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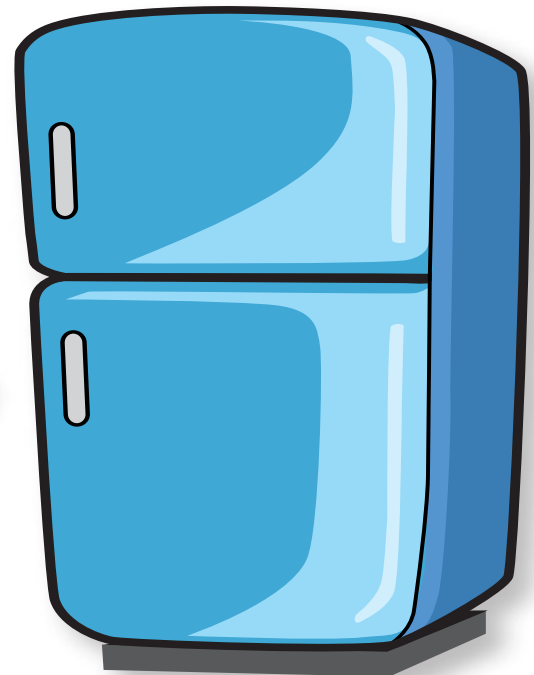
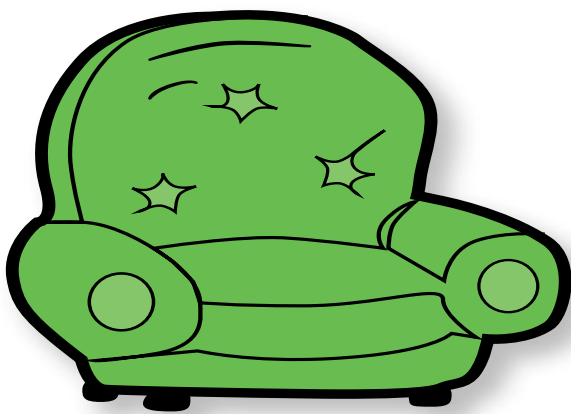
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THE 25 HOTTEST SUMMER MOVIES



Paul Walker and Vin Diesel reunite for *Fast & Furious 6*.

Giles Keyte

BY RAFER GUZMÁN NEWSDAY(MCT)

NEW YORK — This summer's style tip from Hollywood: Dark is the new light.

If you're looking for breezy, escapist fare this summer, you'll find plenty. Judging by the trailers, however, you'll also find themes of social collapse, apocalyptic scenarios and inner turmoil. The sun may be shining outside, but inside theaters, Iron Man has insomnia, Superman feels alienated and Captain Kirk is leading his crew on a *Star Trek Into Darkness*. You'll see Will Smith wandering through *After Earth* and Brad Pitt battling zombies in *World War Z*. And could any story be darker than *The Great Gatsby*, a tale of money and unhappiness scheduled for release in the merry month of May?

Granted, most of the season's movies are going for action and spectacle, not profound messages. Hollywood is probably just following an angsty fashion trend set by the successful *Dark Knight* movies. Still, there are hints of doomsday even in some of this season's comedies: Seth Rogen and Jonah Hill will face the apocalypse in *This Is the End*, while Simon Pegg and Nick Frost will seek alcohol-fueled oblivion in *The World's End*.

The summer won't be a total bummer. Possible angst-free bright spots include *The Heat*, a buddy-cop flick with Sandra Bullock and Melissa McCarthy, and chipper-looking children's films like *Despicable Me 2* and *Disney's Planes* (a spinoff of Pixar's *Cars*). And surely there won't be much hand-wringing in *Fast & Furious 6*.

HERE ARE THE 25 BIGGEST MOVIES OF THE SUMMER:

—*Iron Man 3* (Friday [May 3])

Robert Downey Jr. returns as billionaire superhero Tony Stark, with Ben Kingsley as new villain The Mandarin. Directed and co-written by Shane Black.

—*The Great Gatsby* (May 10)

Will this fourth adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's novel about wealth and scandal on Long Island be the first to become a hit? Leonardo DiCaprio takes the title role, supported by Carey Mulligan and Tobey Maguire. Jay-Z collaborated on the music. Directed by Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge*).

—*Peebles* (May 10)

Craig Robinson plays an underachiever trying to impress his girlfriend's posh family during a weekend in Sag Harbor. With Kerry Washington.

—*Star Trek Into Darkness* (May 17)

The youthful crew of the USS Enterprise returns in J.J. Abrams' ominous-looking sequel. With Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Zoe Saldana and Benedict Cumberbatch. Opens in IMAX and 3-D May 15.

—*Epic* (May 24)

A computer-animated adventure about a human girl who shrinks to a tiny size and discovers a whole new micro-world. With the voices of Amanda Seyfried and Josh Hutcherson.

—*Fast & Furious 6* (May 24)

With movie No. 6, this car-flick franchise is becoming almost as venerable as James Bond. With Vin Diesel, Dwayne Johnson and Michelle Rodriguez.

—*The Hangover Part III* (May 24)

Leonardo DiCaprio stars in the highly anticipated novel-turned-movie, *The Great Gatsby*.



Warner Bros. Pictures



Zade Rosenthal

Jaap Buitendijk



World War Z's Brad Pitt tries to save his family when all goes to hell.

© Pine District, LLC



Greta Gerwig with Adam Driver having dinner in *Frances Ha*.

Members of the Wolf Pack come full circle to Las Vegas for their final(?) blowout. With Zach Galifianakis, Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Ken Jeong. Directed by Dix Hills' Todd Phillips.

—*After Earth* (May 31)

Will Smith and his son, Jaden, play father and son on-screen as well in this sci-fi adventure set on a not-quite- abandoned planet. Directed and co-written by M. Night Shyamalan from a story by the elder Smith.

—*Now You See Me* (May 31)

Four illusionists, whose act includes bank robbery, plan their biggest trick yet. With Jesse Eisenberg, Isla Fisher and Woody Harrelson. Directed by Louis Leterrier.

—*The Internship* (June 7)

Two unemployed salesmen (Vince Vaughn and Owen Wilson) talk their way into a Google internship, then find themselves competing with whiz kids half their age.

—*This Is the End* (June 12)

Seth Rogen, Jonah Hill, James Franco, Danny McBride and many others play versions of themselves trying to survive an apocalypse in Los Angeles. Directed and written by Rogen and Evan Goldberg (*Superbad*).

—*Man of Steel* (June 14)

The long-awaited Superman reboot, with Henry Cavill — a Brit! — in the title role. With Amy Adams as Lois Lane and Michael Shannon (*Revolutionary Road*) as General Zod. Directed by Zack Snyder (*Watchmen*).

—*Monsters University* (June 21)

The prequel to Disney-Pixar's *Monsters, Inc.* goes back to the college days of monocular Mike (Billy Crystal) and fuzzy Sulley (John Goodman).

—*World War Z* (June 21)

Brad Pitt plays a UN employee trying to stop a global zombie pandemic. Based on the novel by Max Brooks (son of comedy legend Mel) and directed by Marc Forster (*Quantum of Solace*).

—*The Heat* (June 28)

A humorless FBI agent (Sandra Bullock) and a volatile Boston cop (Melissa McCarthy) team up to crack a case. Directed by Paul Feig (*Bridesmaids*).

—*The Lone Ranger* (July 3)

Johnny Depp makes for one strange-looking Tonto in this update of the classic Western yarn. With Armie Hammer ("J. Edgar") in the title role.

—*Grown Ups 2* (July 12)

Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, David Spade and Stony Brook's Kevin James return as old friends still hanging out and learning life lessons. Dennis Dugan directs again.

—*Pacific Rim* (July 12)

The big-budget sci-fi spectacle from director Guillermo Del Toro (*Pan's Labyrinth*) is about human-controlled robots battling giant aliens. With Charlie Hunnam, Idris Elba, Ron Perlman and Rinko Kikuchi.

—*RED 2* (July 19)

Bruce Willis, Helen Mirren and John Malkovich return as AARP-aged secret agents in this sequel to the 2010 action comedy *RED*. With new addition Anthony Hopkins.

—*The Wolverine* (July 26)

Hugh Jackman is back as the mutton-chopped X-Man, this time battling foes in modern-day Japan.

Directed by James Mangold (*Knight and Day*).

—*Disney's Planes* (Aug. 9)

An airborne spinoff of *Cars*, with Dane Cook as the voice of Dusty, a little plane who is afraid of heights. With Julia Louis-Dreyfus and Stacy Keach.

—*Elysium* (Aug. 9)

In 2154, downtrodden Earthling Max (Matt Damon) must reach Elysium, a space-station reserved for the wealthy. With Jodie Foster, East Meadow's William Fichtner and Sharlto Copley, reteaming with *District 9* director Neill Blomkamp.

—*Kick-Ass 2* (Aug. 16)

Aaron Taylor-Johnson is back as a DIY superhero, along with Hit Girl (Chloë Grace Moretz) and a new colleague, Colonel Stars and Stripes (Jim Carrey).

—*The World's End* (Aug. 23)

Simon Pegg and Nick Frost (*Shaun of the Dead*) star in a comedy about old friends trying to recreate a youthful pub crawl. With Martin Freeman (*The Hobbit*) and Rosamund Pike.

—*The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones* (Aug. 23)

A normal-seeming New York City teenager (Lily Collins) discovers Downworld, an "alternate New York" populated by vampires and werewolves. Based on Cassandra Clare's young-adult novel.

AND KEEP IN MIND...

Frances Ha (May 17). Greta Gerwig re-joins her *Greenberg* director Noah Baumbach to play a New York dancer finding her way in life. With Mickey Sumner, daughter of Sting.

Before Midnight (May 24). Ethan Hawke and Julie Delpy continue the 18-year onscreen love affair that began with 1995's *Before Sunrise*. Directed by Richard Linklater.

We Steal Secrets: The Story of WikiLeaks (May 24). Alex Gibney's documentary examines Julian Assange's controversial Website.

Much Ado About Nothing (June 7). Director Joss Whedon (*Marvel's The Avengers*) updates the Shakespeare play with some of his favorite actors, including Nathan Fillion, Amy Acker and Clark Gregg.

Despicable Me 2 (July 3). A sequel to the 2010 animated hit, with Steve Carell as the voice of not-so-super villain Gru. Al Pacino, Kristen Wiig and Ken Jeong provide voices.

