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AL PACINO



THE HARDEST WORKING LEGEND IN SHOWBIZ



Hollywood legend Al Pacino may be close to 80 now but the star shows no signs of slowing down.

Instead he is enjoying one of the busiest and most productive periods of his glorious career.

This Fall he will re-team with Robert De Niro and Martin Scorsese for gangster film *The Irishman*, which is already getting Oscar buzz.

Next he will be seen in his first TV series, *The Hunt*—a drama about the search for Nazi war criminals.

He plans to follow that up with his passion project, a film version of Shakespeare's *King Lear*.

All these projects serve to remind the industry that Pacino is one of the greatest talents who ever stepped in front of a camera—and he has a string of hits to prove it.

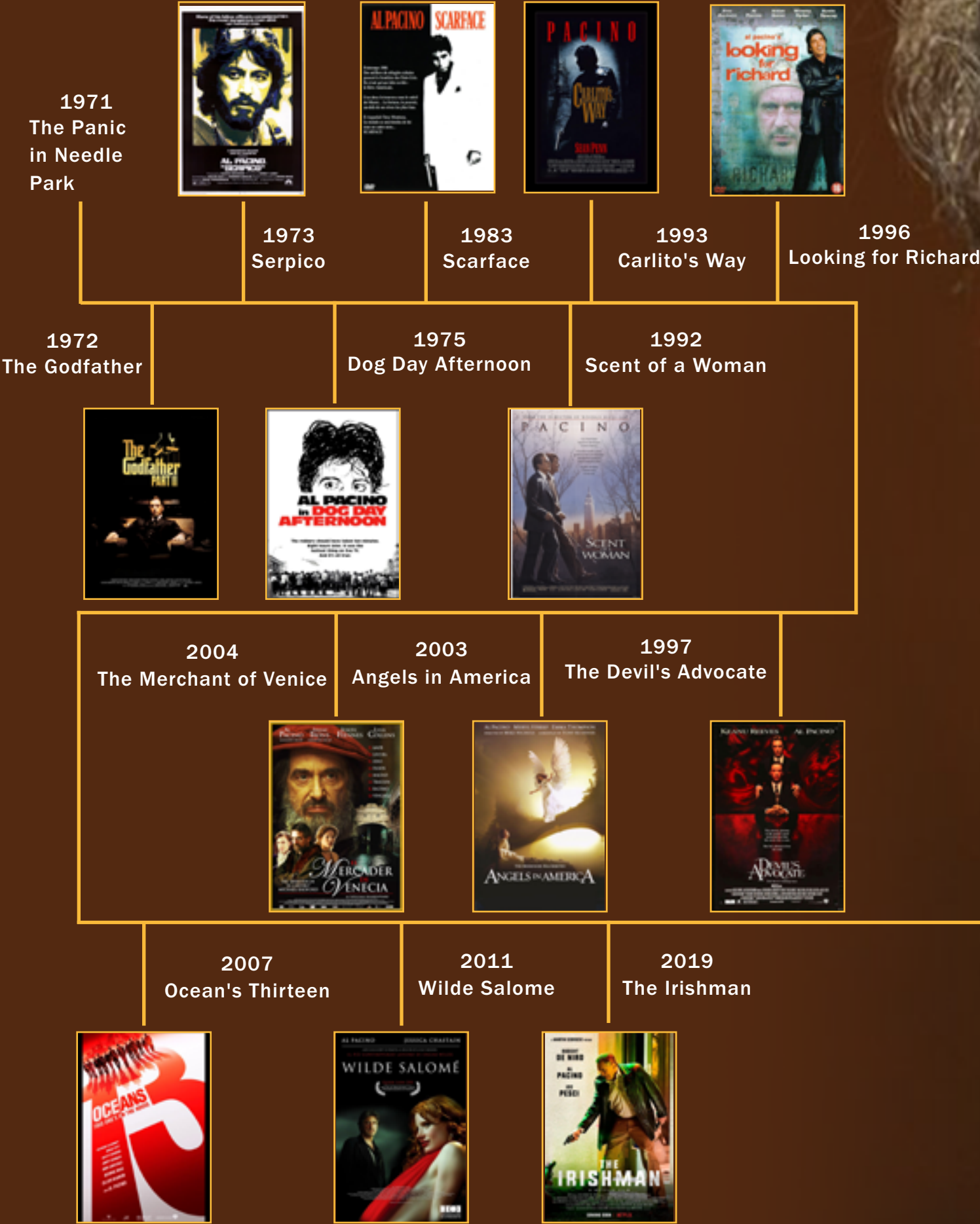
The *Godfather* films provided his big break but his resume also boats so many other classics, including *Scarface*, *Serpico*, *Dog Day Afternoon*, *The Devil's Advocate* and *Heat*.

There's also his Oscar winning role in *Scent of a Woman* and Emmy winning performances in *Angels in America* and *You Don't Know Jack*.

The veteran actor will have a fresh faced look in new film *The Irishman* in which CG magic will be used to make his character—39 at the start of the movie—look younger. Whether he win another Oscar for that or not, Pacino's status is secure as one of the greatest actors of all time.

—Sandro Monetti

WHAT A CAREER!
SOME OF AL PACINO'S FAMOUS MOVIES



Hollywood International Film Exchange, Capstone Group News Release



FORCE OF NATURE

Capstone—Cannes

Mel Gibson and Kate Bosworth have signed on to star in the action movie “Force of Nature” with Michael Polish directing.

With a hurricane pummeling his city, a cop must protect the remaining residents of an evacuated building from a team of criminals hell bent on executing a mysterious heist.





AFTERBURN

Capstone—Cannes

From the producers of The Fast and the Furious franchise and the 21 Jump Street films, AFTERBURN is a futuristic action adventure with the fun tone of Indiana Jones and Guardians of the Galaxy which stars Gerald Butler (pictured below).





