

Michelin 3-star Sukiyabashi restaurant in a Japan subway station. Watch Ono, who pulls his two sons into his sushi dynasty, on his life-long pursuit of the perfect roll.

The Cabin in the Woods



FOR: Horror movie enthusiasts, Joss Whedon followers

Who knew a campy horror film could be so meta? And funny? And unpredictable? This gory flick deftly employs and comments on overused horror tropes (you know, cabins, in the woods, horny teenagers, ancient curses). Co-written by Joss Whedon (who also directed 2012's *The Avengers*), it's no wonder it received a 91 percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes.

The Dark Knight Rises

FOR: Comic book collectors, action fiends, conspiracy theorists

The first 15 minutes of this film have got to be one of the most thrilling, "hold on to your butts," explosively fun openers in a superhero film ever. Although the action flick could have easily shaved off 20 minutes, *Rises* offers up one of the most terrifying villains in comic book-to-film history, as well as on-point commentary about wealth disparities and corrupt government. And, of course, it's always

fun to watch Christian Bale brood and Michael Cain charm.

Prometheus

FOR: Sci-fi nerds, mystery lovers

This pseudo-prequel to the *Alien* franchise gets the nod for the most striking imagery — after all, director Ridley Scott spent well over \$100 million on principal photography, shot across England, Iceland, Spain and Scotland. The story, although clumsy at times, is strange and eerie enough to pull the viewer along — think ancient cultures leaving clues about extraterrestrial life. Michael Fassbender (*Inglorious Basterds*) and Noomi Rapace (*The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*) give shining performances.



The Artist

FOR: Foreign film fans, musical comedy lovers

Forget subtitles, one of the most successful films to ever hop the pond from Europe (France, specifically) is a silent film. The black-and-white romantic, musical dramedy sparkles as it follows an up-and-coming silent starlet (played by the magnetic Bérénice Bejo) in 1920s Hollywood as she adjusts to the rise of "talkies." For a film that doesn't "say" much, it racked up quite an award collection, including Oscars for Best Picture and Best Director.

The Hunger Games

FOR: Teens, young adult fiction readers, dystopia fans



Yes, the books by Suzanne Collins are better, but the film is still an exciting and visually beautiful romp. The fearless 16-year-old heroine Katniss Everdine acts as the viewer's guide into the post-apocalyptic world of Panem, where the Capitol pits children against each other for bloodsport. It's like *Lord of the Flies*, except the adults are the ones who have gone mad with power.

Brave

FOR: Kids, Pixar lovers



Pixar's first feature film carried by a female protagonist is a sweet and plucky tale. In the Highlands of Scotland, the tradition-defying, raven-haired, cracker-jack archer Princess Merida must save her family from a curse that befell them after she visited a witch. For *Brave*, Pixar revamped their entire system for the first time in 25 years to make the digital imagery really pop, and they succeeded. — Alex Notman

Joy is a Gift
Simple, local & unique inspirations

natural bath & body care • books • gifts for the gardener • calendars • pet toys & treats • candles • bird feeders & supplies • wool & alpaca hats, scarves & socks • travel mugs • Bogs® boots • recycled glassware • chocolates • kitchenware • & much more

Your local last minute gift store

DTE gift cards are perfect!

DOWN TO EARTH
HOME, GARDEN & GIFT

5th & Olive Street 541-342-6820
Mon-Sat 10-6 Sun 10-5
25th & Willamette 541-349-0556

Open 'til 7pm Dec 20-21 • Closing 3pm Dec 24 • Closed Christmas Day

traveling soon?
medical advice for global travelers

THE TRAVEL CLINIC

John D. Wilson, M.D.
1200 Hilyard St., Suite S-560
541/343-6028
www.TravelClinicOregon.com

Questions? Email us at travelclinicoregon.3436028@gmail.com

WE'VE MOVED!

noli
RISTORANTE ITALIANO

classic. inspired.
delicious.

769 monroe (next to sweet life)
noliitaliancafe.com | 541.844.1663 | We do takeout

LUNCH: Tues-Sat 11:30am-2:30pm
DINNER: Tues-Thurs 5pm - 9pm Fri-Sat 5pm-10pm