

FILM CENTRAL



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AVENGERS ENDGAME

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FILM CENTRAL



We are so pleased and excited to bring you the very first comeback issue of Film Central Magazine. We are all about promoting promising and upcoming actors from all over the world. In the broader picture, Film Central is for anyone who is passionate about the acting and entertainment industry and would like to be kept informed about those issues that are most pertinent to continued success.

Here at Film Central we like to have fun for sure. But, there's a consciousness and an ethical slant that drives the stories we wish to present. In this edition you will find a splash of industry tips amongst our profile pieces. There are also some great advice pages and career tips. It's a must-read for any aspiring actor or entertainer.

So, if you like movies and TV shows you will certainly love Film Central Magazine.

Alex A
Editor-in-chief



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BERNARDO SANTOS

The chance to inhabit the world of a wide variety of characters is what interests StarCentral's Most Promising Actor of the Year for 2015, Bernardo Santos, about the film industry. He could be in the 1940's, looking "all smart and appropriate for that year and a week later I could be filming a new sci-fi film and I get to play a zombie and look horrible and have blood dripping out of my face..."

For multi-lingual Bernardo (he speaks English, Portuguese and Spanish fluently), he has always been working towards acting as a career. As a child, "when I was home with my parents I used to dress up with different masks and costumes and ask my parents to film me and even to perform with me..." He studied Performing Arts in college for 3 years and then went on to attend the dynamic Celebrity Talent Academy in the UK for 2 years, where he was enrolled in the school's The Television and Film Programme. The course exposed Bernardo to the industry's many film coaches, talent agencies and directors.

While getting into the mind of the many different characters he's played has been a fun and interesting challenge, behind the scenes it isn't always so. An actor has to contend with not only the long hours but the weather as well. The 20-year old describes "standing outside in the cold and sometimes it is like -4 degrees outside and you really freeze and you also feel like fainting because it is so uncomfortable..." The workload is also constant – even when you're not on a job filming. And when you are on a job, "you really have to put in the work, because if you don't, you are not just letting the company down but you are also letting yourself down..." The rejections can also be wearing. But "I have to stay up and carry on attending auditions every time there is one, and I have to be strict with myself because that is the only way that I will eventually get the chance one day to get to the top."

But as any actor knows, committing to the art form is a long, rollercoaster journey full of fascinating twists and turns. Some of the Lisbon-born/UK-based actor's most memorable experiences include playing Macbeth at the City of Westminster College. He not only had to convincingly portray the emotional nuances of such a dark and complex character, he also had to "learn more about stage combat and sword fighting due to a couple of scenes in the play." He also had the incredible opportunity of being cast in the upcoming film, 'Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them', penned by none other than Harry Potter creator, J.K. Rowling. Bernardo also enjoyed the privilege of being "on scenes with Eddie Redmayne who I really admire, and enjoy seeing the work he puts on films."

It is high points like those that fuel Bernardo's desire to remain in the entertainment industry. He hopes to one day act alongside Hollywood's A-list stars, travel to other countries and meet many other people who are as passionate about the craft as he is. Fully supported by his family, who he hopes to one day "earn enough to actually help my family...for them to stop working and live a more relaxed life and enjoy themselves..." The road to the bright lights of stardom is only beginning for this promising thespian, Bernardo Santos.

'LIGHTNING FAST' Round:

1. Last good movie I've seen: 'The Martian' is probably one of the latest films that I have watched and I must say that I loved how Matt Damon portrayed his character in the film.

2. What do you consider beautiful and why? What I consider 'Beautiful' is living life as it is something magical, when I get to travel with my friends and my family and we get to go to another part of the world and learn about their culture, food and what they do over there is truly beautiful because you get to learn different types of living. 'Beautiful' is seeing that I am achieving what I want to do with my life and I am achieving by little steps that I take every day. 'Beautiful' is seeing my parents happy with what I am achieving with my career and with the plans that I have for my future.

3. What haven't you done yet that you wish you could? What I have not done and I wish I could do is be the main actor or supporting actor in a big scale film.

