

# THE *Hollywood* REPORTER

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## Toronto Preview: Hot Fest Titles for Sale

By Pamela McClintock

**TORONTO**— Will the level of dealmaking at this year's Toronto International Film Festival match 2012's flurry of activity? UTA's veteran indie agent Richard Klubeck is betting on it. "This is the high-water mark in terms of available [finished] films," said Klubeck. And buyers already are poring over the jam-packed schedule.

Additionally, Toronto has turned into a growing film market where sales agents sell off foreign rights to unfinished films. One of the hottest sales titles is sure to be Jon Stewart's political drama *Rosewater*. Sierra/Affinity is flying Stewart in to pitch buyers and show footage.

Most of the action, however, will focus on finished films screening at the fest:



You Are Here

Worldview Entertainment, Christopher Woodrow's financing and production company, will be one of the busiest sellers. It will be offering U.S. distribution rights to *Devil's Knot*, starring Reese Witherspoon and Colin Firth, Nicolas Cage starrer *Joe* and Ti West's *The Sacrament*. "There was a lack of product at Cannes, so I would expect Toronto to be much more

active," said Woodrow. "But it all comes down to the film."

So, mark your screening guides: Here are the hottest titles buyers will be circling as the fest, set to run today-Sept. 15, gets underway:

*Bad Words* (CAA)

**Director:** Jason Bateman

**Stars:** Bateman, Allison Janney

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Think you know someone who will be **RUNNING HOLLYWOOD** in a few years?

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**NEXTGEN:**  
35 UNDER 35

All executives 35\* and under are eligible in the categories of agents, managers, film, TV, digital, legal and publicity.

\*To be considered, nominees must be 35 or younger on Nov. 6, 2013

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**The Buzz:** Buyers think the movie (Bateman's directorial debut) has real commercial potential. Bateman plays a one-time spelling-bee loser who tries to vindicate himself by somehow entering a kids' spelling competition.

*Can a Song Save Your Life?* (CAA/UTA)

**Director:** John Carney

**Stars:** Keira Knightley, Mark Ruffalo, Hailee Steinfeld

**The Buzz:** Carney, writer-director of *Once*, creates a musical romance, from Exclusive Media, about a frustrated singer (Knightley) and a washed-up producer (Ruffalo).

*Devil's Knot* (CAA/WME)

**Director:** Atom Egoyan

**Stars:** Reese Witherspoon, Colin Firth

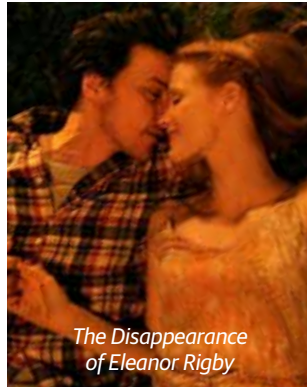
**The Buzz:** Loosely based on the case of the West Memphis Three, the drama should find a home thanks to its well-known Canadian director and Witherspoon playing a grieving mother.

*The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby: Him and Her* (WME)

**Director:** Ned Benson

**Stars:** Jessica Chastain, James McAvoy

**The Buzz:** One of the fest's most ambitious projects, it could prove puzzling: Benson has made two pics about a troubled marriage — one from the wife's perspective, the other from the husband's — that are packaged together as one 190-minute film.



*The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby*

*The Double* (WME/Protagonist Pictures)

**Director:** Richard Ayoade

**Stars:** Jesse Eisenberg, Mia Wasikowska

**The Buzz:** Based on a novella by Dostoyevsky, this comic outing centers on a man who is driven mad when he discovers he has a doppelganger. And Eisenberg gets to go toe-to-toe with himself.

*Enemy* (WME)

**Director:** Denis Villeneuve

**Stars:** Jake Gyllenhaal, Melanie Laurent

**The Buzz:** Another doppelganger tale! In this psychosexual thriller, Gyllenhaal stars in a dual role as a university teacher who tracks down a man who looks just like him.

*The F Word* (UTA)

**Director:** Michael Dowse

**Stars:** Daniel Radcliffe, Zoe Kazan, Adam Driver

**The Buzz:** The pic about a young man and woman trying to just be friends could pop with younger moviegoers if it isn't too talky, according to advance word.

*Fading Gigolo* (ICM)

**Director:** John Turturro

**Stars:** Turturro, Woody

Allen, Sharon Stone, Sofia Vergara

**The Buzz:** Allen plays a pimp who guides Turturro's middle-aged hustler. It marks the first time Allen has acted in another director's film in more than a decade.

*Felony* (CAA/The Solution Group)

**Director:** Matthew Saville

**Stars:** Tom Wilkinson, Joel Edgerton, Jai Courtney, Melissa George

**The Buzz:** The Australian drama revolves around three detectives who become embroiled in a tense struggle after a tragic accident leaves a child in critical condition.

*Hateship Loveship* (UTA/Cassian Elwes)

**Director:** Liza Johnson

**Stars:** Kristen Wiig, Guy Pearce, Hailee Steinfeld

**The Buzz:** This drama about a girl who tries to fix up her dad with her nanny is a potential breakout, though Wiig's most recent indie pic, *Girl Most Likely*, fared poorly.

*Horns* (WME)

**Director:** Alexandre Aja

**Stars:** Daniel Radcliffe, Juno Temple

**The Buzz:** Radcliffe is a hot property, but buyers aren't sure what to make of this thriller about a young man, accused of killing his girlfriend, who sprouts horns.

*Joe* (CAA)

**Director:** David Gordon Green

**Stars:** Nicolas Cage, Tye Sheridan

**The Buzz:** A gritty Southern Gothic drama about an ex-con who befriends a trou-



Joe

bled teen, it got high marks in Venice.

