



Movies Members

Search Movies by Name Search +

Sign Up +

Like 2.6k

Movie Blog + Movie Reviews + Movie Lists + Movie Forum + New Movies + New DVD Releases + Meet Members + Search + Video Games

Log In Login with Facebook ?

username (email)

 remember me

New on DVD and Blu-ray Week of December 2-8



By **Harley Lond** - 12/03/13 at 02:58 AM CT

THIS WEEK'S THEATRICAL RELEASES:

"The Smurfs 2" is a modern hybrid live action/animated equivalent of "The Three Stooges" meet "The Little Rascals" but without any of the intelligence and irony those series exhibited. In this sequel, the Smurfs must travel to Paris to rescue Smurfette from the clutches of the Naughties. The film has the benefit of preparing today's kids for the more elaborate cross-merchandising of comic book heroes and films when they become adults. From Sony.

"The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones" is a lackluster fantasy adventure with something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue from every similar franchise that came before it. This forgettable outing follows a young girl who one day discovers she's descended from a long line of demon-slayers and must travel to an alternate New York to fight the evil forces. Based on the best-selling book series by Cassandra Clare. From Sony.

Also due this week: "The Wolverine," which, unfortunately, hadn't arrived in time for review.

COLLECTIBLES:

At the top of this week's list of top bets is a documentary on an icon from the past and a mockumentary on icons from the nonexistent past.

In "Let's Get Lost" (1988), released to DVD for the first time, photographer Bruce Weber (who became famous for his B&W ads for Calvin Klein, Abercrombie & Fitch, and his work in Vogue, CQ and Vanity fair, and, more recently, known for his videos for Chris Isaak and the Pet Shop Boys) traveled with the elusive jazz vocalist and trumpeter Chet Baker to weave together the life story of the jazz great. The film uses excerpts from Italian B movies, rare performance footage and candid interviews with Baker, musicians, friends, ex-wives and his children in what turns out to be the last year of his life. The movie is bookended with two romps on the beach: Baker in Santa Monica in early 1987 and then later in Cannes. Interspersed are interviews with friends, family and lovers; rare photographs; vintage clips; and performances by Baker. Baker (who was visually a cross between James Dean and Jack Kerouac) burst on the jazz scene in the early 1950s as a self-taught, amazingly accomplished trumpet-player and singer. He was summoned to play with Charlie Parker in L.A. in 1951, went on to join with Gerry Mulligan in his famous quartet, played with Stan Getz, Shelly Manne and Art Pepper, and cut a host of well-received albums, including "Gerry Mulligan Quartet Featuring Chet Baker" (1952), "Chet Baker Sings" (1954), "Chet" (1959) to name just a very few. Baker, unfortunately, began using heroin and was an unapologetic addict for the rest of his life -- it was a habit that took its toll on his health and career (for a while he had to star in Italian B movies to earn

cash). In the mid-60s to 70s his career faltered, with numerous bouts with the law, but he later resumed recording and performing. From 1978 until his death he lived in Europe; the later decade of his life saw a more mature, capable musician (Baker died May 13, 1988; he apparently fell to the street from an open window in his second-story hotel room in Amsterdam; an autopsy showed drugs -- heroin and cocaine -- in his body).

This gorgeous documentary captures the flavor, contradictions, happiness and sadness of the musician's music and life. Not to be missed. Includes a 40-page Chet Baker fan book created by Weber that includes Weber's photography of Baker as well as images by renowned jazz photographer William Claxton. From Docurama. Check out the trailer:



Bloggers



Chris Kavan



Harley Lond

Recent Blog Posts

Weekend Box Office: Smaug Sets Box Office on Fire

New in Theaters Dec. 13: The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug, A Madea Christmas

New on DVD and Blu-ray Week of December 10-16

Weekend Box Office: Frozen Tops Fire; Out of the Furnace Fizzles

New in Theaters Dec. 06: Out of the Furnace, Inside Llewyn Davis

Archive

- All Posts
- December 2013
- November 2013
- October 2013
- September 2013
- August 2013
- July 2013
- June 2013
- May 2013
- April 2013
- March 2013
- February 2013
- January 2013
- December 2012
- November 2012
- October 2012
- September 2012
- August 2012
- July 2012
- June 2012
- May 2012
- April 2012
- March 2012
- February 2012
- January 2012
- December 2011
- November 2011
- October 2011
- September 2011
- August 2011
- July 2011
- June 2011
- May 2011
- April 2011
- March 2011
- February 2011
- January 2011
- December 2010
- November 2010
- October 2010

What Members Are Doing

Comments about...

