



IMTA ALUM AARON PAUL IN *EXODUS: GODS AND KINGS*

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Exodus: Gods and Kings opens nationwide Friday, December 12

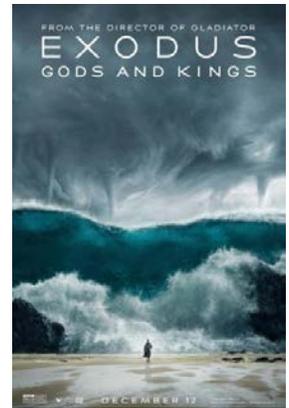
“I grew up reading the Bible. I have read it from beginning to end multiple times—my father was a Southern Baptist minister. So, I know this story...and I was very excited to play Joshua.”

– Aaron Paul

Most people have heard of the story of Moses, either through reading the Bible, watching Charlton Heston shout to the heavens in the 1956 Cecile B. DeMille epic *The Ten Commandments*, or laughing through Mel Brooks’ 1981 hit *History of the World, Part I*. The basic story is the same throughout: defiant leader Moses rises up against the Egyptian Pharaoh Ramses, setting 600,000 slaves on a monumental journey of escape from Egypt and its terrifying cycle of deadly plagues.

In Ridley Scott’s version of the story, Moses is played by Christian Bale, Ramses by Joel Edgerton, Hun by Sir Ben Kingsley, and Joshua by IMTA alum Aaron Paul. John Turturro and Sigourney Weaver also star in the big budget action adventure. “Ridley is one of my all-time favorite directors ever so when I first got to meet him I was pretty nervous,” said Paul. “I still don’t know what I talked about at that first meeting, I was so excited and just trying to hold it together!”

“*Breaking Bad*” fans may have a hard time recognizing Paul in *Exodus* sporting long hair. “I’m covered in fake tan, and fake tattoos, with a beard that takes about two and a half hours to put on every morning, and a wig.” Paul said the makeup artist who worked on him was brilliant. “I have several very, very unattractive haircuts throughout the movie, with patches missing. A lot of the Hebrew slaves chopped their hair with knives due to lice so the end result isn’t very attractive—but that’s the least of their worries I guess...”



Paul also said that, after “*Breaking Bad*” and *Exodus*, he’s looking forward to working on projects that do not involve him getting beaten up in the desert. “It’s always very windy and dirty and the sand gets everywhere, and I mean everywhere... But it is very beautiful and I’m so thrilled to be part of this, right now I can’t think of anywhere I’d rather be.”

One of those projects is the supernatural thriller *The 9th Life of Louis Drax*, which is currently filming in Canada and the UK. The story follows a psychologist who, working with a young boy who has suffered a near-fatal fall, finds himself drawn into a mystery that tests the boundaries of fantasy and reality. In addition to Paul, Jamie Dornan, Sarah Gadon and Aiden Longworth star.

Paul recently completed filming *Fathers and Daughters*, which is scheduled for a 2015 release. In the film, a Pulitzer-winning writer grapples with being a widower and father after a mental breakdown, while, 27 years later, his grown daughter struggles to forge connections of her own. Paul stars alongside Amanda Seyfried, Russell Crowe, Quvenzhané Wallis, Diane Kruger, Jane Fonda, Octavia Spencer, and fellow IMTA alum Haley Bennett.

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