

Movie review

'Bridget Jones' remains enjoyable, lacks continuity

Positive response to advanced screenings brings this predictable sequel to theaters earlier than expected

BY AMY LICHTY
PULSE REPORTER

When audiences last saw Bridget Jones (Renée Zellweger), she was sans pants on the snowy streets of London, kissing her (finally realized) one true love, Mr. Mark Darcy. After loads of mishaps, misery and giant panties, Bridget is back and still in love.

Funny how the second movie begins just four short weeks after the first left off, while Bridget and Mark are blissfully falling for each other, yet it's warm enough for Bridget to wear unflattering camisoles and short dresses. An unfortunate lack of continuity pervades "Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason," and although this is just one mistake in a string that

makes "Edge" weaker than its predecessor, it is still a funny, smart and enjoyable movie.

The story begins with Bridget basking in the happiness of her new relationship, but as everyone who knows Bridget can guess, it quickly turns sour as her insecurities get out of control. Enter Rebecca—the beautiful, skinny new intern at Darcy's law firm, with legs up to her chest. Bridget's jealousy, which predictably gets the best of her, swiftly threatens her new paradise with Mark.

The return of Daniel Cleaver (Hugh Grant) is another perk of this movie, although I do believe the "R" rating is easily because of the things that come out of his mouth alone. And although Cleaver's character is not found in the book version of "Bridget Jones: Edge of Reason" by Helen Fielding, he is an

essential and necessary character to move this film along. Without Cleaver, there would be little conflict and no "villain" — plus, his rude and vulgar, yet witty speech is really funny. Besides, it never hurts to see Grant on the big screen.

Zellweger is once again perfect as the adorably imperfect Bridget, whom audiences grew to know and love three years ago when the first and wonderful "Bridget Jones's Diary" entered the world. But Bridget is a bit different this time around; she lacks some of the cynicism and bitterness that made her so hilarious in the first movie, and the essential depressed and slightly desperate Bridget who puffed like a chimney and drank like a fish is nowhere to be seen. Fortunately, the typical accident-prone and nothing-goes-her-way Bridget is still

around and as amusing as ever. "Edge" displays a new, adorably in love and optimistic side of Bridget, but this change doesn't necessarily give her character more depth.

Colin Firth reprises his role as the stiff, boring and flat Mark Darcy. The first movie made viewers question what Bridget saw in this guy, and the second one doesn't to answer the question any further. One can't help rooting for Bridget and Mark as a couple. It's obvious that she loves him, and an audience member can feel that and wants it to work out for her sake.

Her parents, played by Jim Broadbent and Gemma Jones, are back but with less story line this time around. Unfortunately, the wonderful situations and hilarious interactions between the parents that take place in

JONES, page 12

ANDROID
VINTAGE . NEW . MILITARY . ORIGINAL DESIGNS . WOMYN . MEN
BUY, SELL, TRADE . M-5A12-7 . 1016 WILLAMETTE . 541.687.1511

Music and Dance
UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
UO School of Music & Department of Dance

NOVEMBER CONCERTS

For more information on School of Music events, call 346-5678.

- Thur. 11/11 YING STRING QUARTET with TURTLE ISLAND STRING QUARTET**
UO Chamber Music Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall
Reserved seats \$12, \$25, \$29; in advance from Hult Center (682-5000) or EMU (346-4363).
- Fri-Sat 11/12 WALTER KENNEDY & DANCERS**
Dance Faculty & Guest Artists 7:30 p.m., Soreng Theater
- 11/13** New dance works, plus a tribute to Bella Lewitzky.
\$10, \$15, \$20 Reserved seats; call 682-5000
- Sun. 11/14 OREGON WIND ENSEMBLE**
UO Ensemble 3 p.m., Beall Hall
Guest Artists: Giancarlo Guerrero & Victor Steinhardt
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Sun. 11/14 FRITZ GEARHART, Violin**
UO Faculty Artist Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$9 General Admission, \$5 students & senior citizens
- Tue. 11/16 UNIVERSITY OPERA ENSEMBLE**
Performing scenes & arias. 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Wed. 11/17 OREGON COMPOSERS FORUM**
New music by UO composers. 8 p.m., Beall Hall
FREE Admission
- Fri. 11/19 THE JAZZ CAFÉ**
UO Jazz Combos 8 p.m., Room 178 Music
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Sat. 11/20 FUTURE MUSIC OREGON**
Computer-Intermedia Compositions 8 p.m., Room 198
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Sun. 11/21 UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY**
UO Ensemble 3 p.m., Beall Hall
Guest Artist: Nancy Andrew, flute soloist.
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Mon. 11/22 OREGON PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**
UO Ensemble 8 p.m., Beall Hall
\$5 General Admission, \$3 students & senior citizens
- Tue. 11/23 JOHN JANTZI, Piano**
UO Faculty Artist Series 8 p.m., Beall Hall
Guest vocalists: David Gustafson, Amy Hansen
\$9 General Admission, \$5 students & senior citizens

For our complete calendar, check: music.uoregon.edu

Music: Tegan and Sara produce a solid album

Continued from page 7

for what he lacks. But whenever Brennan's unexpressive vocals kick in, it all falls apart.

