

THE OPPOSITE SEX

Joseph Gordon-Levitt's directorial debut toys with gender norms

DON JON: Written and directed by Joseph Gordon-Levitt. Cinematography, Thomas Kloss. Editing, Lauren Zuckerman. Music, Nathan Johnson. Starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Scarlett Johansson, Julianne Moore, Tony Danza and Glenn Headly. Relativity Media, 2013. R. 90 minutes. ★★☆☆☆

Only a few years ago, Joseph Gordon-Levitt was still mostly known as “that kid from *3rd Rock from the Sun*.” Since 2005, he’s taken on a host of interesting roles; built the really nifty hitRECORD.org, an “open collaborative production company”; and now made his debut as a feature film director with the funny, lewd and thoughtful *Don Jon*, which does double duty as a broad comedy and a mildly subversive take on gender and expectations.

Gordon-Levitt stars as Jon, a Jersey boy known by his friends as “Don” Jon for his skills with the ladies. Jon and the boys go out on the weekends, rate the girls they see on a scale of one to 10 and, inevitably, Jon takes one of them home. On Sundays, he goes to church — swearing at other drivers on the way — and confesses to a week’s worth of sexual sins before going back into the world and doing it all again.

Jon is a bundle of contradictions and hypocrisies, but he’s only really aware of one of those contradictions: As good as Jon is at getting laid, sex doesn’t provide the satisfaction he finds in taking care of business while watching internet porn.

Don Jon has more masturbation scenes than the last several years’ worth of mainstream releases combined, and



Gordon-Levitt is fearless when it comes to Jon’s favorite hobby; he puts himself right in the center of the screen, daring you to cringe (and you probably will, sooner or later). Jon’s story is one of redemption, but it comes from an unexpected corner — not from his relationship with Barbara Sugarman (Scarlett Johansson, never without a wad of gum), a “dime” on the one-to-10 scale. Barbara’s a sweet girl with a serious love of romantic comedies, and *Don Jon* isn’t subtle about its central conceit: Barbara’s love for happily-ever-after is no less damaging to her expectations than Jon’s fixation with porn is to his. Everyone’s being fed a line of bullshit about the opposite sex, and you’ve got to find a way to break that cycle — or a person to help you break out of it.

I tip my hat to Gordon-Levitt for addressing the ugliness of the dominant, gendered narrative from within the frequent framework of that narrative — the (semi) romantic comedy — but I wish he’d indulged his subversive streak a little more. *Don Jon*’s characters are meant to be stereotypes, but Jon’s

the only one who gets to rise above that; his parents, played with gusto by Glenn Headly and Tony Danza, are grating caricatures. We’re meant to see where Jon gets his ideas about love and family, but mostly we just see a mom obsessed with grandkids and a dad obsessed with football; they’re types, not people, and as such they don’t tell us much about Jon. (As Jon’s text-obsessed sister, however, Brie Larson takes the Silent Bob role and runs with it.) Everyone is a cliché to make a point; Gordon-Levitt purposefully pushes gendered expectations to the extremes, to see what happens to a person, male or female, raised on a steady diet of false ideals. But he lets the audience off the hook a little too easily. We all get to think we’re Julianne Moore’s Esther, quirky and passionate, above all the marketing and hype. After all, we’re seeing this movie, not porn or princess weddings, right? But we’re in the machine too. Still, while *Don Jon* is far from subtle, it’s still smart, honest, salaciously funny and, at times, pleasantly surprising. It’ll be very interesting to see what that kid from that TV show does next. ■

TIX \$2 TIX 21 & FOOD \$5 SUN & TUES OVER MENU
762-1700 | 100 E. 5TH AVE
DAVIDTINORTHEATER.COM

THUR OCT 31 - WED NOV 6

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING 5:20	SHAUN OF THE DEAD 5:20	PACIFIC RIM 7:15
BEFORE MIDNIGHT 7:15*	THE CONJURING 9:35*	THIS IS THE END 9:35*

*NO SHOW SAT. DUE TO 5TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY: PACIFIC RIM 7&9:30
“TEXT-A-BEER” 541-913-5733
ORDER DRINKS & FOOD RIGHT FROM YOUR SEAT
“NO LONGER SNEAKING BEER INTO THE MOVIES SINCE 2008”

28 Beer Taps

FIRST NATIONAL TAPHOUSE
2013

New Menu!

