

'Song Of Names' and 'The New Mutants'

By Daniel Dercksen

4 Sep 2020

Two films enter the South African box office this week: *Song Of Names*, a soulful meditation on loss and hope starring Tim Roth and Clive Owen; and *The New Mutants*, in which a group of young mutants battle strange occurrences in an isolated hospital.

Song Of Names

Make sure not to miss this excellent soulful meditation on loss and hope.

This triumphant combination of history, artistry, and deep pathos tells the story of Martin Simmonds (Tim Roth), who has been haunted throughout his life by the mysterious disappearance of his 'brother' and extraordinary best friend, a Polish Jewish virtuoso violinist, Dovidl Rapaport, who vanished shortly before the 1951 London debut concert that would have launched his brilliant career. Thirty-five years later, Martin discovers that Dovidl (Clive Owen) may still be alive, and sets out on an obsessive intercontinental search to find him and learn why he left.

Screenplay in 2005 for The Constant Gardener.

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The New Mutants

This original horror-thriller is set in an isolated hospital where a group of young mutants is being held for psychiatric monitoring. When strange occurrences begin to take place, both their new mutant abilities and their friendships will be tested as they battle to try and make it out alive.

Directed by Josh Boone (The Fault in our Stars) and written by Boone and Knate Lee, it stars Maisie Williams (Game of Thrones); Anya Taylor-Joy (Glass); Charlie Heaton (Stranger Things); Alice Braga (Predators); Blu Hunt (The Originals); and Henry Zaga (13 Reasons Why).

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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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