



IMTA ALUM AARON PAUL IS THE *EYE IN THE SKY*

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Eye in the Sky is in select theatres Friday, March 11th

“I want to do stories that have my heart racing. That’s why you don’t see me in romantic comedies. I love sappy movies, but I’m drawn to characters that are going through a lot. I don’t know what that says about me. Maybe I love feeling those emotions because I know I can zip the skin off and walk away from them.” – Aaron Paul

You are a military drone pilot in Nevada, being directed to bomb terrorists in Nairobi by a British Colonel in Southern England, when suddenly a civilian enters the target area. What do you do? Follow orders and knowingly risk killing an innocent young girl and sparking an international incident, or listen to your conscience and disobey a direct order, allowing the terrorists to proceed with a suicide bombing as well as ending your career.

Such is the dilemma faced by IMTA alum Aaron Paul in the thriller *Eye in the Sky*. “I’m playing a pilot who’s safe in this bunker outside Las Vegas, flying a drone over Kenya,” explained Paul. “It’s such a strange thing that this pilot controls this huge drone that has missiles attached to it, and is being ordered to drop them on buildings that could hurt innocent civilians in them. There’s a lot going on.”



Eye in the Sky takes place in real time as U.S. and U.K. authorities work together on a mission that everyone wants to succeed, but no one wants the responsibility of making the tough decision involved. The film is “an exploration of the deeply-absurd-yet-totally-fascinating process which determines the factors which will allow for missiles to be launched,” said Kevin Jagernauth writing for Indiewire’s The Playlist. “Military decisions cannot put individual lives into consideration, however, as the film makes clear, there are still people in the ‘kill chain’ who don’t always easily put aside their basic human sympathies...and the primary purpose of *Eye In The Sky* is to put tough questions to viewers about the value systems that drive these kinds of operations.”



“It’s a very, very heavy film, a heavy story,” Paul said on the “Today” show. “I talked to a drone pilot, worked with him and learned how to fly drones. And with all that information...it’s a scary, scary world.” In addition to Paul, *Eye in the Sky* stars Helen Mirren, Alan Rickman (in his final film performance before his death earlier this year), Phoebe Fox and Barkhad Abdi.

Next up for Paul is the Hulu series “*The Path*.” “‘*The Path*’ centers around a very controversial religious movement,” Paul said. “I play a father of two who’s in the middle of this movement and having doubts.” Michelle Monaghan and Hugh Dancy also star in the series, premiering on March 30.

Top photo: *Entertainment Weekly*