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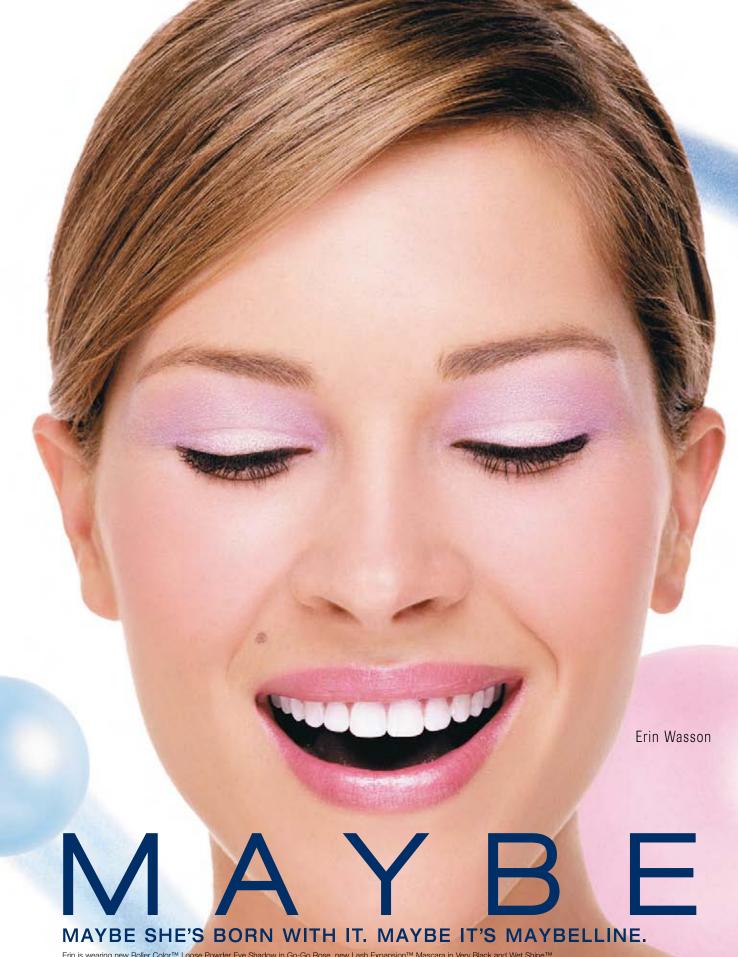
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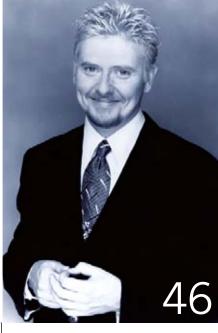
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John Cusack is an expert at moving back and forth between big Hollywood pics and small, brainy gems. So where will his thriller *Identity* fit in? I By David Giammarco

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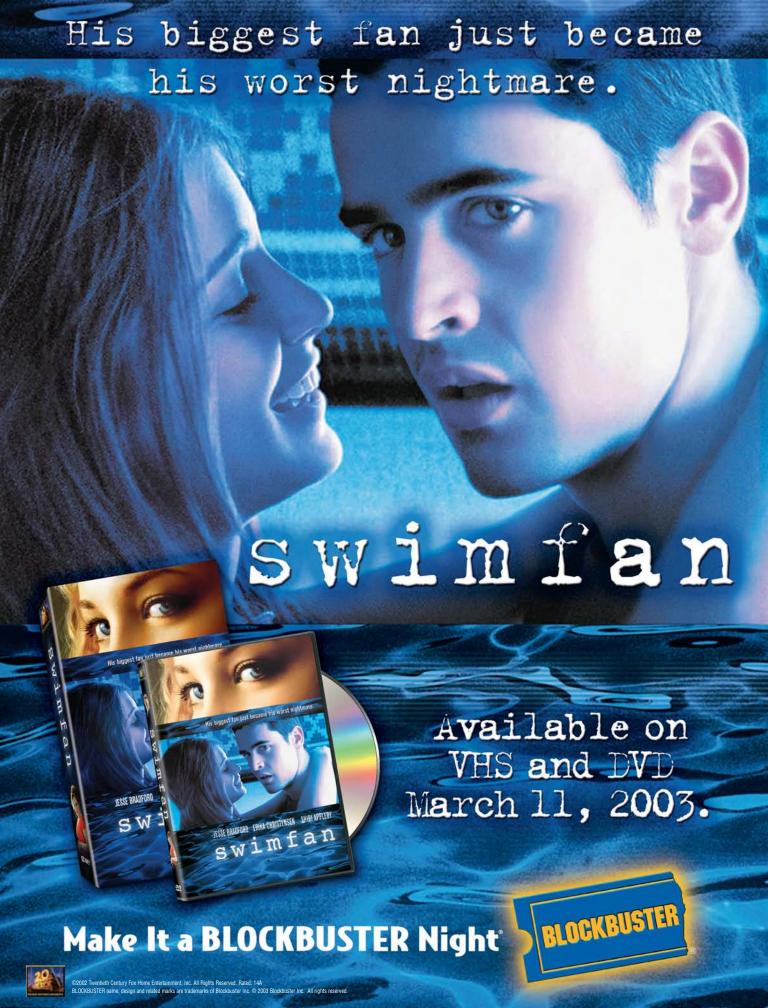
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editorial

HOLYinity



here are plenty of Canadian superstars in Hollywood - Jim Carrey, Mike Myers, Keanu Reeves. But the biggies all seem to be guys. Truth is, Carrie-Anne Moss just might be the hottest female Canuck in Movieland. And if she's not now, she surely will be after the two Matrix sequels have rolled out.

In "Emerging From the Matrix," page 36, Moss describes the effect playing action hero Trinity has had on her self

esteem, and shares lots of behind-the-scenes stories from the set of The Matrix Reloaded, including one very Canadian moment she shared with Reeves. Plus, on page 40, you'll find our index of fun facts about Reloaded and the second sequel, The Matrix Revolutions.

One of John Cusack's talents is his ability to keep fans guessing. Will his next movie be a sappy Hollywood flick like America's Sweethearts, a brainy studio pic like High Fidelity or a small side project like last December's blink-and-you'll-miss-it Max? But, this month, it's his character in the twisty-turny thriller Identity who'll keep audiences guessing. In "King of Suspense," page 32, the press-shy thespian explains his eclectic filmography and reveals as much as he can about the scary whodunit.

Then, in "Direct Dial," page 30, hit-and-miss director Joel Schumacher (Tigerland, Bad Company) makes a bid for his latest, Phone Booth, to end up on the "hit" side of that dichotomy. The fact that he's once again working with Tigerland's Colin Farrell is a good sign.

And on page 28 you'll find "Take it Easy," fashion columnist Jeanne Beker's look at what's hot for spring. Pull those old sweat socks out of your dresser and pair them with that frilly dress. We're not kidding. —Marni Weisz

ROBB CHASE APPOINTED CEO OF FAMOUS PLAYERS

We would like to extend our congratulations to Robb Chase, Famous Players' new President and Chief Executive Officer, a promotion from his previous title of President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Chase joined Famous Players in 2000 after having served as Vice President of Marketing for Pizza Hut International and President of Pizza Hut Canada.



Over the past three years, he has worked closely with Famous Players' outgoing CEO John Bailey on the final stages of the company's massive expansion program, an initiative which saw Famous Players become the dominant, and top-grossing, force in Canada's theatrical exhibition industry, with 93 locations and 846 screens across the country.

In addition to congratulating Robb, we would like to thank John Bailey for his support and encouragement, and for enriching the cultural fabric of this country. We're sure Mr. Chase will uphold Mr. Bailey's efforts to make Famous Players the best place to see movies in the universe.

-Salah Bachir, Publisher

Famous

PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

EDITOR MARNI WEISZ

ART DIRECTOR VADIM MOSCOTIN SENIOR DESIGNER JUSTIN STAYSHYN PRODUCTION MANAGER SHEILA GREGORY

CONTRIBUTORS DAVID GIAMMARCO

MARTIN GIGNAC SUSAN GRANGER JOHN KENNEDY DAN LIEBMAN MARK MAGEE

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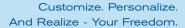


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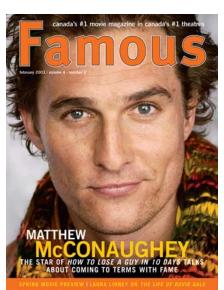


STARE ALL YOU WANT

I just wanted to say... Um, I don't know. Matthew McConaughey leaves me speechless! He makes me want to know more about Texas. Where might I be able to write him to ask him more about Texas? Um, it's okay. I probably won't write him. I will just keep the February issue of *Famous* and stare into his eyes and pretend he's standing in front of me. Thanks for that cover, by the way! Keep publishing actual-size photos of Matthew, please.

Amélie House — Vancouver, B.C.

Um, well, just in case, you can write to McConaughey c/o Creative Artists Agency,



9830 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif., 90212. Or you can find out more about the Lone Star state at www.texas.com (although we don't think that's really what you're after).

LOOKING FOR GLORY

There was a film at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2000 starring Robert Duvall as a Scottish soccer coach. I see it was released in the U.S.A. last year, but it hasn't been released in Canada. Do you know if it will ever be released here, or on video?

Dave McMillan — Delta, B.C.

The movie you're talking about is A Shot at Glory from Revere Pictures in the U.S. We got in touch with Revere and were told there is currently no Canadian distribution deal for the film, theatrically or on video. Then we were at our local video store and saw it on the shelf. Go figure. If you can't find it at yours, you can always order it from Amazon.com.

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

I have noticed that while waiting for the movie to begin in any Famous Players theatre there are quizzes shown on the screen. Question: Why are females in these quizzes referred to as "actors," yet all awards shows refer to their awards as Best Actress? There is no shame in being called an actress and if it is politically correct to refer to all acting people as actors they should be nominated for awards under one umbrella — Best Actor.

Gail Najda — Winnipeg, Man.

Good question. And the bottom line is, they're both correct. You'll notice that this magazine also refers to female thespians as actors. It's simply a matter of "style," and by that we don't mean how they dress — it's a journalistic word that refers to a publication's semantic rules and guidelines. As for why there are separate Oscar categories for Best Actor and Best Actress, you'd have to ask the Academy. But we're guessing if they lumped them all together the female actors would get the short end of the stick, since Hollywood still creates better (and more) roles for men than women.

TALKIN' WALKEN

I really think one of the most underrated actors has got to be Christopher Walken. He has not starred in any movie lately, except for a small part in *Catch Me if You Can*. Can you tell me what he has been up to and where I can write to him?

Tony Spagnolo — Montreal, Que.