COME AWAY

Before Alice went to Wonderland and before Peter became Pan, they were brother and sister.

Fairytales, adventure, action and intrigue fuel the imaginations of every member of the Littleton family until the day the family is struck by tragedy when their eldest son loses his life in an unfortunate accident. Unaccepting of their situation, the Littleton's youngest children Peter and Alice, decide to flee reality and travel deep into their imaginations in order to help save their parents who are consumed by despair and broken hearts.



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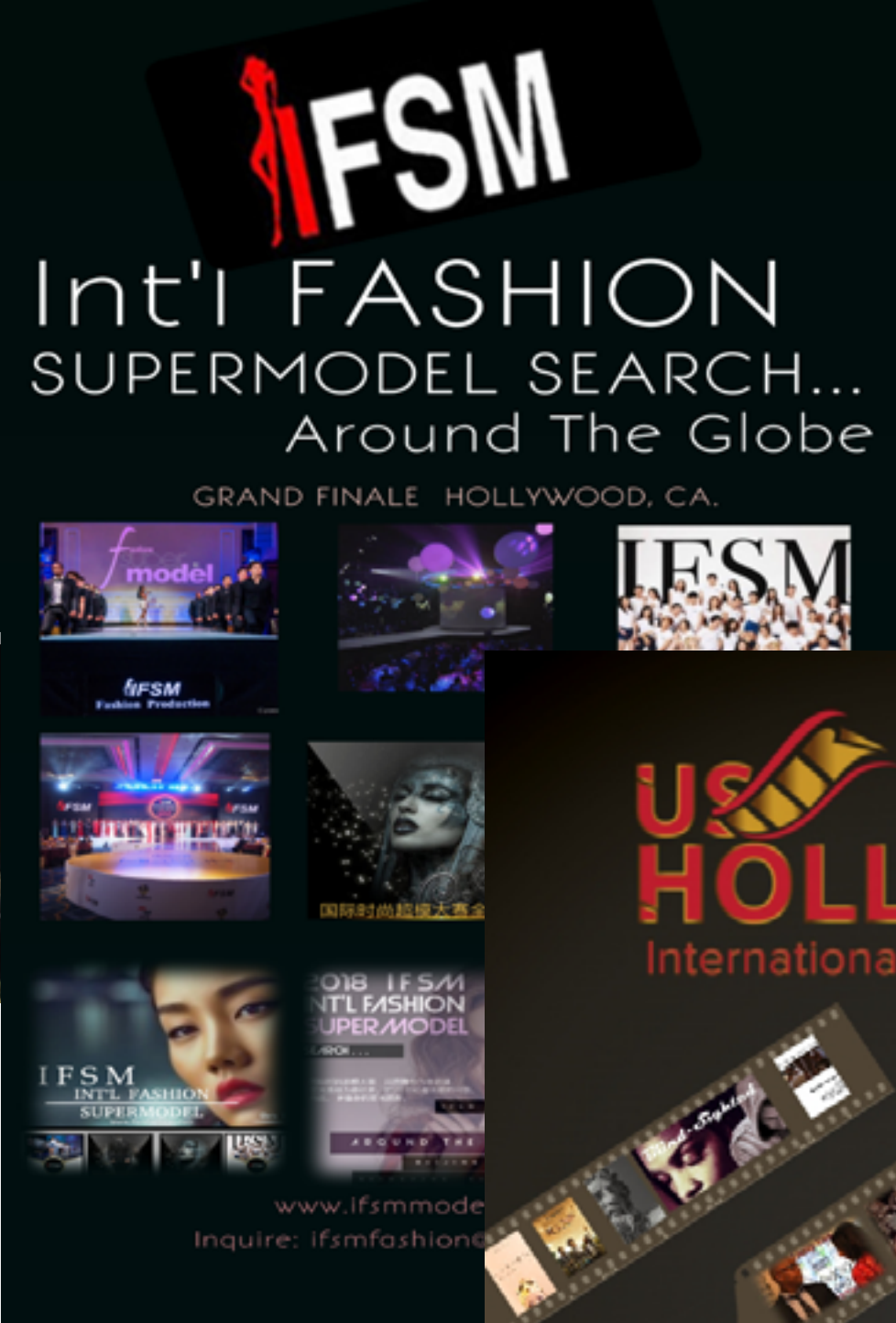


International Fashion Super Model & Golden Film Award News Release

IFSM & USHIFF announcement: More than 500 films from around the World will compete for the 2019 Golden Film Awards. All participating films provide a platform for up and coming independent filmmakers representing the art and craft of cinematic storytelling. The GFA festival was developed to foster meaningful global communication between all cultures through cinema exposing international talent and

building bridges of understanding and creativity within the movie industry.

The award ceremony was organized by the Golden Film Award Committee, Supported by HiFex, WCETV, IFSM, AICM, Dragon Disciple Productions, BSEG, Hollywood Outreach, IFSM Fashion TV, DHPR, KCS Rossana Culture & Education Society, Duchente, Queenie Yumokogi, 8sian Media, Parris Harris,Iching International.



5th Annual US Hollywood Int'l Golden Film Award coming in December, 2019



THE ULTIMATE BATTLE



The two greatest monsters in movie history are on a collision course.

Godzilla and King Kong will face off in 2020 blockbuster Godzilla vs Kong.

It’s a battle that many fans have been waiting their whole lives for and speculation over who will win it has already started.

The Warner Bros film is a sequel to this summer’s Godzilla: King of the Monsters and the director of that one, Michael Dougherty, thinks his title character is unbeatable.

“The goal for our film is to put the ‘God’ back into Godzilla. He’s an ancient, mythical creature,” he said.

