

# celebs



## Melissa Benoist to make her directorial debut with 'Supergirl' season 5

Los Angeles

**"S**upergirl" star Melissa Benoist is set to make her directorial debut with the 17th episode of season five.

The 30-year-old actor, who has been essaying the titular character in the CBS/CW DC Comics-based superhero drama series since 2015, said she always wanted to direct an episode in the show, but things could not materialise due to "scheduling conflicts".

"I've been wanting to direct since season 3, but couldn't last year because of scheduling conflicts, so David Harewood did it first, Benoist told Entertainment Weekly.

"I just felt really drawn to it for a couple of seasons now, just because you know the show so well, and you get to know the character, and the world, and the tone of the show so well that you can't help but envision certain scenes in a certain way. I want to play with that," she added.



## Damien Chazelle in early talks with Emma Stone, Brad Pitt for his next 'Babylon'

Los Angeles

Damien Chazelle is working on his next feature film "Babylon" and the filmmaker wants to reunite with his "La La Land" star Emma Stone for the project. The makers are also in talks with Brad Pitt to join the film, which will be his second Hollywood-set period drama after upcoming "Once Upon a Time in Hollywood".

According to Deadline, Chazelle has penned the screenplay and is attached to direct the movie.

As per sources neither Stone nor Pitt has officially boarded the project.

Marc Platt, who produced "La La Land", is one of the producers on "Babylon" along with Olivia Hamilton, Matthew Plouffe and Toby Maguire.

Exact plot details are currently under wraps, but the story is said to be set during the movie industry's transition from silent films to talkies.

Chazelle wants to cast Stone in the role of Clara Bow, the early sex symbol and box office star of the movie industry.

The filmmaker is right now busy with his Netflix series "The Eddy", while Stone is fresh out of the success of Yorgos Lanthimos' "The Favourite" and TV series "Masters of Sex".



Brad Pitt, Damien Chazelle

Emma Stone

Melissa Benoist

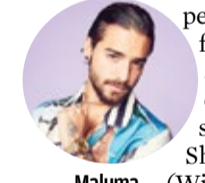
## Latin musician Maluma in talks to star opposite Jennifer Lopez in 'Marry Me'

Los Angeles

Jennifer Lopez

Latin music superstar Maluma is in negotiations to feature alongside pop diva Jennifer Lopez and Owen Wilson in romantic comedy "Marry Me".

If things work out, the Colombian-born singer, whose real name is Juan Luis Londono Arias, will play the fiance to Lopez's pop star in the film, reported Entertainment Weekly.



Maluma

The story revolves around a pop superstar (Lopez) who, moments before marrying her rock-star fiance at Madison Square Garden, finds out he was cheating with her assistant and melts down onstage. She picks a random math teacher (Wilson) out of the crowd to marry instead.

Directed by Kat Coiro, the film is based on a graphic novel by Bobby Crosby.

John Rogers and Tami Sagher have adapted the screenplay with a rewrite by Harper Dill.

Maluma became a global sensation after collaborating with Madonna for the song "Medellin", the debut single off her latest studio album, "Madame X".



## Lea Michele boards ABC's 'Same Time, Next Christmas' movie

Los Angeles

Lea Michele

Actor Lea Michele is set to star in ABC's Christmas movie titled "Same Time, Next Christmas".

In the movie, the "Glee" alum will play Olivia Henderson, a young woman who meets her childhood sweetheart during her family's annual Christmas visit to Hawaii.

After being separated by distance and time, the duo reunite at the same Hawaii resort years later and the sparks fly, but the circumstances force them to stay apart.

"This holiday season holds special importance to me as I get to celebrate both my role in this film and my first-ever holiday album. I'm honored to return to ABC with this movie event, and I am excited to share the holidays with everyone," Michele said in a statement to Variety.

"Same Time, Next Christmas" is scheduled to air in December this year.



## Hugh Grant would kill social media if he had the option

Los Angeles

Hollywood star Hugh Grant says the triumph of technology over democracy is "terrifying" and if he had the option, he would just pull the plug on social media.

Grant has been active in UK's press reform initiative with his Hacked Off campaign after it came to light that he was among the celebrities whose phones were hacked by a prominent British tabloid for gossip.



Hugh Grant

## Austin Butler to play Elvis Presley in Baz Luhrmann's biopic

Los Angeles

Director Baz Luhrmann has roped in actor Austin Butler to play music legend Elvis Presley in a biopic for Warner Bros.

Hollywood veteran Tom Hanks is playing Presley's manager, Colonel Tom Parker, in the movie and the studio decided to cast Butler after they auditioned a few actors in full hair and make-up last month.

"I knew I couldn't make this film if the casting wasn't absolutely right, and we searched thoroughly for an actor with the ability to evoke the singular natural movement and vocal qualities of this peerless star, but also the inner vulnerability of the artist, Luhrmann said in a statement.



Austin Butler

## Oliver to return in new role for 'The Haunting of Hill House' second chapter

Los Angeles

Oliver Jackson-Cohen, star of "The Haunting of Hill House", has joined the second season of the show.

Titled, "The Haunting of Bly Manor", the sophomore season of the Netflix horror anthology series, will feature Jackson-Cohen as a "charming young man" named Peter, reported Variety.

In "The Haunting of Hill House", he played Luke Crain, the older twin of Victoria Pedretti's character Nell, who struggles with addiction and purging the memories of Hill House from his mind.



Oliver Jackson-Cohen



## Hilary Duff's fiance Matthew Koma thinks he resembles Tom Selleck

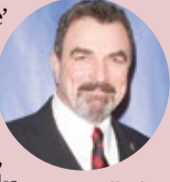
Los Angeles

Hilary Duff recently shared a family photo on social media and her fiance Matthew Koma thinks he looks like Tom Selleck in the picture.

On Monday, the "Lizzie McGuire" actor shared a family photo on Instagram featuring her fiance and her two kids, 7-year-old Luca Cruz, which she shares with ex-husband Mike Comrie, and her newborn daughter banks.

The picture shows Duff holding her daughter in her arms, while her son and Koma sit on either side of her.

"Morning gang," the actor captioned the picture. Sporting a mustache instead of his usual scruff Koma looks unrecognizable in the picture. Realising the same the American singer-songwriter took a jibe at his own look and commented, "Where'd you meet Tom Selleck?" referring to the popular "Magnum, P.I." and "Midway" actor.



Tom Selleck



Greta Gerwig, Noah Baumbach and Margot Robbie

## Greta Gerwig, Noah Baumbach to co-write Margot Robbie's 'Barbie'

Los Angeles

Writer-director Greta Gerwig and Noah Baumbach are co-writing the long-awaited "Barbie" movie.

Margot Robbie will star in and produce the project via her LuckyChap banner, reported Variety.

The project was earlier set up at Sony, and had first Amy Schumer then Anne Hathaway attached to star with Alethea Jones directing.

The project later moved to Warner Bros where Patty Jenkins was being considered as the helmer, but no formal announcement was made by the studio.

The "Barbie" movie has been