

ARTS

This week in art history

October 3, 1955: The Mickey Mouse club premieres on ABC, and is a children's variety show featuring a newsreel, talent and comedy segments, cartoons and, most famously, the Mouseketeer Roll Call.

October 4, 1918: *Sometime*, a musical with Mae West premieres in New York City. Her later roles include *Night After Night*, *My Little Chickadee*, and *She Done Him Wrong*, the movie in which she delivered the lines "Why don't you come up and see me some time?" and "When I'm good I'm very good, but when I'm bad I'm better."

October 5, 1969: *Monty Python's Flying Circus* begins airing on the BBC. A British sketch comedy show that made fun of the oddities in the British lifestyle. The cast was well

educated, most of which were Oxford and Cambridge alumni, and used their intelligence in there comedy sketches, often referencing literature and philosophy.

October 6, 1927: *The Jazz Singer*, the first "talkie," premieres in New York City. Produced by Warner Bros., Al Jolson, the lead actor, sings six songs throughout the film with the help of a vitaphone sound-on-disc system.

October 7, 1982: *Cats*, an immensely popular musical composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, debuts on Broadway at the Winter Green Theatre. *Cats* ended its run on Broadway on September 10, 2000 leaving behind a legacy of award-winning performances and composition.

October 8, 1971: John Lennon releases his album *Imagine* in the United Kingdom. It quickly became a hit with its title track, reaching #1 in the UK and #3 in the US. In 2003, *Rolling Stone* magazine listed *Imagine* #76 in their list of the 500 greatest albums of all time.

October 9, 1973: "The King of Rock n' Roll," Elvis Presley and his wife Priscilla divorce after six years of marriage. They met in 1959 at a party in Germany where Elvis was stationed. At that time Elvis was 24 and Priscilla was only 14 years old. They became close and, after a long courtship, were married on May 1, 1967.

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Heroes returns with a villainous vengeance

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If you've been living under a rock for the past two weeks, or if you're a loser, you may have missed the first two weeks of the greatest show on TV. No, I'm not referring to *Grey's Anatomy* (however watching it does aid in talking to women). I'm talking about the hit NBC drama *Heroes*. If you read my prior article about the season premiere, you'll know how incredible Hayden Panettiere is and how she is the main contributor to the shows performance. Even though she steals the spotlight, it still takes a team to win a championship. Besides having more eye candy than a Victoria's Secret fashion show, the show actually pumps out a pretty awesome episode every week.

As I said earlier, as of October 3, the show will be going to its fourth episode. So if you have missed the first three and are considered a parasite to society, fear not! There is still hope for your poor, retched soul. Simply keep reading, as I'm about give you a free recap of the season thus far.

"The Second Coming"

Four years in the future, all people with special abilities are being hunted down and imprisoned. This timeline's Peter Petrelli travels back in time to the present to re-write history. Viewers find out that he is the one who shoots his brother, Nathan (the finale of Season 2). Present day Peter and Matt Parkman pursue the rogue hero, only to have Matt teleported to Africa and present day Peter's mind placed into the body of an imprisoned supervillain.

Meanwhile, the sinister Sylar attacks Claire Bennet in her home, where he steals her regenerative powers. Miraculously, she survives, but with the inability to feel pain. Nathan survives the gunshot, saying he has been sent back to spread peace in the name of God. Hiro and Ando discover a formula in Hiro's father's safe that has the power to destroy the world. They are instructed to keep it safe, only to have it stolen by a villain endowed with super speed.

"The Butterfly Effect"

Mohinder injects himself with a serum derived from Maya's blood and obtains his own super powers, only to wake up the next day and find that his skin is peeling off. While in the hospital, Nathan is approached by Tracy Strauss, a woman resembling the Las Vegas stripper, Nikki Sanders. She wants him to retake his post as state senator. Elsewhere, Sylar attacks The Company in an attempt to steal as many powers as possible. Elle Bishop and Noah Bennet manage to stop his rampage, but at the cost of a mass supervillain breakout. Present day Peter, still



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Hayden's character, Claire Bennet, takes a dark turn in the future.

trapped in the inmate's body, is forced to play along in order to survive. His mother, Angela Petrelli, takes over the company, fires Elle and reveals that she is secretly Sylar's mother.

"One of Us, One of Them"

Future Peter appears to Nathan and reveals the future to him. Nathan contacts Tracy and takes her up on her offer to retake his senate seat. After that, Tracy heads off to New Orleans to find out about her past and the woman Nikki Sanders, who she is often confused with.

Elsewhere, the escaped super prisoners (with Present Peter still in tow) try to rob a bank as a chance to trap Noah, "the man with the Horn Rimmed Glasses." Angela appoints Sylar as Noah's partner to foil the robbery attempt. However, thing go horrible awry when Future Peter saves his Present day counterpart (who was trying to save a captured Noah from the other villains) while he stops time. Noah is overpowered but is narrowly saved by Sylar, who, despite Angela's praise against it, steals the powers of a villain to feed his insatiable hunger.

