

halton happenings

Please note: Halton Happenings is a free editorial service to non-profit groups, churches, schools, and charities only. Deadline for submission is Tuesday at noon prior to insertion on Friday. Please restrict information supplied to include the date, time, venue, organization and contact details for your event. The Halton Compass reserves the right to edit each submission for brevity. Inclusion is at the discretion of the publisher and is dependent on space. To submit an event for Halton Happenings call 905-854-3333 or email info@haltoncompass.com

February 25

• **Family Support Group** for friends and family members affected by schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses. Held by the Halton Branch of the Schizophrenia Society of Ontario. This group operates on a drop-in basis and is held the 4th Thursday of each month at Milton Mall, 2nd floor boardroom, 55 Ontario Street S., Milton, 7 pm. For more info phone 905-876-1647.

• **3rd Annual Ham and Scalloped Potato Dinner** - Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church (3097-15 Side Road just east of Guelph Line). Tickets \$12 can be reserved by calling 905-854-1055. Only one sitting at 6:30pm.

February 26

• **Blood Donation Clinic** - Milton Seniors' Centre, 500 Childs Drive - 2-8pm. Call 1-888-236-6283

• **Trinity Timeless Treasures Event** - Trinity United Church in Acton is holding an indoor garage sale from 9am - noon. The cost of renting a table is \$15. Table space is limited. Call Mary Ann Austin at 519-853-1081

• **Milton Community Nursery School's 40th Anniversary** - All former students and parents are invited to help us celebrate 40 wonderful years at an Open House 2-5 p.m. at St. Paul's United Church, 123 Main St. Milton. Enjoy children's activities, a clown, refreshments, special presentations and a walk around the classroom. For more information, please call Milton Community Nursery School at 905 878 7007.

February 27

• **Georgetown District High School Music Department** is hosting a "Broadway Bound" Concert at 7:30pm at the Georgetown Alliance Church. Featuring Lisa and Patrick Timney and Leander from the Lion King. Tickets are available at the Georgetown Marketplace Lotto Booth. Adults are \$15.00 and Students are \$10.00. Proceeds will help subsidize MusicFest in Richmond, B.C.

• **Acton Kinette Community Brunch** in support of Robert Little School - Acton Community Centre 9:30am - 1pm. "All you can eat" \$5 per person, preschoolers free. To promote community spirit

March 2, 9, 16, 23

• **The Passion of Christ** - Using the movie *Jesus of Montreal* and Joyce Rupp's book, *Your Sorrow is My Sorrow* as our discussion points you are invited into a thoughtful and spiritual reflection on the final days of Jesus' life. All are welcome. Ebenezer United Church, 12274 Guelph Line, Campbellville - 7:30-9:30 Cost: Without book, free. With book, \$20.00. Mark Rutledge at (519) 824-7303 or (905) 854-2423.

March 8

• **Rotary Club of Erin Centennial Clock Unveiling and Celebration Breakfast** 8am till 9 am, 109 Main St in Erin. All are welcome. Prizes for those dressed in centennial costume (circa 1905). Erin 833 4616 for details.

March 15

• "Ornamental Trial Gardens" with speaker, Rodger Tschanz, U. of Guelph and 2005 Canada Blooms speaker at the Eden Mills Garden Club. 7:30-9:00 at the Community Hall. Members, free. Non-Members, \$2. Contact Janine at 519-856-9749 for more information.

March 17

• **About the Street Where You Live** - Jim Dills, well known and respected Milton historian, will provide an interesting talk about the origin of the names of various streets in the old and new town. Milton Historical Society, Waldie Blacksmith Shop, 16 James Street, Milton at 7:30 pm.

