

Opening This Week — Weekly Movie Previews

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Django Unchained (R for profanity, nudity, ethnic slurs and graphic violence) Jamie Foxx stars as the title character in Quentin Tarantino's revenge-tinged Western about a slave-turned-bounty hunter's search for his wife and slave owners with whom he wants to settle a score. Cast includes Christoph Waltz, Kerry Washington, Leonardo DiCaprio and Samuel L. Jackson.

Les Misérables (PG-13 for violence, mature themes and suggestive material) Musical drama, set in Paris in the wake of the French Revolution, revolving around a ruthless policeman's (Russell Crowe) relentless pursuit of an ex-con (Hugh Jackman) wanted for a parole violation after serving 19 years for the theft of a loaf of bread. With Anne Hathaway, Amanda Seyfried, Eddie Redmayne, Helena Bonham Carter and Sacha Baron Cohen.

Parental Guidance (PG-13 for rude humor) Generation-skipping comedy about a couple of old-fashioned grandparents (Billy Crystal and Bette Midler) who meet their match babysitting three grandkids (Bailee Madison, Joshua Rush and Kyle Harrison) whose helicopter parents (Marisa Tomei and Tom Everett Scott) are away on business. With Tony Hawk, Gedde Watanabe and Steve Levy.

Promised Land (R for profanity) Tale of



KAM'S CAPSULES

Movie Reviews by Kam Williams

corporate corruption about a gas company advance team (Matt Damon and Frances McDormand) that downplays the ecological risks while duping small town property owners into leasing their drilling rights. Supporting cast includes Hal

Holbrook, Rosemarie DeWitt and John Krasinski.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

Allegiance (R for pervasive profanity) Stop-loss drama about a National Guard Lieutenant (Seth Gabel) torn between his loyalty to the military and a member of his unit (Bow Wow) who went to care for a son with terminal cancer AWOL rather than redeploy to Iraq. With Aidan Quinn, Reshma Shetty and Malik Yoba.

Quartet (Unrated) Dustin Hoffman directs this musical drama set at a home for retired opera singers where plans for the annual concert celebrating Verdi's birthday are disrupted by the arrival of a pampered diva (Maggie Smith). Featuring Michael Gambon, Billy Connolly and Sheridan Smith.

Tabu (Unrated) Flashback flick about an ailing octogenarian (Laura Soveral) in Lisbon who becomes desperate on her



Jamie Foxx plays the title role in the controversial Western about slavery, *Django Unchained*

deathbed to contact the ex-lover (Henrique Espirito Santo) from Mozambique with whom she'd shared an illicit affair many years earlier. With Teresa Madruga, Isabel Munoz Cardoso, Ana Moreira and Carlotto Cotta. (In Portuguese with subtitles)

disturbing violence) Justice-delayed documentary about a trio of Arkansas teenagers convicted of a triple murder they didn't commit who spent 18 years in prison before finally being freed recently with the help of DNA evidence. With commentary by Henry Rollins and Eddie Vedder.

West of Memphis (R for profanity and

Premium Rush DVD Review

Levitt and Ramirez Co-Star in Adrenaline-Fueled Bike Thriller

by Kam Williams



Traffic is so congested in Manhattan nowadays, it's hard to see that terminally-gridlocked terrain as a viable setting for high-octane chase scenes. Yet, that is precisely what we have in *Premium Rush*, an adrenaline-fueled adventure revolving around the derring-do of daring bike messengers who dart between cars and dodge pedestrians to make their deliveries.

At the film's point of departure, we're introduced to several staff members of a bonded company called Security Courier. Employee of the Year Wilee (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is a Columbia Law School graduate who prefers this liberating line of work to being stuck sitting behind a desk in a business suit every day.

Similarly, his gorgeous girlfriend, Vanessa (Dania Ramirez), sees it as a refreshing alternative to waiting tables in a restaurant. However, one hazard of the job for her is having to fend off the sleazy overtures of fellow messenger, Manny (Wole Parks), and of their equally-flirtatious dispatcher, Raj (Aasif Mandvi).

Nonetheless, this picture is more about action than romance, and the fun starts soon after Wilee accepts an assignment to transport an envelope designated "Premium Rush" from his alma mater to Chinatown. But before he even has a chance to leave campus, a gentleman (Michael

See RUSH on page 7

4 GOLDEN GLOBE NOMINATIONS
BEST PICTURE
 BEST ACTOR HUGH JACKMAN | BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS ANNE HATHAWAY | BEST ORIGINAL SONG "SUDDENLY"

Rolling Stone
 "ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR."
 Peter Travers

VOGUE
 "A SPECTACULAR ACHIEVEMENT."
 Adam Green

ONE OF THE BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR (NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW, ROLLING STONE, NEW YORK POST, THE HUFFINGTON POST)
 11 CRITICS' CHOICE AWARDS (NOMINATIONS INCLUDING BEST PICTURE, BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTOR, BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS)
 4 SCREEN ACTORS GUILD AWARDS NOMINATIONS (INCLUDING BEST ENSEMBLE, BEST ACTOR, BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS)

HUGH JACKMAN | RUSSELL CROWE | ANNE HATHAWAY | AMANDA SEYFRIED

Les Misérables

THE MUSICAL PHENOMENON

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