

Flicks splash onto silver screen

The Advocate takes a sneak peek at summer films. From romantic comedies to action-packed movies, don't be left out

May

Title: "Mad Max: Fury Road"
Genre: Action/Horror
Release Date: May 15
Rating: R
Director: George Miller
Starring: Tom Hardy, Charlize Theron, Nicholas Hoult

Synopsis: Hell on earth. Get ready to enter the dark, twisted and innovative mind of George Miller in his recreation of a post-apocalyptic world. Max (Hardy) reprises the role made famous by Mel Gibson in the first three films, and Furiosa (Theron) plays arguably the strongest female character you will see this summer. The entire movie is filmed in one of the hottest deserts in the world — Melbourne, Australia. Miller never disappoints in creative storytelling.

Title: "Poltergeist"
Genre: Horror
Release Date: May 22
Rating: PG-13
Director: Gil Kenan
Starring: Sam Rockwell, Rosemarie DeWitt, Jared Harris

Synopsis: The story of angry spirits haunting a family living on ancient burial grounds is re-imagined and presented in a more terrifying way than before. When Bowden family members start to encounter strange occurrences upon moving into their new home in suburbia, they realize great evil is taking place on land that may be a portal to a different dimension. This leads their youngest daughter to venture into its wake and become abducted by ghosts. The Bowden family must team up with a group of parapsychologists if they want to have any chance of rescuing her.

Title: "Tomorrowland"
Genre: Fantasy/Mystery
Release Date: May 22
Rating: PG
Director: Brad Bird
Starring: George Clooney, Hugh Laurie, Judy Greer

Synopsis: Anytime Disney and fantasy are associated with George Clooney, you know the movie has a decent chance at being epic. Frank Walker (Clooney) is a wizard at distinguishing time and space on planet earth. His protégé Casey Newton (Robertson) is caught in the middle of mind games, literally. This is not director Brad Bird's first spin at something creative having worked with Pixar and Disney ("The Incredibles," "Ratatouille"). Expect the mind games to make sense and Clooney to lay down knowledge.

Title: "San Andreas 3D"
Genre: Disaster/Drama
Release Date: May 29
Rating: PG-13
Director: Brad Peyton
Starring: Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson, Alexandra Daddario, Carla Gugino

Synopsis: The world is ending and it all starts in the Bay Area, on the San Andreas fault line. Where will you be when the earth's core is breaking in half? Well, Los Angeles firefighter Ray (The Rock) is centered around all the destruction happening on the West Coast. The Rock already put the smackdown on the box office back in April with "Furious 7," and it is guaranteed the same will happen again in this sad, yet motivating and spectacular, CGI-filled ride.

July

Title: "Magic Mike XXL"
Genre: Comedy
Release Date: July 1
Rating: R
Director: Gregory Jacobs
Starring: Channing Tatum, Amber Heard, Joe Manganiello

Synopsis: Set three years after Mike (Tatum) has retired from the stripping life, "XXL" finds most of the returning cast making their way to a stripping competition located in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The remaining Kings of Tampa crew convince Mike to join them for one last hurrah and exuberant performance. Not surprisingly, other factors and players within this circle seek to use this convention to their advantage.

Title: "Terminator Genisys"
Genre: Action/Sci-Fi
Release Date: July 1
Rating: PG-13
Director: Alan Taylor
Starring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jason Clarke, Emilia Clarke

Synopsis: He's back. The future is never set in the Terminator franchise, and this time around director Alan Taylor attempts to rewrite history and resurrect one of Hollywood's most famous fictional cyborgs of all-time — The Terminator (Schwarzenegger). There will be a new Sarah Connor (Emilia Clarke), and John Connor (Jason Clarke) is now the mature, male, wartime leader moviegoer's got a glimpse of in "Terminator 2: Judgment Day." The fifth installment in the franchise looks to bounce back and forth between the first "Terminator" and the second film.

Title: "Minions"
Genre: Family
Release Date: July 10
Rating: PG
Director: Pierre Coffin and Kyle Balda
Starring: Sandra Bullock, Michael Keaton, Steve Coogan

Synopsis: The funniest, lovable and cutest little yellow friends finally get to tell their story for the first time. Families fell in love with Gru's (Steve Carell) minions in the 2010 film, "Despicable Me," and now the creators explain the origins of these funny little guys who strive to serve "the meanest boss on earth." There will be plenty of laughs and kids will certainly fill up the movie theaters, as this comedy is expected to surpass \$300 million in the box-office. Sandra Bullock and Michael Keaton voice the lead characters, but this movie will certainly be about the minions and all of their gibberish.

Title: "Ant-Man"
Genre: Comic Book/Action
Release Date: July 17
Rating: NR
Director: Peyton Reed
Starring: Paul Rudd, Michael Douglas, Hayley Atwell

Synopsis: With a suit enabling him to shrink in size but grow in strength, con artist Scott Lang (Rudd) must work alongside his mentor, Dr. Hank Pym (Douglas), to safeguard the technology used in the Ant-Man suit and plot a heist to swipe a mysterious something that will have worldwide ramifications. The Ant-Man technology is discovered by a former protégé of Pym's, militarized, up-graded and used to create a similar suit. Thus, a super villain and Ant-Man's antagonist is born: Yellowjacket.