Speaking at the WonderCon convention, Dougherty added it was impossible to say whether the destructive creature was a goodie or a baddie, explaining, “You can’t apply human morality to an ancient God.”

Godzilla vs Kong will be the ninth film to feature King Kong but the 36th to feature Godzilla.

—Sandro Monetti



BIG SCREEN ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

THE ORIGINAL AVENGERS

The amazing true story of America’s brave women pilots in World War 2 is to be told in Avenger Field, a TV series being developed by Big Screen Entertainment Group.

Based on American military files, only declassified in the last decade, this thrilling and inspirational series follows the fearless women who served at Avenger Field, a top-secret base in Texas for female pilots.

They were the WASPS (Women’s Airforce Service Pilots) who battled sexism as well as the enemy but were united by love of flight and love of country and supported by friends in high places, from Eleanor Roosevelt to Walt Disney.

Leading them was one of the most remarkable women of all time, celebrity aviator Jackie Cochran, who stopped at nothing to show women were just as good as men in a time of crisis, and often much better.

In this era of #TimesUp and #MeToo, Avenger Field embraces history by showing the battle for female empowerment, equality and inclusion is a war that has been raging for longer than we think.



Created by Big Screen’s Kimberley Kates and Sandro Monetti and developed by the company’s in-house writing team, the upcoming series is shaping up as an unforgettable flight into history, danger and drama.



BIG PLANS ON THE SMALL SCREEN

Big Screen Entertainment Group is developing its own distribution platform.

Big Screen Streaming will deliver all of the company’s in-house content from its library plus that of its partners and affiliates.

Those movie titles will be complemented by a slate of original programming being developed especially for this new VOD platform.

The streaming site will initially be in the form of a ROKU channel as well as a mobile and desktop portal to display and deliver content.

New shows in the works include much entertainment-themed programming including film reviews and a movie talk show.

Developing a BSEG wholly owned streaming platform will allow the company to potentially grow market share over time and establish a foothold in the streaming wars.

Big Screen Entertainment Groups is a publicly traded company located in Los Angeles, California.



FROM VAMPIRE TO BAT

Former Twilight star Robert Pattinson has been picked as the new Batman—but the casting choice has not come without objections.

Four separate fan petitions have been launched to persuade Warner Bros and director Matt Reeves to rethink their choice for the title role in The Batman.

Also on the shortlist to succeed Ben Affleck as the new Caped Crusader were Nicholas Hoult, Aaron Taylor-Johnson and Armie Hammer—with Hammer getting a lot of vocal fan support.

But Pattinson, who has reinvented himself as an arthouse favorite with some memorable indie film performances since Twilight, is all set to return to the world of block-busters with his first superhero role.

Filming is set to start in late 2019 or early 2020 for a release in June 2021 as Warners and comic book company DC look to reinvigorate the Batman franchise.

—Sandro Monetti



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HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL EXPRESS

Hollywood International Express is a daily international entertainment online news and website owned by Hollywood International Film Exchange (HiFex).

Hollywoodiexpress.com features breaking entertainment news, box office results, film and TV production, industry updates, especially China-Hollywood news and stories. It also has English Version and Chinese Version right now.



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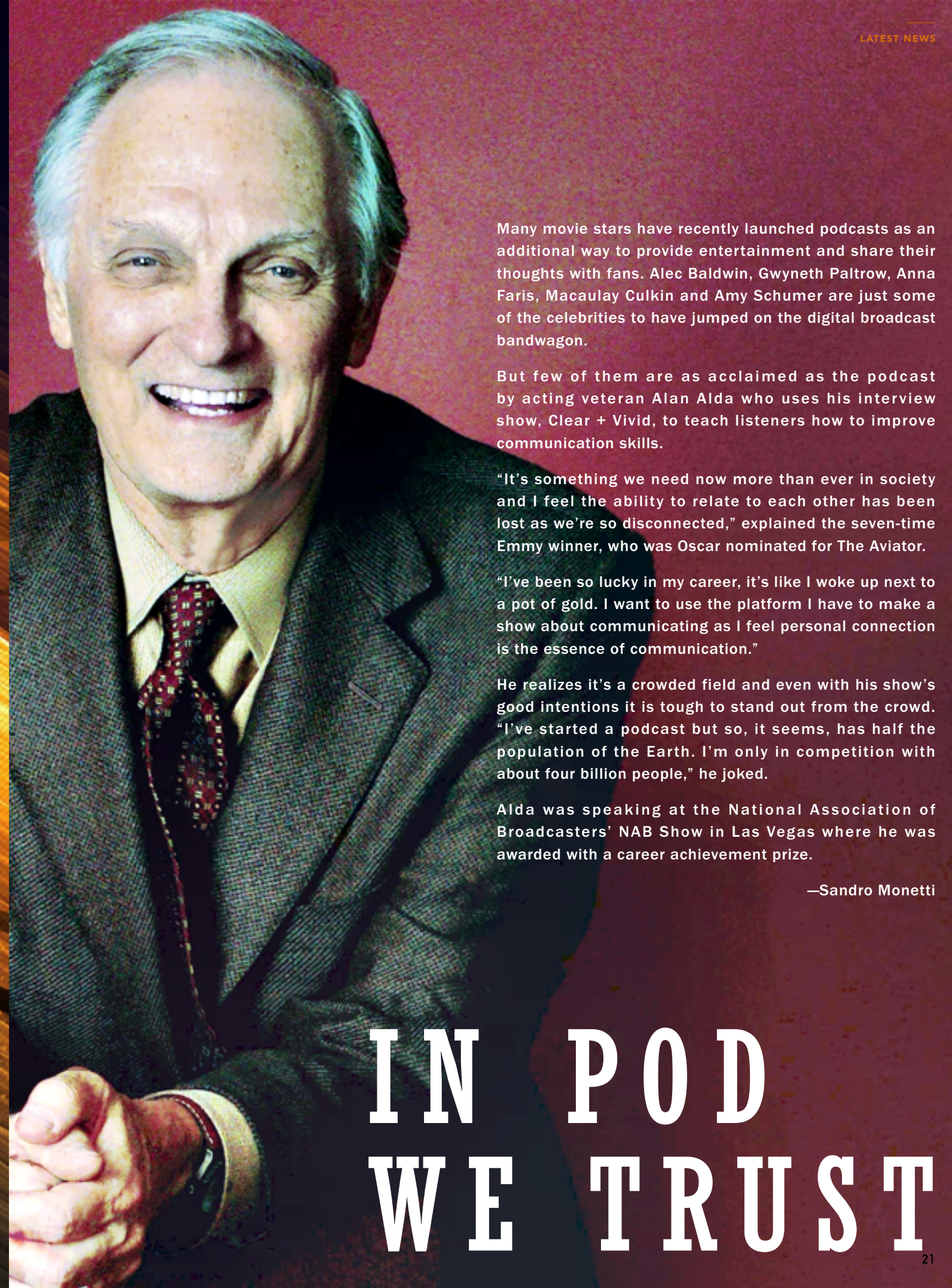
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Many movie stars have recently launched podcasts as an additional way to provide entertainment and share their thoughts with fans. Alec Baldwin, Gwyneth Paltrow, Anna Faris, Macaulay Culkin and Amy Schumer are just some of the celebrities to have jumped on the digital broadcast bandwagon.