Twenty Feet From Stardom (June 14). Morgan Neville's documentary spotlights the backup singers behind the stars. Bruce Springsteen, Mick Jagger, Darlene Love and others are interviewed.

I'm So Excited! (June 28). In Pedro Almodóvar's latest comedy, Peninsula Flight 2549 is experiencing a technical difficulty that could kill everyone on board.

Big Star: Nothing Can Hurt Me (July 3). A documentary on the pop/ rock/ art band Big Star, whose three LPs flopped in the 1970s but influenced generations of alt-rockers, from The Replacements to The Flaming Lips.

2 Guns (Aug. 2). Denzel Washington and Mark Wahlberg play guys on the run, though neither knows that the other is an undercover agent. Co-written by David O. Russell (*Silver Linings Playbook*).

One Direction: This is Us (Aug. 30). Documentary filmmaker Morgan Spurlock (*Super Size Me*) captures the British boy-band One Direction in concert. Spurlock helped produce with Simon Cowell.



DVD DISH:

Jack Reacher, Not Fade Away and The Notebook: Ultimate Collector's Edition

Karen Ballard



Tom Cruise is *Jack Reacher*, an ex-military man trying to find out the truth about an accused killer.

BY MIKE SEBASTIAN

THE MAJORS: Tom Cruise embodies Lee Child's iconic antihero in the action-packed *Jack Reacher*. When an army sharpshooter is accused of killing five people in a small town, former military policeman Reacher arrives to discover the truth. Director Christopher McQuarrie (screenwriter of *The Usual Suspects*) brilliantly casts filmmaker Werner Herzog as the villain for this high-octane action flick.

Allen Hughes (*The Book of Eli*) directs a stellar cast, including Mark Wahlberg, Russell Crowe and Catherine Zeta-Jones, in the corruption thriller *Broken City*. Crowe plays a power-mad New York mayor who hires an ex-cop (Wahlberg) to find out who his wife (Zeta-Jones) is sleeping with. But when Wahlberg uncovers more than he bargained for, he makes an enemy of the city's most dangerous man.

UNDER THE RADAR: The Sopranos creator David Chase makes his feature writing-directing debut with *Not Fade Away*, a rock 'n' roll coming-of-age story based on Chase's youth in suburban New Jersey. Set in the 1960s, the film follows a teenager who battles his old-fashioned father (James Gandolfini) and sets out to start a band.

THE HORROR! THE HORROR! A young couple (Jessica Chastain and Nikolaj Coster-Waldau, "Game of Thrones") adopts two orphan girls who, after their parents were killed, had to survive on their own in the woods for five years. But, once in their new home, the girls' behavior becomes increasingly disturbing. A throwback to slow-burn classic horror, *Mama* is refreshingly more about building tension and creepy images than gore.

FOR MOM: Two career-spanning Barbra Streisand releases hit stores just in time for Mother's Day. In her latest, *The Guilt Trip*, she is the overbearing mother of Seth Rogen as the two take a road trip from hell. Rogen plays an inventor who is setting out across the country to strike it rich when his lonely single mother guilt-trips him into inviting her along. Dan Fogelman (*Crazy Stupid Love*) provides the Albert Brooks-esque script for director Anne Fletcher (*The Proposal*).

Funny Girl, Streisand's 1968 film debut, comes to Blu-ray. William Wyler directs this classic biopic of 1930s comedienne Fanny Brice. From Lower East Side poverty to star of the Ziegfeld Follies, Brice sings and dances her way into people's hearts, while tickling their funny bones. The suave Omar Sharif co-stars.

Updating the beloved stage play and film *Steel Magnolias* with an all-black cast, Lifetime's new version follows six Louisiana women who gather at a beauty salon to share in all of life's joys and sorrows together. Queen Latifah, Phylicia Rashad and Jill Scott lead a fine cast.

THE IDIOTBOX: Full of chariot races and gladiator battles, "Ben Hur" is the epic miniseries remake of the Charlton Heston classic. Set against the backdrop of the Roman Empire, the miniseries follows Judah Ben-Hur (Joseph Morgan, *Immortals*), the son of a wealthy Jewish merchant. Betrayed by his friend and enslaved, Ben-Hur sets out on an epic struggle to regain his freedom and take his revenge.

Travel back to 1994 to the beginning of a modern TV classic with "Friends:" Seasons 1 & 2 on Blu-ray. Each episode comes lovingly re-mastered and is accompanied by the previous DVD release bonus features, including the uncut version of "Smelly Cat."

STRANGER THAN FICTION: Executive produced by Michael Mann, the four-part HBO documentary series *Witness: A World in Conflict Through a Lens* puts you on the ground with fearless photojournalists as they travel through some of the world's most dangerous places, including Juarez, Libya, South Sudan and Rio. It's a devastating look at what happens when drug trafficking, ethnic tensions and political corruption boil over into unchecked violence.

BLU NOTES: Ryan Gosling and Rachel McAdams steam up the screen in Nicholas Sparks' love story *The Notebook: Ultimate Collector's Edition*. For superfans, this limited edition set includes a keepsake locket, a 96-page journal, six postcards and loads of behind-the-scenes features, including McAdams's original screen test.

Steve McQueen stars in one of his most iconic roles in the WWII adventure *The Great Escape*. Based on a true story, this classic from director John Sturges (*The Magnificent Seven*) takes place in a Nazi P.O.W. camp built to house the allies' best escape artists. Now, the crack team, including James Garner, Charles Bronson and James Coburn, sets their sights on breaking out.

It's Robin Williams as you've never seen him before in *One Hour Photo*. Mark Romanek's (*Never Let Me Go*) dark drama follows a lonely photo lab technician who becomes obsessed with the idyllic suburban family he develops pictures for. But as his mental state begins to unravel, his fantasies turn to action.

MOVE FROM YOUR COUCH TO YOUR LAWN CHAIR...

Catch the real stars and movie stars at these outdoor screenings!



Eat See Hear's outdoor movies will include *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, *The Princess Bride*, *Clueless* and more!

Courtesy of Eat, See, Hear

BY ALISA DWYER

WHAT BETTER WAY to enjoy all of the cinematic goodness that Hollywood has to offer than under the L.A. skyline? Luckily the craze has really caught on since the Hollywood Cemetery started projecting films on mausoleums in 2002, and we have quite a compelling batch to choose from. So grab your sweaters, blankets and a picnic basket (with a stealthily hidden bottle or two of alcoholic beverages) and head to these summer showings to get your outdoor movie-viewing fix.

Cinespia

600 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles
cinespia.org

The Cinespia film screenings at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery are pretty well known as the grandfather of outdoor movie screenings in L.A. In short, it is an awesome way to ease into outdoor movies for first-timers. Make sure to pack a cooler for snacks and alcohol, and arrive early. When we say early, we mean early – many guests start lining up well over two hours before the flick, and arriving fashionably late means you might get stuck with some real crappy seats in the back. Once you claim your territory on the grass, feel free to spend the next couple of hours people watching and drinking (as per Cinespia customs). As you can imagine, this place definitely draws quite the crowd. The movies are mostly classic film picks (past screenings have included *The Birds*, *Grease*, and the original *Exorcist*), but some recent flicks also make the cut every summer.

Every Saturday

Doors usually open @ 7, movie @ 8:30

Tickets: Approx \$8-\$15

Eat See Hear

Locations differ each week
eatseehear.com

This place has everything that a good outdoor movie screening in LA has to offer: local music, food trucks, great venues and all of our film favorites. Every Saturday during the summer, Eat See Hear hosts a different film at a different location in L.A. – this summer will feature screenings at sites such as the LA State Historic Park, Pasadena City Hall and Santa Monica High School. The summer event is sponsored by KROQ, Jack FM and Los Angeles Magazine and will feature food trucks such as Lobsta Truck, Ludo, Border Grill, Buttermilk and Coolhaus. Bands from Origami Vinyl will play every night before the show, so make sure to arrive early to snag a good spot. Alcohol is technically prohibited on site, but we won't tell if you accidentally happen to forget the bottle of wine that just appeared in your messenger bag Saturday morning.

A portion of the net profits from ticket sales will go to Best Friends Animal Society.

Every Saturday night, May 11-Sept. 14

Doors @ 5:30p.m., music @ 7p.m., movie @ 8:30p.m.

Tickets: \$10 advance

Street Food Cinema

Locations differ each week
streetfoodcinema.com

The best part about this outdoor summer screening is that it is 100 percent dog friendly, so feel free to bring your pooch (or steal a friend's). Screenings will take place at Exposition Park,

LA Historic Park and more. As always, seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis unless you have reserved seating. This summer Street Food Cinema will host an indie rock line-up from The Viper Room and will provide giveaways from their sponsors to early birds. Last year audience members walked away with gas cards from 76, juice from Naked and ice cream from Ben & Jerry's.

Every Saturday night, May 25-Aug. 17 (check website for additional dates)

Doors @ 5:30p.m., music @ 6:30p.m., movie @ 8:30p.m.

Tickets: \$10 @ the door, \$10 parking

Oscars Outdoors

1341 Vine Street, Hollywood
oscars.com/events-exhibitions/outdoors

If you're looking to get the most bang for your buck, try checking out the Academy of Motion Pictures' Oscars Outdoors. The screenings have all the ambience of the awards show at their brand new open-air theater in Hollywood with a 40 by 20-foot screen. The Academy also offers free parking across the street and encourages moviegoers to bring their own picnic basket as well as beer and wine. There will also be a food truck or two if you're not feeling up to packing your own dinner. The Academy sells advanced tickets only, which means that you have ample space to spread out on their Hollywood campus. However, you may also have to be diligent in snagging tickets online in advance. The special incentive to attending an Academy-hosted movie screening: Maybe some of the films will include a Q&A beforehand with cast members and/or film collaborators?

Check website for times and ticketing info.

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VENUS AND SERENA



Courtesy of Magnolia Films

Discover the real Venus and Serena Williams in this documentary that shows their path to victory and success.

BY NICKI SPENCER

IT'S 1990 IN COMPTON, CALIF. Richard Williams and his daughters are running drills on a dilapidated tennis court in the middle of the ghetto. As each girl takes a turn hitting a ball, he analyzes the techniques and tells them what changes to make. The balls the girls have to practice with are used rejects that their father begged for from the Rivera Country Club. When the girls are done, they gather the balls, put them back in a rusted shopping cart and start a new drill. It was here, in one of the most crime-ridden areas of Los Angeles, where Venus and Serna Williams began their incredible careers.

