



# IMTA ALUM GARRETT HEDLUND AS HOOK IN *PAN*

**IMTA Press Release  
October 8, 2015**

*Pan* opens nationwide Friday, October 9

*“I read the script and I thought it was wonderful. Actually, I was extremely moved by it...I laughed, I cried, I had never seen a Hook like this before. I was wildly entertained by him, by all of his attributes—how clumsy he was, how selfish and childish he was. ...He’s Hook without the hook.”*

– Garrett Hedlund

Nearly everyone knows the story of Peter Pan—the boy who can fly, lives in the magical world of Neverland amongst warriors and fairies, battles pirates led by the infamous Captain Hook, and never has to grow up. The tale by author J.M. Barrie has been animated, played out on the stage and treated to several film versions. But none of the adaptations have dealt with the origins of how Peter and Hook came to be sworn enemies...until now.

*Pan*, a new live-action feature from director Joe Wright and Warner Brothers, presents the background story of how young Peter is kidnapped from the orphanage where he had been left as a baby by his mother and whisked away to the fantastical world of Neverland. There, he finds amazing adventures and fights life-or-death battles while trying to discover what happened to his mother, as well as figure out his rightful place in this magical land. Teamed with the warrior Tiger Lily and a new friend named James Hook, Peter must defeat the ruthless pirate Blackbeard to save Neverland and discover his true destiny: to become the hero who will forever be known as Peter Pan.



IMTA alum Garrett Hedlund stars in *Pan* as Hook, alongside Hugh Jackman, Rooney Mara and Levi Miller. “In this story, the James Hook that you will meet is an original, and it’s different from the Captain Hook we all sort of know and love, but the seeds are planted in there the way J. M. Barrie started with it,” said Hedlund. “In the original, I kind of loved how much [Hook] hated Peter because he was young and was like lightning in a bottle, and there was this sort of sadness with time passed and he can’t get it back. I always



loved that aspect. Within this film, he’s much more selfish. Peter demands that if he’s going to help Hook get off this island and fly him to home, a home which he can’t remember, he must help Peter find his mother. And Hook agrees to this, but he in no way really means it or cares to. Once Hook finds his own ship, his selfish exterior comes out full-fledged and you really see his true colors.”

Following *Pan*, Hedlund’s latest project is the literary drama *Billy Flynn’s Long Halftime Walk* from director Ang Lee. The film, scheduled for a 2016 Veteran’s Day release, has already created Hollywood buzz because it is the first film ever to be shot in 3D at an ultra-high frame rate of 120 frames per second. Hedlund plays the character Dime in the film, which is based on the novel by Ben Franklin and set in Dallas in 2005. It recounts the story of a 19-year-old infantryman in the final few hours before he and his brothers-in-arms return to war in Iraq. Vin Diesel, Kristen Stewart, Chris Tucker, Mackenzie Leigh, Ben Platt and Steve Martin also star.

Another recent project is the thriller *Mojave* in which Hedlund stars opposite Oscar Isaac as a brilliant but suicidal artist who attempts to leave behind his privileged existence by escaping into the desert, only to encounter a homicidal drifter. Mark Wahlberg and Louise Bourgoïn also star. The film screened earlier this year at the Tribeca Film Festival and was acquired by A24 Films, but a theatrical release has not yet been scheduled.