*Life of Crime* (WME/CAA)

**Director:** Daniel Schechter

**Stars:** Jennifer Aniston, Isla Fisher, Mos Def, Will Forte

**The Buzz:** There's keen interest in this crime comedy because of the cast and the fact that it's based on a novel by Elmore Leonard, who died Aug. 20.

*The Love Punch* (WME)

**Director:** Joel Hopkins

**Stars:** Pierce Brosnan, Emma Thompson

**The Buzz:** Distributors are viewing this caper about a divorced couple who reunite for a diamond heist as a possible adult box-office draw.

*Palo Alto* (Barry Hirsch)

**Director:** Gia Coppola

**Stars:** James Franco, Emma Roberts

**The Buzz:** A study of California teens based on Franco's stories, the movie, applauded at the Telluride Film Fest, should sell on its talent alone. Coppola is the granddaughter of Francis Ford Coppola and daughter of the late Gian-Carlo Coppola.

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*The Railway Man* (CAA)

**Director:** John Teplitzky

**Stars:** Colin Firth, Nicole Kidman

**The Buzz:** The film tells the true story of a haunted World War II British Army officer whose wife decides he must meet his former Japanese POW tormentor.

*Sunshine on Leith* (Focus International)

**Director:** Dexter Fletcher

**Stars:** Peter Mullan, Jane Horrocks

**The Buzz:** A feel-good romp based on Stephen Greenhorn's critically hailed play with a heavy dose of music from 1980s Scottish band The Proclaimers.

*Third Person* (Paradigm/CAA)

**Director:** Paul Haggis

**Stars:** Liam Neeson, Kim Basinger, Olivia Wilde, Mila Kunis, Maria Bello

**The Buzz:** Three intersecting stories about couples in Rome, Paris and New York mark Haggis' return to the same multistory technique that earned his *Crash* three Oscars.

*Words and Pictures* (CAA)

**Director:** Fred Schepisi

**Stars:** Clive Owen, Juliette Binoche

**The Buzz:** A comic drama that pits Owen's English teacher against Binoche's art teacher.

*You Are Here* (CAA/ICM)

**Director:** Matthew Weiner

**Stars:** Owen Wilson, Zach Galifianakis

**The Buzz:** The comedy about two childhood friends who return to their hometown when one of them inherits a fortune marks the first feature directed by Mad Men creator Weiner.

## THR TO HONOR ELBA, HARRIS

*Staff report*

**The stars of *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*,** Idris Elba and Naomie Harris, will receive *The Hollywood Reporter's* inaugural Breakthrough in Film Awards at this year's Toronto International Film Festival.

The awards, presented by Bulgari, will be given Sunday during *THR's* exclusive

TIFF cocktail reception at the Thompson Hotel.



Elba



Harris

*"The Hollywood Reporter Breakthrough in Film Awards highlights the incredible work of emerging talent,"* said Janice Min, *THR* editorial director. *"We are thrilled to recognize Idris Elba and Naomie Harris for their roles in *Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom*, a film which tells one of the most important stories of our time."*

The Breakthrough in Film Awards were created to honor the work of an actor and actress in a leading role whose performance marks a turning point in their career. *Long Walk to Freedom* — already an Oscar contender — is based on South African President Nelson Mandela's autobiography chronicling his early life, coming of age and the 27 years he spent in prison before becoming president. The film will be released by The Weinstein

Company on Nov. 29.

*"Bulgari has been synonymous with glamour and style since the 1950s,"* said Stephane Gerschel, head of global communications at Bulgari. *"It is an immense pleasure, thanks to *The Hollywood Reporter*, for Bulgari to recognize two fantastic actors whom we believe are at the tipping point of their careers, actors who will be the superstars of this coming year and many more to come."*

Elba is best known for his starring role on BBC's *Luther*, for which he won a Golden Globe; his work as Stringer Bell in the critically lauded HBO series *The Wire*; and a guest stint on Showtime's *The Big C*, which garnered him an Emmy nomination. His film work has recently taken center stage with performances in *Prometheus* and *Pacific Rim*.

Harris' breakout starring role was playing Selena in Danny Boyle's *28 Days Later*, a supporting turn as Tia Dalma/Calypso in the second and third *Pirates of the Caribbean* pics and as Eve Money-penny in the 23rd James Bond film, *Skyfall*. **THR**

**THR BLOG**

Awards season. Start to finish.

# THE RACE

WITH SCOTT FEINBERG

*"...one of the season's most informed Oscarologists."*  
 -NEW YORK TIMES

*"One of the best Oscar prognostication track records"*  
 -ASSOCIATED PRESS

*"...an awards authority..."*  
 -VANITY FAIR



# *Saving Mr. Banks* Set to Open AFI Fest

By Gregg Kilday

***Saving Mr. Banks***, starring Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson, will have its North American premiere as the opening-night film at AFI Fest on Nov. 7.

The world premiere of *Foxcatcher*, starring Steve Carell and Channing Tatum, will have a gala world premiere on Nov. 8 as its kicks off a slate of indie films that will screen at the fest, set to run through Nov. 14 in Hollywood. The Coen brothers' *Inside Llewyn Davis* will screen as the closing-night film.

Director Agnes Varda, who is considered "the mother of French New Wave cinema," will serve as guest artistic director of the fest, which is organized by the American Film Institute and presented by Audi.

"The American Film Institute honors the past, the present and the future of the motion picture arts," AFI president and CEO Bob Gazzale said in announcing the festival's key films on Wednesday. "Now in its 27th year, AFI Fest remains the place to experience Hollywood now — a place that lives in the mythology of the movies, but also the dynamic global stories of today."

*Mr. Banks*, which Disney will release on Dec. 13, stars Hanks as Walt Disney and Thompson as P.L. Travers, the author of the *Mary Poppins* books, and recounts



Tom Hanks and Emma Thompson star in Disney's *Saving Mr. Banks*.

Disney's efforts to win her approval to bring her character to the big screen. John Lee Hancock directs from a screenplay by Kelly Marcel and Sue Smith. The cast also includes stars Paul Giamatti, Jason Schwartzman, Bradley Whitford, Annie Rose Buckley, Ruth Wilson, B.J. Novak, Rachel Griffiths, Kathy Baker and Colin Farrell. The fest also will screen *Mary Poppins* during its opening weekend.

Directed by Bennett Miller, *Foxcatcher* is a based-on-a-true-story psychological drama starring Carell as eccentric multi-millionaire John du Pont, Tatum as Olympic wrestler Mark Schultz and Mark Ruffalo as Schultz's brother Dave. The film, which Sony Pictures Classics will release on Dec. 20, was written by E. Max Frye and Dan Futterman and also stars Vanessa

Redgrave and Sienna Miller.

*Llewyn Davis*, written and directed by Joel and Ethan Coen and produced by the Coens and Scott Rudin, stars Oscar Isaac as an aspiring folk singer along with Carey Mulligan, John Goodman, Garrett Hedlund and Justin Timberlake. The CBS Films pic is set for release on Dec. 6.

## BFI LONDON FEST REVEALS LINEUP

By Stuart Kemp

**LONDON** — Big-name U.S. — and other — pics from other high-profile festivals dominate the headline sections of the 57th BFI London Film Festival, which on Wednesday unveiled its lineup.

The Oct. 9-Oct. 20 event will screen George Clooney-Sandra Bullock Venice opener *Gravity* and Cannes competition title *Inside Llewyn Davis*,

helmed by the Coen brothers, among other films.

Organizers are hoping the lineup of big-ticket movies from other fests will spark public imagination and generate big box-office attendance across the annual event's two-week run.

This year's festival marks the second full year under the guidance of the BFI's head of cinemas and festivals, Clare Stewart, and is also the sophomore outing for changes she implemented, including the introduction of competitive sections that are giving more prominence to the festival and its program.

The official competition lineup, aimed at "recognizing inspiring, inventive and distinctive filmmaking," will include Richard Ayoade's *The Double*, starring Jesse Eisenberg and Mia Wasikowska, David Mackenzie's *Starred Up* and Jonathan Glazer's *Under The Skin*, all of which will unspool at the Toronto International Film Festival in the coming days.

Clio Barnard's *The Selfish Giant*, the only British feature to hit this year's Festival de Cannes in the Director's Fortnight program, will also compete for a prize in London after its outing in Toronto.

Overall, the 57th BFI London Film Festival, presented in partnership with American Express, will screen 234 fiction and documentary features, including 22 world premieres, 16 international debuts and 29 European bows along with 20 archive films, organizers said.

As previously announced, the fest will be book-ended

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by films starring two-time Oscar winner Tom Hanks, with the event opening with the European premiere of Paul Greengrass' *Captain Phillips* and closing with another European first, a screening of *Saving Mr. Banks*, billed as the untold story of how *Mary Poppins* was brought to the big screen. Emma Thompson stars as P.L. Travers, author of *Mary Poppins*, while Hanks portrays Walt Disney.

At the end of Wednesday's festival launch event in London, *Captain Phillips* director Paul Greengrass made a surprise appearance, touting the fest's importance and the strength of British film.

"It's a real honor for Tom [Hanks] and myself to open the festival," he said, adding that it means a lot "to me as a Brit."

Greengrass lauded this year's wide range of films from abroad and the U.K. "The London Film Festival is a major, major event now in the international calendar," he said.

The director also argued that "British filmmaking has never been stronger," tipping his hat to the fruitful interaction of government, the BFI and the broader filmmaking community.

And Greengrass added that "we are attracting the best talent to film here in Britain," mentioning that Alfonso Cuarón worked on *Gravity* here, among others.

The festival will also play host to the European premiere of Steve McQueen's *12 Years a Slave*, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor, Michael

Fassbender, Benedict Cumberbatch and Brad Pitt, while Jason Reitman's literary adaptation *Labor Day*, starring Kate Winslet and Josh Brolin, will also enjoy a red-carpet gala.

A festival gala event is planned for the European premiere of Ralph Fiennes' second outing in the helmer's chair, *The Invisible Woman*, which features himself as Charles Dickens as well as Felicity Jones, Kristin Scott Thomas and Tom Hollander.

Stewart's second festival in charge also brings back themed strands, each featuring its own galas.

Highlights include Cannes winner Abdellatif Kechiche's *Blue Is The Warmest Color*, set for the love strand gala, and Joseph Gordon-Levitt's *Don Jon* for the gala of the laugh strand.

The cult strand gets Jim Jarmusch's *Only Lovers Left Alive*, while Alexander Payne's road-trip movie *Nebraska* takes the journey strand gala slot.

Organizers said a slew of key talent is expected in London over the event's 14 days to get flashbulbs popping, including directors Stephen Frears, Alfonso Cuarón, Lukas Moodysson, Payne, McQueen and Joel and Ethan Coen; producer David Heyman; actors Steve Coogan, Oscar Isaac, Ejiofor and Joseph Gordon-Levitt; and actresses Bullock, Judi Dench and Carey Mulligan.

The festival's first feature and documentary competitions will also return, and the London event will choose a best British newcomer for an award.

## PLATINUM DUNES TO PRECIPITATE PIC RAINDROP FOR PAR

By Tatiana Siegel

**Paramount is set** to reteam with Michael Bay's Platinum Dunes and writers Jason Pagan and Andrew Stark on the high-concept hand-held camera thriller *Raindrop*.

The studio, which recently wrapped production on Pagan and Stark's \$13 million thriller *Almanac*, nabbed the *Raindrop* pitch pre-emptively.

The project is described as a sci-fi thriller with a teenage protagonist that will employ innovative hand-held camera work in a similar vein as the Dean Israelite-helmed *Almanac*, which also was produced by Platinum Dunes and will be released by Paramount on Feb. 28.

Plot details on *Raindrop* are being kept under wraps, but insiders say it is being envisioned with a slightly higher budget than that of *Almanac*. Bay is producing *Raindrop* via his first-look deal with the studio.

Pagan and Stark made a splash with their first and only other screenplay, *Almanac*, which follows in a string of low-budget hand-held pics including the *Paranormal Activity* franchise that has become a hallmark of Paramount president Adam Goodman's tenure. Stark, who is also known as Andrew Deutschman, is a former executive at Rogue Pictures.

The pair is repped by WME, Trevor Engelson at Underground and attorney Andrew Hurwitz.

## CANADIAN HELMER VILLENEUVE SIGNS DEAL WITH ALCON

By Rebecca Ford  
**Prisoners director Denis**

Villeneuve has inked a two-year overall deal with Alcon Entertainment.



Villeneuve

Alcon co-founders and co-CEOs Andrew Kosove and Broderick Johnson made the announce-

ment Wednesday. The deal includes Villeneuve's writing and directing services over a two-year period, extendable by any period during which he is directing a film, either for Alcon or a third party. The parties are currently mulling several ideas.

*Prisoners* was financed and produced by Alcon and stars Hugh Jackman and Jake Gyllenhaal. The drama, about a family whose child goes missing, screened at the Telluride Film Festival and will debut at the Toronto Film Festival on Friday. The Warner Bros. pic is set for release on Sept. 20.

Villeneuve's past work includes the 2010 Oscar-nominated French-language film *Incendies*.

Alcon's next feature production is Wally Pfister's helming debut *Transcendence*, with a star-studded cast that included Johnny Depp and Morgan Freeman. The sci-fi film hits theaters in April.

Dave Fierson, head of business affairs and general counsel, negotiated the deal for Alcon.

**THR**

# A&E Orders Country Music Docuseries

By Lesley Goldberg

**A&E is looking** for a piece of the country music pie.

The cable network, under executive vp and GM David McKillop, has ordered to series *Crazy Hearts: Nashville*,



McKillop

a docuseries chronicling the lives of aspiring country music artists and insiders.

The Nashville, Tenn.-set series will follow the lives of musicians and insiders over eight hourlong episodes as they balance life, love and their pursuit of stardom. The series will go backstage into the lives and lyrics of several up-and-coming musicians as they try to hit it big, fall in love and live to sing about it. The series promises love

triangles and fiery relationships that will cause rivalry both on- and off-stage.

The singers will be shown hitting the Nashville social scene every night and partying as they sing the blues while waiting for their big break.

*Crazy Hearts* hails from Eastern's Toby Barraud and Stefan Springman (*Love and Hip Hop*). A&E's Drew Tappan, Fred Grinstein and Evan Lerner also will exec produce.

*Crazy Hearts* comes as country music continues to be a draw for ABC's *Nashville*. The musical starring Connie Britton ranks as ABC's lone returning scripted drama from last year's freshman class. That series, like Fox's *Glee*, also taps into ancillary revenue from downloads of the original music featured on the show.

## SEASON 17 CAST ANNOUNCED FOR ABC'S *DANCING*

By Michael O'Connell

**It might not** have been the series' most surprising cast announcement, but ABC unveiled the upcoming roster of *Dancing With the Stars* participants with typical fanfare during Wednesday's episode of *Good Morning America*.

Making good on last week's leaked news, Leah Remini is among the 12 celebrities who will hit the ballroom floor during the Sept. 16 premiere. The 43-year-old television actress, who recently had a very public split with the Church of Scientology, will dance with longtime series pro Tony Dovolani.

Remini, like many of her Season 17 castmates, was first reported last week. The long-running series suffered one of the bigger spills in its tight-lipped history, with much of the lineup appearing on TMZ.

Nicole "Snooki" Polizzi joins Remini in the new season, making her the second

*Jersey Shore* castmember to make a bid for mirror-ball trophy. (Mike "The Situation" Sorrentino tried and failed, spectacularly, in 2010.) 74-year-old *Mary Tyler Moore Show* actress Valerie Harper, diagnosed with terminal brain cancer this year, will also dance. She's partnered with Tristan MacManus.

*Glee* alum Amber Riley, *High School Musical* actor Corbin Bleu and *Saved by the Bell* and *Showgirls* star Elizabeth Berkley also are among the cast. Riley has the benefit of dancing with the franchise's MVP, four-time winning pro Derek Hough.

Jack Osbourne, famously booted from NBC reality competition *Stars Earn Stripes* after being diagnosed with relapsing remitting multiple sclerosis, will dance with Cheryl Burke.

Former NFL player Keyshawn Johnson is this season's requisite pro athlete, and *Pretty Little Liars* actor Brant Daugherty is the obligatory Disney star. Comedian Bill Engvall, singer Christina Milian and Bill Nye — as in "The Science Guy" — round out the cast. **THR**

THR BLOG

# THE LIVE FEED

YOUR DAILY JOLT OF TV NEWS AND BUZZ

Hollywood REPORTER | [THR.COM/BLOGS/LIVE-FEED](http://THR.COM/BLOGS/LIVE-FEED)



# Azoff, MSG Announce \$300 Mil Joint Venture

By Eriq Gardner

**NEW YORK**—The Madison Square Garden Company and music industry heavyweight Irving Azoff are partnering on a new company that will offer artist management, music publishing, television production, live-event branding and more.

The new company is called Azoff MSG Entertainment, and as part of the deal to establish it, Azoff will be contributing his Azoff Music Management in return for \$125 million and a 50 percent stake in the company. MSG will also be providing up to \$50 million of revolving credit loans.

Azoff will be the new company's chairman and CEO. He also will be providing consultancy and advisory services to MSG in connection with the management of its live-event venues.

The partnership continues a long-lasting friendship and business relationship between Azoff and James Dolan, chairman of MSG.