Au contraire my friend. Mr. Walken hasn't stopped working. It's just that, how shall we say... his films aren't always honoured with a theatrical release. Since 2001 alone the poster-boy for weird has appeared in Chelsea Walls, The Affair of the Necklace, The Papp Project, Jungle Juice, Poolhall Junkies, The Country Bears, Engine Trouble, Plots With a View, Catch Me if You Can and Kangaroo Jack. Of course, few were noticed by anyone. But fear not, all three of his upcoming projects — Envy, Tough Love and Helldorardo — should make it to a theatre near you. The first is a Barry Levinson pic about a couple of competitive friends (Ben Stiller and Jack Black), the second is Ben Affleck and J. Lo's gangster pic and the third stars The Rock as a bounty hunter searching for his prey in the Amazon. Okay, we didn't say Walken starred in any of them. You can ask the actor to start picking better scripts by sending a note to Christopher Walken, c/o Toni Howard, ICM, 8942 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif., 90211.

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Letters may be edited for length and clarity.
Please include your full name, city of
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SEE JANE ACT

ane McGregor is still getting used to dealing with the media.

The 20-year-old Vancouverite has a

The 20-year-old Vancouverite has a long list of TV credits to her name, most notably a regular role on the MTV series *Live Through This*, that aired on YTV. But starting this year she's making the move to the big screen with a couple of films — this month's dark family drama *Flower & Garnet*, and the cheerleading comedy *Slap Her, She's French*, which is still awaiting a release date.

And doing movies automatically means more contact with the press.

"Sometimes it's fun, but sometimes interviews just don't go well and I'm like, 'Oh, great, now that's on tape somewhere and it'll haunt me for the rest of my life,'" she moans.

Like the interview she did for *Slap Her, She's French* where she completely gave away the ending. "There's a bit of a twist at the end, and I was like blah, blah, blah, and I hear the PR guy gasp. And I'm like 'Oh, God!'" Fortunately for McGregor, the journalist promised not to use the quote.

She's also learning to keep info about auditions and future projects close to her

breast. Like the lunch meeting she has with a writer in a few hours. "I don't like to talk about it because it gets written down and you're reminded, 'Oh yeah, that didn't work out. That was sh-tty."

And she's discovering there are some topics that will always interest the press. "Like people love when they hear that I volunteer sometimes," she says, "I do it. I just don't want to be preaching about it." (Her mom teaches at an inner city school and McGregor helps out by reading with the kids or accompanying them on class trips. She's also done some work with the homeless.) "Stuff can always look weird when you see it in an article later."

If she hasn't already, she'll also learn that the press loves to talk to young actors about sex scenes — such as the ones she has in *Flower & Garnet*. The film, which premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival last September, is about a small-town family that has become increasingly dysfunctional since their mother died giving birth to now-10-year-old Garnet (Colin Roberts, who got a Genie nomination for his efforts). Their father (Callum Keith Rennie) is emotionally inert, and introverted Flower (McGregor) is desperate to find a way out.

She does that by getting pregnant, which called for McGregor to do a couple of fairly steamy scenes. "I'm always really wary of sexual stuff in scripts and how the character is being portrayed because I find that there's a lot of that stuff out there for young girls and young women, and it really makes me angry," she says. "But the script is nothing like the ones that I'm wary of, so I was like, 'Okay, I've never done this before. This will be interesting."

When it came time to watch the film with her family at the Vancouver International Film Festival, though, they weren't as comfortable seeing little Jane in her underpants. "I wasn't sitting with them but I knew they were there," she says, laughing. "And apparently — 'cause there were like 30 of them — my sister said she just heard so much fidgeting going on. Everyone was moving around in their chairs, lookin' over here, lookin' over there."

As for the future, McGregor says she has no less than seven scripts lying around her house right now (she still lives with her mom), but hasn't committed to anything. "I guess I'm kind of picky, especially since I've done a movie that I think is quality," she says...then adds, "And some of the scripts they send me from Hollywood are pretty bad." —MW





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SPACEY'S NEXT STAGE

Kevin Spacey's been acting like a university student who just can't seem to pick a major. But when you're a millionaire and have two Oscars (*Usual Suspects, American Beauty*) to your name, indecisiveness becomes a positive and you're branded a Renaissance Man. After years of hinting about taking a break from film, Spacey has been named the artistic director of London's Old Vic Theatre. This just months after he launched Triggerstreet.com, a website designed to help aspiring screenwriters.

A celebrated stage actor himself, having won a Tony for his performance in *Lost in Yonkers*, Spacey first fell in love with the Old Vic when he visited as a seven-year-old boy. But his first

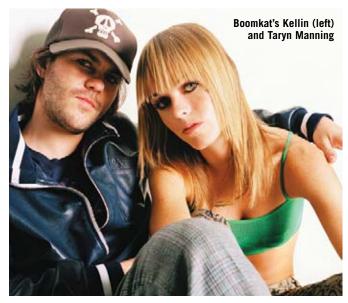
order of business had nothing to do with dramaturgy. Instead, he threw a lavish fundraiser — shown in this picture — featuring Elvis Costello and Elton John. Some of the money will go toward fixing the 185-year-old theatre's leaky roof, which just hasn't been the same



since it was smacked by a German bomb during World War Two.

And, don't worry. Spacey hasn't given up movies. He'll soon star in and direct *Beyond the Sea*, a bio-pic about crooner Bobby Darin. —MW

CROSSROADS' OTHER SINGER



Taryn Manning is doing this interview from her car. It's the only way she can do interviews. Today anyway.

"I have to be in my car to talk on the phone because I don't have a charger in my house and this is my only line," explains the 24-year-old actor/lead singer for L.A.-based pop duo Boomkat.

So, she's turning the technical limitation into a positive by simultaneously promoting her new album *boomkatalog one* (in stores April 8th) to a magazine half-a-continent away, and driving to Starbucks for a coffee.

But when asked what the predicament might say about her per-

sonality, Manning gets a bit defensive, lobbing the question back: "I don't know. What do you think it says about my personality?"

Umm...perhaps, that you like the idea of not being tied to your phone, of being unreachable sometimes?

"No, it just means I don't have a charger in my house."

Manning, who has been into music since she was a kid and was even a failed contestant on *Popstars*, is probably best-known as the tough, pregnant outcast Mimi in the 2002 Britney Spears flick *Crossroads*, or as Eminem's vindictive ex-girlfriend Janeane, who lies about being pregnant, in *8 Mile*.

But it's Boomkat that she wants to talk about today.

The duo's other half is Taryn's 29-year-old brother Kellin Manning who, as the press release says, "conceives the group's multi-layered beats, samples and copious live sounds."

And the tunes really aren't bad. Taryn's seemingly rough edges translate into a feisty, gritty warmth on songs like "Wastin' My Time," a plaintive ballad which appeared on the 8 Mile sound-track, and "The Wreckoning," which will be the album's first single.

When asked where she thinks her musical career would be right now if she wasn't an actor, Manning's defensive side re-emerges. "Probably where it is now," she says.

Having a song on the 8 Mile soundtrack didn't help things along? "Yeah, but I'd been pursuing music before that. I had a song in crazy/beautiful before my record deal." Another movie in which she had a role. "What I'm saying is that I was already having success [before 8 Mile]," she says.

In the end, how success comes doesn't matter. What matters is that after slamming back a cup of joe at Starbucks, Manning gets to carry on to rehearsals for Boomkat's first video — a stylish junkyard romp for "The Wreckoning." —**MW**





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MARCH 28

FLOWER & GARNET

Who's In It? Colin Roberts, Jane McGregor Who Directed? Keith Behrman (*Ernest*) What's It About? A small-town family struggles to keep it together years after their mother died giving birth to noweight-year-old Garnet (Roberts). See Jane McGregor interview, page 14.

APRIL 4

WHAT A GIRL WANTS

Who's In It? Amanda Bynes, Colin Firth Who Directed? Dennie Gordon (*Joe Dirt*) What's It About? A teenaged girl (Bynes), who's been raised in New York City by her mom (Kelly Preston), travels to London to find her long-lost dad (Firth).

A MAN APART

Who's In It? Vin Diesel, Timothy Olyphant Who Directed? F. Gary Gray (*The Negotiator*) What's It About? The incarcerated head

honcho of a mighty drug cartel teams up with a Drug Enforcement Agency cop (Diesel) and his partner (Larenz Tate) to take down the cartel's mysterious new leader.

PHONE BOOTH

Who's In It? Colin Farrell, Kiefer Sutherland Who Directed? Joel Schumacher (*Tigerland*) What's It About? An oily New York publicist (Farrell) is forced to publicly atone for his sins when he picks up a ringing pay phone and is warned that he'll be shot dead if he hangs up. See Joel Schumacher interview, page 30.

APRIL 11

ANGER MANAGEMENT

Who's In It? Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson Who Directed? Peter Segal (*Tommy Boy*) What's It About? A low-key businessman (Sandler) is sentenced to anger management counselling for a crime he didn't commit. Worse, his instructor (Nicholson)

is a nutbar with his own bag of anger management issues.

APRIL 18

A MIGHTY WIND

Who's In It? Christopher Guest, Eugene Levy, Harry Shearer, Michael McKean Who Directed? Chris Guest (Best in Show) What's It About? A '60s folk trio (Guest, McKean, Shearer) decides to do a comeback tour as long as the gigs are within a day's drive from their homes. This movie will no doubt do for folk music what Best in Show did for dog shows and Spinal Tap did for heavy metal — poke fun at people who take themselves just a little too seriously.

MALIBU'S MOST WANTED

Who's In It? Jamie Kennedy, Josef Cannon Who Directed? John Whitesell (See Spot Run)

What's It About? Based on a sketch from TV's JKX: The Jamie Kennedy Experiment,

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Kennedy plays Brad Gluckman, a rap wannabe from Malibu who pretends he's one of the boyz from the 'hood. His father (Ryan O'Neal), who's running for governor, hires two actors (Anderson and Taye Diggs) to pose as real gangstas and take Brad to Compton in hopes of scaring the faux-gangsta attitude out of him.

BULLETPROOF MONK

Who's In It? Chow Yun-Fat, Seann William Scott
Who Directed? Paul Hunter (debut)
What's It About? A mysterious monk
(Yun-Fat) who travels the world protecting an ancient scroll must find someone worthy of being its next guardian. Enter a mouthy street kid (Scott) who happens to look a lot like Stifler. The two team up to protect the scroll from its ultimate enemy with a little help from a sexy young woman (Jamie King).
Yep, those are the streets and rooftops

HOLES

of Toronto.

Who's In It? Sigourney Weaver, Jon Voight Who Directed? Andrew Davis (*The Fugitive*) What's It About? Newcomer Shia La Beouf plays a teen who's sent to a detention camp for a crime he didn't commit. Once there, part of his punishment is to dig holes, a mindless task which is supposed to "build character." But the evil warden (Weaver) behind the whole dirt-displacement endeavor just might have an ulterior motive.

