LIFE

BACK TO PANEM: WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE 'SUNRISE ON THE REAPING' HITS THEATERS FRIDAY

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The next Hunger Games movie is almost here and this time we're heading back to a Quarter Quell!

"The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping" officially opens Friday, Nov. 20, in the United States. It tells the story of Haymitch Abernathy, the sarcastic, drunk mentor from the original movies back when he was the tribute from District 12.

The film is based on Suzanne Collins' 2025 novel and follows a 16-year-old Haymitch as he gets pulled into the 50th Hunger Games, also known as the second Quarter Quell. The Quarter Quell meant double the tributes, placing 48 kids in the arena instead of 24.

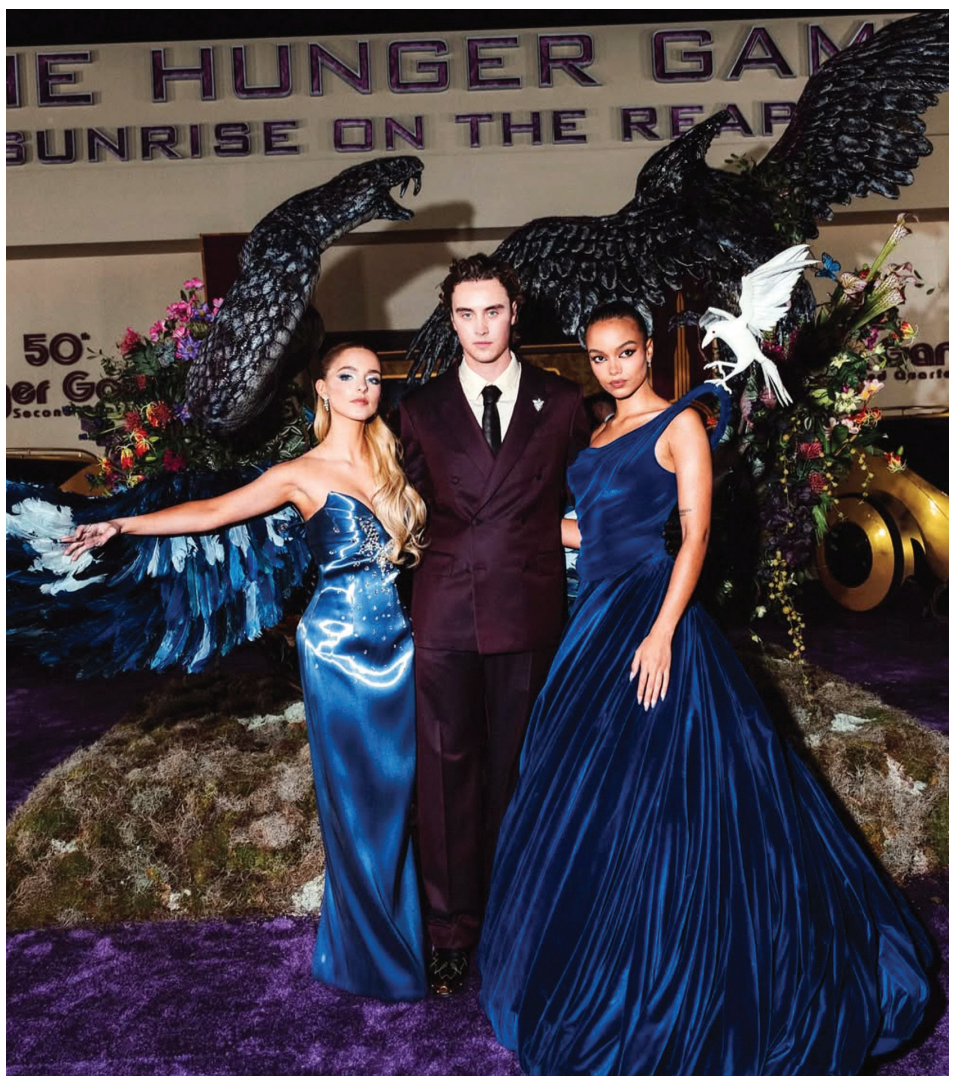
In terms of the timeline, the story takes place about 24 years before the original "Hunger Games" and roughly 40 years after "The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes." You don't have to have seen that movie to follow the story but expect some nods to how the Games became Capitol propaganda.