On their self-titled debut, the Ditty Bops manage to create a cohesive, intelligent musical vision out of such varied parts as blues, ragtime, folk and old-time string bands. The music is catchy, invigorating and any number of other positive adjectives. The songwriting duo of Abby DeWald and Amanda Barrett crafts great pop songs that evoke the early work of the Violent Femmes without actually sounding anything like them.

Unlike most old-time style string bands, the Ditty Bops aren't

constricted by such pithy matters as tradition. Drums drive the beat, the melodies borrow as much from modern pop rock as blues and ragtime, electric instruments make a few appearances and the lyrics deal with universal concerns in a thoroughly modern context. The band seems to do whatever necessary to make the music sound as good as possible, which is very good.

Another songwriting duo has also released a good pop album. Tegan and Sara's latest, "So Jealous," is a solid collection of pop that draws heavily from a long tradition of folk rock. The songs follow the theme of relationships in decline (yeah, don't

hear a lot about that, eh?). The group sticks to the concept with the stubborn tenacity of a progressive rock band, following it through all of its permutations.

More often than not, the album works as intelligent music that deals with relationships in mature, adult terms. When it works, the songs are catchy pieces of pop rock as good as anything out there. The problem is that when it doesn't work, the songs hardly rise above filler. In this case, the good outnumbers the filler by a lean margin, and overall the album is worthwhile.

ryannyburg@dailyemerald.com

OC: Familiar characters set to face new plot twists

Continued from page 6

to get to Tahiti by means of his boat? Will Julie and Caleb's marriage be able to last a summer? Will Ryan be gone from the Cohen family forever? Just how much alcohol can Marissa possibly consume in one summer?

Last Thursday, a predictable 60 minutes revealed to us what became of our favorite rich Californians during the show's six month hiatus. After some debate, Seth and Ryan both returned to the Cohen home with open arms. Marissa is still drinking. Julie is falling into the same pattern with new hubby Caleb as she did with ex-husband Jimmy. Summer speaks of a new boy she is dating, but she is still not over Seth. Jimmy and Haley are still going strong. We

had the chance to see Jimmy and Julie being genuinely civil to each other for the first time ever (including during the time they were married). We were also lucky enough to be temporarily graced with the face of Luke, whom we hadn't seen in quite some time (why Seth chose to visit him of all people is a mystery to me). I don't know about everyone else, but I was surely excited to see Luke's 503 area code number posted on the Cohens' refrigerator (Seth was visiting him in Portland).

I am hoping tonight's episode will be a bit more exciting. I am looking forward to seeing what unfolds between Summer and Seth and Marissa and Ryan. From the previews, it looks like Marissa and

Ryan are getting back together (or at least hooking up). It will also be interesting to see if Haley will accept Jimmy's marriage proposal. And what will poor Julie do when she realizes that once again, not everything can be handed to her on a golden platter without the law being involved?

There appears to be a lot in store for the characters this fall. I can say that I am looking forward to more family rivalries, more psychotic characters (Oliver), more betrayal, more fights, more parties and, of course, more fashion. We are also expected to see some new faces, including a few new flames for several of the characters. Here's to an exciting season!

dahwifischer@dailyemerald.com

GOOD MORNING ATHENS
A MODERN MUSICAL SEX COMEDY
BY SEAN KEOGH
WAR? NO SEX!
THURSDAY SPECIAL NOVEMBER 11
NEW CURTAIN TIME 7:30 PM
ALL UO STUDENTS \$4
A ROBINSON THEATRE PRODUCTION
UO TICKET OFFICE EMU-346-4363

BIJOU
492 E. 13th 686-2458
For the week of November 12th!
Sign-up for our weekly WebPage Update!
www.bijou-cinemas.com

WOODY HARRELSON KEN KESY
"Generates laughs while teaching valuable lessons about how we can all, in small but significant ways, make the choice to have a lighter footprint on our beautiful planet Earth."
—The Movie, #151 TIME OUT
THE CLIP-DARTS WITH SUPPLIES LAST!
5:15 & 6:55 Nightly Sun Mat 3:25

from writer and director of **THREE KINGS, FLIRTING WITH DISASTER, and SPANKING THE MONKEY**

i ♥ huckabees
5:00, 7:10 & 9:20 Nightly Sat & Sun Mat 2:45
BIJOU LATENITE Th-Sat \$4 Su-We \$3

Jake Gyllenhaal DONNIE DARKO
THE DIRECTOR'S CUT
8:45 & 11:20 pm Nightly SAT MAT 2:30

BATTLE ROYALE
Takeshi Kitano 11:30 pm Nightly

MULLIGAN'S PUB

FREE

Pizza with a pint
Monday 6pm - 12am
Large PBR pitchers \$5.00 Everyday
2841 Wilamette • 484-1727