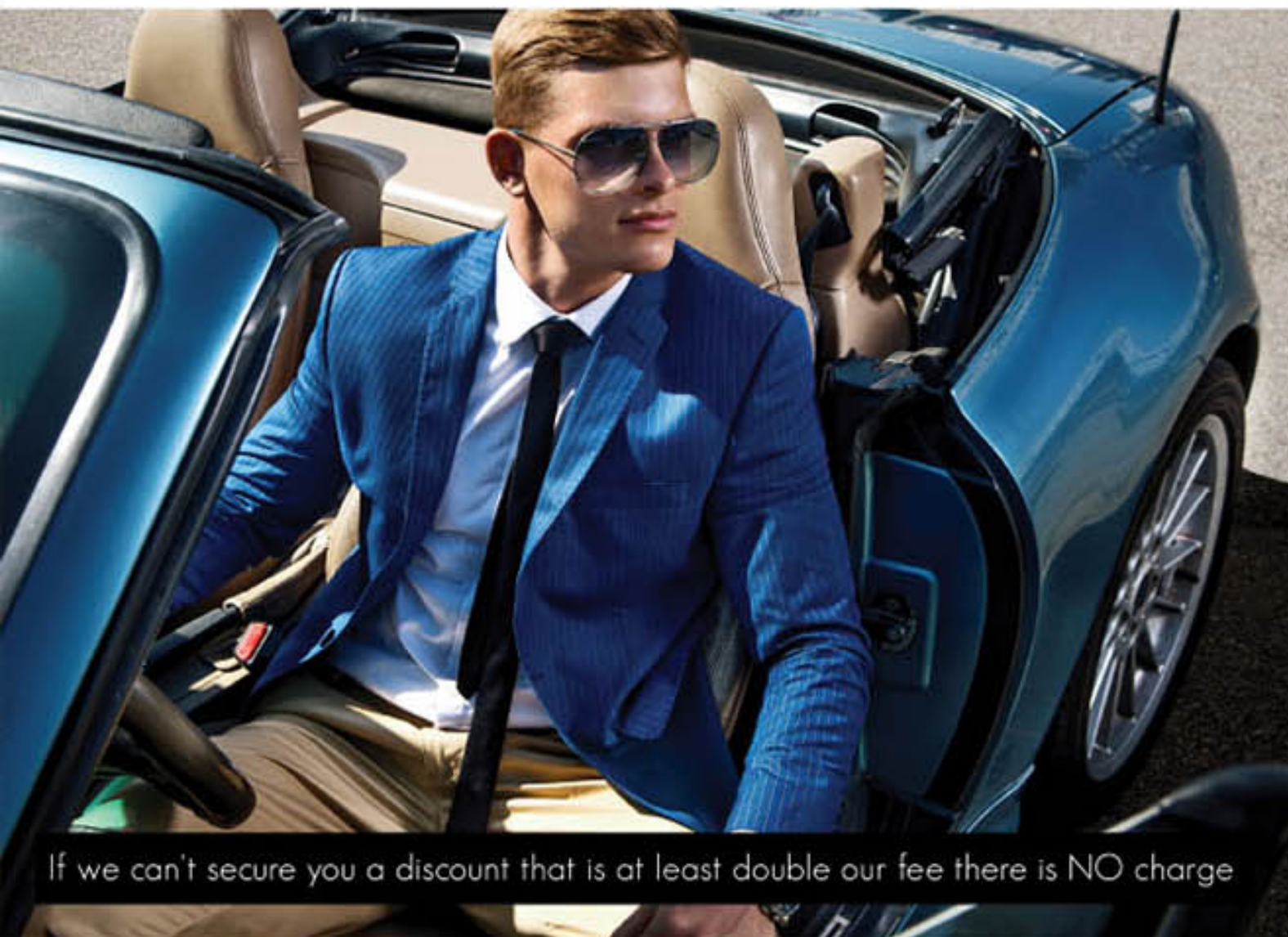
4. Complete this sentence: "If I had no fear, I'd..." If I had no fear, I'd jump out of an airplane because I would love to parachute out of it.

5. What is the one "flaw" you wouldn't change about yourself? The flaw that I think that I would not change is sometimes being quite stubborn with ideas that people tell me and sometimes I am wrong and I realize it a bit late.





