



**Unconscious** can stand with the best of Pedro Almodóvar.

Henry Gibson are great in their supporting roles, and Vilmos Zsigmond won top cinematography honors from the National Society of Film Critics for his mesmerizing camera work. A brand new 35 mm print opens June 15 at Hollywood Theatre. **A**

—SB

**Monster Camp**

This fair, multifaceted, gay-produced documentary is about the Live Action Role Players (LARPs) of NERO, a New England-based LARP organization that has franchises in the Pacific Northwest. The film shows the nerds at work and at play being smart and funny, but it also portrays a number of maladapted, broken souls addicted to gaming. The inevitable comparisons to Trekkies aside, *Monster Camp* is a shrewd look at the dizzying interaction between adult play and the so-called "real world." The film's greatest strength is in its honesty portraying the characters "warts and all" but never as caricatures. Opens June 29 at Hollywood Theatre. **B-**

—NP

**Ocean's Thirteen**

The third time is definitely not the charm for this mostly charmless installment in the *Ocean* franchise. Both George Clooney and Brad Pitt look and sound tired, underplaying so severely that the film's only sign of life, Ellen Barkin, seems to be in a different movie. If you want sparkling banter and clever plot twists, stay home and rent the first two. **C+**

—Floyd Sklaver

**Paprika**

Sticklers for sanity should steer clear of this freaky and frantic work of anime by Japanese director Satoshi Kon (*Tokyo Godfathers*). But anyone willing to forgo logic for 90 minutes will be rewarded with spectacular action sequences and the unforgettable killing rampage of a giant giggling doll. The plot concerns a female therapist who uses a new technological device to enter the dreams of her patients, a process that completely blurs the line between reality and fantasy. Opens June 22 at Cinema 21. **B**

—SB

**Serenity**

For those disappointed in the *Star Wars* prequels, George Lucas is left in the dust by writer/director Joss Whedon's *Serenity*, the feature film sequel to the

short-lived TV "space western" series *Firefly*. The plot is about a gang of space mercenaries and a mysterious young girl on the run from the evil government, but the joy of the film is the crackling dialogue between characters, supported by the bravura special effects. Newbies should pay close attention to the opening scenes, and adventure and sci-fi fans will have a blast. Screens June 22 and 23 at Hollywood Theatre; proceeds benefit Equality Now and Film Action Oregon's Women's Film Initiative. **A-**

—AM

**Surf's Up**

I see penguins—everywhere! Ash Brannon (*Toy Story 2*) and Chris Buck (*Tarzan*) directed this CGI animated feature that follows our hero penguins behind the scenes of the Penguin World Surf Championship. Shot in a mockumentary style, the film is funny and enjoyable. I love surfer dudes! **B**

—Yvonne P. Behrens

**The Trials of Darryl Hunt**

This fascinating and infuriating documentary about racism in the North Carolina justice system earned a well-deserved Independent Spirit Award nomination. In 1984, a jury wrongly convicted a young black man for the rape and murder of a white woman. Despite a dearth of conclusive evidence against him, he spent 20 years in prison before the court finally exonerated him. Co-directors Anne Sundberg and Ricki Stern strike a perfect balance of interview, courtroom and TV news footage. This is hard-nosed reporting, but be sure to keep some Kleenex handy for the cathartic conclusion. Opens June 22 at Hollywood Theatre. **A**

—SB

**Unconscious**

Set in Barcelona in 1913, this Spanish indie flick is a dizzying blend of mystery, slapstick romance and Freudian comedy (in the truest sense) that can stand with the best of Pedro Almodóvar. Alma, a modern woman, goes on a search for her mysteriously missing psychiatrist husband, aided by her decidedly more conservative brother-in-law, who harbors unrequited love for her. What follows is quite simply the most fun movie I've seen in a long time. The only problem is you might have to see *Unconscious* twice to take it all in, as you'll probably be too busy laughing the first time. Opens June 15 at Living Room Theaters. **A**

—Tony LeTigre 10

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