

Harry Potter Sequel Casts its Universal Spell

By Veronica Velasquez
Staff Writer

It was last year when "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" hit the big screen and the excitement for the second film, "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets", is still going strong.

Harry is more popular now than ever. Many who have recently discovered the book series by J.K. Rowling have joined the Harry Potter army.

On opening day, the throngs of moviegoers outside the theatre clearly illustrated this, as fans sat happily on the floor outside for every sold-out showing. Teens, grandparents, toddlers, parents, single people were all in attendance.

While standing in line an announcement that was made every 30 minutes made it clear: "There are no more tickets for Harry Potter. It is completely sold out." It had been so for weeks.

The sequel, starring Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, Robbie Coltrane, Kenneth Branagh, and the late Richard Harris, took everyone's breath away.

It could have been a bloated, lumbering, 3-hour ordeal, but it wasn't. This movie had action.

Although parents of very young children may beg to differ, there were no signs of crying, fidgeting little ones at the Nov. 15 premiere.

There probably were, however, quite a few nightmares starring Aragog, the incredibly frightening spider who is roughly the size of a compact car.

"The spider was really scary," said 11-year-old Marie with a shiver. She described embarrassingly clinging to her mother in a death grip with her eyes screwed shut.

Even though Harry Potter is

the most popular children's hero around, this movie does not feature gentle characters in a safe, make-believe haven. The effects are intense, and there are some disturbing scenes, such as Dobby the house-elf being physically abused by his master, Lucius Malfoy.

Since Harry is now 12 years old, the action has been stepped up to a degree that would thrill and probably frighten some 12-year-olds.

Still, the kids couldn't be kept away. Despite the creepy parts, "Chamber of Secrets" has lived up to its usual charm. The film

followed the book with a perfectionist's accuracy, cramming in as much of the lengthy novel as it could into two hours and 40 minutes, making the length the most daunting part for weary parents.

"My favorite part was where Ron saw Hermione come back to life, and he was all excited because they like each other," said Marie.

Yes, there is romance too, but nothing to cover your eyes over. Nobody even gets kissed, if there had been, the resounding "Eeew!" from the underage audience would have been deafening.

While much of the colorful parts from the book had to be left out (most likely in the interest of producing a movie that wouldn't bankrupt its producers), the most important scenes were there to tell a lavish tale of a boy and his broomstick.

Chris Columbus, who directed the first movie as well, did a fine job of indulging the imagination

of Rowling. Fine attention to detail of this mythical adventure has given it a sense of reality on how people may behave if magic did exist.

The story line runs smoothly through set after set, telling the story accurately, so that even those who haven't read the books can follow along. The characters are visibly more mature,

their acting capabilities stretching as tall as they are getting to be.

Since the film has grossed over \$200 million since its opening night, maybe there is magic after all. The magic of Hollywood.

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12:20 2:20 4:30 7:00 9:15

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12:30 3:40 7:00 10:10

Solaris (PG-13)
12:00 2:30 5:05 7:20 10:00

Analyze That (R)
12:10 2:25 5:00 7:25 10:05

Treasure Planet (PG)
12:00 2:15 5:00 7:15 9:30

They (PG-13)
12:45 3:00 5:20 7:30 9:40

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Analyze That (R)
1:00 2:30 3:20 4:50 5:40 7:10
8:00 9:30 10:25

Empire (R.)
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:35 10:00

Equilibrium (R.)
11:30 2:00 4:40 7:20 9:50

Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG)
11:15 12:00 3:30 7:00 10:30

Die Another Day (PG-13)
1:20 4:30 5:15 7:30 10:30

The Santa Clause 2 (G.)
11:25 1:55 4:35 7:15 9:40

Treasure Planet (R,NP)
12:55 1:35 3:15 3:50 5:35 6:00 7:55 10:10

Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Night (PG-13)
11:45 1:45 3:55 6:00 8:10 10:20