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RIISING STAR SPOTLIGHT: GET TO KNOW AMELIA CONWAY

Amelia Conway is an Australian actor. Amelia can display a wide range of emotions and takes direction well. Amelia is great at improvisation, she has a positive attitude, exudes confidence and creativity, while bringing energy and passion to everyone on set. Standing at 5'9, with blue eyes, she's not your typical blonde. Amelia has a very unique look that allows her to embody multitudes of characters, along with accents.

We recently caught up with Amelia and here's what went down:

1. Tell us your name and give us a list of 5 things most people don't know about you.

My name is Amelia Conway and I'm quite an open book. I think everyone knows pretty much everything about me, but here are my top 5 things:

I love playing computer games, I have 2 ginger cats, I study psychology, I am a feminist and I look for the best in people.

2. Do you think that the future is as bright for your generation as it was for your parents? Why or why not?

Yes, I think the future is bright in different ways. It is certainly a different world now with different challenges and opportunities compared to what our parents faced in the past, but for those who are willing to see good in everything, to work hard and face each day with positivity and kindness – the world is a beautiful and exciting place. The ways in which we can connect and socialise brings huge new opportunities for business and for meeting new people. Rather than scoff and joke about new methods of communication, they should be embraced. The future is very bright, the more we adapt to the new way of living.

3. Drug abuse continues to be one of the world's most serious social problems. What do you think is the best way to handle this issue?

I'm currently studying psychology and one major thing that I have learnt is that 99% of the time drug abuse is not the 'problem' but rather a symptom. Many people turn to drugs after facing trauma or abuse in their lives as they are unable to cope with their reality. Alcohol is a drug too, that is widely abused.

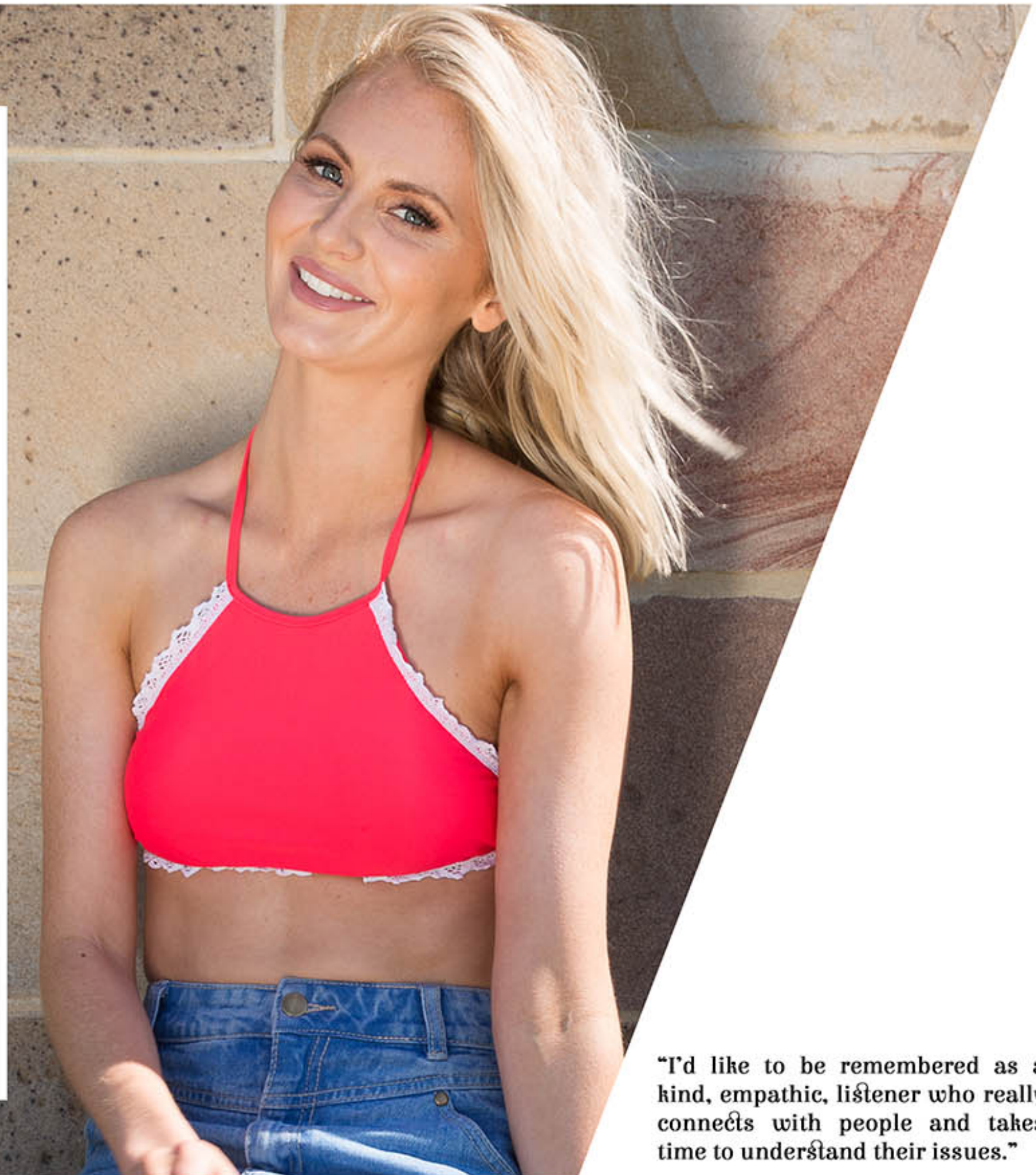
Personally, I believe the best way to help people who are abusing drugs is to assist them with sorting out their pasts and their current difficulties. Many people are caught up in a loop, running and hiding from their mistakes or trauma so they turn to drugs to block out those negative feelings. But it's a vicious cycle though; the longer they run from it, the worse it becomes – the more drugs they take and the more in debt they become and so on.

