

POST-HILLARY
FEMINISM

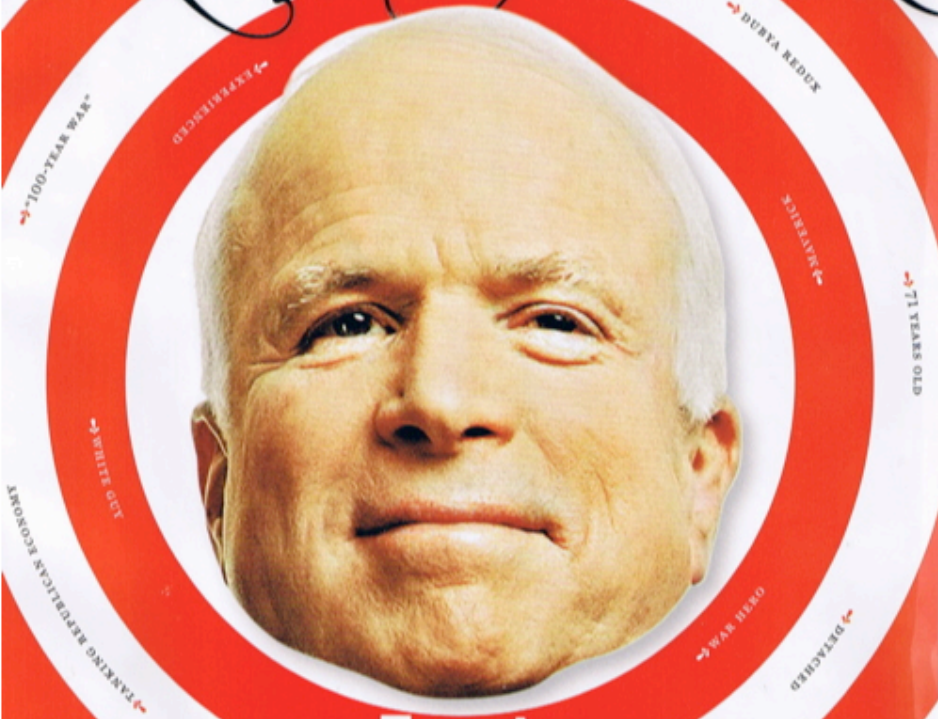
ADAM PLATT GIVES
MOMOFUKU KO
★★★★

WHO SPITZER
REALLY SCREWED

FEATURING
VU. MORE VOYEURISM FOR THE
REAL ESTATE
OBSESSED

NEW YORK

APRIL 21, 2008



**Target:
Bush-Backing,
Surge-Loving, Economically
Clueless Geezer.**

So why are the Democrats so afraid of John McCain?

BY JOHN HEILEMANN



Movies

Edited by
Sara
Cordery

NEW THIS WEEK

ANAMORPH

Wiliam Dafoe stars in this slow-going crime drama as a seasoned detective forced to look into an odd aerial-killer case when the gory killings resume. Despite an impressively understated performance by Dafoe, the film never ratchets up the tension, so it's hard to be too concerned about where it's all going. (1 hr. 43 mins.; R) Opens 4/18.

CONSTANTINE'S SWORD

Author (and former Catholic priest) James Carroll sets out to explore the history of the Catholic Church's anti-Semitism. He misses intriguing territory, but he also spends too long on issues that shed little light on the topic. (1 hr. 35 mins.; NR) Opens 4/18.

88 MINUTES

Al Pacino stars in director Jon Amet's thriller as a professor forced into action when he receives a death threat telling him he has only the titular amount of time to live. Leslee Sobelko and Benjamin McKenzie co-star. (1 hr. 48 mins.; R) Opens 4/18.

EXPELLED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED

Actor Ben Stein travels around the world exploring the trials faced by scientists and scholars who challenge Darwin's theory of evolution. (1 hr. 30 mins.; PG) Opens 4/18.

THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY

John and Brad Hernege's engaging documentary follows a group of heroes and trainees as they try to make it to the Kentucky Derby. A generally upbeat film, it could easily work as a promotion for the sport—although it does offer some sad moments courtesy of the much-publicized tragedy of Barbaro. (1 hr. 40 mins.; NR) Opens 4/18.

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

A young American (Michael Angarano) is transported back in time, where he teams up with a pair of kung fu gurus (Jet Li and Jackie Chan) as they battle evil forces in ancient China. (1 hr. 53 mins.; PG-13) Opens 4/18.

FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL

Jason Segel delivers as the frequently Paul McCartney lead of this rambling romantic comedy from Judd Apatow, about a chump who flees to Hawaii, only to find his ex (Kristin Bell) staying at the same resort. The film may not

be as laugh-packed as its predecessor *Knighted Up*, but it charms nonetheless. (1 hr. 45 mins.; R) Opens 4/18.

FOUR MINUTES

This German drama chronicles the subtly sapphic relationship that develops between an elderly piano teacher and her student (Hanna Herzprung), who's in prison for murder. Though the story feels too random to take hold, Herzprung shows promise as the caged-animal student at the heart of the tale. (1 hr. 52 mins.; NR) Opens 4/18.

GLASS: A PORTRAIT OF PHILIP

Director Scott Hicks (*Solius*) presents a fascinating overview of the composer's life and career, offering new glimpses into his working process, his influences, and, most notably, his turbulent personal life. As haunting in its own way as one of Glass's own works. (1 hr. 52 mins.; NR) Opens 4/18.

THE LIFE BEFORE HER EYES

Uma Thurman and Evan Rachel Wood play elder and younger versions of the same character in director Vadim Perelman's stylized, occasionally overbooked film about a troubled woman remembering the school shooting that scarred her carefree youth. (1 hr. 30 mins.; R) Opens 4/18.

PATHOLOGY

A group of razor-sharp medical students embark on a deadly competition to prove their skills by executing the perfect murder; Mila Vautz and Alyssa Milano star. (1 hr. 33 mins.; R) Opens 4/18.

WHERE IN THE WORLD IS OSAMA BIN LADEN?

Super Star 36 director Morgan Spurlock's latest documentary finds the spotlight-seeking filmmaker setting off for a trip to the Middle East in search of the titular terror mastermind. (1 hr. 30 mins.; PG-13) Opens 4/18.

NOW PLAYING

THE BAND'S VISIT

This Israeli comedy plays like a deadpan comedy in which the camera and the characters remain frozen for moments that go on... and on. Still, thanks to the wit of Israeli director Yan Klatzkin, it breathes. (Edelstein; 2/11) (1 hr. 29 mins.; PG-13)



THE JAZZ LEGEND

Sax and the City

Kasper Collin's documentary *My Name Is Albert Ayler* isn't perfect—there's too much filler and not enough context. But its mission is invaluable: to call attention to avant-garde sax player and New Yorker

Ayler (pictured), a musical pioneer who was one of the earliest (and most aggressive) free-jazz players on the scene before his tragic death at age 34. April 18 to 22 at Anthology Film Archives.

THE BANK JOB

In director Roger Donaldson's bank-heist thriller, a car salesman (Jason Statham) takes part in a vault robbery, only to find himself involved in a government cover-up pegged to the coconuts in the safe. (1 hr. 50 mins.; R)

BE KIND REWIND

Michael Gondry's zippable film stars Jack Black as a junkyard worker who's forced to re-create a series of films from scratch. Its flaws are forgivable because the film radiates an optimism you rarely see these days. (Edelstein; 2/25) (1 hr. 41 mins.; PG-13)

BOARDING GATE

Olivier Assayas's newest thriller doesn't cut too deeply. Parts of the film are fun, but it's hard to ignore the feeling that the whole thing was made quickly, and rather cheaply. (Edelstein; 3/14) (1 hr. 33 mins.; R)

