

# celebs

## Julia Roberts, Jude Law to feature at star-packed Venice Film Festival

AFP | Venice

US megastar Julia Roberts is to make her debut at the Venice Film Festival this year, which will also feature Jude Law playing Russian leader Vladimir Putin and a hard-hitting film about Gaza.

Roberts is one of many A-listers set to appear at the increasingly influential Venice film extravaganza from late August for the premiere of her latest movie, the Amazon-produced "After the Hunt".

Directed by Italy's Luca Guadagnino, a Venice regular, it tells the story of a sexual assault case at a prestigious American university and will run outside the main film competition, according to



Julia Roberts

festival director Alberto Barbera. "It is the first time that Julia Roberts will walk the red carpet of the Venice Film Festival so we're

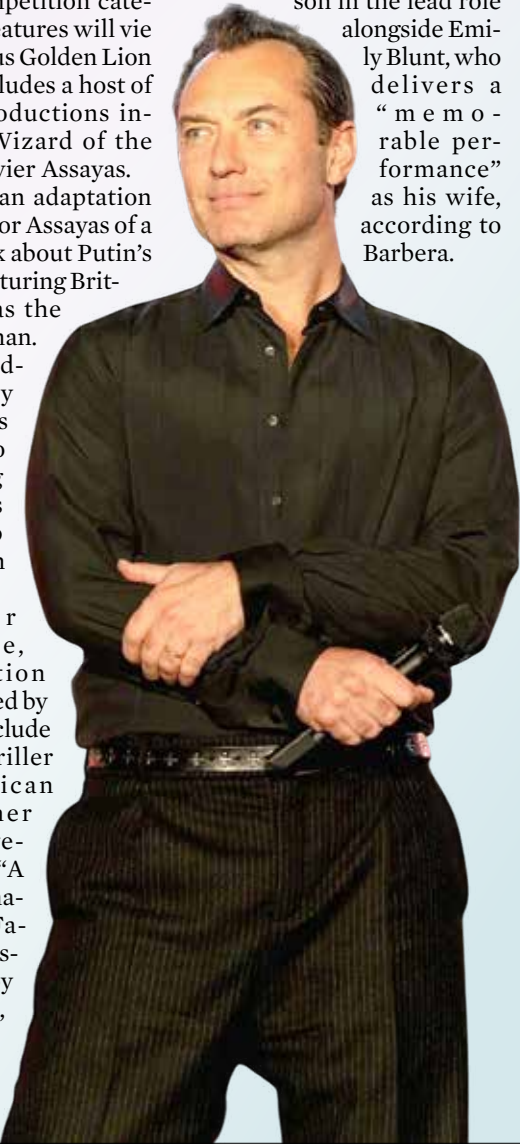
very happy to have her," Barbera told reporters in a presentation of the August 27-September 9 line up.

The main competition category, where 21 features will vie for the prestigious Golden Lion for best film, includes a host of star-packed productions including "The Wizard of the Kremlin" by Olivier Assayas.

The movie is an adaptation by French director Assayas of a best-selling book about Putin's rise to power, featuring British actor Law as the Kremlin strongman.

Law told Deadline in January that the role was "an Everest to climb", adding that he was "looking up thinking, 'Oh Christ'."

Other high-profile, in-competition movies selected by the festival include the latest thriller from American Oscar-winner Kathryn Bigelow titled "A House of Dynamite" and "Father Mother Sister Brother" by Jim Jarmusch, starring Adam Driver and Cate Blanchett.



Jude Law

Benny Safdie's film about a wrestling champion "The Smashing Machine" has Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in the lead role alongside Emily Blunt, who delivers a "memorable performance" as his wife, according to Barbera.

## Black Sabbath frontman Ozzy Osbourne dead aged 76



Ozzy Osbourne

● Died weeks after farewell concert

● Diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2019

● Famous for bat-biting incident

AFP | London

Ozzy Osbourne, the legendary frontman of heavy metal group Black Sabbath, died on Tuesday at the age of 76, his family said, just weeks after he gave an epic farewell concert.

The hell-raising singer, who was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2019, passed away just over a fortnight after playing a final gig before a sold-out crowd in his home city of Birmingham, England.

"It is with more sadness than mere words can convey that we have to report that our beloved Ozzy Osbourne has passed away this morning," said a family statement.

"He was with his family and surrounded by love. We ask everyone to respect our family privacy at this time."

Tributes poured in for the notorious figure nicknamed the "Prince of Darkness", who once bit off the head of a bat while on stage.

His original bandmates posted tributes on social media, with guitarist Tony Iommi saying, "there won't be another like him", and bassist Geezer Butler saying "So glad we got to do it one last time, back in Aston. Love you."

Drummer Bill Ward said Osbourne would forever be in his heart and signed off his



**Ozzy's infamous 1982 bat-biting incident wasn't rehearsed — he thought the bat was a rubber prop until his teeth sunk in, forcing him to take painful rabies shots after the show**

post with "Never goodbye. Thank you forever".

Music icon Elton John praised Osbourne as "a huge trailblazer who secured his place in the pantheon of rock gods -- a true legend".

"He was also one of the funniest people I've ever met. I will miss him dearly," John wrote on Instagram. Rolling Stones member Ronnie Wood said he was "very sad" to learn of Osbourne's death.

Osbourne was instrumental in pioneering heavy metal -- an offshoot of hard rock -- as Black Sabbath enjoyed huge commercial success in the 1970s and 80s after forming in Birmingham in 1968.

