales of graphic-novel noir from **Frank Miller** and **Robert Rodriguez**. The central yarn has a vampy femme fatale (**Eva Green**) wrapping a lovelorn private eye (**Josh Brolin**) around her manicured little finger.

MORE MOVIES ►

- **A MOST WANTED MAN** (NOVEMBER 4)
- **HERCULES** (NOVEMBER 4)
- **THE ONE I LOVE** (NOVEMBER 4)
- **STEP UP ALL IN** (NOVEMBER 4)
- **JERSEY BOYS** (NOVEMBER 11)
- **TAMMY** (NOVEMBER 11)
- **THE GIVER** (NOVEMBER 25)
- **THE EXPENDABLES 3** (NOVEMBER 25)
- **THE F WORD** (NOVEMBER 25)

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Something Special

THE HOBBIT: THE DESOLATION OF SMAUG EXTENDED EDITION

NOVEMBER 4



As anticipation mounts for the final film in the *Hobbit* trilogy, fans can feast upon the extended edition of the second installment, which includes 25 minutes of additional footage and an audio commentary from director **Peter Jackson** and co-producer/screenwriter **Philippa Boyens**.

Games

Why We Love...



FAR CRY 4

NOVEMBER 18

PS4, PS3, PC, XBOX 360, XBOX ONE

The fourth installment of Ubisoft Montreal's *Far Cry* franchise is a single-player open world action game set in Nepal with sensational visuals and the option to cross the striking terrain on the back of a six-ton elephant.

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RETURN **ENGAGEMENT**



Wind Swept

"Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn."

Rhett Butler's (Clark Gable) departing line as he turns his back on wife Scarlett (Vivien Leigh) in 1939's *Gone with the Wind* was voted the number one movie line by the American Film Institute.

It takes almost four hours until you hear it, and in that time you'll see the American Civil War play out — including

the burning of Atlanta — romances ignited and extinguished, babies born and beloved characters killed. Through it all the sassy, selfish Scarlett and arrogant, rugged Rhett remain locked in an amorous battle of wills that keeps us riveted, a remarkable achievement when you consider the film was made 75 years ago. —INGRID RANDOJA

GONE WITH THE WIND screens as part of Cineplex's Classic Film Series on November 9th, 12th and 17th. Go to Cineplex.com/Events for times and locations.

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This exhibition is organized by the Deutsches Filmmuseum, Frankfurt am Main, Christine Kubrick and the Stanley Kubrick Archive at the University of the Arts London, with the support of Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc., Sony Columbia Pictures Industries Inc., Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios Inc., Universal Studios Inc., and SK Film Archives LLC.

Kirill Dolgov 2001. A Space Odyssey (USA/GB 1968), © Warner Bros.

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FINALIX...



THE IS GROOT!

Yup, that's right. It's a crocheted Baby Groot. And if you like it, and have some mad crochet skills, you can have one too thanks to San Francisco crochet designer Twinkie Chan. You can find the pattern for her wee *Guardians of the Galaxy* hero at blog.twinkiechan.com/2014/08/13/baby-groot.

"I think we all fell in love with Baby Groot after seeing the movie," enthuses Chan, who's best known for her food-based accessories like fried-egg mittens, strawberry rings and donut hair clips. "I had a feeling everyone would want one of their very own, and since crochet is my medium, I decided to whip up and share a free pattern for all the Baby Groot fans!"

"I try to be respectful of other people/companies' trademarks and copyrights," she adds, "so unless Marvel wants to talk biz, I have no plan to sell finished Baby Grots in my shop [etsy.com/shop/twinkiechan], and this pattern will remain free for everyone to make their own Baby Groot army (for personal use)." —MW