Friday After Next (R)
11:20 1:30 3:40 5:45 7:50 10:15

Solaris (PG-13)
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:35 9:55

They (PG-13)
1:10 3:25 5:50 8:05 10:15

The Ring (PG-13)
11:45 2:25 5:10 7:50 10:25

Half Past Dead (PG-13,NP)
12:10 2:40 5:00 7:10 9:45

8 Mile (PG-13) P.M.
12:05 2:35 10:30

8 Mile (R,NP)
12:05 2:35 8:00 10:30

Union City

Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG,NP)
11:15 12:00 12:45 2:40 3:25 4:20
7:00 8:00 10:25 11:25

Die Another Day (PG-13)
11:40 1:30 2:35 4:30 5:30 7:25
8:25 9:30 10:05 10:30 11:15

The Santa Clause 2 (G.)
11:15 1:40 4:15 7:00 9:40

Treasure Planet (PG,NP)
11:30 12:10 12:50 1:20 1:45 2:25
3:05 3:45 4:10 4:50 6:00 6:45
7:10 9:05 11:20

Sneak Preview - Friday 12/6
7:45 The Hot Chick (PG-13)

Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Nights (PG-13,NP)
11:20 1:25 3:20 5:20 7:30 8:35
9:35 10:35

Sneak Preview -Saturday 12/7
7:30 Maid in Manhattan (PG-13)

Friday After Next (R.)
11:35 1:35 3:40 5:50 7:55
10:05 12:05

Solaris (PG-13)
11:25 12:25 2:50 5:15 7:35
9:55 10:40 12:15

8 Mile (R)
11:40 2:20 4:55 7:30 10:15

Wes Craven Presents: They (PG-13,NP)
1:15 3:35 5:45 8:10 10:35

The Ring (PG-13)
11:20 1:55 4:40 7:20 10:00

My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG.)
11:35 2:00

Frida (R.)
11:25 2:15 5:00 7:55 10:40

Extreme Ops (PG-13)
7:15 9:50 12:00

Half Past Dead (R.)
2:20 4:45 7:05

The Crime of Padre Amaro (R.)
11:15 1:50 4:25 7:05 9:45 12:15

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8:00 9:30 10:20

Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG,NP)
1:45

Harry Potter And The Chamber Of Secrets (PG,NP)
12:00 3:30 5:30 7:45 10:10

The Santa Clause 2 (G)
12:40 3:00 5:30 7:45 10:10

Adam Sandler's 8 Crazy Nights (PG-13)(Fri., Sun-Thur)
11:30 1:30 3:30 5:30 7:30 9:35
Sat.-11:30 1:30 3:30 5:30 10:00
Sneak Preview- Sat 12/7
Maid in Manhattan-7:30

The Friday After Next (R,NP)
11:40 1:40 3:50 5:50 7:50 10:05

Big Fat Greek Wedding (R.)
2:35 4:50 7:10

Frieda (R.)
11:35 2:15 5:05 7:40 10:25

Extreme Ops (PG-13)
12:20 9:45

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12:30 2:50 5:15 7:45 10:15

Die Another Day (PG-13,NP)
1:30 4:30 7:30 10:30

Treasure Planet (PG,NP)
11:40 2:00 4:20 6:40

Treasure Planet (PG,NP)
12:50 3:10 5:30 7:50 10:05

Solaris (R,NP)
12:10 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:30

Wes Craven Presents: They (PG-13 NP) P.M.
1:10 3:30 5:40 8:00 10:10

The Ring (PG-13)
11:30 2:15 4:50 7:25 10:00

The Emperor's Club (PG-13)
9:00

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Analyze That (R,NP)
12:20 1:05 2:45 3:30 4:25 5:10
5:55 6:50 7:35 8:20 9:15 10:00
10:45 11:35

Empire (R., NP)
11:45 12:30 2:15 2:55 4:35 5:20
6:55 7:45 9:25 10:10 11:45

Equilibrium (R,NP)
11:55 2:30 5:05 7:40 10:20