More +

50 to 1

NEWPORT BEACH FILM FESTIVAL DEADLINE APPROACHING!

Nebraska

Searching for Movie Title

Knights of Badassdom

Saving Mr. Banks

Jackass Presents: Bad Grandpa

Fringe

New Movie Reviews

More +

Starship Troopers movie review

The Exorcist movie review

What Maise Knew (2013) movie review

Corpse Bride movie review

The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug movie review

Percy Jackson: Sea of Monsters movie review

Insidious: Chapter 2 movie review

The Cowboy Way movie review

New Movie Lists

More +

Top Movie List by **Nolane**

Movies I Want To See by **sazmania**

Movies I've Watched by **Ong**

My Complete Collection by **Carol**

All Chuck Norris Movies Ranked by **Dark Vengeance 9**

Movies I Want To See by **gotoleven**

Movies I Saw in 2013 by **Dilbretta**

Top Films of 1971 by **Neobowler**

"Let's Get Lost" is also part of a four-disc set of Weber's work, "Bruce Weber: The Film Collection" (2013), which brings together the most celebrated documentaries by the internationally-acclaimed photographer and filmmaker. In addition to the Chet Baker docu-

September 2010

August 2010

July 2010

June 2010

May 2010

April 2010

March 2010

February 2010

the revolutionary praised photographer and filmmaker. In addition to the great work on the collector's set includes "Broken Noses" (1987) (about a youth boxing club near Portland, Oregon), "Chop Suey" (2001) (an homage to Weber's favorite things, including photography and classic movies) and "A Letter to True" (2004), which centers on his dogs, a family of gorgeous golden retrievers. This box set gives art enthusiasts a look back at one of photography's greatest talents. Includes a 32-page booklet of Weber's photographs. Also from Docurama ... ["All You Need is Cash"](#) just has to be the greatest mockumentary of all time. The legendary 1978 parody of The Beatles from Monty Python founding member Eric Idle makes it's Blu-ray debut this week as part of the **"The Rutles: Anthology,"** which is being released by Video Services Corp in both Blu-ray and Blu-ray/DVD combo sets. Originally introduced by Idle in his post-Python BBC satire "Rutland Weekend Television," "All You Need is Cash" was brought to prime time in a 1978 TV special, produced by "Saturday Night Live's" Lorne Michaels, directed by Gary Weis and featuring the original Not Ready for Prime Time Players. The film follows the epic rise and fall of the tight-troused lads from Rutland as they hit the top of the pops and the heights of absurdity. Bonus features on the Blu-ray/DVD combo pack include a new interview with Eric Idle, 2004's "The Rutles 2: Can't Buy Me Lunch" (in which celebrity artists, actors and musicians came



forward to revisit and reflect on how The Rutles influenced them and the cultural landscape. Guest stars included George Harrison, Mick Jagger, Bianca Jagger, Bill Murray, John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd, Gilda Radner, Lorne Michaels, Carrie Fisher, Michael Palin, Paul Simon, Gary Shandling, David Bowie, Ron Wood, Steve Martin, Conan O'Brien, Salman Rushdie, Jimmy Fallon, Robin Williams and many more) and the original "Rutland Weekend" sketch from "Saturday Night Live" that aired in 1976 when Idle hosted the late night series. Cheeky, wild and wonderful -- with music and songmanship that -- when you close your eyes -- sounds just like the Fab Four.