Joseph Zada plays Haymitch, taking over the character for Woody Harrelson. Jesse Plemons plays a young Plutarch Heavensbee, and the cast also includes Elle Fanning, Ralph Fiennes, Glenn Close, Maya Hawke, and Mckenna Grace as Maysilee Donner. Francis Lawrence, who directed most of the franchise, is back for this installment.

If you don't have time to rewatch all the movies, or just need a quick refresher, I recommend going back to "Catching Fire." It is where they discuss Haymitch's past as a victor for the first time, and where we learn what the Quarter Quell is. His famous win, which came from turning the arena against its own rules, and his later bond with Katniss and Peeta, all started with what he goes through during his Games.

If you've read the book, you know it spends a lot of time discussing Haymitch's life before the Games, including his family and his girlfriend Lenore Dove. Fans are excited to see his story develop in this almost three-hour movie, especially since we know so little about his past.

So, what should you expect from the movie? It's darker and more political than Katniss' storyline ever was and it won't have the ending you expect. It's the story of how Haymitch became the mentor we know but shows how the media can twist the truth during the Games.



The stars of The Hunger Games: Sunrise on the Reaping posed together at the New York premiere for the movie. The movie was set to release Nov. 20, 2026.

PHOTO COURTESY OF @THEHUNGERGAMES ON INSTAGRAM.

If you want to catch the movie before Thanksgiving break, Mansfield Movieplex 8 is showing the movie starting Thursday, Nov. 19, with multiple showtimes daily.

Bring some popcorn, get comfy and watch Haymitch's story unfold!

BRITISH INVASION: THERE'S THIS BAR IN BRIXTON

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Ladies, and Gentlemen, welcome back to British Invasion! The column that dives into British music history. For the last column of the semester, we're looking into The Windmill, and the bands that came through the doors of this small Irish pub in Brixton.

Located in the south of London, The Windmill was built in 1971. It was named after Ashby's Mill, the last working windmill in the London area. Throughout the 20th century, the pub served the nearby Blenheim Gardens housing estates, bringing in local DJ's, poets and the occasional live band.

In 1992, the owner Seamus McCausland relaunched it as an Irish pub, and they started performing Irish traditional music. The Irish scene had fallen to the wayside by the turn of the millennium, so McCausland brought in former music journalist Tim Perry as a promoter to shore up the lagging attendance numbers.

Perry and his collaborator Piers Hawkins turned the bar into a landing spot for emerging talent within the indie rock scene. Bands such as Florence and the Machine, Bloc Party and Los Campesinos graced the bar with their presence during Perry's early years as a promoter, and before they became household names.