There should be more help for these people and less judgment, as drug abuse is a symptom, not the problem.

4. What purpose will beauty have in a world dominated by computers?

Well have you heard of Webcams? In a world of live feeds, instant uploads, snap chats, YouTubers and so on, beauty is more powerful than ever in attracting attention to issues. It's human nature to enjoy looking at beautiful things and it has always been a highly known fact that using an attractive woman is one of the best ways to drive attention to an issue. Beauty in a world dominated by computers and imagery becomes more powerful than ever before.

5. What do you think is the greatest contribution of Australia to the entire world?



"I'd like to be remembered as a kind, empathic, listener who really connects with people and takes time to understand their issues."



I think the fact that we are such a multicultural mixing pot and that we manage to live mostly harmoniously is a shining example to the rest of the world.

6. What is one law you wish you could amend?

Laws in foreign countries that allow rapists to marry their victim which means they won't be charged with rape or laws that force women and girls to marry men they don't want to marry.

7. What would you like to be remembered for?

I'd like to be remembered as a kind, empathic, listener who really connects with people and takes time to understand their issues and offers relevant and helpful advice to assist them.

8. What is the one thing you would like people to learn from your social media profiles?

I don't have social media profiles for people to 'learn' anything about me; it's just a point of contact where they can begin communication with me or clients can

contact me for modelling work. I don't post anything with the intention to shape anyone's views about me.

9. If ignorance is bliss, why do we seek knowledge?

This is just a corny saying. Humans always seek knowledge and want to know more about whatever it is we are interested in. We may think someone is ignorant about an issue we care about, but on the flip side they may find us ignorant as we know nothing about their favourite topic. For example, I am incredibly ignorant when it comes to understanding the game of cricket, yet a cricketer would probably have no understanding of how much I love my new shoes. So the definition of ignorance depends on the point of view of the person making this judgement.

10. If you had to write an autobiography about yourself, what would be the title and why?

"Worthy". I would call it this as I certainly had a lot of doubt as a young girl, and now growing into the young woman I am today, I have discovered so much about my strengths and found my worth.



THE TRIPLE THREAT TO YOUR ACTING CAREER

The Trunchbull's deadly triple threat was shot-put, discus and hammer-throw... much to the dismay of her students, no less. As an actor or model your triple threat isn't quite as brutal but equally important to your career: your hair, skin and nails!

By Holly Phillips

The Trunchbull's deadly triple threat was shot-put, discus and hammer-throw... much to the dismay of her students, no less. As an actor or model your triple threat isn't quite as brutal but equally important to your career: your hair, skin and nails!

