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# Famous

december 2001 | volume 2 | number 12

canada's entertainment lifestyle magazine

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PENÉLOPE CRUZ

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CLOONEY, DAMON,  
GARCIA & CHEADLE  
ON *OCEAN'S ELEVEN*

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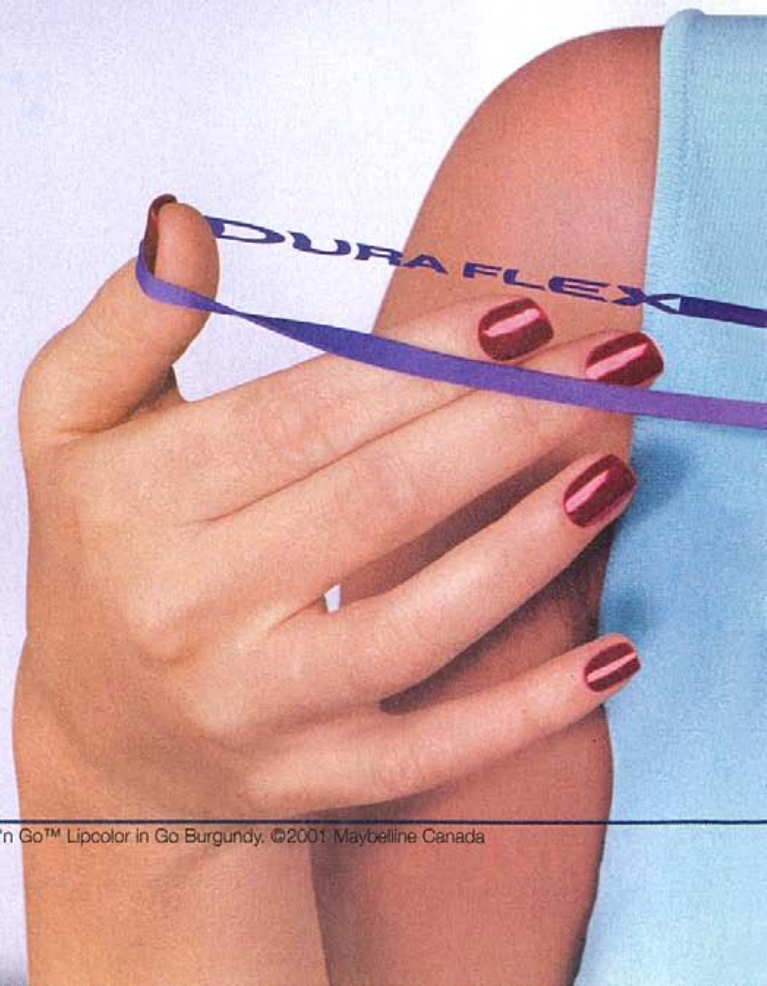
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*How do you get A-list stars like Julia Roberts, Matt Damon and George Clooney to take major pay cuts when the film they're working on isn't even a low-budget indie pic? Remake the Rat Pack classic Ocean's Eleven and have Steven Soderbergh direct. Damon, Clooney, Andy Garcia, Don Cheadle and Soderbergh explain* **By Michele Manelis**

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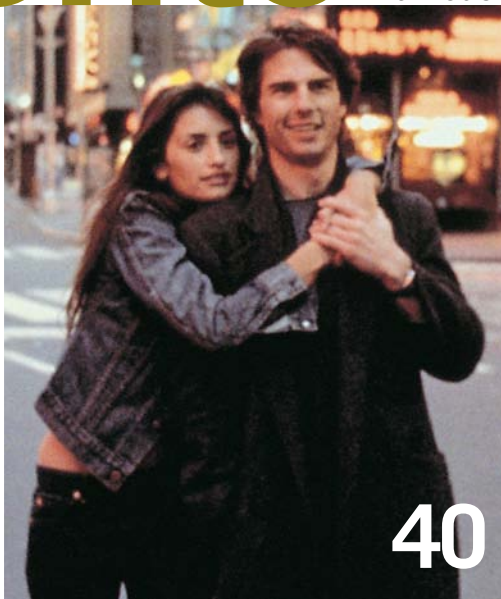
*Stretched between steady work in her native Spain and a blossoming film career in North America, Penélope Cruz refuses to give up one for the other. She explains why, talks a bit about her new film Vanilla Sky and tells you how she deals with the pressures of dating co-star Tom Cruise* **By Earl Dittman**

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*A huge Tolkien fan since childhood, you'd think that Liv Tyler would be thrilled to play an elf in the big-screen adaptation of The Lord of the Rings. But that's because you don't know just how insecure she is, or that she feared director Peter Jackson wouldn't do the book justice* **By Earl Dittman**

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# Liv large

**a** couple of months ago I came to the frantic realization that the first *Lord of the Rings* movie, *The Fellowship of the Ring*, would soon open and, having never read the tome, I would be woefully unable to write, or edit, stories about the film. So, I put all trips to the cinema on hold, and spent a couple of weeks trudging through Tolkien's forest with the hobbits, dwarves and elves.



With the tale fresh in my mind I was surprised to see how much attention **Liv Tyler** was getting for her part as the elf Arwen, a character who is barely a blip in the first book. Then I found out that — in what promises to be one of the most contentious liberties director Peter Jackson took with the story — Arwen's part was pumped up to add a little more estrogen to this very boyish journey. Liv Tyler tells you where the “new” storyline came from, and why she was so insecure about taking on the role, in “Elf-Esteem,” page 42.

Have you noticed that the 1998 crime flick *Out of Sight* has been on TV a lot over the past few months? Perhaps someone's trying to remind you what an explosive combination **Steven Soderbergh** and **George Clooney** are, right before their new movie, *Ocean's Eleven*, comes out. For “Pack Animals,” page 34, Michele Manelis spent an afternoon with the dynamic duo, and three

more of the film's stars, chatting about remaking the Rat Pack classic, why it was worth taking pay cuts and how they spent their time off in Vegas.

**Penélope Cruz** was on her way to making a name for herself in North American cinema when news broke that she was **Tom Cruise**'s first post-Nicole squeeze. Now, all chances of being seen as her own entity seem to be shot, especially since her next big-screen appearance is opposite Cruise in *Vanilla Sky*, the very secretive re-do of the Spanish film *Open Your Eyes*. For “Spanish Inquisition,” page 40, Earl Dittman managed to get the Madrid-born beauty to give up a few details about making the movie, how she deals with her high-profile relationship and what she misses most about Spain when she's not there.

And, starting on page 25, we give you a sneak peek at our next big project here at *Famous* — *Famous Kids*. The first full issue of the new mag for tots and preteens will be out early next year, but we thought this was a good time to whet your appetite with a little preview.

Happy holidays everyone, we'll see you in the new year.

— Marni Weisz

# Famous

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## WERE WE DREAMING?

We were hoping you could answer a question about a movie for us. About six to 12 months ago my wife and I saw either a trailer or a commercial for a movie about a woman who led two lives — one when she was awake and one when she slept. Both of them seemed so real that she did not know which one was real. The character was played by either Uma Thurman or Michelle Pfeiffer or someone like that. Sorry the details are sketchy, but all we want to know is if there was such a movie in the making and if so what happened to it?

Warren Porter — London, Ont.

There was indeed. *Passion of Mind* starred Demi Moore (c'mon, she's not even blond) as a widowed mother living in Provence, who has such vivid dreams about a woman in Manhattan that she starts to wonder if that's not her real life and her *vie en France* is but a dream. The movie had a limited theatrical release in May 2000 and came out on video in September of that same year.

## UBIQUITOUS TRAILER TUNE

There is a piece of music that has been used in the trailers for the movies *Romeo Must Die*, *The Patriot*, *Quills* and, most recently, *The Musketeer*. Can you tell me the name of the piece and how I may obtain a copy?

L. Hornagold — Peterborough, Ont.

Good ear: The music is actually taken from the soundtrack for another movie, Jonny Lee Miller's 1999 action drama *Plunkett & Macleane*. It was written by Craig Armstrong and was also



sampled in the *Mission to Mars* trailer. You should be able to find the soundtrack at most major record stores or online retailers.

## CHICO'S CHOICE

I enjoyed reading your article about Freddie Prinze Jr. I was very fond of his dad when he acted in the sitcom *Chico and the Man* in the late '60s. I laughed when he used to say, "It's not my job, man." Could you let me know what led to his suicide soon after the arrival of a child and at the peak of his career?

Ed Riera — Vancouver, B.C.

It's impossible to say exactly what leads to a suicide, but in this case the 22-year-old actor had developed a pretty serious addiction to Quaaludes and cocaine. Plus, he had separated from his wife Kathy. Prinze Sr. told his friends and family that he was going to kill himself, and was actually at home, sitting on a couch across from his manager, when he pulled the trigger.

## LOOKING FOR CO-ORDINATES

I am a huge fan of Benicio Del Toro. Could you give me an address to write him? He is incredibly sexy and I love his acting.

Anna Crombie — Dartmouth, N.S.

According to his website ([www.beniciodeltoro.com](http://www.beniciodeltoro.com)) you can address fan mail for the angry-faced actor to Benicio Del Toro, c/o BDT Mail, P.O. Box 1712, New York, N.Y., 10021, U.S.A.

First, I want to say how much I enjoy reading your publication. I go to the movies an average of once a week and like to know interesting facts about the making of the movie before I view it. *Famous* provides that information. Second, I have been trying for years to get an address for the movie actor Van Johnson. He is in his eighties now and I fear I am running out of time. I have written to different publications without success.

G.J. Rogers — London, Ont.

Well G.J., flattery will get you everywhere. Or at least it'll get you an address for Van Johnson. Send letters for the 85-year-old star of *Brigadoon* and *The Caine Mutiny* to Van Johnson, 305 W. 52nd Street, Suite 1H, New York, N.Y., 10019.

## FAMOUS WELCOMES YOUR COMMENTS

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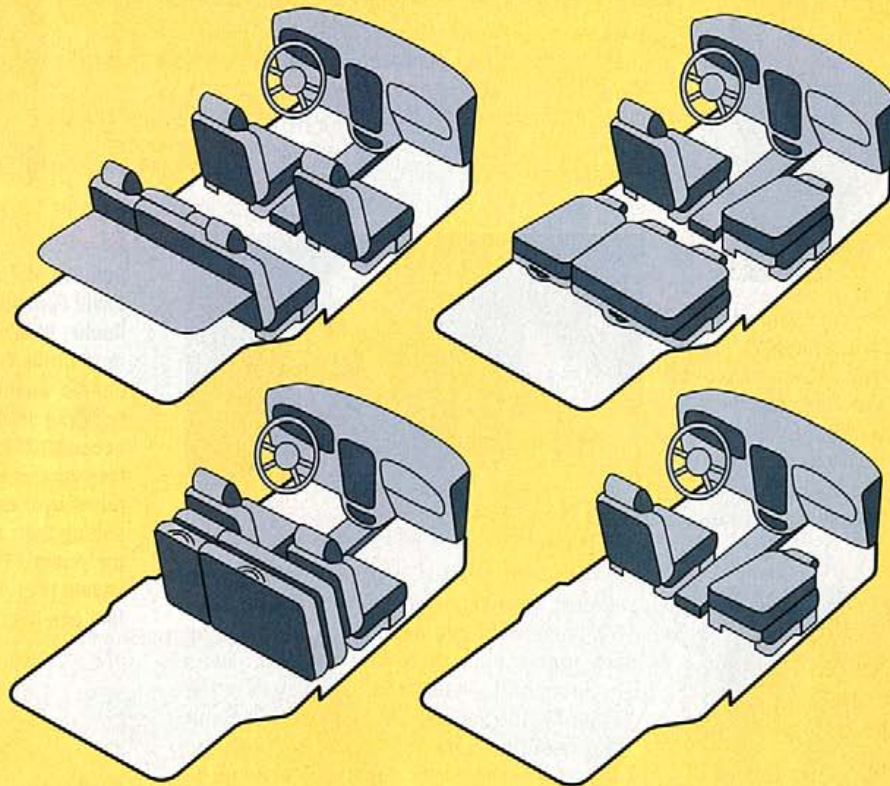


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## CARLA COLLINS ON WHY GOLDIE'S ALL WET, PENÉLOPE'S NO LONGER SMOKIN' AND ASHLEY DISSSED HER SISTER

**Goldie's Oldies** From the *Globe* comes word that a scantily clad Goldie Hawn recently pranced through a public sprinkler.

According to gossip columnist Charlene Tilton, "a few passersby got an eyeful as Hawn was wearing a thin white T-shirt and no bra." (Okay, is it just me or is she eerily starting to morph into Farrah Fawcett? You never do see them in the same room together. Hmmm...) You know, Goldie's 56. At that age, without proper support, she must have looked like a wet, perky yellow mop floating above the mean ghosts from the old Casper cartoons.



**Smokescreen** Penélope Cruz is afraid of being offered a role that would involve smoking. The Spanish home wrecker, who only recently managed to kick the habit, tells *TV Movie* magazine that she's worried she'll give in to temptation if she lights up. "Now I am afraid that somebody will approach me with a great script and say, 'But we want you to smoke in this movie,'" she says. In a related story, Cruz is also said to be avoiding movies with love scenes, as she's given up sex since she started dating Tom Cruise.



**Bi-opic? I Thought He was Gay** News from Britain has it that Elton John's boyfriend, David Furnish, is developing a film based on the Rocket Man's extravagant life. According to a report from *Peoplenews.com*, Furnish thinks the bio-pic would be a good option for the pair's fledgling production company, Rocket Pictures, because, "Elton has experienced the highs and lows of drugs and drink and known every hell-raiser over the last 30 years." Safe bettors are putting their money on Robert Downey Jr. to play the young Elton. Personally, I think Big Bird should play the older Elton. He already looks like one huge flamboyant yellow boa.



**One Hot Bridal Shower** Ashley Judd must have shocked the heck out of sister Wynonna when she announced the wedding party for her nuptials to race car driver Dario Franchitti. Rather than keeping it in the family, the younger Judd chose to honour new best bud Sandra Bullock. According to *Zap2it.com*, the pretty duo "have become so chummy since working together on *Divine Secrets of Ya-Ya Sisterhood* that Judd asked Bullock to be her maid of honour." It's not just Wynonna that's weeping. I feel sorry for the whole bridal party. Being a bridesmaid is bad enough under the best of circumstances. These poor things are going to be forced to dress up in taffeta and stand next to two of the hottest women on the planet. I can just picture a row of women that's orange, puffy and bitter.



### Christmas Comes but Once a Year. Gwyneth However...

Gwyneth Paltrow tells *Harper's Bazaar* that she wears out her boyfriends in no time. She says, "I'm a very sexual person. I'm lucky if I get past six weeks." What the hell is she doing that she's tuckering out the likes of Brad Pitt and Ben Affleck? Too bad Sting's already taken, sounds like Gwyn could use some of that all-night Tantric lovin'.



**Joan Collins Sucks Dirt** Joan Collins has revealed her secret to staying in shape. The 68-year-old actress tells London's *Daily Record* that even household chores can keep you fit. "Continue to do exercise, whether it's Hoovering, doing sit-ups by yourself or anything, just keep moving." Hoovering is housework? I thought that's how she got her acting gigs.



**Booty Call** Destiny's Child singer Beyoncé Knowles is in talks to join the cast of the third *Austin Powers* film, *Goldmember*. According to *Ananova.com*, "the star would follow in the footsteps of Liz Hurley and Heather Graham, playing Austin Powers' love interest." She'll no doubt make a great covert operative. Anyone who's seen the video for Destiny's Child's "Survivor" knows that the bootylicious Knowles loves to wear camouflage outfits. To me, though, she just looks like a slutty commando. Maybe this will spawn a new line of action figurines — G.I. Ho.

