## IMTA ALUM AARON PAUL AND DECODING ANNIE PARKER



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Decoding Annie Parker opens in limited release and VOD Friday, May 2

During the years IMTA alum Aaron Paul was becoming a household name for playing Jesse Pinkman on AMC's "*Breaking Bad*," he was using his down time between seasons to film a number of small, independent films, playing a variety of roles that allowed him to stretch beyond his Emmy-winning role as bad-boy Jesse. Following runs on the festival circuit, two of these films—the first filmed in 2011 and the other in 2012—are just now coming to theatres.



Loosely based on a true story, *Decoding Annie Parker* follows a woman, played by Samantha Morton, as she discovers that, like her mother and her sister before her, she also has breast cancer. Paul co-stars as Annie's husband who struggles to deal with the diagnosis. Helen Hunt plays a researcher who teams up with Annie and a group of scientists to try and find a genetic link to the disease, research which eventually leads to the discovery of the BRCA1 gene mutation known to cause breast and ovarian cancer. Alice Eve, Rashida Jones, Corey Stoll, Maggie Grace and Ben McKenzie also co-star. The film has been nominated for numerous

awards, including a Best Supporting Actor nod for Paul at the Milan International Film Festival.

Paul's second independent film being released this year is *A Long Way Down*. The film is based on the Nick Hornby novel of the same name and stars Paul, Pierce Brosnan, Toni Collette and Imogen Poots as four people who meet on a rooftop on New Year's Eve—all with the intent to commit suicide. The film follows how these very different people become life-changing friends who help each other through not just this critical night, but also the various highs and lows that follow it. *A Long Way Down*, which also stars Sam Neill and Rosamund Pike, comes out in June.



Following the release of the two independent films, Paul hits the screen again in December in the highly anticipated Ridley Scott epic *Exodus: Gods and Kings* for 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox. Paul stars as Joshua alongside Christian Bale's Moses in the story of Moses leading the Israelite slaves out of Egypt. Ben Kingsley, Sigourney Weaver, Joel Edgerton and John Turturro also star.

Paul, an IMTA LA97 alum, is currently filming *Fathers and Daughters* with Amanda Seyfried, Russell Crowe, Diane Kruger, Ryan Eggold, Jane Fonda, Quavenshané Wallace, Octavia Spencer, Bruce Greenwood, and fellow IMTA alum Haley Bennett (NY01). The star-studded film follows a widowed novelist (Crowe) struggling with mental illness as he tries to raise his 7-year-old daughter, Katie. The story flashes between past and present as it revolves around the life of the now-25-year-old woman dealing with the aftermath of her troubled childhood. Paul will play a young man having an affair with the grown Katie in the present, while Bennett will play a college student who watches over the young Katie in the past. The film is scheduled for a 2015 release.