But few of them are as acclaimed as the podcast by acting veteran Alan Alda who uses his interview show, Clear + Vivid, to teach listeners how to improve communication skills.

"It's something we need now more than ever in society and I feel the ability to relate to each other has been lost as we're so disconnected," explained the seven-time Emmy winner, who was Oscar nominated for The Aviator.

"I've been so lucky in my career, it's like I woke up next to a pot of gold. I want to use the platform I have to make a show about communicating as I feel personal connection is the essence of communication."

He realizes it's a crowded field and even with his show's good intentions it is tough to stand out from the crowd. "I've started a podcast but so, it seems, has half the population of the Earth. I'm only in competition with about four billion people," he joked.

Alda was speaking at the National Association of Broadcasters' NAB Show in Las Vegas where he was awarded with a career achievement prize.

—Sandro Monetti

IN POD WE TRUST

NEW BOND BADDIE

Oscar winner Rami Malek is joining the cast of the next 007 film as the movie’s villain.

The Bohemian Rhapsody star will battle it out with Daniel Craig in his final outing as James Bond.

“I will be making sure Mr Bond does not have an easy ride of it,” vowed Malek, after landing the role.

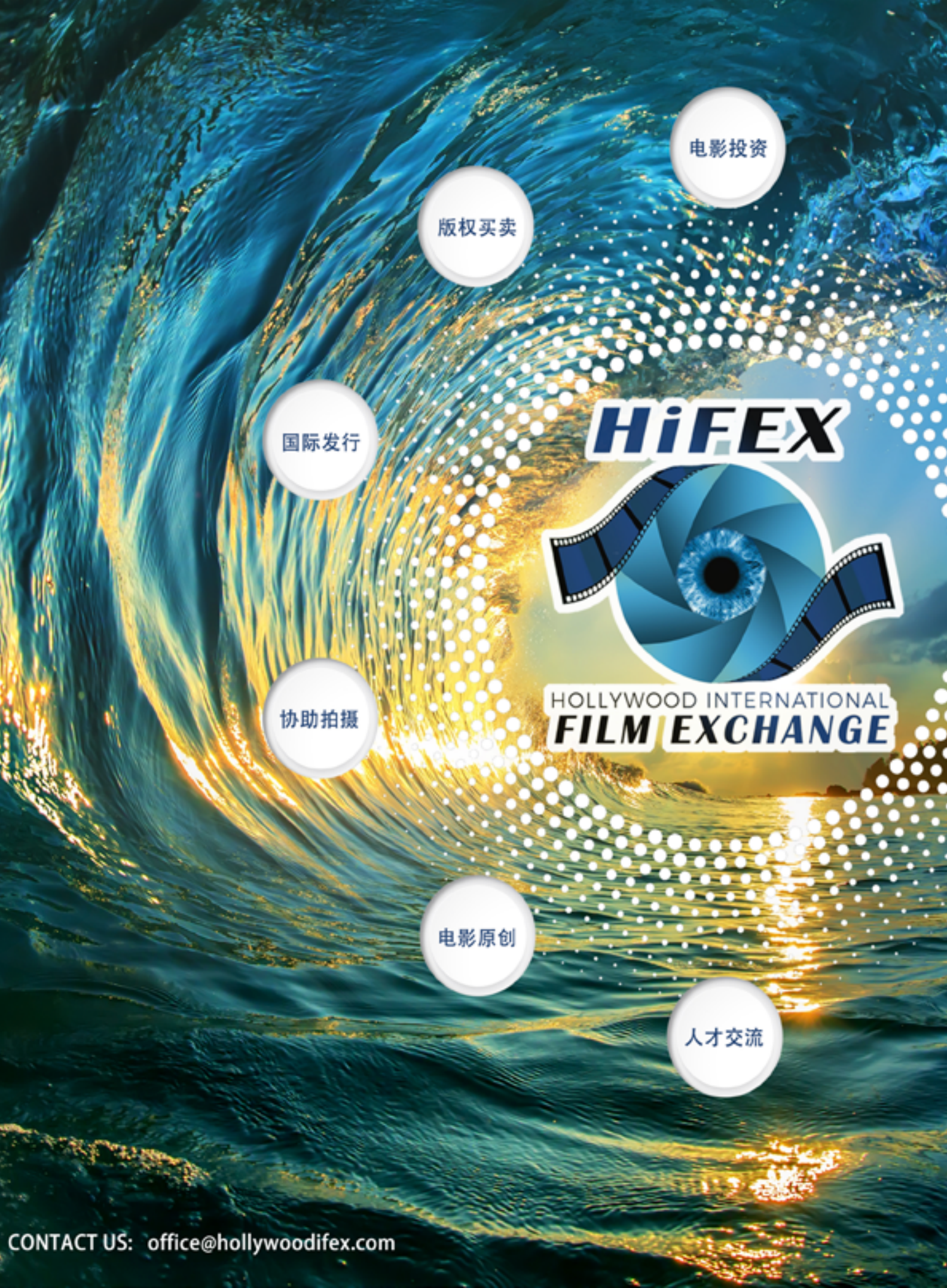
The storyline sees 007 no longer on active service for MI-6 and relaxing in Jamaica until his old friend, CIA agent Felix Leiter, turns up seeking his help with a dangerous mission.