As we all know, most of the decisions are made about our fate within the first thirty seconds of meeting with a new agent, casting director or client. With that said, it is important that you make yourself truly shine from the very first instant. That is to say, before you say a word, you need to be protruding a seriously sexy vibe!

HAIR:

Your hair is probably the most memorable thing about your look. Whether you like it or not, your hair is your signature. It is one of the first things people will use to describe you. Think about it... I bet all StarCentral readers would've described someone like that 'short, brown hair...' You want to make your hair pop! How? Easy - all hair is different but if you follow these basic steps you'll have luscious and memorable hair in no time.

Always shampoo twice! It's so important and people rarely do it, shame on you all! Leave your conditioner in for about 5 minutes and wet comb it through your hair whilst you're still in the shower (always use a wide tooth comb). If you can avoid it, try not to use the hair dryer. When your hair is dry, rub some oil (I love Moroccan Oil) into it, focussing on the ends. Try and use a protein treatment at least once every two weeks too, especially for all you blondies. Of course, brush everyday and make sure you really massage your scalp when you brush! Voilà, beautiful hair!

SKIN:

Moisture, moisture, moisture! It's all about the moisturiser! Both J.Lo and I swear by full body moisturiser. I moisturise every night just after my shower, while my pores are still open from the warm water. Believe me, it makes a huge difference to your overall appearance. Before you pop into the shower, it's a good idea to use a dry brush and give your skin a gentle exfoliate to increase blood flow, and ladies, this also helps to reduce cellulite. Yippee! Of course, wear sunscreen when you go outside too. There is nothing worse than premature wrinkles or sunspots on young actors or models!

NAILS:

As small as they may be, your nails are very prominent when entering a room. You'd be amazed how much your hands help you communicate. Usually there's going to be a hawk-eye agent in the room who can spot a broken cuticle quicker than Kim Kardashian's first marriage. I'm not saying you need to go all out and get a French Manicure, but it definitely won't hurt! Either take the time to give yourself a manicure or treat yourself and get one professionally. Whatever you do, don't go into a casting with broken or chipped nails! Trust me, the panel will notice, and they won't like it!





RIISING STAR SPOTLIGHT: GET TO KNOW

KATE GROVE

The rollercoaster ride of going from audition to audition can be taxing for other actors but not for Kate Michelle Grove. Preferring to think of every audition as a "free acting lesson", Kate has been able to build up her experience in the performance industry and fuel her passion for the craft.

As an actress, Kate loves being surrounded by creative individuals and being involved in their "visions." Being able to take on a character affords Kate the chance to take a "break from myself." "I love that when it comes to acting, being vulnerable is seen as strength." So consumed is she by the art form and by the thrill of performing, that she has chosen acting above her science degree.

