

PROMETHEUS

DIRECTOR **RIDLEY SCOTT**

STARRING **MICHAEL FASSBENDER, CHARLIZE THERON,
NOOMI RAPACE, GUY PEARCE, IDRIS ELBA,
PATRICK WILSON**

OPENS **1 JUNE**

THE PITCH

Sir Ridley returns to the *Alien* universe.

THE HERITAGE

Arguably the most influential sci-fi of all time, alongside a certain George Lucas space opera, four movies (combined worldwide box office: \$557m), two hybrid spin-offs, and a legion of comic books and videogames have left the Dan O'Bannon-created creature lurking in the recesses of our nightmares for more than 30 years. The thought of Ridley Scott, director of 1979's *Alien*, returning to explore the origins of this dark and deadly universe is sexier than a young Sigourney Weaver in her tiny whities.

THE SELL

In the late 21st Century, the crew of the research vessel *Prometheus*, led by scientist/archaeologist Elizabeth Shaw (Noomi Rapace), set out to uncover the origins of mankind. Quite how the film contains "strands of *Alien* DNA", as Scott puts it, remains top secret. But from its down-and-dirty ensemble cast (Idris Elba, Rafe Spall) to Michael Fassbender's blonde-haired android, this bears all the hallmarks of Scott's previous space trip.

THE LEGACY

Franchise calling. Given what Scott's first extra-terrestrial venture spawned, *Prometheus* is primed to launch a second film series in the same universe (though we're preying Paul W.S. Anderson doesn't get any big ideas). Scott's first attempt at 3D should also see the man break further boundaries. That said, the veteran director is advocating a return to the real (as is in Chris Nolan on *The Dark Knight Rises*). "We didn't have green screen," says Rapace. "They built everything."

THE VERDICT

The *Alien* movies haven't always been A-grade quality (David Fincher—stand on the naughty step, please) but we think this will rock. Aside from the return of Scott to a genre he last tackled in 1982's *Blade Runner*, there's a script from *Lost* co-creator Damon Lindelof to consider. "The characters in this movie are preoccupied by the idea: what are our origins?" says Lindelof. And so now are we. **JM**