

# Features

## Everything you need to know about the Oscars

By Beth Hoyle  
Staff Writer



Tom Hanks, nominated for Best Actor, stars in "Saving Private Ryan."

It's that time of year again when the red carpets are rolled out in Hollywood for one of the biggest award ceremonies of the year.

The 71st Annual Academy Awards will be held on March 21. The Oscars will be aired on ABC starting at 8:30 p.m.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences began giving awards in 1929, just as movies were beginning to take form, according to the oscar.com Web page.

The first Academy Awards ceremony took place during a banquet held in the Blossom Room of the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. There were 250 guests and tickets were sold for \$10, according to the Web page.

For the first 15 years the awards were held as banquet affairs, but this was discontinued in 1942, when increased attendance caused the awards to be moved to theaters.

Today the attendance for the awards show is by invitation only, and no tickets are sold to the public.

Whoopi Goldberg will be returning for a third year to host the awards

show. She first hosted the Oscars in 1994 and then again in 1996.

Goldberg's unpredictable, tell-it-like-it-is style makes her a welcomed back hostess by the Academy, according to the oscar.com web page.

This year's show will showcase a variety of presenters, including Andy Garcia, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jim Carrey, Annette Bening, Jack

Nicholson, Denzel Washington, Liam Neeson, Liv Tyler, Kevin Costner, Anne Heche, and Steve Martin.

The Actors nominated for best actor in a leading role are: Robert Benigni ("Life Is Beautiful"); Tom Hanks ("Saving Private Ryan"); Ian McKellen ("Gods and Monsters"); Nick Nolte ("Affliction"); and Ed-

ward Norton ("American History X").

Acotrs nominated for the supporting role award are: James Coburn ("Affliction"); Robert Duvall ("A Civil Action"); Ed Harris ("The Truman Show"); Geoffrey Rush ("Shakespeare In Love"); and Billy Bob Thornton ("A Simple Plan").

Nominations for best actress in a leading role are: Cate Blanchette ("Elizabeth"); Fernanda Montenegro ("Central Station"); Gwyneth Paltrow ("Shakespeare In Love"); Meryl Streep ("One True Thing"); and Emily Watson ("Hilary And Jackie").

Supporting role nominations for women are: Kathy Bates ("Primary Colors"); Brenda Blethyn ("Little Voice"); Judi Dench ("Shakespeare

In Love"); Rachael Griffiths ("Hilary And Jackie"); and Lynn Redgrave ("Gods And Monsters").

Those in the running for the directing award are: Roberto Benigni ("Life Is Beautiful"); Steven Spielberg ("Saving Private Ryan"); John Madden ("Shakespeare In Love"); Terrence Malick ("The Thin Red Line"); and Peter Weir ("The Truman Show").

The songs from movies up for an award are: "I Don't Want to Miss A Thing" ("Armageddon"); "The Prayer" ("Quest For Camelot"); "A Soft Place To Fall" ("The Horse Whisperer"); "That'll Do" ("Babe: Pig In The City"); and "When You Believe" ("The Prince Of Egypt").

For those who are really into the star-lit scene, there will be shows before and after the awards ceremony.

Joan Rivers and her daughter Melissa will host a two-hour fashion show. They will warm-up viewers by asking celebrities where and who the designers are for the fashions that they are wearing as they make their way down the red carpet.

The fashion show will start at 6 p.m., and airs on E! cable network. Another preview show will begin at 8 p.m. on ABC. This show will be hosted by Gina Davis, and will serve as ABC's official Oscar pre-show, according to the web page.

Davis will interview stars as they arrive and will have backstage footage.



Joseph Fiennes and Cate Blanchett in "Elizabeth."

## 'No Exit' for Blondie Everyone can be on television

By Wendi Williams  
Staff Writer

neglects the other band members, guitarist Chris Stein, keyboardist Jimmy Destri and drummer Clem Burke.

"No Exit's sanitized mix puts too much emphasis on Harry's thin voice and not enough on Burke and the boys," Kot said in the review. "Blow-dried ballads such as 'Forgive and Forget,' 'Night Wind Sent,' and 'Double Take' could have been lifted off a 'Top Gun'-era movie soundtrack."

I couldn't agree more. The rest of the album is a bit more mellow than the title track.

"Boom Boom in the Zoom Zoom Room" has a slow, seductive lounge-swing feel, like something out of a 1960s night club.

The first song on the album, "Screaming Skin," has the traditional Blondie feel to it. The only disturbing thing about this song is the lyrics: "I'm a multi-cellular individual/you're way out of proportion/ we've got a hemodynamic connection/ don't call me germ."

The album has one song on it that is worth listening to more than once. "Maria" is one of the few redeeming songs on the album. It is the closest thing to the energetic, yet whimsical, pop of the 70s era Blondie.

Fans of old-school Blondie will enjoy this song. I suggest they wait for it to be released as a single, though. Don't waste your money on this disappointing album.

Overall, "No Exit" fails miserably as a comeback album. Some things are just better left alone.

"No Exit, Blondie's first original album in 16 years, leaves much to be desired.

In an obvious attempt for Blondie to branch out to new things, "No Exit" bombs. As a fan of the 1980s Blondie number one hits "Call Me," "The Tide is High," and "Heart of Glass," it is very disappointing to hear Debbie Harry and rapper Coolio performing the title track, "No Exit."

