

2011 Summer Movie Roundup

Written by Elizabeth Liberatore

It looks like numerous movies will be box office hits this summer: light-hearted comedies, nail-biting thrillers and eagerly anticipated sequels will soon enough be released in a theater near you. Moviegoers nationwide will feast their eyes upon just about anything and everything imaginable: from pirates and wizards to the infamous wolf pack and a caboose-kicking panda. So be prepared to munch down on a lot of popcorn and Milk Duds this summer because its a season full of fantastic films. Let's take a look at just what this summer has in store in the world of entertainment...



Image by Wikipedia User

Is it true that the wolf pack is reuniting? Indeed, the gang returns this summer for yet another hilarious adventure. Phil, Stu, Alan and Doug jet to Thailand for Stu's wedding. However, Stu's plan for a subdued pre-wedding brunch goes seriously askew. If you thought it could not get any better after the first movie, go check out The Hangover: Part II and fall in love again with the "three best friends that anyone could have!"

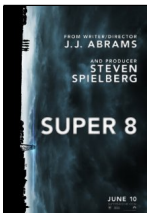
Kung Fu Panda 2

The cuddly and cute yet dangerously skilled panda is back and has joined forces with other kung-fu masters! Join Jack Black, Angelina Jolie, Dustin Hoffman and others for an action-packed movie where Po and company takes on an old enemy with a deadly new weapon.



June 3: X-Man: First Class

Stan Lee's Marvel team of superheroes is returning to the big screen this June. Every fanboy's dream will come true as they step into the past where Charles Xavier and Erik Lensheer are two young men discovering their powers for the first time. Before Xavier and Lensheer became archenemies things remained peaceful among all. Check out X-Man: First Class this summer to understand exactly what created the division among good and evil.



June 10: Judy Moody and not the Bummer Summer

The lighthearted Judy Moody books that captured the hearts of many young girls will be appearing in theaters soon! Third-grader Judy (Jordana Beatty) sets out to have the most thrilling summer of her life.

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Super 8

It looks like Dakota Fanning isn't the only actress in the family, younger sister Elle Fanning, alongside Kyle Chandler and Amanda Michalka, will be starring in this upcoming Steven Spielberg Sci-Fi film. A group of friends record a train accident on their Super 8 camera, and shortly after notice strange things occurring in their small town. The friends investigate into the creepy phenomenon.



Hottie alert! The gorgeous Ryan Reynolds shows off his new physique as he takes on the comic-book hero, the Green Lantern. Follow Reynolds as he is tasked with keeping peace within the universe.

Mr. Popper's Penguins

What is Jim Carrey doing with six penguins, you ask? Well, he inherited them! Carrey plays businessman Tom Popper whose life drastically changes as he transforms his apartment into a winter wonderland for these waddling creatures. Tom's professional side quickly starts to unravel as the penguins call his apartment home.



Middle-aged Larry Crowne has fallen victim to a mid-life crisis. After losing his job and forced to downsize, this poor fella cannot figure out what to do with himself. Having nothing else to lose, he heads back to college where his public-speaking teacher (Julia Roberts) has him lost for words. Watch Crowne pursue college where he reinvents himself mentally and emotionally.

Monte Carlo

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Round up the girls and watch Selena Gomez, Leighton Meester and Katie Cassidy get themselves into a predicament in a different country. The three young ladies vacation in Paris only to be whisked away to Monte Carlo after one of the girls is mistaken for a British heir.

Transformers 3: Dark of the Moon

It looks like the Autobots and Decepticons are at it again this summer in Transformers 3: Dark of the Moon. Shia LaBeouf and Optimus Prime return to reach a hidden spacecraft located on the Moon. The Autobots race against the Decepticons, which could turn the tide in the Transformers' final battle. Sorry gentlemen, no Megan Fox in this one.



