

## Sylvester Stallone becomes **Tulsa King'** for Paramount+

has dabbled in home-screen acting, but now,

tho made Rocky Balboa and John Rambo ckles a new character tailored to his style in mount+ drama that begins streaming Sunday, Taylor Sheridan ("Yellowstone") – also an of the series alongside Stallone and "The ence Winter – the show gives the star his first ole as Dwight "The General" Manfredi, who on term expecting to be rewarded for literally Mob boss.

from New York to Tulsa, Okla., where he of his own from some of the diverse people regular cast also includes Emmy winner Dana r, Max Casella ("Doogie Howser, M.D."), Will ("The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel") and

with "Tulsa King" dates back to the start of his idan. "I met Taylor a while back, actually," the s, "riding horses in California. I wanted him ay for 'Rambo,' because I was getting lazy. on. Then he became very, very successful with 'Yellowstone,' and one day, he just had this idea (for 'Tulsa King'), called me up and pitched it to me in, like, three seconds. And I went, 'I'm in.' "

Having such an underworld role has been v"kind of a fantasy" for Stallone, he notes, "since I was rejected to be one of the 200 extras who basically stood behind a wedding cake in 'The Godfather.' I'd been trying to get in gangster films, and it just never happened. Everything comes to those who wait.

"Also, I wanted to play a different interpretation of a gangster," adds Stallone. "This is a fellow who's very educated ... reads Marcus Aurelius, reads Plato. He's into Machiavelli. He's a different animal than you would normally see in a, quote, 'gangster film.'"

Long after landing TV jobs on "Kojak" and "Police Story" in the mid-1970s, Stallone made appearances on "Las Vegas" and (as himself) "This Is Us." As he now shoulders his own series, he deems it "harder, faster, and longer" than making a movie.

"You really have to be quick. You have to work out of sync a lot of times, with sequences that don't follow the natural order of things. But most importantly, you have to keep your energy up. The amount of time we did ten episodes is the equivalent of doing five 'Rockys' in a row, with no break in-between. I have great respect for the crew in their diligence and endurance."

## In Focus

"Time for Him to Come Home for Christmas" (Hallmark Movies & Mysteries — TV movie premiere, Nov. 26)

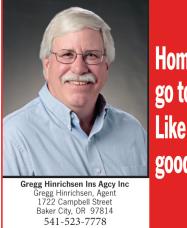
Four days before Christmas, Elizabeth Athens (Holland Roden) receives a voicemail from a number she doesn't recognize. In the message, a man whom she doesn't know makes one final plea to the love of his life for a second chance in this 2022 romance. This is the fifth installment of the popular movie franchise based on Blake Shelton's song "Time for Me to Come Home." Tyler Hynes, Steve Bacic, Brent Stait and Karen Kruper.

## "Haul Out the Holly" (Hallmark Channel — TV movie premiere, Nov. 26)

Emily (Lacey Chabert) arrives home hoping to visit her parents, only to discover that they are leaving to go on a trip of their own. As she stays at their house for the holidays, their HOA is determined to get Emily to participate in the neighborhood's many Christmas festivities, guaranteeing a happy holiday in this 2022 holiday movie. The cast also includes Wes Brown, Ellen Travolta, Peter Jacobson, Melissa Peterman and Stephen Tobolowsky.

## "A Holiday Spectacular" (Hallmark Channel -TV movie premiere, Nov. 27) In 1958, Maggie (Ginna Claire Mason) is an

In 1958, Maggie (Ginna Claire Mason) is an heiress from Philadelphia who puts her high-society wedding plans on hold in order to sneak up to New York City and make her secret dream come true: dancing live on stage in the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City Music Hall in this holiday premiere. Derek Klena, Eve Plumb and Ann-Margret also star alongside the Radio City Rockettes.



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