

Poetry Corner

"Eyes Like Caramelos"

By Carolina Siliceo-Perez

Eyes like caramelos, soft and brown
An immigrant proud of her accent and ancestry
Nowhere near perfection
Soft spoken but always heard

An immigrant proud of her accent and ancestry
A miracle to have survived
Soft spoken but always heard
Brought to a country of freedom and dreams

A miracle to have survived
A flower waiting to flourish
Brought to a country of freedom and dreams
Mischievous thoughts flowing like honey

A flower waiting to flourish
Simple sugar coated sweetness
Mischievous thoughts flowing like honey
Thriving to be the difference

Simple sugar coated sweetness
Nowhere near perfection
Thriving to be the difference
Eyes like caramelos soft and brown



Coming soon to theaters: "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey"

By Jackson Vause
Staff Writer

After a long wait, the first installment of *The Hobbit* will premiere on Friday December 14, 2012.

"*The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey*" is directed by Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson and features Ian McClellan, who is back as Gandalf after starring as him in the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy. The film will also feature Elijah Wood, in a small role, as Frodo, and Cate Blanchet as Galadriel, and Christopher Lee as Saruman.

For those who are unfamiliar with Tolkien's work "*The Hobbit*" follows the adventures of Bilbo Baggins, a hobbit of the Shire in Middle Earth, as he travels with a group of dwarves to recapture their stolen wealth and home from the dragon Smaug.

Peter Jackson has made some controversial decisions in the movie making process. Among these are shooting the film, which will be shown in 3D, at 48 frames per second versus the standard 24 fps movies are usually shot in, as well as turning the film into a trilogy and adding several events to Tolkien's original story.

Along the way Bilbo encounters elves, shape shifters, giant spiders, eagles and wolves as well as goblins and the creature Gollum. Jackson has already proven that he can capture these on screen excellently in "Lord of the Rings;" the challenge in "*The Hobbit*" trilogy will be the dragon Smaug.

Another challenge Jackson faces is how to explain parts of the story without much dialogue, of which there are many in Tolkien's work but based on "Lord of the Rings" this should be no problem.

The greatest concern Tolkien fans have for the movie is how much embellishing of the story will be done. From previews we know can expect to see appearances from Frodo and Galadriel, neither of whom were in the book. It is also rumored that Orlando Bloom will make an appearance as Legolas in the movie another character that was not in the book. Also many critics feel that turning the film, which was originally planned to have two parts, into a trilogy will stretch

the material thin.

However, Jackson has included extra material borrowed from some of Tolkien's writings in the appendix of *The Lord of the Rings* that explain events going on in Middle Earth. It is thought that this will include a section of the movie that will follow Gandalf after he leaves Bilbo and the dwarves to investigate events elsewhere in the land.

The controversy over the choice to shoot the movie in 48 fps is that some critics say it will give the movie a feel of a live video such as a soap opera versus the traditional cinema feel. According to Peter DeBruge of *Variety*, "Everything takes on an overblown, artificial quality in which the phoniness of the sets and costumes becomes obvious, while well-lit areas bleed into their surroundings, like watching a high-end home movie."

The Hobbit has received mixed reviews so far. Many critics are saying that Tolkien purists will love the film as Jackson went out of his way to include every bit of detail from *The Hobbit* as well as more scenes that were not explained fully in Tolkien's work. Todd McCarthy of *The Hollywood Reporter* said the film will be a purist's delight as it includes, "every comma, period and semicolon in the first six chapters." Meanwhile others fear that the extra scenes and embellishment of the story will detract from the film.

The movie, which is projected to make over \$130 million in its opening week, will undoubtedly be a box office hit, but for it to

become as loved among fans as the "Lord of the Rings" trilogy, it seems viewers will have to come into the film with an open mind ready for a novel theatrical experience.

