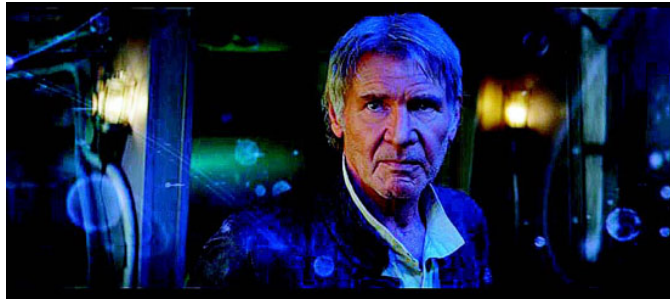


Published December 16th, 2015

May the Force Be With You

By Derek Zemrak



"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is the most highly anticipated movie in years. Presale tickets have been breaking records all over the world and the secrets around the movie have only increased the excitement for Star Wars fans. The only thing fans know is from the trailers released by Disney, which now owns the rights to Star Wars. Disney purchased LucasFilm for \$4 billion in 2012, which included the legendary Star Wars franchise. LucasFilm was 100 percent owned by George Lucas. Three of the original cast members are reprising their roles, which include Carrie Fisher as Princess Leia, Mark Hamill as Luke Skywalker, and Harrison Ford as Han Solo. How much are they in the movie? We will all just have to wait and see.

The belief synopsis Disney released is "Thirty years after defeating the Galactic Empire, Han Solo (Harrison Ford) and his allies face a new threat

Images provided

from the evil Kylo Ren (Adam Driver) and his army of Stormtroopers."

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" is directed by J.J. Abrams, who may be best known for producing and writing the popular television show "Lost," but his movie directing credits are also quite impressive: "Mission Impossible III" (2006), "Star Trek" (2009), "Super 8" (2011) and "Mission Impossible - Rogue Nation" (2015). Abrams gave new life to the Star Trek movie franchise and has given moviegoers several exciting films over the past 10 years. As a fan of the Star Wars films, Abrams is the perfect director to revitalize the series that Lucas started in 1977.

So when can you see "Star Wars: The Force Awakens"? The Orinda Theatre is having an early showing at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. The theater is expecting a sellout, with over 550 tickets sold as of Dec. 10. The lines will be wrapped around Theatre Square so it is recommended that people purchase their tickets online at www.lamorindatheatres.com.

"Star Wars: The Force Awakens" opens nationwide on Dec. 18 and is rated PG-13 with a TRT (Total Running Time) of 2 hours and 15 minutes.



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