

THE SHAW REPORT
BY JESSICA SHAWIN Watching
for Gisele5 MINUTES AGO
Watching for MadonnaOUT Watching
for heads

Julia Roberts (in *Mirror Mirror*, inset) and Charlize Theron (in *Snow White & the Huntsman*) play the Evil Queen in dueling projects

on Matt at the start of his career." (Aug. 3)

→ MIRROR MIRROR/SNOW WHITE & THE HUNTSMAN

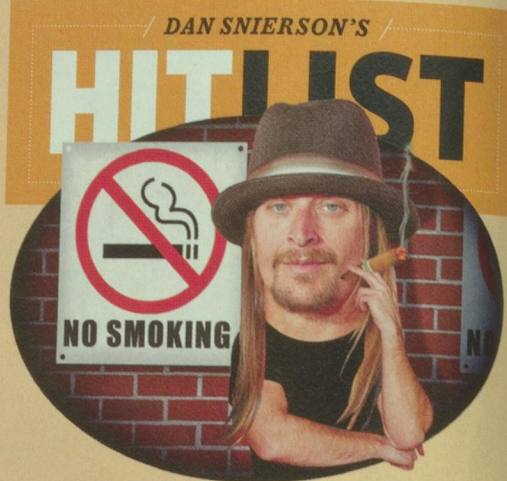
In a strange game of fairy-tale chicken, two movies based on the Snow White story are hitting theaters within months of each other. Who will be the fairest of them all: the lighter, more comic *Mirror Mirror*, or the edgy, action-driven *Snow White & the Huntsman*? *Mirror* director Tarsem Singh, whose film will be out first, believes timing trumps



Prometheus star Noomi Rapace

everything—"There really, truly is only room for the first one of these," he told EW in December—but the trailer for *Huntsman* suggests an epic, *Lord of the Rings*-esque take on the classic tale that could draw in a wider audience. (*Mirror*, March 16; *Huntsman*, June 1)

→ PROMETHEUS More than 30 years after revolutionizing sci-fi with *Alien*, director Ridley Scott is going back to the future with a super-secret 3-D project (speculated to be a prequel) about scientists stranded on a perilous distant planet. Can *Prometheus* live up to the sky-high expectations? "All you can do is make it as good as possible," says Scott. "So far I'm really, really happy with what I'm getting. But in movies, you can never be comfortable." (June 8) (With additional reporting by Anthony Breznican, Adam Markovitz, Chris Nashawaty, Keith Staskiewicz, Adam B. Vary, and John Young)



→ Kid Rock apologizes for smoking cigar in nonsmoking venue: "I doubt I'm the first one to ever make a bad decision while being intoxicated" "For example," he added, "remember the guy who punched Tommy Lee, married Pamela Anderson, and got in a brawl at a Waffle House?"

→ LL Cool J to be first Grammy host in seven years Hearing the news, Chris O'Donnell chucked his never-released rap CD across the *NCIS: LA* set, dialed his agent, and barked: "Well, then get me the Latin Grammys!"

→ TLC to air reality dating series *Undercover Princesses*, in which royals hide their heritage in search of soul mates By the time the show debuts, it'll be renamed *We Can Make Toddlers if You Don't Love Me for My Tiara*.

→ Jeopardy! contestant causes stir by answering, "What is a donkey [punch]?" If you factor in the contestant who recently answered, "What is a threesome?" *Jeopardy!* is now more explicit than *Tosh.O*.

→ Kenny G, wife of 20 years separating No surprise there—the sax had been bad for a while.

→ Sean Combs reportedly to launch music-centric cable network It's expected to reach the milestone of 25 million homes and three name changes by mid-2013.

→ Iranian actress barred from country after posing nude for magazine Holding the new *Playboy* featuring Lindsay Lohan, Obama walked into a meeting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and asked, "Any chance this is actionable?"

→ MythBusters hosts to launch new series Into the side of someone's home?

→ The CW greenlights *Sex and the City* prequel It'll take us back to a more innocent time, when Carrie had only 90 pairs of Manolo Blahniks and was crushing on Mr. Medium.

→ Modern Family tot says F-word in episode Conservative watchdog groups fear that she could grow up to be a criminal, or even a *Jeopardy!* contestant.

