

Arts & Entertainment

Kam’s Kapsules: Movies Opening Friday, Sept. 7

WIDE RELEASES

God Bless the Broken Road (PG for combat action and mature themes) Faith-based film about a military widow’s (Lindsay Pulsipher) struggle to raise a young daughter (Makenzie Moss) alone after the death of her husband in Afghanistan. Featuring Jordin Sparks, Robin Givens and LaDainian Tomlinson.

The Nun (R for terror, gore, violence and disturbing images) Bonnie Aarons plays the title character in this fifth installment of “The Conjuring” franchise, set in 1952, about a priest (Demian Bichir) and a novice (Taissa Farmiga) sent by the Vatican to Romania to investigate a malevolent force unleashed in an abbey. With Jonas Bloquet, Ingrid Bisu and Charlotte Hope.

Peppermint (R for graphic violence and pervasive profanity) Crime thriller revolving around a grieving widow and mom (Jennifer Garner) who goes vigilante to exact revenge on the murderers of her husband and daughter in a drive-by shooting. Cast includes Annie Ilonzeh, John Gallagher, Jr. and Method Man.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

The Apparation (Unrated) Faith-based drama, set in France in the 1850s, relating a fictionalized account of the



Kam Williams
Kam’s Kapsules Movie Reviews

life of St. Bernadette of Lourdes (Gallatea Bellugi), a 14 year-old girl visited by the Virgin Mary over a dozen times. With Vincent Lindon, Elina Lowensohn and Bruno Georis. (In French, Italian and English with subtitles)

Bisbee ‘17 (Unrated) Justice-delayed documentary about an Arizona mining town’s belatedly fessin’ up about the dark day 100 years ago that it deported 1,200 Mexican immigrants back across the Rio Grande.

Great Great Great (Unrated) Romance drama about a couple (Dan Beirne and Sarah Koslasky) whose blissful relationship starts to fall apart after they get engaged. Support cast includes Richard Clarkin, Lindsay Leese and Ian Fisher.

Hal (Unrated) Reverential retrospective chronicling the career of the legendary Hal Ashby, director of such Oscar-winning classics as “Harold and Maude,” “Being There” and “Shampoo.” Featuring commentary by Jane Fonda, Judd Apatow and Jeff Bridges.

I Am Not a Witch (Unrated) Zambian fable

of demonic possession about an eight-year-old girl (Margaret Mulubwa) accused and convicted of practicing witchcraft. With Boyd Banda, Nancy Mulilo and Benfors ‘Wee Do. (In English and Nyanja with subtitles)

Kusama - Infinity (Unrated) Warts and all biopic revisiting the rise and fall of avant-garde artist Yayoi Kusama, who skyrocketed to fame in the ‘60s before suffering a mental breakdown and spending the last 30 years institutionalized in her native Japan.

Winter Ridge (Unrated) Suspense thriller about a young detective



‘The Nun’

(Matt Hookings) who joins the hunt for a serial killer after his wife (Ol-

wen Catherine Kelly) is left comatose by a tragic car accident. With Alan

Ford, Justin, McDonald and Hannah Waddingham.

FILM REVIEW: ‘Venus’ Delivers Timely Message

by Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

Sid Gill (Debargo Sanyal) is presently being pressured by his East Indian immigrant parents (Zena Darawalla and Gordon Warnecke) to settle down and start a family. They are even willing to find the bride. Trouble is, they have no idea their child is on the verge of gender transitioning.

“My body is a costume I cannot take off,” Sal laments, which explains the feeling that “I must have landed here from Venus.” Nevertheless, Sal is trying to summon up the courage to come out.

Meanwhile, Sal can’t figure out why a White kid on a skateboard (Jamie Meyers) has been following Sal around lately. When the character finally confronts the teen on the street, the teenager offers gets a jaw-dropping explanation: “You’re my dad!”

Sure enough, Ralph turns out to be the love child of Sid and a high school sweetheart, Kirsten Lewis. Kirsten (Amber Goldfarb) never bothered to tell Sal about the pregnancy, and still doesn’t want to have anything to do with him when confronted. So, that adds a little baby-mama drama to the mix.



‘Venus’

Oh, and Ralph’s arrival threatens to wreck Sid’s relationship with Daniel (Pierre-Yves Cardinal).

“What makes it all worthwhile is its timely and tenderhearted exploration of transgender issues

Daniel’s deep in the closet and not ready to further complicate his life with a stepson.

All of the above is unraveled and resolved in delightful fashion in “Venus,” a kitchen-sink dramedy written and directed by Eisha Marjara (Desperately Seeking Helen). Though the cross-cultural, cross-generational adventure touches on a variety of themes, what makes it all worthwhile is its timely and tenderhearted exploration of transgender issues.

An apropos redefinition of the meaning of family for the 21st century.

Very Good ★★★
Unrated
Running time: 95 minutes

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ALADDIN THEATER
SATURDAY
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SHOWTIMES **Week of Friday, Sept. 7 through Thursday, Sept. 13**

THE SPY WHO DUMPED ME (R) Fri-Thu: 11:30 AM, 6:45 PM	ANT-MAN AND THE WASP (PG-13) Fri-Thur: 11:45 AM, 4:45, 7:15
THE EQUALIZER 2 (R) Fri - Thu: 2:05 PM, 9:25 PM	HEREDITARY (R) Fri-Thur: 4:20 PM, 9:15 PM
HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA 3: SUMMER VACATION (PG) Fri-Thur: 11:55 AM, 4:35 PM	BARTON FINK (R) Fri-Thur: 2:15 PM, 9:45 PM
DON'T WORRY, HE WON'T GET FAR ON FOOT (R) Fri-Thur: 1:55 PM, 7:00 PM	\$4 adults, \$3 seniors (65+), \$3 kids (12 & under)

7818 SE Stark St, Portland, OR 97215
503-252-1707 • AcademyTheaterPdx.com
Babysitting: Children 2 to 8 years old. Fri: shows starting between 3:30 pm and 8 pm. Sat - Sun: shows starting between 1 pm and 8 pm. \$9.50 per child for the length of the movie. Call to reserve a spot, no drop ins.

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