March 20

• **Acton Kinette Community Brunch** in support of Boy Scouts- Acton Community Centre 9:30am - 1pm. "All you can eat" \$5 per person, preschoolers free. To promote community spirit

Jeremy Panda's CD Demo Release "Amidst the Noise"

By ANN KORNUA

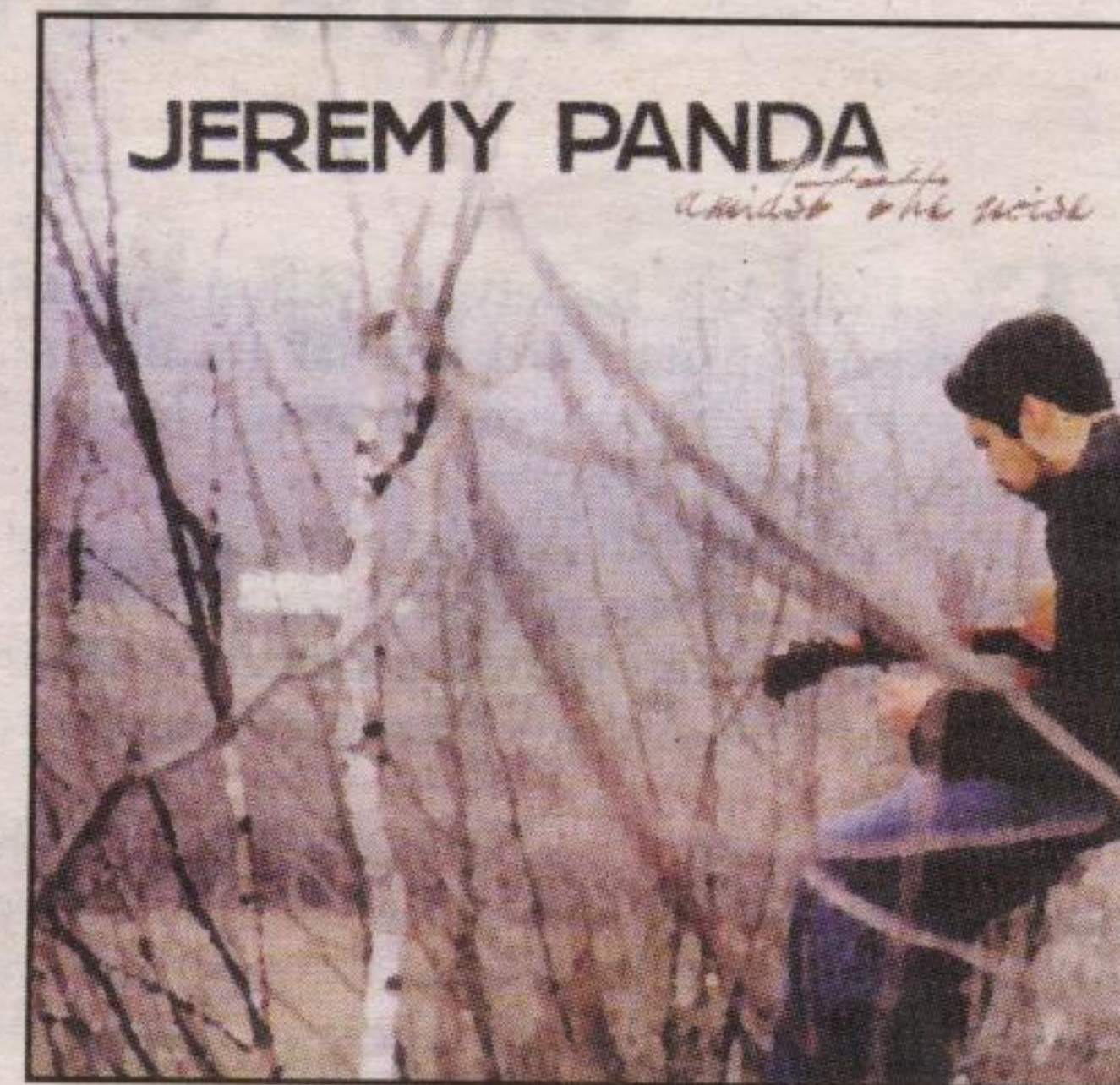
Rhythmic melodies and a deep acoustic sound haunt Jeremy Panda's new CD demo release, "Amidst the noise." Jeremy was born and raised in Milton and was renowned for his performances on the trumpet at Milton District High School. He studied jazz at York University. His new CD demo launch is a chance to expand his love for music. "I do not like unchallenging melodies and two bit pop songs, and that is exactly what this CD is not comprised of." Jeremy said

