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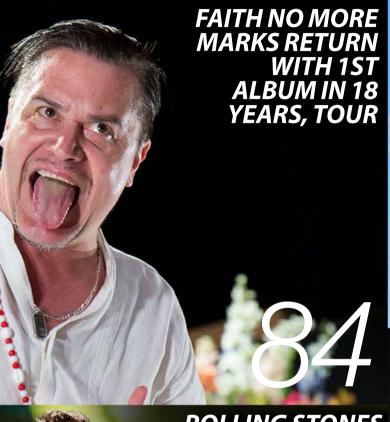








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Global warming will bring much more sneezing and wheezing to Europe by mid-century, a new study says.

Ragweed pollen levels are likely to quadruple for much of Europe because warmer temperatures will allow the plants to take root more, and carbon dioxide will make them grow more, says a study published Monday in the journal Nature Climate Change. Other factors not related to manmade climate change will also contribute.

Ragweed isn't native to Europe, but was imported from America in the late 19th century. It hasn't quite become established all over the continent, at least not yet.

Parts of France, the United Kingdom and Germany don't have the allergens now, but they will by 2050, says study co-author Robert Vautard, a climate scientist at the Climate and Environment Sciences Laboratory in Yvette, France. That includes Paris, where Vautard lives.

"As warmer temperatures and higher carbon dioxide concentrations allow ragweed to become more vigorous and invade further north, we can expect to see many more allergy sufferers," said Daniel Chapman, an invasive species expert at the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology in Edinburgh, Scotland. He did not take part in the study, but praised it.

The researchers used computer simulations with different scenarios of carbon dioxide pollution for the next 35 years. And if the world doesn't make a large change in emissions from coal, oil and gas, the computer runs predicted increases in the annual pollen count of 100 to 1,100 percent, with a general average of around 300 percent, Vautard said.

Land use and the way the non-native plants take over new areas account for about one-third of the increased ragweed counts, with climate change the rest, Vautard said. Earlier studies show that ragweed pollen season in North America has already extended by as much as three weeks in some northern locales, partly because of climate change.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency climate scientist Michael Kolian, who wasn't part of the new study, said the French study fits with previous research and the U.S. National Climate Assessment, which concluded "climate change, as well as increased carbon dioxide by itself, can contribute to increased production of plant-based allergens."

Online:

Nature Climate Change:

http://www.nature.com/nclimate









Nielsen Survey Says Liam Neeson is Big Ad Man

Ad executives looking for a celebrity to endorse their product can't do much better than actor Liam Neeson.

That's the conclusion of the Nielsen company, which looked at celebrities who made commercials during the first three months of the year and ranked them with a calculation that takes into account likability, public awareness, influence and other factors. Its first "N-Scores" were released Tuesday.





Neeson and Pierce Brosnan had identical scores of 94, although Neeson was judged to have a greater influence in getting products sold.

By looking at the effectiveness of celebrity pitchmen, the company best known for television ratings will now compete with Marketing Evaluations Inc., a company that produces the better-known Q Score, a measurement of public attitudes toward well-known figures.

Besides attaching scores to celebrity endorsers, Nielsen intends to offer marketers detailed information about the personalities and habits of people who respond well to each celebrity so they can better match pitchmen and products, said Chad Dreas, Nielsen's managing director of media analytics.

"What do they buy? Where do they shop? What do they watch?" said Dreas, describing the details Nielsen intends to sell.

Neeson, who has been featured in an ad for Supercell Games, is viewed positively by 78 percent of Americans who know him, Nielsen said. Brosnan and Matthew McConaughey, both featured in car commercials recently, also scored well in Nielsens' measurement.

Jeff Bridges stood out among celebrities for the amount of influence he carried with his fans, Nielsen said.

Other celebs with recent ads that scored well in Nielsen's measurement were Jennifer Garner, Natalie Portman, Sofia Vergara, Jim Parsons, Dennis Haysbert and J.K. Simmons.

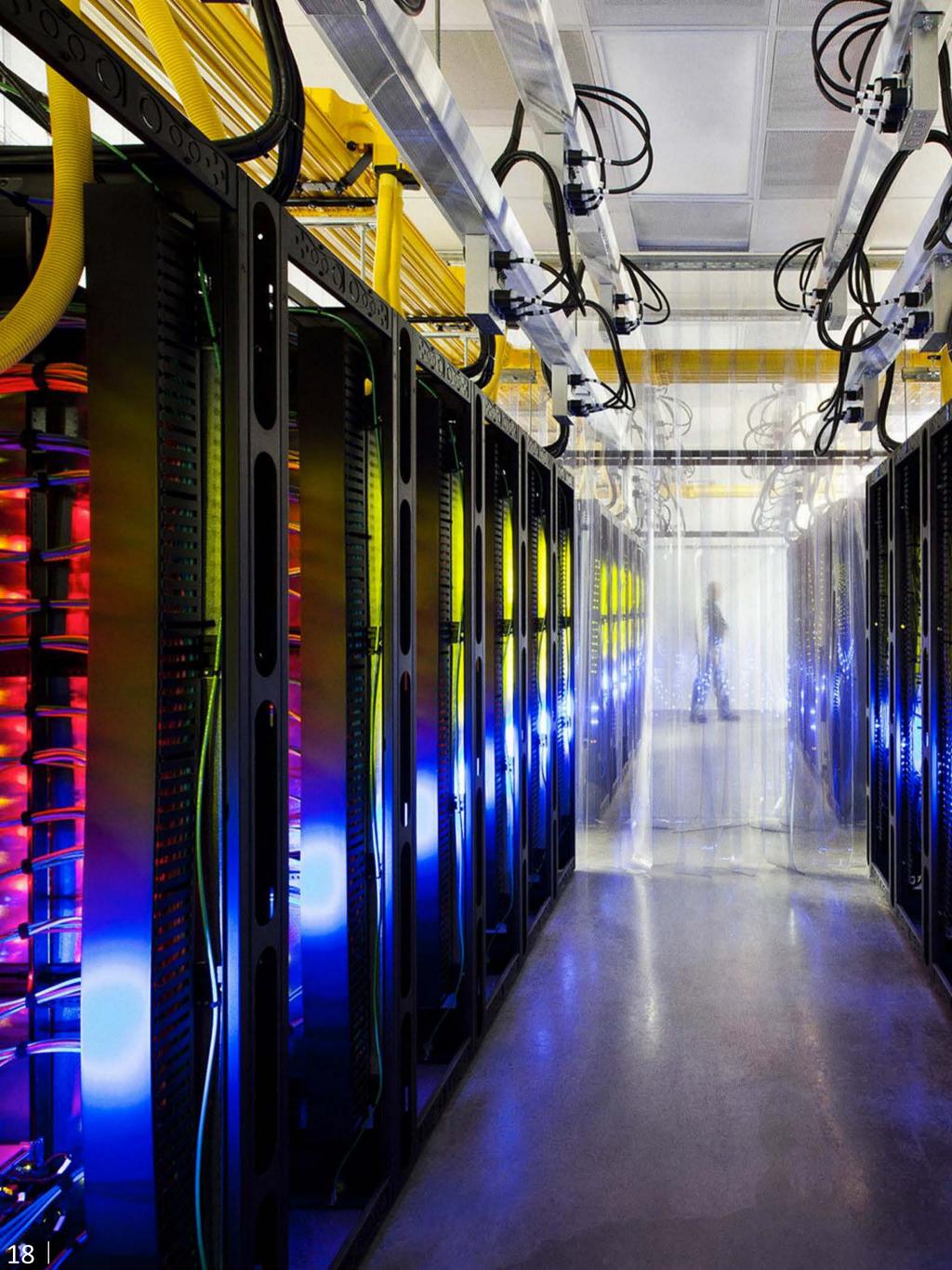




Adult Dating Site Investigating Breach of User Data

The operator of a popular adult dating website said Friday it's investigating a data security breach following reports that hackers stole names, email addresses and information about the sexual orientation or habits of up to 4 million members.

Britain's Channel 4 news outlet reported that hackers posted some of the information on an obscure website after stealing account data from AdultFriendFinder.com. The online service claims 64 million members worldwide use its service to "hook up, find sex or meet someone hot now."





FriendFinder Networks, the Silicon Valley company that operates the service, said in a statement that it hired a prominent cybersecurity firm to investigate and is telling members to update their user names and passwords. It said it is also temporarily blocking attempts to search for user profiles by "any users we believe were affected by the security issue."

Tech blogger Bev Robb reported earlier that it was possible to identify some users and glean potentially embarrassing information based on apparently stolen data that was posted on a website frequented by other hackers.

Without confirming any details about the breach, FriendFinder Networks said it had no information that users' financial information was leaked. But the statement added that, "until the investigation is completed, it will be difficult to confirm the full scope of the incident."

FriendFinder Networks operates a number of online sites and dating services for different audiences, including **Amigos.com**, **BigChurch. com** and **SeniorFriendFinder.com**. There has been no indication that information has leaked from its other sites. The company also says it licenses the Penthouse brand and publishes magazines.

"The security of our members' information remains our top priority," the company said. It has hired the Mandiant response division of cybersecurity company FireEye, which has previously investigated a number of high-profile breaches in recent months. A FireEye spokesman confirmed the company is investigating but declined further comment.

- VICENZA - UDINE - LO

Apertura Anno Accademico 199

John F. Nash PremioNobel per l'Economia 1994





John Nash: A Life Of Great Struggle And Even Greater Success

Born to an electrical engineer, and later a precocious and dashing young man who attained an Ivy League education, John Nash seemed destined for a life of stunning success. That he achieved, winning a Nobel Prize in 1994, but not without a struggle with mental illness that would make him a household name even more so than his achievements in mathematics.

Nash had read the classic "Men of Mathematics" by E.T. Bell by the time he was in high school. He planned to follow in his father's footsteps and studied for three years at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh - now Carnegie Mellon University - but instead followed his passion for math.

He then went to Princeton, where he worked on his equilibrium theory and, in 1950, received his doctorate with a dissertation on non-cooperative games. The thesis contained the definition and properties of what would later be called the Nash equilibrium.

But it was while teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1959, when his wife, Alicia, was pregnant with their son, that schizophrenia began to emerge, a yearslong fight that was chronicled in the Academy Awardwinning blockbuster "A Beautiful Mind." The Nashes died in a car accident late Saturday on the New Jersey Turnpike. He was 86; she was 82.

