EVENTS

Anton Yelchin leaves a treasure trove of film work

BY JUSTIN CHANG
LOS ANGELES TIMES (TNS)

Anton Yelchin made a brilliant impression from the beginning.

One of his earliest films was Scott Hicks' 2001 drama "Hearts in Atlantis," in which he played Bobby, an 11-year-old boy who spends a fateful 1960 summer with a mysterious older neighbor who introduces him to a world of grown-up wisdom and — this being a Stephen King adaptation — eerie psychic phenomena. The film could be at times stickily sentimental, at times stirringly so, but Yelchin was a natural, evincing a warm, captivating chemistry with his veteran co-star Anthony Hopkins and charmingly carrying a memorable scene on a Ferris wheel, where Bobby kisses a girl for the first time.

I'm loath to quote myself, but I'll make an exception for "Hearts in Atlantis," which was one of the first movies I wrote about as a college film reviewer for USC's Daily Trojan and from which I singled out Yelchin's performance as "wonderfully engaging." That was fairly stock praise coming from someone rather less skilled at his new craft than Yelchin was, but it remains an entirely accurate description of his effect on audiences over the course of his tragically shortened career.

Years after "Hearts in Atlantis," Yelchin had another major film role in Nick Cassavetes' "Alpha Dog," a feverish true-crime saga inspired by the misdeeds of the notorious L.A. drug dealer Jesse James Hollywood, serving time for the 2000 kidnapping and murder of 15-year-old Nicholas Markowitz. Yelchin played a fictional version of Markowitz named Zack, and against the film's exuberantly sordid wasted-youth backdrop he struck a wrenching chord of innocence and humanity — a good kid along for the ride, sadly unaware of what was about to happen to him until it was far too late.

Inside
Fiat Chrysler to investigate accident that killed actor
Page C7

That air of boyish naivete never fully left Yelchin, though it was a measure of his versatility that he so adeptly turned it to his advantage — and at times subverted it — onscreen. The character for whom he will be remembered most broadly is, of course, Pavel Chekov in the rebooted "Star Trek" franchise.

That Yelchin was himself Russian by birth could be guessed from Chekov's impeccable accent, though genetics alone couldn't account for the spirited intelligence the actor invested in this excitable space prodigy, racing frantically down corridors to beam his colleagues up at the last minute.

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Anton Yelchin attends the 'Burying the Ex' premiere at the 71nd Venice International Film Festival in 2014 in Venice, Italy. Yelchin died on Sunday in a car accident. He was 27.

It wasn't the only time Yelchin would embody a fresh new face in a famous Hollywood franchise. If you remember "Terminator Salvation," you probably remember him as an unusually intense update of Kyle Reese, the future father of John Connor and a resurgent new wave of humanity. And if you didn't immediately recognize Yelchin as the accident-prone Clumsy Smurf in the two live-action movies adapted from that cartoon franchise, his identity became clear not long after he opened his computer-generated mouth.

But for those who haven't seen much of Yelchin beyond the multiplex, he leaves behind a treasure trove of vivid character work. He and Felicity Jones made a winsome couple navigating the pitfalls of first love in Drake Doremus' heartfelt 2011 Sundance Film Festival prizewinner, "Like Crazy."

Before that, he and Robert Downey Jr. formed a combustible comedic duo in the little-seen "Charlie Bartlett," which also reunited him onscreen with his "Hearts in Atlantis" mom, Hope Davis, this time in a happier, loopier mother-son pairing. And in Jim Jarmusch's marvelous "Only Lovers Left Alive," Yelchin had a brief but memorable role as a rock 'n' roller named Ian, who meets an untimely end at the fangs of a thirsty female vampire (Mia Wasikowska). (He's immortalized in perhaps the film's funniest line: "You drank Ian.")

Few moviegoers saw "Dying of the Light" (2014), Paul Schrader's fascinating wreck of a thriller starring Nicolas Cage as a rogue CIA operative. But none of the headaches and compromises of that picture's embattled production history were enough to quell the warmth and pluck of Yelchin's performance as Cage's loyal protege, Milton, in which the actor did something with the lower register of his voice that I'd never heard before: Raspy and loquacious, he suddenly seemed a very old man in a very young body, an agency functionary suddenly imbued with a surfeit of soul.