In a new documentary appropriately titled *Venus and Serena*, director Maiken Baird shares anecdotes such as this in order to tell the complete story of these two athletes, sisters, champions and fashionistas. The film highlights their current struggles with health, age and identity, as well as the many hurdles these amazing women had to overcome in the past.

To create the documentary, Baird had camera crews follow both Venus and Serena for the entire duration of the 2011 calendar year, starting in January when Serena was hospitalized for a blood clot and Venus was also struggling with health issues. Their story moves forward from there and discusses tennis, femininity, fame, family and race. As the story of their lives in 2011 progresses, flashbacks to significant moments from their past are used to further develop the complete narrative of their life-long journey towards greatness.

The film manages to address all of Venus and Serena's major life moments, which is a difficult feat to accomplish given that they were the first sisters and first African Americans to claim the top two spots in the world rankings. From shouting at line judges to winning Wimbledon trophies, every important event in their tennis careers is discussed.

However, the film also explores the more personal moments of their lives such as the death of their older sister, their opinions on marriage and their religious beliefs. Personal interviews given by the two sisters, their family members, trainers and close friends reveal a deeper look into their lives and how far they have come. Some of the interviewees include recognizable faces like comedian Chris Rock, former President Bill Clinton, tennis champ John McEnroe and *Vogue* editor-in-chief Anna Wintour.

Some of the most compelling parts of the film are the girls' personal interviews when they were between the ages of 11 and 14. Even back then, before all of the awards, championships and trophies, both girls had complete confidence that they would eventually be ranked number one in the world. It's bizarre that these girls could predict their achievements with such certainty, as if becoming a world champion was a fact rather than a dream.

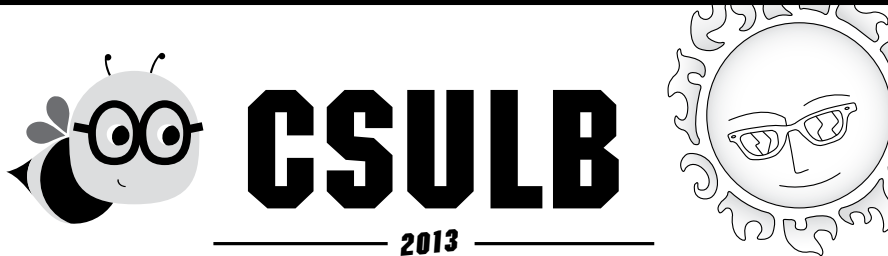
In the film, Venus says, "My parents told me I'd be number one in the world. I was brainwashed," and then she laughs. This leaves audiences wondering: Was it their confidence that led these women to achieve greatness, or was it their greatness and their athletic talent that caused their confidence?



When discussing the very first competition between Venus and Serena at the U.S. Open, John McEnroe said, "Two U.S. players, sisters, same household, same bedroom, primetime, Saturday night, U.S. Open. No one could have scripted that ever." While it is true that no one scripted their lives, *Venus and Serena* does a good job of putting their story in the cinematic form. The life of a champion is one that is naturally filled with suspense, obstacles and struggle – and this film is the story of two champions.

Overall, *Venus and Serena* reveals the amazing confidence and perseverance these athletes possess, as well as the quirky and loving relationship they have with each other.

GRADE: A

Venus and Serena releases on May 10 at the Laemmle Royal Theatre in L.A. For more information, click here: <https://www.facebook.com/venusandserenafilm>



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ENJOY YOUR SUMMER NIGHTS AT THE DRIVE-IN!



Want to reenact that drive-in scene from Grease? Then head over to one of these SoCal drive-ins!

BY ALISA DWYER

It wouldn't be a true L.A. summer without a couple trips to the Inland Empire

to catch a few flicks at the drive-ins. While a ticket at the Landmark will run you about \$15 a movie, you can usually snag an outdoor film for just \$10 for a double feature, all without having to leave your car. For the best drive-in movie experience, bribe the friend with a truck (or SUV if your friends are truck-less) and load up on pillows, blankets and a battery-operated radio (if they even still make them) to ensure that you don't kill your friend's battery.

The good thing about driving your own car onto the lot is that it is relatively easy to smuggle in whatever kind of contraband your little heart desires – this is not to say that we are endorsing this kind of behavior, but merely just stating the facts. So, whether it be a plethora of theater-approved snacks (Raisinets, anyone?), a pack of Corona (after all, it's summer and you're only human) or your Chihuahua-sized, non-barking furry friend, it might be a good opportunity to rebel a little.

If you're heading out with a large group, make sure that everyone brings plenty of cash – neither the ticket booth nor snack bars will except cards, and having to run down the street to pull money out of a 7-11 ATM might mean re-waiting in line and missing part of the first feature.

That's another thing – always make sure to arrive at least 45 minutes prior to the first screening (most theaters open gates 60-90 minutes before the first film, but check online for times), especially on weekends, or you will most likely get stuck in the far back behind that obnoxious lifted truck that refuses to turn off their headlights.

Whether you're planning a cute date or a fun summer outing with friends, we definitely recommend checking out these tried-and-true L.A. drive-in hotspots. Although most of the locations are a little bit of a drive from L.A.'s city limits, they are definitely worth the road trip. Do a little research before your outdoor movie-viewing adventure, and make sure you come prepared with all the amenities. You'll be guaranteed a fun and cheap Friday film night.

ELECTRIC DUSK DRIVE-IN

1000 San Julian Street
Los Angeles 90015
electricduskdrivein.com

Admission: \$10 online, \$13 @ the door

Pros:

- Right in the heart of downtown L.A. (hipster spot)
- Pet friendly
- Patch of Astroturf right in front of the screen offers VIP seats if you don't mind not sitting in your car

Cons:

- Only plays one feature a night
- Features are usually older films (Summer 2013 films will include *Office Space*, *E.T.*, *The Princess Bride*, etc.)
- Showings only a couple times a month

VINELAND DRIVE-IN MOVIE THEATRE

443 N. Vineland Ave.
City of Industry 91746
vinelanddriveintheater.com

Admission: \$9 @ the door

Pros:

- More than one showing a night
- Family-friendly crowd
- Open seven days a week

Cons:

- Theater sits right next to the Metrolink so noisy trains can interrupt the film
- Lots of people walking around during the feature, especially towards the back rows

VAN BUREN DRIVE-IN THEATRE

3035 Van Buren Blvd.
Riverside 92503
vanburendrivein.com

Admission: \$7 @ the door

Pros:

- Two movies for about half the price of one
- Cheap good-quality food at the snack stand and you can get

coupons online (typical theater food: hotdog, burgers, churros, popcorn, candy, etc.)

- Open rain or shine
- Boom boxes allowed

Cons:

- gets crowded very early, especially on weekends
- restrooms are not well-kept

MISSION TIKI DRIVE-IN THEATRE

10798 Ramona Ave.
Montclair 91763
missiontiki.com

Admission: \$7 @ the door

Pros:

- Cute gift shop next to the snack bar
- Clean, tiki-hut inspired facilities
- Radio quality and signal is exceptionally good

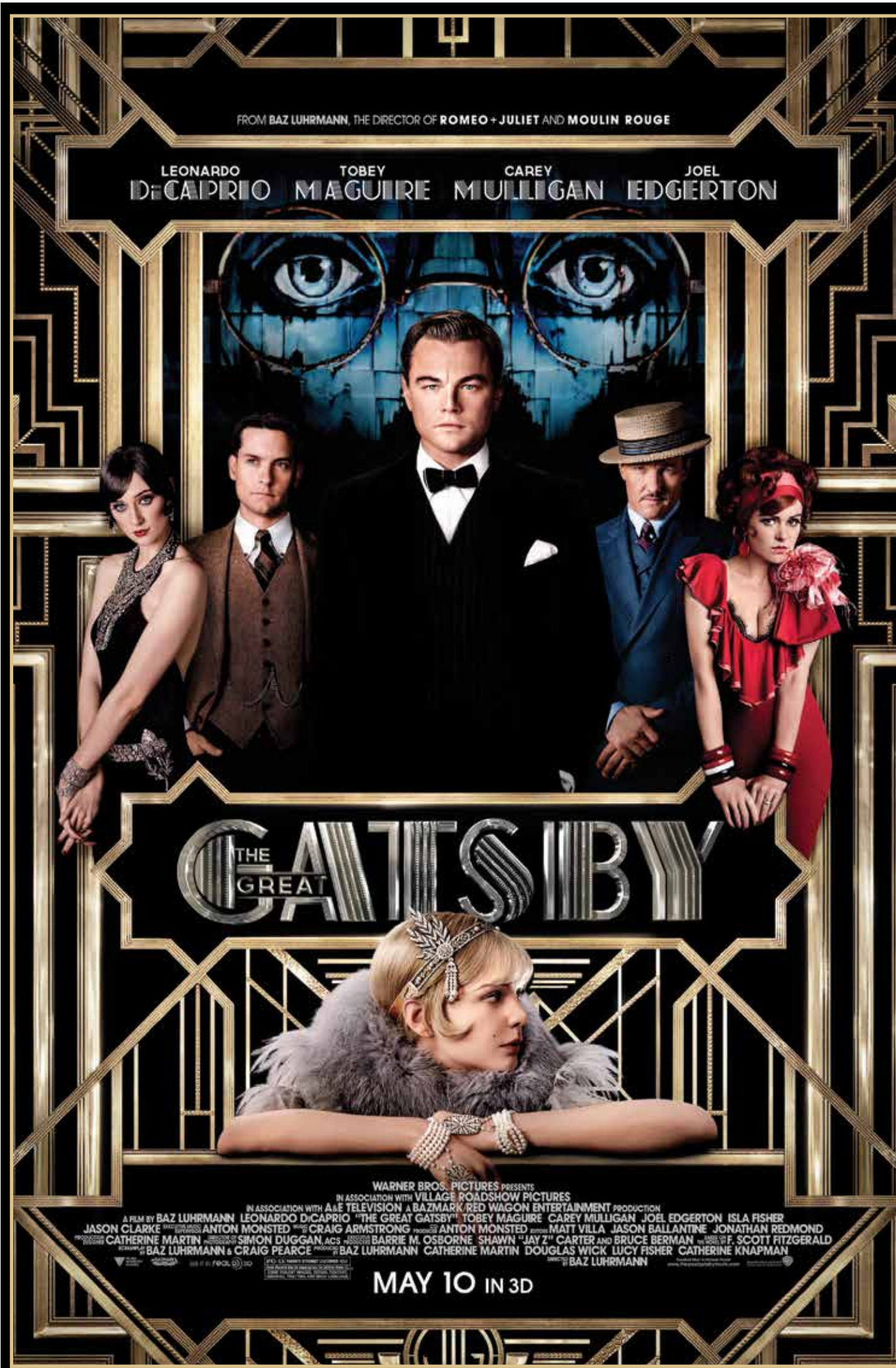
Cons:

- Screens are dimly lit, so try to opt for a more colorful film over darker ones
- Not allowed to switch screens in between movies, so make sure you will be happy seeing both the movies playing during the double feature

Drive-In Theater Trivia!

