

# IMTA ALUM JESSICA BIEL IS *PLAYING FOR KEEPS*



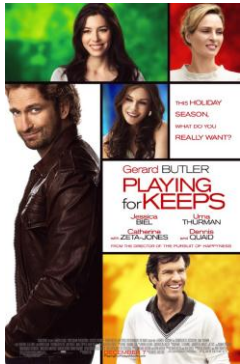
**IMTA Press Release**  
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*Playing for Keeps* opens nationwide Friday, December 7

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“I want for this movie to do so well. I want *Playing for Keeps* to do great in the theatres.” – Jessica Biel

It may be hard to argue that there is an actress in Hollywood who has been more in the news in 2012—for all the right reasons—than IMTA alum Jessica Biel (LA94). In addition to her much publicized marriage to Justin Timberlake, helping philanthropically and on the ground with hurricane relief efforts in New York, and starring in four films released during the year, it has just been announced that another Biel project, *Emmanuel and the Truth About Fishes*, is one of 16 films selected to premiere in the Dramatic Competition category at the prestigious Sundance Film Festival in January. The announcement comes just prior to the release of Biel’s fourth 2012 film, the romantic comedy *Playing for Keeps*, which opens Friday.



In *Playing for Keeps*, Biel plays Stacie, the ex-wife of retired international soccer player George Dryer (Gerard Butler), whom she divorced because of his play *off* the field. She is now newly engaged but faces unexpected complications when George relocates near her and tries to re-connect with her and their son, taking on coaching the son’s soccer team. Further impediments to a rekindled relationship come in the form of Stacie’s fellow soccer moms who find the new coach an unexpected spice perking up their suburban lives. Noah Lomax, Uma Thurman, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Dennis Quaid and Judy Greer also star.

“I at least use relationships in my real life—family relationships, friends, whatever it is—to inspire what I’m doing on film,” said Biel in a *Playing for Keeps* press interview with Jake Hamilton. “It’s what’s happening in your life. So you’re investing your experience and pulling from your real life to create a character you don’t know, that doesn’t actually exist.”



Biel’s films released earlier this year include the sci-fi action adventure remake of *Total Recall*, the thriller *The Tall Man*, and the recent *Hitchcock* in which she played actress Vera Miles during the making of Alfred Hitchcock’s film *Psycho*. In the upcoming *Emanuel and the Truth About Fishes*, Biel plays Linda opposite Kaya Scodelario’s character Emanuel, a troubled young girl who becomes preoccupied with Linda because she bears a striking resemblance to Emanuel’s dead mother. In offering to babysit Linda’s newborn, Emanuel unwittingly enters a fragile, fictional world, of which she becomes the gatekeeper. Alfred Molina, Frances O’Connor, Jimmi Simpson and Aneurin Barnard also star.