

AIR CONDITIONED!
BIJOU
 492 E. 13th 686-2458
 For the week starting Friday, July 8th!
 www.bijou-cinemas.com
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"Wu's film takes the received wisdom of The Joy Luck Club for a delightful spin through unwed motherhood, lesbianism and Chinese-American family values."
 —Bruce Newman, SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS
Michelle Krusiec Joan Chen
 Directed by Alice Wu

One Week Only!
saving face
 7:20 & 9:20 nightly Sun Mat 3:00
 NEXT: BROTHERS

mad hot **Ballroom** FINAL WEEK!
 5:00 nightly Sat Mat 2:50
 NEXT: MY SUMMER OF LOVE

FROM THE ACADEMY AWARD WINNING DIRECTOR OF SPIRITED AWAY
Howl's Moving Castle FINAL WEEK!
 4:45, 7:10 & 9:35 nightly
 Sat & Sun Mat 2:20
 NEXT: WILD PARROTS OF TELEGRAPH HILL

BIJOU LATENITE Fr-Sat \$4 Su \$3
 All the body-piercing, kinky sex, and car crashes that Shakespeare wanted but never had! Join Tromeo and Juliet as they travel through Manhattan's underground in search of climactic love, violence, and the American Way.
TROMEIO & JULIET
 11:55 pm Fri, Sat & Sun nights

AVALON CINEMA
 2nd & Jackson - Corvallis
 Please call or log on for show times.

MAD HOT BALLROOM
 PG

DARKSIDE CINEMA
 4th & Madison - Corvallis

MILLIONS
 PG

ROCK SCHOOL
 R

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July 8, 9, 10

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** NO ONE UNDER 6 YEARS OF AGE ADMITTED TO ANY R RATED FEATURE AFTER 6:00 PM **

FANTASTIC FOUR PG13
 9:05, 10:50, 11:45, 1:35, 2:25, 4:15, 5:10, 7:05, 7:55, 9:50, 10:30

DARK WATER PG13
 11:05, 1:50, 4:35, 7:45, 10:30

REBOUND PG
 9:30, 12:05, 2:40, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25

WAR OF THE WORLDS PG13
 9:20, 10:10, 11:10, 12:30, 1:05, 2:05, 3:25, 4:05, 4:55, 7:00, 7:15, 7:50, 9:55, 10:15, 10:45

BEWITCHED PG13
 8:50, 11:25, 1:55, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

HERBIE: FULLY LOADED G
 9:25, 11:55, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:15

BATMAN BEGINS PG13
 8:55, 9:35, 12:20, 12:55, 3:35, 4:10, 7:05, 7:20, 10:20, 10:45

MR & MRS SMITH PG13
 10:35, 1:25, 4:20, 7:45, 10:40

STAR WARS III PG13
 9:00, 12:25, 3:50, 7:15, 10:40

CINDERELLA MAN PG13
 9:15, 12:35, 3:55, 7:20, 10:35

ADVENTURES OF SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL PG
 9:10, 11:35, 2:00, 4:25

LONGEST YARD PG13
 9:50, 12:40, 3:30, 7:00, 9:45

MADAGASCAR PG
 10:55, 1:30, 4:00, 6:55, 9:25

LAND OF THE DEAD R
 8:00PM, 10:35

*NO PASSES/NO SUPERSAVERS
MOVIES 12 - SPRINGFIELD
 Gateway Mall - Bellline @ Gateway 741-1231
 SHOWTIMES FOR 7/8-7/14
 No children under age 6 will be admitted to any R-rated feature after 6:00 PM

THE PACIFIER PG
 11:20, 12:05, 1:55, 2:40, 4:25, 5:10, 6:55, 9:30

SAHARA PG13
 11:15, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30

SIN CITY R
 11:15, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:25

KICKING AND SCREAMING PG
 11:50, 2:20, 4:35, 7:05, 9:40

HITCHHIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY PG
 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:55

XXX: STATE OF THE UNION PG13
 7:30, 10:15

GUESS WHO? PG13
 11:25, 5:00, 10:20

HITCH PG13
 2:10, 7:35

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN R
 11:30, 2:45, 6:50, 10:00

