

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Tower Heist</i>	2
<i>Arthur Christmas</i>	2
<i>Moneyball</i>	3
<i>The Rum Diary</i>	3
<i>50/50</i>	4
<i>In Time</i>	4
<i>My Week With Marilyn</i>	5
<i>Wuthering Heights</i>	5
<i>Summary of October</i>	6
<i>Coming in December</i>	7
<i>BFI London Film Festival</i>	8
<i>Release Dates</i>	9

Also Out This Month

- *Machine Gun Preacher* - Gerard Butler stars in the moving criminal-turned-missionary action-drama
- *Straw Dogs* - remake of classic horror, although set in the Deep South rather than Cornwall
- *Immortals* - new Superman Henry Cavill stars in the fantasy-action film about gods at war
- *Justice* - Nicolas Cage asks a group of vigilantes to kill his wife's attacker
- *Welcome to the Rileys* - James Gandolfini cares for young stripper Kristen Stewart
- *The Deep Blue Sea* - Rachel Weisz enters an affair with an RAF pilot
- *Dream House* - Daniel Craig and Rachel Weisz move into a haunted house
- *Piranha 3DD* - sequel that promises more fish and more nudity!
- *Take Shelter* - Michael Shannon has apocalyptic visions

MOVIE OF THE MONTH: *THE TWILIGHT SAGA: BREAKING DAWN—PART 1*

Despite its incredible popularity with younger readers, all of whom swooning and cheering for their chosen idols - and it's because of this popularity that this film is November's Movie of the Month, otherwise I may be crucified by the fans - the movie adaptations of Stephanie Meyer's *Twilight* series thus far (bar the third one, which for all its flaws was actually quite good) have been not as well received as may have been hoped.

For the cynical viewers of the franchise, they will be beyond relieved to learn that the end is finally nigh as we are given the first part of a two-part adaptation of the final book, entitled *Breaking Dawn*.

Yes, the studio has decided to go all *Deathly Hallows* on us and give us two individual parts of the single final book in film form - however, there happens to be enough material to make both films feel standalone and not one whole film, as the book itself is quite massive.

It's therefore up to new director Bill Condon (*Dreamgirls*) to make sure that the "Twi-Hards" are satisfied and that the franchise goes out with a bang and not a whimper.

Of course, the three main leads are back once more - while Kristen Stewart returns as human protagonist Bella Swan, we also get Robert Pattinson



Tweens will rejoice at this image and probably more from *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1*

back as vampire Edward Cullen (cue huge screams from the "Team Edward" party) and Taylor Lautner as werewolf Jacob Black (cue equally-huge screams from the "Team Jacob" party).

Joining the three leads in part 1 of *Breaking Dawn* are most of the original cast and a few new arrivals (there's too many to list their previous films, so please bare with me on this one!), including Nikki Reed, Peter Facinelli, Elizabeth Reaser, Ashley Greene, Kellan Lutz, Jackson Rathbone, Julia Jones, Booboo Stewart, Billy Burke, Sarah Clarke, MyAnna Buring, Maggie Grace, Casey LaBow, Michael Sheen, Jamie Campbell Bower, Christopher Heyerdahl, Chaske Spencer, Christian Camargo and Mia Maestro - and that's only for the FIRST part!

The plot for this film is that at long last, lovers Bella (Stewart) and Edward (Pattinson) finally tie the knot in front of family and friends, despite fierce opposition from Bella's other admirer Jacob (Lautner). The newlyweds travel to Rio de Janeiro for their honeymoon, where they finally give in to their temptations (i.e get it on!). Unfortunately, the honeymoon is cut short when Bella becomes pregnant with a child that threatens to destroy Bella for good from the inside, unless drastic measures are taken that could cost Bella her mortality.

Intriguing stuff, I'm not going to lie, but how will it all end - or, at least, set up for Part 2 (which comes out November 2012). Until then, enjoy *The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1* from **November 18th**.

