

Celestial guides, romance and Maya The Bee



By [Daniel Dercksen](#)

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This week sees the release of seven new films: the sci-fi adventure *A Wrinkle In Time*, the romances *Every Day* and *My Blind Date With Life*, the Indian comedy-drama *102 Not Out*, *Unsane*, *I Feel Pretty*, and *Maya The Bee: The Honey Games*.

A Wrinkle In Time

Fifty years after Madeleine L'Engle's young adult novel *A Wrinkle in Time* was first published and became an instant classic, executives at Disney toyed with the idea of bringing the book to the big screen.

Through one girl's transformative journey led by three celestial guides, we discover that strength comes from embracing one's individuality and that the best way to triumph over fear is to travel by one's own light.

The film is directed by Ava DuVernay from a screenplay by Oscar-winner Jennifer Lee and Jeff Stockwell.

Every Day

Based on David Levithan's acclaimed New York Times bestseller, it tells the story of Rhiannon (Angourie Rice), a 16-year old girl who falls in love with a mysterious soul named 'A' (Justice Smith) who inhabits a different body every day. Feeling an unmatched connection, Rhiannon and A work each day to find each other, not knowing what or who the next day will bring. The more the two fall in love, the more the realities of loving someone who is a different person every 24 hours takes a toll, leaving Rhiannon and 'A' to face the hardest decision either has ever had to make.

Directed by Michael Sucsy and adapted by Jesse Andrews.

Unsane

In Steven Soderbergh's psychological horror, Sawyer Valentini relocates from Boston to Pennsylvania to escape from the man who's been stalking her for the last two years. While consulting with a therapist, Valentini unwittingly signs in for a voluntary 24-hour commitment to the Highland Creek Behavioral Center. Her stay at the facility soon gets extended when doctors and nurses begin to question her sanity. Sawyer now believes that one of the staffers is her stalker — and she'll do whatever it takes to stay alive and fight her way out.

Steven Soderbergh's latest self-financed feature *Unsane* was shot on an iPhone and is the latest example of his desire to move beyond the studio arena for good.

The film was shot, edited, and directed by Steven Soderbergh and written by Jonathan Bernstein and James Greer.

I Feel Pretty

An ordinary woman who struggles with feelings of insecurity and inadequacy on a daily basis wakes from a fall believing she is suddenly the most beautiful and capable woman on the planet. With this newfound confidence, she is empowered to live her life fearlessly and flawlessly, but what will happen when she realises her appearance never changed?

With *I Feel Pretty*, long-time writing partners Abby Kohn and Marc Silverstein deliver a romantic comedy with a timely spin. They also make their debut as feature film directors.

Maya The Bee: The Honey Games

When an overenthusiastic Maya accidentally embarrasses the Empress of Buzztropolis, she is forced to unite with a team of misfit bugs and compete in the Honey Games. Fortunately, her best friend Willi, the loveable but clumsy ants Arnie and Barney, and her trustworthy advisor Flip the grasshopper will be by her side.

Maya the Bee is based on a German children's novel, which was published in 1912. The film is directed by Noel Cleary,

Sergio Delfin, and Alexis Stanermann.

My Blind Date With Life

It tells the heartwarming true story of Saliya (Kostja Ullmann), a promising student who becomes nearly blind as a teenager. In spite of everyone telling him to be realistic about how this limits his life and aspirations, he persistently holds onto his dream of working in a luxury hotel. Without telling anyone that he cannot see, he unbelievably lands an apprenticeship in the most prestigious hotel in Munich.

With sheer determination and impressive resilience, he exceeds all expectations and manages to get through his bluff with the help of his mocking and sly best friend Max (Jacob Matschenz). But when Saliya falls in love with Laura (Anna Maria Mühe), the elaborate deception he so carefully put together begins to fall apart.

It's an adaption of the real-life story of Saliya Kahawatte who lost most of his eyesight at the age of 15 and is directed by Marc Rothemund.

102 Not Out

The Hindi-language Indian comedy-drama tells the story of Dattatraya Vakharia, a 102-year-old man who wants to break the record of the oldest living male. There's just one problem — he must find a way to change the sad and grumpy demeanour of his 75-year-old son.

Based on the eponymous Gujarati play written by Saumya Joshi, it is directed by directed by Umesh Shukla and stars Amitabh Bachchan and Rishi Kapoor.

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ABOUT DANIEL DERCKSEN

Daniel Dercksen has been a contributor for Lifestyle since 2012. As the driving force behind the successful independent training initiative The Writing Studio and a published film and theatre journalist of 40 years, teaching workshops in creative writing, playwriting and screenwriting throughout South Africa and internationally the past 22 years. Visit www.writingstudio.co.za

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