"John's remarkable achievements inspired generations of mathematicians, economists and scientists who were influenced by his brilliant, groundbreaking work in game theory, and the story of his life with Alicia moved millions of readers and moviegoers who marveled at their courage in the face of daunting challenges," Princeton President Christopher Eisgruber said in a statement.

In an autobiography written for The Nobel Foundation website, Nash said delusions caused him to resign as a faculty member at MIT. He also spent several months in New Jersey hospitals on an involuntary basis. However, Nash's schizophrenia diminished through the 1970s and 1980s as he "gradually began to intellectually reject some of the delusionally influenced lines of thinking," he wrote.

2001's "A Beautiful Mind" was based on an unauthorized biography by Sylvia Nasar, who wrote that Nash's contemporaries found him "immensely strange" and "slightly cold, a bit superior, somewhat secretive." Much of his demeanor likely stemmed from mental illness.

"A Beautiful Mind" won four Academy Awards, including best picture and best director, and generated interest in John Nash's life story.







Russell Crowe, who was nominated for best actor for playing Nash, tweeted that he was "stunned" by news of the couple's death.

"An amazing partnership," he wrote. "Beautiful minds, beautiful hearts."

Jennifer Connelly, who won the Oscar for best supporting actress for her portrayal of Alicia Nash, called the couple "an inspiration," and the film's director, Ron Howard, tweeted that "it was an honor telling part of their story."

The Nashes split in 1963 then resumed living together several years later and finally remarried in 2001.

John Nash held a research post at Brandeis University before eventually returning to Princeton. Known as brilliant and eccentric, he was associated with Princeton for many years, most recently serving as a senior research mathematician.

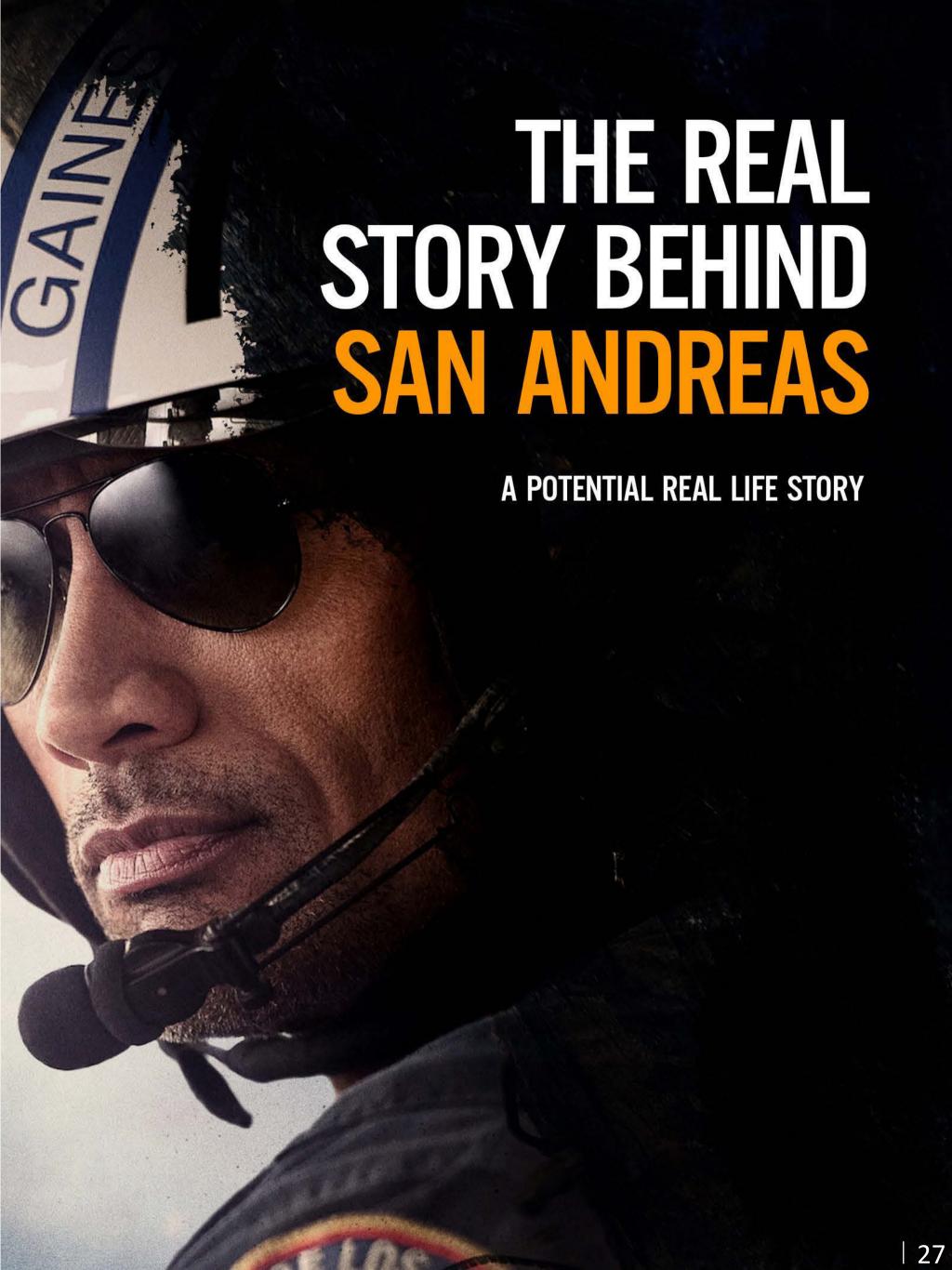
He was awarded the Nobel Prize in economics for his work in game theory, which offered insight into the dynamics of human rivalry. It is considered one of the most influential ideas of the 20th century.

Just days before his death, Nash received a prize from the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters in Oslo with New York University mathematician Louis Nirenberg, who called Nash a truly great mathematician and "a kind of genius."

Nirenberg said he had chatted with the Nashes for an hour at the airport in Newark, New Jersey before they'd gotten into a taxi to return home to Princeton Township.

New Jersey State Police say the Nashes were thrown out of the taxi when it crashed around 4:30 p.m. Saturday in Monroe Township, about 12 miles from their home. The cab driver was hospitalized.





MOVIE EXPLORES CALIFORNIA'S 'CERTAIN FUTURE'

The action-adventure disaster film San Andreas will be released worldwide on Friday, May 29, and it has more than enough things to recommend it even before you consider its back story that hits home rather too closely for comfort for many of us. It has the right writing and directorial talent and the early indications are of a potential hit - but it is nonetheless important to remember just how true to life the movie could yet be in the future.

That's because the plot centers on a massive earthquake in California that Dwayne Johnson, in the lead role of rescue-chopper pilot Chief Ray Gaines, responds to by embarking on a dangerous journey across the state in an attempt to rescue his estranged daughter, Blake, played by Alexandra Daddario. So far, so typical disaster movie, you might think - but such an earthquake could just be the actual future of California.

We are, of course, referring to the real life San Andreas Fault, the continental transform fault, with the around 810 miles of it that threads through California - including within about 35 miles of Los Angeles - putting the state at risk of a very significant earthquake in the future.





WHY THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT MATTERS

The San Andreas Fault - specifically the northern zone - was first discovered by UC Berkeley professor Andrew Lawson in 1895, its eventual name inspired by San Andreas Lake, a small body of water that formed in a valley separating the fault's two plates, the Pacific Plate and the North American Plate. The fault consists of three segments that each have their own level of earthquake risk.

It wasn't realized that the fault actually extended as far as southern California until the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, a truly devastating event that hit the Northern Californian coast on April 18 of that year and resulted in the deaths of around 3,000 people. In the process, more than 80% of San Francisco was destroyed.

That earthquake has - needless to say - gone down in history as one of the United States' worst ever natural disasters, and efforts have been sustained since then to predict when the next 'Big One' will occur. A 2006 study said that the fault's stress level was certainly sufficient for another earthquake of more than 7 on the Richter scale, with many areas of Southern California in peril when it does happen.

In the words of the study itself, "The information available suggests that the fault is ready for the next big earthquake but exactly when the triggering will happen and when the earthquake will occur we cannot tell [...] It could be tomorrow or it could be 10 years or more from now."









A FILM WITH ALL OF THE RIGHT CREDENTIALS

After all of that, let's look back at the (seemingly comparatively small) matter of this new film. It is directed by Brad Peyton, boasts a screenplay penned by Carlton Cuse and stars Johnson and Daddario alongside such talents as Carla Gugino - who plays Ray's ex-wife Emma - and Paul Giamatti, who takes the role of Lawrence. Ioan Gruffudd, Archie Panjabi, Hugo Johnstone-Burt and Art Parkinson are among the other members of what is undoubtedly an impressive cast - oh, and Kylie Minogue even appears as Susan Riddick.