*Carla Collins is a world-renowned comedian/supermodel/astronaut/actor. She currently appears as Rusty Sinclair on the Showcase soap Paradise Falls and hosts Carla and Company on Toronto's Mix 99.9 FM.*



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# Calling the shots

It's no secret that history, storylines and dialogue are frequently rewritten in movies to please everyone from advertisers to test audiences. But recently released documents reveal that the Pentagon also gets a chance to retool scripts whenever a production asks to borrow military hardware, personnel or property.

According to an article in *Brill's Content*, directors in need of the Pentagon's favours frequently make changes to their movies — casting the U.S. military in a more favourable or heroic light.

It was supposed to be a navy admiral who was selling state secrets to the bad guys in 1995's *Goldeneye*. But top brass objected and the James Bond action picture was changed. The traitor became French. Also, the marines were given a bigger and better part after they groused about their portrayal in *The Jackal*, and *Top Gun* secured its co-operation from the navy

after changing Kelly McGillis' character from a soldier to a civilian so that her relationship with Tom Cruise wouldn't break any "fraternization" rules.

Other movies that received co-operation include: *Air Force One*, *A Few Good Men*, *Armageddon*, *Hamburger Hill*, *The Hunt for Red October* and *Pearl Harbor*.

But Ridley Scott wasn't so lucky when he made *G.I. Jane*. Not surprisingly, the U.S. navy objected to several elements of his controversial movie and withheld assistance even after Scott made several changes and cut an entire scene — wherein a male soldier has to urinate while pinned down in a foxhole with Demi Moore.

*Independence Day* also had to go without any help despite producer Dean Devlin's promise he would "eat this script" if the movie didn't "make every boy in the country want to fly a fighter jet." But the movie's



But what did the Pentagon think about Demi's *G.I. Jane* hair?

"impotent and/or inept" depiction of the military killed the deal.

*G.I. Jane* and *Independence Day* joined the ranks of such other rejected films as *Apocalypse Now*, *Broken Arrow*, *Forrest Gump*, *Full Metal Jacket*, *Mars Attacks!*, *An Officer and a Gentleman*, *Platoon* and *The Thin Red Line*.

—SD

## Word association

The extensive online film encyclopedia the Internet Movie Database ([www.imdb.com](http://www.imdb.com)) assigns keywords to each movie's plot, and if you do a keyword search of a particular actor's body of work, the result is a neat little snapshot of his or her career. Below, we put six actors through the keyword trial. The numbers indicate how many of their films match that word.

—MW



**Robert De Niro**

- independent film 26
- based on novel 23
- violence 15
- murder 14
- Mafia 11
- neo-noir 10
- New York 10
- based on true story 9
- revenge 8
- gangster 8



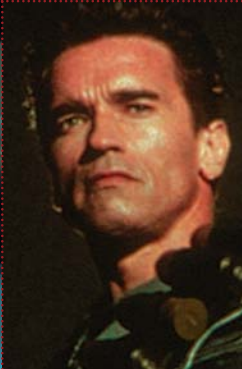
**Glenn Close**

- based on novel 16
- independent film 10
- historical 4
- dog 4
- kids and family 4
- murder 4
- blockbuster 3
- law 3
- president 3
- human relationship 3



**Helena Bonham Carter**

- independent film 15
- based on novel 13
- revenge 3
- historical 3
- based on play 3
- boxing 2
- mining 2
- sex 2
- pregnancy 2
- wedding 2



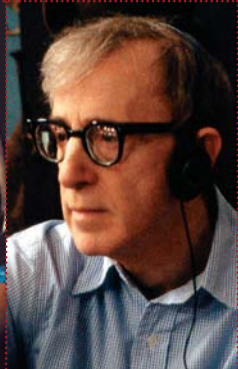
**Arnold Schwarzenegger**

- independent film 10
- sequel 8
- violence 7
- chase 6
- lasersight 5
- weapon 5
- motorcycle 5
- police 5
- helicopter 5
- murder 5



**Shannon Tweed**

- independent film 38
- erotica 17
- sex 9
- sequel 7
- nudity 5
- Playboy magazine 4
- police 3
- spoof 3
- lesbian scene 3
- soap 2



**Woody Allen**

- independent film 25
- New York 9
- adultery 7
- writing 6
- fake documentary 5
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## Get into ReelWorld

If you're a filmmaker who has produced a short or feature in the past year that, in some way, represents racial diversity, quick! get it to the organizers of the ReelWorld Film Festival.

The event's second edition takes place in Toronto from **April 4 to 8, 2002**, and the deadline for submissions is **December 14**. Entry forms, complete with rules and regulations, are available on the festival's website, [www.reelworldfilmfest.com](http://www.reelworldfilmfest.com), or, if you don't have web access, by calling **416.598.7933**.

ReelWorld was launched last year to celebrate the works of multicultural filmmakers from Canada and the rest of the world. —MW

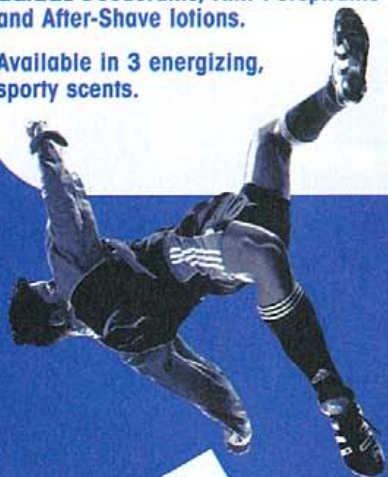
## Pick a card

What's that they say about people who are talented in one area of the arts being talented in others? These holiday cards designed by Hilary Swank (top) and Meryl Streep (bottom) would seem to dispel that myth. But it was all to raise money for a good cause, AIDS Project Los Angeles.



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**FILMS SHOOTING  
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THIS MONTH**

### THE TUXEDO

**Location:** Toronto, Ont.

**Director:** Kevin Donovan

**Cast:** Jackie Chan, Jennifer Love Hewitt  
Chan has been dividing his time between this spy comedy, now underway in Toronto, and shooting the last few scenes of his crime comedy *The Highbinders* in Dublin and London. In this one, he plays a truck driver who finds a tux filled with a spy's high-tech gizmos. Go-go gadget cufflinks.



Look for Julia Stiles in B.C.

### A GUY THING

**Location:** Vancouver, B.C.

**Director:** Chris Koch

**Cast:** Jason Lee, Julia Stiles

Lee cools his heels in B.C. for three months, starring with Stiles in this light comedy about a guy who wakes up in bed with a strange woman after his bachelor party. After that, the actor ships off to the Garden State to star in Kevin Smith's next movie, *Jersey Girl*.

### I SPY

**Location:** Vancouver, B.C.

**Director:** Betty Thomas

**Cast:** Eddie Murphy, Owen Wilson  
Murphy and Wilson will be on the West Coast until the New Year, working on this loose re-do of the old Bill Cosby TV series. Murphy plays a basketball pro recruited by a secret agent to help recover a stolen, top-secret fighter jet from an evil arms dealer. —SD





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# now in theatres

GO TO THE MAJESTIC, PERUSE THE SHIPPING NEWS  
MEET JOE SOMEBODY OR TUSSLE WITH ALI

DECEMBER 7

## OCEAN'S ELEVEN

**Who's In It?** George Clooney, Brad Pitt  
**Who Directed?** Steven Soderbergh (*Traffic*)  
**What's It About?** Soderbergh has recruited half of Hollywood for his much-hyped remake of the 1960 Rat Pack flick about a team of hoods out to knock over a handful of Las Vegas casinos. Clooney fills in for Sinatra. **See interview with Steven Soderbergh and George Clooney, page 34.**

DECEMBER 14

## VANILLA SKY

**Who's In It?** Tom Cruise, Penélope Cruz  
**Who Directed?** Cameron Crowe (*Almost Famous*)  
**What's It About?** Why read subtitles in the Spanish-language original about a disfigured car-crash victim trying to rebuild his life, when you can see fun couple Cruise and Cruz in the Hollywood re-do? **See Penélope Cruz interview, page 40.**

## NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE

**Who's In It?** Mia Kirshner, Chris Evans  
**Who Directed?** Joel Gallen (debut)  
**What's It About?** We couldn't have said it better ourselves. MTV's Gallen gives teen movies some much-needed needling in this spoof that was originally titled *10 Things I Hate About Clueless Roadtrips When I Can't Hardly Wait to be Kissed*.

DECEMBER 19

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

**Who's In It?** Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen  
**Who Directed?** Peter Jackson (*The Frighteners*)  
**What's It About?** Tolkien fans finally get their Christmas wish as the first of the three *Lord of the Rings* movies hits theatres. Wood (*Deep Impact*) plays reluctant adventurer Frodo Baggins, McKellen (*X-Men*) is the wizard Gandalf and Ian Holm is Bilbo Baggins. Liv Tyler, as Arwen, and Cate Blanchett, as elf queen Galadriel, hold down the only principal roles for the fairer sex. **See Liv Tyler interview, page 42.**



Mia Kirshner and Chris Evans  
in *Not Another Teen Movie*

DECEMBER 21

## KATE AND LEOPOLD

**Who's In It?** Meg Ryan, Hugh Jackman  
**Who Directed?** James Mangold (*Girl, Interrupted*)  
**What's It About?** Just saw *Just Visiting*? Craving another time-traveling romantic comedy? Jackman (*Swordfish*) plays a 19th-century man pulled into the present by a team of scientists, where he meets and falls in love with Ryan.

## JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS

**Who's In It?** Debi Derryberry, Patrick Stewart  
**Who Directed?** John Davis (debut)  
**What's It About?** A 10-year-old brainiac and his robotic dog rocket through space and fight off evil aliens in this computer-animated kids picture from the folks at Nickelodeon.

## JOE SOMEBODY

**Who's In It?** Tim Allen, Julie Bowen  
**Who Directed?** John Pasquin (*The Santa Clause*)  
**What's It About?** When a co-worker beats the bejeezus out of him, a hapless desk jockey (Allen) learns to fight back. Think of *Dilbert*, as rewritten by Charles Atlas.

## THE MAJESTIC

**Who's In It?** Jim Carrey, Martin Landau  
**Who Directed?** Frank Darabont (*The Green Mile*)  
**What's It About?** Will this Frank Capra-esque story of a blacklisted screenwriter who starts a new life at a small-town moviehouse get Carrey (*Man on the Moon*, *The Truman Show*) that elusive Oscar nomination? Probably not, but at least he keeps trying.

DECEMBER 25

## THE SHIPPING NEWS

**Who's In It?** Kevin Spacey, Julianne Moore  
**Who Directed?** Lasse Hallström (*The Cider House Rules*)  
**What's It About?** No stranger to playing losers in the midst of mid-life crises, Spacey (*American Beauty*) headlines in this adaptation of the book by Pulitzer winner E. Annie Proulx. Retreating from a failed marriage and career in New York, a third-rate newspaperman moves back to the family home in coldest, rockiest Newfoundland to rebuild his life. His daughter Bunny — played by triplets Alyssa, Kaitlyn and Lauren Gainer — tags along.

## ALI

**Who's In It?** Will Smith, Jon Voight  
**Who Directed?** Michael Mann (*The Insider*)  
**What's It About?** Smith floats like a butterfly, stings like a bee, as rhyming heavyweight Muhammad Ali.

## HOW HIGH

**Who's In It?** Method Man, Redman  
**Who Directed?** Jesse Dylan (debut)  
**What's It About?** *Legally Blonde* meets *Up in Smoke*. Rappers Redman and Method Man are two stoners who smoke their way into Harvard University, thanks to special weed that makes them smarter. Fred Willard plays Harvard's dean.

JANUARY 4

## A BEAUTIFUL MIND

**Who's In It?** Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly  
**Who Directed?** Ron Howard (*The Grinch*)  
**What's It About?** Economics, the "dismal science," gets a makeover with Crowe as real-life bean counter John Forbes Nash Jr. — a paranoid schizophrenic who took home the Nobel Prize in 1994 for developing the "Game Theory." Can a bio-pic of John Maynard Keynes be far behind?

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

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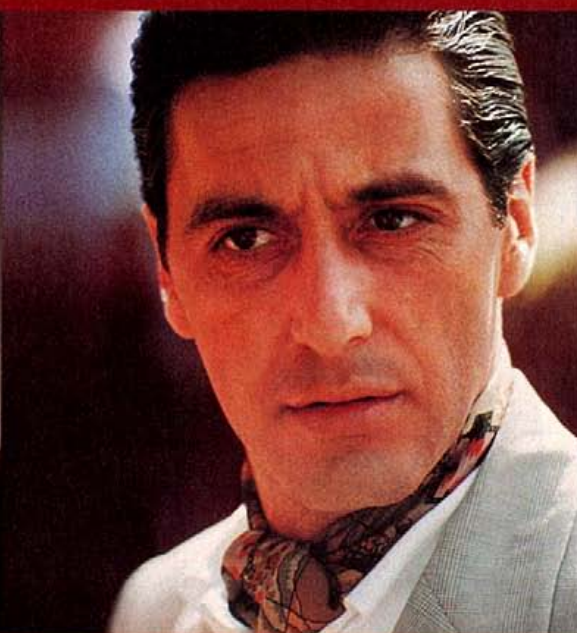
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# kids

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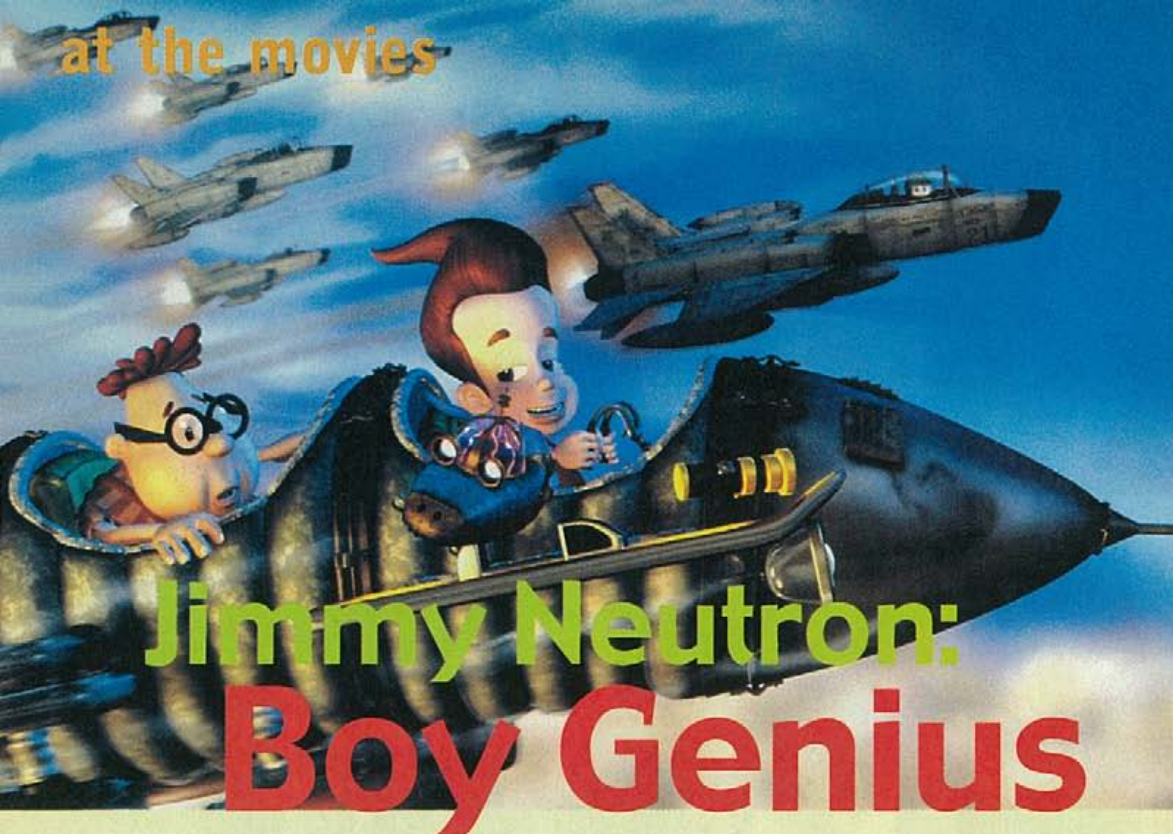
A PREVIEW OF CANADA'S NEXT GREAT KIDS MAGAZINE



JIMMY NEUTRON:  
BOY GENIUS

LOOK FORWARD TO AMAZING MAZES | KIDS VIDS | GAMES | TOYS | COLOURING FUN





**What would YOU do if evil aliens kidnapped your parents?**

Sleep in, have pizza for breakfast, lunch and dinner, and then stay up late watching all that stuff your parents won't let you watch on TV?