News Round-Up

- *Arrested Development* will briefly return to TV before the feature film
- Werner Herzog will play the villain in *One Shot* opposite Tom Cruise
- Disney will re-release *Beauty and the Beast*, *Finding Nemo*, *Monsters Inc* and *The Little Mermaid* in 3D in 2012 and 2013
- Director Paul Feig (*Bridesmaids*) pulls out of *Bridget Jones 3*
- Robert Downey Jr. is rebooting the *Perry Mason* franchise, and also signs on for high-concept mystery *The Accidental Genius*
- Javier Bardem is up for a role in *Despicable Me 2*, and is confirmed to play a villain in *Bond 23*
- Johnny Depp will produce and potentially star in a biopic of Dr. Seuss
- Aaron Eckhart signs on to star in graphic novel adap *I, Frankenstein*
- Sony is planning a biopic of the late Apple CEO Steve Jobs
- Michael Fassbender joins director Steve McQueen's (*Hunger*) third film *12 Years A Slave*
- Jim Carrey will face against Steve Carell in magician comedy *Burt Wonderstone*
- Leonardo DiCaprio may play maths genius Alan Turing in biopic *The Imitation Game*
- Ben Stiller signs on to film remake of BBC TV comedy *Rentaghost*
- *A Good Day to Die Hard*, once more starring Bruce Willis, will hit cinemas in 2013
- *The Lone Ranger* is back on track with a slightly reduced budget
- Patty Jenkins is confirmed to direct *Thor 2*
- Oscar Issac, Carey Mulligan, Justin Timberlake and John Goodman will star in the Coen Brothers' musical biopic *Inside Llewellyn Davis*

THE TOWERING INFERNO: *TOWER HEIST*

Since 2006, people have blamed director Brett Ratner (*Rush Hour*) for derailing the *X-Men* franchise with the poor third installment.

But now, Ratner will have hopefully made up for his mistakes with the release with the ensemble caper *Tower Heist*.

Said to be a comedy in the vein of *Ocean's 11*, the film focuses on a robbery which isn't really a full-blown robbery - it's payback. What is has in common with *Ocean's 11*, however, is a rather stellar ensemble cast of comedy legends and relatively newer stars.

Just a part of said cast is Ben Stiller (*Meet the Fockers*), new Oscar host Eddie Murphy (*Shrek*), Casey Affleck (*The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford*), Alan Alda (*M*A*S*H*), Matthew Broderick (*Ferris Bueller's Day Off*), Téa Leoni (*Fun with Dick and Jane*), Michael Peña (*Crash*), Gabourey Sidibe (*Precious*) and Judd Hirsch (*A Beautiful Mind*).

The film's cast of characters is

The staff plot their revenge in comedy caper *Tower Heist*



led by Josh Kovacs (Stiller), who has managed one of the safest and most luxurious residences in New York for almost a decade. Under his eye, nothing goes undetected. However, complications arise when the tower's richest resident, Wall Street titan Arthur Shaw (Alda), is placed under house arrest for attempting to steal \$2 billion from his investors. The hardest hit among those he defrauded happen to be the staff whose pensions and retirement funds

he was entrusted to manage, thereby leaving them virtually penniless. In order to get back what was took from them, Josh and a team of laid-off staff members plan a robbery within the building they've been protecting all these years. But in order to think like criminals, they need a criminal on their team, causing Josh to turn to convict Slide (Murphy) for the help they need to pull off the robbery successfully.

The heist begins **November 4th**.

TIS THE FAMILY SEASON: *ARTHUR CHRISTMAS*

Once again, the Christmas festivities are almost upon us, and with that it's time for the ultimate question to finally be answered: just how does Santa Claus deliver all of his presents to children around the world in one night?

This is the challenge set by the latest offering from Sony Pictures Animation and British animation giants Aardman, a film entitled *Arthur Christmas*.

Once more combining fascinating computer animation with a little bit of the classic British humour that incorporates every other Aardman offering, *Arthur Christmas* looks like they have a winner once more.