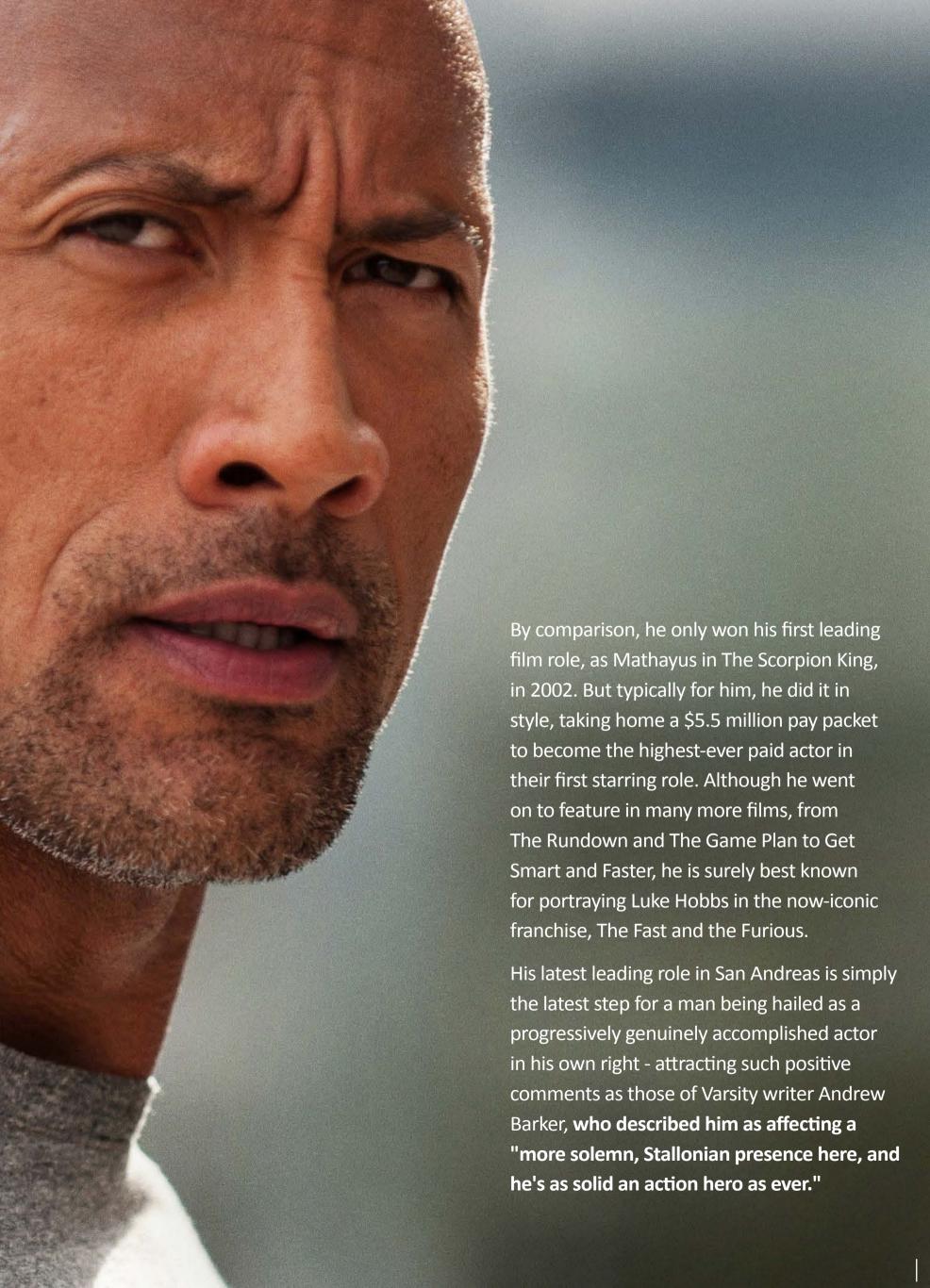
We could go on and on mentioning the talent that looks set to make San Andreas a summer money-spinner, from the producer Beau Flynn to Andrew Lockington, who composed the score. But it's one man in particular on whom the limelight will largely fall - the lead actor, Johnson. Many of this weekend's cinemagoers will not even make the connection between the 43-year old Hayward, California native and his other claim to fame as one of the greatest professional wrestlers of all time.

That this is the case can be attributed to the astounding feat by Johnson himself in carving out a niche for himself in the acting world, away from the World Wrestling Federation (WWF/E) in which he first made his name. He become widely recognized in the late 1990s and early 2000s as The Rock, becoming the company's first ever third generation wrestler.

















NOT AS CALIFORNIAN AS ONE MIGHT THINK

However, while the movie may focus on an issue of great real life pertinence to California and even feature a Californian star as lead actor, it isn't necessarily quite as Californian as one might imagine. One only needs to look at where it was shot to see that - and it's all due to the filmmakers' understandable wish to follow the money as far as their choice of principal photography locations is concerned.

It says something about California's struggles to lure big-budget movies to its turf that even San Andreas was almost entirely shot outside the Golden State. Less than a week of shooting took place in San Francisco, for example, where Ray rescues Blake, and even this work largely amounted to "plate" shots to establish location.

Instead, most of the \$100 million movie was made at the Village Roadshow Studios in Gold Coast, Queensland in Australia, the film having attracted some of the \$20 million of funds that are offered to overseas movies Down Under. The deal was only further sweetened by offsets from the Queensland Production Incentive Scheme, local payroll tax rebates and federal rebates.

However, it's also true that the shooting that did take place in San Francisco certainly did not go unnoticed by the local populace - or indeed, the media. The San Francisco Chronicle reported in July last year that the film crews had made the most of the "attractive backdrop for catastrophe"





ONE TO KEEP AN EYE ON

While the geologists carry out the genuinely sobering work of monitoring the real life San Andreas Fault and attempting to determine when it will next cause turmoil and potential devastation for the modern communities of California, San Andreas at least offers us the solace of some big-screen escapism. It's hard to say who or what this film is most important to - the regular movie-goer, its stars or perhaps California itself - but there's no doubt that it will be racking up the box office takings over the coming weeks.

If we were you, we would rush to catch this intriguing imagining of what may just be the genuine future of California - whatever the nature or merits of its execution and its value as a piece of flat-out entertainment.

by Benjamin Kerry & Gavin Lenaghan



David Letterman Drives Into Retirement With Indy 500 Tribute

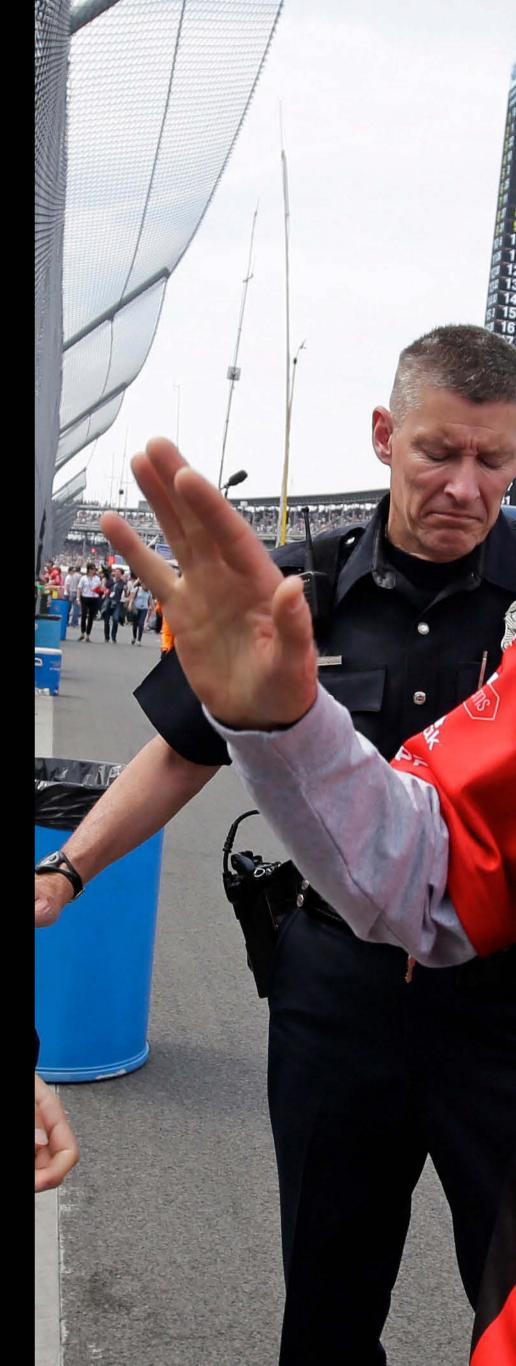
David Letterman has a new No. 1 on his personal Top Ten list of reasons he loves the Indianapolis 500.

The freshly retired Letterman was all grins early Sunday as his IndyCar team paid tribute to the former "Late Show" host by putting a gaptoothed, smiling caricature of his face and (hash) thanksdave on driver Oriol Servia's yellow car for the big race.

"With everything that's happened, it's the highlight of my career," Letterman said. "It's crazy it's the Indianapolis 500. Regrettable my face, but also my name on that car. It's just delightful."

Letterman was dressed in a red shirt with a race sponsor "Steak `n Shake" logo. He promised Servia he would buy the burgers with an Indy win, but he can save his cash for retirement: Servia was knocked out of the running with an accident just past the halfway point of the race.

But the race wasn't a total bust for the team, with Graham Rahal finishing fifth in the Indy 500.









"He assured me he would be around the track a lot more," Rahal said of his usually absent owner. "At this stage in his life, he can enjoy himself a little bit and hopefully that means enjoying IndyCar racing."

Letterman was born and raised in Indianapolis, spending his younger years in the Broad Ripple section of town. He went to Ball State in Muncie, Indiana, and early in his career served as a pit reporter for ABC; search on YouTube for his interview of Mario Andretti after the former champion crashed out of the 1971 race.

Letterman got into team ownership in the 1990s with former Indy 500 champion Bobby Rahal, and businessman Mike Lanigan came aboard to form what is now Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing. Letterman struck a friendship with Rahal after the retired driver appeared on his show after winning the 1986 Indy 500.