A cornucopia of music sounds started his love for music when he was very young. "My dad used to sit with me when I was a baby and we would listen to Andre Gagnon, the upbeat classical pianist, so that music is in me. I still buy his records today. It is very beautiful music," Jeremy said. "My mom liked the Beatles, so that would be blaring out too at different times of the day. Never at the same time but the two complemented each other in retrospect." Jeremy tells the story of how he used to dance by himself in his living room for hours to whatever the radio was

playing. "To be honest it could have been talk radio, I loved to dance," Jeremy said.

His upcoming CD, "Leaving Portugal" is due out in March. This demo is part of a package Jeremy recorded this past year. This five song debut was composed and recorded three years ago in Toronto at "Art First Studios." Jeremy plans to do his own production from now on unless he receives offers to work alongside other artists, which is always something Jeremy says he is open to and has done in the past.

Jeremy has performed in clubs in the city of Toronto in the last year, including The Horseshoe, Cameron House, Rivoli, The 360, and assorted coffee houses. Out of all the performances this year, Jeremy says The Crown and Dragon has been the place of the year for him personally. "I played this place six times, right on Yonge and Bloor. What a gig! Three hour sets, great atmosphere! Longer sets gave me time to really listen to myself too, and observe the audience," Jeremy said.



You can pick up a copy of Jeremy Panda's new CD demo at Shoppers Drug mart located at the Carriage Square shopping center on Main Street or email Jeremy at jwpanda@hotmail.com.

film review

By LAURA COOK

Hitch



Photo © Copyright Columbia Pictures

Despite its high predictability, *Hitch* turned out to be a hit this weekend grossing over forty three million dollars in less than a week. Columbia Pictures film *Hitch* stars Will Smith as the reputable New York "date doctor" who anonymously helps men to land their dream girls. Although the trailers pretty much give away all of the funny parts, this film is definitely a combination genre of romance and comedy as the date doctor himself eventually ends up falling in love.

Alex "Hitch" Hitchens is a legendary character around New York City, though few have actually met him. When Hitch meets his newest client Albert, played by Kevin James, he takes on his biggest challenge yet. Though Albert seems to be a nice fellow, he is hilariously horrible with the fairer sex. Crushing on a glamorous celebrity named Allegra Cole, Hitch coaches Albert into becoming a smooth gentleman who wins her heart.

While coaching Albert, Hitch also meets his own match with the smart and sassy local gossip columnist who follows Allegra's every step. Played by Eva Mendes, Sara Melas is every man's nightmare. Gorgeous with a whole lot of attitude, Sara makes Hitch work hard to get her to agree upon a date. Showing his "professional" knowledge of the dating world, Hitch pulls out all the stops to impress Sara and the audience.

Although the film is predictable at times, the hilarious bits of comedy that find their way into scenes throughout the storyline make it a hit. A combination of comedy and romance is a simple way of describing this film that is more about human nature and the battle between the sexes than anything else. With an MPAA rating of PG-13, for language and some strong sexual references, this is a hilarious film that is sure to impress male and female audiences alike.

Movie Etiquette: A list of guidelines

You're sitting in a theatre all nestled into your seat and ready for the impending film. Your popcorn bowl is full and the movie begins when all of a sudden, the person beside you gets a call on their cellular phone. And it isn't just any old ring either; it's an irritating downloadable ring tone that sounds like the latest rap song magnified a thousand times by the quiet environment. After going to see *Spanglish* a few weeks ago, it became apparent to me that a little movie going etiquette was necessary in order to vent my frustrations with the general public at the movies. So, here are a few rules to keep in mind when going to the theatre. They will make your experience and the experiences of those around you a whole lot more enjoyable!