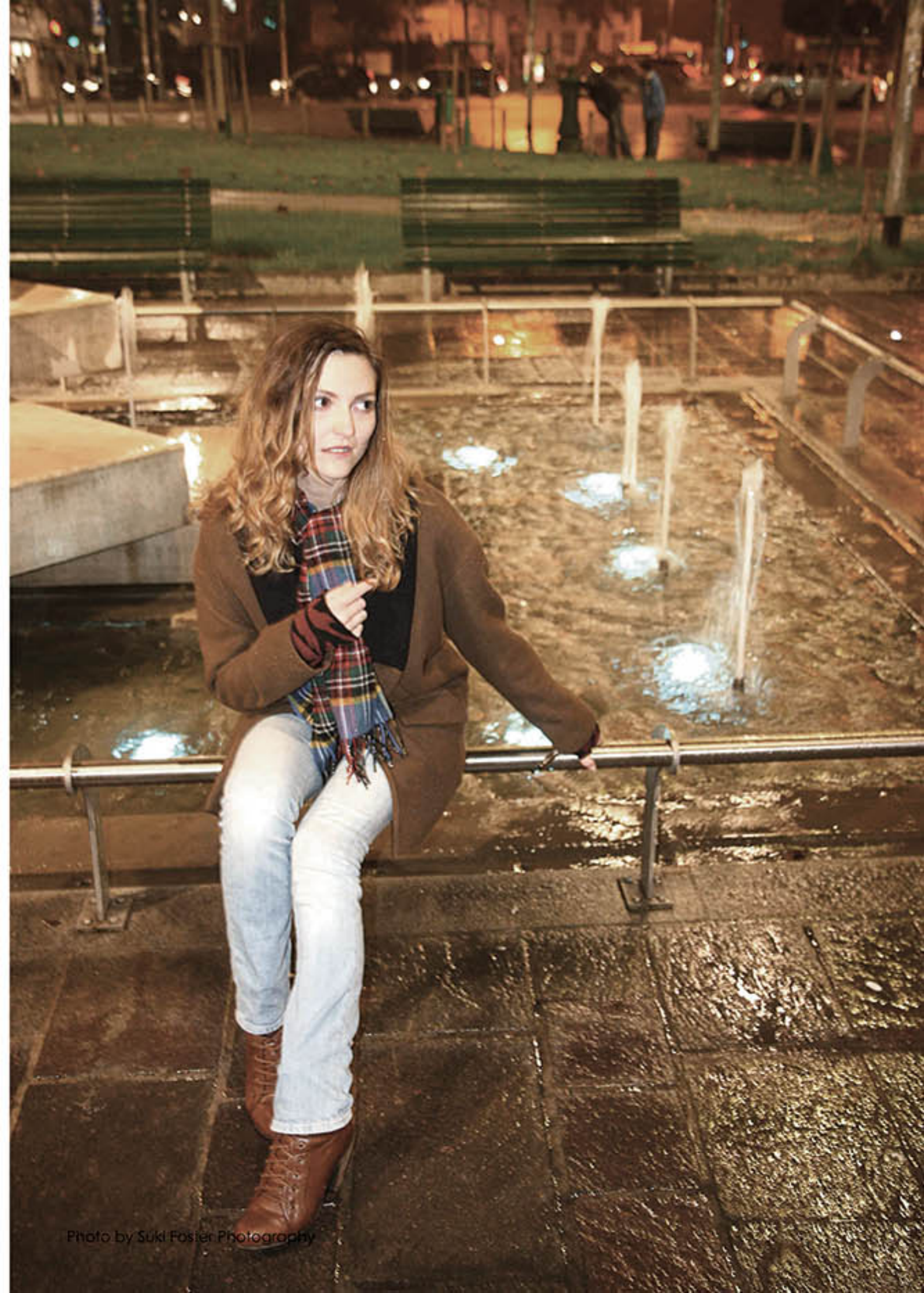
Everything has its downsides and so does being an actress. For Kate, it is the uncertainty of her future in the industry. "...I don't know if I'll be able to support myself financially and I worry that my love of cars and motorsports will be on the back burner indefinitely."

Being in the entertainment industry has given Kate a lot of memorable experiences. Her most memorable to date was when she played the Queen of Hearts [from Alice In Wonderland] for a two-day event. Together with the whole crew, they did a total of 14 hours of improvisation. They had a tea party which she has described as "pure madness." She "...enjoyed several beheadings, interviewed potential executioners and scared the pants off audience members." Her costume was corseted, heavy and very difficult to move in. To sum it all, that was the experience that she will never ever forget.

The 25-year old has learned many things since becoming involved in the entertainment industry. One of them is not to dwell too much on rejection and that every job, every audition is an invaluable chance to learn. To quote, "Nobody can be right for every role, and that performance is only part of the selection process."

Her parents have been integral in not only Kate's success but also in the careers of her brother and sister - "...My mum is particularly pleased that driving us kids around to after-school activities paid off - my brother's an acrobat who tours the world, my sister trains and occasionally performs as a trapeze artist [when she isn't working towards her PhD], and now I'm starting a career as an actress. I'm incredibly lucky to have such a supportive family."

There is no doubting that Kate has found her niche in life and a career that she is passionate about. With such conviction and ambition, the bright lights of stage and screen are well within her reach.



RISING STAR SPOTLIGHT: GET TO KNOW MELISSA HAYNES

There are just so many things that we do not know about a person. So many things that we haven't considered that we may have the same likes and dislikes! Let us see Melissa Hanes inside and out, not just an actress, but also as a lady. Let's get to know her more.

Melissa Hanes was discovered by Geoff Bennett, director of the television show Cops L.A.C. and Rescue Special Operations where she was cast in both series. This incredible opportunity paved her way to stardom.

