



**STARRY**  
*Birthday*  
Solange  
Knowles

June 24, 1986

Singer, model and younger sister of Beyoncé. Her 2016 album *A Seat At The Table* became her first #1 album in the United States.

**MIDDLE EAST  
MOVIE BUZZ**

The Little  
Drummer Girl

**M**ovie makers refuse to learn that big, intricately plotted suspense novels, stuffed with characters, incidents, exotic locations and twists of plot, don't always adapt to the screen with ease. A perfect case in point is "The Little Drummer Girl," the film adaptation of John le Carre's best-selling novel, adapted by Loring Mandel, directed by George Roy Hill, and starring Diane Keaton.

The movie is more breathless than breathtaking, a kind of overdetailed resume of the convoluted le Carre story about an actress recruited by a crack Israeli intelligence team to help catch a particular Palestinian terrorist, a fellow who is supposed to represent the lunatic fringe of the Palestinian liberation movement.

Mr. le Carre's novel, which represents this kind of fiction at its classiest, takes its time and more than 500 pages to introduce its characters and to lay out its complex narrative. The movie takes a little more than two hours, but still seems too long, yet not long enough for either the story or the characters to become involving, believable or even coherent.

"The Little Drummer Girl" looks to have been a production manager's dream film. Yet it spends so much time moving around - from Munich to London to Munich to Mykonos to Athens to Turkey to Munich to Beirut and back to Munich - that watching it can induce physical exhaustion. It's a sightseeing bus that you want to get off.

Like the novel, the screenplay attempts to dramatize - impartially - the positions of the Israeli and Palestinian "moderates," as opposed to the extremist positions on each side. However, whether an assassination is committed by moderates or by extremists, the victim is still dead. (nytimes)



Washington's  
legal drama gets  
a new title

**S**ony's upcoming legal drama starring Denzel Washington and Colin Farrell has a new title now. According to the sources, the movie, written and directed by Dan Gilroy, previously known for 2014 'Nightcrawler,' is now titled 'Roman Israel, Esq'.

The project was earlier titled 'Inner City'.

There is no official release date for the film as yet. But, the principal photography has already been completed and the studio is eyeing a fourth-quarter release, which will setup Washington's performance for awards consideration.

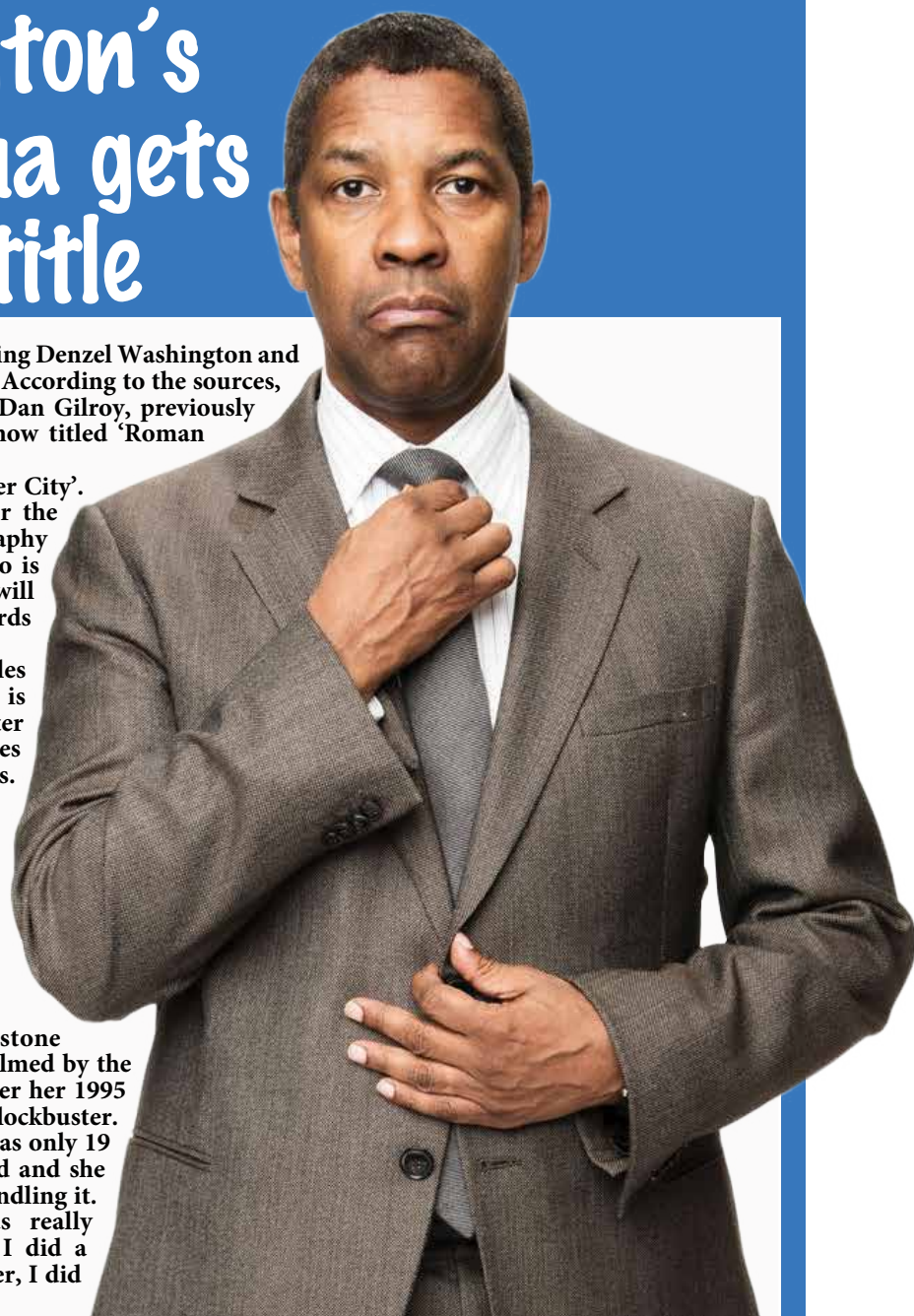
The film tells the story of Los Angeles attorney, played by Washington, who is offered a job at a prestigious law firm after the death of his longtime partner. He takes on a case that has life-altering repercussions. (TOI)

Stardom was  
overwhelming  
after 'Clueless'



**A**ctress Alicia Silverstone said she was overwhelmed by the stardom she achieved after her 1995 film 'Clueless' became a blockbuster. The 40-year-old actress was only 19 when the film was released and she said she had a tough time handling it.

"I was young and I thought it was really overwhelming and it was really intense. I did a bunch of movies, and then nine movies later, I did 'Clueless,'" Silverstone said. (TOI)



Recording artists Snoop Dogg (L) and Wiz Khalifa perform onstage at night one of the 2017 BET Experience STAPLES Centre Concert, sponsored by Hulu, at Staples Centre yesterday in Los Angeles, California (AFP)