

celebs

Benedict Cumberbatch likes to ‘disguise himself’ when out in public

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Benedict Cumberbatch likes to “disguise” himself when he’s out in public with his family so they can have their “privacy”.

The Sherlock star is married to actress/director Sophie Hunter and they are parents to three sons and Benedict, 49, admits he doesn’t want to draw attention to them when they are out

and about admitting he loves Halloween because he can wear a mask without looking strange.

During an appearance on the Dish podcast, he explained: “My favourite is Halloween. I went as [Star Wars character] Chewbacca last year and it was just great.

“I was dancing along to the music that a Michael Jackson impersonator was playing, but I couldn’t really see where I was. “The Michael Jackson im-

personator was getting really angry ‘cause I was sort of coming towards his cardboard, and people were turning from focusing on him to dancing Chewbacca there.

“And, and he was apparently going: ‘Hee hee! Hee hee!’ Somewhere someone might have that on-the, the t’interweb.”

The actor went on to add: “But you know, I think, to be honest, when it comes to this sort of thing, or a premiere or

just, you know, being in a theatre or something, you’re in a theatre, that’s the natural habitat of an actor, even if you’re the other side of it-and in the audience, and I don’t bother disguising myself.

“With my family, I try to [disguise myself] because I do not want the attention drawn on them. I want them to have the right to their privacy-and their time.

“But apart from that, I just have to own it. It takes an effort

though.

“It’s very weird walking into a room and everyone - well, a lot of people might recognise you, you don’t know anyone.”

Benedict was joined on the podcast by his The Roses co-star Olivia Colman, and she revealed fans often approach her and ask for pictures even when she’s in the bathroom.

She said: “[They do it

Benedict Cumberbatch



Jennifer Lopez recalls missing out on Evita role to Madonna

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Jennifer Lopez spent “weeks” preparing to play Evita - before Madonna landed the part.

The 56-year-old singer was desperate to play Eva Peron, the Argentine politician and activist, in the 1996 biographical musical drama film, and Jennifer felt devastated when the role was awarded to Madonna instead.

Speaking during a question-and-answer session, Jennifer shared: “I went to audition for Evita for [director] Alan Parker.

“I had been practising

for weeks and I sing my heart out and he goes, ‘You’re amazing. You know Madonna has the part, right?’

“I said, ‘OK, bye-bye. Nice to meet you.’”

Jennifer is currently starring in the big screen adaptation of Kiss of the Spider Woman, the new musical drama film.

The actress is fulfilling a long-held ambition by starring in a musical film, but she still felt a little overwhelmed when director Bill Condon asked her to perform one of the movie’s more elaborate songs in one take.

Jennifer shared: “I was like, ‘We’ll do some coverage?’ He was like, ‘Nope, no coverage.’

“I was like, ‘I better get it right then.’ Like halfway

through the take it’s going perfectly and then you trip on your dress or whatever so it’s like, maybe we start over.

“It was challenging. It was challenging in that way, time wise, as independent films can be, right? It’s the time, it’s the prep, it’s the, you know, budget. All of it were constraints for us.”

Meanwhile, Jennifer admitted earlier this year that she feels “proud” of her career.

The chart-topping star - who has enjoyed huge success in the music and film industries - reflected on her career arc ahead of hosting the American Music Awards in May.

Jennifer told People: “Everything feels like I just did it.

Taylor Swift won’t be deposed in Lively / Baldoni trial, judge rules

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Taylor Swift has agreed to be deposed in the Justin Baldoni / Blake Lively legal battle.

The 35-year-old popstar - who got engaged to NFL star Travis Kelce last month - has reportedly “agreed to appear for deposition” but is unable to do so until October 20 due to “Ms. Swift’s preexisting professional obligations,” according to Baldoni’s attorney Bryan Freedman.

In a letter to Lewis J. Liman, the U.S. District Judge overseeing the case, which was filed by Freedman and obtained by PEOPLE, he claimed a requested extension was solely to take Swift’s deposition.

He wrote: “Ms. Lively misleadingly implies the Wayfarer Parties seek a blanket thirty-day extension of the discovery cut-off date.

“In fact, the Wayfarer Parties requested an agreement solely to take the deposition of Taylor Swift during the week of October 20-25.”

