

Arts & Entertainment

Kam's Kapsules: Movies Opening Friday, May 19, 2017

BIG BUDGET FILMS

Alien: Covenant (R for violence, profanity, sexuality, nudity and bloody images) Sixth installment in the sci-fi franchise revolves around a spaceship crew which finds more than it bargained for when it lands on an uncharted planet



Kam Williams
Kam's Kapsules Movie Reviews

Fassbender, Katherine Waterston, Carmen Ejo-

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Long Haul (PG for rude humor) Fourth installment in the franchise inspired by Jeff Kinney's children's book series features a new cast and finds the Heffley family embarking on a very eventful road trip to visit grandma on her 90th birthday. Co-starring Jason Drucker, Charlie Wright, Alicia Silverstone and Tom Everett Scott.

Everything, Everything (PG-13 for mature themes and brief sensuality) An enchanting, if bittersweet, bildungsroman about the love which blossoms between a sickly girl (Amanda Stenberg) growing up in an antiseptic bubble and the chivalrous Prince Charming (Nick Robinson) who moves in next-door. With Anika Noni Rose, Ana de la Reguera and Taylor Hickson.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

Abacus: Small Enough to Jail (Unrated) Justice system exposé chronicling the five-year legal battle waged by Manhattan District Attorney Cyrus Vance, Jr. against Abacus Federal Savings, the Asian-American community bank which was the only financial institution to face criminal charges in the wake of the 2008 subprime mortgage crisis.

Devil's Domain (Unrated) Revenge horror flick about a victim (Madi



'Alien: Covenant'

Vodane) of cyber-bullying who makes a deal with the Devil to get even with her tormentors. Cast includes Michael Madsen, Linda Bella and Zack Kozlow.

Fight for Space (Unrated) Pro-NASA documentary advocating for a more ambitious U.S. space program. Featuring commentary by astronaut Jim Lovell, physicist Michio Kaku and Bill Nye, the Science Guy.

Legion of Brothers (Unrated) War on Terror documentary recounting the exploits of the Special Forces unit sent on a covert mission to Afghanistan to track down the Taliban and Al-Qaeda leaders behind the 9-11 attacks.

The Survivalist (Unrated) Post-apocalyptic thriller, set in the wake of the collapse of civili-

zation due to the exhaustion of petroleum, about a nomad (Martin McCann) whose tiny farm hidden deep in the woods is discovered by a couple of starving women (Mia Goth and Olwen Fouere). Featuring Andrew Simpson, Douglas Russell and Kieri Kennedy.

Wakefield (R for profanity and some sexuality) Midlife crisis drama about a burnt out attorney (Bryan Cranston) who hides in the attic from his family and the rest of the world after suffering a nervous breakdown. With Jenni-

fer Garner, Beverly D'Angelo, Victoria Bruno, Pippa Bennett-Warner and Ellery Sprayberry.

The Woman Who Left (Unrated) "Hell hath no fury" thriller revolving around a recently-exonerated inmate (Charo Santos-Concio) who hatches a plan to exact revenge on her ex-lover (Michael De Mesa) after spending 30 years behind bars for a crime she didn't commit. Supporting cast includes Shemaine Centenera-Buenacamino, John Lloyd Cruz and Mae Paner. (In Filipino with subtitles)



'Abacus: Small Enough to Jail'

from which it received radio signals. Ensemble cast includes Michael

go, Billy Crudup, Jussie Smollett and Danny McBride.

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Amirah Vann: The "Underground" Interview

With Kam Williams For The Skanner News

An actress and singer/songwriter from Far Rockaway, Queens, Amirah Vann began performing at a young age. Pursuing her passion for performing, she completed her undergraduate study in acting at Fordham University at Lincoln Center before entering a graduate acting program at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.

Soon thereafter, Amirah began working with The Continuum Company under the direction of Jim Calder. She traveled with the company to Florence, Italy, performing in "A Midsummer Night's Dream," while collaborating as a vocalist with Jonathan Batiste ("The Late Show") to develop original music for the production. She also performed in the company's popular production of "Pericles."

Upon graduation, Amirah to participate in a variety of developmental musical workshops, including "Kingdom," "Holler If You Hear Me," "Sweethearts of Swing,"

"The Lady Killers Love Story" and "Cubamor." She made her Off-Broadway debut in "Laughing Pictures" at the Flea Theatre, and continued her stage career in "Trouble In Mind," "The Mountaintop," "Vanya and Sonya and Masha and Spike," "Wax Wings" and "Blueprint."

She began her television career in roles on "Girls" (HBO), "Believe" (NBC) and "Mozart in the Jungle" (Amazon). Her film credits include "Tracers," "And So It Goes," "Don't Worry Baby," "Once More with Feeling" and "Three and a Half Thoughts."

Amirah was recently nominated for a NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series for her work in "Underground," WGN America's critically acclaimed hit series. Here, she talks about her role on the show as "Ernestine."

Kam Williams: Hi Amirah, thanks for the interview.

Amirah Vann: It's my pleasure, Kam. Thank you.

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