

## Iron Man 2 and Adopt a Sailor

Reviews by Andrew Henry and Tom Sims

With the release of "Iron Man 2, crowds of moviegoers anticipating this year's summer blockbusters started heading toward theaters. And obviously Hollywood Henry was there with a bucket of popcorn in hand.

The film finds our hero Tony Stark, aka Iron Man, letting his ego run amok as the world worships him. Unlike other superhero films, there is no secret identity factor; everyone knows Tony Stark is Iron Man. The public may love him, but the United States government is eager to get their hands on the technology Stark has developed. Throw into the mix a rival businessman trying to best Stark at his own game, as well as the son of a former Stark employee trying to avenge his father's death, and Iron Man is kept very busy.

Robert Downey Jr. leads the film as Stark, and the role seems tailor-made to his style. His portrayal is sharp, sarcastic, and has a playful quality that permeates through the entire film. Gwyneth Paltrow also returns as Pepper Potts, Stark's budding love interest and eventual business partner. Out of the new additions to the cast (which include Mickey Rourke and Scarlett Johansson), my favorite player was Sam Rockwell. He portrays Justin Hammer, the rival businessman who may be on the same level financially as Stark, but certainly not as smooth (as shown through a hilarious bumbling presentation of his work).

Overall, the film is very well done. Maybe a half-step below the first one, which I would attribute to the first film's surprises and introductions to this clever world the creative team has built. But if Iron Man 2 is our introduction to the summer films of 2010, we should be in for some quality entertainment.

"Adopt a Sailor" review by Sundance Sims: This film (not "movie"—inside joke to those who saw it) played to an enthused crowd last week at Cape May Stage. It stars Bebe Neuwirth (of "Cheers" and "Fraser" fame), noted TV and film actor Peter Coyote, and relative newcomer Ethan Peck (grandson of Gregory Peck). Neuwirth and Coyote play a sophisticated Manhattan couple who sign up for the Adopt a Sailor program whereby they host Peck for an evening.

Charles Evered (who also wrote the play "Class" currently at Cape May Stage) delivers wonderfully written dialogue. And the cast delivers as well (Peck has that great baritone voice he no doubt inherited from his grandfather). Look for this film wherever you get your flick fix!

Lastly, join us for the New Jersey Premiere of "Dust and Illusions: the history of Burning Man" hosted by Cape May Film Festival at Cape May Stage, Bank & Lafayette Streets. Sunday, May 30, 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. Call 609-884-6700.