The Perfect Match:
Dinner & a Movie!

Join us for comfort food and drinks all day and late night.

First National Taphouse
51 W. Broadway | 541-238-6048

SHOWTIMES FOR WEEK OF FRI, NOV 1 - THURS, NOV 7

BIJOU ART CINEMAS
492 E. 13th Ave.
Tel: 541-686-2458
bijou-cinemas.com/bijouartcinemas

WADJDA (PG)
Fri-Sun 2:15, 4:40, 7:00
Mon-Weds 4:40, 7:00
Thurs 4:40

ENOUGH SAID (PG-13)
Fri-Sun 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45
Mon-Weds 5:30, 7:45
Thurs 7:45

Encircle Films Documentary Series presents
A FIERCE GREEN FIRE w/ Director Q&A
Thurs 6:00

Forbidden Fruit presents
THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
w/live shadowcast
(\$10 advance/\$12 door) For mature audiences only
Fri 11:00 (doors at 10:30) All ages/No alcohol
Sat 11:00 (doors at 10:30) 21+ only! No exceptions!

BIJOU METRO
43 W. Broadway
Tel: 541-686-2458
bijou-cinemas.com/bijoumetro

Bijou Classics Series present Stanley Kubrick's
SPARTACUS (1960) Fri-Weds 7:30

INEQUALITY FOR ALL (PG) Fri 1:00, 3:10, 5:20
Sat 5:20
Sun-Thurs 1:00, 3:10, 5:20

Barn Light presents Bijou Retro Action Classics:
BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA (1986) Fri 6:30
Sat-Thurs 9:30

AFTER TILLER (PG-13) 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00

CONCUSSION (R) 7:20, 9:25

2013 SUNDANCE SHORTS Fri-Sun 1:30
Mon-Thurs 1:30, 7:00

WE ARE YOUNG (NR) Fri 9:00
Sat 7:00

BLUE CAPRICE (R) 2:55

LEE DANIELS' THE BUTLER (PG-13) 3:45

EUROPA REPORT (PG-13) (final week!) 9:00

BLUE JASMINE (PG-13) (final week!) 12:45, 5:05

Gathr Preview Series presents
JFK: A PRESIDENT BETRAYED Thurs 7:30
(\$10/no passes; members welcome)

REGAL CINEMAS
(CC,DV) = Personal Closed Captioning and Descriptive Devices Available Upon Request
Bargain Shows In () ✓No Bargain Night Specials
★Pass / Discount Restrictions Apply

VALLEY RIVER CENTER STADIUM 15
Delta Hwy. between I-5 & Beltline
ALL DIGITAL SOUND! 800-FANDANGO 1764#

Adv. Tix on Sale **THOR: THE DARK WORLD**
IMAX: **ENDER'S GAME [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★**
Fri. - Sat. 11:30 215 500 745 1030

ENDER'S GAME [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★
Fri. - Sat. (1230 300) 415 630 700 925 945

FREE BIRDS IN REALD 3D [CC] (PG) ★
Fri. - Sat. (1210 240) 510 735

FREE BIRDS [CC] (PG) Fri. - Sat. (1145 210) 440 705 930

LAST VEGAS [CC] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (1200 205 235) 445 515 720 750 955 1025

JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA [CC,DV] (R)
Fri. - Sat. (1150 1220 210 245) 435 510 710 740 935 1000

THE COUNSELOR [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (1235) 400 650 950

FIFTH ESTATE (R) Fri. - Sat. 1005 PM

CARRIE [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (1155 230) 505 730 1015

ESCAPE PLAN [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (1125 AM)

CAPTAIN PHILLIPS [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (1225 330) 655 1010

GRAVITY IN REALD 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★
Fri. - Sat. (1125 1145 145) 410 645 955 1020

GRAVITY [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri. - Sat. (220 PM) 455 PM 725 PM

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 [CC,DV] (PG)
Fri. - Sat. (1140 225) 450 715 940

DON JON [CC] (R) Fri. - Sat. (1215 PM)

