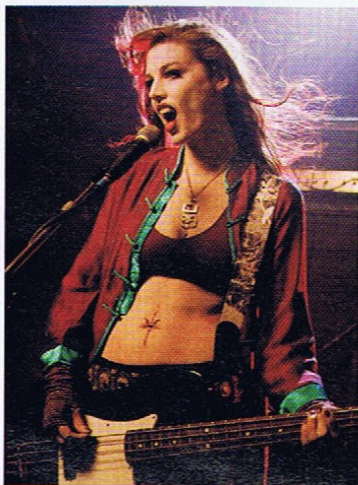


so that helped with learning to play the bass,” explains the L.A.-based actress. “Alice Cooper told me I looked cool—though he didn’t say I *sounded* cool.” Former club-kid Moby also graces the screen as a lead singer in the rock band Secretaries of Steak. “Moby’s part is hilarious!” says Paré. “He is the



world’s biggest vegan and he plays a character named Beef Bellows, who gets pelted with raw meat.”

Unlike her character in *Suck*, which debuted at this year’s Toronto International Film Festival, Paré says she has resisted the temptation to sell her soul for a taste of fame. “If there’s a part I’m not comfortable playing, I just don’t. I’d rather be doing what I love. I’m working on a movie called *Hot Tub Time Machine*. Think of how *that* will look on my resumé, right under vampires!” □

MEMORY LANE

“My most memorable TIFF moment is also my worst!” says Paré, laughing. “It was for my first feature, *Stardom*, and I was extremely nervous. It was so crowded, and I was wearing a dress I was uncomfortable in while everyone else looked so elegant. As soon as I got inside, my nerves went on me and I ran to the bathroom and threw up!”

TOP FIVE CANADIAN PICKS FROM THE TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

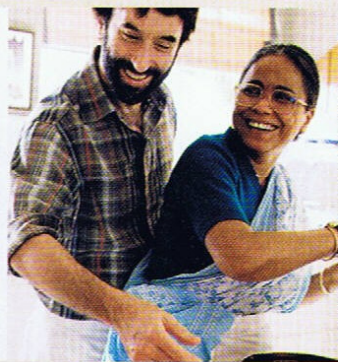


Chloe

Atom Egoyan heats up the screen in this tale of a wife (**Julianne Moore**) who hires an escort (**Amanda Seyfried**) to seduce her husband (**Liam Neeson**) and prove his infidelity. But it’s the eroticism between the two women that sizzles.

Cooking With Stella

Talk about zeitgeist. **Dilip Mehta**, brother of Deepa, taps into two trends: food and India. Filmed in New Delhi, it stars **Don McKellar** as a chef who follows his diplomat wife (**Lisa Ray**) to her new posting. He is broken into the complexities of India—both cultural and culinary—by the household’s charismatic head cook, Stella.



Cairo Time

After her acclaimed feature *Sabah*, Syrian-Canadian director **Ruba Nadda** continues her exploration of cross-cultural romance. Shot in Egypt, it’s the story of an unexpected attraction between a married white woman (**Patricia Clarkson**) and an Arab man, who just happens to be her husband’s good friend.

Year of the Carnivore

Sook-Yin Lee is a Renaissance woman: singer, actor, radio host and now director. Her first feature is inspired by her coming of age in West Coast suburbia and follows up on the issues of body image and sexuality that she tackled so memorably in *Shortbus*.



The Young Victoria

We might think of her mostly as the dour “Widow of Windsor,” but **Emily Blunt**’s monarch is a romantic young woman on the cusp of marriage and empire-building. Call it crazy that a film with such a British pedigree comes to us from Quebecker Jean-Marc Vallée, much loved for his own *C.R.A.Z.Y.* **EGLE PROCUTA**