

Space Jam: A New Legacy and a Jungle Cruise preview

By Daniel Dercksen

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Space Jam: A New Legacy enters the South African box office this weekend, and there's a preview of Disney's Jungle Cruise.

Space Jam: A New Legacy

With this intricate blend of classic and CG animation work, high-concept storyline and industry-hopping star power, *Space Jam: A New Legacy* represents a booming new voice in entertainment cinema.

With the animated/live-action event *Space Jam: A New Legacy*, basketball champion and global icon LeBron James goes on an epic adventure alongside timeless Tune Bugs Bunny, Lola Bunny and the whole gang of notoriously undisciplined Looney Tunes.

This transformational journey is a manic mashup of two worlds that reveals just how far some parents will go to connect with their kids. When LeBron and his young son Dom are trapped in a digital space by a rogue AI, LeBron must get them home safe by leading Bugs, Lola Bunny and the whole gang of notoriously undisciplined Looney Tunes to victory over the AI's digitised champions on the court: a powered-up roster of professional basketball stars as you've never seen them before.

It's Tunes versus Goons in the highest-stakes challenge of his life, that will redefine LeBron's bond with his son and shine a light on the power of being yourself. The ready-for-action Tunes destroy convention, supercharge their unique talents and surprise even 'King' James by playing the game their own way.

The film is directed by Malcolm D Lee and features an innovative filmmaking team including Ryan Coogler and Maverick Carter, from a screenplay by Juel Taylor and Tony Rettenmaier and Keenan Coogler and Terence Nance and Jesse Gordon and Celeste Ballard, based on *Space Jam*, written by Leo Benvenuti and Steve Rudnick and Timothy Harris and Herschel Weingrod.

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Jungle Cruise

There are special preview screenings in select cinemas this weekend of Disney's *Jungle Cruise*, which opens nationwide on 6 August. Join fan favourites Dwayne Johnson and Emily Blunt for the adventure of a lifetime, a rollicking thrill-ride down the Amazon with wisecracking skipper Frank Wolff and intrepid researcher Dr Lily Houghton. Lily travels from London, England to the Amazon jungle and enlists Frank's questionable services to guide her downriver on La Quila – his ramshackle-but-charming boat. Lily is determined to uncover an ancient tree with unparalleled healing abilities – possessing the power to change the future of medicine. Thrust on this epic quest together, the unlikely duo encounters innumerable dangers and supernatural forces, all lurking in the deceptive beauty of the lush rainforest. But as the secrets of the lost tree unfold, the stakes reach even higher for Lily and Frank and their fate – and mankind's – hangs in the balance.

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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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