Empty the bank account and spend it all on videogames and Chupa Chups?

Turn your living room into a cool clubhouse by bringing your sandbox, sprinkler and jungle gym inside?

**Of course you wouldn't!**

You'd get all your friends to help you launch a daring rescue mission to a far-off galaxy to bring them home!

That's just what Jimmy Neutron does when his parents – and everybody else's – are beamed into a space ship and stashed on some distant planet.

Of course, Jimmy's not just any kid. He's Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius! He spends his spare time inventing amazing gadgets and gizmos like the Shrink Ray, the Gravity Bubble, and even the family pet — his robot dog, Goddard.

**For the world's smartest kid,** building a rocket to blast his

rescue team into outer space is easy, but what will they do about those nasty green aliens?

**Find out when Jimmy Neutron blasts into theatres this Christmas!**

**A few of Jimmy's inGENIUS inventions:**

**The Shoebot: Personal Robotic Foot Garment Securing Device**

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It looks like a toaster because it's made from a toaster (and some other kitchen stuff). Receives radio waves, gamma rays and all sorts of other rays.

**Girl-Eating Plant (still in the test phase)**

He hasn't had to use it yet, but you never know when one might come in handy.

## BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

Have you ever seen a dancing teapot? You have? Well I bet you've never seen one **six storeys high!** (That's almost 20 metres!)

You may have seen Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* at the theatre when it first came out way back in 1991, or you may have watched the video on your TV, **but you've never seen it like this!** Starting January 1, 2002, special IMAX theatres across Canada will be showing *Beauty and the Beast* on their giant screens, and if you're one of those people who think **BIGGER** is **BETTER**, you're going to **love** it, because this animated musical is **HUGE!** Plus, there will be one brand-new song, "Human Again."

The story is based on an old fairy tale about a handsome prince who has been transformed into the hideous Beast by a witch. Belle is the beautiful young woman who grows to love him, even though he is ugly and, at first, frightening. When Belle's father is imprisoned in the Beast's enchanted castle, she sets out to rescue him but ends up trading her freedom for her father's. Soon she is alone in the castle with the Beast. Well, she **thinks** she's alone, until objects around the castle, like cutlery, candlesticks, clocks and furniture, come to life.



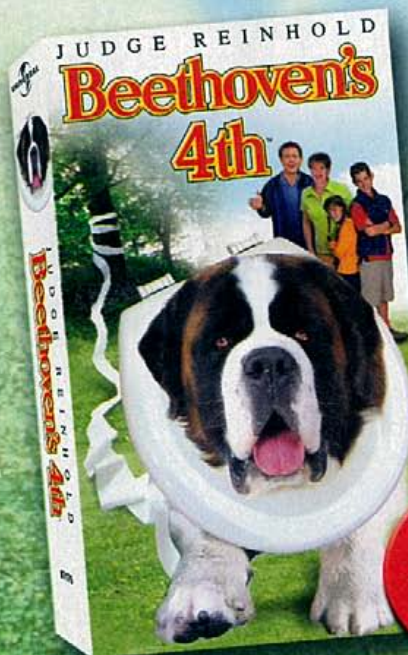


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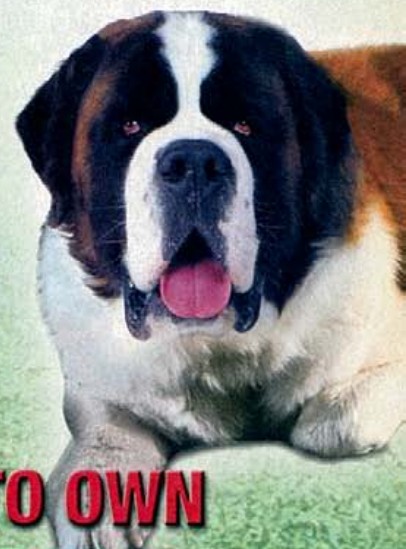
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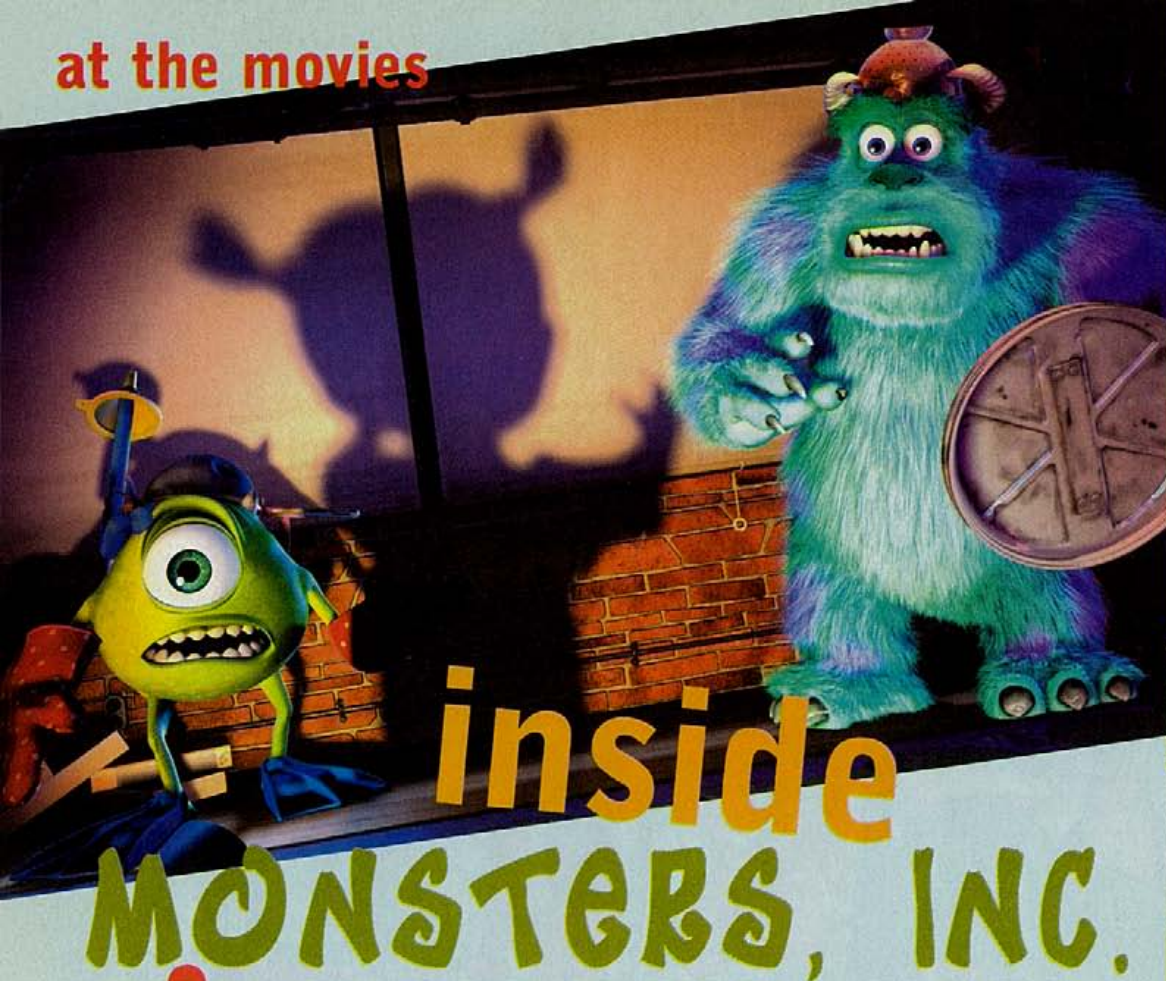
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# inside MONSTERS, INC.

**I**s your skin poisonous? Not sure? Go ahead and take a lick right now. The wrist is a good place to test, or even the back of the hand. Just to make sure, you might want to try tasting your left elbow as well. (If you can't reach, you can **politely** ask the kid next to you if you can lick his or her elbow... We said **POLITELY!**) Still feeling okay? Good, then human children probably aren't toxic.

But try telling that to the furry monsters lurking under your bed. It seems that just as generations of kids have spent a lot of time and energy being terrified of the monsters rumoured to live in the dark corners of their bedrooms, those monsters have been just as terrified of you kids because they think you're poisonous!

According to the new movie **Monsters, Inc.**, there **are** monsters living under your bed, in your closet, etc. And, yes, they do want to scare

you. But for a very good reason. You see, those monsters harvest your screams and convert them into a clean, dependable source of energy to heat other monsters' homes, power their cars, light their streets, etc. That doesn't sound too evil, does it?

But all heck breaks loose when the sweetest, tiniest little wisp of a girl sneaks down to the monsters' world. It seems that a big, blue guy named Sulley accidentally let her in, and now he and his partner, a green, one-eyed guy named Mike, have to figure out how to deal with her.



## CAN YOU TELL?

**Monsters, Inc.** was made by an animation studio called Pixar. Just by looking at the picture from the movie, can you tell which other animated movie Pixar made? Was it **The Little Mermaid**, **Toy Story**, **Final Fantasy** or **Fantasia**?

Answer: **Toy Story**

## MONSTERS

Kids aren't the only people who sometimes think they see monsters. Since before Canada was even a country, people have reported seeing weird things deep in the forest or swimming in the water. No one's ever been able to prove they exist, but here are three creepy creatures said to live somewhere in our country.

### Sasquatch

These seven-foot tall, brown furry fellas have been spotted all over



Western Canada and the United States, where they're known as "Bigfoot." Are they real? No one knows. The name comes from a native word that

means "wild man of the woods" and hunters and campers sometimes spot them deep in the forest.

### Ogopogo

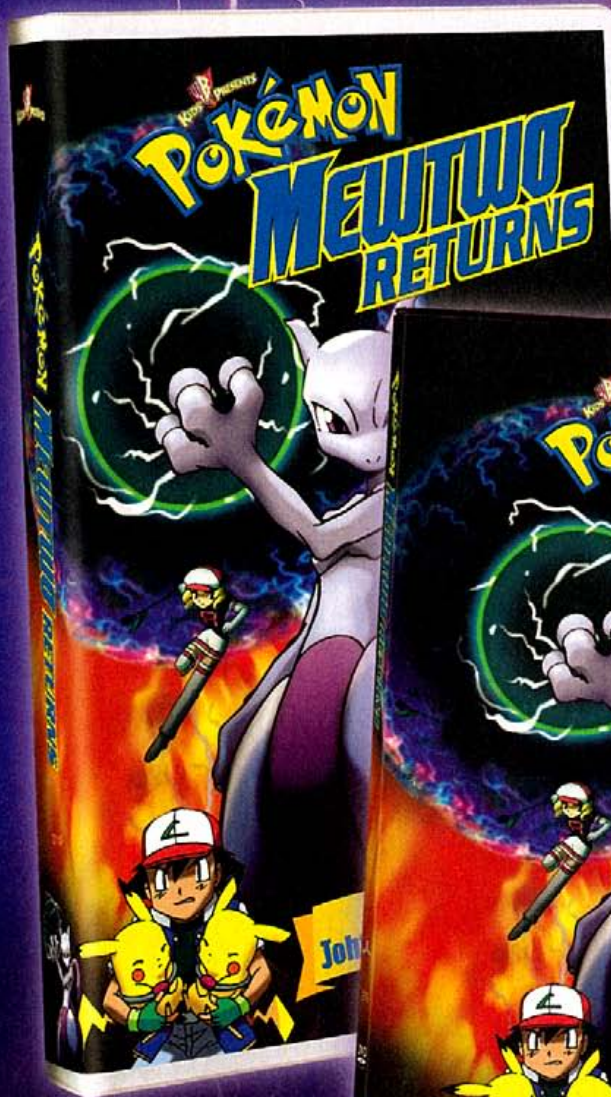
Some people think there's a sea monster called Ogopogo living in Okanagan Lake near Vernon, British Columbia. An old native legend says there's a "demon" in the lake and settlers in the 1860s said they often saw a giant snake-like creature swimming beneath the waves. Ogopogo is supposedly 50 to 70 feet long, dark blue or brown, and has flippers.

### Pressie

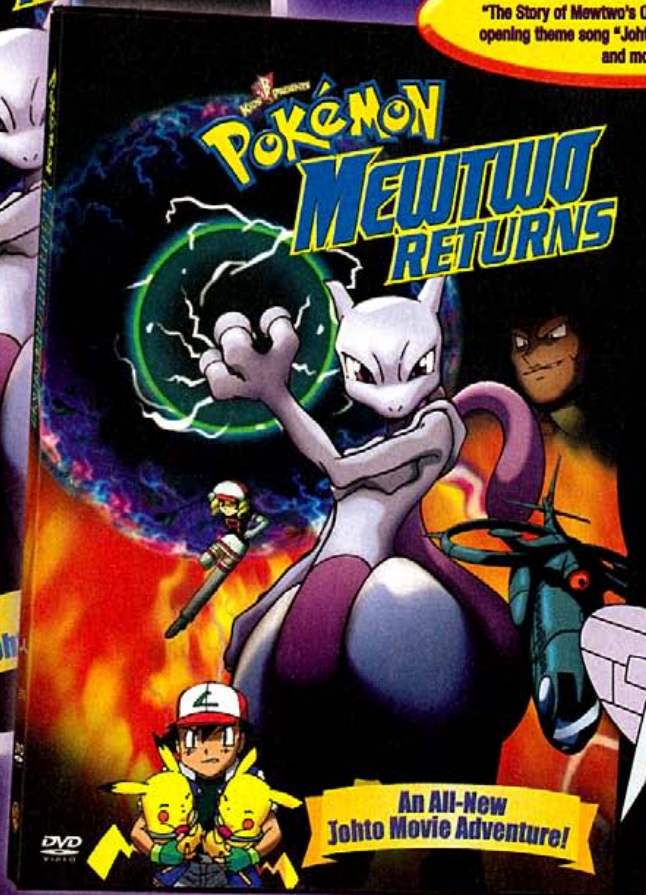
Over the last 100 years, there have been roughly eight sightings of a giant serpent in Lake Superior — making "Pressie," as it is known, one of the least frequently seen sea monsters in the world. Pressie is named after the Presque Isle River, where one of the first and best sightings took place, but natives in the area call the monster Mishipishu. It's said to be green, 75 feet long, with a horse-like head and a tail like a whale.



