

What's On

Couch slouch

D'Onofrio cast as Wizard of Oz

BBC, Shanghai Media plan for 'