

Antelope Valley Press/September 5-11, 2014



Coming to a theater near you

Darker, grittier fare on fall
movie lineup. Pages 14-15



A cowboy in a white shirt and hat carries a woman in a pink dress across a dusty, open landscape.

Serious Movies

Fall flicks balance awards contenders with formula fare

"Autumn is the mellower season, and what we lose in flowers we gain in fruits." —Suzan Bellir

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EVER SINCE the last few years have led to a new level of recognition for this year's most buzzed-about movies, critics and audiences have come to expect certain films to make more of an impression than others. And while the titles of the former may be more recognizable, the latter are often just as interesting.

Even though the fall movie lineup is filled with some of the year's most popular and anticipated releases, there will be other films that are more likely to appeal to the more serious and adventurous ticket buyers. Here are the most interesting releases and titles the Hollywood studios have to offer this fall, from the most buzzed-about change of a century's worth, to ones that are more likely to appeal to the more serious and adventurous ticket buyers.

• **"The Hobbit: Desolation of Smaug," Sept. 2:** Two years after the first part of Peter Jackson's epic fantasy trilogy, the second part of the adventure begins. In it, the dwarves and their allies continue their quest to reclaim the dragon Smaug's home. With the help of Bilbo, Dori, Thorin and company, they must face the bones of the dragon's past.

• **"September," Sept. 5:** Two brothers return home to their small town to attend their father's funeral. As they try to piece together his death, they find that he was a man of many secrets, including a long-term affair with a woman he met at a bar. Directed by the late Alan Parker, the film is based on the novel by the same name.

• **"The Intern," Sept. 8:** Two opposite extremes meet in a business relationship between a 70-year-old CEO and a 22-year-old intern. The CEO is played by Robert De Niro, while the intern is played by Anne Hathaway.

• **"The Monuments Men," Sept. 12:** Two World War II veterans are recruited to search for art looted by Nazis during the war. The film stars George Clooney, Matt Damon, John Goodman, Bill Murray, Bob Balaban, and Cate Blanchett.

• **"Fury," Sept. 12:** A former Marine's wife is killed while riding on a tank during the Battle of the Bulge. As the family mourns, the wife's son, who has never been able to move on from his mother's death, returns to the battlefield and attempts to find closure.

• **"The Green Inferno," Sept. 12:** A group of college students go to a remote forest to study the ecology of the area. But when they venture into the woods, they find themselves in a world ruled by cannibalistic vampires.

• **"Whiplash," Sept. 12:** J.K. Simmons plays a strict music teacher who pushes his student, Miles Teller, to become a better drummer. The film is directed by Damien Chazelle and is based on a true story.

• **"The Good Devil," Sept. 12:** Tom Hardy plays a German soldier who is captured by British forces during World War I. He is forced to live as a slave in a British prison camp, where he becomes a member of a Nazi cell.

• **"The Danish Girl," Sept. 12:** Eddie Redmayne stars as a man who falls in love with another man. The film is based on the memoir of Lili Elbe, the first person to undergo a sex-change operation.

• **"The Great Beauty," Sept. 12:** Toni Erdmann plays a man who is trying to find meaning in his life as he grows older. The film is directed by Paolo Sorrentino and is based on the novel by Leopoldo Alas "Clarín."

• **"The Wind Rises," Sept. 12:** Hayao Miyazaki's final film is a biopic of the man behind the Mitsubishi aircraft company. It follows the life of Jiro Horikoshi, the man who designed the Zero fighter plane.

• **"The English Patient," Oct. 2:** A man is captured by a group of rebels in a remote desert. As he tries to survive, he meets a woman who has also been captured. The film is directed by Anthony Minghella with Judi Dench and Ralph Fiennes.

• **"A Walk Among the Tombstones," Sept. 18:** Liam Neeson plays a detective who is forced to leave his family and return to his old job as a police officer. He is assigned to investigate a series of murders that have been committed by a serial killer.

• **"The Martian," Sept. 25:** Matt Damon plays an astronaut who is stranded on Mars after his crew is forced to leave him behind. The film is directed by Ridley Scott.

• **"The Judge," Oct. 1:** A man who has been accused of killing his wife is forced to defend himself in court. The film is directed by Robert Altman.

• **"The Good Lie," Oct. 2:** A trio of refugees from South Sudan travel to the United States to start a new life. The film is directed by Mira Nair.

• **"The Homesman," Oct. 3:**天地