This clue can also be found in the film's excellent cast, consisting of mostly British talent including James McAvoy (*Atonement*), Hugh Laurie (*House*), Jim Broadbent (*Moulin Rouge*), Bill Nighy (*Love Actually*), Imelda Staunton (*Vera Drake*), Ashley Jensen (*Extras*) and Ramona Marquez (*Outnumbered*).

Santa's son must prove himself in *Arthur Christmas*



As stated earlier, the film manages to answer the logic of Santa being able to deliver every present to every child in every home in only one night. The main focus is on the goings-on in the North Pole, with Santa's (Broadbent) ultra-high-tech operation in full swing on Christmas night, but mostly on the eccentric family that surrounds Santa—there's his dedicated wife Mrs. Santa (Staunton), his cantankerous old father Grandsanta (Nighy) and his two sons, the cool and

incredibly capable Steve (Laurie) and the clumsy but Christmas-loving Arthur (McAvoy). It is Arthur, however, who must take on a special mission with Grandsanta and lowly elf Bryony (Jensen) to deliver a present that was accidentally missed to a young girl (Marquez) before the early hours of Christmas morning.

We will soon see who is the festive victor in *Arthur Christmas*, in cinemas from **November 11th**.

RECESSION GOES TO THIRD BASE: *MONEYBALL*

There appears to be no end in sight to the star power of both members of the media-dubbed "Brangelina" - while Angelina Jolie is putting on the final touches to her directional debut *In the Land of Blood and Honey*, it's up to her other half to charm moviegoers once more with an exceptional take in *Moneyball*.

Brad Pitt is said to be exceptional in Oscar-nominated director Bennett Miller's (*Capote*) new film, which depicts the financial woes that occur behind the scenes of major league baseball, but even he is in danger of being overshadowed in the acting department by other members of the supporting cast, including Jonah Hill (*Superbad*), Phillip Seymour Hoffman (*The Boat That Rocked*), Chris Pratt (*Wanted*) and Robin Wright



Brad Pitt needs to put together a winning team in *Moneyball*

(*Forrest Gump*).

Based on author Michael Lewis' book of the same name, the film is an account of the Oakland Athletics baseball team's 2002 season and the attempts by general manager Billy Beane (Pitt) to assemble a competitive team. Faced with the franchise's dire financial situation, Beane teams with a young assistant

GM Peter Brand (Hill), who has some rather unconventional methods towards scouting and analyzing players using a sophisticated sabermetric system (anyone who understands how all of this works will LOVE this film!) *Moneyball* will be released in cinemas from **November 25th**.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS: *THE RUM DIARY*

The last time that the mind of American journalist Hunter S. Thompson was discovered in all of its twisted nature, we were given the wild and insane *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*, starring Johnny Depp in the Thompson-esque role.

Now, we are about to explore the creator of Gonzo journalism's warped narrative once more with *The Rum Diary*, again with Johnny Depp in the Thompson-esque role.

Although this film appears to be less of a messed-up drug trip gone wrong than was eloquently depicted in Terry Gilliam's film, we should still never underestimate what the makers of this piece, based on Thompson's 1998 early novel, have up their sleeves.

Depp is once again heavily involved with adapting a Hunter S. Thompson novel, taking on a producer role as well as securing the lead role.

Joining Mr. Depp in the madness are the likes of Aaron Eckhart



Johnny Depp takes on the pure madness of Puerto Rico in *The Rum Diary*

(*The Dark Knight*), Amber Heard (*Zombieland*), Michael Rispoli (*The Sopranos*), Giovanni Ribisi (*Avatar*) and Richard Jenkins (*Burn After Reading*).

The film is set in the Eisenhower period of the late 1950s, when itinerant journalist Paul Kemp (Depp) has grown weary of the New York and America around him. Finally deciding to do something about it, he travels to Puerto Rico to write for the San

Juan Star newspaper. Whilst there, Paul takes to the habit of consistently drinking rum and being obsessed with a woman called Chenault (Heard), the fiancé of local businessman Sanderson (Eckhart).

The Rum Diary is sure to be one not to be missed upon its release on **November 11th**.