The case, Blake Lively v. Wayfarer Studios LLC, et al, is schedule to go to trial in March 2026,

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A judge has ruled Taylor Swift will not have to sit for a deposition in Blake Lively and Justin Baldoni’s ongoing legal case

with all depositions due to be completed by September 30.

This come after it was ruled in June that Baldoni’s legal team could have access to messages between Lively and Swift.

The 37-year-old actress is suing her It Ends With Us co-star and director for harassment and accusing him of creating a hostile work environment on set, which he has denied, while his countersuit accusing Lively and her husband Ryan Reynolds of defamation was dismissed by Judge Liman.

And, E! News previously reported that judge ruled texts between Lively and Swift are “relevant” to the case.



Pierce Brosnan regrets quitting theatre after landing James Bond role

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Pierce Brosnan regrets turning his back on the theatre after landing his role as James Bond.

The 72-year-old actor started his career onstage before winning a part in TV show Remington Steele in the 1980s and then being signed up to play 007 in the mid-1990s - and Brosnan has now revealed he wishes he went back to his theatre roots after ending his career-defining turn as the superspy like his successor Daniel Craig did.

Brosnan told The Guardian newspaper: “[My acting teacher Chris-

topher Fettes] wanted me doing obscure 19th-century plays, but my dream was always movies ...

“I was impressed that Daniel had the bottle to go back out there. I thought: ‘Why the heck didn’t I?’ You have to really want it, and I didn’t.”

He added: “It’s essential to be creative outside of Bond.”

Craig - who took over the role of Bond from Brosnan - continued working in theatre during his breaks from making the 007 movies taking on roles on Broadway including star turns in productions of A Steady Rain in 2009, Harold Pinter’s Betrayal in 2013 and an off-Broadway version of

Othello in 2016.

After releasing his final Bond movie - No Time To Die - in 2021 Craig then went back to the stage for another Shakespearean role playing the lead in a production of Macbeth in 2022.

Brosnan’s first major acting role after leaving drama school was in the London premiere of Tennessee Williams’ The Red Devil Battery Sign in 1977 after initially being hired as an understudy and then promoted to the main cast by the playwright himself - and the actor reveals Williams sent him a special message after opening night.

Pierce Brosnan



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Yesterday's solution

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How to play

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

CROSSWORD

Across

1- Foil maker; 6- Reverberate; 10- Tortoise racer; 14- Existence; 15- Baseball's Felipe; 16- Three Lives; 17- Boredom; 18- Tirade; 19- Exaltation; 20- Midday nap; 22- Military cafeteria; 24- Cooling units, for short; 26- Refines, as ore; 27- Add sugar; 31- takers?; 32- Croatian; 33- Scrub (a mission); 36- Ad _ committee; 39- Thick slice; 40- Foremost part; 41- Grandma; 42- Ave. crossers; 43- Later!; 44- Batman's hilarious nemesis, with "the"; 45- Are you a man _ mouse?; 46- Noisiest; 48- Capital of Zimbabwe; 51- Once around the track; 52- Cabbage salad; 54- Washed lightly; 59- Indigo source; 60- French summers; 62- Name; 63- Legumes; 64- Hang-up; 65- _ Gay; 66- Wall St. institution; 67- Put in order; 68- Marry again;

Down

1- Burrows and Vigoda; 2- Director Riefenstahl; 3- Movie theater; 4- Burden of proof; 5- Restless (music); 6- Auditory apparatus; 7- Edible mollusk; 8- Sharpens; 9- Baffle; 10- Extremely; 11- _ once; 12- Country dances; 13- Pulitzer-winning biographer Leon; 21- " _ Ventura" was played by Jim Carrey; 23- Transmitted; 25- Animal trap; 27- Flat sound; 28- Lash mark; 29- Historic periods; 30- Backward tidal movement; 34- Son; 35- _ fours (crawling); 36- Codlike fish; 37- Individuals; 38- Wagon; 40- Intrepid; 41- Silent assent; 43- Ladies of Spain; Abbr.; 44- Fifth planet; 45- Ultimatum words; 47- Sculler's need; 48- Bee stuff; 49- AKA; 50- Jack Sprat could _ fat; 52- _ Crunch; 53- Don; 55- Baseball team; 56- Put away; 57- Popular fashion magazine; 58- Six feet under; 61- Cpl.'s superior;

Yesterday's solution

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