The as-yet untitled film, the 25th in the franchise, will be released on April 8, 2020.

Phoebe Waller-Bridge, creator of spy series Killing Eve, is one of the writers on the globetrotting blockbuster, which will be directed by True Detective’s Cary Fukunaga.

Blade Runner 2049 actress Ana De Armas is another newcomer to the franchise while returning cast members include Ralph Fiennes, Ben Whishaw, Laya Seydoux, Naomie Harris and Jeffrey Wright.





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HOLLYWOOD INTERNATIONAL
FILM EXCHANGE

Movie theaters are always trying new things to keep audiences coming back and a cinema in Switzerland has certainly come up with something different.

At Cinema Pathe in Spreitenbach, moviegoers watch the films not from seats but...double beds.

The idea is to give audiences a comfortable, relaxing experience to tempt them away from Netflix and other home streaming services.

But concerns about the experiment are making the rest of the industry take a wait and see approach about copying it.

One worry is about hygiene and another is about couples getting carried away—it's one thing if the people next to you in a movie are talking and quite another if they are getting amorous in a bed!



Cinema operators insist there have been no such problems so far and the sheets are changed after every screening.

The reclining beds feature electronically adjustable headrests and in-bed dining is available to customers who are handed a menu on arrival.

It remains to be seen if the Swiss idea will catch on but it's certainly an interesting idea.

—Sandro Monetti

COMFORT ZONE



MOVIE TAX CREDITS- YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Making movies is an expensive business but production companies can get some of that money back by taking advantage of tax credits. But what are they and how do they work? Here's an introductory guide.

What are tax credits?

They are benefits offered to encourage film production in a particular state or country.

How do they work?

The idea is that by filming there you will be able to save money on taxes owed or get some other perks in return for

boosting the local economy and creating jobs in the region.

Where are the best deals in the USA?

Currently productions in the United States get the most benefit in Georgia, Louisiana, California, New York and New Mexico. Each of those states has developed appealing incentive programs. But several studios have threatened to stop filming in Gerogia if a strict anti-abortion bill there becomes law.

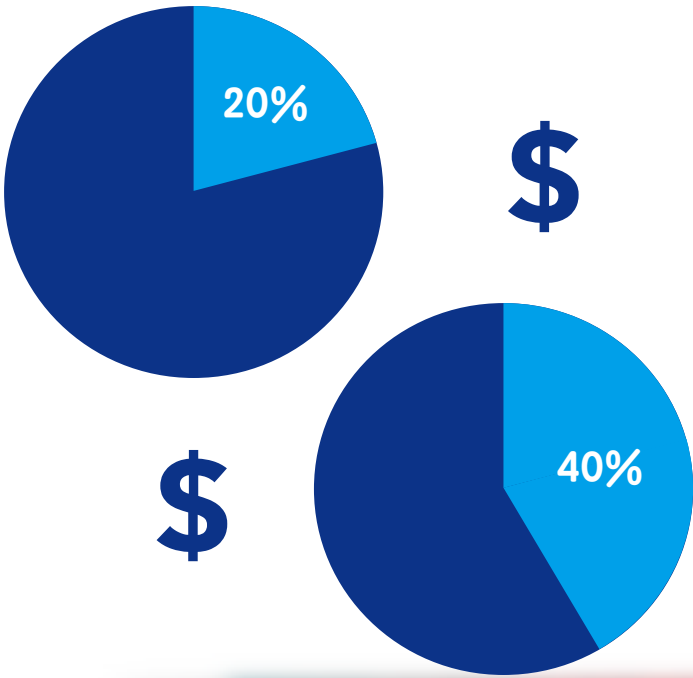
And internationally?

Film is a global business, of course, and

internationally the best incentives can be found in Australia, Canada, U.K. and Ireland, Bulgaria and Hungary.

How much are they worth?

Tax credits equal a percentage of qualified production expenditures and that percentage tends to range from 20 percent to 40 percent.



How and when did tax credits get started?

As a response to the spate of 'runaway production' in the 1990's when so many US TV shows and movies fled to Canada to film more economically.

What are the different types of perks available?

Covering a portion of income tax a production company would owe, exemptions from sales tax, cash rebates as a percentage of production spending, grants, discount hotel stays, shooting at area locations for free.

What are some of the films that have been made thanks to tax credits?

Quentin Tarantino's new film Once Upon a Time in Hollywood, Lady Gaga's hit A Star is Born, Nicole Kidman cop drama Destroyer, multiple Oscar winner La La Land and Marvel blockbusters like Black Panther.

—Sandro Monetti



JUST SOME OF THE PROJECTS TO BE

THE 10 BIGGEST MOVIE STARS NEVER TO HAVE WON AN OSCAR

They are some of the most famous movie stars in the world with a string of hits behind them but one thing is missing in their glorious careers...an Oscar.