If you have ever been underwhelmed with a past or present boss, you are not alone. Actors Jason Bateman, Charlie Day and Jason Sudeikis decide that their bosses are holding them back from happiness. So what do the three friends do to solve their problems? Simple, they conspire to murder their awful bosses. If work is getting you down Horrible Bosses will definitely put a smile on your face.

One Day

The all American girl-next-door Anne Hathaway and Across the Universe's Jim Sturgess star in the romantic-comedy, One Day. After spending the night together on the night of their college graduation, the duo decides to reunite on the same day for the next 20 years.



As much as we don't want to admit it, Generation Harry is coming to a close. All those books, all those movies---what will we do without our beloved Harry, Hermione and Ron? The talented trio takes their final bows as they try to find and destroy Voldemort and his horcruxes. Alas, after ten years of much anticipation the battle between good and evil will be among us.

Winnie the Pooh

Disney's bashful and honey-loving bear has a summer adventure in store for audiences' world-wide. After misinterpreting a note from Christopher Robin, Pooh convinces his pals that an evil creature has captured their young friend. Follow Pooh, Tigger, Rabbit, Piglet, Owl, Kanga, Roo and Eeyore as they venture throughout Hundred Acre Wood to save Christopher Robin!

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July 22: Friends with Benefits

Yet again, Justin Timberlake is making another summer appearance in Friends with Benefits. Also starring Mila Kunis, the self-explanatory title says it all: Dylan (Timberlake) and Jamie (Kunis) discover that adding the act of sex to their friendship does lead to complications.



July 29: Stupid, Crazy, Love

Former boss of The Office, Steve Carell, stars as a father whose life is crumbling apart. Cal Weaver's (Carell) marriage goes sour all while he is trying to maintain his relationship with his children. Ladies' man Ryan Gosling offers his pal some help; yet, Weaver struggles to look-on-the-brightside throughout the duration of the film.

The Smurfs

It looks like our little blue friends are hitting showbiz this summer with The Smurfs movie. Uprooted out of their village by the evil wizard Gargamel, the Smurfs find themselves smack-dab in the middle of Central Park. Papa Smurf, Gusty Smurf, Jokey Smurf and others must find a way back to their village before Gargamel hunts them down.



It looks like 2011 is the year for Jason Bateman and Ryan Reynolds as they appear in another summer hit, The Change-Up. In this comedy a married guy switches bodies with his best friend in order to woo his co-worker. I wonder which guy will get the better side of the bargain...

Rise of the Apes

Director Rupert Wyatt took the original "Planet of the Apes" and put a modern twist on it. James Franco stars in present day San Francisco, where his experiments with genetic engineering lead to the development of intelligence in apes.

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As if being attacked by zombies were not enough, actor Jesse Eisenberg is now being forced to rob a bank by two fledging criminals (Danny McBride and Nick Swardson). With a bomb attached to his chest, Eisenberg's character has only a mere 30 minutes to get the job done or else... Poor guy just finished his Facebook dilemma, can't someone give him a break?

Don't be Afraid of the Dark

Summer would not be summer without a good horror movie, right? Well, Don't be Afraid of the Dark stars Bailee Madison who discovers some scary secrets after moving in with her dad (Guy Pearce) and his girlfriend (Katie Holmes). Do not go alone; this is one movie you need someone to clench onto.



Jason Momoa stars as leading man Conan who adventures across the continent of Hyboria on a quest to avenge the murder of his father and the savage destruction of his village.

Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World

Jessica Alba, Jeremy Piven and Joel McHale star in the action-comedy quadrilogy of Spy Kids. A mother returns to her old profession, a retired spy, in order to prevent a villain bent on stopping time.



August 26: Final Destination 5

Summer has to go out in a bang, which is why Final Destination 5 concludes the last of 2011 summer movies. Following the same scenario as the previous movies, survivors of a suspension-bridge collapse realize that they cannot escape Death. Is it me, or isn't final destination five, along with the others, contradictory since number one was 'supposedly' final? Oh well, I know I'll be finishing my summer movie roundup with yet another final destination!