

10 New Movies from Columbia Alumni Filmmakers

From industry veterans to promising newcomers, alumni directors and screenwriters have lit up the big screen with notable feature films in 2022.

By

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[Winter 2022-23](#)



Dwayne Johnson in "Black Adam." (Warner Brothers Pictures)

Black Adam

Sohrab Noshirvani '12SOA and Rory Haines '11SOA cowrote this [action film](#) about Black Adam, an ancient Egyptian superhero from the DC Comics universe. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson stars as the title character. **Theatrical release: October 21 /**

Stream on HBO Max



Jonathan Majors in "Devotion." (Sony Pictures)

Devotion

Written by Jake Crane '12SOA and Jonathan A. H. Stewart '12SOA and based on a 2015 book by Adam Makos, *Devotion* tells the true story of celebrated Korean War fighter pilots Jesse Brown and Tom Hudner and their fateful 1950 combat mission.

Theatrical release: November 23 / Stream on Paramount+



Harry Styles and Florence Pugh in "Don't Worry Darling." (Warner Brothers Pictures)

Don't Worry Darling

Following the success of the 2019 comedy *Booksmart*, which she cowrote with Susanna Fogel '02CC, Katie Silberman '12SOA again teamed up with director Olivia Wilde as the writer of *Don't Worry Darling*, a psychological thriller set in a 1950s-like suburb. The film stars Florence Pugh and Harry Styles. **Theatrical release: September 23 / stream on HBO Max**



Gabriel LaBelle in "The Fabelmans." (IMDb)

The Fabelmans

Tony Kushner '78CC, '10HON, best known for his early-1990s play *Angels in America*, cowrote and produced this [period drama](#) with Steven Spielberg, who directed it. Inspired by Spielberg's youth, the film is about an aspiring young filmmaker in postwar America. **Theatrical release: November 11**



Zac Efron in "The Greatest Beer Run Ever." (Apple)

The Greatest Beer Run Ever

Cowritten and directed by Peter Farrelly '86SOA, this [dramedy](#) is based on the true story of John "Chickie" Donohue, a former Marine who delivered beer to Vietnam War service members over four months in 1967. **Theatrical release: September 23 / stream on Apple TV+**



Jeremy Pope in "The Inspection." (A24)

The Inspection

[Elegance Bratton](#) '14GS, who broke onto the scene with the 2019 documentary *Pier Kids*, based his debut feature film, *The Inspection*, on his own experiences. The film, which Bratton wrote and directed, stars Jeremy Pope as a gay Marine grappling with homophobia at home and in the military. **Theatrical release: November 18**



TIFF

Joyland

Saim Sadiq '19SOA directed and cowrote this [Pakistani film](#) — which won a jury prize at Cannes — about a family whose youngest son falls in love with a transgender dancer. The production team also includes cowriter Maggie Briggs '19SOA; editor Jasmin Tenucci '20SOA; and producers Apoorva Charan '18SOA, Mona Maahn '18GS, '22SOA, Katharina Otto-Bernstein '86CC, '92SOA, and Columbia film professor Ramin Bahrani '96CC. **Theatrical release (Pakistan): November 18**



Morgan Freeman and Juliette Binoche in "Paradise Highway." (Lionsgate)

Paradise Highway

Written and directed by Norwegian filmmaker Anna Gutto '16SOA, this [thriller](#) about the dark world of child sex trafficking stars Juliette Binoche and Morgan Freeman.

Theatrical release: July 29



Tom Cruise in "Top Gun: Maverick." (Paramount Pictures/Paramount Pictures - © 2019 Paramount Pictures Corporation)

Top Gun: Maverick

This long-awaited [sequel](#) to the 1986 blockbuster *Top Gun* was directed by Joseph Kosinski '99GSAPP, who studied architecture at Columbia and is known for his work with computer-generated imagery and other special effects. **Theatrical release: May 27 / Stream on Paramount+**



Daisy Edgar-Jones in "Where the Crawdads Sing." (Sony Pictures)

Where the Crawdads Sing

Olivia Newman '12SOA directed this [film adaptation](#) of Delia Owens's blockbuster 2018 novel of the same name. Starring Daisy Edgar-Jones, the mystery thriller is about an isolated young woman living in a North Carolina marshland who gets accused of murder. **Theatrical release: July 15 / stream on Netflix**

This article appears in the Winter 2022-23 print edition of Columbia Magazine with the title "At the Movies."

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