

## COMING ATTRACTIONS



**Adventure drama: 'Mighty Joe Young,' an awesome 15-foot gorilla from Africa, is brought to a California animal preserve for his own safety, but threatened and confused in his new confines, the gorilla escapes, leaving a trail of destruction along Hollywood Boulevard.**

Scheduled to open Wednesday, Dec. 23

#### "MIGHTY JOE YOUNG"

An update of the classic 1949 RKO adventure film in which a zoologist stumbles upon a 15-foot gorilla while exploring in Central Africa. Stars Bill Paxton, Charlize Theron.

#### "PATCH ADAMS"

True story of a misfit physician whose unconventional approach to healing causes headaches for the medical establishment. Stars Robin Williams.

#### "DANCING AT LUGHNABHA"

Exclusively at the Landmark Maple Art Theatre. The film adaptation of Brian Friel's 1991 Tony Award-winning play about five lonely sisters living a hard-scrabble life in rural Ireland whose world is shaken when their brother, a priest, returns from Africa a broken man. Stars Meryl Streep.

#### "DOWN TOWN DELIA"

An emotional and riveting story where big city meets small town, young meet old, parents reconnect with children, and life for everyone becomes something unexpected.

#### "THE FACILITY"

Science fiction thriller that blends teenage angst, cutting-edge comedy and out of this world special effects as the students of Herrington High School struggle to save the world from alien

domination.

#### "SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE"

Witty and fast moving comedy set in 1593 that follows the trials and tribulations of Will Shakespeare, a struggling young playwright, who's suffering from a terrible bout of writer's block until he falls in love. Stars Joseph Fiennes, Gwyneth Paltrow, Geoffrey Rush.

#### "LITTLE VOICE"

Musical musical comedy about the power and poignancy of expression. Based on one of London's most acclaimed hit plays, the story follows an aging but on-the-prowl widow who never shuts up and her reluctant daughter, dubbed Little Voice or "L.V." who barely speaks but she does sing. Stars Michael Caine. Scheduled to open Friday, January 8

#### "A CIVIL ACTION"

True story about an attorney willing to risk everything to represent several families who seemingly lost their children to leukemia because of a nearby toxic waste dump. Stars John Travolta, Robert Davoli.

Scheduled to open Friday, January 15

#### "THE THIN RED LINE"

The story of an American rifle company during several months of one of the fiercest struggles of the twentieth century — the Battle of Guadalcanal. Stars Sean Penn, George Clooney, Woody Harrelson, and John Travolta.

## 'Little Voice' marvelous entertainment

By BOB THOMAS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

The transformation is miraculous. One minute the fragile waif is so painfully introverted that she fits her nickname of Little Voice. Then she struts onstage with the confidence of a Vegas headliner and belts out tunes in the styles of Judy Garland and Shirley Bassey.

This stunning scene is the high point of a marvelous British import, "Little Voice." And don't complain about a reviewer giving away a vital plot point; Little Voice's performance comes as no surprise, except in the polish of her delivery.

The story takes place in a seedy resort town in the north of England. The only entertainment can be found in a rundown nightclub, where the anatomy owner-employee (Jim Broadbent) tells unfunny jokes and introduces failed rock groups and antiquated vaudeville acts.

Little Voice (Jane Horrocks) lives with her mother Mari (Brenda Blethyn), a motormouth

harridan desperately fighting against age with booze and an occasional fling. No wonder the daughter is painfully withdrawn; she is constantly bombarded with belittling attacks. As a result, she spends most of the time in her attic bedroom.

The girl's only solace comes from playing the old 78 that she enjoyed listening to with her late father. The records feature the big-voiced female singers of another era.

A shy young electrician's helper (Ewan McGregor) makes a repair call to the house and is intrigued by Little Voice. Until now his only after-hours interest has been his collection of homing pigeons.

Whenever Ray Say (Michael Caine) comes to town, Mari lights up. She has had a long-running romance with Say, a once-successful manager of musical acts. Now his clients are deserting him and his debts are rising.

Say hears Little Voice singing in her room and figures he has discovered his gold mine. He

bristles with confidence that he can turn the mousey reclusive into a superstar — if he can only get her on the stage.

"Little Voice" was first written as a London play by Jim Cartwright, who designed it for the mimicry genius of Jane Horrocks. So unerring are her reproductions of Garland, Bassey, Monroe, Dietrich and Merman that a note at the end of the film assures us there were no tricks, and that Horrocks herself sang

the songs, on camera with no lip-synch.

Michael Caine is in peak form and back in his "Alien" mode, playing a man of outward charm and cold heart. Brenda Blethyn, Oscar-nominated for "Secrets and Lies," is scorching as the ruthless mother.

The Miramax release was written and directed by Mark Herman and produced by Elizabeth Karlsen. Rated R for language and sexual innuendo.

## BBSO presents jazzy concert

Jazz Up Your Holidays with the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27 at Temple Beth El, 14 Mile Road at Telegraph in Bloomfield Hills.

Saxophonist Larry Nozoro & Friends will join the BBSO for the concert which includes classics, jazz and Motown. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students, call (248) 645-2276.

Nozoro will perform selections from his new CD, "Warm." The program also includes "The Godfather" by Shostakovich, Ravel's "La Valse," Norris' "The Magic of

Motown," and Tzizik's "The Essential Ellington."

Nozoro's career has encompassed many musical styles from quartets to big bands. In 1997 he received special recognition for being inducted into the "Legends of Jazz International Hall of Fame," along with the "Spirit of Detroit Award" for his achievement, leadership and dedication to improving the quality of life.