HOLLYWOOD INSIDER

What's Going
on Behind
the Scenes

Movies

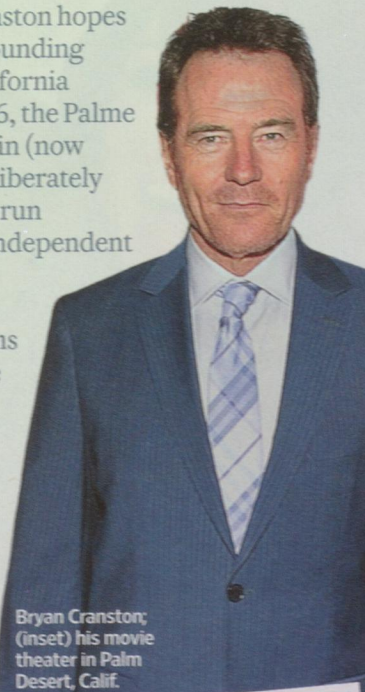
Bryan Cranston Fights For Indie Theaters

BREAKING BAD STAR Bryan Cranston has six movies scheduled for release in 2012, and some of them—like *Red Tails* (out now)—will play in his very own theater. Along with being an Emmy-winning actor, Cranston is co-owner of an art-house theater in Palm Desert, Calif., called the Cinemas Palme d'Or. Owning the theater was a boyhood dream: "I thought, 'When I grow up, I'm going to own a movie theater so I can see movies for free.'"

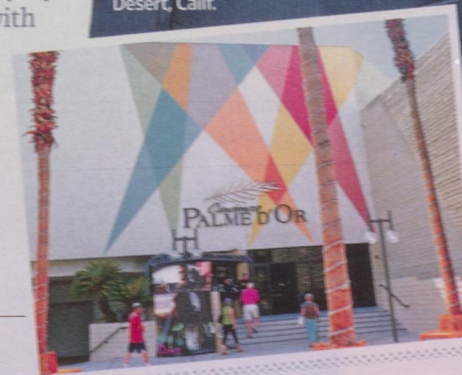
If only it were that simple. This year, Cranston hopes to finally move forward with a lawsuit surrounding his theater, which was reopened by the California Court of Appeals in August 2011. Since 2006, the Palme has been fighting the Century Theatres chain (now Cinemark), accusing the corporation of deliberately preventing the art house from playing first-run movies. A victory for Cranston could help independent theaters nationwide.

The actor and his co-owners claim that when bidding for films, Century, which owns Palm Desert's stadium-seated multiplex the River, would "threaten [studios] with not picking up a title for their theaters" if they sold films to Cinemas Palme d'Or. (The case is currently in the discovery phase.) A rep for Cinemark says there is "no evidence" to support Cranston's claims, but the actor is bullish. "We have extreme financial damages from this," says the star, who hopes the case will go to a jury trial. "We [could] set a precedent with it that will benefit anyone, not just movie-theater owners but really owners of small businesses everywhere."

—GRADY SMITH



Bryan Cranston; (inset) his movie theater in Palm Desert, Calif.



Movies

The Innkeepers' Ghostly Inn-spiration

→ When up-and-coming horror auteur Ti West shot his 2009 film *The House of the Devil*, the frights didn't just take place on camera. "We stayed at the Yankee Pedlar Inn [in Torrington, Conn.], which the town thinks is haunted," explains the director. "We would drive every day to make a satanic horror movie, but weirder things happened at the hotel. You had weird dreams. The phone would ring and no one would be there. A year later, I wanted to make a ghost story. It occurred to me: What if I made the one I lived?" The result is *The Innkeepers*, which hits theaters Feb. 3 and was actually shot at the Yankee Pedlar. The movie—about

employees at the Pedlar who investigate the inn's haunted history—stars Pat Healy, Kelly McGillis, and Sara Paxton, who admits she was freaked out just by West's pitch. "I was on the other line really getting scared," says the actress. While Paxton says "nothing too strange" occurred during the shoot, there was one creepy coincidence about the hotel room West chose as the setting for the film's most haunted quarters. "After we wrapped I found out that is the haunted room," says West, who will next direct Liv Tyler in the sci-fi/horror film *The Side Effect*. "I don't believe in ghosts, but I believe in the weird Yankee Pedlar." —Clark Collis



The Innkeepers' Kelly McGillis