

this new spin on Spider-Man, only five years after the last Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst “Spider-Man 3.”

The appearance of legendary filmmaker Francis Ford Coppola, with surprise guest Val Kilmer, was another major Comic-Con highlight. Promoting his Gothic horror/thriller “[Twixt \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1756851\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1756851),” Coppola made this Hall H audience feel privileged to partake in this rare unique, multi-media “dress rehearsal” and hear the great filmmaker speak about his past projects and views on the future of film.

Regular Comic-Con attendees are quite familiar with public figure Bob Stencil — always on hand at the podium in Hall H during Q & A segments. When Stencil had his turn at the mic, he said to Coppola, “I love everything you do, ‘Apocalypse Now,’ ‘The Conversation,’ ‘The Godfather,’ your Pinot Noir — it’s all amazing..... there are so many remakes and reboots coming out of Hollywood now, can you promise us to never let anyone remake or reboot ‘The Godfather?’ ” Coppola’s response: “.... I think when they remake films, it’s a pity because that money can go into investing in new ideas, new stories...” Applause.....

Further Hall H entertainment in the horror genre were with panels from Edgar Wright’s “[Attack the Block \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1478964/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1478964/)” featuring Nick Frost — now playing in theatres; the remake of “[Fright Night \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1438176/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1438176/)” with Colin Farrell — coming soon; “[Underworld 4: Awakening \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1496025/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1496025/)” with Kate Beckinsale — coming in January 2012, and “[The Raven \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1486192/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1486192/)” with John Cusack — due in theaters March 2012.

Action/adventure films are always huge at Comic-Con. This year, panels shown included “[Immortals \(http://immortalsmovie.com/splash/index.html\)](http://immortalsmovie.com/splash/index.html)” with Freida Pinto (Slumdog Millionaire), Mickey Rourke, and John Hurt — due in theaters November 11, 2011; “[Snow White and the Huntsman \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1735898/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1735898/)” with Kristen Stewart and Charlize Theron — due in theaters June 2012; “[Ghost Rider 2: Spirit of Vengeance \(http://www.thespiritofvengeance.com/\)](http://www.thespiritofvengeance.com/)” with Nicolas Cage — due in February 2012; and the remake of “[Total Recall \(http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1386703/\)](http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1386703/)” starring Colin Farrell, Kate Beckinsale, and Bryan Cranston — due in theaters August 2012.

Though often hilarious, some comedy films promoted at Comic-Con are a departure from the traditional Sci-fi/Action-Adventure/Horror/Fantasy/Animation genres. But because comedy has evolved into such a significant part of pop culture today, films such as “[30 Minutes or Less \(http://www.30minutesorless.com/\)](http://www.30minutesorless.com/)” with Jesse Eisenberg and Danny McBride — coming this August, fit right in. Even more-so the comedy/fantasy/adventure “[Knights of Badassdom \(http://knightsofbadassdom.com/\)](http://knightsofbadassdom.com/)” with Peter Dinklage, Ryan Kwanten, Danny Pudi, Jimmi Simpson, and Summer Glau — due out this year, was highly appropriate for Comic-Con. Crawling with Larper enthusiasts, this panel was a blast.

Beyond Hall H and the Convention Center, Comic-Con film festivities also traveled into the heart of the Gaslamp and East Village. On opening day of Comic-Con (Thursday), Comic-Con attendees were treated to all-day showings of “Captain America: The First Avenger” at the UA/Horton Plaza movie theater — one day prior to its public release.

Comic-Con fans can never get enough of Hugh Jackman — and the feeling is mutual. Not on the schedule