Did You Know...?

- The first drive-in opened in the summer of 1933 and was known as simply the "Automobile Movie Theater." The first film shown was the 1932 flick *Wives Beware*, and admission was 25 cents for each car and 25 cents for each person.
- Shortly after the launch a "Babysitter Protest" was held, where teenage girls marched in protest of the theaters, holding signs that read "Down with Drive-Ins, More Work for Babysitters."
- At the peak drive-in theater popularity in 1958, there were between 4,000 and 5,000 drive-ins operating in the U.S., but today there are only 360.



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IN THEATERS MAY 10

THEGREATGATSBYMOVIE.COM



FORGET THE MICROWAVE. FOR PERFECT POPCORN, MAKE YOUR OWN ON TOP OF THE STOVE.

By Lee Svitak Dean
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

I come from a family of serious popcorn makers. My memories of childhood are tied to the rattle of corn kernels hitting the pan. The ping-ping-ping of them bursting. The alluring fragrance of popped corn wafting into the room. The deliciously greasy fingers that had to be licked.

On Saturday nights, my mother would pull out the 3-quart Revere Ware pot — the one with a few vestiges of burnt kernels — and pop up our treat while we, freshly scrubbed and smelling of Lux soap and Prell shampoo, watched “My Three Sons” and “Hogan’s Heroes.”

Occasionally, there were private popcorn moments to which I was not invited. Hours after my appointed bedtime, I would be buried in blankets in a darkened room, tossing and turning as only a night owl does, when I would hear the telltale kernels as they clattered into the pan. It meant only one thing: Mom and Dad were eating popcorn. Alone.

That always posed a late-night dilemma. Should I give in to temptation and tiptoe into the kitchen to let my folks know I was awake and wouldn’t mind having some popcorn? Or would I risk a bad-tempered “Get back to bed!” if they didn’t want me around? Some nights the siren call of popcorn was worth the prospect of a little danger.

We took our popping seriously, my mother comparing notes with her sisters on the best technique: lots of oil or little, salt before or after, shaking the pan or not, white, yellow or any of the gourmet versions of popcorn. (“Can you believe it?” my mother would exclaim when she saw the newfangled oddities. “Popcorn comes in colors these days.”)

When it came to eating from the overflowing bowl, the Svitaks had a distinct style. Well, at least two of us did (that would be my father and me). There are those who eat their popped corn delicately, kernel by kernel, as though they could nibble all day without fear that anyone else would finish the bowl. There are others who grab small handfuls and, again, take their time.

Then there are those who can only be called “wolfers.” (And yes, that would include me and my father.) We would grab huge handfuls, from which more than a few kernels would fall to the floor or our laps. With heads tilted backward (the better to catch the popcorn), we would toss back the fistfuls of popcorn at one time with gustatory relish. Not a pretty sight, I know. Like wolves tearing apart a carcass, we would devour the bowl of popcorn while the others cavalierly nibbled away at theirs.

By the mid-1980s, when microwave popcorn appeared, we had packed up the old pan. The sheer novelty of almost-instant popcorn had us transfixed in front of the microwave as the small bag expanded in front of our eyes, even though we heeded the urban myth to “stand clear of the microwave.” Never mind that the bags often burned. It was magic.

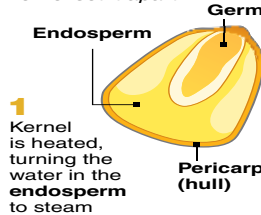
THE GOOD OLD DAYS

I’m back to the real thing these days, kernels popped in a heavy pan with just a thin coating of oil. I top it with a modest dose of melted butter and salt. It’s the perfect snack (and in some cases, dinner) in the winter and fall, which not surprisingly is when most popcorn kernels are sold.

Not only is popcorn cheap to make at home, but it’s also fast —

MAKING IT POP

The moisture content and strong hull of a popcorn kernel set it apart.



AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

2 Pressure inside the kernel rises, rupturing the pericarp

3 Starchy endosperm becomes gelatinous, solidifies into spongy popcorn in cooler air



MCT

PERFECT POPCORN

Popcorn is fast and easy to prepare. Use these instructions to make great popcorn every time. *Makes 5 cups.*

INGREDIENTS:

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil (we recommend canola)
- 1/2 cup popcorn kernels
- Melted butter, optional
- Salt, optional

Tip: It’s best to use a deep, heavy pan. Use only as many kernels as cover a single layer in the bottom of the pan. Use a neutral-flavored oil with a high smoking point, such as canola.

DIRECTIONS: Cover bottom of 3-quart pan with thin coat of oil. Place over medium-high heat. Add kernels to cover the bottom of pan in one layer. Cover. You do not need to shake the pan as the popping keeps the kernels moving. The popping will take 3 to 5 minutes. When the popping slows to 2 seconds between kernels (instead of the early rapid-fire), remove pan from heat. Transfer popcorn to a large bowl. Add melted butter and salt, as desired, and toss well. Serve immediately.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVING — CALORIES: 122; FAT: 6 G; SODIUM: 2 MG; CARBOHYDRATES: 15 G; SATURATED FAT: 1 G; CALCIUM: 1 MG; PROTEIN: 2 G; CHOLESTEROL: 0 MG; DIETARY FIBER: 3 G; DIABETIC EXCHANGES PER SERVING: 1 BREAD/STARCH, 1 FAT.

CARAMEL CORN

For a sweet tooth, try this recipe. *Makes 5 quarts.*

YOU WILL NEED:

- Candy thermometer
- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 2 cup brown sugar, packed
- 1/2 cup light or dark corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 5 quarts (20 cups) popped corn

DIRECTIONS: Preheat oven to 250 degrees. Melt butter in saucepan. Stir in brown sugar, syrup and salt. Bring to boil, stirring constantly. Boil without stirring 5 minutes or until candy thermometer reaches 248 degrees. Remove from heat. Stir in baking soda and vanilla extract. Gradually pour over popped corn, mixing well. Turn into 2 large shallow baking pans. Bake for 45 to 60 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes. Remove from oven. Cool completely. Break apart. Store in airtight container.

NUTRITION INFORMATION PER SERVING — CALORIES: 220; FAT: 10 G; SODIUM: 230 MG; CARBOHYDRATES: 34 G; SATURATED FAT: 6 G; CALCIUM: 23 MG; PROTEIN: 1 G; CHOLESTEROL: 24 MG; DIETARY FIBER: 1 G; DIABETIC EXCHANGES PER SERVING: 1 BREAD/STARCH, 1 OTHER CARB, 2 FAT.

almost the same amount of time to make popcorn from scratch as to make it in the microwave. From start to finish, 3 to 5 minutes. So much for our early excitement over the speed of microwave popcorn.

There is the fuss factor, which doesn’t matter to the die-hard popcorn maker: The popcorn pan may get marked by an errant kernel; there’s more cleanup than with microwave popcorn. But there also isn’t the distracting burnt paper smell.

These days, the corn offers a big advantage we never considered earlier: Popcorn is a whole grain and, yes, it can be used to meet dietary recommendations for whole grains (3 cups of popped popcorn is considered to be one serving of grain). It is fiber, after all.

A SIMPLE HOW-TO

I’ve included a recipe here, though you don’t really need one. The key is to match the amount of popcorn kernels to the pan you are using. First lightly coat the bottom of a deep pan with a neutral oil that has a high smoking point, such as canola. The oil gets very hot, so you want one that won’t burn. And, if the oil has a flavor, the popcorn will pick up the same. Use only as many kernels as make up one layer on the bottom of the pan. Too many and you will end up with unpopped kernels, or what we used to call “old maids.”

Cover the pan and place it over medium-high heat. Years ago we shook and rattled the pan till our arms were numb, but in retrospect it wasn’t necessary. The kernels are moving as they pop, and are just fine if you leave the pan on the burner while they are exploding.

Listen as the kernels pop and when they slow to two seconds in between bursts, take the pan off the burner and carefully pour the popcorn into a bowl (do this pointing away from your eyes, in case an unexpected last-minute kernel pops).

If you’re using butter, now’s the time to melt it (cool the pan a bit if you’re using the same one because it will be hot enough to burn the butter) and add whatever flavorings you prefer.

That’s it. A treat for the times: cheap and fast. And tasty — whether you nibble the popped corn or wolf it down.

POPCORN TIPS

- Store the kernels in an airtight container in a cool, dry spot — not in the refrigerator. The kernels have moisture inside (that’s what makes them pop when heated) and refrigerators will dry them out.
- Salt the popcorn after — not before — the kernels have popped, or it will make them tough.

SEASON VARIATIONS

- **Curried:** Combine 2 teaspoons curry powder, 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt and 1/2 teaspoon sugar. Toss with 8 cups buttered popcorn.
- **Ranch chile:** Combine 1 tablespoon dry ranch salad dressing mix, 1/4 teaspoon ground chipotle chile pepper or chile powder and 1/8 teaspoon garlic salt. Toss with 8 cups buttered popcorn.
- **Savory:** Butter popcorn first so the other flavorings will stick. Use one: Ground red pepper; grated Parmesan, cheddar or other hard cheese; finely chopped fresh rosemary; garlic powder or paprika.

POPCORN BY THE NUMBERS

5,600: Age, in years, of popcorn ears found in caves in New Mexico

400 to 460: Degrees that are the ideal popping temperature

70: Percentage of popcorn eaten at home (remainder at theaters, stadiums, etc.)

