

## Bridesmaids

By Dottie Knapp, President, Cape May Film Society

[www.capemayfilm.org](http://www.capemayfilm.org)

I read a review that started out “Bridesmaids [is] an unexpectedly funny new comedy.” Unexpected? Are you kidding me? Did this reviewer check out any of the numerous trailers? How could you watch one and not be laughing out loud. The trailer for Bridesmaids made me want to see this movie immediately if not sooner and, so it would seem, did a number of other people. My sister and I went to a Saturday afternoon show thinking we would have the place to ourselves and “unexpectedly” the place was packed. Obviously, the general public is better able to recognize funny when they see it than the aforementioned reviewer.

I expected this movie to be essentially “Hangover” with a female cast, raunchy and a bit over the top. In fact a better comparison would be “40 Year Old Virgin”. It was funny but had genuine moments of caring and compassion. Relationships were explored. Insecurities were exposed. A person comes of age. There are explosions, some, temperamental, some, - well, let’s just say, some are more earthy (this is a family friendly weekly). So yes, it can be a bit on the disgusting side, but when you were in your teens and twenties these things made you laugh. Try to find that inner youth in yourself and laugh along with the rest of the audience, who were howling at six women dealing with food poisoning.

The movie stars Kristen Wiig who along with Annie Mumolo wrote the screenplay. You know Kristen Wiig from SNL and both she and Mumolo were with the comedy troupe Groundlings. Like Second City, Groundlings is about improvisation. As I was watching the movie I wished I had a script in hand, because I knew that with these two actresses, as well as Maya Rudolph and Ellie Kemper, a lot of improv was going on. I’m thinking they probably have a whole other movie consisting of out-takes.

These women are great, but the scene stealer is Melissa McCarthy (Gilmore Girls, Samantha Who, Mike and Molly). I put those references in because I don’t think you are going to recognize her. She plays every moment completely straight no matter how ridiculous which makes her the funniest. Go see the movie if only to hear her initial introduction of herself to Wiig.

Final words: Guys, you’re gonna’ love it too. Go.

Dottie Knapp is a film workshop presenter and President of the Cape May Film Festival. Her previous presentations included a workshop on Buzz Berkeley as well as humor in the military. An upcoming presentation will include a look at films about baseball!