In 2008, MSG bought a minority stake in Front Line, which at the time was led by Azoff and partially held by Ticketmaster parent IAC.



Azoff



Dolan

After Ticketmaster was spun off, it was merged with Live Nation, with Azoff assuming the role of chairman and Dolan joining Live Nation Entertainment's board.

On New Year's Eve, Azoff suddenly quit Live Nation, saying he wished to devote his time to running his management company. At the time, he also said, "It's no secret that a public company isn't my first choice of what to do."

Following that move, Dolan also resigned from Live Nation's board. It was seen as being connected to Azoff's departure. Azoff also manages Dolan's band, J.D. & the Straight Shots.

Now, the two are again re-teaming in what is being called a "new-model music, media and entertainment company, at the forefront of the emerging revenue streams and groundbreaking technologies of the fast-changing 21st century."

"This is a partnership," Dolan told *The Hollywood Reporter*. "It is not subject to the rules of a public company. It will be operated and directed by Mr. Azoff. He has no board. All he has got is me."

"And I'm thrilled to have you, J.D.," responded Azoff.

Azoff said that while he doesn't know what the next big thing is in entertainment, he believes that it is important to be "nimble and quick and flexible" to changing market

conditions. That said, the new company is being set up with four key competencies.

Most crucially, Irving will be bringing his management services for such clients as the Eagles, Van Halen, Christina Aguilera and Steely Dan.

Azoff MSG Entertainment will also own a 90 percent interest in a music publishing venture run by Randy Grimmett and Sean O'Malley. Azoff said that bringing over folks from ASCAP to operate this unit will become important with the emergence of performing-rights revenue streams from nascent digital services. "Rights-holders do not have a place that can represent them in these needs," he said.

The new company will also have a third division devoted to television production and live-event branding. It will be headed by Lawrence Randall, former head of programming and entertainment for the National Football League, and will acquire, develop, produce and exploit live- and televised-event entertainment.

Azoff shrugged off any speculation that it will be competing with Live Nation, saying that although there could be some overlap with his former company's sponsorship division, the new branding unit will be "complimentary." He said he can even see Azoff MSG Entertainment working with Live

Nation in some instances.

The fourth division of Azoff MSG Entertainment will be a 50 percent interest in a business called Digital Brand Architects, which manages more than 70 bloggers, connects them with brands, and provides consultancy services to brands looking to exploit opportunities in the social-media network space. The unit will be overseen by Allison Statter.

In announcing Azoff MSG Entertainment, the company also is touting partnerships with digital technology company ACTV8 as well as United Talent Agency on a rollout of *Streets of the City*, an interactive, live-music discovery TV show.

## SIRIUS XM INKS PACT TO CARRY FOX NEWS NETS

By Paul Bond

**Sirius XM radio** signed a deal allowing it to carry Fox News Channel through 2019 and that adds Fox Business Network to the satellite provider's lineup beginning Oct. 18.

The new and expanded arrangement also allows Sirius XM to stream the two Fox channels, as well as the Fox News talk radio shows, over the Internet.

Fox News Talk includes personalities such as Brian Kilmeade, John Gibson and Alan Colmes. Fox Business hosts include Lou Dobbs, Liz Klamann, Charlie Gasparino and Neil Cavuto, among others.

Financial details of the deal were not disclosed. **THR**

# Avenged Sevenfold Tops Billboard 200

By Keith Caulfield,  
Billboard

**Rock band Avenged Sevenfold** came flying in at No. 1 on the Billboard 200 this week. The group's sixth studio album, *Hail to the King*, opened atop the list, selling 159,000 copies in its first week, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

It's the second-largest sales week for the rock band, just shy of the debut of its last album, 2010's *Nightmare* (No. 1 with 163,000).

The new album's title track has climbed to No. 12 on the Hot Rock Songs chart, and spent the past four consecutive weeks at No. 1 on the Active Rock airplay tally.

*Hail to the King's* opening is also the largest week for a hard-rock album in more than a year. The last hard-rock set to sell more in a week was Linkin Park's *Living Things*, which launched at No. 1 with 223,000 on the July 14, 2012 chart. The two bands happen to be label-mates, as both are on Warner Bros. Records.

*Hail to the King* naturally also debuted at No. 1 on the Hard Rock Albums chart, the Alternative Albums chart and the overall Rock Albums chart. In total on the Billboard 200, the disc is Avenged Sevenfold's third Top 10 effort, following *Nightmare* and a self-titled set in 2007 (No. 4).

After two weeks at No. 1



*Hail to the King's* debut is the largest sales week for a hard-rock album in more than a year.

on the Billboard 200, Luke Bryan's *Crash My Party* fell to No. 2. The set sold 92,000 this past week (down 42 percent). It remained at No. 1 on the Top Country Albums chart for a third frame.

Rappers Big Sean and Juicy J are up next on the Billboard 200, as their latest efforts bowed at No. 3 and No. 4, respectively. Big Sean's *Hall of Fame* debuted with 72,000, while Juicy J's *Stay Trippy* opened with 64,000.

*Hall of Fame* follows Big Sean's debut studio effort, *Finally Famous*, which opened at No. 3 in 2011 with 87,000. As for Juicy J, *Stay Trippy* easily marks his best sales week and highest-charting album. Until this week, the rapper never reached higher than No. 93, with 2002's *Chronicles of the Juice Man: Underground Album*.

The third and final debut in the top 10 is the various-artists tribute set *Alabama & Friends*. The all-star country collection — celebrating the music of the band Alabama

— bowed at No. 8 with 32,000 sold. The 12-song album features an array of country stars covering some of Alabama's biggest hits, along with two new songs from the veteran band itself: "That's How I Was Raised" and "All American."

