Movies



pretty far on hope—maybe even all the way back in time. At least that's what Kenneth (Duplass) believes in this funny, oddball comedy that cloaks itself in hipster cred but is really a softie romance at heart.

Kenneth places an ad in the paper looking for a time-travel buddy, noting that he's done this only once before. Darius (Plaza, sharp with an endearing

colleagues Jeff (Johnson) and Arnau (Karan Soni) answer the call, planning to write about the loner nut job living in his own sci-fi fantasy. Instead, they're intrigued by Kenneth, lured by his irrepressible optimism and guarded warmth. Derek Connolly's script is so jammed with quotable lines it won a Sundance Film Festival award. What sticks with you, though, is its joy.

MARK **DUPLASS**

The relatably handsome leading man, 35, doesn't just acthe and brother Jay are directors with next-big-thing buzz, specializing in wry comedies with quirky dialogue. Mark stars in four films this year, including this summer's People Like Us and Your Sister's Sister, and the siblings' Jeff, Who Lives at Home is out on DVD June 19.

CANNES MOVIE BUZZ

STARS' WILD NEW ROLES

A-listers got down and dirty this year, earning raves and courting controversy. Nicole Kidman dropped jaws as an uninhibited Southern sexpot in The Paperboy, a thriller about a death-row case with Zac Efron and Matthew McConaughey. Brad Pitt also wowed many critics with his violent turn as a gangster with plenty to say about capitalism in Killing Them Softly, while Kristen Stewart (On the Road) and Robert Pattinson (Cosmopolis) also won acclaim for edgy roles. Footage from Quentin Tarantino's slave revenge film **Django Unchained**, with Jamie Foxx and Leonardo DiCaprio, promised a wild ride. But the jury voted with their hearts, awarding the Palme d'Or to Amour, director Michael Haneke's wrenching take on an elderly couple (veteran French actors Jean-Louis Trintignant and Emmanuelle Riva) struggling to cope after the wife suffers a series of strokes. (For more on Cannes, see page 60.)



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