



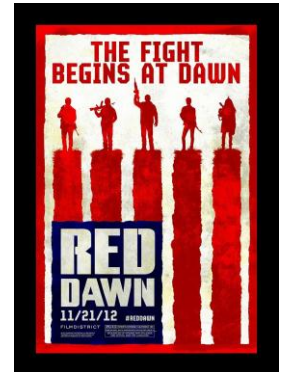
IMTA ALUM ADRIANNE PALICKI TAKES ON *RED DAWN*

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Red Dawn opens nationwide Wednesday, November 21

“After I booked the part I ended up watching the [original] movie and I completely saw why people loved it so much...why it had such a cult following.” – Adrienne Palicki

When *Red Dawn* was released in 1984, there were basically two camps that formed around the film: those whose politics leaned to the left and who viewed it as an over-the-top glorification of war, and those who leaned right, loved the film and supported Ronald Reagan’s stance in the Cold War against Communism. It was a startling story about a Soviet military invasion of the U.S. and a group of teens banding together to wage their own brand of guerilla warfare resistance. However, the mixed reviews of the first-ever PG13-rated film, and stars such as Patrick Swayze, Jennifer Grey, C. Thomas Howell, Leah Thompson and Charlie Sheen did little to keep it from becoming a cult classic that was recently described on one film blog as a “Guilty pleasure film that one day you’ll have to explain to your grandkids.”



In the 2012 remake of *Red Dawn* the Russians have been replaced by the North Koreans, but the basic plot is the same: a group of young patriots fighting back against an enemy occupation of their town. Taking full advantage of the advances in cinema technology and special effects, this updated version has been described by one review as “a scary, action-packed war zone that demonstrates the cost of selfishness and the importance of bonding as a team.” The



film, which was actually shot in 2009-2010 but encountered numerous delays in its release, stars IMTA alum Adrienne Palicki (NY03) alongside Chris Hemsworth, Josh Hutcherson, Josh Peck, Isabel Lucas and Jeffrey Dean Morgan.

“It’s very exciting that people are finally going to get the chance to see the film,” said Palicki, adding “I think it’s a really fun, good movie that people are going to really enjoy.” She said that when she would tell people about the remaking of *Red Dawn*, “they actually got mad at me, especially my guy friends. ‘What? They’re re-making that movie? Don’t dare mess it up!’ So many people had that exact same reaction, people I don’t even know, so I was like, I should probably do this movie. I get it. I can see why it had such a cult following, especially at the time. I can imagine how it resonated with people during that time period with the Russians.”

In spite of her many successes, Palicki said she constantly has self-doubts about being an actress. “I have that, every day. I’m not going to lie. I’m serious. And then, I have to remind myself that I love what I do. If I get to do one job a year, or if I get to just do my job, even if people don’t get to see it, I’m doing my job and it’s making me happy. I’ve got to just keep fighting through it and do it, and hope that eventually people see what I’m doing.”

Palicki recently filmed the comedy *Coffee Town*, in which three thirty-something friends band together when their carefree existence is threatened. The film also stars Glen Howerton, Steve Little, Ben Schwartz and Josh Groban. No release date has been scheduled. She also completed filming her role as Lady Jaye in the action adventure *G.I. Joe: Retaliation*. In this installment of the franchise series, the G.I. Joes are not just fighting their mortal enemy Cobra; they are forced to contend with threats from within the government that jeopardize their very existence. The film is scheduled for a March 29, 2013 release and also stars Channing Tatum, Dwayne Johnson and Bruce Willis.



Palicki says that doing action roles such as that of Toni in *Red Dawn*, Lady Jay in *G.I. Joe: Retaliation* and the *Wonder Woman* pilot come naturally to her. “I love it. I’m naturally athletic, and I think playing strong, female roles just kind of happened. And then once you do one, people go, ‘She’s really good at that; she can carry around guns and stuff, why don’t you just do this?’ And I’m like, ‘Okay, sure, I’ll do that. I’ll play Wonder Woman.’” She adds, “Growing up [in Ohio], I ran track and played basketball, and I danced for a long time, so there was always a level of physicality. I think moving to L.A. I became much more physical; it’s just kind of a prerequisite living here. But there’s no level of preparation for something like *Red Dawn*. I mean, with this movie, I was definitely shocked at how much of the stunts I did and how scary it was, how hard it was, but also how fun it was to say, ‘I did that,’ and actually get to look on the screen and say, ‘That’s me. That fall? Yep, that was me.’”

