

OPENING OR RETURNING:

After Hours (1985): Director Martin Scorsese follows Griffin Dunne on an eccentric, late night tour of NYC, darkly comic and scary. He runs into many women who are deeply screwed up, such as Rosanna Arquette, Teri Garr, Linda Fiorentino; also John Heard, Cheech Marin, Tommy Chong. Wondrous and weird. Discussion following film. At 6 pm on 12/9 at DVA. Free.

Alfie: One of the true playboys of the movies, Alfie (Jude Law) plows through a swarm of women never thinking of commitment until he lets the love in. Alfie's beauties include Marisa Tomei, Susan Sarandon, Nia Long, Jane Krakowski. R. Movies 12

Finding Neverland: Johnny Depp stars as British playwright J.M. Barrie, based on Allan Knee's play *The Man*

Who Was Peter Pan. Directed by Marc Foster, it also stars Kate Winslet, Julie Christie, Radha Mitchell and Dustin Hoffman. Winslet and Depp's performances are radiant, but the real star of the show is 12 year-old Freddie Highmore, playing the actual child, Peter Llewelyn Davies, who inspired Barrie's play. The picture is heart-breaking, gorgeous and probably too complicated for young children. PG. Cinema World.

Flight of the Phoenix: Using Robert Aldrich's 1965 adventure film as his base, John Moore updates the main

story, in which crash survivors in the vast, remote Gobi Desert attempt to put their fractured plane together and fly out. Stars include Giovanni Ribisi, Dennis Quaid and Jacob Vargas. PG-13. Cinemark. Cinema World.

Forgotten, The: Julianne Moore is a grieving parent. She learns from her psychiatrist (Gary Sinise) and others that her 8-year-old son never existed. Directed by Joseph Ruben, the film also stars Dominic West, Alfred Woodward, Linus Roache, Anthony Edwards. PG-13. Movies 12.

Head in the Clouds: John Duigan's lame WWII drama fizzles, despite starring roles by Charlize Theron, Penélope Cruz and Stuart Townsend. Patronizing, air-brushed version of Europe during 1930s and '40s. Pure escapist fare. Not recommended. R. Biju. **See review this issue.**

Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events: *The New York Times* calls the Lemony Snicket books "mordantly funny," but the stories of the misadventures of three orphans who fall into the hands of an evil count are popular with children and adults. Jim Carrey plays said count, three game kids bedevil him, and Meryl Streep, Timothy Spall, Billy Connolly, Luis Guzmán, Jennifer Coolidge, Jane Adams and Catherine O'Hara help. Directed by Brad Silberling and written by Robert Gordon. PG. Cinema World. Cinemark.

Shark Tale: In this computer-animat-

ed feature, a lovable tropical fish with the voice of Will Smith takes on the underwater Mafia when he assumes responsibility for killing the godfather of the Great White Sharks. Other voices include those of Jack Black, Robert De Niro, Renée Zellweger, Angelina Jolie and Martin Scorsese; Eric Bergeron. Directed by Vicky Jenson. PG. Movies 12.

Spanish: James L. Brooks's comedy/drama stars Adam Sandler, Tea Leoni, Anne Bancroft and Paz Vega. A non-English speaking woman goes to work for an upscale LA family. PG-13. Cinemark, Cinema World.

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:

Alexander: Oliver Stone's action-adventure epic stars Colin Farrell as Alexander the Great, with Val Kilmer, Angelina Jolie, Jared Leto, Rosario Dawson and Anthony Hopkins. Tedious at three hours, this epic by Oliver Stone misses the mark. R. Cinemark **Online archives.**

Blade: Trinity: Vampire hunter Blade (Wesley Snipes) is back. Meanwhile, vampire leaders are bringing back the rejuvenated Dracula, their progenitor, who's now called Drake (Dominic Purcell). Yikes! Written and directed by David Goyer and based on the

Marvel Comics character, the film also stars Kris Kristofferson, Ryan Reynolds, Jessica Biel, Parker Posey and Natasha Lyonne. R. Cinema World Cinemark

Bourne Supremacy, The: Paul Greengrass (writer, director of *Bloody Sunday*) directs Matt Damon as assassin Jason Bourne in the second installment of Robert Ludlum's espionage thrillers. Also stars Joan Allen, Brian Cox, Julia Stiles, Kurt Urban and Franka Potente. One of the summer's best films. Highly recommended. PG-13. Movies 12 **Online archives.**

Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason Lackluster Bridget Jones sequel stars Renee Zellweger, Colin Firth and Hugh Grant again. Directed by Beeban Kidron, romantic comedy also stars Jacinda Barrett, Gemma Jones and Jim Broadbent. R. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

Christmas With the Kranks: Based on John Grisham's *Skipping Christmas*, this comedy stars Jamie Lee Curtis, Julie Gonzalo and Tim Allen and is directed by Joe Roth. Also stars Dan Aykroyd, Cheech Marin and M. Emmet Walsh. PG. Cinemark.