News Round-Up

- Juan Carlos Fresnadillo drops out as director of *The Crow* reboot
- Matt Reeves (*Cloverfield*) will direct *The Twilight Zone*
- A *Micronauts* film is in development
- *Zombieland* is probably headed to the small screen
- Anne Hathaway joins the cast of *Les Misérables*
- Mark Romanek (*Never Let Me Go*) is the frontrunner to direct *The Lost Symbol*
- DreamWorks Animation is planning a *Captain Underpants* adaptation
- Matt Damon is currently looking for a project for his directional debut
- *Akira* is greenlit, with Garrett Hedlund in contention for the title role
- The Wachowski Brothers' (*The Matrix*) next film will be *Jupiter Ascending*
- Ben Stiller will direct period horror film *The Mountain*
- Bradley Cooper is eyeing a role in Steven Soderbergh's *The Man From U.N.C.L.E*
- Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Kerry Washington board *Django Unchained*
- Ben Affleck is the top choice to direct Stephen King's *The Stand*
- Drew Pearce (*Iron Man 3*) will write *Sherlock Holmes 3*
- Ben Affleck and Matt Damon will reunite on true story film about criminal Whitey Bulger
- A six-minute prologue for *The Dark Knight Rises* will debut in front of IMAX screenings of *Mission Impossible - Ghost Protocol*
- Eddie Murphy wants to develop a *Beverly Hills Cop* TV show
- A *Dumb and Dumber* sequel is being written
- Sean Penn will direct Robert De Niro and Kristen Wiig in *The Comedian*
- Director Craig Gillespie departs *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies*



TERMINAL CANCER IS NOT FUNNY: 50/50

When it comes to making light of rather serious subject matters such as terminal illness, Hollywood never crosses the line in the sand. The people behind *50/50* cannot even see the line in the sand.

While the film is not a full-on, Frankie Boyle-approved comedy about cancer, it does take the experiences and turns the whole thing into a rather light-hearted tale about friendship, love, survival, and finding humour in the least likely places.

Seth Rogen (*Paul*) takes on a producer role with writing partner Evan Goldberg (*Superbad*) and also stars in the movie, directed by Jonathan Levine (*The Wackness*) and based on the real-life experiences of writer Will Reiser.

However, the central role in the film belongs to Joseph Gordon-Levitt (*Inception*), who in turn is joined by Anna

Many a swordfight is expected in *The Three Musketeers*



Kendrick (*Up In The Air*), Bryce Dallas Howard (*The Help*), and Anjelica Huston (*The Royal Tennenbaums*).

Gordon-Levitt is said to be phenomenal and potentially awards-worthy as Adam, a young writer of radio shows who is diagnosed with a rare form of spinal cancer, and is given a 50/50 chance of surviving, which his supportive best friend Kyle (Rogen) notes

that "if you were a casino game, you'd have the best odds". With the help of Kyle, a young therapist (Kendrick), his unemotional girlfriend (Howard) and his overbearing mother (Huston), Adam learns what and who the most important things in his life are. There's more than a 50/50 chance you'll adore this film, out **November 25th**.



FROM HERE TO ETERNITY: IN TIME

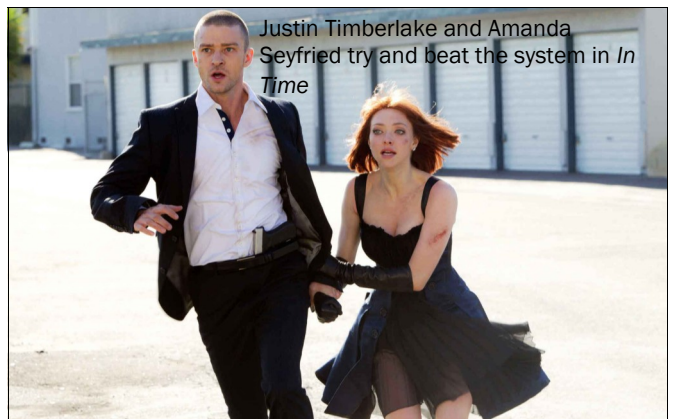
What if it was possible to live forever in the future, but not everyone would be able to do so?