Yelchin leaves behind projects in various stages of completion, including "Star Trek Beyond" (due out on July 22), the Jarmusch-produced, Portugal-set romance "Porto Mon Amour" and Guillermo del Toro's animated Netflix series "Trollhunters."

The last time I saw him onscreen — and, incidentally, in person — was in April, at the L.A. premiere of Jeremy Saulnier's spectacularly grisly backwoods horror-thriller "Green Room." So good at playing oddballs and misfits of every stripe, Yelchin was thoroughly in his element as Pat, a bassist in a scrappy punk band that finds itself besieged by murderous neo-Nazis in rural Oregon.

Backed into a corner with machete-wielding skinheads clawing at the door, Pat is the recipient of one of the film's first major acts of brutality — he nearly loses an arm — and its signature moment of revelation.

Flashing back to a childhood experience playing paintball and being similarly on the ropes, he realizes that in confronting his attackers, nothing less than all-out anarchy — the very spirit of the art that he knows and loves — will ensure his survival.

That defiant rage-against-the-machine sensibility wasn't all that Anton Yelchin and his screen work represented, but it is hardly the worst way to remember him: Possessed of a brilliant punk sensibility in a world that too often prefers American idols, he was a singular voice silenced terribly soon.

Things to Do

BANGOR — Bangor Band concert, 7 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, Bangor Waterfront. Bring chairs or blankets for seating. Free. Donations accepted. In case of rain, concert will be at Peakes Auditorium, Bangor High School. bangorband.org.

BANGOR — Ron Chase discussing his novel "The Great Mars Hill Bank Robbery," 6 p.m. Wednesday, June 22. Bangor Public Library. Free. bangorpubliclibrary.org.

BANGOR — Peter Neill, author of "The Once and Future Ocean," discussing why the ocean matters, 6 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Bangor Public Library. bangorpubliclibrary.org.

BAR HARBOR — Abbe Museum Educator and Passamaquoddy George Neptune walking tour to visit places significant to Wabanaki history and culture, including information on local Wabanaki placenames, traditional songs and creation stories, 10-11:30 a.m. Friday, June 24, meeting at the museum, 26 Mount Desert St. $10 for members; $20 for nonmembers; free for under age 10. To buy tickets, 288-3519.

BLUE HILL — Herbalist Stephanie Tourles of Orland, author of "Naturally Bug-Free: Learn how to Protect Your Family and Pets," talking about creating chemical-free bug repellents for people, flea and tick repellents for dogs and cats, and chemical-free insecticides for the home, 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Blue Hill Public Library. Free and open to all. 374-5515.

BREWER — Bangor Singles Club dances, 8 p.m.-midnight Fridays, Brewer Eagles Club, 22 Atlantic Ave.: Steve and the Good Old Boys, June 24. Marilyn, 827-5751.

CAMDEN — Author Cheryl Kerr talking about her novel, "See Ya," 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, Camden Public Library, 55 Main St. 236-3440.

CAMDEN — Illustrated talk with Anne O'Regan, who traveled through California, Oregon and Washington, completing a thru-hike five months later in Manning Park, Canada, 7-8 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Camden Public Library, 55 Main St. 236-3440.

CARMEL — Adult coloring event with tips on materials to use, 6 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Simpson Memorial Library, 8 Plymouth Road. Participants may bring their own color pages and materials, or use the library's color pages and color pencils. 848-7145.

DEER ISLE — "Imaging the Sea" exhibit featuring photographs taken by members of Deer Isle's fishing community, through July 17, Kingman Gallery, 117 Center District Crossroad. Benefits Island Fishermen's Wives Association. Gallery hours, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1-5 p.m. Sunday. 348-9333.

EASTPORT — The Eastport Moonlight Movies, 8 p.m. Fridays, Sutherland Amphitheater, 80 Water St.: June 24, "Penguins of Madagascar." 214-0040 or lolly@sweetiesdowneast.com.

EASTPORT — Eastport Strings Summer Intensive program, Music from Bach to the Beatles, 3-6 p.m. through Thursday, June 23, Eastport Arts Center, 36 Washington St. Fun and educational program for youth and adult string players. Includes arts and crafts, string playing and skill-building. Snacks will be served. Arts center handicapped-accessible. Public concert by participants, 7 p.m. Thursday, June 23. Advance registration required by contacting Alice St. Clair, 853-0823 or alice@schuth.com. Eastportartscenter.org.