BODY OF WAR

Directors Phil Donahue and Ellen Spiro's pointed documentary traces the turmoil faced by an American soldier turned antiwar activist sent home after a paralyzing injury, contrasting scenes from his life (somewhat chaotically) with footage of the congressional battle that sent our country to war. (1 hr. 27 mins.; NR)

BRA BOYS

Russell Crowe narrates this engrossing Australian documentary, which focuses on the pro-surfing Alberton brothers (Stony, Jay, and Koby) as they look back on their hard-earned upbringing, battle the police, and tackle sickeningly massive waves with a bravado that will leave you gasping. (1 hr. 26 mins.; R)

CHAPTER 27

Jared Leto stars in this flop as Mark David Chapman, the stalker who murdered John Lennon in 1980. Lindsay Lohan co-stars as a comely fellow fan. (1 hr. 24 mins.; R)

THE COUNTERFEITERS

A Jewish con man leads other concentration-camp inmates in forging Allied currency for the Nazis in director Stefan Ruzowitzky's film about the largest counterfeiting scam in history. It's part gripping drama, part queer morality play. (1 hr. 38 mins.; R)

DARK MATTER

A Chinese physicist (Liu Ye) is exploited by his professor (Aidan Quinn) and codified by his wealthy patron (Meryl Streep), while director Chen Shi-Zheng is incoherent from one scene to the next. The film never quite earns its whopper of a finale. (Hill) (1 hr. 28 mins.; R)

THE DHAMMA BROTHERS

This shady documentary about a prison psychologist's quest to introduce his inmates to the practice of Vipassana yoga (with what appears to be life-changing success), has its flaws, but will leave civic-minded viewers with plenty of food for thought. (1 hr. 16 mins.; NR)

THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY

Julian Schnabel directs the true story of a French editor who was paralyzed and left able to communicate only by blinking his left eye. The film is an absolute masterpiece. (Edelstein; 12/3/07) (1 hr. 53 mins.; PG-13)

DOOMSDAY

In the latest thriller from Neil Marshall (*The Descent*), a deadly virus threatens to encroach upon a city that's so far kept itself entombed in quarantine. Rhona Mitra and Bob Hoskins star. (1 hr. 45 mins.; R)

DR. SEUSS'S HORTON HEARS A WHO

Jim Carrey takes the role of the hapless elephant Horton in the new animated version of the Dr. Seuss classic. Steve Carell voices his diminutive friend, the Mayor of Whoville. (1 hr. 28 mins.; G)

FLAWLESS

Michael Caine stars opposite Demi Moore in this sixties-set thriller, in which a janitor and a female executive stage a heist against London Diamond. The setup feels contrived, but the film's harrowing plot keeps you riveted. (1 hr. 50 mins.; PG-13)

FLIGHT OF THE RED BALLOON

Taiwanese filmmaker Hou Hsiao Hsiao uses Albert Lamorisse's 1956 work as a springboard for his own masterpiece. The balloon now floats above a neglected boy and his frantic mother (Julette Binocha), and the film hangs on the contrast between their world and Hou's higher game. (Edelstein; 4/2) (1 hr. 53 mins.; NR)

4 MONTHS, 3 WEEKS AND 2 DAYS

The frigid stoicism of Cristian Mungiu's wondrous drama barely contains the filmmaker's fury. Anemaria Marinca, as a college student trying to get a back-alley abortion, is extraordinary. (Edelstein; 1/21) (1 hr. 53 mins.; NR)

IN BRUGES

Writer-director Martin McDonagh's violent debut uses a pair of lovable hit men to explore bigger issues. Also, for the movie to click, he needed either to get more real or more fake. (Edelstein; 2/11) (1 hr. 47 mins.; R)

JELLYFISH

This sweet-winning drama traces the paths of interesting lives in Tel Aviv: a groom and his bride, a young woman

ABOUT THESE LISTINGS Where indicated, these synopses are condensed from reviews by David Edelstein; the remainder are by Logan Hill, Bilge Ebiri, and New York's editors. Stars (*) denote recommended releases, ranging from best-of-the-year picks to worthy curies to flawed movies with one outstanding element.