This is the dark path that *In Time* seems to take, although the futuristic world that it represents seems to be far from prosperous and more harsh and unfair - so, a bit like the present, only more cooler.

Andrew Niccol (writer of *The Truman Show*) uses his talents to tell tales of dystopian realities in his latest film as a director and writer (having previously told the stories of *SimOne* and *Lord of War*).

The cast for this particular film is quite strong as well, including the talents of such people as Justin Timberlake (*The Social Network*), Amanda Seyfried (*Mamma Mia*), Cillian Murphy (*Batman Begins*), Olivia Wilde (*Tron Legacy*) and Alex Pettyfer (*I Am Number 4*).

The film is set in a retro-future where the age gene has been switched off and no-one can age



after they hit 25. However, stamped on their arm is a digital clock telling them how long they've got to live. In an effort to avoid overpopulation, time has become the currency and the way people pay for luxuries and other stuff. The rich are able to afford to live forever, while the poor are left to negotiate for their immortality.

The story focuses on a poor young man named Will Salas

(Timberlake), who is accused of murder when he inherits a fortune of time from a dead upper-class man over a century old prior to his death. He is forced to go on the run with the daughter (Seyfried) of a wealthy man, while avoiding a corrupt FBI-like police force and a hoodlum-like Mob.

Don't waste time seeing this film from **November 4th**.



BIG, BLONDE & BEAUTIFUL: *MY WEEK WITH MARILYN*

Despite her untimely death in the 1960s, Marilyn Monroe has remained one of the most defining sex symbols of the 20th century.

So it was inevitable that Hollywood would attempt to make a film based around her, and what better way to have done so than with *My Week With Marilyn*.

Becoming blonde for the meaty role is Michelle Williams (*Shutter Island*) who, as you can probably see from the picture, is virtually a dead ringer for the actress, whose films range from *Some Like It Hot* to *The Seven Year Itch* (the latter of which is most famous for that shot of the skirt flying up Monroe over the subway).

Simon Curtis (*Cranford*) directs, and joining Williams in the cast are Kenneth Branagh (*Hamlet*), Eddie Redmayne (*Glorious 39*), Judi Dench (*Shakespeare In*

Michelle Williams is a dead ringer for Marilyn Monroe in *My Week With Marilyn*

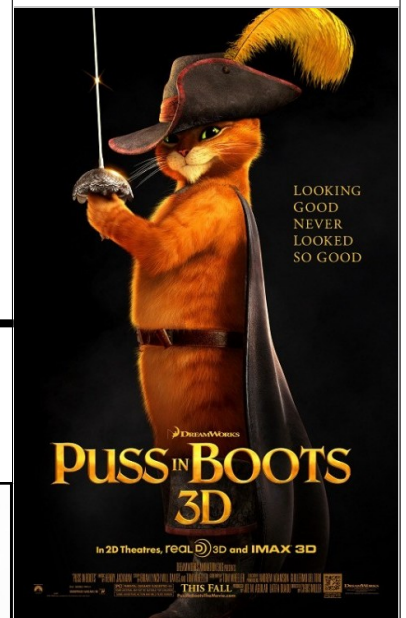


Love), Emma Watson (*Harry Potter*), Dougray Scott (*Hitman*), Dominic Cooper (*Mamma Mia*), Julia Ormond (*The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*) and Derek Jacobi (*The King's Speech*).

Based on real-life events during the summer of 1956, the story is of Colin Clark (Redmayne), an assistant working on the set of director-star Lawrence Olivier's

(Branagh) new film *The Prince and the Showgirl*, which also stars megastar Marilyn Monroe. When her new husband, playwright Arthur Miller (Scott) leaves the country, Clark spends a week with Marilyn, during which he introduces her to British society and help her escape the pressures of fame.

It's out on **November 25th**.



