

## EVENTS

## Truman Live! Auditions

6–8 p.m. March 16  
SUB Down Under

Try out for a chance to perform and compete in the Student Activities Board's Truman Live! talent show April 1. To sign up, stop by the SAB office in the Student Union Building or visit [sab.truman.edu](http://sab.truman.edu).

## Juried Student Art Exhibit

## Opening Ceremony

5–7 p.m. March 15  
University Art Gallery

The University Art Gallery will open the Annual Juried Student Art Exhibit, which displays Truman students' artwork. This year, artist James Ehlers served as juror to select the student artwork. The art gallery is free and open to the public.

# TASTE OF TRUMAN

## with Laura Seaman

### CHICKEN & RICE

**Directions:**

1. Thaw chicken for five hours.
2. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
3. Mix cream of chicken soup, dry onion soup, water and rice in a bowl, then pour into a pan, preferably an 8-inch by 8-inch glass pan.
4. Melt butter, then brush it over chicken and sprinkle on salt and pepper.
5. Lay chicken on top of the soup and rice mixture, then put it in the oven and bake for one and a half hours.


**Ingredients:**

- 2-3 pieces of chicken (any type of chicken pieces work)
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1/2 package dry onion soup
- 3/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup rice
- 1 tablespoon butter or margarine
- Salt and pepper



## TOP 5 Oscar Wins We Agree With



3

"Ex Machina" was probably even more of an underdog than "Fury Road," only receiving two nominations this year. But the film won a well-deserved Best Visual Effects award for its lifelike robot representations.



1

"Fury Road" had the most wins – six – at the Oscars Sunday night. The film dominated the technical categories, winning for costume design, sound editing, sound mixing, production design, hair and makeup, and film editing.



4

It's always fun to see first-time nominees win an award. Brie Larson won the Best Actress category for her role in "Room," beating out Cate Blanchett, Jennifer Lawrence, Saoirse Ronan and Charlotte Rampling.



2

Leonardo DiCaprio finally received an Oscar win for his role as frontiersman Hugh Glass in "The Revenant." DiCaprio got a standing ovation and used his acceptance speech to talk about environmental issues. RIP Leo Oscar jokes.



5

Hungarian film "Son of Saul" won for Best Foreign Language film. The movie details the story of a Hungarian-Jewish prisoner who burns the dead inside prison camps, and one day comes across a body he thinks is his son.

# REEL.talk

## MUSIC, MYTHS AND BLACK PHILLIP - "THE WITCH" IS A TRUE HORROR FILM

**BY KATEY STOETZEL**

 Features Editor  
[index.featureseditor@gmail.com](mailto:index.featureseditor@gmail.com)

Based on folktales from 1600s New England, "The Witch," written and directed by Robert Eggers, has joined the canon of great horror films. The film follows a Puritan family as it deals with black magic, possession and witchcraft after a witch who lives in the woods behind the family's farm steals newborn Samuel.

The film is a "slow burn" horror story, and while some might interpret that as boring, the family's beliefs, dynamics and culture of the time period are essential set-up to understand the events of the film. Each scene contains subtle depth and meaning, allowing for a much more atmospheric and authentic result.

The actors, who are relatively unknown, deliver the colonial English dialogue perfectly and with such emotion it's impossible not to be drawn into this world and to sympathize with the family members struggle with their beliefs once confronted with the unnatural forces threatening their livelihood.

The use of natural light gives the film a very muted and organic feel, and cinematographer Jarin Blaschke sets up beautiful shots. What's more, the

score of the film, composed by Mark Korven, easily is one of the more haunting film scores of any horror film. If the odd and disturbing imagery of the film doesn't stick with you, the music surely will remain with you days after you've left the theater.

But what Eggers, in his directorial debut, manages to do quite expertly is blend mythology, reality and the supernatural. During interviews, Eggers, who grew up near New England, explained how the myths of witches and black magic really were construed as a possibility by people of the time, such as the family in "The Witch." The witch is introduced right away during the film, so there isn't any question black magic and witches exist, but rather the movie centers on how the questioning of them completely tears this Puritan family apart.

Such integration of reality and the supernatural makes the climax of the film all the more unnerving and rewarding. The pacing is fantastic too — each scene ends with something a little more to hold on to.

"The Witch" doesn't rely on cheap thrills and jump scares, and to be a great horror film, it doesn't need to. As someone who easily gets scared during any horror film, I was thankful for that. But the horror of

"The Witch" lies somewhere rooted deep within all of us — sin and humanity's capacity for evil. Not Evil, capital E, but rather the mundane sort of evil we run into every day. At the beginning of the film, the family is excommunicated from a Puritan Christian plantation for "prideful conceit," and builds a new home on the edges of the forest where the witch lives. The family's inability to trust and forgive each other after Samuel's abduction ultimately leads to its downfall.

I've talked a little about the folktale nature of "The Witch," which is what drew me to the film in the first place. In an interview with Birth. Movies. Death. editor Devin Faraci, Eggers said the idea for the film came from his curiosity with witches, and he said he wanted to bring them back to form and away from the likes of "Sabrina" and "Bewitched." Other mythologies present in "The Witch" are "Hansel and Gretel" and the devil, who takes on a common form of the devil as the goat Black Phillip. Eggers' take on these mythologies is traditional, but together they work in a way that brings audiences something new.

Fans of the horror genre are difficult to please, it seems. But with "The Witch," we've got a truly great horror film that brings the horror genre back to form.

Grade — A