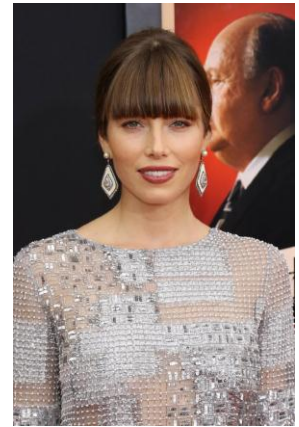


# IMTA ALUM JESSICA BIEL IN *HITCHCOCK*

**IMTA Press Release**  
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*Hitchcock* opens in limited release Friday, Nov. 23, nationwide Jan. 10, 2013

*“There’s no way not to give a really good performance because you’re in this really warm environment.”* – Jessica Biel on her *Hitchcock* experience

If you’re not familiar with the story of the 1960 horror classic *Psycho*, it might help to see it before you see *Hitchcock*, the story of the making of the award-winning *Psycho* intertwined with the love story between filmmaker Alfred Hitchcock and his wife Alma. *Psycho* starred Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh, Vera Miles and John Gavin, the plot following a young woman who steals \$40,000 from her employer’s client, and subsequently encounters a young motel proprietor too long under the domination of his mother. *Psycho* was an instant hit and scared audiences around the world with one of the most horrific and iconic shower scenes ever filmed—famously prompting star Janet Leigh to remark that watching the scene made her realize how vulnerable a woman was in a shower and vowing to never shower again, but only take baths.



*Hitchcock* is not a re-make of *Psycho*, but an insider’s look at how the influential director came to make the film against fearsome odds, such as strict censors (who, for example, did not want a flushing toilet on screen) and a reticent studio that set a low budget in the belief that the film would fail. LA94 IMTA alum Jessica Biel stars in the film as Vera Miles, alongside Anthony Hopkins as Hitchcock, Helen Mirren as Alma, Scarlet Johansson as Janet Leigh and James D’Arcy as Anthony Perkins. Sacha Gervasi directed the film.

Like Hitchcock, Gervasi also found it difficult to hide the beauty of one of *Psycho*’s leading ladies. “Hitchcock dressed her up in a wig and did everything could to make the beautiful Vera Miles look frumpy,” said Gervasi. “What Hitch tried to do to Vera we tried to do to Jessica, and the results were equally ridiculous. It is not possible to make Jessica Biel dowdy.”



Biel said that working on *Hitchcock* was a wonderful experience. “What it does when everyone is on board making the same movie, in for the long haul, cares only about the product as a whole and not stuck on what you’re doing specifically...it just creates a bond, a fluidity for these characters to come in and out.” And on acting opposite screen legend Anthony Hopkins? “It’s overwhelming, it’s terrifying, it’s complete and utter jubilation, nerve-wracking, but most of all, it’s fun.” Biel said Hopkins is “like the sun. He’s that sun everyone is revolving around, and I just feel this lightness and this brightness from him constantly. And there’s never any judgement.”



*Hitchcock* is Biel’s third film to be release in 2012 after *Total Recall* and *The Tall Man*. Coming December 7 is her fourth film, *Playing for Keeps*, in which she stars opposite Gerard Butler, Uma Thurman, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Dennis Quaid. The romantic comedy follows a former sports star who’s fallen on hard times and starts coaching his son’s soccer team in an attempt to get his life together.