EMILY THE STRANGE: *WUTHERING HEIGHTS*

Out of all the novels written by the Bronte sisters, it is Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* which has been the most frequently adapted (or at least tied with Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*).

However, this brand-new adaptation takes a whole new spin on the classic tale of doomed romance, which has been overseen by visionary director Andrea Arnold with the beautiful vision of Terrence Malick's *Badlands* and the gritty atmosphere of Arnold's acclaimed film *Fish Tank*.

Kaya Scodelario (*Skins*) and newcomer James Howson play the eponymous roles of Catherine and Heathcliff, with Howson setting new grounds as becoming the first black actor to portray the role of Heathcliff.

For those completely in the

A black actor is cast for the first time as Heathcliff in Andrea Arnold's *Wuthering Heights*

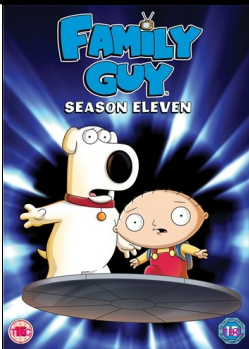


dark of knowing what Emily Bronte's most famous - and, bizarrely, her only - novel is about, the story is of a poor young boy named Heathcliff (Howson) who is taken in by the wealthy Earnshaw family, wherein over the years he develops a tense relationship with his foster sister Catherine (Scodelario).

Unfortunately, this being a tragic romance, not all works out as it should be and their romance not only affects the both of them but others around them.

Despite the negativity of the actual story, this still looks like a beautiful adaptation. See it from **November 11th**.





Family Guy - Season 11

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 07/11/11



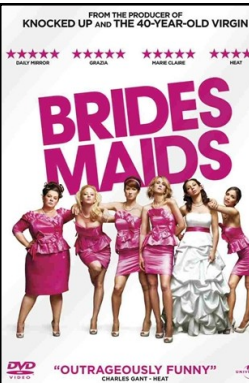
Larry Crowne

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 14/11/11



Kung Fu Panda 2

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 14/11/11



Bridesmaids

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 14/11/11

STILL SHOWING: WHAT HAPPENED IN OCTOBER?

It was finally the beginning of the end of the year as October came and went, but that doesn't mean that we were treated to a whole new variety of films, some new and even some old!

It all kicked off on the 7th, when producer Guillermo Del Toro debuted his latest horror *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*; Rowan Atkinson returned as the bumbling spy in *Johnny English Reborn*; we returned to the Circle of Life with the 3D re-release of the Disney classic *The Lion King*; Woody Allen took us to unimaginable areas of the City of Love in *Midnight in Paris*; Ewan McGregor and Eva Green fell in love during an epidemic in *Perfect Sense*; and Paddy Considine made his directional debut with *Tyrannosaur*. Then, on the 14th, the inspiring true story of a handicapped dolphin was told in *Dolphin Tale*; there was a reason to dance once more with the remake of *Footloose*; Hugh Jackman lived in the world of robot boxing



The classic character came to life in *The Adventures of Tintin: Secret of the Unicorn*

in *Real Steel*; and Paul W.S. Anderson gave us his take on the classic tale of *The Three Musketeers*. At halfway point (of sorts) on the 21st, Steven Soderbergh got together an ensemble cast for his latest venture *Contagion*; Selena Gomez travelled to Europe for some fun in *Monte Carlo*; audiences were once more wetting themselves with fright as they ventured into the third case of *Paranormal Activity*; and finally along came the much scarier (in the best possible way) take on mother-son relationships with *We Need To Talk About Kevin*.

But all good things

must come to an end, but what a way to finish off the month with these releases on the 28th: Steven Spielberg debuted his long-awaited motion-capture take on *The Adventures of Tintin: Secret of the Unicorn*; the controversial claim of Shakespeare not writing any of his plays was explored in *Anonymous*; the US smash hit civil rights drama *The Help* finally made it to British cinemas; and Ryan Gosling helped George Clooney run for President in director Clooney's *The Ides of March*. And with that, we can close the chapter on October 2011, and look forward to what's coming next...