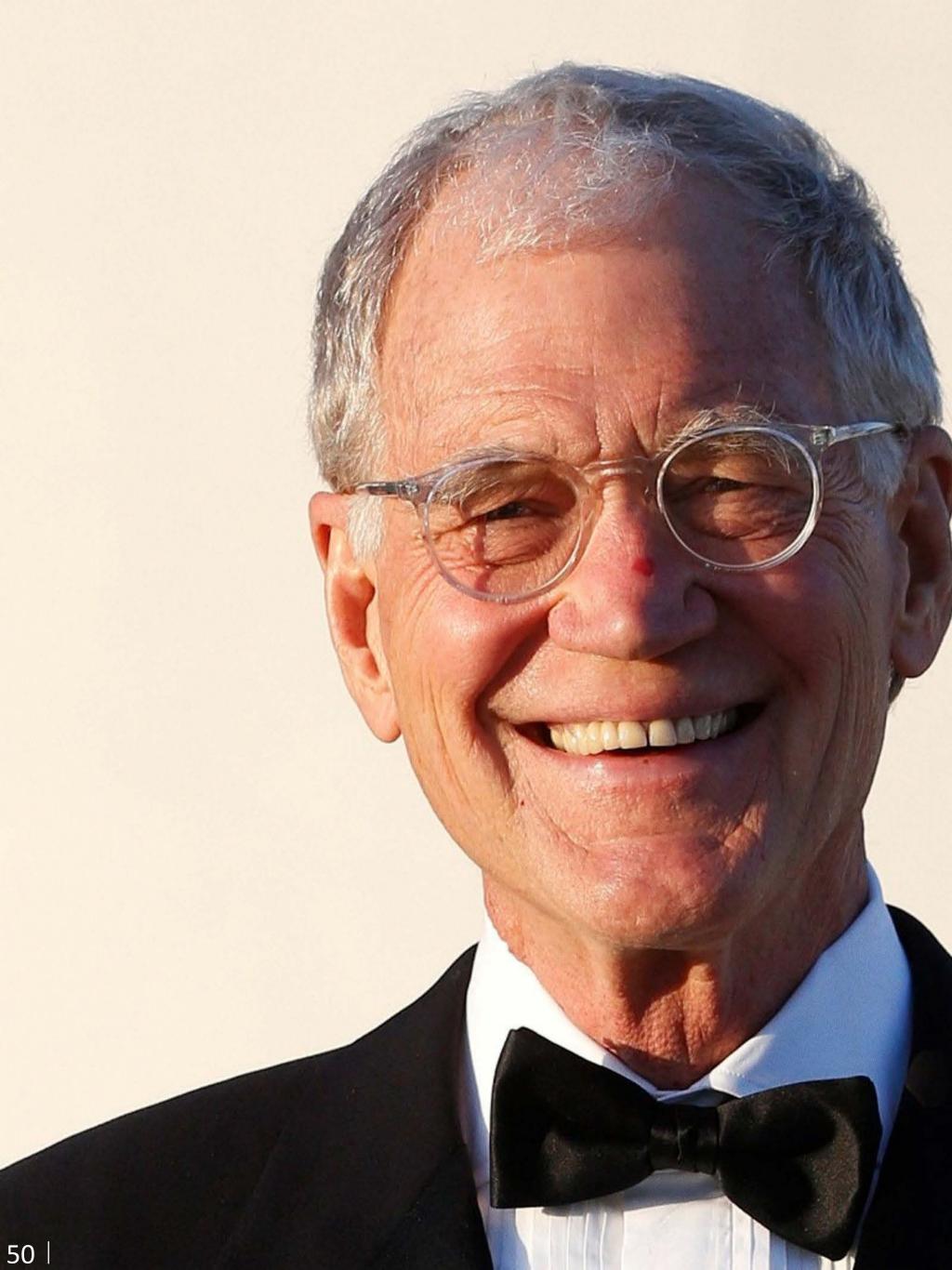
Letterman could have filled an Indy 500 starting grid with all the series drivers he had on the show. Graham and Bobby Rahal were guests on "The Late Show" and the Indy 500 champion usually brought along the Borg-Warner Trophy.

"I'm just really pissed off because he finished this week," Servia joked. "He couldn't wait until next week? Because usually the winner goes this show."

Not this time, not after a that crash marred what had been a fun morning for the former host.

It was easy to find the Rahal Letterman Racing spot in the Indianapolis Motor Speedway paddock: There was a red "Late Show with David Letterman" sign and the same grinning caricature that was featured on Servia's car. Team members wore gray T-shirts with their own "Top Ten" list of reasons they love Letterman. Among them: Cries on the parade lap.

Letterman was relaxed as he strolled through Indianapolis Motor Speedway, even inviting one fan over a barrier to sign autographs.



"Are you nervous?" Servia asked.

"No, I won't be nervous until they start `em up and then I just get crazy nervous," Letterman said.

Not wanting to get left out of the father-son bonding of the Rahals, Letterman claimed Servia as his own offspring.

"Yes, I sent away to one of those genetic testing places where they do the swab and it turns out he is in fact my son," Letterman cracked. "Bobby and Graham are father and son. Oriol and I are the same."

Letterman ended his 33-year career as a latenight television host Wednesday. He presided over 6,028 broadcasts on CBS and NBC, making Top 10 lists and ironic humor staples of television comedy. Letterman joked that he needed "some kind of intravenous medication" to recover from the grind of the final weeks of his show.

"Then the next day you feel a little bit better, and the next day you feel a little bit better," said Letterman, whose team won the race in 2004 with Buddy Rice. "Now here we are. This is the pressure-cooker."

Letterman said he would watch the race from pit lane. At least he could find a seat, unlike the ones that were stripped from the Ed Sullivan Theater. Parts of Letterman's set from his show's home were quickly dumped in the trash and scooped by fans.

"Not only did they take the set and tear it up, they took all the seats out of the theater two days later," Letterman said. "What that does is remind you that it's show business. It's just show business. Thirty-three years, what do I care. Let them take the seats out, let them do anything they want. I wish Stephen Colbert nothing but the best."





HOW IOS CAN BRIGHTEN UP YOUR SUMMER

The summer's arrived, and you know what that means - it's time to pack that sun screen, passport, a couple of changes of clothing and your best swim suit and head out to your favorite beach or city destination. What it also means, is bringing along your iGadget - and not just for snapping a few selfies with your friends once you're there. The truth is, for help with every aspect of your holiday, you need only look to the App Store.

How could iOS apps possibly be of any use when you're planning or enjoying a holiday? Well, you could use it to find a couch, host or hotel, or to research the best destinations. If you're the teenage gap year backpacker type,

you could also download an app or two to help you fund and organize a low cost trip and learn a couple of outdoor survival tips.

That's not all. You might also use an app to find out about the best restaurants in your chosen destination, while a host of photography and video apps make it easy to document the best moments of your break for posterity. Or what about if you're in a foreign country and don't understand the language? That's fine, as there are also dedicated translator apps.

In short, there are far too many great travel apps for us to be able to cover them all here - but we thought we'd pick out a few that you might find indispensable.





ARRANGING YOUR TRIP

The logical place to start is the apps with which to plan your summer vacation. You might download the Priceline.com app, for instance, to search for various mobile exclusive deals on hotels, flights and rental cars. It's a similar situation with the Expedia app that has been designed for both iPhone and iPad and allows you to book your hotel, flight, rental car and other activities.

Of course, there are some apps in this category that cater for more specific needs. Let's imagine, for example, that you urgently need a hotel tonight and everywhere seems fully booked. What to do? Well, you could just download the Hotel Tonight app

that brings you last minute deals on the best accommodation. You'll know such accommodation is the best because the hotels are vetted by the site team, with customer support also available on a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week basis.

Or, if it's airfares that you need, there's no better way to save money than with the Hopper - Airfare Predictions app. This app analyzes billions of flight prices every day, and in so doing, learns to reliably predict price changes. It monitors prices and lets you know, via an alert, when you should purchase your desired airfare. Savings of up to 40% are possible with this intelligent app.







#05 – LoungeBuddy

By LoungeBuddy Inc Category: Travel Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



#08 - Wanderu

By Wanderu, Inc.
Category: Travel
Requires iOS 8.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#06 - American Airlines

By American Airlines Category: Travel Requires iOS 8.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#09 - Gas Guru

By YELLOWPAGES.COM LLC Category: Travel Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



#07 – Flight

By InnovationBox Category: Travel Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.





AT THE AIRPORT, HOTEL AND BEYOND

iOS apps don't stop being useful once you get to the airport, as evidenced by the LoungeBuddy app that allows you to browse a given airport's lounges so that you can make the most of the time spent waiting for your flight. There are also apps that give you real time information on the status of your flight, such as the Flight - Live Status & Weather app from InnovationBox. Don't forget that airlines often have their own fully-featured apps, including Fly Delta, American Airlines and United Airlines to name a few.

Once you touch down, of course, you'll need to be able to swiftly get around town, which is where an app like Wanderu comes in useful for comparing and booking bus and train travel deals to more than 2,000 North American cities. Alternatively, you might be travelling in a car, and therefore appreciate the Gas Guru app's ability to find the cheapest gas prices near you, wherever you are.

So, you've found the most competitive prices on the trains, buses, taxis and/or gas that you need, but there's one other massive question that you need to ask yourself: where do you actually want to go? Even if your chosen destination has plenty of attractions and activities on tap, it would be useful to have a convenient means of knowing exactly what they are at any one time.

It's just as well, then, that the App Store offers so many apps specifically designed to give you the crucial information that

you require on the hottest destinations.
Heading to San Francisco? No problem - just
download the San Francisco Magazine or
Where San Francisco. Or maybe you're
in New York and want to keep up with the
latest news as you stalk the sidewalks? In
that case, you might download the NBC New
York app, with its push alerts that inform
you of breaking stories.

FROM TUCKING IN TO SNAPPING AWAY

There's so much more that you can do on your holiday that the App Store can lend a helping hand with. One time-honored app for those wanting to determine the best restaurants in the vicinity is **TripAdvisor**, which also just happens to be another great source of hotel and flight information.

Not only does this app - the most popular travel app on the planet - feature millions of traveler reviews, but many users also share photos of their experiences, while the included maps make it easier for you to find your culinary destination.

Restaurant and food reviews can also be found on the Urbanspoon app, with reservations able to be made through the app at any Open Table in the US or Canada. More than a million restaurants are represented in this app, through which you can compare food choices by rating, distance and cuisine. You can even sort and map restaurants by popularity or distance within the app's restaurant directory, in addition to simply browsing menus and photos.





#10 - San Francisco Magazine

By BlueToad, Inc. Category: Lifestyle

Requires iOS 5.1 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



#12 - NBC New York

By NBCUniversal Media, LLC Category: News

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#11 - Where San Francisco

By Magzter Inc. Category: Travel Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



#13 – TripAdvisor Hotels Flights Restaurants

By TripAdvisor LLC Category: Travel

Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#14 - Urbanspoon

By Zomato Media Pvt. Ltd.
Category: Food & Drink
Requires iOS 6.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.









#15 - COVER - Photo Editor

By MAKE A
Category: Photo & Video
Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5.