GHOSTS OF THE ABYSS

Who's In It? James Cameron, Bill Paxton Who Directed? James Cameron What's It About? A 3-D documentary for IMAX screens, this one returns to the real-life scene of director Cameron's

The Douglases in It Runs in the Family





greatest cinematic victory — the Titanic. With a bunch of marine experts and his good friend actor Bill Paxton along for the ride, Cameron uses state-of-the-art technology to explore the wreckage and final resting place of 1,500 souls.

APRIL 25

FROM JUSTIN TO KELLY: A TALE OF TWO AMERICAN IDOLS

Who's In It? Kelly Clarkson, Justin Guarini Who Directed? Robert Iscove (*She's All That*) What's It About? This spin-off of the freakishly popular *American Idol* TV show may well win the prize for the shortest time from the start of filming to screen.

Shot in Miami this past January (yes, the January that was just three months ago), the film's plot details are still scarce. But from what we can gather Justin and Kelly play a couple of kids on Spring Break who fall in love and, from time to time, break into song.

AGAINST THE ROPES

Who's In It? Meg Ryan, Omar Epps Who Directed? Charles S. Dutton (debut) What's It About? Based on the true story of Jackie Kallen (Ryan), a Jewish woman from Detroit who became a proboxing manager, the film focuses on her relationship with one boxer (Epps).

IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

Who's In It? Michael Douglas, Kirk Douglas Who Directed? Fred Schepisi (Roxanne) What's It About? Three generations of Douglases share the screen for the first time in this story about a dysfunctional family living in New York and trying to make peace. Michael's real-life offspring Cameron plays one of his sons (the other is played by Rory Culkin) and his real-life mom plays Kirk's wife.

IDENTITY

Who's In It? John Cusack, Jake Busey Who Directed? James Mangold (Kate & Leopold)

What's It About? Ten complete strangers try to make the best of a bad situation when they are stranded together at a remote motel during a vicious storm. But when a killer strikes the others turn on each other in a desperate fight to figure out who done it. See John Cusack interview, page 32.

All release dates are subject to change. Some films play only in major markets.

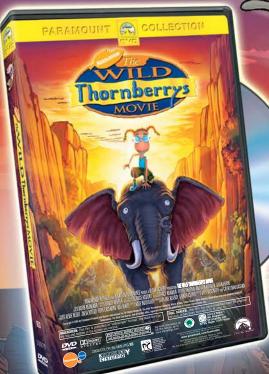
THE RATINGS GAME

To help patrons make informed decisions about the movie they, or their children, are about to see, the Ontario Film Review Board has rejigged their classification system a bit. Where we used to have films that were categorized as either Family, Parental Guidance, Adult Accompaniment or Restricted (with little explanation on the logo itself), the new categories, and subsequent logos, will clarify things. Now a

movie will either be rated G [Suitable for all], PG [Parental guidance advised], 14A [Persons younger than 14 must be accompanied by an adult], 18A [Persons younger than 18 must be accompanied by an adult], and good old R [Restricted to persons 18 or older]. You'll be able to find the new classification logos — which will contain all of the abovementioned info — at the entrance to your theatre.

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spotlight



NOW STARRING IN... Anger Management as the girlfriend of mild-mannered Dave Buznik (Adam Sandler), who, after an incident on a plane, is forced to take anger management sessions. Unfortunately, his counsellor (Jack Nicholson) is a hostile jerk who hits on his girl.

BIO BITS: If only it hadn't been Jack Palance handing out the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress that year... Had it been Paul Newman or Robert Redford at the podium, taking home the Academy Award

for *My Cousin Vinny* would have been a purely positive experience for Marisa Tomei. But, when young Tomei shocked everyone by beating out Vanessa Redgrave and Joan Plowright for the 1993 award, it was the slightly squirrelly Palance holding the envelope, so rumours spread that he had mistakenly read the first name off the top of the nominee list, instead of the name inside the envelope. The story has dogged Tomei ever since.

Marisa Tomei was born on December 4, 1964, in the Flatbush area of Brooklyn, New York. At the time, Brooklyn was a bit rough, but Tomei and her brother, actor Adam Tomei (who's had small parts in *Hard Ball* and *The Banger Sisters*), grew up in a nice Victorian home with a big backyard. Their parents (mom was a schoolteacher and dad a trial lawyer) often took their kids to Manhattan to visit museums and see plays.

It was on a trip to see *A Chorus Line* that 12-year-old Marisa decided she would be an actor. During high school she went to audition after audition, and by the time she graduated she had appeared in several off-Broadway plays. Although she completed one year at Boston University, academia couldn't hold Tomei's interest, so she got an agent and landed a role on the daytime soap *As the World Turns*.

She made her big-screen debut with a one-line ("You're so drunk!") part in 1984's Flamingo Kid. But TV beckoned again, and most people's first glimpse of Tomei came on the Cosby Show spin-off A Different World, where she played Lisa Bonet's perky roommate, Maggie, in the 1987 season.

Her real break came with that part as Joe Pesci's foul-mouthed fiancée Mona Lisa Vito in the 1992 courtroom comedy *My Cousin Vinny*. But she spent the next eight years flirting with B-list status, until her stunning performance in 2001's *In the Bedroom*, and another Oscar nomination, put her back on top.

SAMPLE ROLES: Paula in *Just a Kiss* (2002), Liz in *Someone Like You* (2001), Natalie in *In the Bedroom* (2001), Lola in *What Women Want* (2000), Monica in *Unhook the Stars* (1996), Faith in *Only*

You (1994), Martha in *The Paper* (1994), Caroline in *Untamed Heart* (1993), Mabel in *Chaplin* (1992), Mona in *My Cousin Vinny* (1992), Lisa in *Oscar* (1991)

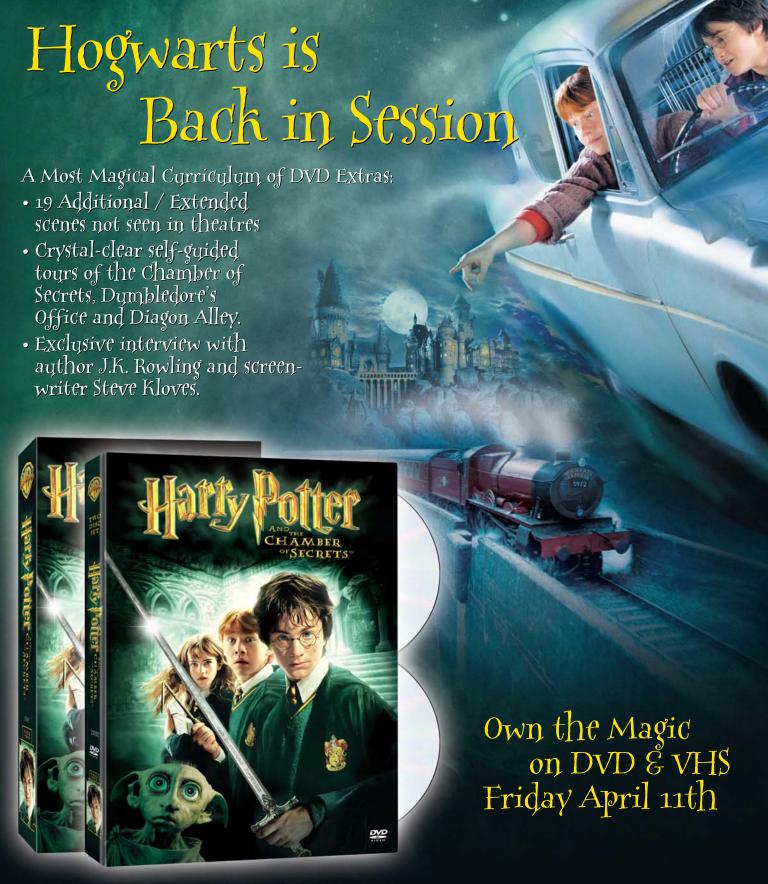
LOVE LIFE: Lived with playwright Frank Pugliese in the '90s. • Dated Dana Ashbrook (Bobby from *Twin Peaks*).

INTERESTING TIDBITS: Has a tattoo on her ankle. • Her hair fell out after she bleached it blond for *Unhook the Stars*. • Likes to go

to flea markets to find neat stuff for her two homes — one in L.A., one in New York. • Her mom gave up teaching to lead culinary tours of Big Apple restaurants. • She has shed her fear of biking in the big city and now regularly rides through the streets of New York.

ON THE OSCAR FIASCO: "It was such a cruel and brutal thing for people to do. I asked the Academy to make a statement, but they said they didn't want to fuel the rumour and that it would go away quickly on its own." [The Calgary Sun, September 2001] —MW





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TAKE



JEANNE BEKER SAYS RELAXED AND ROMANTIC IS THE WAY TO GO THIS SPRING

ome may see it as wishful thinking, considering all the tension in the world these days, but according to designers, the direction for dressing this spring is easy, upbeat and carefree.

"Fashion is always supposed to make a woman or a man feel good, regardless of the economy, politics, whatever is going on in the world. Fashion should never make you feel depressed. Otherwise, what's the point," pleaded Calvin Klein backstage, after presenting a spring runway that oozed ease and simple sensuality. New York's Anna Sui echoed Klein's sentiments, sending an army of sweet, sporty girls down her runway with big poppies, tulips and whimsical golf course imagery emblazoned on their mini sundresses, and soccer socks on their feet. "It's time to feel happy again," she cooed. "And now we have all these new heroes to worship — sports stars who represent healthy living and wholesome victories."

Our current love affair with sports was also evident in Michael Kors' deluxe California Country Club-inspired collection, and Balenciaga's sexy, wetsuit inspired cuts.

Life's a beach, but this season it's also a study in carefree femininity, even when it comes to the military looks that are still figuring strong. Take, for example, the chic militaristic dress coats and jackets in khaki satin and taffeta from Valentino. And Dior's offering khaki chiffon minis, and big, baggy silver lamé cargo pants. Also watch for little buckles and straps everywhere.

But it's not all trench chic. Sparkle, glitter and sheen will be welcome once the warmer weather





hits. Dreamy, romantic Latin looks are also strong for spring, and nostalgia continues to be popular. Hot young New York designer Zac Posen's flounces and twirly dresses conjure up images of '40s flirty glam, while the brilliant John Galliano, inspired by Indian cinematic offerings, takes us to "Bollywood" and back with colourful exotica. His spring runway was a fantasy of gargantuan proportions, complete with goddesses sprinkling rainbow dust everywhere, transforming our dreary clothes, and our weary souls.

