



Moss, Fishburne, and Reeves get *Reloaded* (left); Victor Ulate Jr. (right, top) and Miguel Garcia rack up the miles in *Km. 0*

# Cinema, this summer

Everything *Advocate* readers need to know about the gayest big-screen offerings for the hottest months **By Michael Giltz**

## May

### THE MATRIX RELOADED

(Warner Bros.)

**WHEN** May 15

**WHO** Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne, and Carrie-Anne Moss

**WHAT** The first of two sequels to *The Matrix* tells the story of a future in which computers have enslaved humans and kept them locked up in a virtual reality so they won't rebel.

**WHY** Out actor Anthony Wong of Australia plays Ghost, a weapons expert, in both sequels and even the video game. Keanu Reeves as the Christlike savior of the world? Whoa, dude. There's also Hugo Weaving (*The Adventures of Priscilla...*) as a multitasking bad guy.

**HOW GAY** Around the edges

### L'AUBERGE ESPAGNOLE

(Fox Searchlight)

**WHEN** May 16

**WHO** The delightful Audrey Tautou of *Amélie*

**WHAT** College students in an exchange program share a place in Barcelona and hope to share some bodily fluids as well.

**WHY** Tautou has a boyfriend in this one, unfortunately. But when said fella needs to learn the art of pleasuring a woman, he's smart enough to turn to queer roomie Isabelle (Cecile De France), who puts her own advice into practice when her girlfriend comes for a visit.

**HOW GAY** Pretty dang gay

### FINDING NEMO

(Walt Disney/Pixar)

**WHEN** May 30

**WHO** The voices of Ellen DeGeneres, Barry Humphries, and Allison Janney

**WHAT** A fishy story about a dad desperate to find his lost child before the dangers of the deep (or a fisherman's net) catch it first.

**WHY** Barry Humphries (a.k.a. Dame Edna) may be doing the first animated performance in drag. And DeGeneres's work here whets our appetite for her

upcoming HBO special and syndicated talk show.

**HOW GAY** Gayish

## June

### FROM JUSTIN TO KELLY

(20th Century Fox)

**WHEN** June 13

**WHO** Kelly Clarkson and Justin Guarini of *American Idol*

**WHAT** *Grease* meets *Where the Boys Are* in this romantic musical about true love in South Florida between a mop-topped boy and a wholesome girl.

**WHY** Nothing's campier than a silly summer musical that isn't trying to be camp.

**HOW GAY** Pretty dang gay

### THE HULK

(Universal)

**WHEN** June 20

**WHO** Stars Eric Bana, Jennifer Connelly and Nick Nolte; directed by Ang Lee

**WHAT** The Incredible Hulk comes to

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# SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW



Clockwise from top left: Kelly Clarkson and Justin Guarini in *From Justin to Kelly*; Reese Witherspoon and Luke Wilson, lawyers in love in *Legally Blonde 2*; Regina Orioli and Maya Sansa in *Gasoline*; the fishies of *Finding Nemo*; and Cyrille Thouvenin and Pascal Greggory in *Confusion of Genders*

the big screen, losing an adjective but gaining Bana and Connelly in the process. The computer-generated Hulk in the early trailers looked iffy, but we have faith in director Ang Lee (*The Wedding Banquet*; *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*).

**WHY** Purple pants and green skin make for a very fashionable statement.

**HOW GAY** Around the edges

## **G** GASOLINE

(Strand)

**WHEN** June 27

**WHO** Regina Orioli and Maya Sansa in a film cowritten and directed by Monica Stambrini

**WHAT** What's an Italian girl to do when her mother confronts the kid at the gas station where she works (with her mechanic-lover, Stella, accidentally dies then draws the attention of some nosy people? Throw mama into the trunk and head out on a road trip, of course.

**WHY** *Weekend at Bernie's* with a Sapphic twist.

**HOW GAY** Way gay

## July

### **B** BOYS LIFE 4: FOUR PLAY

(Strand)

**WHEN** July

**WHO** Craig Chester stars; four rising writer-directors are highlighted in this entry in the popular shorts compilation series.

**WHAT** New short films from Brian Sloan (*I Think I Do*), Phillip Bartel, Alan Brown, and Eric Mueller (*World and Time Enough*) are the draw in this sexy-sweet anthology.

**WHY** Any chance to see queer-friendly shorts is welcome, and the *Boys Life* brand has earned our trust.

**HOW GAY** Way gay

### **B** KM. 0

(TLA)

**WHEN** July

**WHO** The queer-friendly writing and directing team of Yolanda García Serrano and Juan Luis Iborra

**WHAT** Spanish comedy about 14

strangers looking for love at the Plaza del Sol in Madrid on a steamy August afternoon.

**WHY** The horny gay college student looking for love.

**HOW GAY** Way gay

### **B** MADAME SATĀ

(Wellspring)

**WHEN** July

**WHO** Lázaro Ramos stars; Karim Aïnouss writes and directs

**WHAT** The early life of the Queen of Carnival, Madame Satã, originally a hard-living transvestite cabaret performer in 1920s Brazil with gay lovers, prostitute friends, and no love for the police of Rio de Janeiro.