ALBANY 7
Next to Fred Meyer 800-FANDANGO 309#

FREE BIRDS [CC] (PG) Fri. - Sat. (350 PM) 700 PM 920 PM

ENDER'S GAME [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★
Fri. - Sat. (120) 410 710 950

FREE BIRDS IN REALD 3D [CC] (PG) ★ Fri. - Sat. (100 PM)

LAST VEGAS [CC] (PG-13) Fri. - Sat. (110) 420 720 1000

THE COUNSELOR [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (115) 430 730 1015

JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA [CC,DV] (R)
Fri. - Sat. (135) 430 735 1010

CAPTAIN PHILLIPS [CC,DV] (PG-13)
Fri. - Sat. (100 355) 650 945

GRAVITY [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri. - Sat. (345 PM)

GRAVITY IN REALD 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★
Fri. - Sat. (130 PM) 630 PM 930 PM

9TH ST. CINEMAS 4 541-928-7469
Behind Skippers 9th St 800-FANDANGO 312#

FREE BIRDS IN REALD 3D [CC] (PG) ★
Fri. - Sat. (130 PM) 415 PM 715 PM

FREE BIRDS [CC] (PG) Fri. - Sat. (100 345) 645 910

CARRIE [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (115) 430 730 950

MACHETE KILLS [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. 940 PM

PRISONERS [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat. (100 PM) 445 PM 800 PM

Times For 11/01 - 11/02© 2013 www.REGmovies.com

CINEMARK
Purch Adv Tix @ cinemark.com
800-326-3264 + Exp #

CINEMARK 17 Gateway Mall - Beltline @ Gateway • Exp Code 1131#

CAPTAIN PHILLIPS (DIG) PG-13 11:40, 3:25, 7:05, 10:10	FREE BIRDS (DIG) PG 10:55, 1:25, 3:55, 6:25, 8:55
CARRIE (2013) (DIG) R 11:25, 2:05, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20	GRAVITY (3D) PG-13 SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 (3D) PG SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS	GRAVITY (DIG) PG-13 10:35, 1:00
CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS 2 (DIG) PG 11:05, 4:30, 9:55	JACKASS PRESENTS: BAD GRANDPA (DIG) R 11:00, 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:15
THE COUNSELOR (DIG) R 12:20, 3:40, 7:20, 10:25	LAST VEGAS (DIG) PG-13 10:40, 1:20, 4:05, 7:25, 10:00
DESPICABLE ME 2 (DIG) PG 11:15, 1:55, 5:00, 7:50, 10:20	PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS (3D) PG SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS
ENDER'S GAME (DIG) PG-13 10:30, 11:30, 1:15, 2:30, 4:15, 5:30, 7:15, 8:30, 10:15	PERCY JACKSON: SEA OF MONSTERS (DIG) PG 11:20, 4:50
ESCAPE PLAN (DIG) R 12:05, 3:20, 7:10, 10:05	PRISONERS (DIG) R 3:35, 7:00
FIFTH ESTATE (DIG) R 10:05	RIDDICK (DIG) R 11:10, 10:25
FREE BIRDS (3D) PG SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS	
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10	

MOVIES 12 Gateway Mall - Beltline @ Gateway • Exp Code 1428#

BAGGAGE CLAIM PG-13 12:25, 2:40, 5:00, 7:35, 10:15	PLANES PG 12:00, 2:25, 4:35, 7:20, 9:35
GROWN UPS 2 PG-13 11:45, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:45	RUNNER RUNNER R 12:35, 2:45, 5:05, 7:45, 10:20
MACHETE KILLS (DIG) R 12:15, 3:05, 7:50, 10:25	SMURFS 2 PG 11:55, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 9:50
MONSTERS UNIVERSITY G 11:50, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:40	WE'RE THE MILLERS R 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05
MONSTERS UNIVERSITY (3D) G SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS	THE WOLVERINE PG-13 12:05, 3:15, 7:15, 10:00
1:00, 3:30, 6:05, 8:35	YOU'RE NEXT R 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 10:10
MORTAL INSTRUMENTS PG-13 12:10, 3:10, 7:00, 9:55	

CC Assistive Listening and Captioning System Avail