Hanes is a person who really loves acting and finds being in the field therapeutic. Developing a character and working with other actors helped her develop her skills. Know what she loves most? Telling a story as an actor and immersing herself in her character. Although she is really indulged in acting, there are still some downsides to it such as waiting for long hours on set and the early mornings. But enduring these is worth it for she has a great time to learning her lines and working on scenes.

There are different factors that can affect or develop one's skills as an actress. Experiences help mold one person's character and attitude. Hanes' most memorable experience was working with legendary British actor, Malcolm McDowell (A Clockwork Orange, Star Trek: Generations, Heroes) on the set of Suing the Devil. She found McDowell an incredibly talented and dedicated actor. With the kind of experience she had, it had made her more confident in everything that she does and to be very patient.

Inspiration is what drives people to do well in their field, to achieve success, to become a better person. Melissa's success has been achieved through the inspiration and support that her family is giving her and encouraging her to go further. Her friends are also there to be with her every time and anytime. With the support that she gets, she is more focused and does not allow any distractions to get in the way. No one is an island as they say, and Melissa's not an exception. We all have other people whom we need so much that we cannot live without them.

Ms. Hanes would like to take her career and life to Los Angeles. She finds the lifestyle there interesting. She would love to travel the world again. And just like an ordinary person, Ms. Hanes wants to settle down and have a family with the man that she really loves.

The last good movie she saw was the Silver Linings Playbook. She defines personality as what makes a person beautiful. For a person whom we thought has nothing to wish for, she still wishes to buy an Aston Martin. If she had no fear, she would jump out of a plane. One thing peculiar to her is that she laughs hysterically during inappropriate situations.



AVENGERS ENDGAME



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MOVIE REVIEW

Marvel has created something truly unlike any other film franchise history: a long-running story spanning 22 films; all heading towards an epic conclusion so grand and so epic, it literally broke the internet when people tried to buy tickets for it. Everyone thought that "Infinity War" was the fanplosion fest of superhero grandiosity that Marvel had been working towards since 2008's original "Iron Man" film. Clocking in at 3 hours and jam-packing even MORE stars and heroes from the Marvel universe, I know now that "Infinity War" was nothing compared to the impacting legacy that "Endgame" would leave on the movie industry for generations to come.

After the devastating decimation Thanos (Josh Brolin) wreaked with the infinity stones, the remaining heroes Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.), Captain America (Chris Evans), Black Widow (Scarlett Johansson), Bruce Banner/The Hulk (Mark Ruffalo), Thor (Chris Hemsworth) as well as newcomers like Captain Marvel (Brie Larson) band together to make one last-ditch effort to undo the catastrophic damage Thanos caused. Now the heroes must restore order to the universe and change the outcome of their final battle in preparation for their grandest and (quite possibly) their final adventure as Earth's mightiest heroes.

If "Infinity War" was all about collaboration and epic crossover battle sequences, "Endgame" is about raw, brutal pain and moving on to the end of the journey and accepting what comes after. So much of this film is just the likes of Iron Man, Captain America, Ant-Man (Paul Rudd) Rocket Raccoon (Bradley Cooper) dealing with loss and finding a way to pull their lives back together in more ways than one. Characters are brought together in excruciatingly painful ways and brought to the brink through the pain of loss and it is mirrored beautifully by each and every actor involved. Even when humor pops up expectedly, the story never forgets its heartfelt roots and why we are here and what we are all expecting: the end.

Josh Brolin once again delivers the goods with one of film's greatest villains ever; showing new sides of humanity, savagery, and danger that manages to escalate the stakes even FURTHER than what "Infinity War" set. To say anything else about the main cast or the remaining characters that appear would be giving away spoilers and this movie is loaded with so many spoilers, studios and rioting fans are doing everything in their power to keep these spoilers top secret. There is so much going on, so much grandness and magnitude to the battles, the characters, the growth; I wouldn't even know where to begin if I did tell you what happened.