Other best bets: The provocative Italian filmmaker Elio Petri's most internationally acclaimed work is the remarkable, visceral, Oscar-winning thriller ["Investigation of a Citizen Above Suspicion"](#) (1970). Petri maintains a tricky balance between absurdity and realism in telling the Kafkaesque tale of a Roman police inspector (Gian Maria Volonte, in a commanding performance) investigating a heinous crime -- which he committed himself. Both a penetrating character study and a disturbing commentary on the draconian crackdowns by the Italian government in the late 1960s and early 70s, this kinetic portrait of surreal bureaucracy is a perversely pleasurable rendering of controlled chaos. In a new 4K digital restoration by the Film Foundation, with uncompressed monaural soundtrack on the Blu-ray ... ["Nashville"](#) (1975), a cornerstone of 1970s American moviemaking from Robert Altman, is a panoramic view of the country's political and entertainment landscapes, set in the nation's music capital. "Nashville" weaves together the stories of 24 characters -- from country music star to wannabe reporter to waitress -- into a cinematic tapestry that is equal parts comedy, tragedy, and musical. Many members of the astonishing cast wrote and performed their own songs live on location, which lends another layer to the film's quirky authenticity. Altman's ability to get to the heart of American life via its eccentric byways was never put to better use than in this grand, rollicking triumph, which barrels forward to an unforgettable conclusion. New 2K digital film restoration, with 5.1 surround DTS-HD Master Audio soundtrack on the Blu-ray. Both are in Blu-ray/DVD Dual Format Editions from The Criterion Collection.

Here's another blast from the past: **"Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman: The Complete Series"** (1976-78) is a 38-disc box set with all 325 episodes of the cult series that starred Louise Lasser in the title role of legendary TV producer Norman Lear's sublimely twisted soap opera -- at once a parody of the format and a twisted satire of America's media/consumer culture. In the fictional town of Fernwood, Ohio, suburban housewife Mary Hartman seeks the kind of domestic perfection promised by Reader's Digest and TV commercials. Instead she finds herself suffering the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune -- mass murders, low-flying airplanes and waxy yellow buildup on her kitchen floor. Co-starred Greg Mullavey, Mary Kay Place, Graham Jarvis, Debralee Scott, Victor Kilian, Dody Goodman, Philip Bruns, Dabney Coleman,



Martin Mull and Claudia Lamb. Loaded with extras from Shout! Factory.



Blurred by motion, "Argo Extended Edition Blu-ray" (2012) includes an additional nine minutes of footage, new extras and collectible memorabilia for fans of the Ben Affleck film: an "Argo" one-sheet poster, a map of Tehran, a reproduction of Tony Mendez's CIA ID card, a 40-page book premium featuring behind the scenes photos, production notes, bios and more. Extras include new features "Argo Declassified," in which Tony Mendez's daring operation gets honored as part of the CIA's 50th anniversary; "Ben Affleck's Balancing Act" of humor, politics, Hollywood and international intrigue; "Argo F*ck Yourself," in which Ben Affleck leads an all-star review of "Argo's" classic line. A fun-filled collection, \$49.99 from Warner ... ["Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy"](#) -- The **"Rich Mahogany" Edition Blu-ray** (2004) is a two-disc set with three versions of the film (that stars Will Ferrell, Steve Carrell, Paul Rudd, Christina Applegate and Fred Willard) -- the theatrical version, an unrated version and "Wake Up, Ron Burgundy: The Lost Movie" -- just in time for the theatrical release of "Anchorman: The Legend Continues" on December 20. From Paramount ... An overlooked comedy classic is ["Matilda"](#) (1996), directed by Danny DeVito and starring Mara Wilson, Danny DeVito, Rhea Perlman, Embeth Davidtz, Aileen Quinn and Paul Reubens, making its Blu-ray debut this week. Based on the novel by Roald Dahl, "Matilda" tells the story of a super-smart little girl (Wilson) who's woefully misunderstood by her parents (DeVito, Perlman), her brother, and an evil school principal. With the help of her telekinetic powers, along with a brave best friend and a wonderful teacher (Davidtz), Matilda discovers she doesn't have to get mad to get even. Extras include a new featurette, "Afternoon Tea, A Very Magical Matilda Reunion," bringing the entire cast back together 17 years after the original filming of the movie. Shot exclusively for the Blu-ray, it captures the cast reliving the memories and magic of making the film during an afternoon tea party at director-star Danny DeVito's private Beverly Hills home. Also includes four previously released featurettes: "Matilda's Movie Magic!" that explores the film's stunts and special effects with DeVito, "A Children's Guide to Good Manners" of lessons in etiquette humorously demonstrated with scenes from the film, "Escape to the Library" with a special reading by the book author's daughter, and "My Movie About Making Matilda" by Wilson. From Sony.