June

Title: "Insidious: Chapter 3"
Genre: Horror
Release Date: June 5
Rating: R
Director: Leigh Whannell
Starring: Dermont Mulroney, Stefanie Scott, Lin Shaye

Synopsis: This prequel is set before the events taking place with the Lambert family in the first two films and centers around a teenage girl, Quinn Brenner, and her father, as they start to encounter supernatural events involving a deceased mother and a malevolent entity. Psychic Elise Rainer from the first two films is contacted for help after Quinn is attacked by an unseen force, but faces problems from her past that could cloud her judgment and plant reluctance in her mind. Introducing her two future parapsychologists, she uses their help to plunge herself into The Further, an otherworldly dimension where powerful demons lay dormant, waiting for human souls to enter.

Title: "Jurassic World"
Genre: Fantasy/Thriller
Release Date: June 12
Rating: PG-13
Director: Colin Trevorrow
Starring: Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard, Vincent D'Onofrio

Synopsis: Twenty-two years later the greatest theme park in the world has reopened. "Jurassic World" finds former, "ex-military dude" Owen (Pratt), operations manager Beth (Howard) and vacationing kid Gray (Ty Simpkins), fighting for their lives against dinosaurs who now possess hyperintelligence. Imagine Universal Studios coming to life and everybody running around in chaos. The story should flow smoothly as Steven Spielberg is the executive producer for the film. But unlike "Jurassic Park 3," this dinosaur movie looks to reclaim the title of everyone's favorite reptilian badass — the Tyrannosaurus-Rex.

Title: "Inside Out"
Genre: Animated
Release Date: June 19
Rating: PG
Director: Pete Docter, Ronaldo Del Carmen
Starring: Diane Lane, Amy Poehler, Mindy Kaling

Synopsis: When 11-year-old Riley (Kaitlyn Dias) is uprooted from her Midwestern life and moves with her family to San Francisco, adjusting to her new life in the Bay Area is anything but simple. This unprecedented animated family adventure and comedy from Disney-Pixar takes this simple premise and psychologizes it, putting audiences in the mind of Riley, where her five base emotions — Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear and Disgust — are personified and in charge of guiding her through a transitional period of life from a place known only as Headquarters. Immediately after the life-altering move, Joy (Poehler) and Sadness (Phyllis Smith) are inadvertently swept into the far reaches of Riley's mind, leaving the decision-making of Headquarters in the hands of Anger (Lewis Black), Fear (Bill Hader) and Disgust (Kaling).

Title: "Ted 2"
Genre: Comedy
Release Date: June 26
Rating: R
Director: Seth MacFarlane
Starring: Mark Wahlberg, Amanda Seyfried, Seth MacFarlane

Synopsis: A couple years after the first movie, Ted (voiced by MacFarlane) has now married his human girlfriend, Tami-Lynn, and the pair decides to try to have a baby together, with Ted's best friend John Bennett (Wahlberg), providing sperm for artificial insemination. But Ted will have to prove that he is a human being in a court of law. With the help of a young and attractive lawyer (Seyfried), Ted will do everything a teddy bear can in order to adapt to his soon-to-be baby.

Title: "Mission: Impossible — Rogue Nation"
Genre: Action
Release Date: July 31
Rating: PG-13
Director: Christopher McQuarrie
Starring: Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg

Synopsis: The Impossible Mission Force veterans are targeted by a mysterious and unknown organization called the Syndicate — which turns out to be a group of assassins and rogue spies who kill indiscriminately. Faced with separation among the group, Ethan Hunt (Cruise) must unite his close cohorts to prove the Syndicate's existence in order to combat their plans for destroying the IMF, thus embarking Hunt and his agents on their most important — and most dangerous — mission yet.

Title: "Fantastic Four"
Genre: Action
Release Date: Aug. 7
Rating: PG-13
Director: Josh Trank
Starring: Michael B. Jordan, Miles Teller, Jamie Bell

Synopsis: Ten years have past since Jessica Alba starred in the 2005 failed-attempt version of one of the most prolific superhero groups in Marvel — The Fantastic Four. Mr. Fantastic (Teller), Human Torch (Jordan), Susan Storm AKA The Invisible Woman and everyone's favorite orange rock — The Thing (Bell) — are back for the first time, and are expected to whoop some serious ass as the summer winds down. Dr. Doom is seen in the trailer, and if "X-Men First Class" proved accurate to comic book details, then expect the same from screenplay writer Simon Kinberg, who helped create the story.

Title: "Masterminds"
Genre: Action/Horror
Release Date: Aug. 7
Rating: NR
Director: Jared Hess
Starring: Kristen Wiig, Owen Wilson, Zach Galifianakis

Synopsis: When the monotony of life as an armored truck driver weighs on the simple, unenthused David Ghannt (Galifianakis), he falls into a half-baked scheme promising riches and excitement with his flirtatious work crush, Kelly Campbell (Wiig). Accompanied by a hair-brained team of criminals led by Steve Chambers (Owen Wilson), the group manages to net \$17 million, thanks to Ghannt, who becomes the fall man for the police investigation. While Ghannt avoids an offbeat hitman (Jason Sudekis) and incarceration, he's taxed with clearing his name and enacting a revenge plot to get back at his comrades, who have been haphazardly spending all of the group's money and leaving a paper trail miles wide.

Title: "Straight Outta Compton"
Genre: Drama
Release Date: Aug. 14
Rating: R
Director: F. Gary Gray
Starring: Paul Giamatti, Alexandra Shipp, O'Shea Jackson Jr.

Synopsis: A biographical tale of the notorious and highly controversial hip-hop/gangsta rap group NWA and their beginnings with producer Jerry Heller and the trials and tribulations the group experienced during the late 1980s through to the 1990s. The group revolutionized hip-hop culture by documenting what life was like in South Central Los Angeles and what individuals like themselves had to live through on a day-to-day basis. From the growing success to Eazy-E's death, milestones of the group's career are covered in a dynamic light.