Plus, there's colour everywhere, and plenty of poetry and romance in the air. Jean Paul Gaultier had gymnasts swinging over his runway, a metaphor for our state of suspension. Welcome to the limbo zone — nobody's sure where any of this is going. Times have rarely been this uncertain politically, economically, socially, sartorially. True to its nature, fashion is at once reflecting our best intentions, and our biggest fears. How else could one explain all those sky-high platform shoes at Dior? We're teetering, but determined not to fall. So try to avoid being blinded by the sparkle and sheen, and pump up the glamour quotient, we'll be indulging in more of it than ever this spring. After all, fashion is the great escape, an accessible, easy ride.

TRENDS FOR SPRING '03

COLOUR Lots of it! Down with black — at least to some degree. And we're tired of those safe browns and greys. Fuchsia, tangerine and aqua will all be going strong

WHITE Nothing looks more optimistic and spiritual than pure, positive white. Besides, it's the best antidote to black

MILITARY CHIC This is one theme that's not going away. This spring, look for glamorous takes on the military theme

SPARKLE Spring is about shining, glistening and dazzling. Metallics are especially strong

SPORTY FUN Even if you're not the athletic type, get into the sporty spirit of dress. Looks that are short, fun, tight and sassy speak of a youthful zest for living

FLORALS From fun prints, to appliqués, to suede flowers at Givenchy and silk flowers at Viktor and Rolf, everything's coming up roses

ROMANCE Softness is in for spring — a return to old-fashion sensuality and easy, carefree comfort. Ruffles and flounces are still big news, but understated, feminine cuts are also strong

BOLLYWOOD John Galliano had fun with theatrical Indian-themed creations full of vibrant colours and campy spirituality. It's bound to surface in a variety of exotic ways

Jeanne Beker is host and segment producer of FT and the Fashion Television Channel.

DIRECT

How do you make a guy...on the phone...in a booth...interesting for an hour-and-a-half? Director Joel Schumacher thinks he found a way for the real-time thriller *Phone Booth*

I BY JOHN KENNEDY

oel Schumacher has a decidedly unscientific method of calculating the quality of his films. "I judge things by whether people go to the bathroom," explains the director of St. Elmo's Fire, The Client and Batman Forever, whose latest, Phone Booth, opens this month. (Scheduled for last November, it was put on hold during the Washington, D.C. area sniper attacks.) "If everyone's jumping up to go for popcorn or to the bathroom, then you're not holding their attention."

Audiences should have no problem controlling their bladders for his new real-time thriller, which runs just 84 minutes.

Rising star Colin Farrell plays Stu Shepard, a bottom-rung pub-

licist who is trapped, for almost the entire movie, in a Manhattan phone booth when a mysterious caller (Keifer Sutherland) threatens to shoot him if he hangs up. All hell breaks loose when the caller kills a bystander on the street, resulting in a police and media frenzy around Shepard, who is now believed to be armed and dangerous. Over the course of the film, the caller forces Shepard to come clean about the way he treats people and the thoughts of adultery he harbours.

"It's not a small art house film but it's not exactly like a mainstream Hollywood film either," concedes Schumacher, stretching out by the window of a Toronto hotel room.



"Hopefully it's exciting enough to entertain an audience and maybe provocative enough so there's substance to it at the same time. It's okay with me if people just want to see it as a thriller, but it's nice if a film works on several levels. For me and the actors, definitely, it's a morality tale. Keifer is quite a moralist, although like most of us he adjusts his morals to suit his morality."

Schumacher at the

Toronto International Film Festival

Schumacher says the story is made more compelling by the fact that Farrell's character is just a regular guy. "Colin's sins are so human. He wasn't the child molester, the murderer, the bank robber, the rapist — he was just a lying, cheating flim-flam artist," he explains.

Using four cameras, Schumacher shot *Phone Booth* in just two weeks on an L.A. street, except for one day's worth of footage shot in New York City's Times Square.

So how do you make a major motion picture about a guy in a phone booth inter-

esting? "You pray," quips Schumacher. "No, you have to have a great cast because the tension is their emotion, so they're making it happen by their attitudes, their actions and reactions. Number two, you have to have a brilliant cinematographer. Matthew Libatique, who did *Requiem for a Dream*, is a brilliant young man. We had to create an essence of what it feels like to be Colin inside the booth, so there are times when the camera has to fly around the booth, times when it has to just be quiet on him, times that it has to move in, times when you have to see what he's seeing. I wanted you to be in the booth with him. I wanted you to feel what it would feel like to be that person."

coming

OPEN RANGE >> MAY

Stars: Kevin Costner, Robert Duvall Director: Kevin Costner (*The Postman*)

Story: Costner returns to the American frontier in a bid to reclaim a taste of his glory years, or year, when 1990's *Dances with Wolves* was nominated for 12 Academy Awards and won seven. Shot in Calgary, this one follows four transient cattle herders forced to contend with an evil rancher who makes up his own laws and uses brutal tactics to enforce them. (Maybe there's a bit of Costner's *The Untouchables* in there too.)

WHEN HARRY MET LLOYD: DUMB AND DUMBERER >> JUNE

Stars: Eric Christian Olsen, Derek Richardson

Director: Troy Miller (*Jack Frost*)

Story: Pretty much the only constant between this prequel and the movie from which it sprang is that they were both produced by New Line Cinema. Where *Dumb & Dumber* starred \$20-million man Jim Carrey and Golden Globe-nominated Jeff Daniels, this one stars a couple of no-names. Where the first one was directed by the Farrelly brothers (*There's Something About Mary*), this one was directed by *Jack Frost's* Miller. Even the film's teaser trailer defines "dumberer" as "trying to make a prequel to *Dumb & Dumber*." Bottom line? It'll make millions. Set in 1986, the younger Harry and Lloyd try to escape the shackles of their "special needs" class and join their school's general population.

2 FAST 2 FURIOUS >>JUNE

Stars: Paul Walker, Cole Hauser Directors: John Singleton (Shaft)

Story: You'll notice Vin Diesel's name is not amongst the stars of this sequel to *The Fast and the Furious*. Negotiations with Diesel went back and forth as screenwriters worked on two different scripts — one which centred on his character, and one which centred on Paul Walker's. But Diesel was looking for upwards of \$20-million, so Walker's script won out. The story follows cop Brian O'Conner (Walker) as he pretends to help a shady Miami importer/exporter unload a shipment of "dirty money," while really working with a sexy undercover agent (Eva Mendes) to nab the bad guy. Man, when you can't trust the guy who's helping you launder your ill-begotten earnings, who can you trust?

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN >> JULY

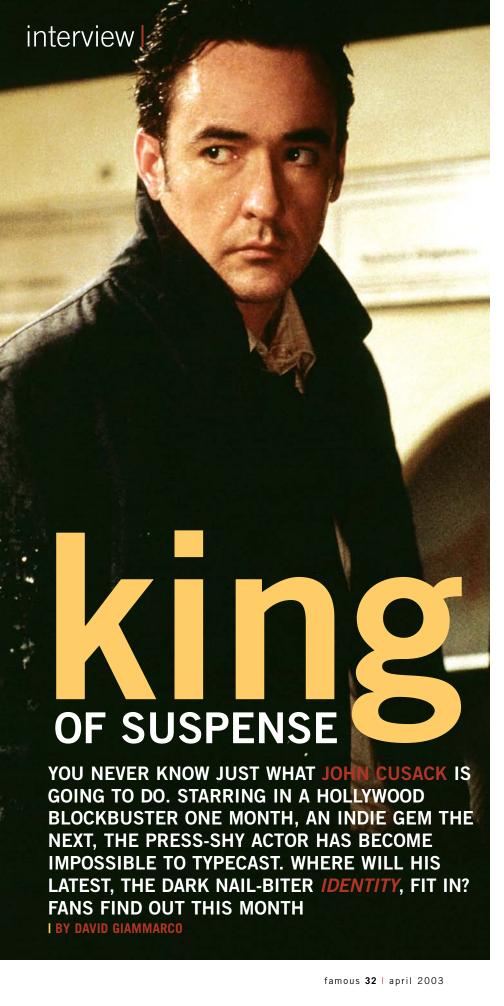
Stars: Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom Director: Gore Verbinski (*The Ring*)

Story: You know how when they're making a movie version of your favourite book you say, "They better not screw it up!" Can you say the same thing when they're making a movie version of your favourite ride at Disney World? Just one year after the less-than-stellar ride-to-screen adaptation *The Country Bears*, comes this tale inspired by arguably the best attraction at Walt's place. Johnny Depp has pulled his *Don Juan DeMarco* puffy shirt out of the laundry to play a gentlemanly pirate who has to stop the evil plans of some more dangerous pirates. And there's something about an ancient curse.









ohn Cusack admits that he recently did something he swore he'd never do — leave his beloved hometown of Chicago and relocate to Tinsletown. "I just never wanted to be trapped in that environment of celebrity," explains the lanky, six-foot-two actor as he scans his L.A. hotel suite for an errant pack of American Spirit cigarettes. "But I think when you're famous, it's hard to live in a small town. Not that Chicago is a small town, but when I'm there people stare at me. It's like I'm more famous in Chicago. In L.A. or New York, nobody gives a f-ck; in a big city, you can quietly do your thing."

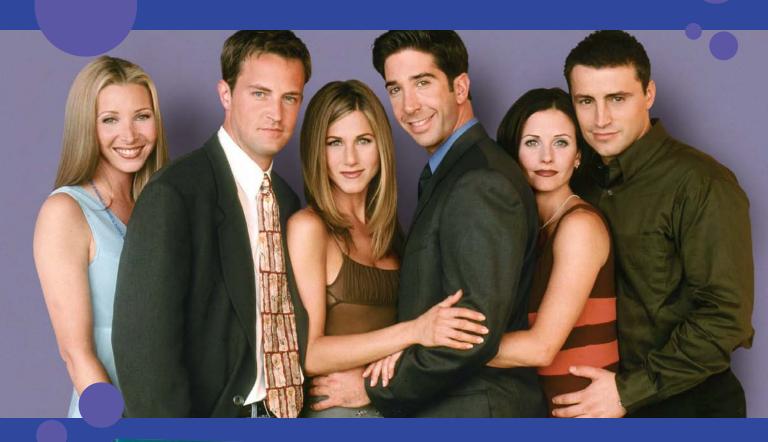
Ouietly doing his "thing" is something this elusive 36-year-old has done since he entered the business almost 20 years ago. Instead of exclusively going after Hollywood blockbusters - and outlandish paycheques — he has stubbornly favoured offbeat characters in smaller, less commercial, films like Woody Allen's Bullets Over Broadway, John Sayles' Eight Men Out, Stephen Frears' The Grifters, and his most recent film Max, which examined the birth of Modern Art in post World War One Germany through the friendship between Jewish gallery owner Max Rothman (Cusack) and frustrated young artist Adolf Hitler (played by Noah Taylor). The film garnered critical praise when it premiered at last year's Toronto International Film Festival, and generated Oscar buzz, but then quickly slipped through the boxoffice cracks. Cusack knew Max wouldn't be widely well-received, but says he's compelled to make unpopular choices.