Blurred by motion, "Argo Extended Edition Blu-ray" (2012) includes an additional nine minutes of footage, new extras and collectible memorabilia for fans of the Ben Affleck film: an "Argo" one-sheet poster, a map of Tehran, a reproduction of Tony Mendez's CIA ID card, a 40-page book premium featuring behind the scenes photos, production notes, bios and more. Extras include new features "Argo Declassified," in which Tony Mendez's daring operation gets honored as part of the CIA's 50th anniversary; "Ben Affleck's Balancing Act" of humor, politics, Hollywood and international intrigue; "Argo F*ck Yourself," in which Ben Affleck leads an all-star review of "Argo's" classic line. A fun-filled collection, \$49.99 from Warner ... ["Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy"](#) -- The **"Rich Mahogany" Edition Blu-ray** (2004) is a two-disc set with three versions of the film (that stars Will Ferrell, Steve Carrell, Paul Rudd, Christina Applegate and Fred Willard) -- the theatrical version, an unrated version and "Wake Up, Ron Burgundy: The Lost Movie" -- just in time for the theatrical release of "Anchorman: The Legend Continues" on December 20. From Paramount ... An overlooked comedy classic is ["Matilda"](#) (1996), directed by Danny DeVito and starring Mara Wilson, Danny DeVito, Rhea Perlman, Embeth Davidtz, Aileen Quinn and Paul Reubens, making its Blu-ray debut this week. Based on the novel by Roald Dahl, "Matilda" tells the story of a super-smart little girl (Wilson) who's woefully misunderstood by her parents (DeVito, Perlman), her brother, and an evil school principal. With the help of her telekinetic powers, along with a brave best friend and a wonderful teacher (Davidtz), Matilda discovers she doesn't have to get mad to get even. Extras include a new featurette, "Afternoon Tea, A Very Magical Matilda Reunion," bringing the entire cast back together 17 years after the original filming of the movie. Shot exclusively for the Blu-ray, it captures the cast reliving the memories and magic of making the film during an afternoon tea party at director-star Danny DeVito's private Beverly Hills home. Also includes four previously released featurettes: "Matilda's Movie Magic!" that explores the film's stunts and special effects with DeVito, "A Children's Guide to Good Manners" of lessons in etiquette humorously demonstrated with scenes from the film, "Escape to the Library" with a special reading by the book author's daughter, and "My Movie About Making Matilda" by Wilson. From Sony.