These ten big names, remarkably enough, have a total of zero Academy Award wins behind them.

But they are all still at the top of their professions and it's hard to imagine they will end their careers without the coveted gold statue. After all, there's always next year....



Amy Adams



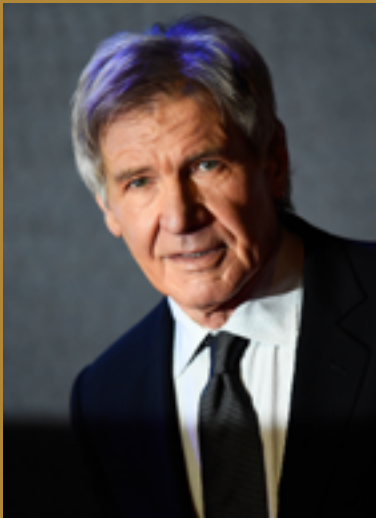
Johnny Depp



Sigourney Weaver



Will Smith



Harrison Ford



Glenn Close



Tom Cruise



Michelle Pfeiffer



John Travolta



Michelle Williams

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72^e FESTIVAL DE CANNES
14 - 25 MAI 2019



CANNES YOU FEEL THE LOVE TONIGHT?

The world's biggest film festival saw everyone from European arthouse veterans to Hollywood icons and Asian auteurs competing for grand prize the Palme d'Or.

In the end Alejandro G. Inarritu's jury gave the top award to Korean director Bong Joon Ho's critically acclaimed movie Parasite, about a family of con artists.

It was a surprise but unanimous winner over more high profile films including Quentin Tarantino's Once Upon a Time in Hollywood and Pedro Almodovar's Pain and Glory.

Antonio Banderas did win the Cannes Film Festival's best actor award for his role as an aging director in the Almodovar film. But Once Upon a Time in Hollywood, which boasts superstar actors Leonardo Di Caprio and Brad Pitt among its cast, only won the Palm Dog for best canine performance with pit bull Brandy claiming the trophy.

The 72nd edition of the French festival is often looked to as a first indicator for what films will take part in the Oscar race. Last year BlackKkKlansman and Cold War both won Oscars after launching at Cannes.

It seems unlikely that French film Lux Aeterna will be among the contenders. That was the most poorly received film at Cannes this year where it was even booed at the press screening.

Perhaps the most positive buzz was generated by a film which premiered out competition but won rave reviews, the Elton John biopic Rocketman soaring to a very successful reaction.

—Sandro Monetti

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FROM THE SCREEN TO THE STAGE

The Seven Year Itch was a romantic comedy film from 1955 which served to make Marilyn Monroe a superstar.

Now in 2019 the much-loved story has been reborn as a stage play and become one of the biggest hits of the Hollywood Fringe, America's largest theatre festival.

That brings the project full circle as it started out as a theatre piece and George Axelrod's timeless play about the comic misunderstands that ensue between a bored husband and the beautiful model living next door certainly endures.



This new production features Monika Ekiert and Sandro Monetti playing the central duo, is directed by Sebastien Cipolla and has original music by Bruce B Lee who produces along with Big Screen Entertainment Group and Jason Haigh-Ellery.





Dumbo’s Special Effects Secrets

Cutting edge digital technology can make the impossible possible.

Case in point: the special effects work on Disney’s recent live-action remake of animated classic Dumbo that enabled the big-eared baby elephant to fly.

Those soaring scenes were the responsibility of three-time Oscar nominated visual effects supervisor Richard Stammers.

With no real-life flying elephants to base the movements on, he had his CG artists study the flight patterns of large birds and the wing dynamics of butterflies so they could match those to the airborne scenes.

Then to show the effort it takes Dumbo to get off the ground and stay up in the air he had his team make sure to keep the computer-generated elephant’s ears flapping, head moving and legs galloping during flight sequences.

The cinematic magic helped the classic story about a most unusual circus animal soar to new heights.

Also making the fantastical story believable was the attention to detail spent filming real elephants from a variety of angles to help computer animators accurately demonstrate every small movement. Stammers said, “We looked at everything, like the way the trunk moves or the tail swishes or the the weight gets transferred from one leg to the other just when they’re standing still.”

Dumbo, the latest in a series of animated Disney classics getting the live action remake treatment, was released in March 2019 and directed by Tim Burton.

—Sandro Monetti

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TECH TO THE FUTURE

A Solution for Faster Filmmaking

Moviemakers are always looking for technical innovations that can improve the film industry while saving time and money.

Moxion—used on a string of recent hit films like shark movie The Meg—does all of that and more, according to leading figures in the film world.

Using proprietary technology and metadata, Moxion allows footage to be viewed, shared and edited within seconds after capture – and not just on set. Anyone on the team, anywhere in the world, can view and use the footage at the same time.

By integrating all the production sub-systems together to speed up production, the team can assemble and edit the content together and use the technology’s custom communication channels to speak to each other.

“It’s a complete paradigm changer which lets us remotely correct problems as they are being filmed, in a way that has not been possible before,” said Tim Capper, VFX Supervisor on Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: Sword of Destiny.

The producer of The Meg, The Matrix and Mulan, Barrie M. Osborne, called it, “Essential to any film and invaluable to ensure the remote units capture the director’s vision and production values.”

In his previous job working on film sets as a digital imaging technician, Moxion CEO Hugh Calvey saw the need to help drive filmmaking into the future with clever technology solutions like this one. By bringing all the threats of filmmaking together, he and his team may well have changed the industry.

—Sandro Monetti

WILL CHINA GIVE MORE ACCESS TO HOLLYWOOD?

Efforts are underway to lift the quota of U.S. films released in China each year.

Under current regulations a minimum of 37 Hollywood movies are allowed in during each 12-month period.