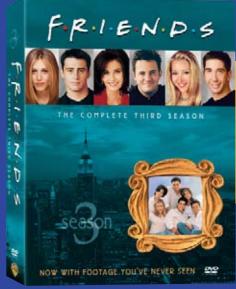
"I guess I have chronic rebellion disorder," he says with a shrug as he ponders why he continually dodges Hollywood's "sure things." "I think the films you don't do, and the money you turn down, is what defines your taste."

Then he adds, "I guess I prefer characters that you never know how they'll react under any given circumstances."

Apparently a proponent of unpredictability himself, the indie-film poster boy surprised many when, after writing, producing and starring in the critical hit *Grosse Pointe Blank* in 1997, he chose to next star in Jerry Bruckheimer's mindless big-budget action extravaganza *Con Air.* His redemption with *Being John Malkovich* and then the slacker comedy *High Fidelity* — adapted from Nick

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Hornby's novel by Cusack and his fellow *Grosse Pointe* writing partners D.V. Vincentis and Steve Pink — was shortlived when Cusack seemingly "sold out" once again by starring with Julia Roberts in the formulaic, syrupy-sweet studio romance *America's Sweethearts*. But Cusack reluctantly admits it has become necessary, every once in a while, to suit up for the Hollywood game he's loathed for so long.

"You don't have to, but it becomes a smart choice to do a film like *Con Air* or *America's Sweethearts*," he says in a precise, rapid-fire elocution that borders on whispers. "It's kind of like having to let the studio system know that you're playing ball so they don't feel like you're completely shunning them. I've learned that, ultimately, those movies help me make more films like *Grosse Pointe Blank* or *Max.* It's just another branch of Hollywood politics, really. Ideally I want to alternate: do one of mine and then do one of theirs...

"At least that's my plan," he adds with a conspiratorial smile.

Bridging those two worlds, he feels, is the atmospheric new thriller *Identity*, directed by James Mangold (*Girl*, *Interrupted*). Cusack stars as one of 10 weary travellers who seek refuge from a freakishly violent rainstorm at an isolated desert motel. Aside from Cusack's



"I MEAN, IF YOU DO A
MOVIE THAT SORT OF
WORKS, EVERYONE SINGS
YOUR PRAISES AND
SAYS YOU'RE THE NEXT
GREATEST THING," SAYS
CUSACK, "AND THEN
THE NEXT MONTH
THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE"

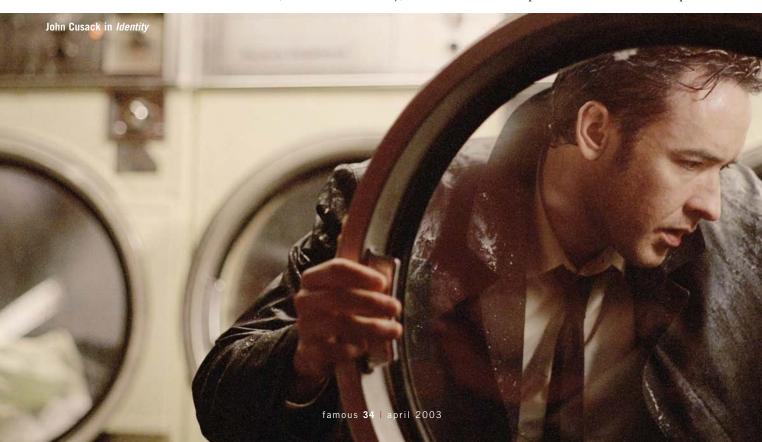
character, a former cop turned limo driver, the motel's other reluctant guests include the spoiled actress (Rebecca De Mornay) he has been hired to cart around, an L.A. police officer (Ray Liotta) who's transporting a criminal (Jake Busey), a middle-aged couple (John C. McGinley and Leila Kenzle) and their young son (Bret Loehr) who've just been in an accident, and a Vegas prostitute (Amanda Peet).

With all roads washed out and phone communication down, the stranded strangers are, at first, thankful for the refuge. But to their horror, they soon discover that there is a killer amongst them and, one by one, the guests are murdered until the dead begin to outnumber the living. Then, when the bodies seem to just disappear the question becomes, were they ever there at all?

"For a big commercial movie, it's a high-quality production," says Cusack. "It's a sophisticated, adult thriller which, when I first read it, had me guessing. The tension was heightened by misdirection and I kept getting surprised."

Cusack was also intrigued by getting to play an important piece of the film's elaborate jigsaw puzzle. "From an acting point of view, what's unusual about this movie is the actors are serving an intricate plot," he explains. "In most films, characters motivate the plot. But this is where we are basically elegant chess pieces and it's a nice change of pace to be in service of that."

Up next for Cusack is the adaptation



of John Grisham's bestseller *The Runaway Jury*, where he stars opposite Dustin Hoffman and Gene Hackman as the jury foreman in a landmark case against a gun manufacturer.

He's also writing the long-awaited sequel to Grosse Pointe Blank, which he hopes to start shooting later this year, and may possibly direct. The film will reunite him on screen with sister Joan for the eighth time (they first appeared together in Class), as she once again plays Martin Blank's ditzy secretary. "Joan stole the first Grosse Pointe, so absolutely she's coming back," says Cusack. "We just have so much fun together. It's so much easier working with someone you know. There's this terrific shorthand that she and I have together. We can just look at each other and know exactly what the other is thinking. And, of course, making my sister laugh is still one of the best things I can do.'

Cusack insists he's in the film business for the long haul, and plans to "keep making movies for another 50 years." He likens an actor's life to a "very strange, bizarre marathon" and feels the secret to surviving that marathon — which has seen so many of his peers stumble and fall before reaching the finish line — is to "stay away from certain Hollywood parties" and "not get involved emotionally in any of the hype, because so many things are so important for about a month and then they're forgotten.

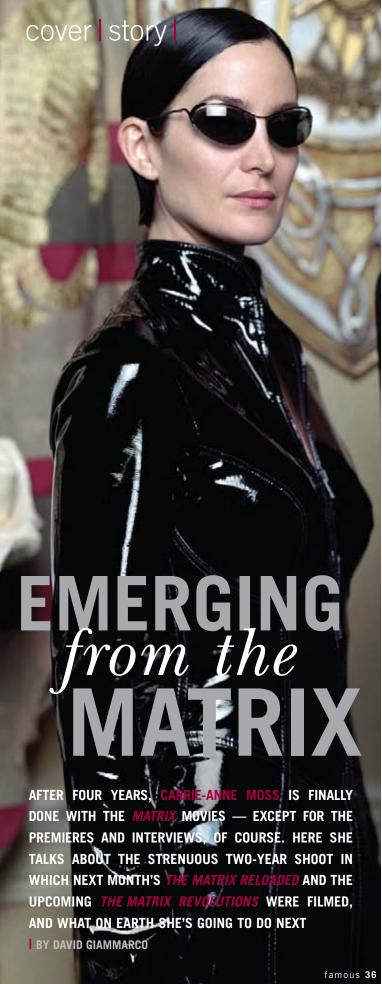
"I mean, if you do a movie that sort of works, everyone sings your praises and says you're the next greatest thing, and then the next month there's someone else," he says. "I don't even remember who was flavour of the year last year or the year before, but it doesn't really matter, 'cause ultimately over 10 or 20 or 30 years, the body of work will be interesting or it won't. That will have to do with your work ethics...it's like investing in stock for long-term or trying to cash in on the market all the time."

"And, quite frankly, I've always thought that 'celebrity' is a bad thing to invest in — it's not a good stock at all," he says. "The celebrity thing is a monster. It can make you a star, but it won't give you a career."

David Giammarco is an entertainment journalist based out of Toronto and L.A.



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arrie-Anne Moss has just returned from Australia, where she spent almost two years shooting the sequels to 1999's *The Matrix*— a film that reinvented the action genre via groundbreaking cyber-effects and a mindbending mythology. The Vancouver native plays Trinity, the gravity-defying heroine, and love interest for our hero, Neo, played by fellow-Canadian Keanu Reeves.

But trying to unlock even a byte of info about the plots of The Matrix Reloaded, which will be released May 15th, and November 2003's The Matrix Revolutions finds Moss grappling with her oath to the Wachowski brothers, the reclusive writing/directing team behind The Matrix.

"I've been sworn to silence," Moss insists over lunch in L.A. But she does coyly hint that if the biggest riddle of the \$450-million-grossing original was "What is the Matrix?" for the sequels it's "What isn't the Matrix?" For the handful of you who haven't seen the first film, we're about to give away the catch: The world around us doesn't really exist. It's a virtual world controlled by machines that have kept the human race locked in stasis in order to use our bodies as a power source. Neo and Trinity have managed to wake up from the dream-state and are trying to save humanity.

Moss, a former model who toiled for years on forgettable TV shows like Silk Stalkings and Models Inc., prides herself on having created an indelible action hero. "Very few women have ever achieved that status in a genre almost exclusively dominated by men. I like to think I helped break down some doors."

But with the recent announcement that she and her husband, actor Steven Roy, are expecting their first baby, it seems action pics may be a thing of the past for this 35-year-old.

[*O*] Have you had your fill of action films?

[A] "I think this will be it for me. I don't want to do action movies anymore. Not because I don't want to be associated with them, but because they're just really, really hard. It's physically draining, and after doing these two films, I don't know if I want to work that hard again.... I'd rather work hard emotionally."

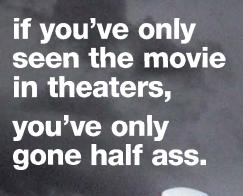
[0] But playing Trinity seems to have had a profound effect on your life. [A] "Oh, absolutely. I mean, you're going to think this sounds really corny, but I do think The Matrix films have really been such an enormous gift for me, because Trinity embodies so much of what I believe in as a person. It's almost like I can see that who I was growing up prepared me for this part in some really weird way. And, as a result, I feel that only in the last few years have I really come into my own, where I feel more secure about myself."

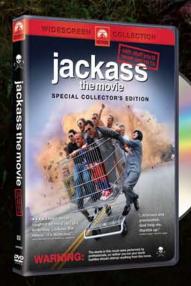
[0] I know you can't reveal details, but what direction do Reloaded and Revolutions take?

[A] "They go much deeper — to a whole other level of consciousness. The characters take new directions, and you also meet a whole bunch of new characters."