#18 - YouTube

By Google, Inc. Category: Photo & Video Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#16 - Instagram

By Instagram, Inc.
Category: Photo & Video
Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



#19 - Vine

By Vine Labs, Inc.
Category: Entertainment
Requires iOS 7.0 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



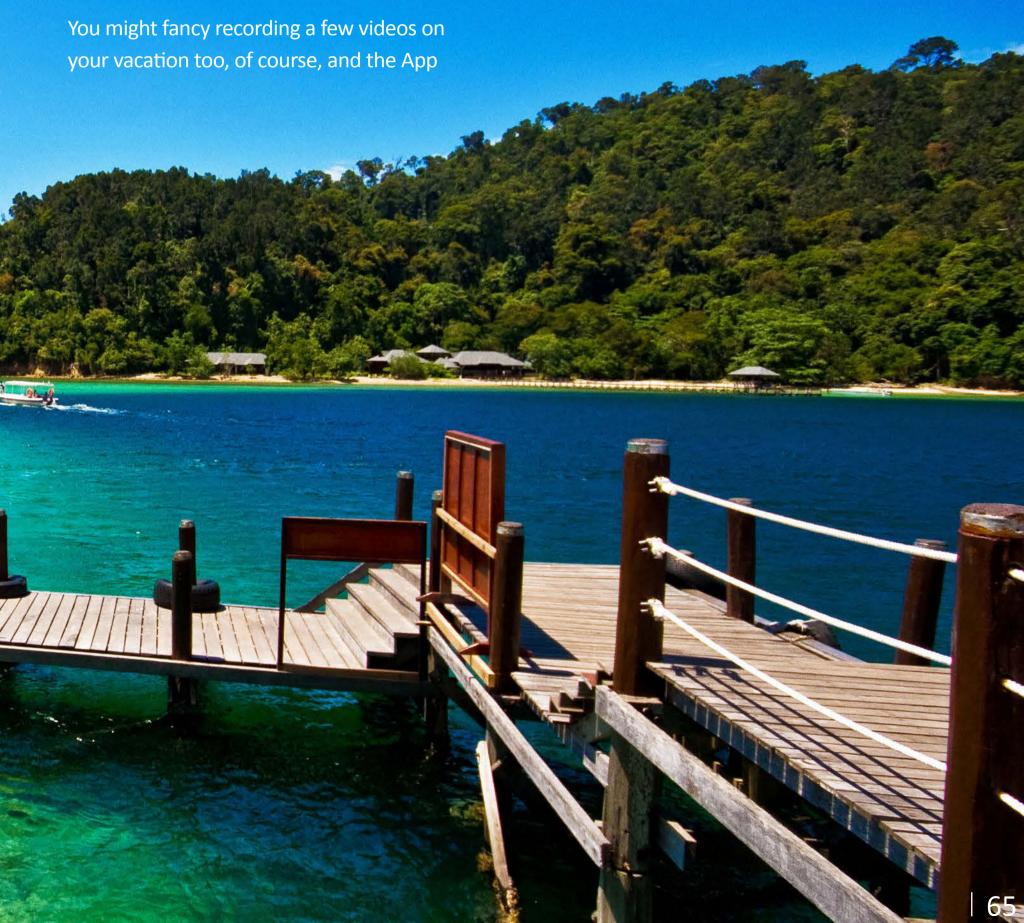
#17 – iMovie

By Apple Category: Photo & Video Requires iOS 8.3 or later. Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch. This app is optimized for iPhone 5, iPhone 6, and iPhone 6 Plus.



Another thing that you can expect to do a lot of on your break is taking photos of you, your friends and the major tourist attractions. While it's true that the standard Camera app is perfectly good for this, with some basic editing functions available in Photos, there are still many other fine apps out there for really making your vacation snaps dazzle. These include COVER - Photo Editor and the everdependable Instagram, with its free custom-designed filters.

Store can again give you plenty of ways to share them and transform them into something special. Apple's own iMovie app comes with an extension that allows you to easily enhance your video clips, with a video filter, animated title and soundtrack among the things that can be added to any one piece of footage. When the time comes that you would like to broadcast your video to the world, the YouTube and Vine apps will serve you nicely.







IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT APPS

While there's no question that iOS apps have done much to make our summer vacations more fun, much the same could be said of many other aspects of the Apple experience and consumer technology in general - it isn't just about the App Store. Recent improvements to the iPhone's camera lens, for instance, help you to take photos with even more crystal-clear and



realistic detail, while the longer battery life offered by some of very latest gadgets is helping to avoid those awkward rushes back to the hotel for a charger.

There are even devices these days that help you to track down lost or stolen luggage. In short, if there's a way in which a little of the stress associated with a vacation can be removed and replaced with a bit more bare-knuckle excitement,

it is sure to exist somewhere among the wealth of commercially available consumer technologies or software.

Wherever you are heading this summer and irrespective of who you are doing it with, you should never forget to bring your iPhone or iPad with you and load it with the latest and greatest travel apps. ■

by Benjamin Kerry & Gavin Lenaghan







Audiard's 'Dheepan' Wins Palme D'or in Upset Cannes Finale

The 68th Cannes Film Festival was brought to a surprising close Sunday with Jacques Audiard's Sri Lankan refugee drama taking the festival's coveted top honor, the Palme d'Or.

The choice of "Dheepan," as selected by a jury led by Joel and Ethan Coen, left some critics scratching their heads. While the dapper French filmmaker has drawn widespread acclaim for films such as "A Prophet" and "Rust and Bone," some critics were disappointed by the thriller climax of Audiard's film. "Dheepan" is about a trio of Sri Lankans who pretend to be a family in order to flee their war-torn country and are settled in a violent housing project outside Paris.

"This isn't a jury of film critics," Joel Coen told reporters after the awards ceremony, alongside fellow jurors like Guillermo del Toro and Jake Gyllenhaal. "This is a jury of artists who are looking at the work."





The win for "Dheepan" comes at a time when Europe is particularly attuned to the experience of immigrants, following the recent deaths of hundreds crossing the Mediterranean, seeking Italian shores. Jury members, though, said "Dheepan" was chosen for its overall strength as a film, rather than any topicality.

"We all thought it was a very beautiful movie," said Ethan Coen, calling the decision "swift."

"Everyone had some high level of excitement and enthusiasm for it."

Audiard, springing to the podium at the Palais des Festivals, accepted the award with warm gratitude, bowing to the jury. He was joined by the makeshift parents of his film: Kalieaswari Srinivasan and Antonythasan Jesuthasan, who himself was Tamil Tiger child soldier before finding political asylum in France.

"To receive a prize from the Coen brothers is exceptional," said Audiard, who added that only receiving one from the Luc and Jean-Pierre Dardenne, the Belgian filmmaking siblings, could equal it.

The runner-up prize, the Grand Prix, went to "Son of Saul," a grim Holocaust drama by first-time Hungarian director László Nemes. Some expected Nemes' horrifying plunge into the life of an Auschwitz worker to take the top award, but it's been 26 years since a debut film (Steven Soderbergh's "Sex, Lies, and Videotape") was given the Palme.

English actress Sienna Miller and Canadian actor Xavier Dolan, both jury members, sounded especially moved by "Son of Saul." Miller called it "breathtaking" and an extraordinary accomplishment for a first-time filmmaker.

"Europe is still haunted by the destruction of the European Jews," said Nemes. "That's something that lives with us."

Hou Hsiao-Hsien, the masterful 68-year-old Taiwanese filmmaker, won best director for his

first feature in eight years: "The Assassin," a lushly painterly martial arts drama.

The best actress prize was split but not the way some expected. It was given to both Rooney Mara, half of the romantic pair of Todd Haynes' '50s lesbian drama "Carol," and Emmanuelle Bercot, the French star of the roller coaster marriage drama "My King." (Bercot also directed the festival opener, "Standing Tall," about a delinquent teenager.) Any split was presumed to go to Mara and her "Carol" co-star, Cate Blanchett.

Best actor was awarded to Vincent Lindon, the veteran French actor of Stéphane Brizé's "The Measure of a Man." He plays a man struggling to make a living after a long period of unemployment. The visibly moved Lindon won over some big-name competition, including Michael Caine, the star of Paolo Sorrentino's unrewarded "Youth," a wry, melancholy portrait of old age. Lindon's award added to a banner year at Cannes for France, which had five films out of the 19 in competition and went home with three awards. Yorgos Lanthimos, a Greek filmmaker working in English for the first time, took the jury prize for his "The Lobster," a deadpan dystopian comedy, starring Colin Farrell and Rachel Weisz, about a near-future where unmarried singles are turned into the animal of their choice.

"Chronic," an understated drama about a home-care nurse (Tim Roth) for the terminally ill, took best screenplay for Mexican writer-director Michel Franco. Franco and Roth met three years ago when Roth, serving on a Cannes jury, helped award Franco the Un Certain Regard prize. "It's a Cannes story," said Franco.

The Camera d'Or, Cannes award for best first feature film, went to "La Tierra Y la Sombra." César Augusto Acevedo's debut, which played in the Critics Week section, is about an old farmer returning home to tend to his gravely ill son.





The Coens themselves took the Palme in 1991 for "Barton Fink." The last two Cannes winners have been three-hour art-house epics: the glacial Turkish drama "Winter Sleep," chosen last year by Jane Campion's jury, and "Blue is the Warmest Color," as picked by Steven Spielberg's jury.

This year's competition slate left some critics calling it a so-so year for Cannes. Some of the films that drew the biggest raves ("Mad Max: Fury Road," Pixar's "Inside Out") played out of competition, while some in it (like Gus Van Sant's "The Sea of Trees") drew loud boos.

The festival was dominated by discussion about gender equality with many - from Blanchett to Jane Fonda - speaking about female opportunity in the movie business. "You hope it's not just the year," said Blanchett of the attention to women in film. "It's not some sort of fashionable moment." An honorary Palme d'Or was also given to French filmmaker Agnes Varda, the first woman to receive one and only the fourth director after Woody Allen, Clint Eastwood and Bernardo Bertolucci.

But the festival was overrun by an unlikely scandal when several women were turned away from the formal premiere of Todd Haynes' "Carol" for wearing flat shoes, rather than high heels. The festival insisted it was the mistake of overzealous security guards and not part of Cannes' notoriously strict dress code.

The festival, as it often is, was dominated by the unexpected, even on its last night. Nothing was more unforeseen - not even the Palme for "Dheepan" - than John C. Reilly, a co-star of "The Lobster" and another competition entry, "Tale of Tales," took the stage to sing "Just a Gigolo" in a bright white suit.





2 B.b. King Daughters Allege 2 Closest Aides Poisoned Him

Two B.B. King heirs who've been most outspoken about the blues legend's care in his final days are accusing King's two closest aides of poisoning him.

Las Vegas police homicide detectives are investigating, Lt. Ray Steiber said Monday. He declined to provide details.

Daughters Karen Williams and Patty King allege that family members were prevented from visiting while King's business manager, LaVerne Toney, and his personal assistant, Myron Johnson, hastened their father's death.