EDDINGTON — Pie sale, 4-6 p.m. Friday, June 24, Comins Hall, 1387 Main Road. Proceeds benefit preservation of Comins Hall.CominsHall.org.

ELLSWORTH — Six-wicket golf croquet, 2-4 p.m. Tuesdays, June-October, Woodlawn Museum, Gardens & Park, 19 Black House Drive, Route 172. $10 per week for noncroquet members. Equipment provided if needed. No experience necessary. 667-8671 or woodlawnmuseum.com.

LUBEC — SummerKeys' The Mary Potterton Memorial Concert 2016 Series with John Newell on piano, Ina Litera on viola and Matt Goeke on cello, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 22, Lubec Congregational Christian Church. Free, but piano tuning donations accepted. 733-2316, sksmail@summerkeys.com or summerkeys.com.

NORTHPORT — Belfast Garden Club Open Garden Days, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, June 24, Block residence, 1485 Atlantic Highway. Bring picnic lunch to enjoy at outdoor tables with water views. $5 at the residence. Benefits the garden club. BelfastGardenClub.org or Martha Laitin, 323-2368.

ORONO — University of Maine School of Performing Arts selections from an opera in one act, "Until the War Is Over," 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Black Box Theatre, Class of 1944 Hall. Also, lecture based on "Bid Me to Live" by H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), by poet Jennifer Moxley, 7 p.m. Free. 581-4703.

OTIS — Vacation Bible School for children in grades one through six, 9 a.m.-noon through Friday, June 24, Otis Baptist Church, Route 180. Games, snacks, crafts, songs and adventure. Theme is "Cave Quest: Jesus Is the Light of the World." Free. To register, 537-2065.

PORTLAND — Reunion of USS Forrest B. Royal DD872, Thursday through Sunday, June 23. Ron Larson, reunion coordinator, 1240 Franklin St., Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494-2807, mosbyusn@wctc.net or 715-423-8905.

PORTLAND — Maine College of Art's second annual Art in Exodus exhibition, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays through June 24, Porteous Building, 522 Congress St. In recognition of World Refugee Day on June 20.

PORTLAND — "TITANIC: The Artifact Exhibition," through Oct. 14, Portland Science Center, 68 Commercial St. Prices $17-$19.50. 888-718-4253, Info@PortlandScienceCenter.com or www.portlandsciencecenter.com.

PRESQUE ISLE — Central Aroostook Chamber of Commerce's annual strawberry shortcake sale, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, parking lot of The Aroostook Medical Center's North Street Health Center. Pre-orders at 764-6561 or by email at lfrederick@centralaroostookchamber.com. Shortcakes are $3.50 each. Orders of 10 or more qualify for free delivery.

ROCKLAND — Two solo shows, through June 26, Landing Gallery, 409 Main St. "Postcards from Home," oil paintings by Sarah Faragher; "Passages: Time and the Sea," 27 new ceramic boats by David Riley Peterson. 239-1223 or LandingArt.com.

ROCKPORT — Trivia Night hosted by DJ Jammin' Jeff, 6-8 p.m. Friday, June 24, Penobscot Bay YMCA, 116 Union St. Light snacks will be provided. $25 per team of three to five participants. Benefits YMCA aquatics department Learn to Swim Program. To register, 236-3375 or stop by.

SEARSPORT — Historians and authors Libby Bischof, Susan Danly and Earle G. Shettleworth Jr. discussing and signing their book, "Maine Photography: A History, 1840-2015," 5:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Penobscot Marine Museum's Carver Memorial Gallery, 11 Church St. penobscotmarinemuseum.org; visitors center, 548-0334; administrative offices, 548-2529.

SOUTHWEST HARBOR — Sarah Smiley, author of "Got Here As Soon As I Could" and "Dinner with the Smileys," will give a talk, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 21, Southwest Harbor Public Library, 338 Main St. Books will be available for sale and signing. 244-7065.

WISCASSET — Ian Fowler, director of the Osher Map Library and Smith Center for Cartographic Education, University of Southern Maine, "Mapping Revolutionary Maine: George Sproule's 1772 Map of the Midcoast," 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, June 23, Historic New England, Nickels-Sortwell House barn, Federal Street. $5 Historic New England members; $10 others. 882-7169 or historicnewengland.org/events-programs.

