



SUMMER MOVIE GUIDE

BY RYAN NYBURG
PULSE EDITOR

It's time for another wonderful, funderful summer of movie excitement, when the stars come out, the audiences weep for joy and the critics offer to perform sexual favors on studio executives just to express their joy over the sheer fantastitude of it all. So let's pop a few more happy pills, mix another Benzedrine mocha and take a look at this summer's theater offerings.

On June 10, one of the most talked-about celebrity romances of the minute comes to the big screen in "Mr. and Mrs. Smith," which stars possible pelvic polka partners Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie. Legions of Jennifer Aniston fans, their brains awash in the blinding glow of superficiality, are already planning to boycott the film. Futile wastes of energy aside, the film apparently features one of the most brilliant plot twists to come out of Hollywood in ages (get this, there is this married couple and they're both leading secret lives as assassins) and, more substantially, depicts Pitt riding a tricycle while firing a machine gun. Big budget entertainment doesn't get any better than that.

June 17 brings us to the pinnacle of all human endeavor with the release of the "Batman" prequel, "Batman Begins." The film stars Christian Bale as the dark crusader against evil. Bale, who played a piece of cardboard in "Reign of Fire," is best known for playing a serial killer who devours human flesh in "American Psycho." So we know he's got a range.

Pedophiles of the world will rejoice on June 24 with the release of Disney's "Herbie: Fully Loaded," in which the

fully loaded Lindsay "Holy Statutory" Lohan stars alongside a Volkswagen bug that races in a NASCAR race. Good, wholesome corporate synergy for the kiddies. Speaking of brainless zombies walking across the big screen, the 24th also brings us "Land of the Dead," the fourth installment in George Romero's "Night of the Living Dead" series. It stars both Dennis Hopper and Asia Argento (yummy) and promises to be the single greatest thing in the history of human existence.

July 1 brings the biggest movie of the summer, Steven Spielberg's "War of the Worlds." It stars that whacked out, twice divorced Scientistologist (the one who's currently banging a woman 16 years his junior) as outstanding father figure. It also stars some awfully expensive special effects.

July 8 heralds the release of "Fantastic Four," in which Tim Story brings all the directorial power he displayed in 2004's Jimmy Fallon/Queen Latifah vehicle "Taxi" to bear on a comic book no one has cared about for approximately 40 years.

Prepare to revel in the magic of childhood as Tim Burton brings "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" to the screen July 15. The film promises to stick close to the source material, which means it will be a delightful morality tale for children, teaching them that if they misbehave they will be devoured by squirrels. In a brilliant casting move, it stars Johnny Depp as a lunatic who wears bizarre outfits.

July 22 brings the release of Michael Bay's latest opus, some piece of crap about clones, as well as Richard Linklater's latest, a remake of "Bad News Bears" that will star Billy Bob Thornton as a lovable, drunken child abuser.

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EVENTS MOVIES BOOKS MUSIC

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Thursday

Built to Spill
Wow hall
9 p.m., \$15 advance,
\$17 at the door
Rock

Friday

JC Rico & Zulu Dragon
Luna
9:30 p.m., \$6
Chicago style blues

Saturday

Yelstin CD release party
Sam Bond's Garage
9:30 p.m., \$5
Rock

Sunday

Kung Fu Karaoke
Diablo's
10 p.m., Free
Karaoke and
kung fu movies



TOP 5 MOVIES

- 1: "Madagascar"
- 2: "The Longest Yard"
- 3: "Star Wars: Episode III- ROTHS"
- 4: "Cinderella Man"
- 5: "Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants"



NEWYORKTIMES BEST-SELLERS

- 1: James Patterson, Maxine Paetro
"4th of July"
- 2: Nicholas Sparks,
"True Believer"
- 3: Michael Connelly,
"The Closer"
- 4: Dean Koontz,
"Velocity"
- 5: John Sandford,
"Broken Prey"



BILLBOARD TOP 5

- 1: Audioslave,
"Out of Exile"
- 2: Common,
"Be"
- 3: Mariah Carey,
"The Emancipation of Mimi"
- 4: System of a Down,
"Mezmerize"
- 5: Toby Keith,
"Honkytonk University"

■ In my opinion



AMY LICHTY
POP ROCKS

Tom & Katie 'cruise' onto couple radar

Because I'm a gossip fiend, my friends always come to me when they need their daily fix of celebrity dirt, and I'm always prepared to shell it out. Lately, the hottest topic is: What the hell is up with Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes? They have been everywhere since jetting on to the couple radar less than two months ago, and the rumors

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PULSEMUSIC PULSEMUSIC

This being the last issue of the 2004-2005 school year, the Pulse Desk (in the form of its intrepid editor) has decided to round up some of the best CDs of the past 10 months. Not all of them were reviewed in these pages, but let's just pretend they were for the moment.

The Blood Brothers, "Crimes." Scathing post-punk ferocity from some Seattle-based surrealists. What could be better?

The Futureheads, "The Futureheads." Define "angular" in the musical sense, add cool harmonies and a catchy song writing.

"Moody Bluegrass: A Nashville Tribute to the Moody Blues." What could have been a cheesy stocking stuffer is instead a groovy collection of catchy songs and one of the best country albums of the year.

Green Day, "American Idiot." Nineties wonder boys make a play for cultural relevance and craft a great

album. Whodda thunk it?

The Cloud Room, "The Cloud Room." Wicked catchy opening track backed by solid pop rock glory. And you haven't heard of it.

The Stereophonics, "Language. Sex. Violence. Other?" Pure groovy rock 'n' roll from this British group.

The Mars Volta, "Frances the Mute." Twisted, Latin-tinged prog rockers of the world unite!

Bloc Party, "Silent Alarm." Dance rock indie band goes all U2 anthemic. And the peasants rejoice.

"World Psychedelic Classics Vol. 3: Love's A Real Thing." West African psychedelic rock of the late 1960s and early 1970s collected on one of the sweetest compilations of the year.

Spoon, "Gimmie Fiction." Smart, well-crafted rock from one of the most consistently good bands out there.

— Ryan Nyburg