9 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 Julia Joy | Nov. 15, 2022

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
Jonathan Majors in “Devotion.” (Sony Pictures)

Devotion

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
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**
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+
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**
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
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
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**

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