As for the non-debuts in the top 10 this week: Robin Thicke's *Blurred Lines* rose one spot to No. 5 with 55,000 units sold (up 20 percent), and Justin Timberlake's *The 20/20 Experience* vaulted from No. 22 to No. 6 with 37,000 (up 148 percent). Both artists benefited from exposure on the MTV Video Music Awards (Aug. 25), where they each performed. Timberlake also took home the video of the year award (for "Mirrors") and was celebrated with the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard award.

John Mayer's *Paradise Valley* slipped from No. 2 to No. 7 with 36,000 in its second week, down 75 percent. Bruno Mars, who performed and won on the VMAs, rose from No. 18 to No. 9 with *Unorthodox Jukebox*. The album shifted another 27,000 units this past week, up 29 percent.

Closing out the top 10 is TGT with *Three Kings*, dropping from No. 3 to No. 10 in its sophomore frame with nearly 27,000 units (down 65 percent).

Overall album sales in the past chart week (ending Sept. 1) totaled 4.92 million

units, up 1 percent compared with the sum last week (4.88 million) and up less than 1 percent in relation to the comparable sales week of 2012 (4.90 million). Year-to-date album sales stand at 185.9 million, down 6 percent compared with the same total at this point last year (197.4 million).

Next week's Billboard 200 competes with the same week in 2012 when Matchbox Twenty's *North* entered at No. 1 with 95,000, giving the band its first chart-topper.

## MURPHY UNVEILS NEW REGGAE TUNE

By Erik Hayden

**Eddie Murphy** has debuted new music on Twitter.

In anticipation of a forthcoming solo album, titled *9*, an account was created for the multi-talented actor. The first, and only, tweet teased the cover art for the single, "Red Light," which features Snoop Lion.

Murphy sings and plays guitar on the track and Snoop Lion also contributes a verse to the reggae song.

The *Beverly Hills Cop* and *Dreamgirls* actor has previously dabbled in recording. He released a single, "Party All the Time," in the late '80s and a 1993 album, *Love's Alright*, featuring Michael Jackson on one song.

Snoop Lion released an album, *Reincarnated*, in April. The disc accompanied a documentary of the same title that was released in theaters in March.

The video for "Red Light" will debut on Monday. **THR**



## PALO ALTO

By Todd McCarthy

**The best feature** film directed by someone named Coppola in a number of years, *Palo Alto* is a dreamy looking, unsensationalized portrait of badly behaved residents of a notably affluent California town. Directed and written by Gia Coppola, who here extends the family dedication to filmmaking into a third generation, this adaptation of James Franco's short-story collection *Palo Alto Stories* deals with such familiar hot-button teen issues as suicide, drugs, drinking and random sex, but from the coolly observational perspective of a curious artist rather than from a hormonal or sociological point of view; creatively, it's almost the polar opposite of something deliberately confronting and self-consciously provocative like Harmony Korine's *Spring Breakers*. Commercial prospects are modest but it's a very creditable first feature.

Gia Coppola is Francis' 26-year-old granddaughter and her mother was two months pregnant when her father, Gian-Carlo Coppola, was killed in a tragic boating accident. She also graduated from Bard College with a fine arts degree in photography, and the drifting, moody visual approach is what most sets the pic apart from the countless other films, indie and otherwise, that have depicted aimless, disaffected and confused teenagers. The soft, ever-shifting visuals lend an almost anesthetized feel to the proceedings that serves as a visual correlative to the



James Franco has more on his mind than just coaching girls soccer in *Palo Alto*.

frequently drunk and stoned state of the characters, who smoke very strong weed almost as casually and frequently as *Mad Men* characters smoke cigarettes.

Out of a group of high school students who regularly congregate to get totally wasted at an adult-free house, three soon come into focus as prime subjects of interest. Tall, dark-haired Fred (Nat Wolff) and slighter, blondish Teddy (Jack Kilmer) are best buds with no apparent boundaries and dedicated to abusing every substance within reach. As if auditioning for a remake of David Cronenberg's *Crash*, Fred is first seen deliberately ramming his car into a wall, and his deepest instinct seems to be maintaining his status as the most anti-social a-hole in town.

Going along with it all out of peer pressure if nothing else, Teddy drinks 'til he drops, but not before smashing his car into that of an older woman (Colleen Camp), which lands him a community service gig at the local library.

The boys' sometimes companion is April (Emma Roberts), who by local standards is a good girl by virtue of the fact that she isn't always ham-

mered and orally servicing every guy in school, unlike shameless slut Emily (Zoe Levin). In another place and time, the pretty April would likely be the belle of the ball, but here, with little parental guidance and pervasive local debauchery, she's lost and without focus.

A further degrading influence comes in the good-looking form of her twice-her-age soccer coach Mr. B (Franco), who's outwardly upbeat and friendly but takes advantage of her babysitting stints at his house to confess his love and put the moves on her. These scenes are icky, as they say, and all too believable.

What would seem to unify all the characters here is an almost total inability to identify and articulate their feelings and then act upon them in any coherent or meaningful manner. The most immediate reasons for this would seem to be lack of any role models or moral strictures combined with the embalming effect of drugs and booze, but this is merely implicit; that Coppola isn't remotely interested in the sociopolitical aspects of the situation is reflected first and foremost in the lack of physical reference points — only the title

indicates where the story is set (it's Franco's hometown), and the anonymous streets and parks and backyards that serve as the main settings could be anywhere and not in one of the most intellectually and economically privileged communities in the world.

Whatever is missing from the lives of these aimless adolescents will be up to audiences to decide, but Coppola's own experience and biases unsurprisingly emerge with the tacit suggestion that finding one's own means of artistic expression can provide the best escape from emotional numbness and incoherence.

The three leads are good in a naturalistic vein. Wolff's compulsive troublemaker Fred is a scary creation, a guy whose behavior is as unpredictable and random as an out-of-control garden hose. Kilmer, whose father, Val, has a bizarre cameo, suggests real sensitivity as a kid with artistic potential, while Roberts glimmers with palpable but unprocessed emotional impulses.

