

Coming Soon... TO A CINEMA NEAR YOU



FAILURE TO LAUNCH

Directed by Tom Dey
Starring Matthew McConaughey, Sarah Jessica Parker, Kathy Bates, Zooey Deschanel

31st March With a title like that, a film is doomed to witty puns from critics like me. This is a run of the mill rom-com that won't last longer in your memory than the aftertaste of your popcorn.

THE SHAGGY DOG

Directed by Brian Robbins
Starring Tim Allen, Kristin Davis, Danny Glover, Craig Kilborn, Robert Downey Jr

31st March Neglectful father becomes a shaggy dog and learns valuable life lessons... Not exactly Oscar material here, but young kids will like some of the sillier moments.



FIREWALL

Directed by Richard Loncraine
Starring Harrison Ford, Paul Bettany, Virginia Madsen, Carly Schroeder

31st March Here is yet another thriller about a husband whose family is put in danger by a maniac and who must retaliate without anyone else's help. Ford's presence makes this a noteworthy film, but the premise is rather tired.

RENT

Directed by Chris Columbus
Starring Rosario Dawson, Taye Diggs, Wilson Jermaine Heredia

7th April The enormous theatrical hit tries to capitalize on the momentum of the similarly transposed "Chicago", but failed to impress American audiences and critics. I doubt it will be a success in the UK either.

SHE'S THE MAN

Directed by Andy Fickman
Starring Amanda Bynes, Channing Tatum, Laura Ramsey, Vinnie Jones, Julie Hagerty

7th April Bynes is the definitive example of a squeaky clean teen queen and she has enough charm to light up the big screen with these harmless efforts. If you are looking for light entertainment this month, you won't go wrong with this movie.

THE SQUID AND THE WHALE

Directed by Noah Baumbach
Starring Jeff Daniels, Laura Linney, Jesse Eisenberg, William Baldwin, Anna Paquin

7th April A dysfunctional family drama with a stellar cast and a brilliant screenplay, this film will please an art-house crowd and deserves a bigger audience than it will ultimately get.

THE WHITE COUNTESS

Directed by James Ivory
Starring Ralph Fiennes, Natasha Richardson, Vanessa Redgrave

31st March With a typical Merchant Ivory quality to the production, this is an elegant film for a more mature audience. The entire cast is pure class.



JUNEBUG

Directed by Phil Morrison
Starring Embeth Davidtz, Allesandro Nivola, Celia Weston, Amy Adams

14th April The main reason to see this film is the delightful, Oscar-nominated, performance by Amy Adams. The film itself is strangely devoid of hope or joy, which makes it somewhat of a chore to sit through.

SCARY MOVIE 4

Directed by David Zucker
Starring Anna Faris, Carmen Electra, Leslie Nielsen, Simon Rex, Shaquille O'Neal

14th April More cheap laughs and moronic spoofs along the lines of the previous installments. There are a million other alternatives to seeing this film... Take one of them.



BASIC INSTINCT 2

Directed by Michael Caton-Jones
Starring Sharon Stone, David Morrissey, Charlotte Rampling, David Thewlis

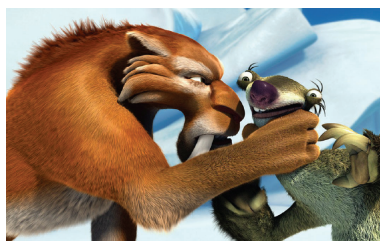
31st March This is an early candidate for "worst film of the year". Sharon Stone can't quite seem to regain the respect she was gaining in the mid-1990s

with roles in films like "Casino".

ICE AGE 2

Directed by Carlos Saldanha
Starring Ray Romano, John Leguizamo, Queen Latifah, Seann William Scott, Jay Leno

7th April I am not sure there was a clamor for a sequel to this chilly 2000 film. Nevertheless, kids will gladly line up for this one. Adults may want to delay a viewing until it arrives on DVD.



TRISTAN AND ISOLDE

Directed by Kevin Reynolds
Starring James Franco, Sophia Myles, Rufus Sewell

21st April Based on a legendary fable, this film will appeal to the supreme romantics out there. The film is gorgeously shot and well acted despite a slightly simple screenplay.

AMERICAN DREAMZ

Directed by Paul Weitz
Starring Hugh Grant, Dennis Quaid, Mandy Moore, Marcia Gay Harden, Willem Dafoe

21st April A blisteringly satirical lampooning of the American/Pop Idol phenomenon, this film has one of the funniest trailers ever. Look for it online. This will be a comedic hit with audiences and critics alike.