COMING SOON: WHAT'S HAPPENING IN DECEMBER?

At last, we can start opening our advent calendars, getting our stockings sorted and preparing the carrot for the reindeer - Christmastime is here once more! And to accommodate, December has some pretty nifty movie choices to help us get through the jolly season!

First up, out on the 2nd, a return trip to Antarctica is in the schedule as we continue the exciting adventures of toe-tapping penguin Mumble in *Happy Feet 2*; Martin Scorsese divulges into the family and 3D market for the first time with *Hugo*; and mysterious findings in a frozen wasteland don't turn out well in the remake of John Carpenter's *The Thing*. Next up on the 9th, interplanetary discoveries call for study in what some people would do in *Another Earth*; if you could bear the themed ensemble romantic-comedy *Valentine's Day* then prepare yourself for the themed ensemble romantic-comedy *New Year's Eve*; a popular character from the *Shrek* franchise gets his own spin-off in *Puss In Boots*; and the stoner duo are back with a more festive and three-dimensional



They make 'em like they used to as silent cinema makes a triumphant return in *The Artist*

adventure in *A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas*. Things then get heated on the 16th, with two sequels to popular franchises: the children will love the tale of CG chipmunks stranded on a remote island (and so will adults, depending on whether they hate the little buggers) in *Alvin and the Chipmunks 3: Chipwrecked*; and Robert Downey Jr and Jude Law are back as detective and doctor respectively in *Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows*. Traditionally, Boxing Day is the day on which some of the month's biggest film releases are out, no matter what day they are. This year, we've got not one but two big ones: David Fincher returns to gritty territory with his anticipated new take on Stieg Larsson's book

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo; and Tom Cruise is back for yet another impossible mission in *Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol*. Rounding out the month, and indeed the year, is the release of one of the most buzzed-about films of the year, the silent movie (yes, SILENT movie, as in 1920s black-and-white silent) *The Artist*, which is currently being named the one to beat this Oscar season, but we shall see about that when it comes out in British cinemas on the 30th. And after that, we can say a fond farewell to 2011. But we're not going to do that here and now—stay tuned next month for an in-depth analysis of the best films to come our way this past year, as well as a look forward into the future in 2012!



Cars 2

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 21/11/11



Horrible Bosses

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 21/11/11



Doctor Who - Complete Series 6

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 21/11/11



Transformers: Dark of the Moon

- Also available on Blu-Ray
- Released: 28/11/11



55TH BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

12 – 27 October 2011



In Partnership With



Clockwise from top-left: Jude Law at the Opening Night Gala *360*; Seth Rogen supports *50/50*; Michael Fassbender was in town for *Shame*; Ralph Fiennes debuts *Coriolanus*; Jean Dujardin and Berenice Bejo receive enthusiastic reception for *The Artist*; George Clooney makes the first of his LFF rounds for *The Ides of March*; Clooney was back again for Alexander Payne's *The Descendants*; yours truly at the 55th BFI London Film Festival; Michael Shannon turned up for *Take Shelter*; Elizabeth Olsen looked stunning for the gala of *Martha Marcy May Marlene*; *Slumdog Millionaire* beauty Freida Pinto was around for *Trishna*; Madonna debuts *W.E.*; Michael Fassbender, Keira Knightley and Viggo Mortensen promoted *A Dangerous Method*; Rhys Ifans looked dapper for Roland Emmerich's *Anonymous*; and Tom Hiddleston presented the Closing Night Gala of Terence Davis' *The Deep Blue Sea*

Bright lights, red carpets, and lots and lots of stars—it can only be the London Film Festival, back in town for another year and taking place once more in the heart and soul of British cinema, the wondrous Leicester Square.

Things kicked off on the 12th October with the Opening Film Gala of Fernando Meirelles' (*City of God*) new film *360*, with star Jude Law in attendance representing the rest of the film's impressive cast including Anthony Hopkins, Rachel Weisz, Ben Foster and Eminem. Unfortunately, reviews to appear shortly afterwards have tended to be less than kind about the film, based on a script by Peter Morgan (*The Queen*), although some praise focuses on the actors doing the best they can with the material.