Along with the allure of Autumn Cheyenne Durald's cinematography, the soundtrack is another major asset here, with songs and musical samplings having been layered and moved in and out in effective ways.

**Venue:** Telluride Film Festival.

**Production:** Rabbit Bandini.

**Cast:** James Franco, Emma Roberts, Nat Wolff, Jack Kilmer, Zoe Levin, Claudia Levy, Olivia Crocicchia, Val Kilmer, Colleen Camp.

**Director-screenwriter:**

Gia Coppola.

Not rated, 98 minutes.

**THR**



# TV RATINGS

R=Repeat D=Debut S=Special Winner of time period  
 0.0/0.0 Program Name 00.0  
 18-49 Rating/Share Title of Show Millions of Viewers

# CHART

Week 49  
 Sept. 5

	ABC			CBS			NBC			FOX			CW		
<b>MON</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>3.8</b>	<b>1.7/5</b>		<b>6.9</b>	<b>1.2/4</b>		<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.7/2</b>		<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.2/1</b>		<b>0.6</b>
8:00	1.1/4	Shark Tank	4.6	1.4/4	How I Met Your Mother R	4.4	1.5/5	American Ninja Warrior	5.3	0.8/3	Raising Hope R	2.1	0.2/1	Hart of Dixie	0.9
8:30	1.2/3	1.1/4 4.6 R S	4.7	1.1/3	2 Broke Girls R S	3.9	1.9/6	1.7/5 5.8	6.3	0.7/2	Raising Hope R	1.8	0.2/0	0.2/1 0.7 R	0.6
9:00	1.1/3	Mistresses	3.6	1.4/4	2 Broke Girls R	5.1	1.3/4	Get Out Alive With Bear Grylls	4.4	0.8/2	New Girl R	1.7	0.2/0	Breaking Pointe	0.5
9:30	0.9/3	1.0/3 3.5 S	3.3	1.5/4	Mike & Molly R	5.7	1.3/4	1.3/4 4.2	3.9	0.7/2	The Mindy Project R	1.6	0.2/0	0.2/0 0.5	0.5
10:00	0.5/2	Castle	3.1	2.5/7	Under the Dome	11.1	0.7/2	Siberia	1.9						
10:30	0.6/2	0.5/2 3.2 R S	3.3	2.5/8	2.5/7 11.1	11.1	0.5/2	0.6/2 1.7	1.6						
<b>TUE</b>	<b>1.0/3</b>		<b>3.6</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>6.6</b>	<b>1.8/5</b>		<b>6.8</b>	<b>1.3/4</b>		<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.7/2</b>		<b>1.6</b>
8:00	1.2/4		4.0	1.0/3	NCIS	8.3	0.9/3	Hollywood Game Night	3.0	1.3/5		4.1	0.9/3	Whose Line Is It Anyway?	2.3
8:30	1.2/4	Extreme Weight Loss	3.9	1.0/3	1.0/3 8.5 R	8.7	1.0/3	1.0/3 3.1 R	3.2	1.4/4	So You Think You Can Dance	4.2	0.9/3	Whose Line Is It Anyway? R	2.2
9:00	1.1/3	1.2/4 3.9	3.6	0.8/2	NCIS: Los Angeles	6.3	2.0/6		8.0	1.2/4	1.3/4 4.0	3.9	0.4/1	Capture	1.1
9:30	1.3/4		4.0	0.9/3	0.9/3 6.2 R	6.1	2.1/6	America's Got Talent	8.7	1.2/3		3.7	0.4/1	0.4/1 1.0	0.9
10:00	0.7/2	Body of Proof	3.0	0.7/2	Person of Interest	5.3	2.4/7	2.2/6 8.7	9.1						
10:30	0.6/2	0.7/2 3.1 R	3.1	0.7/2	0.7/2 5.2 R	5.1	2.3/7		8.9						
<b>WED</b>	<b>0.8/3</b>		<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3/4</b>		<b>5.6</b>	<b>1.5/5</b>		<b>6.4</b>	<b>2.3/7</b>		<b>5.9</b>	<b>0.3/1</b>		<b>1.0</b>
8:00	0.8/3	The Middle R	3.5	2.1/7	Big Brother	6.5	1.2/4	America's Got Talent	5.6	2.0/7	MasterChef	5.3	0.3/1	Arrow	1.2
8:30	0.8/3	The Middle R S	3.4	2.0/7	2.1/7 6.4	6.2	1.4/5	1.3/5 6.0 R	6.3	2.2/7	2.1/7 5.6	5.8	0.3/1	0.3/1 1.1 R	1.1
9:00	1.0/3	Modern Family R	3.4	0.8/2	Criminal Minds	4.5	2.1/6	America's Got Talent	9.5	2.4/7	MasterChef	6.2	0.3/1	Supernatural	0.8
9:30	0.7/2	The Neighbors R	2.4	0.9/3	0.8/3 4.7 R	4.9	2.2/7	2.2/7 9.8	10.1	2.5/7	2.4/7 6.3	6.4	0.2/1	0.2/1 0.8 R	0.8
10:00	0.8/2	The Lookout	3.3	1.0/3	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation	5.5	1.0/3	Camp	3.5						
10:30	0.7/2	0.7/2 3.3	3.3	1.1/4	1.1/3 5.7 R	5.9	0.8/2	0.9/3 3.2	2.9						