For a complete listing of calendar items or to submit your event, visit www.bangordailynews.com.

Tuesday prime time

MOVIES

		7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM
BROADCAST	2 NBC	207	Inside Ed.	America's Got Talent (N) (HD)				Maya & Marty (N)		News
	4 CBC	Rick Mercer	22 Minutes	Standing	Baroness	The National (N)		CBC	Coronation	Blackstone
	5 CBS	Big Bang	Broke Girl	NCIS (HD)		NCIS: New Orleans		Person of Interest (N)		News
	52 CW	Family Guy	Family Guy	The Flash (HD)		Containment (N) (HD)		News	Seinfeld	Cougar
	6 NBC	207	Inside Ed.	America's Got Talent (N) (HD)				Maya & Marty (N)		News
	7 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	The Middle	blackish	Uncle Buck (N) (HD)		To Tell the Truth (N)		News
	WAGM FOX	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	Hotel Hell (N) (HDTV PA)		Coupled (N) (HD)		News	Big Bang	Big Bang
	8 ABC	Wheel	Jeopardy!	The Middle	blackish	Uncle Buck (N) (HD)		To Tell the Truth (N)		News
	MPBN PBS	PBS NewsHour (N) (HD)		Genealogy Roadshow		The Greeks (N) (HD)		Frontline (HD)		C. Rose
	9 IND	Person of Interest (N)		After All These Years (2013) Wendie Malick. (NR)				News-Lisa	CTV News	Daily Show
	13 CBS	Ent. Tonight	The Insider	NCIS (HD)		NCIS: New Orleans		Person of Interest (N)		News
	22 FOX	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Hotel Hell (N) (HDTV PA)		Coupled (N) (HD)		FOX 22 News at 10 (N)		Walk:Dead
	33 IND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Happy Days	Gilligan Isle	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	38 IND	Big Bang	Big Bang	The Walking Dead		The Walking Dead		WBZ News (N) (HD)		Seinfeld
KIDS	NICK	Thunder	Thunder	Nicky, Ricky	School	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends
	DISN	Grace Stirs Up Success		K.C. Under.	Liv-Mad.	Stuck	Girl Meets	Walk the	Stuck	K.C. Under.
	FREE	Pretty Little Liars		Pretty Little Liars (N)				Guilt		700 Club
LEARN	HIST	Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	Top Gear (N)		Cnt. Cars	Cnt. Cars	Car Hunters
	DISC	Deadliest Catch		Deadliest Catch: The Bait		Deadliest Catch (N)		(:02) Dark Woods Justice		Catch
	TLC	Little People, Big World		Little People, Big World		Little People, Big World		(:01) My Giant Life (N)		Little People
	A&E	(6:00) ★★ Walking Tall		★★★★ Saving Private Ryan (1998, War) Tom Hanks, Edward Burns, Tom Sizemore. (R)						
	ANPL	Shark Week Sharktacular		Man-Eating Super Squid		(:01) Grizzly Uprising		Extinct or Alive: Taz Tiger		Deadliest
SPORTS	CSNE	SportsNet	Early	The Reggie Lewis Story			Deep Green	Sports	SportsNet	Sports
	ESPN	NBA Mock Draft Special		Baseball Tonight (N) (L)		College Baseball: NCAA World Series				
	ESPN2	College Baseball		WNBA Basketball Phoenix Mercury at Dallas Wings.				Shorts	Jalen	SportCtr
	NBCSP	U.S. Olympic Trials Men's Platform and Women's Springboard Semifinals. (N) (L)								Trials
	NESN	MLB Baseball Chicago White Sox at Boston Red Sox. (N) (L)						Extra	Red Sox	Sports
NEWS	CNBC	West Texas		Shark Tank		Shark Tank		West Texas		Shark Tank
	CNN	Erin Burnett OutFront (N)		Anderson Cooper 360		CNN Special Report		CNN Tonight		Tonight
	FNC	Greta Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor (N)		The Kelly File (N)		Hannity (N)		O'Reilly
	MSNBC	Hardball Chris Matthews		All In With Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow Show		The Last Word		All In With
VARIETY	AMC	(6:00) ★ Mr. Deeds (ESP)		★★ Happy Gilmore (1996) Adam Sandler. (PG-13)				Feed the Beast (N)		Feed the
	BRV	Below Deck		Housewives/OC		Below Deck		Below Deck		Happens