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Nintendo







## What sort of wizard are you?

**F**inally, the Harry Potter movie is out! Now we can cheer for Harry as he says goodbye to his mean old aunt and uncle, join him on that magic train to Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, and root, root, root for Gryffindor at a Quidditch match. Of course, we'll have to do all of this from the comfort of our theatre seats. But what if we really could go to Hogwarts? One of the first things we'd have to do is find out which of the four houses

we belonged to. And to do that, we'd have to put on the all-knowing, all-seeing Sorting Hat.

Imagine this. You're standing in the Great Hall. Professor McGonagall calls your name. It's your turn to be sorted. The only question is, where will you end up? Are you a bold Gryffindor? A hard-working Hufflepuff? A super-clever Ravenclaw? Or possibly a sneaky Slytherin? Take our quiz and find out!

**1) Your best friend was sick all month, and now she's going to fail her math exam! Do you:**

- A Stay up all night helping her study.
- B Loan her your perfect set of notes.
- C Explain the situation to the teacher and demand the exam be postponed.
- D Steal a copy of the test from the teacher's desk. He'll never know!

**2) Your little sister is so annoying! Do you:**

- A Deal with it. She's your sister!
- B Hide your nose in a book until she goes away.
- C Run away from home so she won't be able to find you.
- D Turn her into a tadpole.

**3) There's a toy at the mall you really want, but you've got no money! Do you:**

- A Get a part-time job and save up for it.
- B Give your mom a well-researched list of reasons why you can't live without it.

- C Catch someone shoplifting from the store. Ask the owner for the toy as a reward.
- D Shoplift. Just make sure you look out for everyone who answered "C."

**4) You open your lunch and see an eggplant sandwich. Yuck! Do you:**

- A Eat it. Your mom or dad made that sandwich just for you.
- B Explain to your mom or dad that peanut butter has protein, fiber and many vitamins.
- C Gobble it up. It takes guts to eat eggplant.
- D Tell some kid with pizza that you'll trade him for your "chocolate" sandwich.

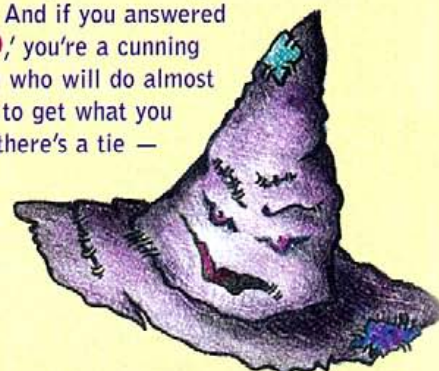
**5) It's your birthday and you're getting a pet! Do you ask for:**

- A A puppy, so you can have a loyal pal.
- B A chimpanzee, so you can teach it sign language.
- C A horse, so you can see the world.
- D A shark, so you've got something to put in your moat.

**6) You've written the story of your life. Do you call it:**

- A How Hard Work Changed My Life
- B Me: An In-Depth Analysis of a Single Human Being's Complete Experiences
- C My Fantabulous Life — Volume 1: The Playground Years
- D I Didn't Do It: The Case for the Defence

If you answered mostly 'A,' you're a Hufflepuff, who are just, loyal, patient and true. If you answered mostly 'B,' you're a wise and scholarly Ravenclaw. If you answered mostly 'C,' you're a Gryffindor, which means you are daring and have lots of nerve. And if you answered mostly 'D,' you're a cunning Slytherin who will do almost anything to get what you want. If there's a tie — then you get to choose.





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Joel Siegel, *Good Morning America*

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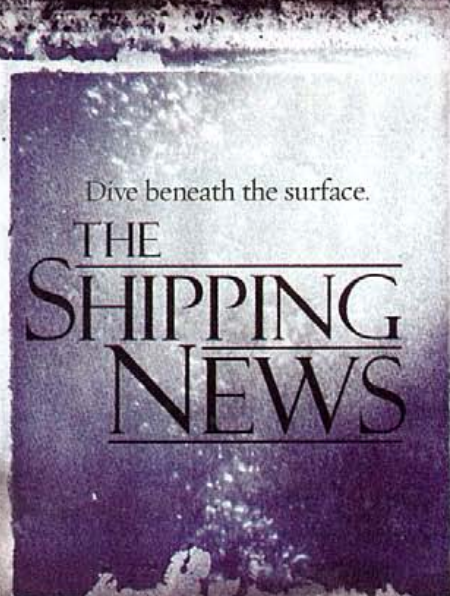
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# Extraordinary Holiday E

KEVIN SPACEY JULIANNE MOORE JUDI DENCH AND CATE BLANCHETT



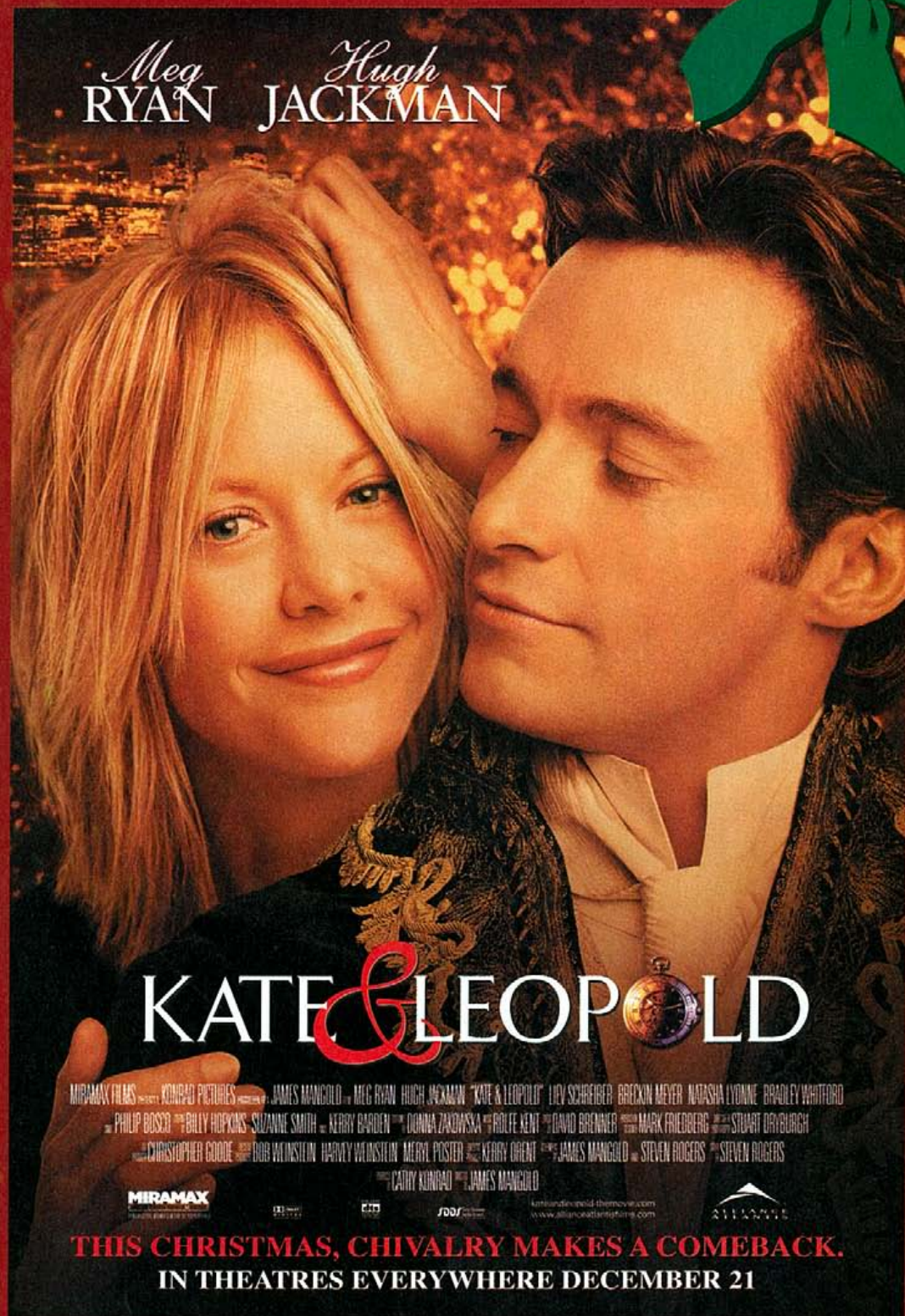
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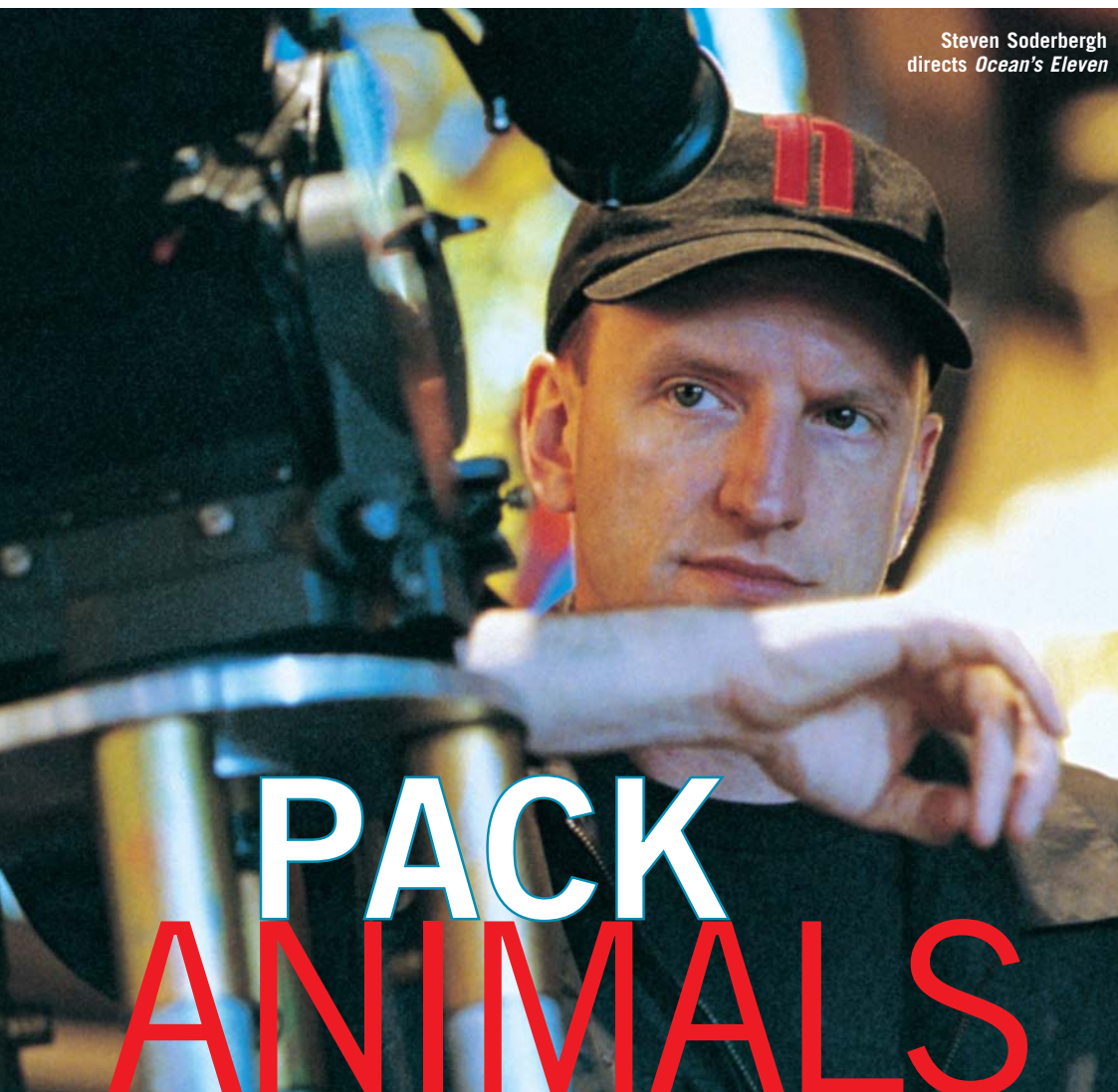


entertainment From



THIS CHRISTMAS, CHIVALRY MAKES A COMEBACK.  
IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE DECEMBER 21





Steven Soderbergh  
directs *Ocean's Eleven*

# PACK ANIMALS

**IN REMAKING THE RAT PACK CLASSIC, THE CAST OF  
*OCEAN'S ELEVEN* WORKED TOGETHER, GAMBLLED TOGETHER, PLAYED  
BASKETBALL TOGETHER AND EVEN TOOK PAY CUTS TOGETHER**

**BY MICHELE MANELIS**

**T**here aren't many directors who could bring together an A-list cast the calibre of George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts and Matt Damon, let alone convince them to take massive pay cuts. Steven Soderbergh, who won last year's Best Director Oscar for *Traffic* and was also nominated for *Erin Brockovich*, may be the only one.

The fact that he'd already worked with a couple of the stars — Roberts in *Brockovich*, Clooney in *Out of Sight* — didn't hurt. Nor did the fact that remaking the 1960 Rat

Pack classic *Ocean's Eleven*, about a bunch of hoods planning a heist, had long been one of Clooney's dreams. In the end, the film was co-produced by Clooney and Soderbergh's production company, Section 8.

Soderbergh leans back in his chair at an informal mini-junket for the foreign press and begins, "We made up a wish list..." when Clooney — who plays ringleader Danny Ocean — cuts in, "But we couldn't get them, so we got these guys," gesturing to Matt Damon, who signed on as the band's pickpocket.

Don Cheadle, who worked with Soderbergh on *Traffic* and plays the demolition man in this film, and Andy Garcia, who nabbed the role of an unfortunate casino owner, are also here at the luxurious Peninsula hotel in Beverly Hills. Noticably absent are Roberts, who has the only female lead as Ocean's ex-wife, and Pitt, who was dealt the role of the ring's resident card shark.

"It was one of the few movies that could justify getting a lot of movie stars," explains Clooney. "But we couldn't get five movie stars if everyone was going to get paid, so I started the ball rolling and cut my fee. Then everyone else followed."

It's an unusually relaxed atmosphere for an interview. Clooney walks around the room, occasionally picking at a fruit and cheese platter, Garcia is smoking a cigar (which seems to upset the other two journalists in the room — this is L.A., after all), while Cheadle remains mostly silent, surreptitiously checking his voicemail. Damon is the most restless, changing seats often, and looking out the window.

The camaraderie among the five filmmakers seems genuine — no doubt a result of working long hours together. "We really liked each other's company, we hung out a lot, and played a lot of basketball," says Clooney. "You knew that everyone was going to get along," adds Damon, "because to be in this movie you've already sent the message, 'I'm not here because of the paycheck. I'm here because of the script.'"

The original *Ocean's Eleven* — starring Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. — involved a bunch of World War Two buddies who reunite to rob five Las Vegas casinos on New Year's Eve. Soderbergh's ensemble piece takes place today, with Clooney taking over for Ol' Blue Eyes as a paroled felon with a slightly more modest plan to hand pick the *crème de la crème* of the city's con men, grifters and assorted pickpockets, and then knock over three casinos — the Bellagio, the Mirage and the MGM Grand — during a heavyweight title fight.

