

THE  
**STAR WARS**  
ROUNDUP SPECIAL  
BY AND FOR THE PADAWANS OF HIGH SCHOOL WEST

STORY OF THE WEEK - DECEMBER 17, 2015

# THE FORCE IS STRONG WITH THESE COSTUMES...

STORY BY MARK NEGRON  
DESIGN BY LEXIE GEVISENHET

*Star Wars* is a franchise that prides itself on many things, one of which is creating characters that people have grown to love over almost 40 years. However, one commonly overlooked but deeply important factor of this beloved series is not the writing or the cinematography, but the costume design.

In any epic, the costume design can tell a lot about the history and culture of the characters, deepening the lore of the overall story and universe the movie creates. *Star Wars* is no different; its costume design drawing an emphasis on telling almost an entirely separate story. For example, taking a more detailed look at Princess Leia's outfit in *Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope*, Carrie Fisher's iconic character is dressed in an all-white outfit with stylish shoes and an overall appearance resembling royalty and power. This is in great contrast to the outfit Mark Hamill's character, Luke Skywalker, wears, giving the resemblance of a young, humble farmer who searches for something more in his life.

However, the costumes for Luke and Leia are meant to complement the characters brilliant acting while the story undertones their past. For other characters, their costume is their entire persona. A prime example

of this is Darth Vader, as his costume strikes a sense of fear and destruction. In other words, this deadly Sith Lord's bark is as strong as his bite. This is true even for background characters in the movies, such as Greedo and Boba Fett. The sense of smuggler and bounty hunter is perfectly portrayed in the appearance of Greedo. In the case of Boba Fett, it is very clear from the design of the entire suit that this is a cold-blooded killer with a high reputation as seen from the Mandalorian logo on his shoulder guards.

However, working hand-in-hand with the costumes, let's not forget the puppets, animatronics, and robots of the acclaimed franchise. R2-D2 had two models in the original films: one remote-controlled robot and another worn by Kenny Baker. This set-up was put on a much larger scale when working on *Star Wars Episode II: Attack of the Clones*, with eight remote controlled robots, two worn by Kenny Baker, and all the rest simply stunt models moved us-

ing strings and tow cables. The other popular character that fits this non-humanoid category, Grand Master Yoda, was a two man operation. Frank Oz did all of the voice work for the character as well as controlling the movements. However, in *Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back* and *Episode I: The Phantom Menace*, little people actors Deep Roy and Warwick Davis were dressed in costume.

Remembering the past is great, but what about the... new? How...



# THE ROUNDUP

STORY OF THE WEEK - DECEMBER 17, 2015

BY AND FOR THE STUDENTS OF HALF HOLLOW HILLS HIGH SCHOOL WEST

...does J.J. Abrams clothe the newest heroes for *Star Wars Episode VII: The Force Awakens*?

The suits of the First Order are an amazing example of the attention to detail Abrams has for the costumes in the new movies, with the new models of Stormtroopers, Snowtroopers, and most recently, Flametroopers, being much more sleek and threatening while retaining the feel of the older suits. However, the biggest difference in the outfits of the infamous soldiers is the design of Captain Phasma, played by Game of Thrones star Gwendoline Christie; she is dressed in a Chrome plated Stormtrooper suit. General Hux, played by Domhnall Gleeson, stands as a high authority figure, controlling the First Order in with Kylo Ren, as if he is as powerful as the mysterious warrior. Kylo Ren's outfit is reported to resemble that of a powerful samurai mixed with Darth Vader's powerful appearance. This is shown through the design of the cloak, helmet, unique lightsaber, and the extremely deep voice of Adam Driver.

Overall, the costumes tell a story that no amount of dialog, action, or CGI could tell. They give detailed backstories to the characters, allowing for many ways to relate with the galaxies greatest heroes, and with the new movies quickly approaching, it seems as if this quality shines through. The fans can only hope that the rest of *Star Wars*' beloved qualities will shine through as well.

## OPENING NIGHT MADNESS!!!

"[I'm] pretty excited [to see] how the effects are [and] Han Solo. I wanna see Harrison Ford play his iconic character after 30 years."



William Catalanello

"Yes, [I am seeing *The Force Awakens*] with my fiancé, my best friend and some more friends. [I am] incredibly excited. [I am excited to see] what the producers are doing with the story [and] Chewbacca because though you don't understand everything he's saying, you feel his emotion."



Mr. Lamb

"I'm seeing it [*The Force Awakens*] with my dad, but we still have two extra tickets. I am very very VERY excited for *The Force Awakens*. Out of 10, I'd rate my level of excitement a solid 9. I'm excited to learn about Kylo Ren because the actor [Adam Driver] reported to put a lot of effort into his role."



James Wallace

TOMATOMETER ?



95%

Average Rating: 8.3/10  
Reviews Counted: 157  
Fresh: 150  
Rotten: 7

All Critics | Top Critics



Critics Consensus: Packed with action and populated by both familiar faces and fresh blood, *The Force Awakens* successfully recalls the series' former glory while injecting it with renewed energy.

WANT TO SEE ?



99%

want to see