MONSTER IN LAW PG13
 11:35, 2:05, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50

THE PERFECT MAN PG
 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

KUNG FU HUSTLE R
 11:55, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 10:05

HOUSE OF WAX R
 10:10PM

ROBOTS PG
 11:40, 2:30, 4:40, 7:00

STEREO SURROUND SOUND IN ALL AUDITORIUMS
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 DARK WATER (PG-13) DIG ✓ (1205 240 505) 725 955
 REBOUND (PG) DIG ✓ (1215)
 BEWITCHED (PG-13) DIG (1235 255 515) 730 950
 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED (G) DIG (1225 245 505) 725 940
 BATMAN BEGINS (PG-13) DIG (1155 415) 715 1010
 STAR WARS: EPISODE III (PG-13) DIG (1150 315) 700 1000

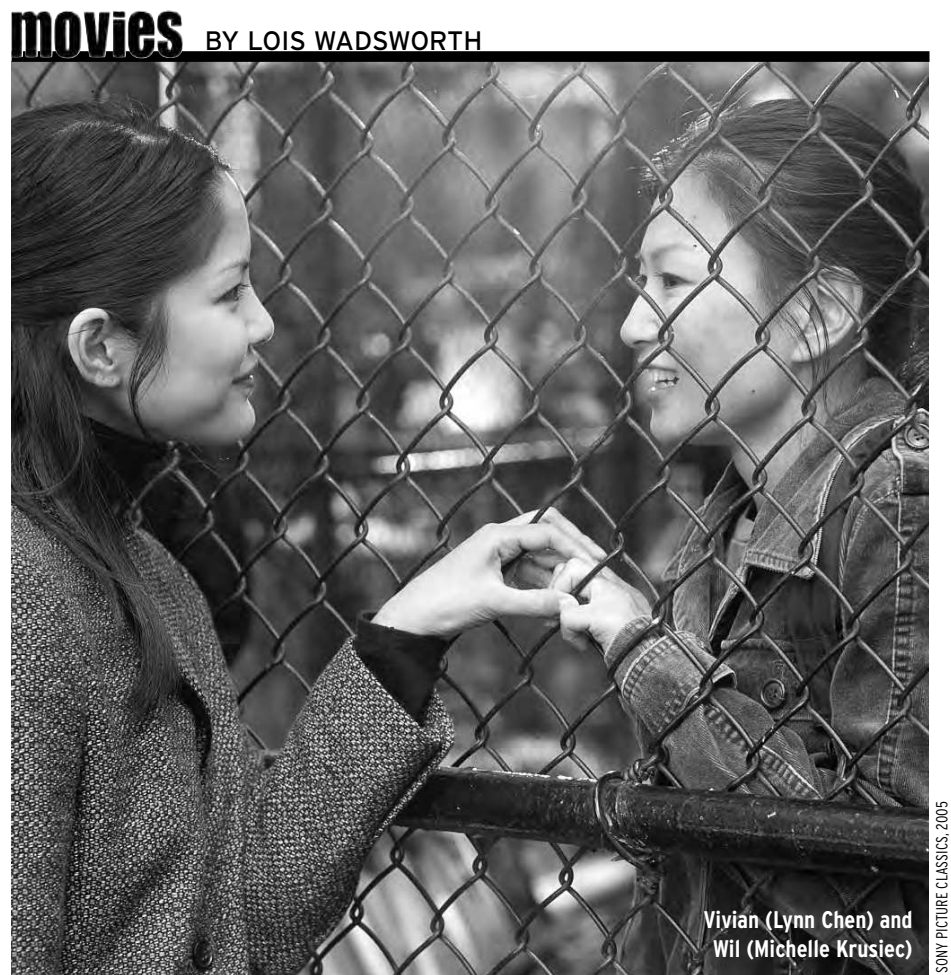
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 WAR OF THE WORLDS (PG-13) DIG ★ ✓ (1015 110 405) 700 955
 BEWITCHED (PG-13) DIG (1145 225 505) 740 1015
 HERBIE: FULLY LOADED (G) DIG (1115 150 425) 710 940
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 DARK WATER (PG-13) DIG ✓ (1145 230 515) 745 1030
 MR. AND MRS. SMITH (PG-13) DIG (1115 150 430) 715 1000
 Times For 7/8 - 7/10 ©2005 www.REGmovies.com



