

Burlington native finishes work on the set of 'Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides'

Eva Hill
Copy Editor

Burlington resident and makeup artist Dean Jones just got off the set of the fourth installment of "Pirates of the Caribbean," and is now working on his own production company, Atlantic and Pacific Pictures, which will make films based in North Carolina.

Starting at age 7, Jones has been working in television and film for 25 years. His inspiration came from the filming of a Dick Clark film in Graham and the bullet hole makeup used on set. He had an interest in Halloween makeup and began his career by working with small productions in high school and at UNC Greensboro, where he attended college.

Jones now lives in Los Angeles and said it's the place to be for careers in television and film, but he also enjoyed working in Transylvania and continues to enjoy working in North Carolina.

He said the makeup department on the set of "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" did a lot of work on set and sometimes worked 14-hour shifts that stretched into the night.

"The biggest thrill was being on the Black Pearl pirate ship," Jones said. "What more could one want?"

Jones won an Emmy Award for his work on the television series "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" and has been nominated for six other Emmys.

Jones said Dennis Hopper was one of the most interesting people to work with. He said he likes to work with older actors because of what they've been able to experience.



Dean Jones, a Burlington-based makeup artist, touches up a bloody facade from his latest project, "Night of the Living Dead." Jones has worked in the movie industry since he was a child.

"He was a treat to work with because he came from a generation where he got to work with actors like James Dean, and those people are gone now," he said.

Jones said he loves working in the horror or suspense genre but also enjoys working on war films, like "Jarhead."

"I helped build the severed body parts and blood for the 'Dexter' pilot, and also some of the blood used on 'House,'" Jones said. "Effects makeup is my favorite because it's not boring. I love making severed limbs and monsters."

Aside from working with makeup, Jones has tried his hand at acting, directing and scriptwriting. He also works with a company called American Makeup and Effects and another called hollywoodfx.net, which offers makeup effects and services. He said he also has film and television

projects in the works.

"I wanted to do it all, and I did it all, eventually," he said.

Jones said he's fortunate to have been able to have these experiences, and travel around the world to work on various projects.

"Every film is a new experience," Jones said. "There's a small circle of makeup artists and it's a treat to see your friends again, as an artist." He's currently working on an annual project called "The Original Hollywood Horror Show," which is an indoor showcase of makeup and horror effects. The event starts the last weekend of September and runs through the first weekend of November. The event is held in Snow Camp, N.C., and tickets can be purchased online or at the event.

MOVIE REVIEW ★★★★★

Ben Affleck runs 'The Town':

Actor/director/writer makes movie magic again

Noah Elingburg
Reviewer

Ben Affleck does it all in his newest film, "The Town", which he wrote, directed and stars in. The Boston-based heist thriller is his second successful attempt at directing after his directorial debut in 2007's "Gone Baby Gone."

"The Town" is set in Boston in a neighborhood called Charlestown, a place known for crime, especially robberies. And that is just the kind of business Affleck's character is in.

Affleck plays Doug MacRay, a former professional hockey player who threw it all away and is now the architect behind a series of bank and armored car heists, backed up by a crew of fellow miscreants.

MacRay's trigger-happy best friend Jem, played by Jeremy Renner ("The Hurt Locker"), causes problems when he kidnaps and releases assistant bank manager Claire (Rebecca Hall) in the crew's first heist in the movie.

When Jem finds out Claire lives near the crew in Charlestown, he wants to finish her off because she's the only person who could give them up to FBI Special Agent Frawley, played by "Mad Men"'s Jon Hamm.

MacRay doesn't let that happen and insists on following Claire, so he can get close to her to find out what she has told the FBI. Unexpectedly, their relationship becomes romantic and the two fall in love.

MacRay decides it's time for him to make a change and get out of the robbery business after he visits his father (Chris Cooper) in prison and realizes it's not the life he wants.

There's only one problem: MacRay and his boys are forced to take on their biggest heist yet before he can move on with his life and finally make it out of Charlestown and his checkered past.

There is further shady dealing, blackmail and betrayal in this classic story of good girl-meets-bad boy, but with a violent and criminal twist. MacRay and Claire's relationship becomes the target of both sides of the fight — the cops and robbers, as it were.

The intensity of "The Town" can be credited to Affleck's newly found directorial skills. If robberies weren't already tense and scary situations, they are increased tenfold by Affleck's use of creepy masks to conceal the robbers' identities. And, like all great action thrillers, Affleck incorporates a lengthy car chase involving MacRay's crew with machine guns in a mini-squad, being chased by Boston's finest police squad.

"The Town" is already being talked about as one of the year's best films. Renner, who delivers another Oscar-worthy performance, could potentially be nominated for the second year in a row after being nominated for last year's Oscar-winning best picture, "The Hurt Locker."

Affleck, on the other hand, has now revitalized his career by becoming a director and has proven with "The Town" that he is here to stay.

Not to mention he can still act, especially if the role requires a thick Bostonian accent.

Film buffs rejoice: Carolina Theatre now showing classic movies

Alexa Johnson
Senior Reporter

Going to the movies is expensive — really expensive.

Luckily, the historic Carolina Theatre in Greensboro is more Elon-budget friendly. The coolest part? The 83-year-old Carolina Theatre is just 20 minutes away from Elon University and plays classic movies a few times a month.

Here are the classics scheduled for the 2010-2011 season.



The gilt interior of the Carolina Theater in Greensboro will host several classic films.

'Nightmare on Elm Street' (1984)

Oct. 12
The original Wes Craven masterpiece with Johnny Depp. The good one (relatively speaking).

'Phantom of the Opera' (1925)

Oct. 26
One of the most famous musicals in history, even though it's a silent film.

'Rocky Horror Picture Show' (1975)

Oct. 30
Still have no idea what actually goes on? Maybe watching this cult classic on the big screen will help. It's catchy even if you're clueless.

'Casablanca' (1942)

Nov. 16
Back when Hollywood used to do good romantic films, Casablanca stole the show even then.

'It's a Wonderful Life' (1946)

Dec. 14 and 15
The timeless Christmas film is not to be confused with Life is Beautiful, there are no Nazis involved.

'Where Eagles Dare' (1968)

Jan. 11
Nazis. Castles. Clint Eastwood. What more could you want?

'Roman Holiday' (1953)

Feb. 7
Perfect for ladies night, Audrey Hepburn exudes classic charm.

'Sabrina' (1954)

Feb. 8
The Carolina Theatre must be fond of Audrey.

'Breakfast at Tiffany's' (1961)

Feb. 9
Have you ever wondered why so many girls have posters of Hepburn? This would be why.

'Monty Python and the Holy Grail' (1975)

April 12
One of the most loved and quoted movies ever made.

'Gone with the Wind' (1932)

May 3
Frankly, it's long. But this Civil-War set film is wonderful.

For more information about showtimes and how to purchase tickets, visit www.carolinatheatre.com.