54: Average number of quarts of popcorn eaten annually by each American (more than in any other country)

122: Calories in 1 cup popcorn, oil-popped

102: Calories in 1 tablespoon butter

31: Calories in 1 cup popcorn, home-popped, hot air, no fat

ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER PRITCHARD/MCT



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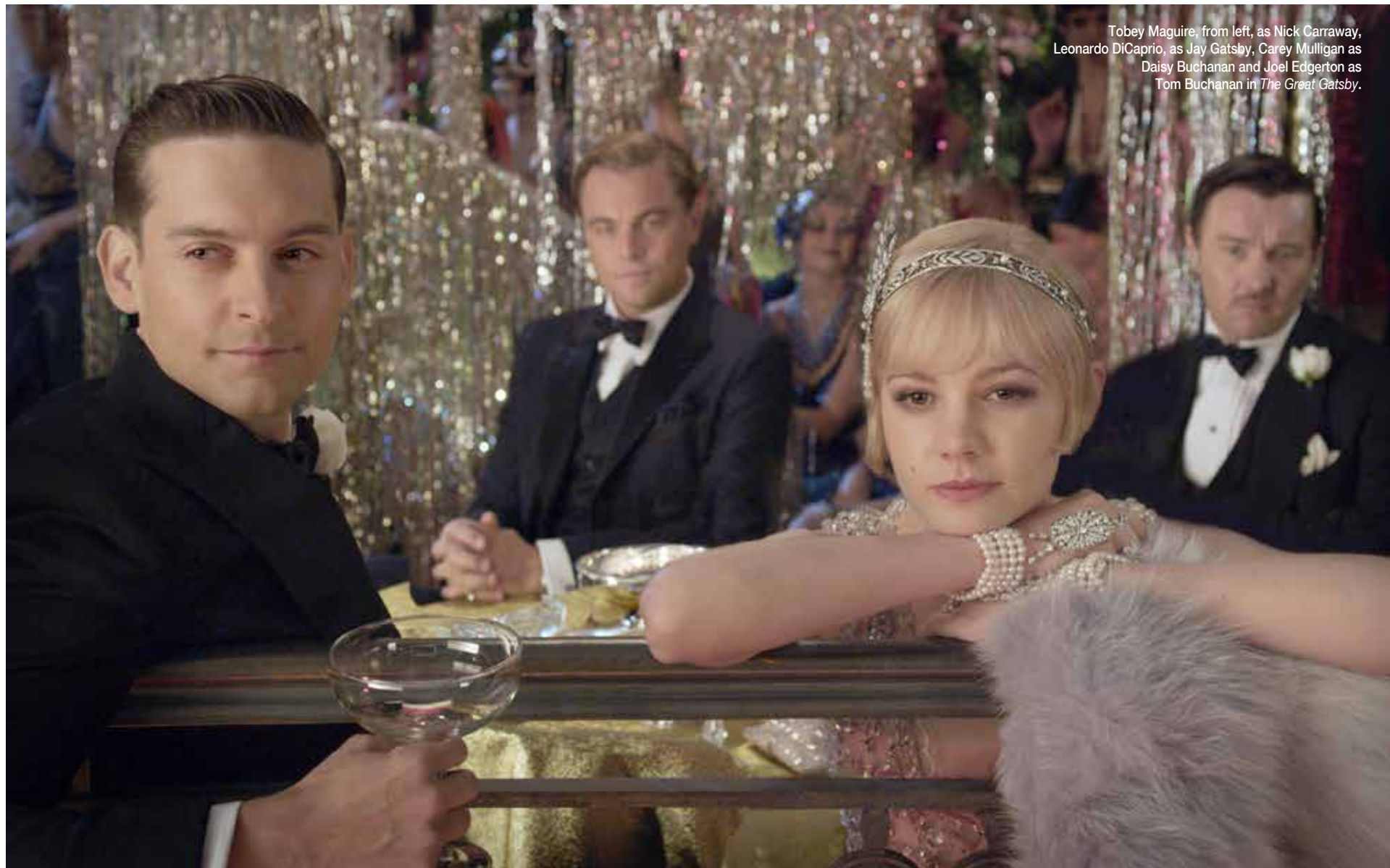
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WILL MOVIEGOERS GET A GREAT GATSBY AT LAST?



Tobey Maguire, from left, as Nick Carraway, Leonardo DiCaprio, as Jay Gatsby, Carey Mulligan as Daisy Buchanan and Joel Edgerton as Tom Buchanan in *The Great Gatsby*.

Courtesy of Warner Bros. Pictures/MCT

BY RAFER GUZMAN [NEWSDAY \(MCT\)](#)

NEW YORK — Will the fourth time be a charm for *The Great Gatsby*?

Every few decades, Hollywood is entranced anew by F. Scott Fitzgerald's 1925 novel of high living and low morals in the Jazz Age. The story of the love between self-made millionaire Jay Gatsby and flighty aristocrat Daisy Buchanan has been filmed in 1926, 1949 and, most notoriously, in 1974 with Robert Redford and Mia Farrow. Often, though, it's the filmmakers who learn the novel's cruel lessons, spending time and money on a labor of love that ultimately exceeds their grasp.

Somebody once said you can't repeat the past, but on Friday *The Great Gatsby* once again arrives in theaters with some of the hottest stars of the age. Leonardo DiCaprio plays the title role, Carey Mulligan is his elusive Daisy and Tobey Maguire portrays narrator Nick Carraway. Rounding out the cast are Joel Edgerton (*Warrior*) as Daisy's husband, Tom, and Isla Fisher (*Wedding Crashers*) as his working-class plaything, Myrtle Wilson. The director is Baz Luhrmann (*Romeo + Juliet*, *Moulin Rouge!*), who co-wrote with his longtime collaborator, Craig Pearce.

It certainly isn't the same old *Gatsby*, although it's still set in the fictional Long Island villages of East Egg, and West Egg — inspired by Great Neck, where Fitzgerald briefly lived. With a reported budget of \$100 million, this version is big, brassy, lavish and driven by an anachronistic hip-hop soundtrack (Jay-Z is the film's executive producer). What's more, it's in 3-D.

Luhrmann seems aware that his *Gatsby* won't please everyone. Wrapping up a three-day publicity marathon last weekend at the Plaza Hotel — a crucial locale in the novel — Luhrmann sums up the reactions he's gotten so far: "Whatever

their view of the film, they're really engaged in the debate," he says. "They love the book and they want to talk about it. Everyone owns *The Great Gatsby*. It's theirs, and don't you touch it."

"Debate" is an apt choice of words for a novel that has always been open to conflicting interpretations. Is it an ode to American optimism? A cautionary tale of greed? A snapshot of a generation teetering on unimaginable change? The book's nuanced characters and ever-changing relationships can be equally tough to define.

"The *Gatsby* that I remember reading when I was 15 years old in junior high was far different than the *Gatsby* that I read as an adult," says DiCaprio. "Everyone has their own personal attachment to this book, and they feel like they know these characters on a very intimate level. And, of course, when you're making a movie, you have to be very specific."

Hollywood has been trying to pin down *The Great Gatsby* almost from the moment it hit shelves. The first version was a 1926 silent starring Warner Baxter as Jay, but no known prints exist. The 1949 adaptation starred an enjoyably tough Alan Ladd but suffered from lengthy monologues and a moralistic streak. The definitive version, and not in a good way, remains the 1974 attempt with Redford and Farrow.

It could have been a three-hankie blockbuster — the *Titanic* of its day — with lavish costumes by a then-rising Ralph Lauren, a script by Francis Ford Coppola and direction by British import Jack Clayton. Instead, this *Gatsby* became a near-legendary dud. The *New York Times*' Vincent Canby called it "as lifeless as a body that had been too long at the bottom of a swimming pool."

"It's one of the most beautifully written books we have

in our culture, and you can't really get that in a film," says Ruth Prigozy, an English professor at Hofstra University and co-founder of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Society. "A lot of it has to do with descriptions of the parties, of the home, of Tom Buchanan and the power in his arms. Even the description of when Gatsby first sees Daisy, there's something communicated. They haven't yet been able to transcribe that into film."

Luhrmann was determined to try. A longtime Fitzgerald fan, he revisited the novel via audiobook while traveling on the Trans-Siberian Express in 2004 and was struck by its prescience. "Stock markets soaring, moral elasticity on Wall Street, a kind of shared hypocrisy," Luhrmann says. "And it all ends in a terrible crash."

To bring *Gatsby* to the screen, Luhrmann juggled financing from three studios, relocated the production to Australia when New York proved too expensive and even survived getting his head split open by a stray camera crane. More important, he did extensive research, speaking to Fitzgerald scholars, lifting material from *Trimalchio* (an early version of the novel) and reading correspondence from the author's teenage muse, Ginerva King, and his eventual wife, Zelda.

To play Daisy, Mulligan read those letters, too, along with *The Great Gatsby* for the very first time. "There were lines in the book that didn't make the movie, but that I loved," the British actress says. "When Nick describes her as 'the golden girl, the king's daughter,' those were big for me. I remembered those."

Luhrmann says his goal was to "reveal the text" of an 88-year-old novel that still seems relevant. After the film's release, he says, "The debate will continue. Believe me, it will continue."

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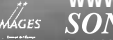
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BY NICKI SPENCER

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L.A. Live (Downtown)
lafilmfest.com

This year marks the 19th annual Los Angeles Film Festival, which brings outdoor screenings, Coffee Talks and other popular cinematic events to film fans living near the L.A. area. The event is hosted by a non-profit organization called Film Independent, which supports independent films and filmmakers. The festival gets more than 5,200 submissions and premieres about 30 films in different venues around L.A. Throughout the years, the festival has featured some big names as the guest directors like Kathryn Bigelow (*The Hurt Locker/Zero Dark Thirty*) Ang Lee (*Life of Pi*) and even George Lucas. They also have a long list of notable speakers that participated in the past, which includes A-listers Ben Affleck, Quincy Jones, Sylvester Stallone and many more. This year, the festival's home base will be at L.A. Live and most of the screenings will be at the Regal Cinema's L.A. Live Stadium 14.

EVOLUTION INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

July 26-27
Location TBA
evolutionfilmfestival.com

The Evolution International Film Festival is held in different countries around the world, allowing films to gain a global audience. This "nomadic" festival screens "socially relevant, provocative, and innovative films" such as Sam French's *Buzkashi Boys* shot in Afghanistan and Bryan Buckley's *Asad* shot in South Africa, which both went on to receive Academy Award nominations after being screened at the EIFF in Palma de Mallorca, Spain in October 2012. The film entries are separated by categories including narrative feature, shorts, documentary, documentary shorts, animated shorts and student shorts. Whether you are at the EIFF in North America, Europe or Dubai, you are experiencing fantastic cinematic works as well as networking events and industry panels. The last time the EIFF

was held in America was in March 2012 at the Los Angeles Film School, and it featured films from Egypt, Switzerland, Mexico, Lebanon and more.

