

teen Tribute

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Exclusive interview
with **The Host** star

Saoirse Ronan

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Talks To

Saoirse RONAN

She plays an alien and a human who share the same body in *The Host*.

SAOIRSE RONAN is a force to be reckoned with. At just 18, she already has an Oscar nomination for her performance in *Atonement* and a string of leading roles that have garnered her both critical acclaim and a loyal fan base.

Saoirse (pronounced Seersha, which means “freedom” in Irish) is currently starring in *The Host*, based on the bestselling novel written by Stephanie Meyer, the acclaimed author of the *Twilight* books.

by BONNIE LAUFER KREBS

Saoirse Ronan and
Max Irons

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■ **What was it about *The Host* that got you on board?**

Stephanie had an awful lot to do with me taking on the film. She was in London working on another film and came over to Dublin to see me to talk to me about the script and to see if I would be interested. I just found the whole concept of a body being taken over by an alien soul to rid us of all of the bad in us quite fascinating. I knew that it was going to be something I could really sink my teeth into.

■ **Is it beneficial to read the books for more insight into your character?**

I read the book and I am glad I did, because I was genuinely interested in finding how my character developed and where the story was going to go and if in fact I could offer any suggestions once it came to taking on the role.

■ **You play Melanie and also Wanda, the alien soul that inhabits her body.**

It was fun playing both of these characters. There is an inner conflict going on between them, so to tackle the dialogue between Melanie and Wanda I wore an earpiece. Initially I thought it would be weird because we pre-recorded all the dialogue that Melanie hears in her head throughout the film. I actually got used to hearing myself and was able to react to it quite easily. It was still challenging but there weren't as many hurdles to jump over as I initially thought there might be.

■ **Do you think that might be because the characters are so different?**

Oh yes, absolutely. One is an alien and she's sort of a perfect being. She doesn't feel any negative emotion at all, no hatred and doesn't flare up at all. Melanie is quite a spitfire. She's mouthy and she challenges people and she steals things and is always on the run. So it was quite fun getting to play two such opposite characters and it wasn't difficult separating them.

■ **Was it hard to sympathize with Wanda?**

No, it wasn't at all. She has taken over Melanie's body but she doesn't know any better. Generally souls are beautiful creatures that make the world, in their eyes, a better place. I really loved her and couldn't blame her for anything that happened.

■ **Did you get to do your own stunts?**

Yes, I insisted on doing as much as I could myself. Also, when you are able to do your own stunts and it's not life threatening, it's so much better because it means the camera can actually stay on you and you don't have to cut away to a stunt person. It looks so much more realistic and I have to say not only is it satisfying but it's pretty exhilarating!

■ **Because you're playing two girls, you get two different love interests.**

I know, right? We were calling it a love square on set. Firstly, Max Irons was just lovely to work with. We got on really well and we actually knew each other before we



Jake Abel and Saoirse Ronan



started shooting the movie. When we started shooting this, we were very comfortable with each other right from the beginning. His mom is Irish so we're very similar in our sense of humour, so for us being able to get along so well it made shooting many of our scenes (especially the romantic ones) that much easier to do.

■ **Then there is Jake Abel who plays Ian.**

He's great actually and what was really wonderful about him was that he was in *The Lovely Bones* with me a few years ago, so we already had a history and a friendship. I love Jake, he is brilliant, and he made me laugh a lot and I loved hanging out with him on set.

■ **You're Irish but you have the American accent down pat.**

I grew up watching American movies and television shows, so I'm sure that helps me when I have to play an American girl. I find it the same when I have to play Aussie or Kiwi or Scottish. I have been exposed to their cultures and people so it really helps when I have those sounds in my brain.

■ **Despite achieving fame at such a young age, how do you stay so grounded?**

My parents. My mum is pretty amazing, she's very grounded and has always come on set with me from the very beginning, so I think that would have an awful lot to do with that. Also, I'm Irish, I live in Ireland and I'm not the kind of person who gets excited about fame or that side of it; I just love doing what I do. I don't want to get a big head or carried away with all that sort of stuff. I just love to work and I feel so incredibly blessed that I get to meet so many new people who have enriched my life in ways I could never explain. **tt**

"I'm not the kind of person who gets excited by fame"

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Taylor Swift has tons of fun in a shopping cart while filming her new music video, *22*.



Hilarious actress Rebel Wilson, who was so funny in *Pitch Perfect*, looks cold on the Los Angeles set of her newest film, *Super Fun Night*.



Zac Efron and Imogen Poots were captured holding hands while filming their new flick *Are We Officially Dating?*

YOUNG HOLLYWOOD ON SET



Liam Hemsworth looking snazzy and extra professional while on set for *Paranoia*.



Emmy Rossum and the crew of *You're Not You* had fun sharing the set with these cute dogs running around.

Photos: KeystoneCanada

ABIGAIL BRESLIN

describes
being kidnapped
in *The Call*

by BONNIE LAUFER KREBS

ABIGAIL BRESLIN may be only 16 but she's been working since age three, first in commercials and then making her movie debut as Mel Gibson's daughter in *Signs* (2002). She was nominated for an Oscar at 10 for her performance in *Little Miss Sunshine*. Three years ago, she made her Broadway debut playing Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*.