Turn Off Those Cell Phones!!!

This includes all forms of wireless communication: Cell phones, pagers, text-messaging tools, Blackberrys, etc. While the vibrate mode is acceptable in most theatres, your neighbours will still find it irritating if you have to keep getting up to take calls or answer pages. Unless your communication is life threatening or your job absolutely requires you to have it on, TURN IT OFF! If you need to be reached while you're in the theatre, maybe you shouldn't be there in the first place!

Respect MPAA ratings

Do not bring your six year old to a film that is rated R just because you cannot get a babysitter. When your child leaves the theatre using all sorts of new expletives you might realize why the rating is put in place.

Take responsibility and go to a more appropriate show or go another night when little Johnny or Suzy can go to a babysitter.

Use Your Manners!

When you're going up to grab your snack for the movie, don't forget to say please and thank you. Most of the employees work late hours at theatres so be patient.

If your particular movie of choice is sold out, please don't yell at the ticket cashier. They cannot manufacture more seating! Next time arrive earlier or buy your tickets in advance.

Arrive On Time

So you don't like watching previews - no big deal. But stepping over half of a row of people to get into that middle seat just isn't polite! Smashing people's toes, getting in the way of their view and spilling food is not the way to win over fellow audience members when you need to find a place to sit in the theatre. Instead, try finding an aisle seat or merely say excuse me as you pass by. Manners go a long way!

Don't talk

Now this rule may seem like common sense but I cannot count the number of times I've gone to see a movie and instead heard the entire life story of the person behind me. If you have to talk a little during the film, make sure to whisper. Making ongoing comments throughout the film however is frustrating to those around you who actually want to hear the film and not you. This rule is especially important if you are seeing the film for the second time. Please do not ruin the film by narrating what is about to happen to your neighbor. They may not mind but the rest of the audience can usually hear you and do not want to waste their ten dollars!

Bathroom Trips

If you absolutely have to go use the restroom in the middle of the film, be sure and say excuse me as you pass by your neighbour. If you're a regular offender, be sure and sit on the aisle where it's more convenient to get up and down out of your seat.

Cups and Wrappers

This is simple, pick them up and put them into the garbage! Nobody wants to step in your half finished bag of popcorn or crunch over a discarded chocolate bar wrapper as they move through the aisles. Common courtesy and a respect for the workers who have to clean the theatre after every show means picking up your mess.

Babies

While babies are cute and can be well behaved, theatres now cater to new parents and their tots. "Stars and Strollers" at Cineplex Odeon is one example of this new service offered by movie theatres. The films are all new releases, however, they are played at a softer volume level and audiences consist of other parents. Taking your screaming child out of a movie played at other prime times is disruptive to the audience but also embarrassing to the parent. Do everyone a favour and take advantage of these new services or hire a babysitter for the evening.

While this list is not all encompassing, it does address most of the issues people have when going to see a film. If you are going to see a movie, try using common sense and being respectful of other audience members, and above all else, do not forget the popcorn!

Top 10 Rentals

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES AT HOME

This week's Top Ten Movie Rentals brought to you by



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|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. I Huckabees | 6. Taxi |
| 2. Saw | 7. Shark Tale |
| 3. The Notebook | 8. The Grudge |
| 4. Ray | 9. Cellular |
| 5. Shall We Dance | 10. The Forgotten |

New Release I Heart Huckabees

Cast: Jason Schwartzman, Isabelle Huppert, Dustin Hoffman, Lily Tomlin, Jude Law, Mark Wahlberg, Naomi Watts, Angela Grillo, Ger Duany

Plot Outline: Albert Markovski, head of the Open Spaces Coalition, has been experiencing an alarming series of coincidences the meaning of which escapes him. With the help of two Existential Detectives, Bernard and ...