[O] How does it feel to be back home?

[A] "It feels really great. On the first one, it was kind of a hard transition to end it and come back to real life after living inside the Matrix world for so long. But this time around, because it was a much longer, more intensive experience, I now feel like I did it all in these two Matrix sequels. I'm really appreciating the mundane things of my life now."





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The stunts in this movie were performed by professionals, so neither you nor your dumb buddles should attempt anything from this movie.

cover | story |

▶▶ [*Q*] What did you miss most about home?

[A] "My bed. My house. My animals. My husband. My life!"

[0] Does all the training really prepare you for the stunts?

[A] "It does, but it's also so mental too.... All the fight scenes were shot in the first nine months, and then we did all the dialogue scenes at the end. So once I knew all my fights were finally over, after months and months, I felt just such a huge weight of relief off my shoulders."

[Q] Just before production began you broke your leg practicing one of those mid-air wire stunts. Did you think Trinity would be re-cast since filming was set to begin in mere weeks?

[A] "Yeah, Keanu and I were on wires and I had a bad landing during one of our training sessions. I was pretty scared. It really affected me emotionally...talk about major breakthroughs as a person, having something like that happen to you while you're training for a movie that means everything to you and having to deal with that uncertainty. It was pretty touch and go there for about two months, having to still rehearse and shoot the stunts with a broken leg. But I did it. And I made it through these two films completely unscathed."

[Q] And you have some pretty spectacular motorcycle stunts in the climax for *Reloaded*.

[A] "Yeah, I did those in the very beginning of the shoot, where they built this entire freeway specifically for the film. I was glad to get it out of the way because it was terrifying. I rode a motorcycle in the first one, but really all I had to do was pull away from a curb — and I fell off every time [laughs]. I was scared to death of them, so, of course, in this one they had me riding a motorcycle for almost two months! I mean, it's scary enough for me to get on a motorcycle in protective clothes and helmet, but to just be in a costume with no helmet, plus an actor on the back — whose life is in your hands — that's a big deal."

[Q] Did you and Keanu have a special bond since you were the lone Canadians on set?

[A] "Oh yeah! [Laughs.] We're really good friends. We were good friends the first time around, and that just continued. I remember one morning we were at work and there was this smell coming from the catering truck and I go, 'Oh that smell — it reminds me of home!' And Keanu gets a whiff and goes, 'Yeah, it smells like Canada, eh! Smells like a Canadian breakfast!' And we both looked at each other and went, 'Yeeah!'

"But Keanu is such a great guy. I couldn't have done these films without him. He's a really supportive, lovely person. We were like old, battle-scarred comrades-in-arms when we arrived in Australia. And I always marveled at his stamina. When we were in training, Keanu would always make me feel like a lazy old blob [laughs]."

[Q] How does the relationship change between Neo and Trinity? I've heard you have some pretty intimate scenes.

[A] "Well, in the first movie their relationship was very sweet and pure, but this time it really blossoms and becomes something beautiful. All our relationships change, actually. Every character morphs, and grows and evolves."

[O] What did you guys do for fun off the set?

[A] "We hung out, we'd have dinner. But I tend to be kind of

a homebody, so it's hard to get me out of the house. And I lived in a great house, I have to tell ya. It was a great area of Sydney. So I'm more of a daytime, walking-type person, than going out at night partying."

[*Q*] Will there be a fourth *Matrix* movie?

[A] "No way. I would be so shocked if that ever happened. In my mind, it will never happen. It just doesn't feel like what the brothers are about, you know? I can only imagine it happening if somebody else did it, which would then be so different."

[Q] After living almost exclusively inside the world of *The Matrix* for four years, you must feel like you're finally beginning a new chapter.

[A] "Yeah, I do. I mean, I've kinda not been thinking like an actor these days, so I can't even imagine working right now. But I'm excited to see what I would be interested in doing next. And yet at the same time, after accomplishing this thing that has been so big to me, I almost feel like I could walk away from acting too in some weird way. 'Cause it's like, I don't know if it will ever get better than this."

David Giammarco is an entertainment journalist based out of Toronto and Los Angeles.



HERE ARE THE FEW PLOT DETAILS WE HAVE

- Reloaded and Revolutions are two halves of the same movie.

 Bottom line: Be prepared for Reloaded to end with a cliffhanger.
- The film takes place six months after the original, and within a
- Neo learns more about his super-heroic abilities, and has to try to save Trinity from the dark fate he's seen in his dreams.
- New characters include a mystical Japanese craftsman called The Key-Maker (Randall Duk Kim); the godlike Architect, who designed the Matrix; and Niobe (Jada Pinkett), one of Morpheus's (Laurence Fishburne) former girlfriends.
- $\hfill\Box$ Trinity and Morpheus kidnap the Key-Maker, who has access to all the doors in the machine world.
- Neo and Trinity finally do it in a cove at Zion. And it's hot. Literally. The deed takes place near the Earth's molten core.



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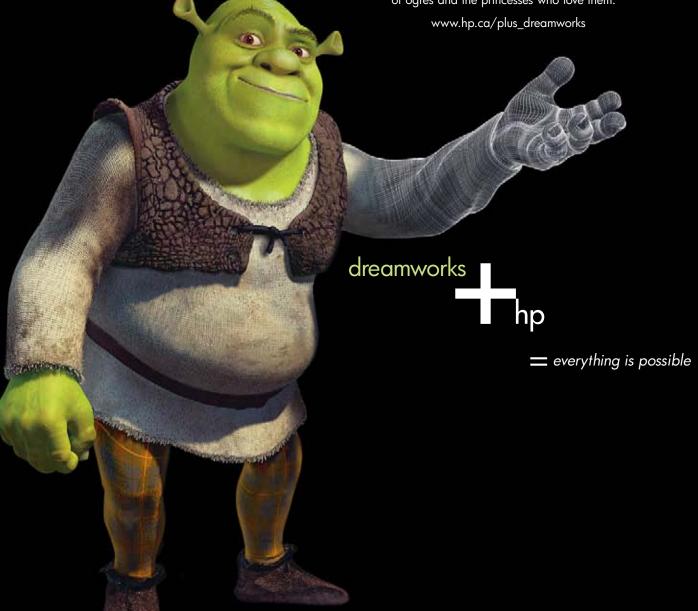
DreamWorks® and hp have formed a unique technology

partnership with one simple goal: to explore new creative frontiers.

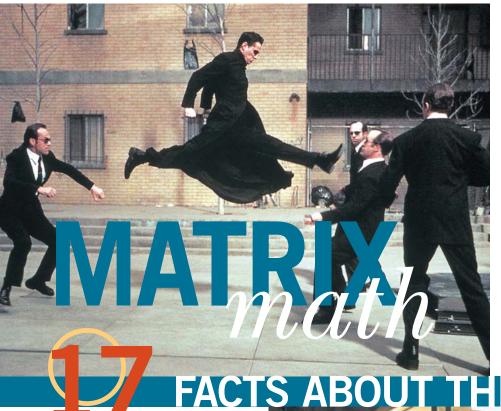
DreamWorks animators use hp workstations and servers running Linux to increase collaboration and reduce rendering times and overall

costs – freeing them to invent brave new animated worlds

of ogres and the princesses who love them.



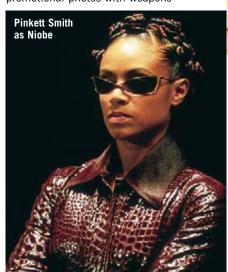
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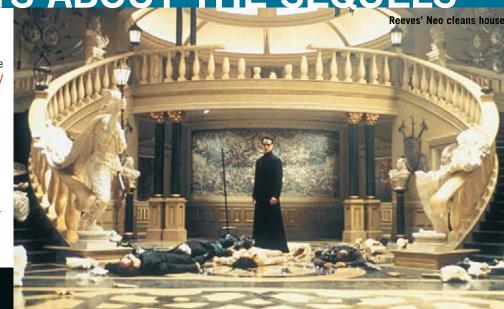


- Since the release of *The Matrix*, the "bullet time" scene (when the camera turns around) has been copied in numerous movies, including *Pootie Tang*, *Charlie's Angels*, *Shrek* and *Scary Movie*
- The sequels' plots were so tightly guarded that actors' scripts had their names water-marked on every page so they couldn't photocopy them
- Two actresses who were slated to appear in *The Matrix Reloaded* passed away. Pop star Aaliyah, who was to play Zee, died in a plane crash and was replaced with Nona Gaye (*Ali*). A month later, Gloria Foster, who played Oracle, died of complications from diabetes. She had shot most of her scenes for the second film, but none for the third
- Reeves got a \$10-million paycheque for the first movie, but earned another \$35-million as a share of the profits
- For the two sequels, Reeves will get either \$30-million or 15% of the profits, whichever is more
- Jada Pinkett Smith trained for 18

The two Matrix sequels, The Matrix Reloaded and The Matrix Revolutions, were filmed simultaneously during a 270-day shoot in and around Sydney, Australia

- They cost \$300-million (U.S.), which is more than the whole *Lord of the Rings* trilogy
- They employed 800 people full-time and 2,500 part-time for 18 months
- There will be a 14-minute car chase in *The Matrix Reloaded*. According to producer Joel Silver, it's the most complicated action scene ever shot
- Keanu Reeves refused to take any promotional photos with weapons





- 2,500 special effects were created for the sequels. In the original movie there were only 412
- Keanu Reeves lent the production \$38million to pay for the special effects
- According to Warner Brothers, the first trailer for *The Matrix Reloaded* was downloaded 20 million times in the first week
 The three principal actors Keanu Reeves, Carrie-Anne Moss and Laurence

Fishburne — were injured during the shoot

months to play Niobe, one of Morpheus's ex-girlfriends, and put on 15 pounds of muscle. She continued to breastfeed her daughter throughout the training and shoot

Jet Li (Romeo Must Die) and Michelle Yeoh (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon) were approached for the sequels but declined

No studio had released two films of the

same series in the same calendar year since 1966's Murderers Row and The Silencers

-Martin Gignac

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ON WHAT CONTINENT WAS MOST OF THE MATRIX RELOADED FILMED?

WHAT PART OF HER BODY DID CARRIE-ANNE MOSS BREAK WHILE TRAINING FOR HER ROLE AS TRINITY?

IN WHICH CITY WAS CARRIE-ANNE MOSS BORN?

Send this entry form to: "Get the Rush," c/o Famous magazine, 102 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Toronto, Ont., M6K 1X9.

All entries must be postmarked no later than May 15, 2003.