Black Sabbath's eponymous 1970 debut album made the UK top 10 and paved the way for a string of hit records, including their most famous song "Paranoid".

"It was Ozzy's voice that took me away to a dark universe. A great escape," Pearl Jam guitarist Mike McCready posted on X. "Thanks for the music, Ozzy it makes our journey in life better."

## Kourtney Kardashian shuts down pregnancy rumours

Bang Showbiz | Los Angeles

Kourtney Kardashian has shut down rumours she's pregnant.

The 46-year-old Poosh founder has been inundated with comments about her looking pregnant in her holiday pictures from Portofino, Italy.

In response, Kourtney insisted she is simply indulging in Italian cuisine and is still breastfeeding her 20-month-old son Rocky - whom she has with husband Travis Barker. One user commented on the Instagram carousel she posted from the vacation: "You can tell from the bikini reflection photo Kourtney is pregnant again."

The Kardashians star - who also has Mason, 15, Penelope, 13, and 10-year-old Reign with ex-partner Scott Disick - replied: "Or breastfeeding, eating gelato, focaccia, pasta,



Kourtney Kardashian and Travis Barker

not working out and living my best damn life baby!"

Travis is also dad to Landon, 21, Alabama, 19, and stepdaughter Atiana, 26, from his marriage to Shanna Moakler.

And, Kourtney recently said she believes their blended family has given them a "deeper" existence.

Appearing on her sister Khloe Kardashian's Khloe in Wonder Land podcast, she said: "I love my role as stepmom, because I don't feel like its up to me to discipline.

"We've kind of allowed each other to—we'll talk about it, he can handle the harder things. I definitely give advice or try to be a good role model.

"Some days I've thought like, 'Wow, this is really hard blending families.' But even in the days that are hard, there's so much more love. It's such a deeper, richer existence."

### SUDOKU

1	4		2				6	
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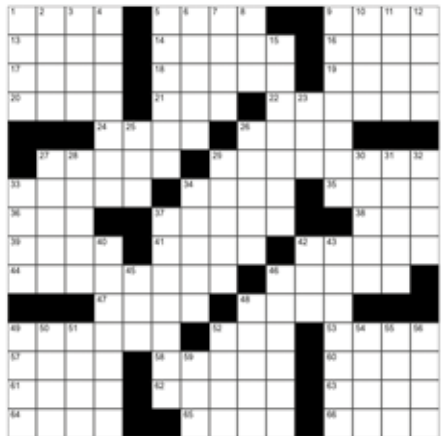
Yesterday's solution

6	4	8	3	9	5	1	7	2
2	7	5	1	6	4	9	8	3
3	9	1	7	8	2	5	4	6
7	1	3	8	5	9	2	6	4
9	6	2	4	7	3	8	5	1
8	5	4	2	1	6	7	3	9
5	3	9	6	2	8	4	1	7
1	2	6	5	4	7	3	9	8
4	8	7	9	3	1	6	2	5

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- Way out there; 5- Granny; 9- Hustles; 13- Ear part; 14- \_ a million; 16- Rod's partner; 17- Gradual; 18- "Who's there?" response; 19- Draft status; 20- Air freshener target; 21- Bro's sibling; 22- Soak up; 24- Mid-month times; 26- School orgs; 27- Kett and James; 29- Unmatched; 33- Seraglio; 34- Diner orders; 35- Village People hit; 36- So \_ heard; 37- Driving hazard; 38- Links standard; 39- Like an abyss; 41- Legumes; 42- Aquarium fish; 44- Editorial writer; 46- Cafeteria items; 47- Ohio nine; 48- Time; 49- Deadly fly; 52- Kind of reaction; 53- One-armed bandit; 57- Nothing in Nantes; 58- Lunar valley; 60- Enormous; 61- Memo starter; 62- Water vapor; 63- Gumbo veggie; 64- \_ about; 65- Cong. meeting; 66- Driving aids;

Down

1- \_-ran; 2- Entwine; 3- Peek-; 4- Big revision; 5- Sounds; 6- Those against; 7- Nitti's nemesis; 8- Goal, intention; 9- Peevishly; 10- Vintner's prefix; 11- Not e'en once; 12- Thick slice; 15- Most orderly; 23- Place for ordering alcoholic drinks; 25- Hoover \_; 26- For \_ sake!; 27- Gutter site; 28- Woody inhabitants of forests; 29- Fold; 30- Vacant; 31- Surgery souvenirs; 32- Franklin D.'s mother; 33- Conceal; 34- Consecrate; 37- Arachnids; 40- Associate; 42- Play about Capote; 43- Hearing distance; 45- You rang?; 46- Clan emblems; 48- Hawaiian dances; 49- Dixie Chicks, e.g.; 50- \_ Fein; 51- First name in architecture; 52- Merriment; 54- Third Gospel; 55- Shrek, for one; 56- Afternoon affairs; 59- Part of TGIF;

Yesterday's solution

ERIC	LACES	SHIP						
RASH	APPLE	CONE						
IRMA	SPASM	APAR						
EASIEST	AILMENT							
NEO	SIP							
TEASE	UMA	KITTY						
ILSA	ASENSE	RUE						
NOT	WITHSTANDING							
EPI	CAESAR	APPEG						
SERVE	RYE	DRESS						
ERR	AOK							
DEARS	SIR	REENTER						
EARS	SAFER	EATA						
CRUE	ENLAI	SING						
ANTS	RIODE	SLAG						