"I believe my father was poisoned and that he was administered foreign substances," Patty King and Williams say in identically worded sections of affidavits provided to The Associated Press by their lawyer, Larissa Drohobyczer.

"I believe my father was murdered," they say.

Toney and Johnson each declined to comment.

"They've been making allegations all along. What's new?" said Toney, who worked for King for 39 years and had power-of-attorney over his affairs.





Toney is named in King's will as executor of an estate that according to court documents filed by lawyers for some of King's heirs could total tens of millions of dollars.

Johnson was at B.B. King's bedside when he died May 14 in hospice care at home in Las Vegas at age 89. No family members were present.

The allegations come days after a public viewing in Las Vegas drew more than 1,000 fans and mourners and a weekend family-and-friends memorial drew 350. A Beale Street procession and memorial are scheduled Wednesday in Memphis, Tennessee, followed by a Friday viewing and Saturday burial in King's hometown of Indianola, Mississippi.

Clark County Coroner John Fudenberg said Monday the investigation shouldn't delay King's final trip home to the Mississippi Delta.

Fudenberg said an autopsy was performed Sunday and King's body was then returned to a Las Vegas mortuary.

Test results will take up to eight weeks to obtain, the coroner said, and should not be affected by the fact that King's body had been embalmed.

Drohobyczer said she represents Williams, Patty King and most of King's nine other adult children and heirs.

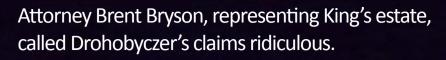
"The family is sticking together ... to oust Ms. Toney based on her illegal conduct, conflicts of interest and self-dealing," Drohobyczer said. She alleged that Toney hastened King's death by "misconduct, or by failing to properly attend to his medical needs."

An affidavit from Patty King, who used to live at King's home, says she saw Johnson administer to King two drops of an unknown substance on his tongue during evenings for several months before his death, and that Toney never told her what the substance was.









"I hope they have a factual basis that they can demonstrate for their defamatory and libelous allegations," Bryson told AP.

Three doctors determined that King was appropriately cared-for, Bryson said, and King received 24-hour care and monitoring by medical professionals "up until the time that he peacefully passed away in his sleep."

"This is extremely disrespectful to B.B. King," Bryson said. "He did not want invasive medical procedures. He made the decision to return home for hospice care instead of staying in a hospital. These unfounded allegations have caused Mr. King to undergo an autopsy, which is exactly what he didn't want."







Faith no More Marks Return with 1St Album In 18 Years, Tour

Faith No More bassist Bill Gould likes to think of the band's new record as an aging actress.

"Sure, her body's getting a little older, but she's not afraid to show it; she's still sexy," he said during a recent interview in New York City, where the band played two sold-out shows in support of "Sol Invictus," its first in 18 years released last week.

"When you're younger and you're insecure, in a way you don't have the mojo, the juice, you know," he said.



The 52-year-old Gould and the rest of his bandmates - keyboardist Roddy Bottum, drummer Mike Bordin, guitarist Jon Hudson and singer Mike Patton - disbanded in 1998 and spent some time apart before regrouping in 2009 to play reunion shows. That hiatus, together with the musical legacy they built during the late 1980s and 1990s with albums like "The Real Thing," "Angel Dust," and "Album of the Year," has given them the confidence and perspective to relaunch their collaboration on their own terms.

They briefly considered returning to a major label, but ultimately decided to forgo external deadlines and pressures and instead handle everything themselves.

"Sol Invictus" was engineered and recorded by Gould in his studio space in Oakland in 2014 and 2015, and is being released on Reclamation Recordings, a subsidiary of Patton's own Ipecac Recordings label.

"We've all kind of grown into parts where we can actually contribute now in our own capacity," Gould said. "We all kind of got good at what we did in different ways and it all kind of helps the whole."

For a band that once briefly flirted with the mainstream following the success of the catchy, rap-meets-metal mega-hit "Epic," having the freedom to dictate whether they put out a record, tour or make an appearance at this point in their lives is a top priority.

"An old man only looks to the next day," the 47-year-old Patton said. "We're old men.

"So what you do is, you look to the next day or the next plan, and, honestly, we don't have a plan after this tour or this record."

In a wide-ranging interview, Patton and Gould discussed the origins of the new album and the challenges of not being a normal band.





YOU'RE A WEIRD BAND

Even at the height of their popularity, Gould said the band was always wary of overstaying their welcome at Slash/Warner Bros.

Gould: We were always told, "Failure is just right around the corner. You're a weird band. You don't make radio-friendly music and you're not going to survive unless you keep working."

Bordin: "You're going to lose your house."

Gould: I took that to heart. I totally was terrified back then.

Bordin: I wasn't. But I took it as a threat. OK, someone's coming after me. You do what you do, and I think that this record is the best example of doing that. We're just being us. There's no pretentions.

REUNION: NATURAL, BUT SURPRISING

"Sol Invictus" was spearheaded by Gould who, unbeknownst to the rest of the band, had been writing and recording new material in his studio.

Patton: I didn't bring any songs or ideas to the record on an elemental level because I didn't know we were going to make a record. There was one night when (Gould) took me over to his house and goes, "Hey, check out this (expletive) I'm working on." But he didn't say it was Faith No More, at least I don't remember it that way. It wasn't predetermined. It's not like we all sat down and went, "Let's make a new Faith No More record." When I heard it, I said, "You got a great new band. Who's going to sing?" He said, "No, I want you to sing." I'm like, "OK, who's playing on it?" It turns out it was a Faith No More record.





PATTON THE CRAFTSMAN

One of the hallmarks of Faith No More's records has always been Patton's unmatched voice, and "Sol Invictus" is no exception. His ability to adeptly go from a Sinatra-esque croon to a death metal growl and every other vocal styling in between is in full display on songs like "Rise of the Fall" and "Matador."

Patton: All I do is try and fit into whatever, and this could be Faith No More or any other thing that I've done. "Hey, what's needed?" I'm like a carpenter. I see my job as that. You need some spackle? You need some venetian plaster? Do you need some help with the roof? That's really the only way I see it. I don't think I did anything spectacular on this record. It was what was needed.

Gould: But what he did fit with everything else. We didn't have to do a whole lot to it when we got it. He worked it out so that it all came together, like a craftsman. It wasn't like, "Let's get some ideas and fix them later and make them all fit in." He gave us pretty close to a finished thing.

Patton: Maybe earlier in our days I had agendas like, "Oh, I got to use some weird avant-garde harmonies or whatever." This time, no, not at all. What's necessary, what does the music need? Very simple.

Online:

http://www.fnm.com/





iTunes **Preview**







by Andrew Niccol Genre: Drama Released: 2015 Price: \$6.99 (Rent HD)



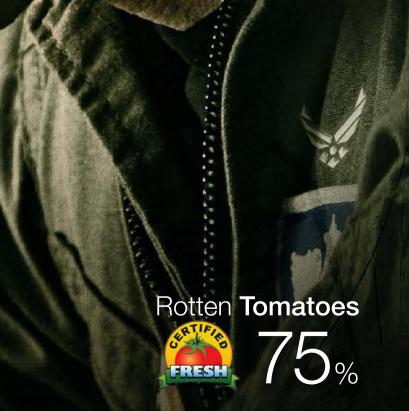
54 Ratings

Good Kill

Ethan Hawke plays Major Thomas Egan, a U.S. Air Force pilot who switches to flying drones due to the decreasing necessity of plane pilots. He spends half of his day fighting the Taliban via remote control, and the other half at home with his wife (January Jones) and kids in the suburbs. But he begins to question and consider the epic implications of his mission.

FIVE FACTS:

- **1.** Good Kill is directed by Andrew Niccol.
- 2. It competed for the Golden Lion at the 71st Venice International Film Festival.
- 3. Other cast members include Zoë Kravitz, Jake Abel and Bruce Greenwood.
- **4.** Christophe Beck composed the score.
- 5. The film was screened in the Special Presentations section of the 2014 **Toronto International Film Festival.**







Seventh Son

This epic fantasy film centers on Thomas Ward (Ben Barnes), the seventh son of a seventh son who is also an apprentice of the Spook (Jeff Bridges). The unlikely young hero is torn from his quiet life as a farmhand into a daring adventure with his mentor to vanquish a dark queen (Julianne Moore) and her army of supernatural assassins who imperil their kingdom.

FIVE FACTS:

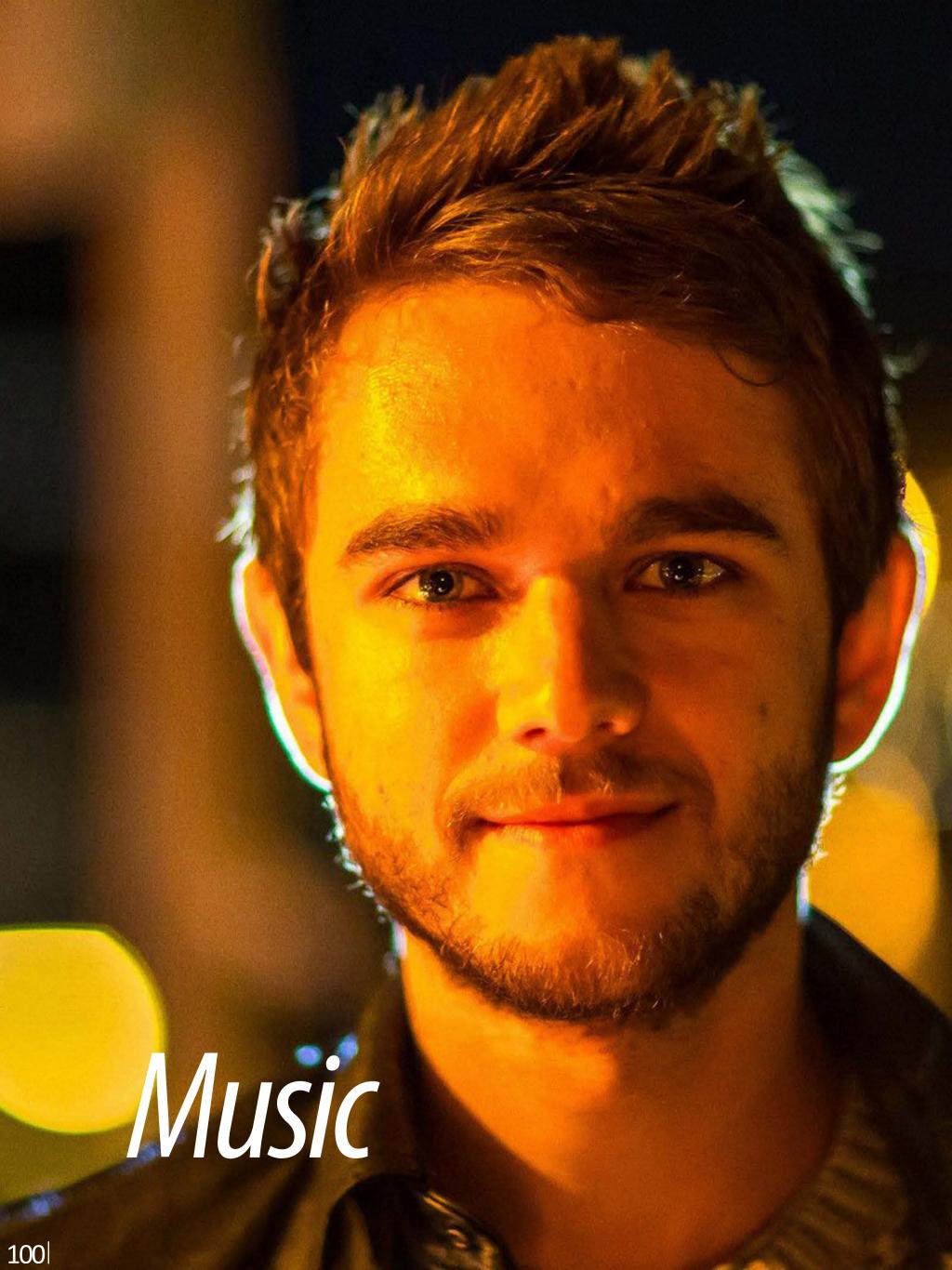
- 1. Seventh Son is directed by Sergei Bodrov.
- **2.** It is based on Joseph Delaney's novel The Last Apprentice: Revenge of the Witch.
- **3.** Alicia Vikander, Kit Harington, Olivia Williams and Antje Traue also feature among the cast.
- **4. Sam Claflin was initially in negotiations to play Ward**, only for Barnes to eventually replace him.
- **5. A. R. Rahman and Tuomas Kantelinen** were originally lined up to compose the film, but were later replaced by Marco Beltrami.













iTunes **Preview**







Genre: Dance Released: May 18, 2015 11 Songs Price: \$7.99





True Colors Zedd

The Russian-German electronic dance maestro's second studio album has as just as much to do with color as its title suggests, with songs from the project being previewed in different cities and associated with a certain color. The lead single, "I Want You to Know", features Selena Gomez and topped the US Billboard Twitter Top Tracks chart.

FIVE FACTS:

- **1.** Other featured artists on the album include Bahari, Jon Bellion, Troye Sivan and Echosmith.
- 2. Zedd has said of the album's color theme:
 "To me, certain things sound a certain
 color. A lot of reverb will always sound
 cold, which will always make me think
 blue. On this song ("Straight Into the
 Fire"), the drop is very energetic and very
 aggressive, kind of like fire, too, so this
 one was super easy to pick orange."
- **3.** The album will be promoted by a tour across North America in September and October 2015.
- **4.** Zedd is the stage name of Russian-born Anton Igorevich Zaslavski.
- **5.** His debut studio album was Clarity in 2012.







Blurryface twenty one pilots

The Columbus, Ohio duo follow up their signed debut for Fueled by Ramen, 2013's Vessel, with an album named after a character of the band's own making. It was preceded by the US Billboard Rock Digital Songs number four hit single "Fairy Local", and boasts the production talents of Ricky Reed, Mike Elizondo, Mike Crossey and Tim Anderson.

FIVE FACTS:

- 1. twenty one pilots was formed in 2009.
- **2.** The group consists of Tyler Joseph and Josh Dun.
- **3.** They were **signed by Fueled by Ramen in 2012**, following two self-released albums.
- **4.** Former members of the group include Nick Thomas and Chris Salih.
- 5. The band's name was inspired by the reference to the death of 'twenty one pilots' during World War II in the Arthur Miller play All My Sons.











Genre: Alternative Released: May 15, 2015

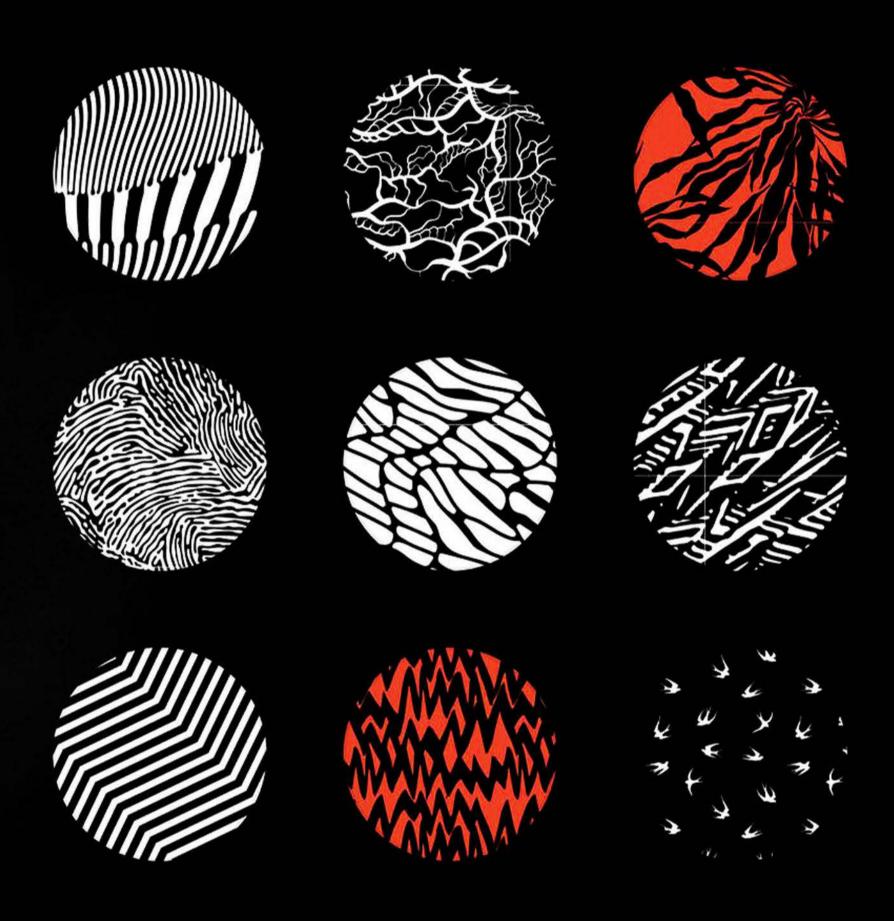
14 Songs Price: \$9.99





Fairly Local

TWENTYØNE PILØTS



BLURRYFACE

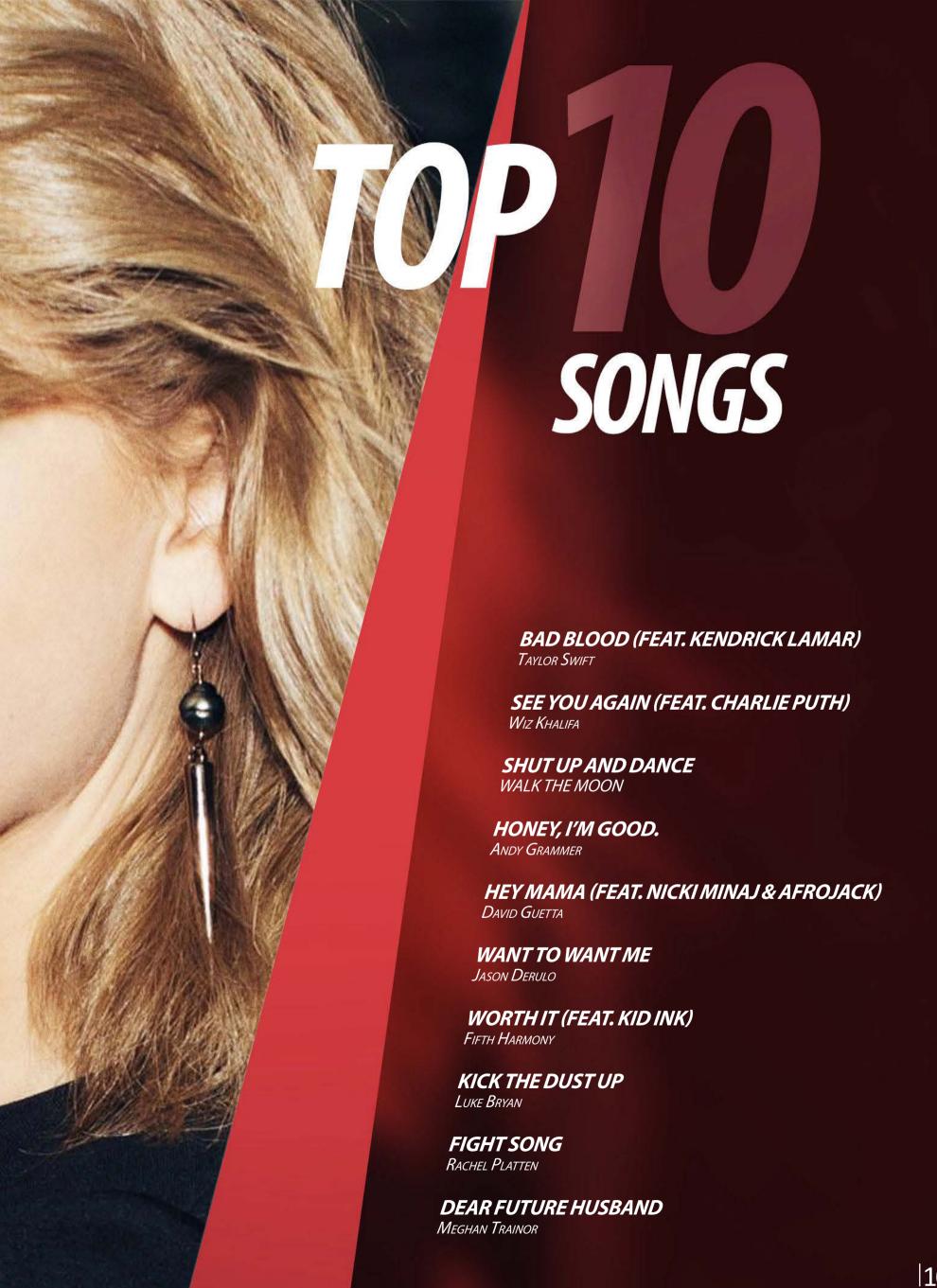


Tear In My Heart











TOP ALBUMS

PITCH PERFECT 2 (ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK)