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MYERS CONSIDERS REMAKE, SHEEN'S BIG-SCREEN COMEBACK AND PALTROW PLAYS REPORTER IN PULP FILM I BY MARNI WEISZ

Myers

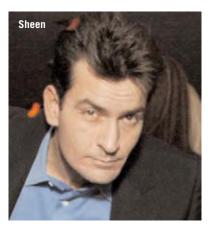
PARTY ON, MIKE?

If you've seen the swinging 1968 Peter Sellers comedy The Party, you know that a huge part of what makes it so charming is how perfectly it reflects the 1960s social scene. So it seemed a bit odd when Priscilla Presley announced she was co-producing a remake of the Blake Edwards-directed gem on Larry King Live, and said of the original, "Obviously, it's a little outdated but we'll fix that." Sellers played Hrundi V. Bakshi, a bumbling film extra who's accidentally invited to an exclusive Hollywood party where he wreaks havoc via an endless series of sight gags (stuffing up the toilet, losing his shoe in an indoor stream, flinging quail across the dinner table). Although no one has been signed to play the modern Bakshi, Canadian Mike Myers (who knows a thing or two about the

charm of the '60s) tops the list. The script will be written by *Meet the Parents'* **Jim Hartsfield** and directed by Myers' *Austin Powers* accomplice **Jay Roach**. Something tells us Mr. Sellers has found a way to make even rolling over in his grave funny.

SHEEN IN SCARY ROLE

In a move harkening back to the good ol' Golden Age of cinema, Charlie Sheen has signed a multi-picture deal with Dimension, a division of Miramax films. In return for his soul, and a large packet of money, Sheen (Wall Street, TV's Spin City) will start working off his obligation with a role in



Scary Movie 3, which will be directed by spoof-master David Zucker (Airplane!, Naked Gun). Following 2000's surprisingly successful Scary Movie, and 2001's funny-l-don't-remember-therebeing-a Scary Movie 2, the third installment will, according to Variety, tell the "story of an orphan who embarks on a magical quest around the world and beyond to rid the universe of evil." If you haven't already figured out the source material, we'll tell you that, at one time, the title was supposed to be Scary Movie 3: Episode I — Lord of the Brooms. It's not clear which role Sheen will play, but Anna Farris is back as Cindy Campbell. Expect the film to hit theatres next fall.

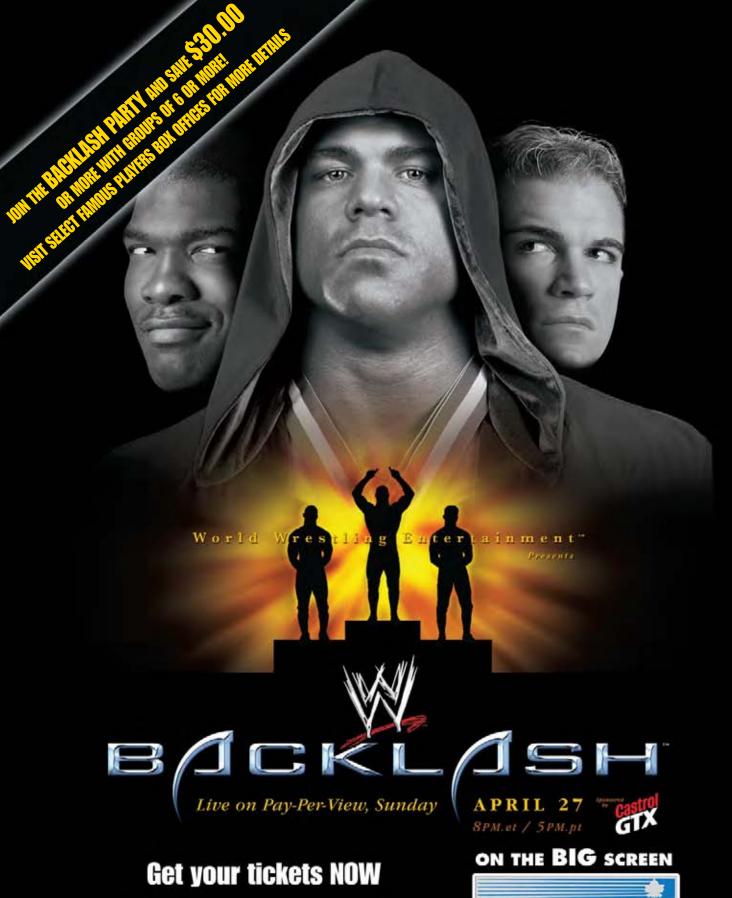


PALTROW'S PAST

The World of Tomorrow may sound like one of those Disneyland rides that purports to tell you about the future, but really tells you more about the time it was constructed (usually the 1950s), but it's actually an upcoming Gwyneth Paltrow, Jude Law action pic set in 1930s New York City. The interesting thing about this movie is that, despite its big-name stars, it's still officially an indie movie, being produced by something called Brooklyn Films and having yet to find a distributor. Also weird is that writer/director Kerry Conran is the epitome of a no-name, having zero credits to his (or her — that's how much of a mystery Conran is) name. Word is, the film will have a pulp fiction feel, sort of like Raiders of the Lost Ark, with Paltrow playing a reporter covering the January 1938 premiere of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs. Law's wife Sadie Frost is getting a producer credit, which is interesting because if you believe the tabloids the happy couple hasn't been too happy of late. If all is on schedule they should be shooting in London, England right now, looking toward a 2004 release date.

BRIEFLY

■ Denzel Washington has signed on to *Man on Fire*. He'll play a bitter marine who moves to Italy to act as bodyguard for a wealthy family. ■ Josh Hartnett (*Black Hawk Down*) is the latest contender for the role of Superman in director Brett Ratner's (*Red Dragon*) re-do. ■ Robert Downey Jr. is reportedly mulling a part in the psychological thriller *Gothika*, which will star *X2*'s Halle Berry as a repressed psychiatrist who wakes up as a patient in the asylum where she works. ■ Alfred Molina (*Frida*) will play the villain, Dr. Octopus, in *Spider-Man II*, a.k.a. *The Amazing Spider-Man*.



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PHOTO BY TSUNI/IMAGE DIRECT

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STARS LIKE LAURA DERN KNOW LEATHER DOESN'T HAVE TO BE BLACK AND BORING. THIS SPRING, DESIGNERS ARE OFFERING PIECES IN FRESH NEW SHADES, STYLES AND DESIGNS

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funky with this
knee-length
apricot coat and
bright red boots
and bag.



▲ Leather doesn't have to be stiff and formal. This washable suede Cargo Skirt, \$129, is sporty through and through — from the smart little zippers to the mesh lining. Available at Danier Leather

If you like the look of leather, but aren't comfortable with the idea, there are plenty of faux-leather options, like this Green Patent Purse, \$90, and Embroidered Cognac Bag, \$100, from Jeanne Lottie. Available at their Toronto shop or www.jeannelottie.com

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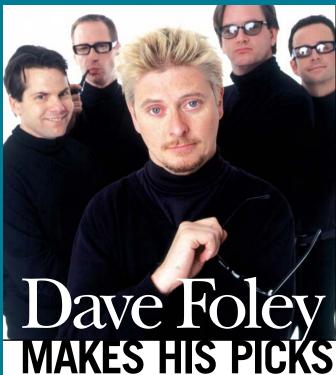
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five | favourite | films |



ids in the Hall fans will be happy hear the quartet has just released a DVD of the tour that took them across the States and Canada last spring. Primarily made up of old faves from their sketch-com series of the late '80s and early '90s, *Tour of Duty* played to mostly sold out crowds of 20- and 30-somethings hankering for a bit of nostalgia and a few laughs.

Dave Foley, a.k.a Hecubus, Jerry Sizzler, Mr. Heavyfoot, followed the TV show with a role on NBC's NewsRadio and a string of movies — some good (Dick, Antz), many forgettable (On the Line? Stark Raving Mad? Fancy Dancing?). He now lives with his new wife Crissy in L.A., where he celebrated his 40th birthday in January. Foley was sitting in his TV room sipping a tea when he spoke with Famous.

WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"Number one is It's a Wonderful Life [1946]. You really get a sense in a very short period of time that you've been through an entire lifetime. It's also a pretty dark movie, and it has one scene in it that is the best example of film acting ever, which is where George Bailey goes to meet his brother at the train station and finds out he's gotten married and his father-in-law is offering him a job. And George realizes he's not going to get to leave town. There's a closeup tracking of George as he walks from the train over to his brother and his new wife, there's an entire journey in that short walk. • Number two is Our Hospitality [1923], Buster Keaton, which is sort of a Hatfield and McCoy story, and is a great example of what a great director Keaton was. The structure of the gags within the frame is just gorgeous. • Number three is **The Third Man** [1949], the Graham Greene script. It's just visually one of the most beautiful movies you could ever see. And the depiction of a city in complete decay — physically because of the war but also the moral decay and degradation that goes with it. • Number four is probably Citizen Kane [1941]. It's trite, but it's just one of the greatest movies ever made. • Number five is Duck Soup

[1933]. I just watched it again with my kids, they're 10 and seven. It was the first time I showed them a Marx Brothers movie and I thought they might not be able to follow it but they loved it, they were laughing their heads off."

WHAT'S YOUR GUT FEELING WHEN YOU HEAR THE OLD KIDS IN THE HALL THEME SONG BY SHADOWY MEN ON A SHADOWY PLANET?

"Well, for a long time whenever I'd hear the theme all I could think is 'Oh, it's time to work.' Now when I hear it I still get excited, it definitely has an emotional affect on me. But now it's a bit sad too because our good friend [Shadowy Men bassist] Reid Diamond died [of cancer in 2001]."

IS IT TRUE THAT YOU DRINK 30 CUPS OF COFFEE A DAY?

"It has been true. It's not always 30 cups a day. When I'm working, yeah, sometimes more than 30 cups a day."

AND YOU STILL HAVE KIDNEYS?

"Oh yeah, I have a robust set of internal organs. I'm indestructible inside. I spend an inordinate amount of time peeing."

DO YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH YOUR ENERGY LEVEL?

"Yeah, I have none. I'm a very relaxed person, and caffeine just really works for comedy. It's a very effective drug in terms of speeding up the connections in your brain."

IF YOU HAD TO GIVE UP COFFEE, SEX OR LAUGHING FOR A YEAR, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"I have given up sex — not voluntarily — for a year. I think laughing would be the hardest thing to give up. So if I had to give up one I could easily give up coffee."

YOU'D JUST HAVE TO HAVE SOMEONE PUSH YOU AROUND IN A WHEELCHAIR ALL DAY.

"Yeah, as long as someone could wake me up to have sex every once in a while."

AND THEN YOU COULD LAUGH ABOUT IT.

"Yup."

IS IT FAIR TO SAY YOU HAVE A LOVE/HATE RELATIONSHIP WITH HOLLYWOOD?