I will say Jeremy Renner finally gets a story worthy of Hawkeye to really show what an intense character he is, the first 5 minutes alone demonstrates that perfectly. With so much to say and too much I cannot say, it's hard to sum this all up in a way that does this masterpiece of a movie true justice. The best way I can put it is like looking into epic trilogies like "Star Wars", "Lord of the Rings" and "Toy Story"; everything is completed, resolved and wrapped up in a bow that truly and passionately brings all the events, characters and plot points of Marvel's past 21 moves into one succinct, supreme and sensational sendoff that truly does complete the journey.

Overall, "Avengers: Endgame" is the standard for every superhero movie to follow. No cinematic franchise has or will ever accomplish such a finale as phenomenal as this. The cast is perfection, the emotion is all consuming and the result is like I said before: a masterpiece. From "Iron Man" to "Guardians of the Galaxy," to "Black Panther" and "Captain Marvel," this is the story to end all stories, all characters and still leave room for the future without feeling that this loses any of its emotional punches or weight.

WHERE TO WATCH: NETFLIX | RATING: 5/5 STARS



Editorial credit: Kathy Hutchins / Shutterstock.com

MOVIE REVIEW

When it comes to surprises, few hit me as hard as the discovery of Jordan Peele (of the comedy duo "Key and Peele") turning out to be a master horror storyteller, writer, and director. With his breakout hit "Get Out" and his revival of "The Twilight Zone" on CBS, Peele is proving he can be just as twisted and darkly sophisticated as he can be funny. Naturally, his next film had a lot to live up to after the release of "Get Out," and with a lot of mystery surrounding his next film; it only made fans all the more interested and eager to see if he could duplicate that darkness twice. Thus, he released his second film; a doppelgänger nightmare simply titled "Us."

The Wilson family takes a trip out to Santa Cruz, California with some friends in order to relax, have a good time and leave their troubles behind. Unfortunately, trouble seems to have followed the Wilson family as 4 figures in red robes and carrying gold scissors have invaded their home and have sinister plans for them. Turns out the figures are perfect physical duplicates for the Wilson family. Now they must fight to survive against their doppelgängers and struggle against the unimaginable horrors that await them throughout this murderous, dark night.

Serial killer films are a dime a dozen, so if you're going to have homicidal maniacs after people then you need to have some kind of twist to make it feel unique and "Us" sure knows how to make things feel unique. "Us" is a strange story that focuses more on our fear of identities being lost as we grow older rather than fearing the crazed figures coming after everyone. This is a slasher flick with a message more so than a body count, and while it racks up the blood and violence levels pretty high, "Us" asks its audience what it means to be who they are and question what it means to be Americans, to be a good person or even a decent human being.

The actors perform brilliantly with double duties as the main characters and as their evil copies. The "Tethered" as they are called; utilize chilling body movements that enhance their inhuman natures more vividly and their screechy, creepy voices make every syllable sound terrifying no matter what is being said. Lupita Nyong'o needs far more credit than she deserves because her work here is a prime example of what kind of range and power she can put into her roles. She displays such fear and strength as Adelaide, and then such macabre fear and terror as Red; especially with her dead smile and wide eyes. All the actors, especially the children though, know how to be impactful without saying much and relying solely on impressive bodywork.

The music and imagery here truly exemplify what it means to be artistic. It has a grand, unknown insanity to it that makes us feel like we're border lining the gates of Hell along with the characters but never enough to feel completely absurd. Speaking of absurd, the one primary problem "Us" suffers from is the one problem most people complain about having too much of: exposition. The core concept behind "Us" is a fascinating one but it is ultimately poorly explained and while some horror movies benefit from leaving things to your imagination, this film not only could have benefitted from more explanations but it downright needed it considering the scope and soul of the story.

The movie relies solely on message and nothing else; to apply logic or reasonable questioning makes the movie fall apart and unless a sequel or prequel comes out, there is a lot that just doesn't add up. I dislike narratives that rely on surrealism and moral messages to excuse inconsistent world building and while the film's ending certainly provides some meaningful questions made to be unanswered, majority of its questions shouldn't be left dangling like this.

Overall, "Us" is a masterful work of horror art and weaves brilliant imagery, music and acting into a unique story that barely suffers to the whims of clichés and scares. But there are still lots of chunks missing that should have been filled in, or at least explained to some degree; definitely worth a watch if not at the very least to get your mind pumping and thinking.

WHERE TO WATCH: NETFLIX | RATING: 3/5 STARS



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