Although Soderbergh's *Ocean's Eleven* resembles the original, there are fundamental changes. Clooney's character, for instance, is the only one who has the same name as in the 1960 flick. But, for the director, the biggest change has more to do with the relationship between plot and personalities. "The original ran solely on the charm of those actors," he says, "but we wanted to make sure we had a





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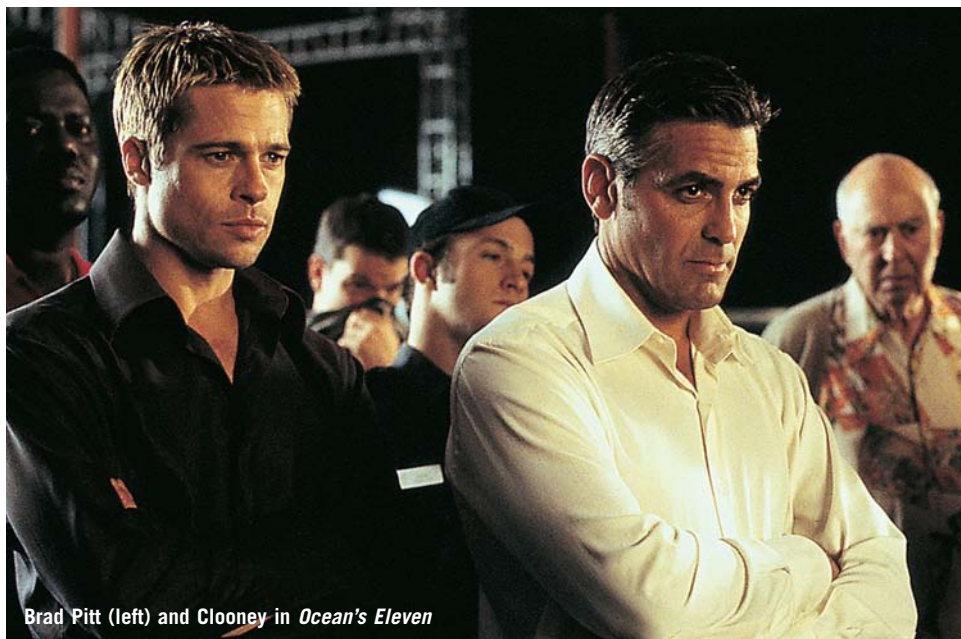
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Brad Pitt (left) and Clooney in *Ocean's Eleven*

►► movie that worked on its own.” Clooney pipes in, “As we don’t have any charm, we had to rely on a good story.” The room erupts with laughter.

Ultimately, Soderbergh says he wanted to make this movie because he can’t wait to see it himself.

“I miss those days where you look at a movie like *Murder on the Orient Express* and there are, like, 12 movie stars,” he says. “You can’t do it anymore because of the economics.”

Rumour is, Roberts said she’d forsake her usual \$20-million price tag and do this picture for \$20, and Damon seems to feel the same way. “There are enough actors in this business who would prefer to be part of something good, however small the role,” he says. “I’d rather have a small part in a good movie than a big part in a sh-tty movie.” After starring in a couple of recent flops (*All the Pretty Horses*, *The Legend of Bagger Vance*), Damon’s words carry some weight. “But when I’ve done a movie that I like but has been bashed by the critics, I don’t give a sh-t what anybody says. I’m still happy that I did the movie,” he adds.

As *Ocean’s Eleven* was shot in Vegas, America’s theme park for adults, the cast and crew spent a large part of their time off at the roulette tables. Damon sheepishly admits, “I was probably the one who gambled the most, but I didn’t lose anything. I broke even. To me, that’s winning.” Clooney adds, “I felt like an amateur compared to most of the cast and crew. I was

**“I MISS THOSE DAYS WHERE YOU LOOK AT A MOVIE LIKE *MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS* AND THERE ARE, LIKE, 12 MOVIE STARS,” SAYS SODERBERGH. “YOU CAN’T DO IT ANYMORE BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMICS”**

outdone in Vegas by people whose names I will keep out of this conversation, but there were some younger fellas...” He shakes his head at Damon and laughs. “I was completely beaten down by about the second week in Vegas.”

Perhaps it was the already overwhelming surroundings that lead Clooney, a renowned practical joker, to keep his pranks to a minimum on this set. “Well, other than the wake-up calls, buckets of water over the door and stuff like that,” he admits. Damon leans forward, points to Clooney, and says, “I know he’s got about five [pranks] going on at the moment. The only day George doesn’t do anything is on April Fool’s Day, which he refers to as ‘Amateur Day.’” Clooney explains straight-faced, “It’s like a drunk going out on New Year’s Eve.”

Or maybe the curbing of levity was just Clooney’s way of getting in touch with his character, a down-and-out ex-con who feels like he’s run out of luck. Which, believe it

or not, is a state of mind to which even Gorgeous George says he can relate. “In 1998 when I finished *Batman & Robin*, I felt like my luck was running a little thin. But everybody has their ups and downs, or their lucky or unlucky periods.”

To which Garcia adds, “Persistence brings luck and most things in life come down to timing.” Clooney leans forward and continues, “Listen, the best actors in an acting class aren’t the ones who are going to be successful. It’s timing, luck and availability.”

Although the Soderbergh/Clooney production company is responsible for bringing *Ocean’s Eleven* back to the big screen, they didn’t take producing credits. “It seemed wrong. Jerry Weintraub was the actual producer,” Soderbergh says in reference to the long-time movie man who broke into the entertainment biz as a concert promoter in the 1960s, and who is also working on *Dino*, the upcoming Martin Scorsese-directed Dean Martin bio-pic. “We couldn’t have made it without him, not on this scale,” Clooney adds. “He was Elvis’ manager and Sinatra’s manager, so having him there telling us ‘what Frank used to do’ was so much fun. We’d just sit and listen to his stories all day.”

Of course, on this set, what “Frank used to do” wasn’t nearly as important as what Soderbergh wanted to do now, and, fortunately, the director says he didn’t have much trouble convincing the film’s financial backers to let him carry out his vision. “The great thing about this movie, for us, is that the studio said, ‘Just shoot it the way you want to,’” he says. “We had a lot of freedom and I felt very responsible to keep to the parameters, especially when they’re putting up \$90-million bucks. So we made the movie we wanted to, but we made it responsibly.”

The end result is a film that’s modern in its setting, but also pays tribute to a piece of Hollywood history. So, after having recreated what was one of his favourite movies from the 1960s, does George Clooney wish he’d been a leading man back then, instead of now?

“Every time I see a movie era or a time that seems fun, you think, ‘Wouldn’t it have been great to be around in those days?’” he says. “But all we ever see are those great moments. I’m enjoying it now.” **F**

*Michele Manelis is an L. A.-based entertainment writer. She interviewed Sandra Bullock for the December 2000 issue of Famous.*



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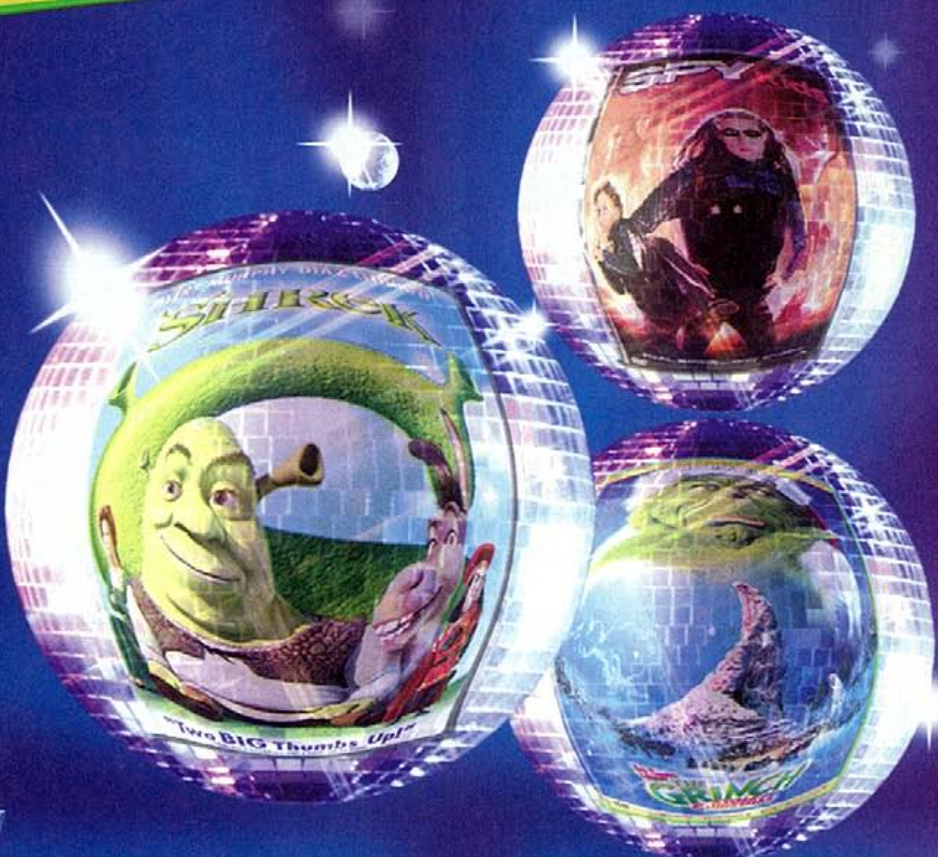
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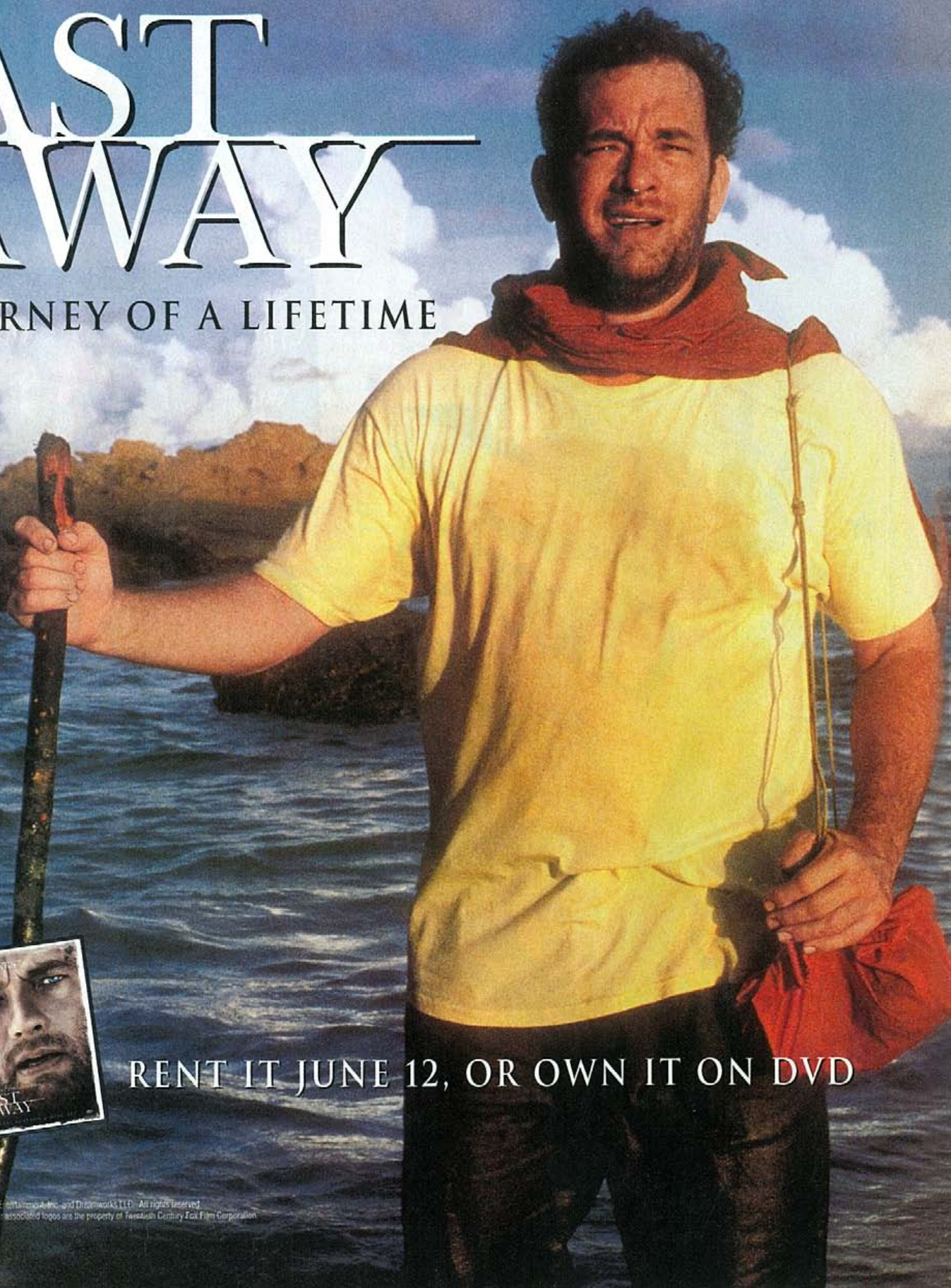
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Cruz and Cruise  
in *Vanilla Sky*

**L**ong before Penélope Cruz became Tom Cruise's gal pal, she was a respected actress with a full decade of critically acclaimed Spanish films, like *Abre los ojos* and *All About My Mother*, under her belt, and a growing list of American credits including *Captain Corelli's Mandolin* and *Blow*.

For *Vanilla Sky*, director Cameron Crowe's (*Almost Famous*) English-language remake of *Abre los ojos* (*Open Your Eyes*), Cruz reprises her role of Sofia — a beautiful temptress who captures the heart of Cruise's insensitive playboy, prompting his jealous ex (Cameron Diaz) to try to kill him by crashing her car.

The willowy 27-year-old settles into a chair in her Beverly Hills hotel suite for an interview in which she is

# SPANISH INQUISITION

affable and funny, but steadfastly refuses to discuss her relationship with Cruise or the closely guarded behind-the-scenes details of making *Vanilla Sky*. "I'm stubborn, I always have been, so don't think you can change my mind," she says with a devilish grin. Still, one can try.

Penélope Cruz was pretty tight-lipped about her relationship with Tom Cruise and her hush-hush romantic thriller *Vanilla Sky*, but Earl Dittman managed to wrench a few interesting facts from one of Hollywood's busiest Latin ladies

**[q] IS SOFIA THE SAME CHARACTER IN *VANILLA SKY* AS IN *OPEN YOUR EYES*?**

**[a]** "It's based on that one.... But there are some changes that I can't really talk about. It's like...the way that Cameron Crowe put it is so beautiful. He says he is making his own version of the same song."

**[q] HOW DOES CROWE COMPARE TO OTHER DIRECTORS?**

**[a]** "Cameron is like John Madden [*Captain Corelli's Mandolin*]. He's very meticulous, which I love.... You don't feel like you have been worked hard enough, because he makes it all seem easy."

**[q] WHAT WAS IT LIKE WORKING WITH TOM CRUISE?**

**[a]** "It was amazing. I've always liked him very, very much as an actor. But his personality is very, very special. He's the hardest worker and very, very generous."

**[q] HOW ARE YOU DEALING WITH THE PRESSURE THAT HAS COME FROM THE TWO OF YOU DATING?**

**[a]** "I just focus on the work, and I think that's the only thing that can save you.... You learn from life and from relationships with other people. I think that I try to focus on that, and I stay away from gossip. I don't look at it, I don't read it, I don't watch those shows."

**[q] DO YOU ENJOY YOUR NEWFOUND STARDOM IN AMERICA?**

**[a]** "I'm really happy with all the work, but I really see it as that, work. I didn't grow up with the concept of 'a star,' because that doesn't really fit in the European industry."

**[q] WHAT'S THE DOWNSIDE OF STARDOM?**

**[a]** "My brother is 16, and I was on the street with him, and they said that my brother was my new boyfriend. It can be crazy."

**[q] NOW THAT YOU'RE SO WELL KNOWN IN HOLLYWOOD ARE YOU GOING TO STOP DOING SPANISH MOVIES?**

**[a]** "No.... The Spanish press always ask me, 'Are you leaving us?' I don't think that it's good for my career here and there, if I'm in only one place all the time."