■ **Kidnapping has to be one of the scariest premises.**

Yeah, it is. When I first read the script before I met with [director] Brad Anderson, it was such a page turner and my heart was pounding. I couldn't put it down and my initial feeling was if this gets made into a movie, it will be a pretty crazy ride to see on the big screen.

■ **What can you tell us about the movie?**

I play Casey, a teenage girl who's at the mall with her best friend and she gets kidnapped in the parking lot and is put into the trunk of this guy's car. She wakes up completely disoriented and has no idea where she is. She finds her friend's prepaid cell phone in her pocket and dials 911. The first operator who answers is a trainee and doesn't know what to do because the phone has no GPS and you can't track where the call is coming from. That's when Halle Berry's character steps in. She's a former 911 operator who is now training people and takes over the call.

■ **How did you manage to stay calm being in that trunk?**

They said we're going to put you in and we're going to be driving for about two minutes and then we will stop and let you out. I don't have claustrophobia so I wasn't worried about it. But when they closed the trunk, it was scary. It was pitch

black and I couldn't see anything. It totally throws you off and it is terrifying. The other thing was, I started thinking about all the things that could possibly go wrong, like what if I suffocate? What if they forget I'm in here?

■ **Did you get to spend much time with Halle Berry?**

No, Halle and I are barely in the same scenes together other than just being on the phone. They had it set up when I was in the trunk so I could listen to Halle talking. She would talk to me through a microphone so it was as if we really were communicating back and forth with each other. She was very sweet and so amazing to work with.

■ **You have several movies coming up, but one big one is *Ender's Game*.**

It was really fun working on that movie. I loved working with Asa Butterfield. It's fun to meet people and when they ask, "What have you been working on?" and when I say *Ender's Game*, they freak out. A lot of people love my character Valentine and they say, "I wish I had a sister like her." She's a much-loved character from the book so I hope that I did her justice to the fans out there. **tt**

Photo: KeystoneCanada

FROM BESTSELLING AUTHOR
CASSANDRA CLARE

Before *The Mortal Instruments*,
there were *The Infernal Devices*.

clockworkprincess.ca



Don't miss *The Mortal Instruments: City of Bones*.
In theatres August 23, 2013.





Revolution

SCARY MOVIE 5

April 12, Comedy
Ashley Tisdale, Simon Rex, Charlie Sheen, Lindsay Lohan
 When happily married couple Dan (Rex) and Jody (Tisdale) bring their newborn son home from the hospital strange things start to happen, so they set up home-surveillance cameras.

Buzz: *Scary Movie 5* is the first film in the franchise that does not feature any of the main characters from the previous films.



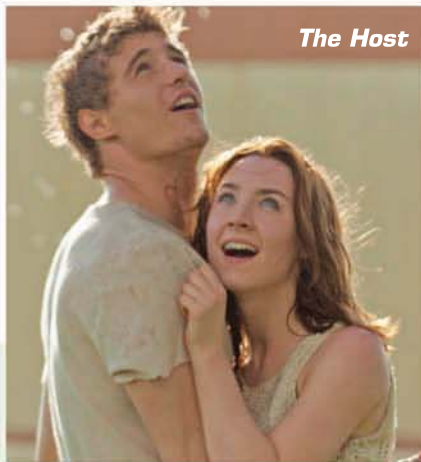
Scary Movie 5

THE HOST

March 29, Thriller
Saoirse Ronan, Jake Abel, Max Irons, William Hurt

The world has been invaded by aliens who take over human bodies. When an alien named Wanda (Ronan) is inserted into a young woman's body, she's shocked to find she's sharing it with the former occupant.

Buzz: In the novel by *Twilight* author Stephenie Meyer, Melanie is 17 and Jared is 26. The actors playing the roles were exactly the same ages during filming.



The Host

REVOLUTION

April 12, Documentary
Rob Stewart

Rob Stewart, whose award-winning documentary *Sharkwater* changed many people's perception of sharks, now goes on a journey of discovery to find what is threatening not only our oceans, but the air we breathe.

Buzz: *Revolution* won the Most Popular Environmental Film Award at the Vancouver International Film Festival and Best Documentary at the Atlantic Film Festival. It was also a Best Documentary runner-up at the Toronto International Film Festival, as well as being the highest-rated Canadian documentary.

HOT Flicks

EPIC

May 24, Action
Beyoncé Knowles, Colin Farrell, Josh Hutcherson, Amanda Seyfried
 When her father goes missing in the woods, a little girl (Amanda Seyfried) goes searching for him. While searching, she's suddenly shrunk down in size and finds a group of little creatures.

Buzz: This movie is based on author William Joyce's book, *The Leaf Men*. The heroine, Mary Katherine, is named after his late daughter. **tt**

SPRING BREAKERS

March 29, Comedy
James Franco, Selena Gomez, Ashley Benson, Vanessa Hudgens

Four college girls on spring break find themselves in jail after they rob a fast food restaurant to fund their vacation. They're bailed out by a drug and arms dealer (Franco) who gets them to work for him.

Buzz: Originally there was speculation that Franco's character was based on rap artist Riff Raff, but Franco told *GQ* last year that he's based on an underground rap artist named Dangerous.



Spring Breakers

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