

Starlight Cinema Presents

On Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. Starlight Cinema at Nineteen on the Park presents *To Rome With Love*, Woody Allen's romantic comedy, set in one of the world's most enchanting cities.

The film introduces us to a well-known American architect reliving his youth, an average middle-class Roman who suddenly finds himself the city's biggest celebrity, a young provincial couple drawn into separate romantic encounters, and an American opera director endeavouring to put a singing mortician on stage. The stellar cast includes Allen, Alec Baldwin, Penelope Cruz, Judy Davis, Ellen Page and Greta Gerwig.

Denver Post critic Ricardo Baca writes, "Woody Allen continues his love affair with Europe's great metropolises via his latest, *To Rome With Love*. And like his last film, 2011's successful *Midnight in Paris*, this playful, seductive exercise in head-over-heels romance, overnight fame and unexplained time travel is a rewarding, entertaining confection."

Farewell, My Queen, which will be screened Feb. 27 at 7 p.m., is set on the eve of the French Revolution in 1789. The film brilliantly captures the passions, debauchery, occasional glimpses of nobility and ultimately the

chaos that engulfed the court of Marie Antoinette in the final days before the full-scale outbreak of the Revolution.

"History doesn't let us feel much sympathy for Marie Antoinette," writes McClatchy-Tribune News Service critic Roger Moore. "But *Farewell, My Queen* almost has us rooting for her and those who love her by its finale."

Friend of Starlight Cinema passes are available for \$100 and include admission to all regular season presentations for one year. Annual memberships are \$12 and allow you to buy individual tickets for \$5 per screening. Single tickets are \$7.50 at the door on the night of the screening.

Starlight Cinema, which is part of the Toronto International Film Festival Film Circuit, is proudly sponsored by the Stouffville Free

Press. For more information, and to watch trailers of upcoming movies, visit www.nineteenonthePark.ca or call the box office at 905-640-2322.

If you would like to receive regular reminders of upcoming movies, send an email to stouffvillefreepress@rogers.com.



Keeping It Real

By Catherine Sword

It comes as no surprise that the life of a librarian involves questions. The live spider to identify, what classic Victorian novel could I recommend to compare to Anne Rice's *Interview with a Vampire*, and even how to tie a bowtie.

My favourite question came up a couple of years ago when a person asked me point blank, "Are you real?"

It took me by surprise, but let me put it into context for you. It happened during one after school hour when I was doing my stint on AskON. This is a live chat-based research help service available through many public libraries in Ontario.

So far, it's mostly students who have discovered the service. Guess they're the most comfortable with this way of communicating, but it's by no means limited to them. It's like walking into the library and asking the librarian at the information desk for help on almost any topic. AskON just happens to be over the internet.

So you can appreciate why a young student, typing in a request for help on her school project and receiving mysterious links to databases or websites, may then begin to wonder. Who's doing this? Is it the computer? Or is there a live person typing back? I assure you, there is.

It's easy for anyone to ask questions remotely. At our library website, click on the yellow and blue AskON link at the bottom of the page. It's perfect for those questions you need to ask when you're not handy to the physical library.

Unfortunately, it's not a 24 hour service. Librarians across the province are joining in to provide this service for all Ontarians for a few hours each day. Our shift on the AskON desk is busy, so do be patient with the person behind the machine. Often we're juggling multiple questions at the same time.

Queries must be of a research nature, or involve a quick reference request such as, "Where do I find a biography on John A. Macdonald?" No personal questions.

Although I do admit that for that question I mentioned at the beginning of the column, I did answer. Yes. I am real.

Catherine Sword is co-ordinator of public services at Whitchurch-Stouffville Library.

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