Closer: Director Mike Nichols (*Angels in America*) looks at the relationships of four strangers, played by Julian Roberts, Jude Law, Natalie Portman and Clive Owen. Outstanding performances by all four make this a film not to be missed. Shows the anger, resentment and folly that result from such high-voltage matters as fidelity, sexuality and relationship. Ignore the negatives and see it. Very highest recommendations. One of 2004's top movies. R. Cinemart. **Online archives:**

Friday Night Lights: High-school football is a big deal in 1988 Odessa, Texas, and director Peter Berg has fun with the fictional locals played by Tim McGraw, Billy Bob Thornton and Jay Hernandez. PG-13 Movies 12

Garden State: Zach Braff wrote, directed and stars in this funny, resonant romantic comedy, which co-stars Natalie Portman, Peter Sarsgaard and Ian Holm. Braff and Portman help the film get to a truth about what it is to be 20-something in the early years of the 21st century. Highest recommendations. R. Movies 12. **Online Archives.** **I Heart Huckabee:** The delicious

new laugh-out-loud comedy from David O. Russell (*Three Kings*, *Flirting with Disaster*) stars Jason Schwartzman, Lily Tomlin, Dustin Hoffman, Isabelle Huppert, Mark Wahlberg, Naomi Watts and Jude Law. One of 2004's top films, it gets my very highest recommendations. R. **Riigu Online archives**

Incredibles, The: Writer, director Brad Bird and Pixar Animation Studios create an action-adventure story set in suburbia where a former top crime fighter, Mr. Incredible, gets the call to jump back into actions. PG. Cinemark. **Online archives.**

Napoleon Dynamite: Jared Hess' indie comedy stars Jon Heder as a high schooler, who lives in Idaho with his grandmother. The *Village Voice* says, "the film is an epic, magisterially observed pastiche on all-American geekhood, flooring the competition with a petulant shove." PG. Movies 12.

National Treasure: Directed by Jon Turteltob and producer Jerry Bruckheimer, adventure stars Nicolas Cage searching for treasure George Washington hid during the Revolutionary War. Sean Bean plays his British rival who's anxious to score the treasure first. PG. Cinema World.

Cinemark

Ocean's Twelve: Director Steven Soderbergh returns with the gang: George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle, Bernie Mac, Andy Garcia, Julia Roberts and newbie Catherine Zeta-Jones. A recent group interview in *Premiere* makes reveals they had a blast making this sequel. Highly recommended for its unabashedly confident entertainment value. PG-13. Cinemark. Cinema World.

See review this issue.

Polar Express, The: Robert Zemeckis (*Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*) directs a wholly CG animated adventure, starring Tom Hanks in multiple roles in this adaptation of children's book by Chris Van Allsburg. Called "performance capture," the technique uses actors' live-action performances to drive the emotions and movements of the digital characters. G. Cinemark. Cinema World.

Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement: Anne Hathaway is being groomed to be queen of

Genovia, but she has to land a husband before she can be crowned. Garry Marshall directs. Julie Andrews costars. **G** Movies 12

Ray: Jamie Foxx plays late, great Ray Charles in this musical, biographical drama, directed by Taylor Hackford. Co-stars Kerry Washington, Regina King, Clifton Powell, Harry Lennix, Terrence Dashon Howard, Richard Schiff, Aunjanue Ellis and Sharon Warren. Outstanding performance by Foxx. One of the year's finest films. PG-13. Movies 12. [Online archives.](#)

Sideways: Fresh social comedy by Alexander Payne follows two guys on a bachelor week in California wine country. Great performances by Paul Giamatti (*American Splendor*) and Thomas Haden Church ("Wings") sweetens the tale, as do Virginia Madsen and Sandra Oh. One of the best films of the year. Don't miss. R. Biju. **Online archives.**

Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow: Starring Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow and Angelina Jolie, this digital special effects sci-fi action film was shot without sets and locations. Brainchild: writer/director Kerry Conran in collaboration with producer Jon Avnet. Other stars include Giovanni Ribisi, Michael Gambon and Bai Ling. PG. Movies 12. **Online archives.**

SpongeBob SquarePants: Animated feature starring one of Nickelodeon's most absorbing characters. Voices by Alec Baldwin, Scarlett Johansson and others. PG. Cinemark.

Team America: World Police: With animated wooden marionettes, Trey Parker and Matt Stone (*South Park*) create an action adventure film about an international police force devoted to global stability and battling bad guys. Not for kids. R. Cinemark.

Online archives.

Without a Paddle: High-speed comedy adventure stars Seth Green, Matthew Lillard and Dax Shepard as clueless adventurers who go into the Oregon wilderness in search of lost treasure. PG-13. Movies 12

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Lemony Snicket's Series of Unfortunate Events PG
(11:45am, 12:30, 2:15, 3:00, 4:45, 5:30) 7:15, 8:00, 9:50, 10:30

Ocean's 12 PG-13
(12:00, 1:00, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00, 4:45, 5:30) 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:50, 10:15

Flight of The Phoenix PG-13
(11:50am, 2:25, 5:00) 7:35, 10:10

Closer R
(12:10, 2:40, 5:20) 7:50, 10:10

Sideways R
(1:15, 4:15) 7:05, 9:55

The Incredibles PG
(12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00) 7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00

Polar Express G
(12:00, 2:20, 4:40) 7:10, 9:30

Christmas with the Kranks PG
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