

Kam's Kapsules: Movies Opening Friday, Jan. 4



'Escape Room'



Kam Williams
Kam's Kapsules Movie Reviews

WIDE RELEASES

Eli (R for violence and disturbing images) Charlie Shotwell plays the title character in this horror flick about a sickly boy being quarantined for a rare disease who discovers that the secluded clinic is actually a haunted prison. With Kelly Reilly, Max Martini and Lili Taylor.

Escape Room (PG-13 for profanity, peril, terror, violence and suggestive material) Psychological thriller revolving around six strangers forced to survive by their wits after becoming ensnared in a

deadly trap beyond their control. Co-starring Debra Ann Woll, Tyler Labine, Taylor Russell, Logan Miller, Niki Dodani and Jay Ellis.

INDEPENDENT & FOREIGN FILMS

American Hangman (Unrated) Tale of vigilante justice about a judge (Donald Sutherland) who is kidnapped and put on trial live over the internet after botching a criminal case. With Vincent Kartheiser, Oliver Dennis and Paul Braunstein.

Being Rose (Unrated) Cybill Shepherd handles the title role in this romance drama as a widow and wheelchair user who falls in love with an elderly cowboy (James Brolin) while traveling solo across the Southwest. Cast features Pam Grier, Amy Davidson and Cindy Pickett.

Great Great Great (Unrated) Romance drama about a couple (Dan Beirne and Sarah Kolasky) whose blissful relationship starts to fall apart when they finally get engaged after being together for five years. Support cast includes Richard Clarkin, Lindsay Leese and Ian Fisher.

Mojin: The Worm Valley (Unrated) Action-oriented sequel based on Luo Xiao's best-selling series of novels finds a team of explorers embarking on a perilous expedition in search of an ancient emperor's tomb located on a faraway island infested with treacherous monsters. Co-starring Cai Heng, Gu Xuan and Cheng Taishen. (In Mandarin with subtitles)

Rust Creek (R for profanity, violence and drug

use) Harrowing tale of survival about an ambitious college senior (Hermione Corfield) who finds herself pursued by a gang of bloodthirsty outlaws through the Kentucky backwoods after taking a wrong turn on her way to a job interview. With Jay Paulson, Sean O'Bryan and Jeremy Glazer.

State Like Sleep (Unrated) Suspense thriller revolving around a young widow (Katherine Waterston) who receives an unsettling phone call directing her return to Brussels to unravel the mystery of her husband's (Michiel Huisman) untimely death. Cast includes Michael Shannon, Luke Evans and Mary Kay Place.

The Vanishing (R for violence and profanity) Fact-based thriller set on a tiny Scottish isle where three lighthouse keepers (Gerard Butler, Peter Mullan and Connor Swindells) vanish without a trace after finding a treasure chest filled with gold aboard a shipwrecked rowboat. With Olafur Darri Olafsson, Gary Lewis and Emma King.

Netflix Criticized for Yanking Comedian's Episode in Saudi

Pulled 'Patriot Act' episode criticized the kingdom's powerful crown prince



In this May 10, 2017 file photo, Muslim-American comedian Hasan Minhaj cracks jokes for the audience after New York Mayor Bill de Blasio proclaimed May 10th as "Hasan Minhaj Day," at Gracie Mansion, in New York. In December 2018, Netflix is facing criticism for pulling an episode, from viewing in Saudi Arabia of Minhaj's "Patriot Act" that lambasted Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman over the killing of writer Jamal Khashoggi and the Saudi-led war in Yemen.

By **MARK KENNEDY**
AP Entertainment Writer

NEW YORK — Netflix faced criticism Wednesday from human rights groups for pulling an episode in Saudi Arabia of comedian Hasan Minhaj's "Patriot Act" series that criticized the kingdom's powerful crown

prince. The American comedian used his second episode, released Oct. 28, to lambaste Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman over the killing of writer Jamal Khashoggi and the Saudi-led coalition at war in Yemen.

Human rights group

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