This is definitely not a strong point in the album. Not only is the rap poorly performed by Harry, but the music is a mismatched combination of a church organ and electric guitar.

According to Greg Kot, in a review from Rolling Stone magazine, the album



PHOTO COURTESY OF BEYOND RECORDS

### Review

By Erica Shusha  
Staff Writer

Turner Broadcasting System (TBS, Inc.) is launching a new, 24-hour broad-based entertainment network targeting the Southeastern region, featuring movies, sitcoms, original programming, sports and regional news this fall.

TBS is calling on college students and college television to submit tapes for consideration for airing during a new showcase called "The College Show," according to a press release.

"College students often create some of the most interesting and entertaining programming around, but so few people ever get to see it," said Turner South and TBS Superstation President Bill Burke. "The College Show" allows us to bring these shows, solicited from colleges all over the Southeast, to a wide audience," said Burke in a press release.

"The College Show" also provides the perfect opportunity for our cable affiliates to get involved, by tying in to shows featuring their local college of their alma mater," said Burke in a press release.

Turner South is set to debut in the fall of 1999 and will be available to cable and DBS affiliates in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, South Carolina, Tennessee and regions of North Carolina, bringing the number of news and entertainment networks in the TBS, Inc. portfolio to 18, according to a press release.

Bill Burke will oversee the new network which will be based in Atlanta.

"Turner South is a new concept in en-

tainment programming," said Burke. "The network will be branded with a contemporary Southern flavor and will utilize the vast library and resources of Time Warner in a regional and truly unique way," said Burke.

The programming plans include: "Southern Living," "The Bluebird Cafe," "Whole World Theatre," "The College Show," "WCW Classics," CNN regional news, and sports, according to a press release.

"Southern Living" will be a weekly series based on the popular magazine. "The Bluebird Cafe" will be a one-hour program featuring performances of music songwriters.

"Whole World Theatre" will feature Atlanta's premiere comedy improvisation troupe.

"The WCW Classics" weekly showcase will draw from its extensive library of classic WCW shows, from the early days to its current reign.

CNN regional news will have regional news, financial updates and weather reports.

The sports segment in the programming will include Atlanta Braves baseball, Atlanta Hawks basketball, and Atlanta Thrashers hockey, according to the press release.

Movies will be a major component of Turner South with weekly movie franchises, such as "Kudzu Theater, Movies That Grow on You" and "Southern Nights," according to a press release.

Students who are interested in being part of The College Show should submit their material by sending a VHS tape to: The College Show, Turner South, 1050 Techwood Drive NW, Atlanta, GA 30318



ART PARTS

## Irish play 'Dark Places' premieres at the Goddess store

By Jessica Wolf  
Staff Writer

In addition to the small cast, there is a fairly minimal set for the play, said Brezny.

"The entire show pretty much takes place in a lobby of a maternity hospital," said Brezny.

The play revolves around three women and the stories surrounding their pregnancies.

One of the women, Annie Quinn, played by Ellen Pflurman, is torn between her husband, her children and her lover, a young poet named Brian, played by James Bankes.

In the beginning of the play, the audience discovers that Annie is three months overdue to give birth. As the story progresses, we realize that the baby might not be her husband's, but another man's. Throughout the play,

she deals with the pain and confusion from being torn between an obligation to her family and the passion for her young lover.

While staying in the maternity ward, she meets another expectant mother named Mary Rooney, played by Deborah Kelly. This is Mary's first pregnancy with her husband, John.

With every reference she makes to John, the audience sees more and more her dependency on her husband, and willingness to obey him, despite her own desires.

The third mother is 18-year-old Claire, played by Lauren Ford. Claire is pregnant, out of wedlock, and is dealing with the shame that she has brought to her family.

When her mother, played by Day

Galvin, finds out about the pregnancy, she sends Claire away so that the pregnancy can be kept a secret. She then arranges for the baby to be put up for adoption, against Claire's wishes.

The last character is that of a nurse at the maternity hospital, played by Leona Stern. She is an older woman, who has never been married or had children of her own, yet helps everyday to bringing children into others' families. This character adds a little wisdom as well as some comic relief to the play.

The play was written by Irish playwright Lorraine O'Brien, said Brezny. "This is the American premiere of the show," said Brezny. "It will be the first time it is performed in the United

States, and we are having it's opening on St. Patrick's Day."

The play is not affiliated with the Carol Belk Theatre on campus.

"This play is a production of Black Swan," said Brezny. "It is a really fun story and it has been really fun working with this group."

The cast of "Dark Places" is a private cast, picked by Hopes without audition, according to Brezny.

"We have got some really dynamite actresses in this show," said Brezny. "There is a full range of character and age. Lauren Ford, who plays Claire is 16 years old. She is a phenomenal actress for her age."

There is a fairly strong underlying theme in the play, according to Brezny.

"Although the main characters are all pregnant women or women who just had a baby, I think the show is more about relationships between individuals," said Brezny. "The relationship between a mother and daughter, between a husband and wife, and between their motherhood."

The play will run for two weeks. It will begin on March 17, and run Wednesday through Saturday, and then Thursday through Saturday the following week.

### Preview