OUTFEST

July 11-21
Various locations
outfest.org/about-outfest-los-angeles

OUTFEST, one of the world's largest events for LGBT cinema, was founded in 1982 by a couple of UCLA students who wanted to promote equality by celebrating LGBT short and feature-length film narratives. The 10-day event will showcase about 150 new short and feature films as well as host panel discussions and parties. Throughout the festival, 40,000 guests converge at the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, the Orpheum Theatre and other locations in L.A. to view winning LGBT films.

DOWNTOWN FILM FESTIVAL LOS ANGELES

July 12-18
Locations TBA
dffla.com

When people think of movies, the film industry, and Hollywood, they do not think of downtown L.A. Let's face it, downtown has never been a gem to brag about in L.A., especially when we have the beach, Hollywood, Disneyland and other attractions that capture more attention. However, over the past couple of years, downtown L.A. has grown into a buzzing scene for young hipsters and professionals. And in 2008, it became significant and attractive enough to even get its very own film festival. Since then, the Downtown Film Festival Los Angeles has screened more than 1,000 feature-length and short films and they will bring more creativity, art and entertainment this summer. In the past, this festival hosted the West Coast premiere of Spike Lee's *Passing Strange: The Movie*, a showcase of independent films using 3-D technology, and the L.A. premiere of Michael Jackson's "lost" film about his Jackson 5 Tour of Africa.

Film Terms You Should Use To Sound Smart

Establishing shot – A shot that establishes the location and atmosphere of the scene. For instance: a shot of a graveyard on a foggy day.

Jump Cut – An unnatural and instantaneous cut from one action to another.

Reaction Shot – A shot of an actor's reaction to something else. This is often used to build suspense, especially in horror films.

Montage – A series of shots edited together to show a longer activity evolving in a shorter amount of time. For example, the montage between the old man and his wife in Pixar's *Up*.

Avante-garde – A type of film characterized by unconventional, obscure, and personal ideas. Use it to describe films or ideas that are experimental and innovative.

*REMEMBER: When in doubt, mention how much you love *Pulp Fiction*. That should gain you some respect.

WHAT TO WEAR:

The problem with film festival attire is that you need a hipster chic outfit that is also comfortable. Be careful to not out-hipster yourself: only one bold accessory is necessary. Do not wear a fedora, black-rimmed glasses, a denim button up shirt, a scarf and mustard-colored jeans all at the same time. Do you want to run into Ryan Gosling looking like an Urban Outfitters sale rack? I don't think so.

The roasted corn and basil polenta bites at Native Foods Café also contains pesto, red pepper, onion and a touch of Native cheese.



The All Hail Kale Salad at Veggie Grill combines marinated kale, red cabbage, corn salsa and more. Add blackened chickin' if you're very hungry.



DINNER AND A MOVIE, TAKE TWO!

BY HENRY SENEAL



Bow & Truss' Tres Leches Cake is a triple mil and rum soaked cake topped with a berry compote.



Blue Plate's Montana Club is one of the best sandwiches on the menu.

Check out the best places to eat near your favorite movie theaters.

THE OLD "DINNER AND A MOVIE" COMBO IS NOTHING NEW. IN FACT, IT IS GETTING PRETTY TIRED.

However, the concept is not a bad one; it is actually brilliant. It just seems humdrum because you need to stop going to the same convenient, nearby theater and stop ordering the same thing at that same place you always go for a quick bite.

Check out a new pairing across town. Push the limits. Here are a few options to get your creative juices flowing!

COMBO #1

Theater: The Aero Theatre

1328 Montana Ave., Santa Monica 90403

323.466.3456

Restaurant: Blue Plate

1415 Montana Ave., Santa Monica 90403

310.260.8877

<http://blueplatesantamonica.com/>

The Aero Theatre is left over from another time, but that is part of the charm. Operated by American Cinematheque, it boasts older and classic films on the big screen the way they were meant to be seen! There are often special guests from the original production to answer questions and share memories of the film's creation. Blue Plate is a couple of blocks away and is the perfect pairing as it also offers a new twist on classic fare. We all started with a creamy, satisfying Hummus platter and then tore into some sandwiches. My Montana Club sandwich was piled high with turkey, bacon and Swiss cheese – it really hit the spot with a Passion berry Iced Tea.

COMBO #2

Theater: The Fox Westwood Village Theatre

961 Broxton Ave., Los Angeles 90024

310.208.5576

Restaurant: Native Foods Café

1114 Gayley Ave., Los Angeles 90024

310.209.1055

<http://www.nativefoods.com/>

This is a case of opposites attracting: the tried and true of the Fox Westwood theatre paired with Native Foods Café's fun and new. The theatre has a limited selection. It isn't a mega-plex, but when those movies that you have been waiting for show up on its roster, go! The café offers vegan fare (so now you know where to take those friends), and it is fantastic. I had an amazing Chimi Chop Salad drizzled with that Chimichurri sauce we all love. The Roasted Corn and Basil Polenta Bites were a new flavor for us, and there were no regrets. We debated about dessert but were very happy that we chose to share The Cranberry Orange Cake. It was tangy, sweet and satisfying. Parking is at a premium in Westwood, but the café is around the corner from the theatre and offers an hour of

free parking at the lot across the street with a \$10-minimum purchase.

COMBO #3

Theater: The Laemmle NoHo7

5240 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood 91601

310.478.3836

Restaurant: Bow & Truss

11122 Magnolia Blvd., North Hollywood 91601

818.985.8787

<http://bowandtruss.com/>

Be one of the first to experience the new and the newer in an up-and-coming, soon-to-be-trendy neighborhood. The theatre is barely more than a year old, and the restaurant is even younger. The Laemmle chain has a reputation of offering more quirky independent films, but this venue throws a couple mainstream titles on the marquis to satisfy the locals' tastes. The Bow & Truss offers a full menu of food and drink, but we opted for sharing a few smaller dishes in the classic tapas style. The Button Mushroom Empanadas were literally fought over – they were *that* good. The Chicken Confit tacos were a surprising success. Rich and tasty, our group ordered a second plate with some extra pickled shallots the second time around. We all nibbled a Charcuterie and cheese platter, sipped some Spanish wine and shared the best Tres Leches Cake I think I have ever had. Bow & Truss's outdoor patio was the best place to linger and chat after the flick.

COMBO #4

Theater: Arclight Cinemas

6360 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles 90028

323.464.1478

Restaurant: Veggie Grill

6374-A Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 90028

323.962.3354

<http://www.veggiegrill.com/index.html>

You may hear a grumble or two when you suggest The Arclight. It costs a little more than other theatres, but there are perks. Not the least of which is the assigned seating. Purchase tickets online in advance, choose exactly where you want to sit, show up just minutes before show time, and slide right into the perfect seat. They also have that Cinerama Dome! If you want to see that big action-packed flick full of special effects you just have to see it in the dome. There are also cocktail-friendly, 21-and-over screenings as well as many special events to look out for. I paired this visit with some nosh from Veggie Grill as my guest happened to be vegetarian, but there are many affordable, carnivore-friendly establishments nearby. Veggie Grill is in the same complex as the theatre so parking was easy, and there was no need to rush. We loved the Chipotle Ranch drizzled Sweetheart Fries (made from sweet potatoes). I ended my meal with an All Hail Kale Salad and couldn't have been happier.

HOST THE ULTIMATE MOVIE NIGHT!



This Manchego cheese with red pepper and parsley hot dog is better than your average ketchup/mustard/relish dog.

William Archie/Detroit Free Press/MCT



Have a girls' night in, and watch your favorite chick flicks like *Sex and the City 1* and *2*.



Fondue is a fun (and yummy!) activity to do with your girlfriends.

Ralph Lauer/MCT

Tips on how to make a great movie-viewing party at home this summer.

BY SYDNEY CHAMPION

PICK A THEME

It's fun to pick a theme and go with it! Once you have your theme down, get creative with drinks, food and movie selections.

Sex and the City: If you're planning on just having your girlfriends over, this is the obviously the best theme. The movies you'll want to pick are romances, dramas and musicals – the best chick flicks. Grab *Sex in the City*, *Mean Girls* and *The Notebook*. And don't be afraid to bring out the guilty pleasures: *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, *Clueless* and *Bring it On*.

And the Oscar Goes to...: Dedicate a night to finally watching those Oscar-winning films you never saw, and find out what makes them so good. Watch the recent best picture winners (*Argo*, *The Artist*), popular winners (*Titanic*, *Forrest Gump*) and the classics (*Rocky*, *The Godfather*).

Simply Sporty: Hollywood has released some epic sports-themed movies over the years: *A League of their Own*, *Rudy*, *Jerry Maguire*, *Remember the Titans*, *Bend it Like Beckham*, *The Waterboy* – the list goes on! Grab your favorite sports movies, whether they're recent releases or from your childhood (*Space Jam* anyone??)

SERVE THE GOODS

No party is complete without great bites to eat!

Chocolate Fondue

Nothing is yummiier (and easier) than chocolate fondue at home with your girls in front of the TV! Use this recipe from celebrations.com:

- 3 ounces bittersweet chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons heavy cream
- 1/2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- Fresh strawberries
- Pound cake, cubed
- Banana slices
- Marshmallows

Place chocolate in the top of a double boiler or in a glass bowl fitted over a pot of hot, but not boiling water. Slowly stir in your heavy cream. Stir constantly with a wooden spoon until the chocolate is completely melted but relatively thick for about 5 minutes. Serve in a bowl over a hot plate immediately with fresh fruit, pound cake and other dippers.

Salmon and Caviar Blini

While watching your Oscar films, dine as if you and your guests are movie stars as well! This recipe from Serious Eats is fit for the rich and fabulous.

- 1 cup all purpose flour

- 1 cup milk
 - 1/2 cup butter, melted (plus extra for buttering griddle)
 - pinch of salt
 - 1 ounce caviar
 - 4 ounces smoked salmon
 - 1/2 cup crème fraiche
- Combine flour, milk, 1/2 cup melted butter and pinch of salt, and whisk. Preheat griddle or skillet over medium high heat and brush with additional melted butter. Pour about a tablespoon of batter onto preheated skillet, flip once brown, and repeat with remaining batter. When ready to serve, distribute salmon, caviar and crème fraiche over all blini.