VARIOUS ARTISTS

BLURRYFACE

TWENTY ONE PILOTS

1989

TAYLOR SWIFT

TRUE COLORS

ZEDD

EMPIRES

HILLSONG UNITED

JEKYLL + HYDE

ZAC BROWN BAND

THE COMPLETE SEASON 8 COLLECTION (THE VOICE PERFORMANCE)

SAWYER FREDERICKS

FIFTY SHADES OF GREY (ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK)

VARIOUS ARTISTS

X (DELUXE EDITION)

ED SHEERAN

MONTEVALLO

SAM HUNT





BAD BLOOD (FEAT. KENDRICK LAMAR)

TAYLOR SWIFT

UPTOWN FUNK (FEAT. BRUNO MARS)
MARK RONSON

HEY MAMA (FEAT. NICKI MINAJ, AFROJACK & BEBE REXHA)

DAVID GUETTA

DEAR FUTURE HUSBAND

MEGHAN TRAINOR

GIRL CRUSH

LITTLE BIG TOWN

PRETTY GIRLS

BRITNEY SPEARS & IGGY AZALEA

SHAKE IT OFF

TAYLOR SWIFT

THINKING OUT LOUD

ED SHEERAN

BLANK SPACE

TAYLOR SWIFT

SHUT UP AND DANCE

WALK THE MOON











Rolling Stones Kick Off 'Zip Code' Stadium Tour in San Diego

The Rolling Stones launched their "Zip Code" North American tour in San Diego on Sunday with more than two hours of music.

In front of a sold-out crowd at Petco Park, the stalwart foursome rocked hit after hit from their 50-year catalog.

Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ronnie Wood and Charlie Watts opened with "Jumpin' Jack Flash" before show opener Gary Clark Jr. joined them for "Bitch" from the band's "Sticky Fingers" album, which is being reissued this week.

A long catwalk extending from the stage allowed Jagger to dance, run and skip into the center of the crowd. At one point, he ran full-speed down the catwalk and across the stage.

Songs in the high-energy set included "Honky-Tonk Women," "Midnight Rambler," "Gimme Shelter" and "Sympathy for the Devil."

The chamber choir from California State University, Long Beach, joined the band onstage for "You Can't Always Get What You Want." The band closed with "Satisfaction," for which Jagger donned red glittery tuxedo tails.

The tour next moves to Ohio.





Bob Marley Musical Tries To Help Heal an Uneasy Baltimore

Most theater professionals like to say that whatever they're working on is very relevant to what's going on in the real world. That was not possibly more true than in Baltimore this spring.

The city's flagship theater, Center Stage, debuted a musical about reggae icon and civil rights activist Bob Marley during the city's spasm of violence and peaceful protests following the death of Freddie Gray in police custody.





Several preview performances for the musical "Marley" were lost amid protests marching near the theater and the actors had to rush to finish rehearsals early on several evenings to accommodate a city-wide curfew.

There were soldiers, horses and armored vehicles in the streets and helicopters in the air as the cast and crew tried to finish a work that highlighted the life of a singer who demanded social justice and freedom for black people.

A new framing scene was added to the play in which two black men watch footage of the Baltimore protests on a smartphone, making the connection between the two movements clear. On May 2, the cast went out into the streets to give a free concert, including singing "One Love" to try to heal the city.

"When real life is happening around you and you're trying to produce art, you have to submit to real life and have faith," said Kwame Kwei-Armah, Center Stage's artistic director who also wrote and directed the Marley musical.

"I'm not sure in my life that I'll ever feel that connected or ever feel that blessed or ever feel that visceral call that theater is about the here and now."

The musical focuses on the years 1975 to 1978, when Marley survived an attempted assassination in Jamaica and went into exile in London. It's the first time a stage musical has used both Marley's songs and his life story.

The musical features mid-'70s Marley albums as "Exodus," 'Kaya," and "Rastaman Vibration," which include the songs "Jamming," 'Three Little Birds" and "Roots, Rock, Reggae." Mitchell Brunings portrays the title character.

Kwei-Armah played Marley's song "Burnin' and Lootin'" on his way into work on the night of the first curfew. The song's lyrics were prescient: This morning I woke up in a curfew/Oh God, I was a prisoner, too/Could not recognize the





faces standing over me/They were all dressed in uniforms of brutality."

"Somebody wrote these lyrics 30 years ago, somebody tapped into something 30, 40 years ago and it's more applicable than some of the work I've done throughout all of my life," said Kwei-Armah. "It's humbling and beautiful. It validates for me why I'm doing theater."

Suzette Newman, an executive producer of "Marley," said she is working to get the musical on the road after it ends its run in Baltimore on June 14. "We absolutely hope that it will travel and go elsewhere. We're in the process of those discussions right now," she said.

Until then, she and Kwei-Armah watch nightly as the audience goes from punching the air with "Get Up, Stand Up" to joining the actors onstage in the show's emotional climax with "One Love."

"The power of Bob hits me afresh nearly every night. Suzette and I are standing at the back, seeing the audience as they respond and run onto the stage to sing with the cast 'One Love' in a city that needs to be one and healed," said Kwei-Armah.

Online:

http://centerstage.org



Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell Together Again For New Album

Even though the server got his order wrong, Rodney Crowell waits patiently for his egg-white omelet. He chats with Emmylou Harris as she picks at her grapefruit, revealing his easygoing nature and their comfort with each other.

But more than having similar personalities, it's evident they share the same sense of values.

Friends for almost four decades, it wasn't until a few years ago that they recorded an album together. That one turned out pretty well - "Old Yellow Moon" won the Grammy for best Americana album. It included some covers and a few songs penned by Crowell.

That experience was so positive they decided to step it up on the recently released "The Traveling Kind" by co-writing seven of the album's 11 songs. Now they're off touring the United States and Europe to promote it.

"I would certainly say the writing process was fun. On `Old Yellow Moon,' we didn't do any writing together," Crowell said.

Harris agreed, adding that from her perspective, their fruitful collaboration derives from what she describes as Crowell's "Rodney-ness."





"We have no tension," she said. "We've never even had an argument."

Crowell added: "I guess you might say there's no ego because our relationship is based on friendship."

While Crowell penned a few of the songs on their first album and he and Harris co-wrote a majority on the new one, he doesn't feel like you have to write a song to give a piece of yourself to the music. It's something he feels Harris does very well.

He cites an artist that both have a connection with to prove his point.

"Johnny Cash and Emmy are similar in a way. People ask me and I say Emmy has a poet's soul, so when she records outside material, as John did, there's a poetic sensibility," Crowell said.

Harris was influenced by Cash at an early age and was one of the artists who appeared on the recent cover album, "Look Again to the Wind: Johnny Cash's Bitter Tears Revisited." Originally released in 1964, that album provided strong commentary about the U.S. government's mistreatment of Native Americans. She remembers buying "Bitter Tears" when it came out.

"I remember finding it in a bin. ... I had that record and was impressed by the wrongs he tried to right, and I thought, `He's one of us,'" Harris said, speaking of her early influence of folk music.

Cash's record label tried talking him out of releasing the album, fearing it would alienate his country music fan base, but his regard for speaking out against injustice was more important. That's something that's always resonated with Harris.

"John wasn't just country. He was always in his own world of music. He transcended every type," she said.

Crowell's relationship goes a little deeper. He was once married to Cash's daughter, Rosanne, and has three daughters with her. He doesn't think the music world will see an artist like Cash again.

"The formulaic aspect of country music today doesn't really entertain the notion of casting about a poetic narrative like John did," he said.

Harris pointed out that the socio-economic upbringing that influenced artists like Cash and Hank Williams has changed a great deal.

"That era is gone. We had the artists like Dolly (Parton) and John (Cash) that came from poverty, and they had something authentic to bring to it," Harris said of their hardscrabble Southern upbringing.

Crowell then poked fun by defending a contemporary theme in country music.

"In fairness, `I'm gonna get drunk and drive my tractor into the wall' is in its own way a uniquely Southern narrative," he said.

"Most can't even drive a tractor, or a manual transmission," Harris interjected.

Online:

http://www.emmlouharris.com

http://www.rodneycrowell.com







Review: Cussler's Piranha' is Great Book For Summer Reading

"Piranha" (G.P. Putnam's Sons), by Clive Cussler and Boyd Morrison

"Piranha," the latest in the Oregon Files series of novels by Clive Cussler, has a new co-author, Boyd Morrison, and proves to be the best entry in the series to date.

Juan Cabrillo and his team are experts in covert missions, and their ship, the Oregon, has been their base of operations since they started. It has state-of-the-art technology and weaponry, but can be disguised as a rusty wreck that can barely stay afloat. Deception has been key in all their missions, and Cabrillo runs his operations with his trustworthy crew in a style similar to the "Mission: Impossible" TV series and films.

The latest mission sends Cabrillo and his team to Venezuela, where one of their adversaries





uncovers the deception and realizes the ship is the Oregon. To escape, they fake the sinking of the ship, but that's just the beginning of their problems. Their adversary has access to weaponry and drones that he's personally hacked, and no one is safe. He seems to anticipate every move conceived by Cabrillo and the crew of the Oregon. With their lives and ship in peril, can Cabrillo save the world again?

Oregon Files novels typically have outlandish villains mixed with elaborate con jobs designed by the heroes for infiltration purposes. Cabrillo always seems one step ahead of the notorious fiend and his dastardly plot. That's not the case this time. Cabrillo has to scramble to survive, and he and his crew will be tested in ways they never imagined.

An extra element that makes this entry in the series a winner is the hodgepodge of cameos and the use of characters from other Cussler novels. There's even an appearance from Tyler Locke, the hero of Morrison's solo adventures. "Piranha" is a perfect beach read.

Online:

http://clive-cussler-books.com/

http://www.boydmorrison.com/

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