**[q] DO YOU FEEL A LOT OF PRESSURE TO MAINTAIN YOUR LOOKS SINCE HOLLYWOOD OFTEN EMPHASIZES YOUTH AND BEAUTY OVER TALENT?**

**[a]** "There are other things that I want to do with my life. I want to be a photographer, and I don't expect to maintain this freedom of work forever.... I like to eat well because I feel better and happier. [Laughs.] But I'm not obsessed with that."

**[q] WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU?**

**[a]** "It's a [Spanish] film called *Without News From God*."

**[q] IS IT A DRAMA OR A COMEDY?**

**[a]** "A black comedy, and I play an angel from hell. Agustín Díaz Yanes directed it, and the other actress is Victoria Abril, who has been my idol since I saw her in *Tie Me Up, Tie Me Down*.... We are two angels that have a mission on Earth. She comes from heaven. Heaven is black and white in Paris, and they speak in French. In hell, they speak English, and it's a building with a lot of stairs. We're on a mission to gain the soul of a boxer."

**[q] WHAT DO YOUR PARENTS THINK ABOUT THE THINGS THAT ARE WRITTEN ABOUT YOU AND TOM?**

**[a]** "They ask me if I'm happy, and if I'm happy, they're happy. But they never care.... I mean, they gave me a lot of freedom when I was young and started acting. I've always appreciated that. Now that I'm grown I think that if I have a child, I don't know if I will be half as lenient as they were."

**[q] HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOUR PERSONALITY?**

**[a]** "Probably shy, modest and stubborn. I always drove my parents crazy with my stubbornness. I still do."

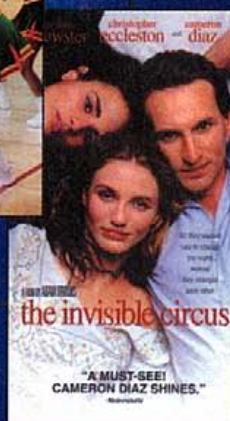
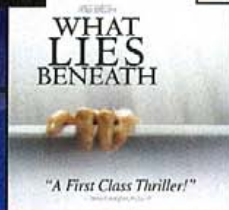
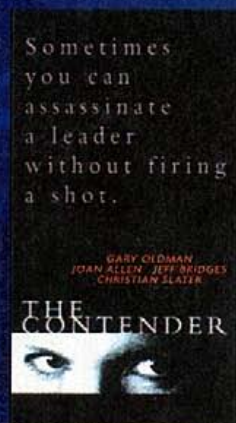
**[q] WOULD YOU CALL YOURSELF OVERLY PRIVATE?**

**[a]** "Overly? No, I'm just private. I know when to keep my mouth shut. Can't you tell? [Laughs.]" **E**

*Earl Dittman is an entertainment journalist based in Houston, Texas.*



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# Elf-esteem

It took a makeover from Paulina Porizkova to get her into modeling and a pep talk from Peter Jackson to get her through her role as an elf princess in *Lord of the Rings*. After years as a cover girl and leading lady, **Liv Tyler** still worries that she doesn't have "it"

BY EARL DITTMAN

**T**ake a quick look at Liv Tyler, and you'll instantly understand why director Peter Jackson cast her as a radiant princess in his *Lord of the Rings* movies. Even dressed in funky modern-day garb — skin-tight leather hip-huggers and a chic silk top — Tyler looks regal. It's difficult to imagine she has ever been anything but attractive and charming. But the 24-year-old star can easily remember being a "dorky little girl" from Portland, Maine, with braces, a pudgy face and no self-esteem.

"I was gangly, I had this horrible perm and my teeth were covered in steel," she recalls as she sits on a loveseat in her Beverly Hills hotel suite. "And to top it all off, I had the worst case of attention deficit on the face of the Earth. I was loud and obnoxious. I was no picnic. Boys would just look at me and chuckle, thinking, 'What a loser.'"

But a makeover, and a few words of encouragement from family friend and supermodel Paulina Porizkova, steered a teenaged Liv into modeling — a brief but

successful career that quickly led to Hollywood. A decade later, the ugly duckling is a bona fide movie star, appearing in *Stealing Beauty*, *Empire Records*, *Armageddon*, *Onegin* and, most recently, as the "sex on legs" seductress in *One Night at McCool's*.

This month she makes her first appearance as the elf princess Arwen in *The Fellowship of the Ring*, the initial installment of Jackson's ambitious adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings* trilogy.

But Tyler admits she has yet to come to terms with her metamorphosis from geek ►►





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Liv Tyler (right) with her half-sister Mia. They met backstage at an Aerosmith concert when Liv was 12

PHOTO BY A.J. SOKALNE/BIG PICTURES U.S.A.

(*Heavenly Creatures*, *The Frighteners*) to convince Tyler she could tackle the demanding role. “I was really homesick when I first started doing *Fellowship of the Ring*,” she says, recalling the arduous 18-month, three-film simultaneous shoot in New Zealand. “Finally [Peter] sat me down and asked me what was wrong. After I told him I was homesick, he said, ‘Is that all?’ That’s when I started crying and spilling my guts, telling him I didn’t know if I had what it took to play Arwen.”

Jackson gave her a pep talk, assuring her that she was a great actress, not just a pretty face, and right for the part. “I’ve had people tell me things like that all the time, but it was something about the way that Peter said it that made it stick. He made me realize that I didn’t have to be scared anymore, because maybe I was talented.”

After a few days of shooting, Jackson and the screenwriters were so impressed with Tyler that they decided to beef up her presence in the trilogy.

“[They] thought that there wasn’t nearly enough female energy in the films,” she explains. “There’s really three main female characters — the big black spider that kills everybody, my mother Galadriel [Blanchett] and mine. But my character’s not in the first book that much. There’s a couple of scenes where she appears, but in the back of the book, in the appendix, there’s a huge chapter about the love story between Aragorn [Mortensen] and Arwen.”

“So, Peter asked me if I was up for more with my character, and I was like, ‘Are you kidding? Yeah!’ The story of Aragorn and Arwen is this amazingly romantic kind of love story. It’s beautiful. They are willing to give up their lives to be together. Arwen has to give up her immortality to be with him. So, she becomes a mortal, knowing that he’ll die some day and she will, too. It’s an amazing story. Even though I complained about being away from home for so long, I really loved doing the three movies. I guess I’ve always dreamed of living in a world filled with love, passion and make-believe.”

Talking with Jackson also put to rest concerns that the heart and soul of her beloved *Lord of the Rings* would be eclipsed by state-of-the-art, computer-generated special effects.

“When you see movies like the last *Star Wars*, to me, I thought that the performances were lacking a little bit, because it was more about the effects,” she explains. “I don’t want to go and see a movie like

►► to chic. “It’s still weird to look up at the screen and think that people consider me beautiful,” she says with a grimace. “I’m always embarrassed when I see myself trying to be sexy, because I still see my dorky teenage self. Sometimes, I still see that young girl who would look in the mirror and think, ‘Will I ever be attractive?’”

The *Lord of the Rings* films cast her alongside Elijah Wood, Ian McKellan, Viggo Mortensen and Cate Blanchett, who play a gaggle of hobbits, elves and other Middle-

earthlings on an epic quest to destroy a magical ring and defeat the forces of darkness. A longtime fan of Tolkien, Tyler was elated about being in the movies — but also worried that her acting abilities weren’t up to the task.

“Every movie that I do, I feel like it’s my first, I’m terrified,” she confides. “Even before I did *Lord of the Rings*, for a whole month before, I was worried I might be biting off more than I could chew.”

It took the encouragement of Jackson



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Tyler as Arwen

►► that. With a story like *The Lord of the Rings*, it's all about the characters.... Luckily, that was Peter's main idea all the time. He said he knew how to maintain a perfect balance between the incredible special effects and the emotions of the characters.

"I was so delighted when he told me that," she adds, "because he ended up staying true to his word. He's an incredible director."

While *Fellowship of the Ring* is Tyler's first foray into large-scale fantasy, her real-life story often sounds like a plot from a daytime soap opera. Back in Portland, she grew up with her mom, former model and *Playboy* Playmate Bebe Buell, and rock star Todd Rundgren. Tyler had been told that Rundgren was her father and, for 12 years, all three lived in Maine as one big happy family.

But that happy home life was turned upside-down when Tyler went with her mom to a New York concert headlined by mega-rockers Aerosmith. After the show she went backstage where she was introduced to the group's flamboyant lead singer, Steven Tyler, and his daughter Mia. Liv was immediately taken aback with how closely she resembled the rock star's child and later asked her mom if they were somehow related. Tyler continued to question Buell, who kept trying to change the subject, until she was finally told the truth: Rundgren was her stepdad and Steven Tyler was her biological father.

"Of course, I was shocked at first, but I wasn't mad at anyone for having kept it from me," she says. "I think I was more

worried about how Todd would feel. He had been the father I had known since I was a little kid, and I didn't want him to think that I, all of a sudden, didn't love him because I knew who my real father was. Todd and I had a long talk. And afterwards he said, 'You will always be my little girl. Just consider yourself lucky because you have two dads that care about you. You're one fortunate gal.'"

Now there's another important man in Liv Tyler's life — her fiancé Royston Langdon, lead singer and bassist for the alternative band Spacehog. They met in 1996, after her much-publicized breakup with actor Joaquin Phoenix. But while Tyler and Phoenix had been very open with the press about their love for one another, she has decided to keep the kiss-and-tell to a minimum when it comes to Langdon.

"All I can say is that the most important part of being in a relationship is that you love the person for who they are deep down, and not who you want them to be," she says with a smile. "Of course, I would love to tell the whole world that I'm ecstatic, I'm happy and that I'm in heaven about it. But it's not something that I feel I want to share in any great detail."

Rumours that they plan to exchange wedding vows before the end of the year, possibly on December 31, have leaked out. And while nothing has been confirmed, Tyler admits she might soon be a married woman, at the tender age of 24. But is she rushing to the altar?

"I'm getting married because I'm in love with someone who I have been with for a really long time," she says. "For me, that's what makes me happy, and I'm not that young. I'm 24, and I've certainly been working for a long time. So, in a sense, I think that made me grow up a little quicker than most young people my age. That's what I want and what I believe in."

With work on the *Lord of the Rings* films finished and a possible wedding to plan, Tyler is clearly focusing all of her energy on the future. It may be slightly haphazard preparation, however, since she professes to play things pretty much by ear.

"I don't really have a strategy to my life and career," she says. "Hopefully, I can continue to do anything I want. I just want to do things that I'm passionate about in this life." **E**

*Earl Dittman is an entertainment journalist based in Houston, Texas. He also interviewed Penélope Cruz for this issue of Famous.*

# famous trivia

1

Cameron Diaz plays Leonardo DiCaprio's love interest in Martin Scorsese's upcoming drama *Gangs of New York*. She has made three other movies with city names in the title — *Keys to Tulsa*, *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, and which 1996 romantic comedy with Keanu Reeves?

2

In which Canadian film did *Fellowship of the Rings* star Ian Holm play a big-city lawyer?

3

Which key *X-Men* role did *A Beautiful Mind* star Russell Crowe turn down?

4

Why did *Joe Somebody* star Tim Allen spend two years in jail two decades ago?

5

In which Canadian province does the new Kevin Spacey movie *The Shipping News* take place?

6

In which 1979 comedy did *The Royal Tenenbaums* star Bill Murray lead a mob of teenagers in the chant, "It just doesn't matter"?

7

Patrick Stewart gives his vocal cords a workout to voice King Goobot in the new animated feature *Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius*. A few years ago he did a one-man stage production of a classic novel in which he voiced all 30 characters. Name that play.

8

With which movie did *The Majestic's* Jim Carrey break Hollywood's \$20-million salary mark? (A fee which he's earned for most of his movies since.)

## ANSWERS

1 *Feeling Minnesota* 2 *The Sweet Hereafter* 3 *Wolverine* 4 drug conviction 5 Newfoundland 6 *Meatballs* 7 *A Christmas Carol* 8 *The Cable Guy*



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NEW LINE CINEMA



# Playing favourites

Gaming aficionado **Marc Saltzman** makes his list, and checks it twice

**W**hat a year for videogames — the Sony PlayStation 2 became the dominant console system, the portable Game Boy Advance shattered all sales records and we've just witnessed the launch of two brand-new systems: the Microsoft Xbox and Nintendo Gamecube. Heck, even cellphones and personal digital assistants became viable gaming platforms in 2001.

But here we look back at what really mattered — the games themselves — by choosing some of the best moments from titles released this year.

## **BEST GUNFIGHT: *MAX PAYNE***

**3D Realms, for PC**

About a quarter of the way through this gritty action/adventure about a NYC cop out to avenge the brutal murder of his family, you engage in a seemingly endless wave of attacks against a mob family in a sleazy hotel. The only way out is to shoot the glass floor below your feet, fall down into yet another crowded room, then dive to the side (in slow motion, *Matrix*-style), while taking out the rest of the baddies.

## **SCARIEST MONSTER: *SILENT HILL 2***

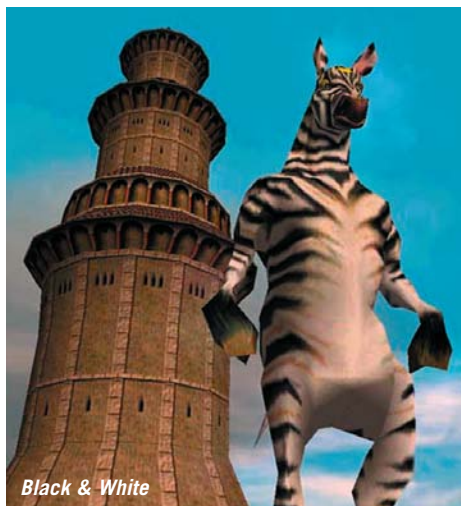
**Konami, for PlayStation 2**

Upon entering the creepy town of Silent Hill, you hear some odd static coming from under a bridge. You tiptoe forward, then climb through the fence, when a creature — looking like a skinned human wrapped in cellophane — emerges from the fog. Shoot the faceless monster and he falls to the ground squirming uncontrollably. *Mommy?*

## **BEST GAME INSPIRED BY A MOVIE**

**FRANCHISE: *STAR WARS ROGUE SQUADRON II***  
**LucasArts, for Gamecube**

Sure, there have been a gazillion videogames based on popular movies, but



none as fun or good-looking as LucasArts' latest. Fly your spacecraft near the surface of the ice planet Hoth — like mosquitoes annoying the giant AT-AT walkers — then fire your steel cables to trip them face-first into the snow. And, thankfully, the game is Jar Jar free.

## **BEST GAME FOR OBSESSIVELY COMPETITIVE**

**TYPES: *NBA STREET***

**EA Big, for PlayStation 2**

This street basketball game is a blast to play against a pal, especially for those who prefer rivalry to friendship. Shattering the glass after an alley-oop combo requires some serious insult throwing and a celebratory dance on the coffee table.

## **MOST IMMERSIVE GAME: *MAJESTIC***

**Electronic Arts, for PC**

*Majestic* is one part *The X-Files* — in that the player solves puzzles and communicates with other players to unravel a sinister conspiracy; and one part the Michael

Douglas thriller *The Game* — because you just don't know what's real and what's not. Playable in monthly episodes exclusively over EA.com, this game will call, fax and instant-message you, making you think twice before picking up the phone or opening an online message.

## **BEST STRETCH OF ROAD:**

***GRAN TURISMO 3 A-SPEC***

**Sony, for PlayStation 2**

Toward the end of the "Trial Mountain" track, you emerge from a twisted tunnel onto an endless stretch of straight asphalt with the sun's rays poking through the Redwood trees. Now's the time to blow past the competition at 250 miles per hour. Doesn't get much better than this.