	CMT	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	★★ Bruce Almighty (2003, Comedy) Jim Carrey. (PG-13)				
	COM	Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	(:23) Tosh.0	Tosh.0	(:28) Tosh.0	Tosh.0 (N)	Not Safe	Daily Show
	E!	E! News (N)		Botched		Botched (N)		Famously Single (N)		E! News
	FOOD	Chopped		Chopped Junior (N)		Chopped		Chopped (N)		Chopped
	FX	The Wolf of Wall Street (R)		★★ 2012 (2009, Action) John Cusack. A global cataclysm nearly wipes out humanity. (PG-13)						
	GAC	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin	Log Cabin
	HALL	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	The Middle	Golden Girls
	HGTV	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Hunters	Hunters Int'l	Fixer Upper
	LIFE	Celebrity Wife Swap		Celebrity Wife Swap		Celebrity Wife Swap		(:02) Celebrity Wife Swap		Wife Swap
	MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	★★ Jackass 3D (2010, Comedy) Johnny Knoxville. (R)				★ Rush Hour 3 (2007) Jackie Chan.		
	OXY	(6:30) ★★★ Akeelah and the Bee (2006) (PG)				Virtually in Love (N)		★★★ Akeelah and the Bee (2006)		
	SPIKE	★★ National Treasure: Book of Secrets (2007, Action) Nicolas Cage. (PG)						★★ National Treasure (2004) (PG)		
	SYFY	Tremors 5: Bloodlines (2015) Michael Gross. (NR)				The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe				
	TBN	Supernat.	Potters	Trinity	Everyday	Prince	Cornelius	Praise the Lord		
	TBS	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Wrecked	Big Bang	Conan (N)
	TCM	(6:00) The French Line		★★ Song of the Islands (1942) (NR)			★★★ You Were Never Lovelier (NR)			Lifeboat
	TMC	(6:20) The Warrior's Way		Bloodworx (2012) (ESP) Tricia Helfer. (R)			(:40) Unknown Caller (2014) David Chisum. (NR)			
	TNT	(6:30) ★★ We're the Millers (2013) Jennifer Aniston.				Animal Kingdom (N)		Animal Kingdom		Rizzoli
	TRAVEL	Bizarre Foods America		Bert the Conqueror (N)		Bizarre Foods/Zimmern		Bizarre Foods/Zimmern		Bizarre
	TRU	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Imp. Jokers	Hack	Hack	Hack
	TVL	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	(:12) George Lopez		George	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King
	USA	(6:00) Fast & Furious		★★ Fast Five (2011, Action) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Jordana Brewster. (PG-13)				Fast		
	VH1	Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		Love & Hip Hop: Atlanta		★ Friday After Next (2002) Ice Cube. (R)		
	WGN-A	Person of Interest		Person of Interest		Person of Interest		Person of Interest		How I Met
PREMIUM	HBO	(6:55) ★★ The Intern (2015, Comedy) (ESP) Robert De Niro, Anne Hathaway, Rene Russo. (PG-13)				Game of Thrones (ESP)		REAL Sports With Bryant Gumbel (N) (ESP)		Fight Game
	MAX	(6:05) ★★ Batman Returns (1992) (PG-13)		(:15) ★★ Focus (2015) Will Smith. A con man's former protege/lover throws him off his game. (R)				★★ Sinister 2 (2015, Horror) (ESP) James Ransone, Shannyn Sossamon. (R)		
	SHOW	(5:35) ★★ Hidalgo (2004) Viggo Mortensen. (PG-13)		(7:55) ★★★ 3:10 to Yuma (2007, Western) Russell Crowe, Christian Bale, Logan Lerman. (R)				Penny Dreadful	(:45) Penny Dreadful	
	STARZ	(:15) ★★★ Intolerable Cruelty (2003, Romance-Comedy) (ESP) George Clooney. (PG-13)				Girlfriend Expr.	Girlfriend Expr.	Outlander Claire has an unexpected reunion.		Girlfriend Expr.
	STZENC	(5:35) ★★★★ The Shawshank Redemption		★★★ Disclosure (1994) Michael Douglas. An executive faces unwanted sexual advances from his boss. (R)				(:10) ★★★ Fury (2014, War) (ESP) Brad Pitt, Shia LaBeouf. (R)		