He has toured with Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn, Dizzy Gillespie, Stan Getz, Sergio Mendez, Stan Kenton and Henry Mancini.

**"JACK FROST" IS THE PERFECT HOLIDAY FILM. WONDERFUL!**  
—JOEL SIEGEL, ABC 13 NEWS

**"JACK FROST" WILL WARM YOUR HEART!**  
—MARIO BATA, CBS-TELEVISION

**NON-STOP MAGICAL FUN. THE BEST HOLIDAY FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT!**  
—JOANNE LAWRENCE, KDKA NEWS NETWORK

KEATON PRESTON

**JACK FROST**

MIRACLES CAN HAPPEN.

AMC ABBEY	NOW SHOWING	AMC LIVONIA 20
AMC SOUTHFIELD	AMC STERLING CTR.	BEACON EAST
BIRMINGHAM 8	CCC CANTON CINEMA	CCC NOVI TOWN CTR.
MIR SOUTHGATE 20	QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
STAR GRATIOT	STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR WINCHESTER	AMC COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	AMC WEST RIVER

**"A GREAT ROMANTIC COMEDY!"**  
Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan Are Magic!  
—JOEL SIEGEL, ABC 13 NEWS

**"Two Thumbs Up!"**  
—SICKLE & EBBERT

**"A Pitch-Perfect Romantic Comedy."**  
—LEAH QUINN, PEOPLE

**"Romantic Comedy at Its Best!"**  
—BOB THOMAS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

**★★★★★!**  
—DUE DUE, ABC RADIO NETWORK

**"A Sure-Fire Hit!"**  
—GARY SHULTZ, THE TODAY SHOW

**"You'll Love It!"**  
—NELL ROSEN, NY1 NEWS

**You've Got Mail**

AMC AMERICAN WEST	Now Showing	AMC BEL AIR
AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC SOUTHFIELD
AMC STERLING CTR.	AMC WONDERLAND	BEACON EAST
BIRMINGHAM 8	CCC NOVI TOWN CTR.	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
SHOWCASE WESTLAND	STAR GRATIOT	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR ROCHESTER	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR TAYLOR	AMC COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	AMC WEST RIVER

**"THE SEASON'S MUST-SEE ADVENTURE!"**  
—BOBBIE WYCHAM, NBC-TV

**Walt Disney PICTURES PRESENTS**

**MIGHTY JOE YOUNG**

With a trip to Hawaii at [www.mightyjoeyoung.com](http://www.mightyjoeyoung.com).  
DOLBY DIGITAL REPRINTS INC.

STARTS FRIDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY	AMC WONDERLAND
CENTRAL CANTON	NORWEST	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR ROCHESTER HILLS
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	AMC COMMERCIAL TWP. 14
AMC WEST RIVER	AMC WEST RIVER	AMC WEST RIVER

**THE ONLY PULSE-POUNDING, HIGH-OCTANE THRILL RIDE OF THE SEASON!**

**"STAR TREK: INSURRECTION" IS DEFINITELY THE BEST 'NEXT GENERATION' MOVIE SO FAR!**  
—Jonathan Foreman, NEW YORK POST

**"STRIKING OUTER SPACE FOOTAGE!"**  
Fikes continues to prove he has a true filmmaker's imagination.  
—Bob Brannan, LA DAILY NEWS

**"IT'S OLD-FASHIONED SCI-FI IN THE BEST SENSE OF THE WORD."**  
—Michael O'Sullivan, THE WASHINGTON POST/STAR

**"SO MUCH MORE FUN THAN THE OTHER MOVIES IN THE CURRENT GALAXY."**  
—Terry Lawson, THE DETROIT FREE PRESS

**STAR TREK INSURRECTION**

www.startrek.com

**"A BLOCKBUSTER ADVENTURE!"**  
—NEWSWEEK

**"THE RUGRATS MOVIE IS A DELIGHT!"**  
—Anita Gates, THE NEW YORK TIMES

**RUGRATS MOVIE**

www.rugratsmovie.com

NOW PLAYING		
AMC EASTLAND 5	AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20
AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY	AMC STERLING CTR. 10	BIRMINGHAM 8
CENTRAL CANTON	NORWEST	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8
STAR SOUTHFIELD	STAR TAYLOR	STAR WINCHESTER 8
AMC COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	AMC 12 OAKS	AMC WEST RIVER

**don't miss all new bug bloopers**

**"and at the end, the movie tops itself with comic outtakes, undoubtedly the funniest finale of any animated feature!"**  
—Time magazine—Richard Corliss

**Disney \* PIXAR**

**a bug's life**

If you've only seen it once, you haven't seen it all.

**Disney Pixar**

**NOW PLAYING**

AMC AMERICAN WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 2
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC LIVONIA 20	AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY
AMC SOUTHFIELD 4	AMC STERLING CENTER	BIRMINGHAM 8
CENTRAL CANTON	MIR SOUTHGATE 20	QUO VADIS
SHOWCASE DEARBORN	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"	SHOWCASE "MIRACLES"
STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE	STAR LINCOLN PARK 8	STAR SOUTHFIELD
STAR WINCHESTER 8	AMC COMMERCIAL TWP. 14	AMC 12 OAKS
AMC WEST RIVER	AMC WEST RIVER	AMC WEST RIVER

When ABC Christmas morning for the Walt Disney World Very Merry Christmas Parade