

The Weekender Comedy & music

Films What's on this week

Killers (12A): If Robert Luketic's action-packed romantic comedy is to be believed men are capable of hiding everything from their nearest and dearest. The film's charming hero meets, woos and marries the woman of his dreams without revealing a vital part of his genetic make-up. Jen Kornfeldt (Katherine Heigl) marries Spencer Aimes (Ashton Kutcher). Spencer has been keeping a tiny secret: he is an international spy and assassin, who retired from active duty but has now been marked for death. Killers is an odd mish-mash of genres, veering wildly from action to comedy and back again, sometimes in a single scene. Kutcher and Heigl are far better than the screenplay. ***



Tense: Katherine Heigl plays Jen in Killers

cultures between Mexican-American and African-American families, who must grit their teeth and bear their cultural differences for the sake of their love-struck offspring. Lucia (America Ferrera) and her fiance Marcus (Lance Gross) are head over heels in love. The soon-to-be-weds organise a meal where they intend to get the family introductions out of the way in public but their fathers already know each other - one has towed away the other's illegally parked car. This film trades heavily on stereotypes, particularly Ontiveros' character and her brood of God-fearing old dears. ***

Wild Target (12A): This comedy caper is a real romp

on the big screen, and one you simply cannot help getting swept away with. Bill Nighy stars as Victor Maynard, a meticulous, lethally efficient, middle-aged and unmarried assassin under the thumb of his domineering mother, simply referred to as Mother (played brilliantly by Eileen Atkins). Emily Blunt is the reckless thief Rose, aiming for the ultimate art con who makes a phone call to Victor as soon as he realises he's been duped. Victor sets out to perform the deadly hit in a car park but finds himself unable to kill her. This British version of Wild Target, remade from the French film by Pierre Salvadori over 15 years ago, will tickle your laughter buds and make for an enjoyable big-screen outing. ***

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Sarah's VARIETY show

Sarah McQuaid
Ram Folk Club
Will Gore

From Appalachian folk songs to early English music, Sarah McQuaid is an artist who is unafraid of traversing genres in search of musical inspiration and she will be showcasing her eclectic repertoire in a concert at Thames Ditton's Ram Folk Club next Friday.

"I'll be my doing my own wildly eclectic mixture of stuff," she says.

"I'll play some of my own songs, some Irish and Appalachian stuff and some odd ball covers including an old jazz number from the 30s. Since I play solo I like to vary the material so people don't get bored just seeing me!"

The diversity of McQuaid's music is perhaps not surprising as she has, over the years, called many countries "home", having been born in Spain and raised in America before moving to Ireland and then Cornwall, where she currently resides with her husband and two children.

"I don't feel like I'm from anywhere because I've lived in so many different places," she says.

"I suppose it has freed me up in terms of the material that I feel OK doing. If someone has lived all their life in Ireland they may not feel comfortable playing American bluegrass music, but there isn't one particular country that I owe more of my musical allegiance to."

McQuaid is currently work-

ing on songs for her third album which will see songs from the 13th to 16th centuries sit alongside her own compositions. These news songs include ones inspired by that period and others with a more contemporary edge.

She has been a fixture on the folk scene for more than a decade but has recently enjoyed something of breakthrough, reaching number one on the folk radio chart in America with a compilation album.

This success has, she says, had a big impact on her latest batch of songs.

"I suddenly had this number one record and needed to think seriously about the follow up - the stakes had been raised," she says.

"I still write my songs to please myself and not worry about 'the market' but the chance has been raised of being able to tour with a band and so I can think about writing songs that sound nice with other instruments rather than just with me and my guitar."

Sarah McQuaid, Ram Folk Club, Old Cranleigh Club, Thames Ditton, June 25, 8.15pm, theramclub.co.uk



COMPETITION

WIN exclusive movie merchandise

and tickets to see the hilarious

new Judd Apatow comedy
'GET HIM TO THE GREEK'



GET HIM TO THE GREEK

The Surrey Comet has teamed up with Universal Pictures and the Odeon Kingston to give 5 lucky winners the chance to win a Infant Sorrow T-shirt and a GET HIM TO THE GREEK man bag. Plus a pair of tickets to see the movie at the Odeon Kingston. In addition to the above, one winner will also win an iPod Shuffle.

GET HIM TO THE GREEK reunites Jonah Hill and Russell Brand with Forgetting Sarah Marshall director Nicholas Stoller in the story of a record company executive (Jonah Hill) with three days to drag an uncooperative rock legend (Russell Brand) to Hollywood for a comeback concert.

In cinemas June 25

HOW TO ENTER

In the 2007 version of St Trinian's, what was the name of Russell Brand's character ?

a) Flash Gordon? b) Flash Cleaner? c) Flash Harry?

To enter: Text to 80360 starting with GREEK leave a space then your answer, name and contact details. Text cost 50p plus your normal operator text charge. Text lines open June 18, 2010 and close June 24, 2010 at 23.59pm. Service provided by Newsquest Media Group. Or you can write with your answer and contact details to:

Mark Foker, Unecol House,
819 London Road, North Cheam,
Surrey SM3 9BN.

Entrants must be 15 years or over.



NOW BOOKING

Watch the BALL

Hampton Court Palace's annual festival of concerts draws to a close on Saturday with a performance from Michael Ball.

The West End star is taking some time out from touring Hairspray to perform a selection of the show tunes he has performed throughout his long career.

June 19, Hampton Court Palace, 8.45pm, from £55, hamptoncourtfestival.com



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