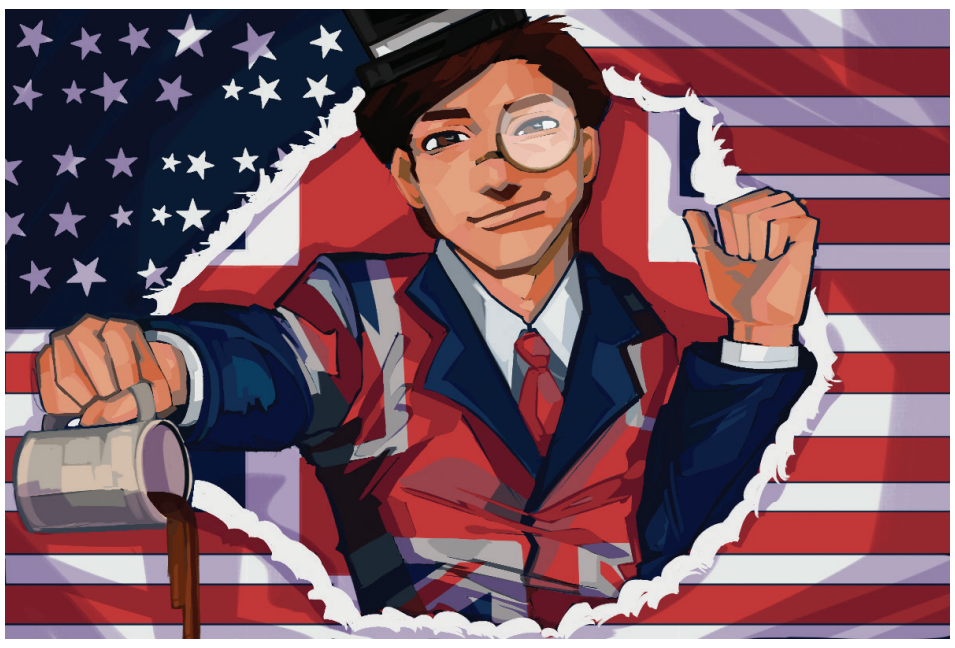


ILLUSTRATION BY ESHITHA RAO, FILE LOGO/THE DAILY CAMPUS

The Windmill's location — far away from the live music scenes in North London — also provide Perry a reason to cultivate relationships with local artists and community.

"The south of London, because it's not served by public transport as well as the other areas, has never really had the same live music as Camden or more recently, east London," Perry said in an interview with Big Issue. "I think we've got a little bit of a chip on our shoulder. We felt a bit isolated. But we've built a hub here. If we going to put on a good band, the industry comes to us."

An article by Sawyer Ploski for NYU's Net Impact featured a doorman at the pub who said the Windmill has live music five to six nights a week, with three to four acts a night — most of them playing their first shows in London.

The same doorman also said "the energy is what people really love... It's small, so you're practically face-to-face with the band. It makes it feel like everyone in the room is a part of the performance."

In 2017, the "Windmill scene" started getting national and international attention. It all began with Black Midi, an experimental rock outfit comprised of three students at the BRIT school, a performing arts school located in nearby Croydon, who played their first shows at The Windmill.

The band's increasing attentions soon reeled in other bands from outside the capital to the Windmill, who began to look at the pub as a gateway into the music scene in London and "as a kind of Mecca," according to the Financial Times.

The Last Dinner Party played multiple gigs at the Windmill before their rise to stardom. They described the place as "a holy grail, a beacon, when we moved to London — and then it was our second show. It was like: 'Well, we've done it. Nowhere up from here!'" in an article from the Financial Times

The Cambridge six-piece Black Country, New Road started playing shows at The Windmill, which got them noticed by producer Dan Carey who signed them to his label Speedy Wundergound. It's the same record label other Windmill bands like black midi and Squid have been signed to, with all their albums being produced by Carey.

Despite the increasing reputation of The Windmill and the surrounding Brixton Area, it has been hard to keep the doors open. During the COVID lockdowns The Windmill found itself at danger of permanent closure, with no hope of securing further funds to stay open.

But their community came through and rescued the pub with a series of fundraising live streams. Black Midi and BCNR teamed up for a one-off fundraising gig, as Black Midi, New Road. Perry said the livestream drew in viewers from around the world in places like "Sweden, Kenya, some town in Michigan I've never heard of."

While the COVID scare soon disappeared, The Windmill faced new challenged from rising expenses and real estate developers who want to buy out their land. Yet, despite all the upheaval and change around them, Perry says The Windmill will always be on the lookout for the hottest new thing and providing refuge for any new acts in London for their loyal fan base.

"Everybody knows how hard it is to find a sound and make money out of it," Perry said in an interview with the Financial Times. "A lot of bands want to have The Windmill as a badge of honor, but music fans just want to hear some bonkers s—t."