## **BEST HEART IN YOUR THROAT MOMENT:**

***SSX TRICKY***

**EA Big, for PlayStation 2, Gamecube and Xbox**

As if blazing down Mount Garibaldi wasn't enough fun in this full-contact boardercross game, the first major drop is a few hundred feet — talk about catching big air. But remember, all your speed and tricks don't mean a thing unless you land successfully at the bottom.

## **BEST PET: *BLACK & WHITE***

**Electronic Arts, for PC**

After scolding my creature "Zack the Zebra" countless times for eating innocent sheep, he pretended to eat the grain I fed him, then grabbed a lamb and ran up a mountain for a private feast. When caught, he threw it off the cliff and pretended to sleep. Gotta love pets with personality. Keep in mind, *Black & White* is a completely different game for each player so you might not have the same experience with "Melvin the Monkey" or "Leopold the Leopard."

## **GAME THAT FEELS MOST LIKE STARRING IN A**

**MOVIE: *METAL GEAR SOLID 2: SONS OF LIBERTY***

**Konami, for PlayStation 2**

In this action thriller, you sneak around a huge Russian ship in the rain, taking out hundreds of guards and solving tricky puzzles in order to stop a deadly high-tech weapon from falling into the wrong hands. Features an excellent story, gorgeous graphics and fantastic soundtrack.

*Marc Saltzman is a Toronto-based high-tech journalist and author, and can be seen as a regular technology correspondent on CNN and CTV's Canada AM.*



# A SPECTACLE BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION

"YOU'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!"

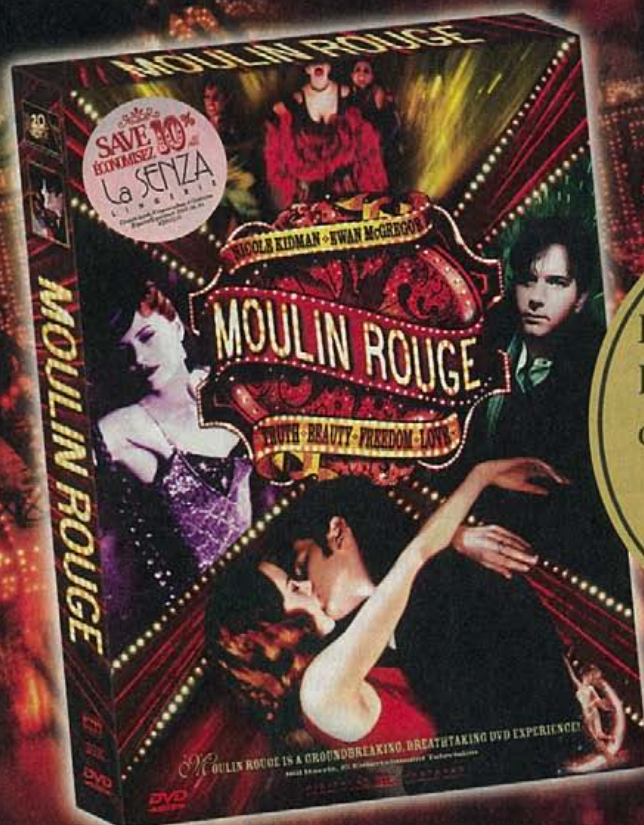
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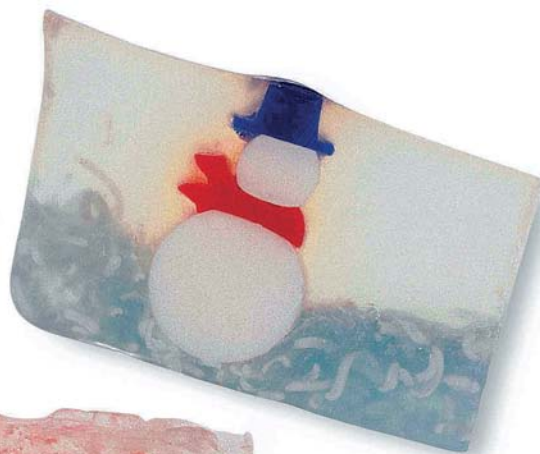


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# PRESENT TENSE?

DON'T WORRY, WE'VE GOT LOTS OF LAST-MINUTE  
IDEAS TO HELP YOU OUT



If someone on your list has an empty spot between their Bruno Gerussi and William Shatner albums, Billy Bob Thornton's *Private Radio* CD may be the perfect kitsch gift. And, yes, among the slate of moody sawdust-saloon tunes written and sung by the star of *Sling Blade*, there are at least a couple — “Your Blue Shadow” and “Angelina” — that are overtly about his wife and obsession, Angelina Jolie. **Available at most major record stores**



This holiday season Estée Lauder offers solid versions of their perfumes packaged in ornate containers. This delectable jewelled cherry contains the popular “Beautiful” fragrance. **Suggested retail price \$90. Available at Estée Lauder counters**



Who needs another box of chocolates at this time of the year? Walk through the door of that fabulous party offering these seasonal soaps from Primal Elements instead. Made from all-vegetable glycerin and scented with pure fragrance and essential oils like balsam, peppermint, vanilla and sandalwood. **Suggested retail price \$10 to \$12. Available from specialty stores including Hope Unlimited in Vancouver, Land & Sea in Calgary and Handworks Gallery in Edmonton**





And what does Santa have in his big sack of presents for sassy young urban chicks? The perfect winter handbag. This woven fur and leather number is big enough for all her cold-weather essentials — gloves, hat, scarf and a big box of Kleenex.

**Suggested retail price \$140. Available at Winners**

Remember that time before you had kids, when you could decorate the Christmas tree with pretty white lights and classic red bows? Forget it, and give your Christmas tree a Harry Potter makeover with these three-inch pewter keepsakes. **Suggested retail price \$17.50 to \$21. Available at Hallmark stores**



So the holidays are over, and you're left with a stack of photos as high as that tower of leftover turkey in the fridge. Just make sure someone in your household found the compact HP Photo Scanner 1000 under the tree. Then you

can scan your 4" by 6" snaps and email them to relatives across the country, along with mildly irritating notes about how fabulous your holiday was and why your family is the most beautiful of all. **Suggested retail price \$149.**

**Available at major computer retailers**

DVD players have been the hot-ticket item for the past couple of holiday seasons. Now, Hewlett-Packard launches its first rewritable DVD and CD drive, which can be used not only to watch movies and listen to music, but also to create your own. This portable two-pound unit lets you turn home movies into interactive DVDs and create custom CDs. **Suggested retail price \$899. Available at major computer stores**





# THE BRITISH EVASION

VIRTUALLY IGNORED IN CANADA, MANY OF OUR BEST ARTISTS ARE DOING JUST SMASHINGLY IN THE U.K. BY MICHAEL WHITE

“Howie, you suck!” reads a guestbook entry at the website of melancholic Toronto singer-songwriter Howie Beck. “I’ve been in Toronto about a year now, and as soon as I got here, you disappeared! Off ‘recording’ and ‘touring the U.K.’”

Indeed he has, and for good reason. When the owner of the acclaimed British record label, Easy! Tiger attended Toronto’s annual Canadian Music Week conference in March, he returned home with a copy of Beck’s excellent sophomore disc *Hollow*, and released it there in late August. Sales and critical acclaim in that country have already surpassed the response the album has received here since Beck self-released it in 1999. Consequently — and, history has shown, predictably — domestic interest in *Hollow* has been renewed.



“I think that there is an attitude among the Canadian public which, unfortunately, nurtures artists that achieve success elsewhere before being accepted here,” says Beck.

Britain’s insatiable musical appetite (the country once supported three weekly music newspapers), makes it the perfect place for Canadian artists to achieve that success free from our country’s often cynical self-deprecation. Which means, if you’re looking for a gem of a Canadian CD to put under someone’s Christmas tree this year, strangely, you might want to use the British music press as your shopping guide.

“I think Canadian music is great,” enthuses Tom Bridgewater, owner of the London-based label Loose, which has issued albums by Canadian expatriate country singer Neko Case, Toronto pop eccentric Hawksley Workman (now signed to Universal Canada) and, most recently, Vancouver’s Ashley Park, a group that blends influences as disparate as Neil Young, The Kinks and Burt Bacharach. A magazine dubbed their debut British album, ironically titled *The American Scene*, “one of the best

records of the year.”

“There seems to be a fresh and unaffected approach to making music in Canada, with plenty of talent lurking in those wild woods,” says Bridgewater.

Further examples of that talent include low-budget electro-poppers The Russian Futurists, fronted by London, Ontario-raised songwriter Matthew Hart. Their debut disc, *The Method of Modern Love*, had sold less than 50 copies in Canada when the highly influential U.K. magazine *Uncut* awarded it four-and-a-half stars out of five. The band’s tiny Toronto-based label, Upper Class Recordings, was immediately exporting thousands of copies across the sea.

“I used to feel like bands that left Canada to pursue other areas were just not giving Canada a chance,” admits Hart, “but you go where the interest is, and right now that’s England for me.”

Echoing Hart’s sentiment is Jason MacIsaac of The Heavy Blinkers. The Halifax quintet’s third album, *Better Weather*, is certainly among the most ambitious Canadian albums this year, and possibly the best. Incorporating string and horn sections and a full gospel choir, its

unfashionably hyper-optimistic songs recall golden era Beach Boys, early ’70s bubblegum pop and even a dash of Broadway. The Blinkers have consistently promoted themselves in Japan and, most vigorously, in England.

“British pop fans seem to really enjoy orchestrated arrangements and expansive melodies,” MacIsaac explains. “We were pretty confident that if our music was going to resonate with anyone, it would do so with the British.”

The Heavy Blinkers’ Halifax-based label, Brobdingnagian Records, claim to sell more than four times as many copies of each of their releases in the U.K. than they do in Canada.

Although not as widely distributed as major label CDs, all of the discs mentioned here should be available at independent music stores, or from major online retailers. Ensure your insider status now because, as Bridgewater predicts, “Canada will soon be crawling with [record label] weasels. ‘Secretary, book me a flight to Toronto!’”

Michael White is the music editor of The Calgary Straight.

out  
THIS MONTH

Artist: Blaque Ivory  
Title: Blaque Out  
Label: Columbia/Sony

Artist: Cadillac Tah  
Title: Pov City Hustler  
Label: Def Jam/Universal

Artist: De La Soul  
Title: AOL: Bionics – Better, Stronger, Faster  
Label: Tommy Boy/BMG

Artist: Funmaster Flex  
Title: Pitbulls  
Label: Loud/Epic

Artist: Kid Rock  
Title: Cocky  
Label: Atlantic/Warner

Artist: Lil Bow Wow  
Title: Doggy Bag  
Label: Columbia/Sony

Artist: Mack 10  
Title: Band or Ball  
Label: Universal

Artist: Master P  
Title: Game Face  
Label: Universal

Artist: Mobb Deep  
Title: Infamy  
Label: Columbia/Sony

Artist: No Doubt  
Title: Rock Steady  
Label: Interscope/Universal

Artist: N.O.R.E.  
Title: God’s Favorite  
Label: Def Jam/Universal

Artist: Outkast  
Title: Big Boi & Dre Present, Outkast  
Label: Arista/BMG



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**GIFT  
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**2001**



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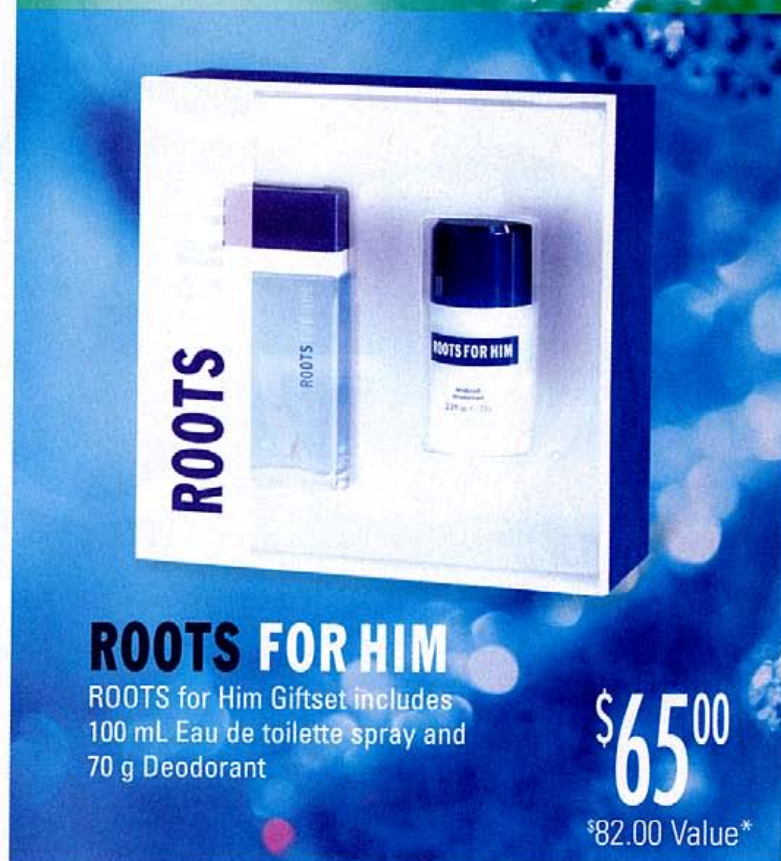
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Authentic Roots for Her  
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## ROOTS FOR HIM

ROOTS for Him Giftset includes  
100 mL Eau de toilette spray and  
70 g Deodorant

\$65<sup>00</sup>  
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# holiday gift guide

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Introducing Two New Camera Lines From  **FUJIFILM**

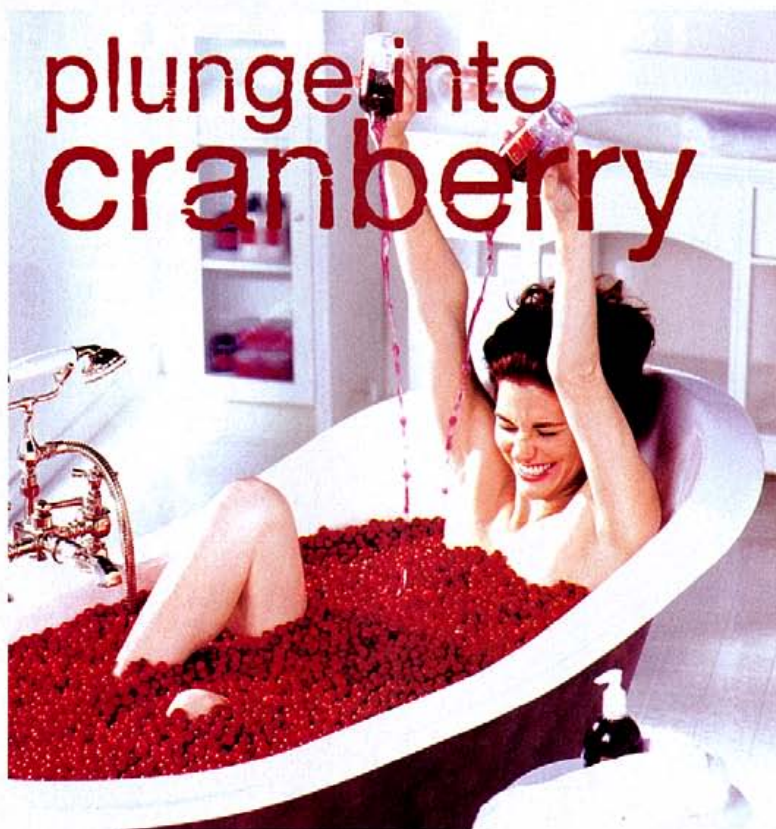
**QuickSnap Colours** Single-Use Camera

**Nexia Q1** Camera



[www.fujifilm.ca](http://www.fujifilm.ca)