blurred by motion, "Argo Extended Edition Blu-ray" (2012) includes an additional nine minutes of footage, new extras and collectible memorabilia for fans of the Ben Affleck film: an "Argo" one-sheet poster, a map of Tehran, a reproduction of Tony Mendez's CIA ID card, a 40-page book premium featuring behind the scenes photos, production notes, bios and more. Extras include new features "Argo Declassified," in which Tony Mendez's daring operation gets honored as part of the CIA's 50th anniversary; "Ben Affleck's Balancing Act" of humor, politics, Hollywood and international intrigue; "Argo F*ck Yourself," in which Ben Affleck leads an all-star review of "Argo's" classic line. A fun-filled collection, \$49.99 from Warner ... ["Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy"](#) -- The **"Rich Mahogany" Edition Blu-ray** (2004) is a two-disc set with three versions of the film (that stars Will Ferrell, Steve Carrell, Paul Rudd, Christina Applegate and Fred Willard) -- the theatrical version, an unrated version and "Wake Up, Ron Burgundy: The Lost Movie" -- just in time for the theatrical release of "Anchorman: The Legend Continues" on December 20. From Paramount ... An overlooked comedy classic is ["Matilda"](#) (1996), directed by Danny DeVito and starring Mara Wilson, Danny DeVito, Rhea Perlman, Embeth Davidtz, Aileen Quinn and Paul Reubens, making its Blu-ray debut this week. Based on the novel by Roald Dahl, "Matilda" tells the story of a super-smart little girl (Wilson) who's woefully misunderstood by her parents (DeVito, Perlman), her brother, and an evil school principal. With the help of her telekinetic powers, along with a brave best friend and a wonderful teacher (Davidtz), Matilda discovers she doesn't have to get mad to get even. Extras include a new featurette, "Afternoon Tea, A Very Magical Matilda Reunion," bringing the entire cast back together 17 years after the original filming of the movie. Shot exclusively for the Blu-ray, it captures the cast reliving the memories and magic of making the film during an afternoon tea party at director-star Danny DeVito's private Beverly Hills home. Also includes four previously released featurettes: "Matilda's Movie Magic!" that explores the film's stunts and special effects with DeVito, "A Children's Guide to Good Manners" of lessons in etiquette humorously demonstrated with scenes from the film, "Escape to the Library" with a special reading by the book author's daughter, and "My Movie About Making Matilda" by Wilson. From Sony.



blurred by motion, "Argo Extended Edition Blu-ray" (2012) includes an additional nine minutes of footage, new extras and collectible memorabilia for fans of the Ben Affleck film: an "Argo" one-sheet poster, a map of Tehran, a reproduction of Tony Mendez's CIA ID card, a 40-page book premium featuring behind the scenes photos, production notes, bios and more. Extras include new features "Argo Declassified," in which Tony Mendez's daring operation gets honored as part of the CIA's 50th anniversary; "Ben Affleck's Balancing Act" of humor, politics, Hollywood and international intrigue; "Argo F*ck Yourself," in which Ben Affleck leads an all-star review of "Argo's" classic line. A fun-filled collection, \$49.99 from Warner ... ["Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy"](#) -- The **"Rich Mahogany" Edition Blu-ray** (2004) is a two-disc set with three versions of the film (that stars Will Ferrell, Steve Carrell, Paul Rudd, Christina Applegate and Fred Willard) -- the theatrical version, an unrated version and "Wake Up, Ron Burgundy: The Lost Movie" -- just in time for the theatrical release of "Anchorman: The Legend Continues" on December 20. From Paramount ... An overlooked comedy classic is ["Matilda"](#) (1996), directed by Danny DeVito and starring Mara Wilson, Danny DeVito, Rhea Perlman, Embeth Davidtz, Aileen Quinn and Paul Reubens, making its Blu-ray debut this week. Based on the novel by Roald Dahl, "Matilda" tells the story of a super-smart little girl (Wilson) who's woefully misunderstood by her parents (DeVito, Perlman), her brother, and an evil school principal. With the help of her telekinetic powers, along with a brave best friend and a wonderful teacher (Davidtz), Matilda discovers she doesn't have to get mad to get even. Extras include a new featurette, "Afternoon Tea, A Very Magical Matilda Reunion," bringing the entire cast back together 17 years after the original filming of the movie. Shot exclusively for the Blu-ray, it captures the cast reliving the memories and magic of making the film during an afternoon tea party at director-star Danny DeVito's private Beverly Hills home. Also includes four previously released featurettes: "Matilda's Movie Magic!" that explores the film's stunts and special effects with DeVito, "A Children's Guide to Good Manners" of lessons in etiquette humorously demonstrated with scenes from the film, "Escape to the Library" with a special reading by the book author's daughter, and "My Movie About Making Matilda" by Wilson. From Sony.