Manchego Cheese and Garlic Hot Dogs

Hot dogs are common at almost every sporting event. Give your average dog a twist with this recipe from *Bon Appétit!*

- 2 large heads garlic, top 1/2 inch cut off
- 5 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 1/2 cup roasted red peppers from jar, drained and diced
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
- Coarse kosher salt
- Pepper to taste
- 6 grilled hot dog buns
- 6 grilled all-beef hot dogs
- 2 ounces Manchego or hot pepper cheese
- Sherry wine vinegar or balsamic vinegar

To prepare the relish: Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Place each head of garlic, cut side up, in center of square of foil; drizzle each with 1 teaspoon oil. Enclose garlic in foil. Place packets on oven rack; roast until garlic is tender, about 45 minutes. Open packets; cool 15 minutes. Squeeze garlic cloves into small bowl. Mash enough to measure 1/4 cup (reserve remaining garlic for another use). Transfer to bowl. Mix in 3 teaspoons oil, red pepper and parsley. Season with coarse salt and pepper. Arrange the hot dog buns on plates. Top each with grilled hot dog, cheese, garlic relish and drizzle of vinegar.

POUR IT UP!

And lastly, try fun and creative cocktails to pair with your theme.

Ciroc Sangre

Wine and chocolate always go together, but switch it up a bit – add vodka!

- 3/4 ounce Ciroc Vodka
- 3/4 ounce BV Napa Valley Port
- Splash of Grand Marnier
- Dash of fresh lemon juice

Shake all ingredients together with ice, and then strain onto fresh ice. Garnish with a slice each of apple and orange.

The Celebration Cocktail

Grey Goose® came up with a 2013 Awards Season Collection, including this bubbly drink fit for the Oscars.

- 1 1/2 arts GREY GOOSE® Cherry Noir
- 1/2 part ST-GERMAIN® Liqueur
- 1/2 part fresh Lemon Juice
- 1 part pomegranate Juice
- 1 splash champagne

Combine first four ingredients in a shaker. Shake vigorously and strain into a champagne glass. Top with champagne and present with a cherry.

Beer

Seriously, just beer. You don't need to get fancy for a sports movie-viewing party. Pick a great beer that you and your buds will love. Our recommendations: Corona, Red Stripe, Shocktop and/or Samuel Adams.

Handout (MCT)



This Ciroc Sangre combines two of women's favorite drinks: wine and vodka.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		2		6				1
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
 ★★★ HOO BOY!

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Super Crossword

SWITCH UNITS

- ACROSS**
- 1 Requests at bar doors
 - 8 Liquid-filled vessel in which to clean things
 - 15 Map source
 - 20 Smears with animal fat
 - 21 Dish of soybeans boiled in their pods
 - 22 Horse sound
 - 23 Most valuable Scrabble square, reduced?
 - 25 Fish store favorite
 - 26 Peter of film
 - 27 Dress edge
 - 28 To that place
 - 30 Impersonal little kiss, enlarged?
 - 36 Celebs' rides
 - 41 Summer, in Québec
 - 42 Military order
 - 43 Very quickly, enlarged?
 - 46 "Casino" co-star Joe
 - 51 Williams of tennis
 - 52 Dog, often
 - 53 Time-stamps anew
 - 55 Jails
 - 57 NHL trophy, enlarged?
 - 62 Flight part
 - 63 Airport transport
 - 66 Tiny tot
 - 67 ROTC grads
 - 68 Alternate title of this puzzle
 - 73 Exec's deg.
 - 75 Food court pizza chain
 - 76 With 44-Down, Kenobi of sci-fi
 - 77 Cloverleaf components
 - 80 Failure to act promptly, enlarged?
 - 84 Now-rare skill
 - 86 Frequent downhiller's purchase
 - 87 Role-play
 - 90 — Butter (Nabisco cookie)
 - 91 Razz
 - 92 Harvard or Yale, reduced?
 - 97 Post-failure comment
 - 99 "— you ready?"
 - 100 Writer with morals
 - 101 Walk around looking for work, reduced?
 - 108 In proportion
 - 109 Thumbs-downs
 - 110 See 101-Down
 - 116 White wader
 - 117 Skeptically, enlarged?
 - 123 "The Cloister and the Hearth" novelist Charles
 - 124 "Free Your Mind" R&B group
 - 125 Nation next to Georgia
 - 126 Earnestness
 - 127 Wanted
 - 128 It has three-pointed antlers
 - 10 Blue
 - 11 Dr. provider
 - 12 La — (city in Bolivia)
 - 13 "Follow Me —" (Kipling poem)
 - 14 Final bowling frames
 - 15 Bit of hijinks
 - 16 Zipper parts
 - 17 Limber
 - 18 Feel similarly
 - 19 "Jaws" peril
 - 24 "All right, I get it!"
 - 29 Snicker bit
 - 31 One-eighty
 - 32 "— -di-dah!"
 - 33 Western Amerind
 - 34 Opposite of old, in Bonn
 - 35 La Brea stuff
 - 36 Talks like the cat Sylvester
 - 37 Not reactive
 - 38 2000 #1 hit for Santana
 - 39 Infant's bodysuit
 - 40 Spanish lady
 - 44 See 76-Across
 - 45 Some chess pcs.
 - 46 "At once!"
 - 47 — de vie
 - 48 Deadlocks
 - 49 Official doc.
 - 50 Cause adherents
 - 53 Fix, as a loose board
 - 54 They blink
 - 56 Swims with the fishes, maybe
 - 58 A couple of runners at the corners, in baseball
 - 59 — Lingus
 - 60 Sci-fi skipper
 - 61 Singer Lisa
 - 64 Limp as —
 - 65 Icy hazard
 - 69 Lith. and Ukr., once
 - 70 Workweek ender: Abbr.
 - 71 Address of "Dr. No"
 - 72 Infant's toy
 - 73 Hit 1990s computer game
 - 74 Scorch
 - 78 Spaghetti sauce brand
 - 79 Bug causing a sore throat
 - 81 They result in two outs: Abbr.
 - 82 "Lost" actor Daniel —
 - 83 Moo goo — pan
 - 85 Artist Yoko
 - 88 Raised a din
 - 89 "Mother" of Calcutta
 - 92 Mad feeling
 - 93 Big name
 - 94 "Truly"
 - 95 Cato's 1,505
 - 96 100-yr. span
 - 97 Hairy sitcom cousin
 - 98 Liquefied
 - 101 With 110-Across, where divas deliver
 - 102 Prodding person
 - 103 Santa-tracking org.
 - 104 Belief set
 - 105 One feeding
 - 106 Provide, as with a quality
 - 107 Extensive, for short
 - 111 "How stupid —!"
 - 112 Not new
 - 113 Lucid
 - 114 Author Wiesel
 - 115 Macy's logo
 - 118 Suffix with Carol
 - 119 Tellies
 - 120 — polloi
 - 121 Farming sci.
 - 122 Taint

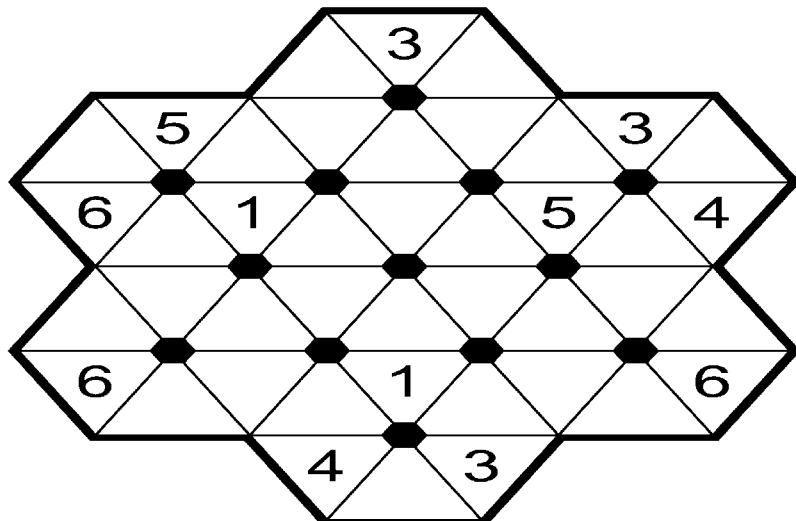
DOWN

- 1 "Tell — the judge!"
- 2 Flit
- 3 Ad biz award
- 4 Fido's food
- 5 Drum effect
- 6 Uncool sort
- 7 Dallas-to-Laredo dir.
- 8 Visitors' first words
- 9 "— to the list"

SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.



DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Easy ◆◆ Medium ◆◆◆ Difficult

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
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116								117	118	119	120	121		122					
123								124						125					
126								127						128					

answers on page 23

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"The Scottsboro Boys" is based on the Scottsboro case in the '30s, where 9 African American teens were accused of a terrible crime.

Henry D'Becco

WHAT'S HAPPENING 5/9/13-5/22/13

All the cool places to go and fun things to do.

MAY 9



Warner Bros. Pictures

The Great Gatsby After Hours Party

ArcLight Hollywood
6360 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles
arlightcinemas.com

The party begins in the café with unlimited drinks and decadent desserts. Your ticket also includes a concessions package and surprise party favors. Roaring '20s costumes are not required, but they will make the Gatsby-inspired photo booth more fun before *The Great Gatsby* premieres at midnight.

When Thursday, May 9

Time 11:00 p.m.

Price \$50

FILM

THURSDAY, MAY 9

Concerts

Reik

Grove of Anaheim
2200 E. Katella Ave., Anaheim
reik.tv

They won the 2009 Latin Grammy for Best Pop Album by a Duo or Group with Vocals.

When Thursday, May 9

Time 8 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$48

Theatre

The Crucible

Deaf West Theatre
5112 Lankershim Blvd., North Hollywood
Antaeus.org

Set in 1692 and written in reaction to the McCarthyism that gripped America in the 1950s, Arthur Miller's parable of mass hysteria offers a frightening depiction of what can happen when fear clouds fact and reason is replaced by blame.

When Thursday, May 9-Sunday, July 7

Times Thursday through Saturday @ 8 p.m.; Saturday & Sunday @ 2 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$15

FRIDAY, MAY 10

Expos

AltBuild Expo and Conference

Santa Monica Civic Auditorium
1855 Main Street, Santa Monica
altbuildexpo.com

The largest and most-respected green design and building expo in Southern California for both professionals and the public.

