

MIDDLE EAST MOVIE BUZZ Mustang



Full of life even as it depicts lives in lockdown, "Mustang" is a stunning debut feature by Deniz Gamze Ergüven about five sisters in rural Turkey. Confined to their grandmother's house, the girls bridle against losing their freedoms in a story grounded in both laughter and tears, and above all in the resilient strength of these girls against soul-deadening strictures.

The supposed sin of Lale, the narrator, and her four sisters — ages extending into the teenage years — was to romp with boys at the beach on the last day of school. Their real offense is being girls with uncontrollable independent spirits in a patriarchal culture. The anxious grandmother and uncle who look after the sisters forbid them to leave the house, and turn the place into a "wife

factory." Lale, Nur, Ece, Selma and Sonay keep on pushing, sneaking away to see a soccer game, and boys, and the walls keep on closing in. Virginity tests are administered by a doctor; bars are put on the windows; prospective husbands are entertained over tea.

Ergüven, who was born in Turkey, brings deft timing and an unapologetic appreciation of beauty to the story, qualities missing from other, schematic portrayals of clashes with traditional mores, Turkish or otherwise. Feather-light camerawork by David Chizallet and Ersin Gok is matched by a nimble screenplay written by Ergüven with Alice Winocour. The ensemble of young actresses is a constantly restless and real presence, the perspective filtered mostly through the cheeky Lale. *(nytimes)*

CARDI B INKS FIRST MOVIE DEAL

Los Angeles

Rapper Cardi B has signed her first movie deal. She will begin filming in March, reports *tmz.com*.

There is no information about the film's title or other details.

A source said that because of the filming, Cardi had to turn down other gigs in March that would have made her between \$100,000 to \$200,000. *(IANS)*



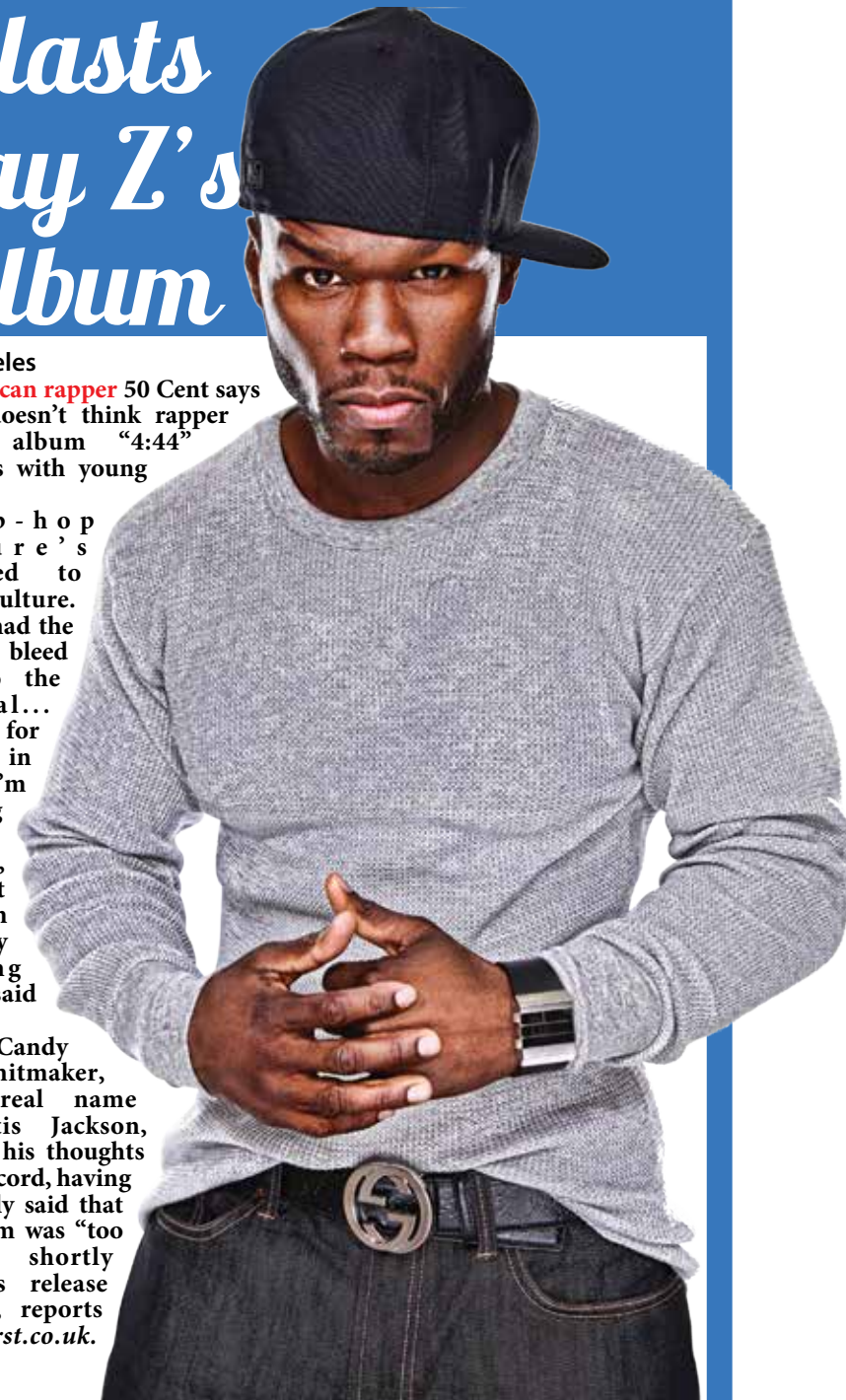
50 Cent blasts Jay Z's album

Los Angeles

American rapper 50 Cent says he doesn't think rapper Jay-Z's album "4:44" resonates with young people.

"Hip-hop culture's connected to youth culture. He just had the maturity bleed off into the material... It's cool for me, like, in my car, I'm listening to it. But the kids, I don't see them actually listening to it," said 50 Cent.

The "Candy Shop" hitmaker, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, clarified his thoughts on the record, having previously said that the album was "too smart" shortly after its release in 2017, reports *femalefirst.co.uk*. *(IANS)*



Now & Then



Julia Fiona Roberts

Julia Fiona Roberts is an American actress and producer. She became a Hollywood star after headlining the romantic comedy *Pretty Woman* (1990), which grossed \$464 million worldwide. She has won three Golden Globe Awards (out of eight nominations) and has been nominated for four Academy Awards for her film acting, winning the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Erin Brockovich* (2000).