But the American government wants those strict laws relaxed and other policy changes made so that US producers can make more money in China.

Leading the fight for the US government is Treasury Secretary Steve Mnuchin – a film producer himself with experience in this area. Mnuchin was one of the producers of Wonder Woman, which made around \$90 million in China.

But the studio behind that film, Warner Bros, received just a small slice of those revenues under the current laws for foreign films.



HOLLYWOOD

So while asking for more American movies to be released in China, Mnuchin also wants the studio percentage take of the box office takings there increased too. However, that may not be so easy.

With economic relations between U.S. and China at a low point, the chances of getting a favorable new deal struck during this trade war period look remote. But talks are continuing.

Watching the outcome with particular interest are major industry players like Netflix and Disney as they seek to gain access to China's streaming market.

Regulations currently prevent foreign direct investment into video on demand platforms and restrict imported content.

But with the opportunity to crack such a giant VOD market such a lucrative one, efforts to change the numbers and change the game will continue.

—Sandro Monetti





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ANIMAL ACTORS HAVE RIGHTS TOO

It's a familiar credit you have seen countless times on the end of movies: "No animals were harmed."

But to earn that assurance, a film using animals has to earn the approval of the American Humane Association which, since 1940, has monitored films to ensure the safety and welfare of the animals.

Certified safety representatives oversee animals on the set, making sure the association's guidelines are followed and providing support on how to do so.



Here are just a few examples of those safety guidelines:

- *No animal is allowed to be treated inhumanely to elicit a performance •
- *Any scene depicting harm of an animal must be simulated
- *Only employ animal handlers who are knowledgeable about the species of animal to be used
- *No filming during extreme hot or cold weather, as temperatures may become an issue of animal welfare
- *After traveling, animals should be allowed adequate time to rest and acclimate prior to beginning work



Production companies can start the process of getting support from the association long before a frame of film has been shot. If your film is using any animals, the first step is to send in the script and upon review the AHA will make any observations or suggestions. For more information email filmunit@americanhumane.org.

—Sandro Monetti





EMPIRE BUILDING: THE MARVEL TIMELINE

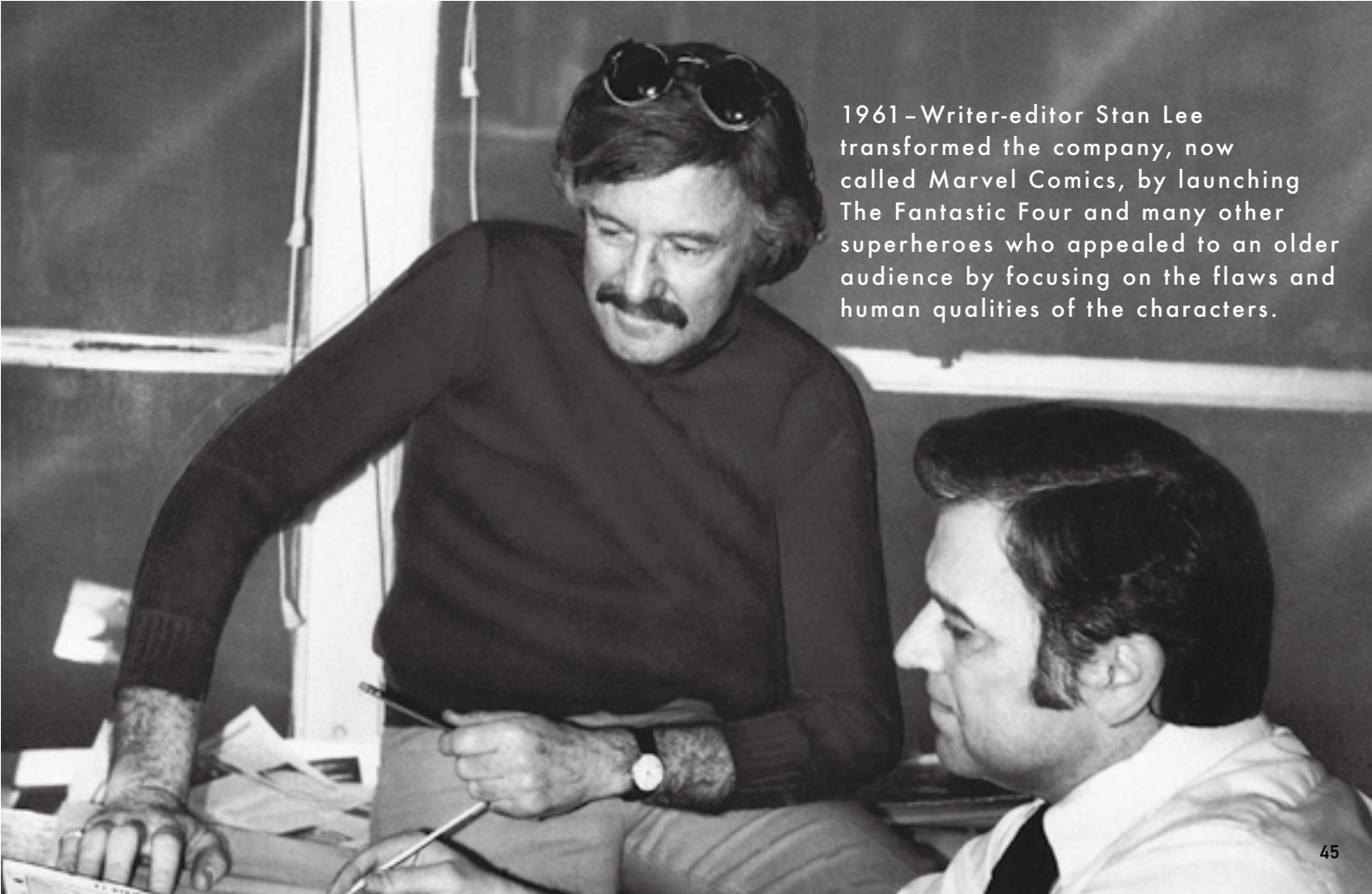
The record-breaking success of Avengers: Endgame has established Marvel at the summit of entertainment in 2019. But the history of the company goes back a long way, as this timeline shows.