**WHY** Queer history written with passion, thanks to Ramos's ferocious, career-making performance.

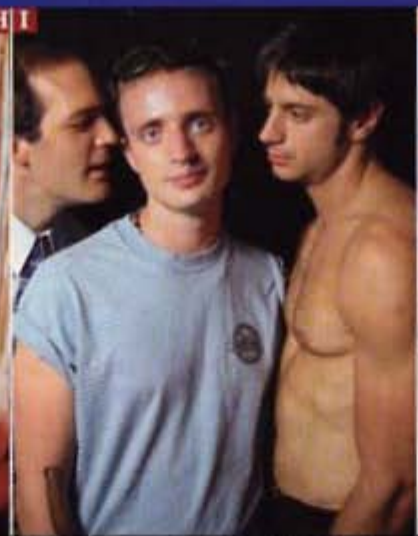
**HOW GAY** Way gay

### **D** LEGALLY BLONDE 2: RED WHITE & BLONDE

(MGM)

**WHEN** July 2

## SUMMER MOVIE PREVIEW



Lázaro Ramos is the real-life *Madame Satã* (left); a trio from one quarter of *Boys Life 4*; the love triangle from *The Embalmer*

**WHO** Reese Witherspoon, Bob Newhart, Sally Field, and Luke Wilson  
**WHAT** The delightfully ditsy Elle stumbles as an aide into the House of Representatives, which totally needs a makeover. She also finds time to fight for the rights of her gay chihuahua.  
**WHY** Witherspoon is delightful, and out director Charles Herman-Wurmfeld (*Kissing Jessica Stein*) is in charge behind the camera.  
**HOW GAY** Pretty dang gay

### SWIMMING POOL

(Focus)  
**WHEN** July 2  
**WHO** Charlotte Rampling in out director François Ozon's latest film  
**WHAT** Rampling plays a British mystery author spending the off-season in the south of France at her publisher's house. She's unsettled by the arrival of his French daughter (Ludivine Sagnier of Ozon's *8 Women*), a sexually uninhibited girl who enjoys pricking Rampling's prim English reserve.  
**WHY** Ozon hasn't made an uninteresting movie yet.  
**HOW GAY** Gayish

### CONFUSION OF GENDERS

(Picture This!)  
**WHEN** July 4  
**WHO** Pascal Greggory  
**WHAT** A French comedy about Alain, an attorney who is sexually indecisive—but not so indecisive that he doesn't act on his many impulses, which lead him to lust for his female boss, a client who's guilty of murder,

and his boss's sexy teenage brother.  
**WHY** We love equal-opportunity bisexuals as much as we love voracious omnisequals who just can't commit—especially when they're French.  
**HOW GAY** Way gay

### THE LEAGUE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENTLEMEN

(20th Century Fox)  
**WHEN** July 11  
**WHO** Sean Connery, Stuart Townsend, Shane West, and Peta Wilson  
**WHAT** Based on the comic books by Alan Moore and Kevin O'Neill, it features Victorian-era heroes like Allan Quartermain, Dr. Jekyll, Captain Nemo, and Tom Sawyer fighting evildoers to save the world.  
**WHY** Townsend plays Oscar Wilde's decadent Dorian Gray.  
**HOW GAY** Around the edges

### THE EMBALMER

(First Run Features)  
**WHEN** July 11  
**WHO** Ernesto Mahieux and Valerio Foglia Manzillo  
**WHAT** A low-key romantic triangle develops between a dwarf who works as a taxidermist, the handsome new male assistant he quietly yearns for, and the woman catching the assistant's eye.  
**WHY** The triangle isn't as imbalanced as you might expect, giving full weight to all their passions (though the attraction between the two men remains sadly devoid of physical contact).  
**HOW GAY** Way gay

### LARA CROFT: TOMB RAIDER—THE CRADLE OF LIFE

(Paramount)  
**WHEN** July 25  
**WHO** Angelina Jolie and her lips  
**WHAT** Our favorite video game heroine since Ms. Pac-Man is back in action with a sequel that we hope makes more sense than the first one.  
**WHY** Ms. Jolie packs herself into those shorts—and did we mention her lips?  
**HOW GAY** Gayish

### CAMP

(IFC)  
**WHEN** July 25  
**WHO** A talented cast of unknowns guided by writer-director Todd Graff  
**WHAT** Summer camp crosses with *Fame* with a cast of musical misfit kids.  
**WHY** The straight boy who loves the Rolling Stones but has never heard of Sondheim is the oddball at this performing arts camp peopled with drag queen boys, heavyset girls who can sing, and more musical numbers than any movie this side of *Chicago*.  
**HOW GAY** Way gay

## August

### AMERICAN WEDDING

(Universal)  
**WHEN** August 1  
**WHO** Alyson Hannigan, Jason Biggs, Seann William Scott, and Eugene Levy  
**WHAT** Yet another sequel to *American Pie*. This time, Jim (Biggs) and Michelle (Hannigan) tie the knot.



**WHY** Since *Pie 2* had two of the guys kissing (so they could watch lesbians make out), it's no surprise that this one shows them stumbling into a gay bar by accident. Guys, any psychiatrist can tell you there are no "accidents."

**HOW GAY** Around the edges

### **M THE SECRET LIVES OF DENTISTS**

(Manhattan Pictures International)

**WHEN** August 1

**WHO** Campbell Scott, Hope Davis, and Denis Leary in an Alan Rudolph film

**WHAT** Scott and Davis are husband-and-wife dentists struggling to maintain a marriage that could use a root canal.

**WHY** Out author Craig Lucas (*Longtime Companion*) adapted the script, and queer comedian Kate Clinton has a supporting role as a receptionist (an homage, we hope, to Marcia Wallace of *The Bob Newhart Show*).

**HOW GAY** Around the edges

### **K GIGLI**

(Columbia)

**WHEN** August 1

**WHO** Jennifer Lopez and Ben Affleck; writer-director Martin Brest

K: SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT; M: MANHATTAN PICTURES INTERNATIONAL