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cranberry



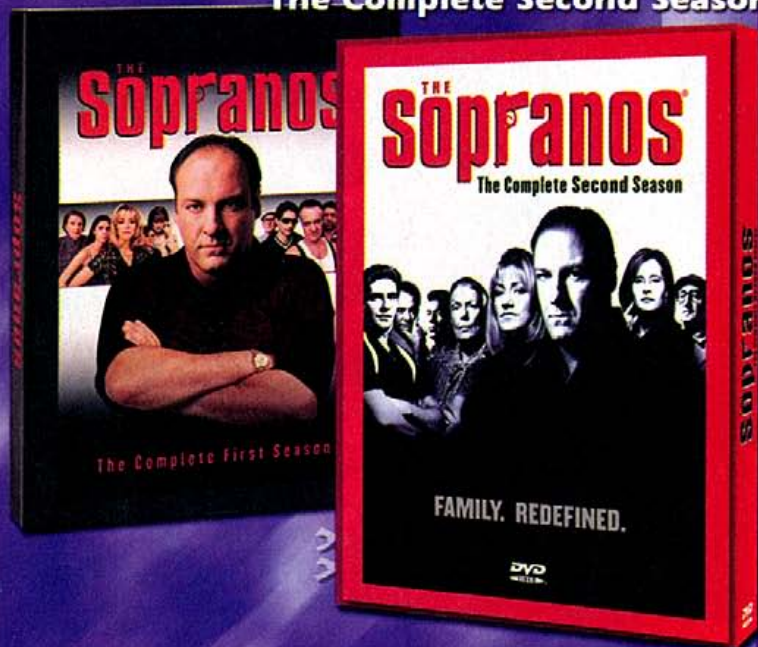
**Cranberries.** Soak up the fresh, fruity fragrance at **The Body Shop**. Experience Cranberry Bath & Shower Gel, Cranberry Body Butter, and much more at **The Body Shop**, beginning November 5. [www.thebodyshop.ca](http://www.thebodyshop.ca)



# Make Holiday Shopping DVD Giftsets for

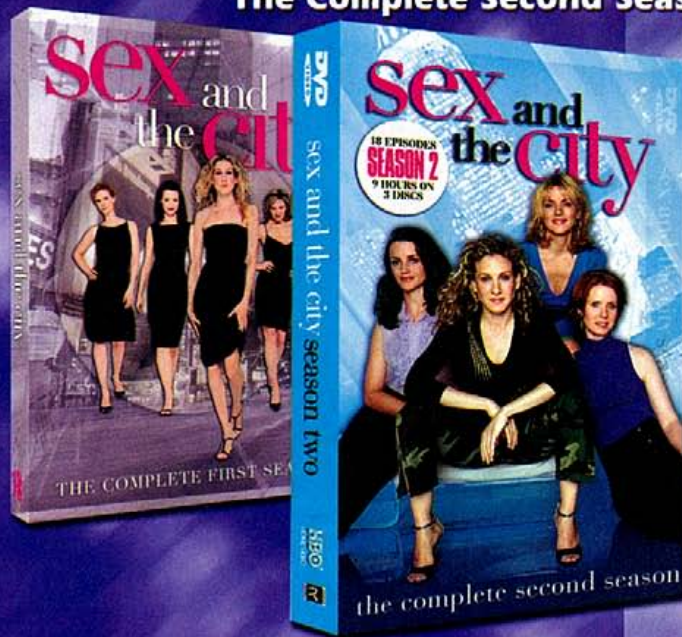
## THE SOPRANOS

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The Complete Second Season

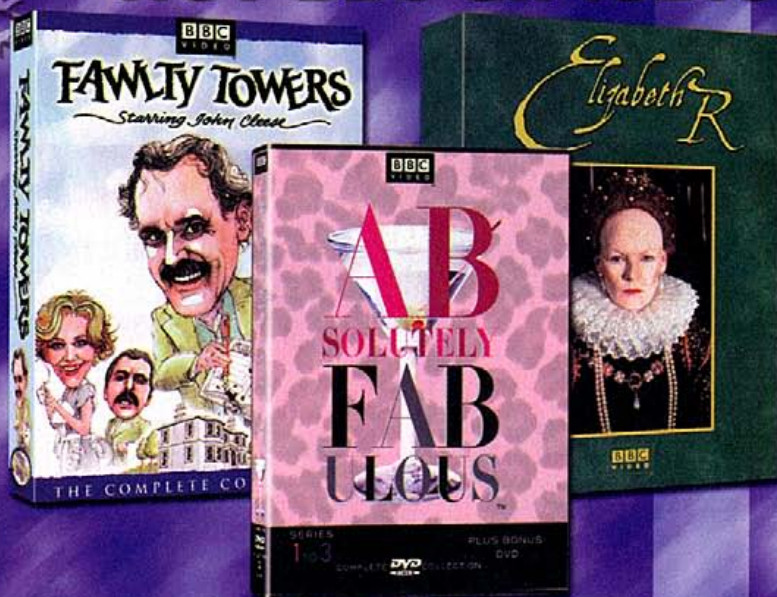


## SEX AND THE CITY

The Complete First Season  
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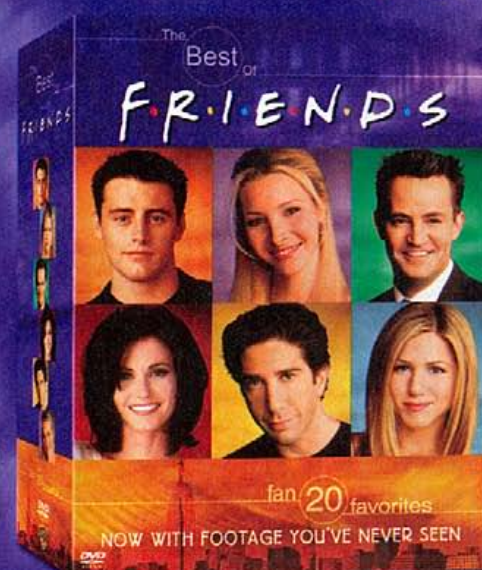
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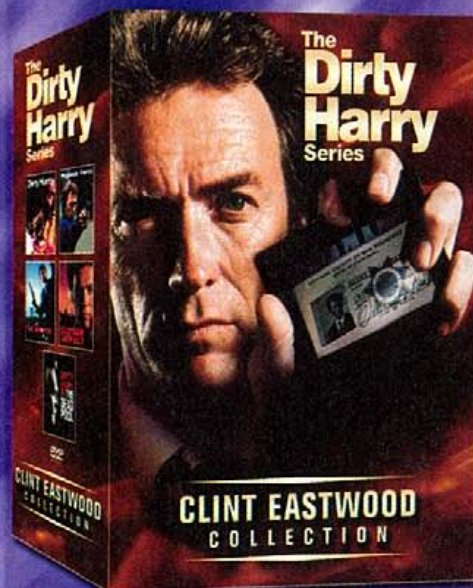
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# new RELEASES

REACH FOR SUMMER CATCH, STUDY EVOLUTION  
OR BRING HOME AMERICAN OUTLAWS

Duchovny and Moore  
in *Evolution*



DECEMBER 4

## AMERICAN OUTLAWS

**Stars:** Colin Farrell, Scott Caan

**Director:** Les Mayfield (*Blue Streak*)

**Story:** Turns out Jesse James (Farrell) wasn't really a bad guy — he was just a good boy who wanted to get revenge on the ornery railroad tycoons who blew up his ma's farm. Of course, said tycoons ain't gonna sit still and get shot, so you just know there's going to be some gunplay. Lots and lots of gunplay.

## JOHN CARPENTER'S GHOSTS OF MARS

**Stars:** Natasha Henstridge, Ice Cube

**Director:** John Carpenter (*Vampires*)

**Story:** It's the 22nd century and Mars has finally been colonized by humans. But when a cop (Henstridge) goes to a deserted mining town to pick up a dangerous criminal (Cube), she discovers that humans aren't the only species on the planet.

## SUMMER CATCH

**Stars:** Freddie Prinze Jr., Jessica Biel

**Director:** Michael Tollin (debut)

**Story:** A blue collar pitcher/landscaper (Prinze)

makes it into the prestigious Cape Cod Baseball League, but it seems that he's more interested in wooing a local rich girl (Biel) than impressing the all-important scouts.

DECEMBER 11

## RUSH HOUR 2

**Stars:** Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker

**Director:** Brett Ratner (*The Family Man*)

**Story:** The fast-talkin' and high-kickin' buddy cop duo of Chan and Tucker is back for more. This time, they're in Hong Kong, where an embassy bombing puts them on the trail of a counterfeiting operation headed up by a Triad crime boss (John Lone) and an American millionaire (Alan King).

## FOLLOWING

**Stars:** Jeremy Theobald, Alex Haw

**Director:** Christopher Nolan (*Memento*)

**Story:** A bored man begins to follow random people to see what they do with their days. But then one of his targets — a burglar who breaks into people's houses just to decode their personal lives — catches on, and the two end up forming an unlikely partnership in voyeurism.



De Niro (left) and  
Norton in *The Score*

## HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH

**Stars:** John Cameron Mitchell, Michael Pitt

**Director:** John Cameron Mitchell (debut)

**Story:** A young East German man (Mitchell) has a botched sex-change operation that leaves just a little too much behind (hence, the "angry inch"). He ends up going to America where he becomes a transvestite rock singer, only to have his songs stolen by an army brat. Based on the off-Broadway, musical cult hit.

## THE SCORE

**Stars:** Robert De Niro, Marlon Brando

**Director:** Frank Oz (*In & Out*)

**Story:** A jazz club owner/burglar (De Niro) agrees to pull off "one last" heist for a Montreal crime boss (Brando). As the plan becomes increasingly complicated, tensions rise between him and his brash young accomplice (Edward Norton).

DECEMBER 18

## THE PRINCESS DIARIES

**Stars:** Anne Hathaway, Julie Andrews

**Director:** Garry Marshall (*Pretty Woman*)

**Story:** Mia (Hathaway) thinks she's just a regular teen living in San Francisco, but that all changes when her granny (Andrews) comes to town to tell her that she's really the heir to the throne of Genovia (a made-up place between France and Spain). *Pygmalion*-esque makeovers and princess lessons ensue.

## SCARY MOVIE 2

**Stars:** Anna Farris, Marlon Wayans

**Director:** Keenen Ivory Wayans (*Scary Movie*)

**Story:** The parodying of horror films continues in this sequel to the mammothly popular *Scary Movie*. This time around, the teens are trapped in a haunted mansion by their loony professor.



## MOULIN ROUGE

**Stars:** Nicole Kidman, Ewan McGregor

**Director:** Baz Luhrmann (*Romeo + Juliet*)

**Story:** A breakneck-paced, visually stunning jumble of a film that looks at the doomed romance between a lovelorn writer (McGregor) and a dying showgirl (Kidman) who works at the legendary Paris nightclub Moulin Rouge.

DECEMBER 26

## TWO CAN PLAY THAT GAME

**Stars:** Vivica A. Fox, Morris Chestnut

**Director:** Mark Brown (debut)

**Story:** When Shante (Fox) catches her man (Chestnut) with another woman, she decides to put things right by unleashing a complex plan that (theoretically) will have him back under her thumb in a mere 10 days.

DECEMBER 28

## EVOLUTION

**Stars:** David Duchovny, Julianne Moore

**Director:** Ivan Reitman (*Ghostbusters*)

**Story:** A meteor crashes into the Arizona desert and releases a bunch of malicious slug-like creatures that have an amazing ability to mutate within hours. So now it's up to a couple of community college professors to save the world from this wacky alien menace.



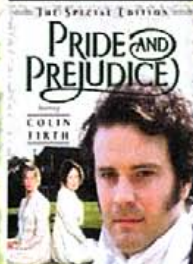
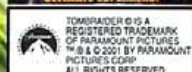
McGregor takes Kidman for a spin in *Moulin Rouge*

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# december

H O R O S C O P E | BY DAN LIEBMAN

## sagittarius

November 22 >>> December 22

Sensitive and creative gift-giving can help get a relationship back on course. Timing helps you professionally; watch for the right opportunity to make a controversial statement.

## capricorn

December 23 >>> January 20

December is full of chances to make spare cash, smooth ruffled feathers and reorganize priorities. But there's also a tendency to be a bit too independent or introspective when it's actually important to share some of your angst with a trusted friend.

## aquarius

January 21 >>> February 19

Put renewed effort into your career aspirations — even if it looks like they're starting to fizzle. Avoid a defeatist attitude. Late-month financial bonanzas, no matter how modest, should be socked away for the future.

## pisces

February 20 >>> March 20

The month includes visits to new places and a call from a one-time admirer or lost friend. What's critical now is to give yourself a crash course in assertiveness. Learn how to sell your skills and promote your talents, and you can make important career advances over the next quarter.

## aries

March 21 >>> April 20

Expect possible changes in living arrangements as someone moves out or moves in. Your influence is deeper than you realize, and a kindness to a friend sets off a positive chain reaction.

## taurus

April 21 >>> May 22

It's a month for creating something lovely out of something quite simple, for seeing the potential that a new relationship holds, and — yes, this one's trite — for turning lemons into lemonade.

## gemini

May 23 >>> June 21

It's traditionally a month for glancing back and gazing forward, but there's little time for contemplation. Expect to be thrust into a leadership position, prepare for a bevy of guests and enjoy a couple of A-list parties.

## cancer

June 22 >>> July 22

Devotion to a pet cause earns the respect of an influential party. You're also seeing the results of a new health regimen. Just remember, consistency is more important than ever.

## leo

July 23 >>> August 22

There are small rewards sprinkled throughout the month, some more tangible than others.

And while there's no scarcity of distractions, you need to focus on some practical needs. A responsible approach to health and fitness is foremost — and the best gift you can give to yourself this year.

## virgo

August 23 >>> September 22

Personal development is key this month, but the trick is choosing the right self-improvement program. Meanwhile, tenacity can work both for and against you. While your focus helps you meet a pair of big challenges, you may also come under fire for an unwillingness to let go of something.

## libra

September 23 >>> October 22

It's a month of opportunities. Try not to miss out on an excellent chance — likely between the 15th and 21st — to question authority and challenge opinions. You're also able to complete a collection or make a significant purchase.

## scorpio

October 23 >>> November 21

As you zero in on a long-term goal, you need to distinguish between high and unreasonable expectations. December offers a rare opportunity to correct an old wrong.



KATIA SMIRNOVA

## decemberbirthdays



1st	Bette Midler
2nd	Britney Spears
3rd	Julianne Moore
4th	Jeff Bridges
5th	Frankie Muniz
6th	Tom Hulce
7th	Ellen Burstyn
8th	Kim Basinger
9th	John Malkovich
10th	Kenneth Branagh
11th	Teri Garr

12th	Mekhi Phifer
13th	Dick Van Dyke
14th	Patty Duke
15th	Don Johnson
16th	Liv Ullmann
17th	Eugene Levy
18th	Brad Pitt
19th	Daryl Hannah
20th	John Hillerman
21st	Samuel L. Jackson
22nd	Ralph Fiennes
23rd	Estella Warren
24th	Ricky Martin
25th	Sissy Spacek
26th	Jared Leto



27th	Gerard Depardieu
28th	Denzel Washington
29th	Jude Law
30th	Eliza Dushku
31st	Val Kilmer





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