

Marvel's "Black Panther" provides excellent representation for minorities

By Klaria Holmes

opinions editor

In two hours and 15 minutes, "Black Panther" effectively captivated audiences, making my childhood dreams come true.

"Black Panther" was undoubtedly one of the most anticipated movies to come to theaters, and for good reasons; the movie is an excellent feat for both superhero movies and black people.

The movie grossed an estimated \$400+ million from its four-day opening according to Forbes, and did not disappoint. The film has already earned the spot of best debut performance of all time in the month of February. With its larger-than-life cinematography and excellent cast, the movie lives up to all the hype it's earned for the past nine months.

Director Ryan J. Coogler has the magic touch. He has

the ability to flip any idea into a masterpiece, so when I heard he was directing "Black Panther," I knew it wouldn't be a flop.

The movie is beautifully realistic featuring an authentic African language as title sequences, the majority of the cast being of the minority and Wakanda, the kingdom the story takes



place in.

When the movie starts the audience is introduced to our hero, T'Challa who's played by Chadwick Boseman. T'Challa embodies all the characteristics that good heroes have, offering patience and comic relief in just the right moments.

He resides in Wakanda, a magical city that 'hides in plain sight' and runs off the power of vibranium, the same thing that fuels Black Panther's suit. He's crowned king after the death of his father, which comes with its own set of challenges.

"Black Panther" is not only a stunning superhero movie, but also an amazing, and correct, representation of black people. The cast features characters with depth, something that most black characters lack in several shows.

For years, people have been waiting for Hollywood to finally get it right, and it seems they've done it with this movie. Finally, young minorities have a superhero they can call their own who looks just like them.

Overall, the cinematography of "Black Panther" is breathtaking, transforming Wakanda from a thought to a picturesque village rich with culture and life.

The movie ends with a powerful note, stressing the importance of inclusion: "But in times of crisis the wise build bridges, while the foolish build barriers." The movie does an excellent job of working political statements into its plot without overdoing them and placing them in the right moments for them to be effective.

For one bright shining moment, there was "Black Panther," which shattered proverbial glass ceilings and challenged common Hollywood myths. Wakanda forever.

MGMT

MGMT return to roots with new release, "Little Dark Age"

By Livvy Cohen

editor-in-chief

After a five-year hiatus, indie-rock band MGMT has retuned stronger than ever in their artistry. Their third studio album, "Little Dark Age," was released on Feb. 9 and was absolutely living up to the hype. As an avid listener and fan of MGMT, my hopes were set extremely high leading up to this album, and I was nothing but impressed.

MGMT hit the scene in 2007 with their hit songs "Kids," "Electric Feel" and "Time to Pretend." They seemed almost invincible. Following their past two releases, 2010's "Congratulations" and 2013's "MGMT," however, their fanbase was dwindling down due to extremely experimental albums that were tedious listens for several fans. With their new album, though, I can listen rest assured knowing that MGMT is back and bet-

ter than ever.

Their freshman release, "Oracular Spectacular" will always stand as one of my favorite albums ever, but "Little Dark Age" is now competing for that spot.

Opening with an usually poppy song coming from a band that typically has a rock, alternative and psychedelic sound, MGMT made listeners aware that they are growing in their artistry and venturing through several genres within their career with no limitations in mind. "She Works Out Too Much" is the perfectly sarcastic song criticizing the dating world in the 21st century, with a heavily pop-influenced experimental sound that I could listen to for hours on end.

This sarcastic tone and criticalness of modern day society was extremely prevalent through the entirety of "Little Dark Age," during my favorite track "TSLAMP"—time spent

looking at my phone—and singles "Little Dark Age" and "Hand It Over," which were written in reaction to President Trump's election into office. MGMT has managed to turn the negative face of society into an exciting new sound, and I'm already looking forward to their next release—and "Little Dark Age" hasn't even been out for a full month.

"Little Dark Age" managed to explore so many different moods and sounds, and all were wonderfully produced. Each track flowed effortlessly into the next and showed how skillful members Andrew VanWyngarden and Ben Goldwasser are. It's evident how much they care about their music and carefully craft each album.

Hopefully, it won't be another five years until their next release, but at this rate of creativity and success, any wait would be worth it for MGMT.

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