Meanwhile, Hiro and Ando track down the Haitian in an attempt to find the second half of the mysterious formula. They are captured and placed in Level 5 with the other villains at The Company. All the while, Matt Parkman stumbles about the African savannah and is saved by a native, who claims to have known of Parkman all his life. It is revealed that the mysterious native has the ability to paint the future and depicts the world exploding from the inside out. He says that the future has changed for the worst since the Future Peter teleported back.

Wanted doesn't live up to hype

By Nathan Carter
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"I'm Wesley Gibson, and I am the most insignificant person in the twentieth century," said James McAvoy, starring in *Wanted*. Another action flick with a twist, this film tries to be the combination of the *Matrix* and *Rush Hour*, while throwing in a surprise from Angelina Jolie.

Wanted, directed by Timur Bekmambetov, centers around the mundane character Gibson (McAvoy), who works his day-to-day job in a cubicle analyzing financial data and making reports.

His dad left when he was a child, he's nearly broke, and his boss epitomizes the typical power-hungry office hound. Does that sound a little bit like Neo from the *Matrix* to you? Remember Neo (Keanu Reeves) being pulled from a cubicle in that film, as well? Anyway, he hates his job, his girlfriend is cheating on him, and his best friend is the backstabber helping her to cheat.

One day when he's getting a prescription filled at the local pharmacy, he is confronted by a woman named Fox (Jolie). She blatantly informs him of his father's death, and that his father used to be a skilled assassin for an organization called the Fraternity. He denies it, claiming he doesn't know her from anywhere.

From this scene on, the movie spirals into near non-stop action with a fairly all-star cast that includes the likes of Morgan Freeman, as Sloan, the leader of the aforementioned Fraternity; Angelina Jolie, as Fox, Sloan's right hand assassin; the rapper Common, as "Gunsmith;" Thomas Kretschmann as the villainous ex-assassin Cross; and David O'Hara, playing Gibson's father, Mr. X.

As Gibson begins to fill in his father's shoes as a member of the Fraternity, we see the true heart of the film: the special effects. Gun shots in this film are taken



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Angelina Jolie and co-star James McAvoy pack heat in just about every scene throughout the movie.

in slow motion, and, in some cases, even depict the bullets being disassembled in mid-air.

The car chases are extravagant and well-staged, with amazing special effects - including a Dodge Viper flying over a set of cop cars in slow motion. According to www.wanted-movie.com, Ales Blabolil, the head of special effects, worked on this film for four months straight.

"I wanted to show a new-age form of flare," said Blabolil. "I've never seen a film where a bullet was slowed down and dissected in mid-air before, and I decided there should be one."

Special effects and gimmicks aside, this film seriously lacks the potential to pull in audiences.

The acting is very low key, and the plot points were nearly stolen from works of the past. The idea for the main character is stolen from *The Matrix*, the way he is trained stolen from *Rambo*, and the film's attempt at comic relief from that of *Rush Hour*.

Overall, I give this film a four out of ten with no recommendation to anyone over the age of 12. The special effects might convince the children that this movie is great, but isn't fooling me. At the end, I was left with an unanswerable question: Why did you do this film, Morgan Freeman? I loved you in *Kiss the Girls* and no, you go and do this to me. For shame, Morgan Freeman. For shame.

RootBerry act brings laughter to Bruno's

By Catherine Frisina
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When I received an e-mail last week describing a juggling act involving saw blades, sword swallowing and flaming chainsaws, I knew this was something I would not want to miss.

So I set out for Bruno's at 8 p.m. last Friday, hoping to be entertained by Team Rootberry. What happened next was seriously remarkable. Bill Berry was juggling machetes, saw blades, and knives, all with a sword in his throat!

Now, even though I was sitting there gagging because I was witnessing a sword slide down someone else's throat, I was truly impressed by the act as a

whole.

They brought some interesting humor to Behrend. I was laughing, and, to be honest, it takes a lot to make me laugh. Jonathan Root and Berry appear to love being on stage. They were able to joke around with each other.

"...then again, Bruno's has a pretty low ceiling and I can see why flaming chainsaws could be considered a fire hazard."

which created a relaxed atmosphere, and that was good to have, considering all of the sharp objects that were being thrown around.

They had a lot of audience

participation, which I consider a good thing because I've heard it's good to be able to laugh at yourself sometimes. Berry had a girl from the audience pull the sword out of his throat! I almost lost it everywhere but everyone else expressed their enjoyment.

The duo juggled machetes around another girl from the audience, and she survived without a scratch. I was disappointed there were no flaming chainsaws, but then again, Bruno's has a pretty low ceiling, and I can see why flaming chainsaws could be considered a fire hazard.

So was it worth the time away from studying to go watch the show? Yes. If you weren't there, you missed out an impressive and exciting performance.

Food For Thought

"The human mind is inspired enough when it comes to inventing horrors; it is when it tries to invent a Heaven that it shows itself cloddish."

—Evelyn Waugh

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