When Friday, May 10-Saturday, May 11

Times 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Price Free

TV

Inside Bates Motel

Paley Center for Media
465 N. Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills
paleycenter.org/2013-spring-bates-motel

Celebrate A&E's compelling new hit series with a special episode preview screening and conversation with members of the cast and creative team.

When Friday, May 10

Times 7:00 p.m.

Prices \$20

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Expos

Long Beach Comic Con

Long Beach Convention Center
300 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
longbeachcomiccon.com

It's a celebration of comic books and pop culture that showcases the exceptional works of talented writers, artists, illustrators and creators of all types of pop culture. You'll find exhibitors promoting and selling all types of related products, as well as entertaining and educational programs, guest signings, and meet & greet sessions with celebrities.

When Saturday, May 11

Times Check website for times

Prices Tix start @ \$15

Concerts

Wango Tango

Home Depot Center

18400 Avalon Blvd., Carson

kiisfm.com/pages/events/wangotango13/lineup.php

With Bruno Mars, Maroon 5, Flo Rida, Will.i.am, Demi Lovato, Fall Out Boy, Afrojack, Miguel, Icona Pop, Jason Derulo, Krewella, Emeli Sandé and Ariana Grande. Hosted by Ryan Seacrest, with a special guest host appearance from Britney Spears.

When Saturday, May 11

Times Gates @ 10 a.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$39.50

Food

West Coast BBQ Classic

Queen Mary

1126 Queen's Highway, Long Beach
westcoastbbqclassic.com

BBQ masters from all around the country are getting ready for this year's West Coast BBQ Classic! Let the debate rage as to which barbeque style is king. Is it North Carolina? Kansas City? Maybe Memphis? Or Texas? Tangy, spicy, smoky or sweet whichever you prefer, you'll be sure to get plenty of it at the West Coast BBQ Classic.

When Saturday, May 11

Times 11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Prices \$10 advance, \$15 at the door

SUNDAY, MAY 12

Exhibits

Jenni Rivera: La Gran Señora

Grammy Museum
800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles
grammymuseum.org

The exhibit will illustrate how Rivera used her music and celebrity to abolish female stereotypes that existed in Mexican music for many years. Having sold more than 20 million albums worldwide and the winner of various gold and platinum records certified by the RIAA, Jenni Rivera was the female leader of the banda genre. Throughout her career, "The Diva of Banda" enjoyed a legion of loyal fans made up of a multi-generational audience that continues to admire her talent and musical integrity.

When Sunday, May 12-Thursday, May 1

Times Mon. - Fri. 11:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.; Sat. - Sun. 10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Prices Check website for prices

Nature

Mother's Day Brunch

Aquarium of the Pacific
100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach
aquariumofpacific.org/events/info/mothers_day

Sure, you can take your mom to brunch almost anywhere, but where else can you take her to brunch and explore the wonders of the Pacific Ocean?

When Sunday, May 12

Times 10:30 a.m.

Prices \$48

Film

Mother's Day Madness: Psycho & Mommie Dearest

Egyptian Theatre
6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
americancinemathequecalendar.com

A demented double feature of demented mothers courtesy of Alfred Hitchcock's shocking horror classic and Faye Dunaway's schlocky camp classic.

When Sunday, May 12

Times 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

MONDAY, MAY 13

Film

The Exorcist

TCL Chinese Theatre
6925 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
facebook.com/events/476236239116303

It was the first horror film to be nominated for Best Picture and was named the scariest film of all time by *Entertainment Weekly* and *Movies.com*. Celebrate the 40th anniversary with Linda Blair herself with proceeds benefiting the Linda Blair WorldHeart Foundation, an animal rescue charity.

When Monday, May 13

Times 9:00 p.m.

Prices \$13

TUESDAY, MAY 14

Sports

Matt Kemp Bobblehead Night

Dodger Stadium
1000 Elysian Park Ave., Los Angeles
losangeles.dodgers.mlb.com

Get a free Matt Kemp bobblehead when L.A. takes on the Nationals.

When Tuesday, May 14

Time 7:10 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$10

FRIDAY, MAY 17

Film

Death Becomes Her

The Nuart
11272 Santa Monica, Los Angeles
https://tickets.landmarktheatres.com/Ticketing.aspx?TheatreID=209

Meryl Streep accidentally scarred Goldie Hawn's cheek with a shovel during the fight scene.

When Friday, May 17

Time 11:59 p.m.

Price \$11

Music

UCLA Spring Sing

Pauley Pavilion
alumni.ucla.edu/events/spring-sing/2013/default.aspx
Dating back to the 1940s, Spring Sing is a student musical competition that takes place each year on the UCLA campus before a panel of celebrity judges and an audience of more than 5,000 UCLA students, alumni and friends.

When Friday, May 17

Time 8:00 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$20

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Film

Back to the Future Trilogy

Egyptian Theatre
6712 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles
americancinemathequecalendar.com

The *Back to the Future* trilogy ranked at #9 on IGN's Top 25 Movie Franchises of All Time (2006).

When Saturday, May 18

Time 7:30 p.m.

Prices \$11, \$9 w/ student ID

Food

Eat Your Way Through LA: Ice Cream Tour

brownpapertickets.com/event/359023
Visiting a handful of the city's classic ice creameries and some of the new-to-the-scene spots, this tour will not be over-indulgent, but on the contrary, you'll feel satisfied with trying out many flavors without feeling overwhelmed.

When Saturday, May 18

Time 10:00 a.m.

Price \$50

Drink

OC Beer Festival

Irvine Lake
4621 Santiago Canyon Road., Silverado
orangecountybeerfest.com

Another day filled with beer, food and music with dozens of international and local craft beers, L.A. and OC's most popular food trucks and cover bands. Proceeds will benefit Noah's B-ark Inc. whose aim is to rescue dogs from shelters and find permanent homes for rescued pets.

When Saturday, May 18

Times 3:00 p.m.

Prices \$40

Art

The Beverly Hills Art Show

Beverly Gardens Park
Santa Monica Blvd. and Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills
beverlyhills.org/artshow

Spanning four blocks, this public art event features 250 artists from around the United States that will showcase an upscale, yet affordable, array of paintings, sculptures, photographs and prints. The event features art tours, a dance performance, the artists' award ceremony, in-booth artist demonstrations, a special exhibit curated by Los Angeles Art Association, a wine garden and delicious food.

When Saturday, May 18-Sunday, May 19

Times 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

Prices Free

SUNDAY, MAY 19

Comedy

Professor Blastoff Live

Largo at the Coronet
366 N. La Cienega, Los Angeles
professorblastoff.com

Professor Blastoff is a weekly conversation between comedian Tig Notaro and her two co-hosts and comedian friends, Kyle Dunnigan and David Huntsberger. Each week, the hilarious trio discusses a topic of interest, typically based in science, philosophy or theology with comedian Aaron Burrell assisting in the research.

When Sunday, May 19

Times 8:00 p.m.

Prices \$25

Art

Venice Art Walk & Auctions

theveniceartwalk.org
The Art Walk provides rare opportunities to go behind the scenes—exploring artists' studios and private residences that are not otherwise open to the public. Among the highlights of this year's separately ticketed Architectural Tours are homes along Appleton Way, "the Miracle Mile" of contemporary Venetian architecture.

When Sunday, May 19

Times Check website for times

Prices Check website for prices

MONDAY, MAY 20

Music

Molly Ringwald

Grammy Museum
800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles
grammymuseum.org/events/detail/the-drop-molly-ringwald
Ringwald discusses her musical upbringing and early appreciation of jazz, her acting career on both the stage and screen and the making of *Except... Sometimes*, her debut album

MAY 18-19



California Strawberry Festival

Strawberry Meadows of College Park
1661 Pacific Avenue #15, Oxnard
strawberry-fest.org

Interactive exhibits, gooey contests, live entertainment, 200-plus arts & crafts booths and an unbelievable assortment of delicious strawberry foods and beverages. The Strawberry Promenade offers cooking demonstrations and presentations too.

When Saturday, May 18-Sunday, May 19

Times 10:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.

Price \$12

FESTIVALS

which features her take on *The Breakfast Club* classic, "Don't You (Forget About Me)." After the discussion, she will take questions from the audience and perform songs from the album.

When Monday, May 20

Times 8:00 p.m.

Prices \$20

TUESDAY, MAY 21

Book Signing

Brian Boitano

Book Soup
8818 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood
booksoup.com
The gold medal-winning figure skater discusses and signs his book, *What Would Brian Boitano Make?: Fresh and Fun Recipes for Sharing with Family and Friends*.

When Tuesday, May 21

Times 7:00 p.m.

Theatre

The Scottsboro Boys

Ahmanson Theatre
135 N. Grand Avenue, Los Angeles
centertheatregroup.org/tickets/2013/The-Scottsboro-Boys
The "Scottsboro Boys" received 12 Tony Award nominations in 2011, including Best Musical. David Rooney of *Variety* said that the musical has "...riveting material and toe-tapping songs shot through with wry humor," while Scott Brown of *New York* magazine said, "The Scottsboro Boys" is "...brilliant and utterly successful, conjuring your applause in waves after each bravura number."

When Tuesday, May 21-Sunday, June 30

Times Tues.-Fri. @ 8 p.m., Sat. @ 2 & 8 p.m., Sun. @ 1 & 6:30 p.m.

Prices Tix start @ \$25



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THE GROWLERS * WANDA JACKSON
BLACK JOE LEWIS AND THE HONEYBEARS
THE SHARKS * * * THE MATADORS
REVEREND PEYTON'S BIG DAMN BAND
THE FLESHTONES

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 RUMBLE KINGS • HE'S MY BROTHER SHE'S MY SISTER • THE GENERATORS • TIJUANA PANTHERS • WELL HUNG HEART
 THE GODS OF MACHO • THREE TIMES BAD • HOPELESS JACK AND THE HANDSOME DEVIL • D.ON DAROX AND THE MELODY JOY BAKERS
 PRIMA DONNA • THE WOOLLY BANDITS • PLAGUE VENDOR • THE STONE FOXES • THE REVEREND RED • JOHNNY HOOTROCK
 THE TECCEMATICS • THE SILVER SHINE • EDDIE & THE RECKLESS • LOS HELL GAMBLERS • THE BOP KINGS
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