<b>THU</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>4.6</b>	<b>1.1/3</b>		<b>4.0</b>	<b>0.8/3</b>		<b>2.6</b>	<b>0.8/2</b>		<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.2/1</b>		<b>0.6</b>
8:00	0.8/3		4.9	0.8/3	Two and a Half Men R S	3.2	0.7/2	America's Got Talent	2.8	0.9/3	Glee	2.4	0.2/1	The Vampire Diaries	0.6
8:30	0.8/3	Motive	4.6	0.8/3	Two and a Half Men R	3.4	0.8/3	0.7/2 2.8 R	2.8	0.8/3	0.8/3 2.4 R	2.3	0.2/1	0.2/1 0.6 R	0.6
9:00	0.9/3	0.8/3 4.7	4.8	1.9/6	Big Brother	5.3	0.7/2	Hollywood Game Night	2.2	0.7/2	New Girl R	1.9	0.2/1	America's Next Top Model	0.5
9:30	0.8/2		4.6	1.7/5	1.8/5 5.0	4.8	0.7/2	0.7/2 2.2 R	2.2	0.6/2	The Mindy Project R	1.8	0.2/1	0.2/1 0.5 R	0.5
10:00	0.9/3	Rookie Blue	4.4	0.7/2	Elementary	3.6	0.9/3	Hollywood Game Night	2.6						
10:30	1.0/3	0.9/3 4.4	4.4	0.6/2	0.6/2 3.6 R	3.5	1.1/3	1.0/3 2.8	3.0						
<b>FRI</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>3.7</b>	<b>0.7/2</b>		<b>4.8</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>4.2</b>	<b>0.5/2</b>		<b>2.1</b>	<b>0.3/1</b>		<b>0.8</b>
8:00	0.6/3	Last Man Standing R	3.3	0.9/4	Undercover Boss	4.9	0.6/3	Betty White's Off Their Rockers R	2.5	0.7/3	Bones	2.8	0.2/1	Perfect Score	0.5
8:30	0.6/2	The Neighbors R	2.4	1.1/4	1.0/4 5.3 R	5.7	0.7/3	Betty White's Off Their Rockers R	2.6	0.7/3	0.7/3 3.0 R	3.1	0.2/1	Perfect Score R	0.6
9:00	1.0/4	Shark Tank	3.7	0.5/2	Hawaii Five-0	3.9	0.9/4		4.7	0.4/1	The Following	1.3	0.4/1	America's Next Top Model	1.1
9:30	1.1/4	1.1/4 3.8 R	3.9	0.4/2	0.5/2 4.0 R	4.1	1.1/4	Dateline Classic	5.3	0.3/1	0.3/1 1.3 R	1.2	0.5/2	0.4/2 1.1	1.1
10:00	1.0/4	20/20	4.1	0.4/2	Blue Bloods	5.0	1.0/4	1.0/4 5.0 R	4.9						
10:30	1.1/4	1.1/4 4.3	4.5	0.5/2	0.5/2 5.2 R	5.4	1.1/4	1.1/4	4.9						
<b>SAT</b>	<b>2.8/11</b>		<b>7.6</b>	<b>0.6/2</b>		<b>3.9</b>	<b>0.6/2</b>		<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.5/2</b>		<b>1.9</b>			
8:00	1.7/7	Saturday Night Football Pregame	5.2	0.3/1	Mike & Molly R S	2.2	0.6/3	American Ninja Warrior	2.1	0.5/2	Cops R	2.0			
8:30	2.6/11		7.4	0.3/1	Two and a Half Men R S	2.3	0.7/3	0.7/3 2.1 R	2.1	0.5/2	Cops 2 R	2.1			
9:00	3.2/12	Saturday Night Football:	8.7	0.5/2	48 Hours	3.7	0.5/2		1.7	0.3/1	Bones	1.6			
9:30	3.3/12	Georgia Bulldogs at Clemson Tigers	8.6	0.7/2	0.6/2 4.2 R	4.6	0.4/2	Do No Harm	1.5	0.5/2	0.4/1 1.8 R	2.0			
10:00	2.7/10	3.1/12 8.1	7.0	0.8/3	48 Hours	5.1	0.5/2	0.5/2 1.7	1.6						
10:30	3.2/11		8.4	0.9/3	0.8/3 5.2 R	5.3	0.5/2		1.9						
<b>SUN</b>	<b>0.6/2</b>		<b>3.1</b>	<b>1.1/4</b>		<b>6.6</b>	<b>0.7/2</b>		<b>3.1</b>	<b>0.9/3</b>		<b>2.1</b>			
7:00	0.4/2	ABC Fall Preview	2.5	0.8/4	60 Minutes	8.1	0.3/1		2.0	0.5/2	American Dad R	1.3			
7:30	0.4/2	0.4/2 2.3 S	2.1	1.1/4	1.0/4 8.4 R	8.7	0.4/2	America's Got Talent	1.9	0.7/3	The Simpsons R	1.8			
8:00	0.7/3	Secret Millionaire	3.6	1.9/7	Big Brother	6.2	0.5/2	0.5/2 2.3 R	2.6	1.0/4	The Simpsons R	2.5			
8:30	0.9/3	0.8/3 3.9	4.2	1.8/6	1.8/7 6.0	5.8	0.6/2		2.7	0.8/3	Bob's Burgers R	2.0			
9:00	n/a		n/a	1.0/3	Unforgettable	6.8	0.7/2		3.5	1.0/3	Family Guy R	2.3			
9:30	n/a	MDA Show of Strength Telethon	n/a	0.9/3	1.0/3 6.9	7.1	0.8/2	TV's Funniest of the Funniest: A Paley Center for Media Special	3.7	1.1/3	Family Guy R	2.5			
10:00	n/a	n/a n/a S	n/a	0.8/2	The Mentalist	5.1	1.0/3	0.9/3 3.9 S	4.2						
10:30	n/a		n/a	0.8/3	0.8/3 5.1 R	5.0	1.0/3		4.5						
WK. AVG.	1.2/4		4.3	1.1/3		5.5	1.0/3		4.1	1.0/3		2.8	0.3/1		0.9
SSN. TO DATE	2.0/6		7.1	2.4/7		10.1	2.1/6		6.6	2.1/6		6.0	0.6/2		1.5

NO PROGRAMMING

NO PROGRAMMING