

Movie Review: *Alice in Wonderland* **Wonderland Revisited**



©Disney Enterprises, Inc.

Film still from *Alice and Wonderland* starring **Johnny Depp** as the Mad Hatter, **Mia Wasikowska** as Alice, and **Anne Hathaway** as the White Queen.

By **ERIN J. SMITH** / CASA

IN AN IMAGINATIVE REFIGURING OF LEWIS CARROLL'S TIMELESS TALE, director Tim Burton leads a stellar ensemble cast on a trip down the rabbit hole in Disney's *Alice in Wonderland*.

On the brink of an all-but arranged marriage to the son of her father's business partner, 19 year old Alice Kingsleigh (Mia Wasikowska) decides she 'needs a moment' and finds herself once again falling into a topsy-turvey world, where animals can talk and eating or drinking can make you freakishly tall or small enough to fit inside a teapot.

Despite becoming reacquainted with old friends including the White Rabbit (voiced by Michael Sheen), Tweedle-Dee and Tweedle-Dum (voiced by Matt Lucas), the March Hare (voiced by Paul Whitehouse), and the Dormouse (voiced by Barbara Windsor), Alice is convinced she is lost in the recurring dream she has had since childhood and her Wonderland friends question whether

she is the 'right' Alice. But, in order to slay the Jabberwocky, thus defeating the evil Red Queen and restoring the throne to the beautiful White Queen, Alice must become much more much-ier – the Mad Hatter's singular expression describing Alice's moxie. Only then will she be able to climb out of the rabbit hole and face the world again – a much stronger, more determined Alice.

While Johnny Depp's characterization of the Mad Hatter is certain to delight and Helena Bonham Carter's Red Queen is a brilliantly tyrannical take on the Queen of Hearts, the young Australian actress Mia Wasikowska holds her own in the title role. Stephen Fry and Alan Rickman lend their scene-stealing voice talents to the Cheshire Cat and Absolem, the Blue Caterpillar, and the rich, highly-detailed sets, gorgeous costumes, and imaginative make-up all create a crazy-mad-wonderful world.

Alice in Wonderland is showing in 3D at the Arlington Theatre. For tickets and show times, call 963-4408.