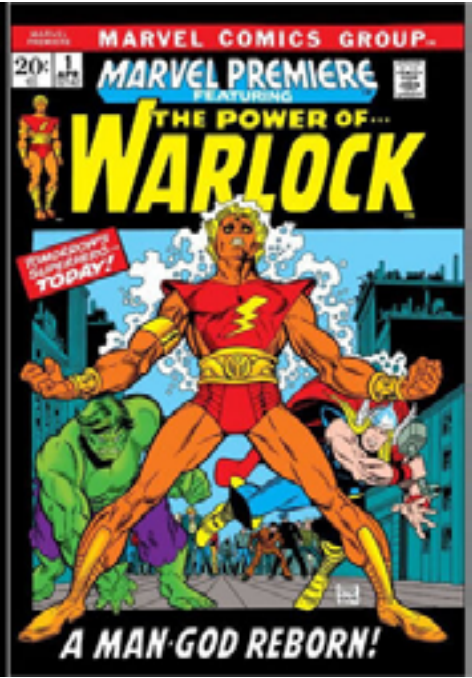
1939-The company began life as Timely Comics, establishing itself in the newly popular world of comic books right from the start with the publication of Marvel Comics issue 1 in October 1939 featuring superhero character The Human Torch.



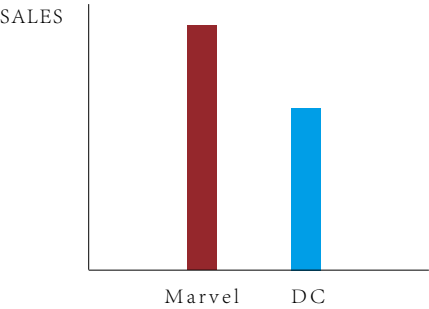
1951-As superheroes fell out of favor, it rebranded as Atlas Comics and focused more on war stories and westerns.



1961-Writer-editor Stan Lee transformed the company, now called Marvel Comics, by launching The Fantastic Four and many other superheroes who appealed to an older audience by focusing on the flaws and human qualities of the characters.



1972–Stan Lee became publisher of Marvel and the company pulled ahead of rival DC Comics in sales.



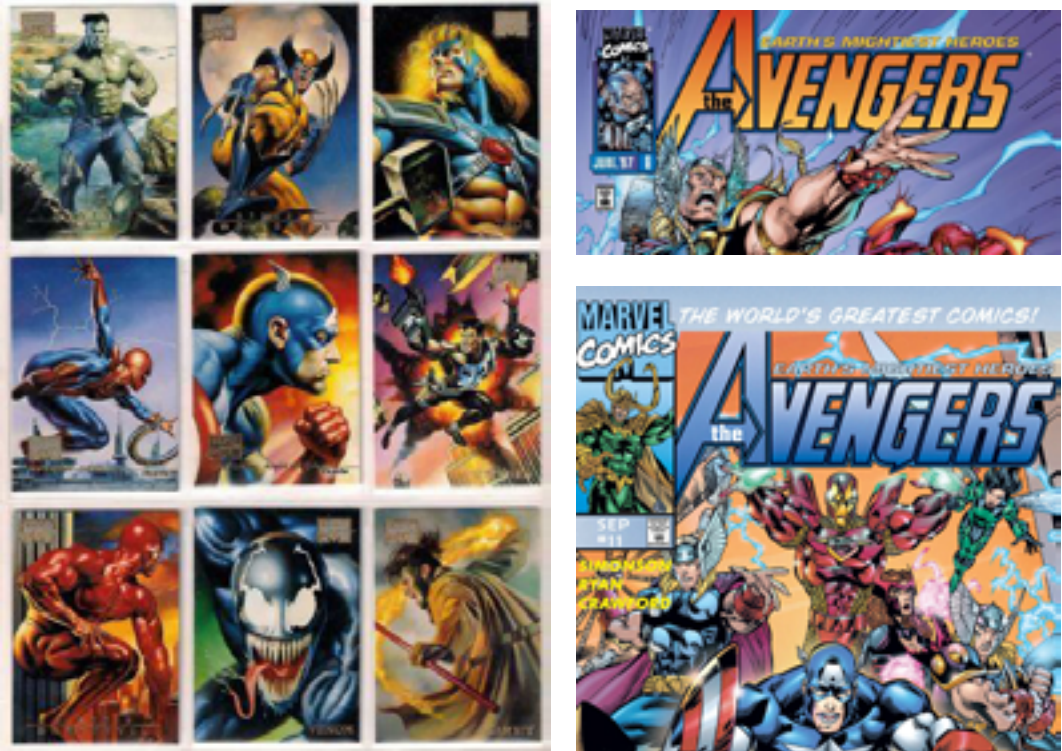
1997–Under new ownership the company recovered from bankruptcy and recovered market share with grittier stories like Daredevil and Black Panther.



1996–With comic book sales slumping, Marvel Entertainment Group filed for bankruptcy.



MARVEL



2008–Marvel Studios launched a series of films based on its popular comic book titles starting with Iron Man, which became a smash hit.



2009–The Walt Disney Company acquired parent company Marvel Entertainment for \$4 billion.



2009–present–And the rest is history. The 22 films based on Marvel properties have established the brand as the highest grossing US movie franchise ever.

–Sandro Monetti



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Avengers: Endgame Global Box Office:

\$2.7 BILLION

Avengers: Endgame China Box Office:

\$614 MILLION