

Arts & Entertainment

Kam's Kapsules: Movies Opening Friday, February 9, 2018

BIG BUDGET FILMS

The 15:17 to Paris (PG-13 for violence, profanity, bloody images, drug references and suggestive material) Clint Eastwood directed this action thriller reenacting the subduing by three American tourists of an Islamist terrorist who opened fire with an assault rifle on passengers aboard a train traveling from Amsterdam to Paris. Co-starring heroes Spencer Stone, Anthony Sadler and Alex Skarlatos as themselves.

Fifty Shades Freed (R for profanity, frontal nudity and graphic sexuality) Final installment of the erotic trilogy finds newlyweds Christian (Jamie Dornan) and Ana's (Dakota Johnson) marital bliss threatened by the surfacing of a stalker (Eric Johnson) and his former dominatrix (Kim Basinger). With Arielle Kebbel, Brant Daugherty and Dylan Neal.

La Boda de Valentina (R for profanity) Mariam Vega plays the title character in this romantic comedy about a Mexican immigrant in love with a New Yorker (Ryan Carnes) who's being pressured by her family to return home to marry her ex-boyfriend (Omar Chaparro). Featuring Kate Vernon, Jesus Zavala and Tony Dalton. (In English and Spanish with subtitles)

Peter Rabbit (PG for rude humor) Combination live-action and animated adaptation of Beatrix Potter's classic tale about a rebellious rabbit's (James Corden) attempt to raid a farmer's (Domhnall Gleeson) garden. Cast includes Daisy



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Ridley, Rose Byrne, Sam Neill, Margot Robbie and Sia.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

Basmati Blues (Unrated) Musical comedy about a brilliant scientist (Brie Larson) who invents a genetically-modified strain of rice with the help of her father (Scott Bakula) only to have it ruin the Indian farmers they'd hoped to help. With Donald Sutherland, Utkarsh Ambudkar and Tyne Daly.

Before We Vanish (Unrated) Sci-fi thriller about three aliens who each inhabit an earthling's body in preparation for a mass invasion of the planet. Co-starring Masami Nagasawa, Horoki Hasegawa and Ryuehei Matsuda. (In Japanese with subtitles)

Entanglement (Unrated) Romantic dramedy about a guy (Thomas Middleditch) who unwittingly uncovers a dark family secret about the woman (Jess Weixler) he's about to fall in love with. Supporting cast includes Diana Bang, Nicole LaPlaca and Johannah Newmarch.

The Female Brain (Unrated) Battle-of-the-sexes comedy examining the biochemistry controlling women's romantic impulses.

Directed by Whitney Cummings, and featuring commentary by Sofia Vergara, Cecily Strong, James Marsden and Deon Cole.

Fourplay (Unrated) Romantic dramedy revolving around a blind-date brunch hosted by a British couple (Colin Firth and Mariel Hemingway) for an American script-writer (Mike Binder) and a French makeup artist (Irene Jacob). With Stephen Fry, Jack Dee and Christopher Lawford.

Signature Move (Unrated) Out-of-the-closet dramedy, set in Chicago, about a lesbian Pakistani (Fawzia Mirza) who falls in love with a Mexican



'Peter Rabbit' features James Corden as a rebellious rabbit plotting to raid a garden

gym rat (Sari Sanchez) she meets in the ring after taking up Lucha-style wrestling. Featuring Shabana Azmi, Audrey Francis and Mark Hood. (In English, Spanish and

Urdu)
When We First Met (Unrated) Romantic comedy about a guy (Adam Devine) who travels back in time to understand why the girl of

his dreams (Alexandra Daddario) dumped him after what he thought was the perfect first date. With Robbie Amell, Nourreen DeWulf and Andrew Bachelor.

FILM REVIEW: 'Where's Daddy?' Indicts Child Support System as Racist and Rigged against Black Men

By Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

Today, there's a cultural consensus that the criminal justice system aggressively targets and imprisons African Americans. Might the family courts be just as racist and rigged against Black men? That is the question explored in thought-provoking fashion by "Where's Daddy?", a sobering indictment of the child support system directed by Rel Dowdell ("Changing the Game").

Rel does double duty here, moderating dozens of man-in-the-street interviews, a la Michael Moore, conducted with brothers and sisters embroiled in custody battles. His novel, in your face style isn't always comfortable, but it yields riveting raw footage ranging from bitterness about being locked up to tearful testimony about baby-mamas spending support payments on Mercedes and their hair instead of on their kids.



'Where's Daddy?'

We learn that celebrities are not at all immune from child support woes. To wit, we hear from former Philadelphia Eagles receiver Arkansas Fred Barnett, journalist/author Mister Mann Frisby, comedian J'Vonne Peterson and rap artist Freeway. Again and again, someone recounts a nightmarish encounter where he felt treated as if guilty until proven innocent.

However, this informative documentary definitely takes an even-handed approach, with just as many criticisms being leveled at

deadbeat dads as at money-grubbing moms. Regardless, the upshot is that many Black males find themselves dragged before judges quick to jail anyone delinquent or in arrears for child support.

Besides airing the diametrically-opposed opinions of plaintiffs and defendants, director Dowdell allows an array of experts to weigh in on the subject. Their insights are often more enlightening, if a little less passionate, as they are able to reflect without axes to grind. Among the luminaries

making appearances are Yesha Ministries' Bishop James D. Robinson, clinical psychologist Dr. Kathleen Walls, Ph.D., and attorneys Jermaine Harris, Brian Gordon and Shanese Johnson.

Perhaps most poignant are the words of professor Joel Austin and physician Ralph Smith. The former describes what it was like to be handcuffed and shackled in front of his kids by sheriffs who arrived at 5 in the morning to arrest him. Meanwhile, the latter is inconsolable about being estranged from his son solely because of his ex-wife's vindictiveness.

A must-see exposé suggesting justice ain't blind, but rather inclined to dispense a color-coded brand of justice when it comes to child support.

Excellent ★★★★★
Unrated



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