

Rose in bloom

HOME-GROWN HOLLYWOOD STAR ROSE BYRNE TALKS ABOUT HER AUSSIE BOYFRIEND, BRAD PITT AND LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT.

ON BEING PEGGED "THE NEXT BIGGEST THING" IN HOLLYWOOD

I'm a cynical Australian girl and I take all that stuff with a pinch of salt, you know? You just ignore the media spin. It's very flattering but you can't worry about stuff like that. You just worry about the next job, the next day, the next scene... I guess [fame is] sort of a by-product of the work, in a sense. And that's not really what I'm after. I just want to keep working and that's not my style. I see myself more as a character actress than a celebrity. It's not how I've ever viewed my career.

ON BOYFRIEND AND FELLOW AUSSIE ACTOR BRENDAN COWELL

We're quite the foodies. And I guess with us there's so much time spent apart, so just hanging out doing nothing is fun. I can understand those couples who have rules, where they only have a certain amount of time apart.

ON WORKING WITH BRAD PITT IN TROY

I thought he was wonderful. I think he's got a good sense of humour about everything and he's self-deprecating in a lot of ways. He was still finding his way, he was in no means arrogant. He doesn't have any attitude. He's a

cheeky guy. He's quite shy as well. He's not overt;

he's reserved.

ON HER ROLE IN STAR WARS AS PRINCESS AMIDALA'S HANDMAIDEN.

Blink and you'll miss me. Shooting it was really fun. It was, like, only 10 days work. Basically, I was just standing behind Natalie Portman, looking serious.

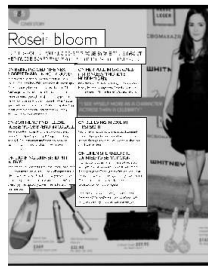
ON BELIEVING IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

I do. It's never happened to me, but it's happened to a lot of people I know. I really like the myth of it. It's a cool thing that we still have in society that you can daydream about.

ON WHEN SHE KNEW SHE WANTED TO BE AN ACTOR

I started doing classes when I was eight years old and I just loved it immediately, yeah. It was just fun, like playing games. Then I got my first job when I was 13 and that was when I just got the bug. I was just like, "Yeah, I can do this!". I was lucky enough since then to be able to work pretty regularly.

Rose stars in The Tender Hook, out September 18. Set in the 1920s, the film tells the story of a beautiful



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