

# John Wick, Detective Pikachu and Gloria Bell

 By [Daniel Derksen](#)

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Films opening in South African this week are *Gloria Bell*, *John Wick 3: Parabellum*, *Pokémon: Detective Pikachu* and *The Stolen Princess*.

## Gloria Bell

Gloria (Julianne Moore) is a free-spirited divorcée who spends her days at a straight-laced office job and her nights on the dance floor, joyfully letting loose at clubs around Los Angeles. After meeting Arnold (John Turturro) on a night out, she finds herself thrust into an unexpected new romance, filled with both the joys of budding love and the complications of dating, identity and family.

Written and directed by Sebastián Lelio. It is a reimagining of Lelio's 2013 film *Gloria*.

Read more [here](#).

## John Wick 3: Parabellum

In the third instalment of the adrenaline-fueled franchise, Keanu Reeves returns as the eternally embattled super-assassin John Wick who must fight his way out of New York when a \$14m contract on his life makes him the target of the world's top assassins.

Directed by Chad Stahelski and written by Derek Kolstad, Chris Collins and Marc Abrams, and Shay Hatten.

## **Pokémon: Detective Pikachu**

The first-ever live-action *Pokémon* adventure stars Ryan Reynolds as Detective Pikachu and is based on the beloved *Pokémon* brand – one of the world's most popular, multi-generation entertainment properties and one of the most successful media franchises of all time. The story begins when ace detective Harry Goodman goes missing mysteriously; prompting his 21-year-old son Tim to find out what happened. Aiding in the investigation is Harry's former Pokémon partner, Detective Pikachu – a hilariously wise-cracking, adorable super-sleuth who is puzzlement even to himself.

Finding that they are uniquely equipped to work together, as Tim is the only human who can talk with Pikachu, they join forces on a thrilling adventure to unravel the tangled mystery. Chasing clues together through the neon-lit streets of Ryme City – a sprawling, modern metropolis where humans and Pokémon live side by side in a hyper-realistic live-action world – they encounter a diverse cast of Pokémon and uncover a shocking plot that could destroy this peaceful co-existence and

threaten the whole Pokémon universe.

Directed by Rob Letterman, from a story by Dan Hernandez and Benji Samit and Nicole Perlman, screenplay by Dan Hernandez and Benji Samit and Rob Letterman and Derek Connolly, based on the “Detective Pikachu” video game developed by Creatures Inc.

## The Stolen Princess

This Ukrainian animated film from Oleg Malamuzh takes place in the age of valiant knights, beautiful princesses and battling sorcerers. Ruslan, a wandering artist dreaming to become a knight, meets beautiful Mila and falls in love with her, not knowing that she is the King’s daughter. However, the lovers’ happiness won’t last. Chornomor, the evil sorcerer, appears in a magic vortex and steals Mila right before Ruslan’s eyes, with the aim of transforming her power of love into his own magic power.

Ruslan sets out on a chase after the stolen princess and must overcome a series of obstacles as he bids to prove that true love is stronger than magic.

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## ABOUT DANIEL DERCKSEN

Daniel Dercksen has been a contributor for Lifestyle since 2012. As the driving force behind the successful independent training initiative The Writing Studio and a published film and theatre journalist of 40 years, teaching workshops in creative writing, playwriting and screenwriting throughout South Africa and internationally the past 22 years. Visit [www.writingstudio.co.za](http://www.writingstudio.co.za)

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