Vivian (Lynn Chen) and Wil (Michelle Krusiec)

SONY PICTURE CLASSICS, 2005

Three Women

Step up to the challenges of independence

SAVING FACE: Written and directed by Alice Wu. Produced by Teddy Zee, James Lassiter, Will Smith. Executive producers, John Penotti, Robin O'Hara, Scott Macauley. Cinematography, Harlan Bosmajian. Editors, Susan Graef, Sabine Hoffman. Costume Design, Jill Newell. Production design, Dan Ouellette. Composer, Anton Sanko. Starring Michelle Krusiec, Joan Chen, Lynn Chen, with Jim Wang, Guang Lan Koh, Ato Essandoh, David Shih, Brian Yang, Mao Zhao. Sony Pictures Classics, 2005. R. 98 minutes.

Wilhelmina Pang (Michelle Krusiec) is a busy Manhattan surgeon. But she is also a dutiful Chinese daughter and granddaughter. Vivian Shing (Lynn Chen) has been a dancer with the New York Ballet, which she recently left to pursue Modern Dance. She is the child of divorced parents, and her father is Pang's immediate boss at the hospital where both work. Wil and Vivian are accomplished, contemporary women, attracted to each other, but hemmed in by tradition and immigrant culture, which seems to work extra hard to keep daughters within the family clan, while also encouraging their ambitions in the wider world.

They see each other first at a Friday night Chinese social, where Wil's mother, Ma (Joan Chen), tries to set her up with a nice Chinese man. But Vivian and Wil catch each other's attention before the night is over. Fortunately, the gossips don't see their mutual interest.

Youthful and gorgeous at age 48, Ma has lived with her father, Wai Gung (Jim Wang), and her mother, Wai Po (Guang Lan Koh), since her husband died. Now Ma has become pregnant and won't say who the father is. Wai Gung sends her away from the Flushing, Queens society where he is known and revered, and the larger Chinese community rejects her as well. Ma moves into the city, right at the time Wil and Vivian are getting to know each other. Vivian thinks Wil should come out to her mother, but Wil is reluctant. Wil is not as socially daring as Vivian, and her relationship with Ma is complicated by Ma's pregnancy.

Director, writer Alice Wu has fashioned a sweet, comic story out of these situations, and

while the resolution is a bit too tidy, getting there is a lot of fun. Wu is generous with her characters, loving and respecting each for her or his unique viewpoint. In her debut feature film, she chose to work with three exceptional actors in the role of the movie's main characters who learn to step out and claim their happiness.

Joan Chen anchors the film with Ma's delightful evolution, even though her story takes a back seat to Vivian and Wil's. It's been too long since I've seen her on the screen, and she gives a thoroughly believable performance as Ma, a mature woman who transforms herself. Having come from being a well-regarded actress to that of director, writer and producer of *Xiu Xiu: The Sent-Down Girl* (EW, 9/16/99), Chen knows transformation firsthand. Her debut film, *Xiu Xiu* was banned in China for its searing portrait of a city-educated girl sent by the government to the remote high plains near the Tibet border during the Cultural Youth Revolution of 1967-1976. Played by actress Lu Lu, *Xiu Xiu* was one story of the 7.5 million Chinese youth "sent down" from the cities to learn agricultural skills from peasants. Chen was fearless in getting this film out of the country every day of shooting, and the film won many awards.

Krusiec shows how Wil sidesteps challenges and avoids confrontation. As an actor, she has played in a number of U.S. films and television programs, including HBO's "The Mind of the Married Man." Krusiec is also a critically acclaimed stage writer and actress, whose autobiographical, one-woman show, *Made in Taiwan*, was a hit at HBO U.S. Comedy Arts Festival. Although relatively new to feature films, Lynn Chen gives Vivian an easy self-confidence. She has appeared on NBC's "Law & Order" and "L&O SVU" series. She's also a musician, writing and recording for both solo projects and with her band, YPOK2.

Saving Face opens at the Bijou July 8 with high recommendations. It's an empowering film for women of all ages.

EW