

Good & Plenty

Juicy's entertainment guide: what to see, what to DVR, and what to read—now and later.

Movies

Alex Cross

(Summit Entertainment)

Tyler Perry has accomplished the impossible: armed with only a dream, a wig and a housecoat, the enterprising director cross-dressed his way to success as the foul-mouthed, gun toting Mabel "Madea" Simmons. A half a billion dollars later, Perry is ready to butch up his image as Hollywood's newest action hero.

Inheriting the Alex Cross franchise from seasoned vet Morgan Freeman, Perry plays the titular detective/psychologist. Cross matches wits with a psychopathic serial killer called "The Butcher" (Matthew Fox). Things get personal when The Butcher hits Cross where it hurts the most—his family. Will Perry make us forget Idris Elba was originally up for this role? The jury is still out on that one.

—REBECCA THEODORE-VACHON



The Paperboy

(Millennium Entertainment)



It isn't easy pleasing discerning cinephiles, but when your film earns a 16-minute standing ovation at the Cannes Film Festival, you must have done something right. Writer-director Lee Daniels (*Precious*) may have another shot at Oscar gold with *The*

Paperboy. Set in the deep South in 1969, the steamy thriller stars Zac Efron, as a young man returning to his Florida hometown to help his reporter brother (Matthew McConaughey) uncover the truth about a man (John Cusack) on death row. A controversial sex scene between Efron and co-star Nicole Kidman will make this one of the most talked about films of 2012. —RTV

Pitch Perfect

(Universal Pictures)



Musicals are the new black in Hollywood, and why not? It's a welcome respite from the constant bombardment of multi-million-dollar blockbusters with blood, guts and computer-generated imagery.

Pitch Perfect is an estrogen-powered crowd pleaser that tells the story of Becca (Anna Kendrick), a college freshman recruited by an all-girl acoustic group. As Becca slowly comes out of her shell, she helps her new clique shake off their snooze worthy approach to singing and adopt edgier musical mash-ups. An a capella version of Black Street's "No Diggity" is worth the price of admission. —RTV

ALEX CROSS: SYDNEY BALDWIN/LONISGATE; THE PAPER BOY: ANNE MARE FOW; MIDDLE OF NOWHERE: PETER JONAS/UNIVERSAL PICTURES; WUTHERING HEIGHTS: OSCILLOSCOPE PICTURES; MIDDLE OF NOWHERE: PARTICIPANT MEDIA.

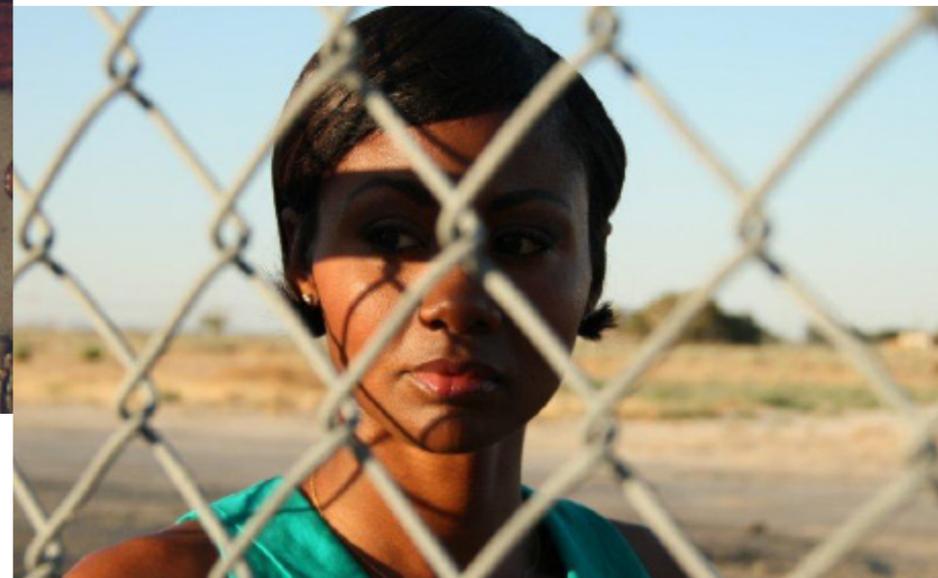


Wuthering Heights

(Oscilloscope Pictures)

Finally, a literary classic that reflects 21st century diversity! Director Andrea Arnold makes cinematic history by choosing a Black actor (James Howson) to portray the iconic Heathcliff on celluloid.

The epic film is based on Emily Brontë's 1847 novel, *Wuthering Heights*, which tells the story of Heathcliff, a homeless young boy who's taken in by a wealthy family and engages in a star-crossed romance with his adopted sister, Catherine (Kaya Scodelario). *WH* was well received at the 2011 Venice Film Festival, and it is sure to scoop up newfound fans on American soil. —RTV



Middle Of Nowhere

(Participant Media)

Director Ava DuVernay (*I Will Follow*) continues to lead the Black indie film movement for compelling and intelligent drama. At this year's Sundance Film Festival, the maverick director broke the glass ceiling as the first African-American woman to win the highly coveted Best Director award.

Her latest project, *Middle Of Nowhere*, gives voice to a silent population—the wives of incarcerated men. Emayatzy Corinealdi plays Ruby, a young woman struggling to keep the faith while her husband Derek (Omari Hardwick) serves an eight year prison sentence. Things get complicated when Ruby catches the eye of another man Brian (David Oyelowo), a bus driver who'd like to take their friendship to the next level. —RTV