"Yeah, I guess so. Hollywood, itself, I love living here. But in terms of the business end of it, yeah. It's frustrating to be in a business where bad decisions are made every day. If the industry was run by some sort of desire, other than the desire to not be blamed.... That's the engine that drives Hollywood. You know, people think it's about money and it's not really about money. It's about not being blamed."

YOU'RE PRETTY HONEST FOR A SHOWBIZ TYPE, WHETHER ABOUT A MOVIE THAT BOMBS OR THE KIDS NOT GETTING ALONG. DOES THAT DRIVE YOUR PUBLICIST NUTS?

"I think people around me are used to me saying whatever I want to say at this point. I guess it's because I see myself as a comedian, and I don't know how you can be a comedian if you don't keep a fairly realistic view of yourself."

IS LIVING IN A WARM CLIMATE ALL YEAR 'ROUND REALLY AS WONDERFUL AS WE UP HERE ASSUME IT WOULD BE?

"Yeah, it is. Our forbearers who decided to settle in Canada were just retarded. There was so much space left in the south!"

—Marni Weisz

newRELEASES

FIND THE TRUTH ABOUT CHARLIE, GO HOME WITH HARRY POTTER OR GET SPIRITED AWAY

APRIL 1

RED DRAGON

Stars: Anthony Hopkins, Edward Norton Director: Brett Ratner (*Rush Hour 2*)
Story: The Hannibal trilogy concludes with this prequel about an FBI investigator who uses the captured fava bean muncher to help him nab a serial killer. Gee, that plot doesn't sound familiar.

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHARLIE

Stars: Mark Wahlberg, Thandie Newton Director: Jonathan Demme (*Beloved*) Story: Based on Cary Grant's *Charade*, a woman discovers that her recently deceased hubby may or may not have hidden a fortune somewhere in Paris.

SECRETARY

Stars: James Spader, Maggie Gyllenhaal Director: Steven Shainberg (*Hit Me*)
Story: After leaving a mental hospital, a fragile young woman goes to work for a lawyer who demands hot coffee, complete subservience and kinky sadomasochistic sex. Kinda like working for Starbucks, but with fewer whips.

APRIL 8

FAR FROM HEAVEN

Stars: Julianne Moore, Dennis Quaid Director: Todd Haynes (*Velvet Goldmine*) Story: A seemingly perfect 1950s family falls apart after challenging social taboos in this note-perfect tribute to the repression-driven films of Douglas Sirk.

APRIL 11

HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

Stars: Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson Director: Chris Columbus (*Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*)
Story: The boy wizard returns to Hogwarts

for another year of potions, spells and danger. This time, the school is gripped by a panic after the mysterious Chamber of Secrets is re-opened.

APRIL 15

SPIRITED AWAY

Voices: Daveigh Chase, Jason Marsden Director: Hayao Miyazaki (*Princess Mononoke*) Story: Anime godfather Miyazaki returns with a visually stunning tale about a little girl who gets trapped in a town full of ghosts and spirits.

APRIL 22

BOWLING FOR COLUMBINE

Stars: Michael Moore, Charlton Heston Director: Michael Moore (Roger & Me) Story: America's most notorious left-wing rabble-rouser takes on his country's obsession with guns in this clever documentary that earns major bonus points for all the big ups it gives to Canada.



APRIL 29

TWO WEEKS NOTICE

Stars: Sandra Bullock, Hugh Grant Director: Marc Lawrence (debut)
Story: A frazzled lawyer decides to quit her job after her charming boss treats her like a nanny once too often. But will they realize they love each other before she walks out of his life forever?

DARKNESS FALLS

Stars: Emma Caulfield, Chaney Kley Director: Jonathan Liebesman (debut) Story: An evil Tooth Fairy is terrorizing the children in a small town, and only one man can stop her! Yes, you read that right. An evil Tooth Fairy. Maybe the sequel will feature a disgruntled Easter Bunny.

With files from *Premiere Video Magazine*. All release dates subject to change.

new to DVD

CASTLE IN THE SKY & KIKI'S DELIVERY SERVICE APRIL 15

Director Hayao Miyazaki (Spirited Away) is a film god in his home country of Japan, but his movies have only



recently been introduced to mainstream North American audiences. To help rectify this gross oversight, Disney is releasing English-language

versions of his earlier works. This first wave includes the wildly imaginative adventure story *Castle in the Sky* and the whimsical children's tale *Kiki's Delivery Service*. Both films are filled with stunningly beautiful art and clever storylines, and stand head and shoulders above the cookie-cutter cartoons churned out by Hollywood these days. Essential viewing for any true fan of animation.



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I BY DAN LIFBMAN

aries

March 21 >>> April 20

It's been a while since you last got your way (three weeks?), but the dry spell's over. You're team captain again, and family members are more willing to accept your side of the argument.

taurus

April 21 >>> May 22

In any partnership — romantic, professional, platonic — be ready to take a creative approach. You can come up with a solution to a major work problem, provided you don't overthink the issue.

gemini May 23 >>> June 21

The emphasis is on spontaneity: lastminute trips, impromptu dates and a sudden willingness to bury the hatchet. Meanwhile, brighten your surroundings with touches of whimsy.

cancer

June 22 >>> July 22

The competition this month is stiffer than usual — but you rise to the occasion. Aspiring artists and writers have a latemonth opportunity to make the transition from amateur to professional.

leo

July 23 >>> August 22

Surround yourself with upbeat friends who can help motivate you during a sluggish

spell. Be alert to sound opportunities for making extra cash, especially after the 21st. And wonder no longer: that recent acquaintance makes it clear how he or she feels about you.

August 23 >>> September 22

Your financial outlook brightens just when you're getting the knack of living more frugally. When it comes to sports or fitness, you finally reach your goal. Late-month travel may prove more fun than expected.

September 23 >>> October 22

The first half of the month sees you bathing in the spotlight. If planning a career shift, then late April is the time to create a game plan. It turns out that a long-lasting dispute merely involves a misunderstanding.

scorpio

October 23 >>> November 21

If you're feeling claustrophobic, it may be that you're spending too much time alone. Use the month to connect with people who share your interests.

sagittarius

November 22 >>> December 22

You're not sure who put you in charge but the month sees you organizing a family event or heading a community project. There are tangible signs that your unflag-



ging belief in someone was well-founded. A late-month call or note solves an old mystery.

capricorn

December 23 >>> January 20

It's a good month for drawing up wish lists, making peace with a neighbour, and running into all sorts of nutty people. On the other hand, it's not the time to offer romantic advice or take financial risks.

aquarius

January 21 >>> February 19

No April fooling: you're a hot commodity this month. Influential types seek out your expertise. And the best part is, you finally get the credit you deserve. Dress for the weather, not to make a fashion statement.

February 20 >>> March 20

Focus on the details — whether dealing with business or relationship matters. Toward the middle of April, easygoing Pisces becomes more assertive and determined. Late month offers opportunities for expanding your circle of friends.



1st	Debbie Reynolds
2nd	Dana Carvey
3rd	Alec Baldwin

4th	Robert Downey Jr.
5th	Mitch Pileggi
6th	Paul Rudd
7th	Russell Crowe
8th	Patricia Arquette
9th	Cynthia Nixon
10th	Steven Seagal
<u>11th</u>	Joel Grey
12th	Claire Danes
13th	Rick Schroder
14th	Sarah Michelle Gellar

15th	Emma Thompsor
16th	Martin Lawrence
17th	Jennifer Garne
18th	Eric Roberts
19th	Hayden Christenser
20th	Jessica Lange
21st	Andie MacDowel
22 nd	Jack Nicholsor
23rd	Michael Moore
24th	Barbra Streisand
25th	Renée Zellwege
26th	Carol Burnet



27th	Sheena Easton
28th	Penélope Cruz
29th	Daniel Day-Lewis
30th	Kirsten Dunst

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I BY SUSAN GRANGER

GUY RITCHIE "We wrote our own vows. We considered what we wanted to say and how we wanted to say it. It was magnificent. Marriage to Madonna is magnificent. We had a magnificent wedding, we're having a magnificent time, and we couldn't be happier."

BRAD PITT "Our wedding was one of the coolest things I have ever been to. When we were taking our vows, the press completely backed off. It shocked the hell out of me. I was like, 'I love humanity!'"

KATE CAPSHAW "Steven [Spielberg] and I didn't really date or have a big engagement. It just seemed like the natural thing that we would get married. And

suddenly we were married. Now, I say, 'Wait a minute. We never even had a first date.'"

SHARON STONE "Phil [Bronstein] and I invited 110 friends to a Valentine's Day 'sweethearts party' at my home in Beverly Hills. It was really a wedding party, but nobody knew it. They were completely surprised when they became aware that the ceremony was about to begin."

KELSEY GRAMMER "I'm glad we went the traditional route. We didn't want to write our own vows. I like the way [the ceremony] has been handed down, the wisdom of the ages, that I will hang in there with you, be true to you. I started to cry in the middle of it all. It was a very emotional moment."

CATHERINE ZETA-JONES "I was hopping around all week shouting, 'I'm getting married!' But I told Michael [Douglas], 'No crying.' He doesn't even have to have a tear in his eye. He just has that look where I know that he's about to start, and that does me in. I said, 'I don't even want you to look at me until I'm halfway down the aisle."'

JADA PINKETT "When Will [Smith] and I got married, our biggest challenge was to keep it a secret. No invitations were sent out. Instead, we invited about 100 guests to join us at the Harbor Court Hotel and Tremont Plaza in Baltimore, my home town, where rooms were reserved for them. On the morning of the ceremony they were given envelopes with directions to hand to their limo drivers — we had hired 35 limos. They drove to the Cloisters, a medieval-style mansion outside of Baltimore, where we got married. Because no one knew where they were going, it was a wonderful adventure. Everyone was talking and laughing and having a wonderful time."

JON BON JOVI "We were looking for something exciting to do, so we went to Vegas. We won some money and ended up at the Graceland Chapel, for Elvis. And that's what happened."

WILLIAM H. MACY "When Felicity [Huffman] finally agreed to marry me, we held the ceremony in the pasture of her family's home in Woody Creek, Colorado. We recited our own vows as we exchanged simple gold bands. A dinner for 180 followed in a white canopied tent. But let me tell you about the gifts. She gave me a sterling silver harmonica and I gave her a sterling silver boudoir set."

NOAH WYLIE "When Tracy [Warbin] and I got married, we wanted everybody there to be able to swear to always aid this union in our many years together, so guests were told to respond, "We do," when asked by the minister if they would support the marriage. So ours was an intimate wedding. You can't ask people that you've had lunch with a few times to promise to keep you together."

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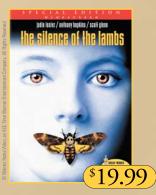














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