Despite the disappointing start, the Festival kicked off from there and appearances by Hollywood royalty - including George Clooney (who was around to promote two films, *The Ides of March* and *The Descendants*), Madonna (in town for her latest film as a director *W.E.*), Ralph Fiennes (supporting his directional debut *Coriolanus*), Michael Fassbender (who was there for the hotly-tipped *Shame* as well as David Cronenberg's *A Dangerous Method*), Seth Rogen (for cancer comedy *50/50* - see page 4 for more details on that film), French superstar Jean Dujardin (with the heavily-anticipated *The Artist*), Keira Knightley (also there for *A Dangerous Method*), Elizabeth "far more talented than either of her twin sisters" Olsen (promoting her breakthrough role in the highly-acclaimed *Martha Marcy May Marlene* - more on that one in a second), Viggo Mortensen (again for *A Dangerous Method*), Rhys Ifans (who was there for Roland Emmerich's controversial Shakespeare flick *Anonymous*), Freida Pinto (who was supporting director Michael Winterbottom's *Trishna*), Michael Shannon (there for his astonishing take in apocalyptic psychological thriller *Take Shelter*) and many,

many others throughout the 15-day festival.

But eventually the end came not just for the 55th London Film Festival, but also the end of the run of long-time artistic director Sandra Hebron, who stepped down after over ten years of overseeing the festival. Thanks Sandra, your work has been magnificent and will always be irreplaceable. Hebron did, however, end her last festival with a bang and not a whimper with Terence Davis' new film *The Deep Blue Sea*, with star Tom Hiddleston in attendance, earning several reviews of praise in the process.

On the 21st October (aka Day 9 of the Festival), me and a fellow screenwriter on the same course as me, Grant Webb, were fortunate to travel from Southampton to London for the day, eager to see what was in store for us. We had obtained tickets to the premiere screening of *Martha Marcy May Marlene* and even found time to meet the two stars of the film, Elizabeth Olsen and John Hawkes, before heading inside to watch the film. We came to the same conclusion that *Martha Marcy May Marlene* is a captivating, if somewhat disturbing, watch featuring a breath-taking debut performance by Olsen. We hope to see more of her in the near future, but for now we have to wait for the film to officially arrive on British shores in February (expect a much longer review around then).

Well, there you go everyone - once again the London Film Festival has come and gone, leaving us only begging for more.

But not to fear, film fans—the Festival will be back next October for us to indulge in its film-y goodness!

UK Film Release Dates

NOVEMBER

4TH

- In Time
- Jack Goes Boating
- Machine Gun Preacher
- Straw Dogs
- Tower Heist
- Weekend

11TH

- Arthur Christmas
- The Awakening
- Immortals
- The Rum Diary
- Trespass
- Wuthering Heights

18TH

- Justice
- The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1
- Welcome to the Rileys

25TH

- 50/50
- The Deep Blue Sea
- Dream House
- Moneyball
- My Week with Marilyn
- Piranha 3DD
- Take Shelter

DECEMBER

2ND

- Camp Hell
- Happy Feet 2
- Hugo
- Romantics Anonymous
- The Thing
- We Have A Pope

9TH

- Another Earth
- New Year's Eve
- Puss in Boots
- A Very Harold and Kumar 3D Christmas

16TH

- Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked
- Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows

26TH

- The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo
- Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol

30TH

- The Artist

JANUARY

6TH

- The Iron Lady
- Mother and Child
- The Possession
- Red Dog

13TH

- The Darkest Hour
- Shame
- Tatsumi
- A Useful Life
- War Horse

20TH

- Beauty and the Beast 3D
- Coriolanus
- Haywire
- J. Edgar
- Underworld: Awakening
- W.E.

27TH

- The Descendants
- The Grey
- House of Tolerance
- Intruders
- Man on a Ledge

All release dates are correct as of time of press.

Next Issue: December 2011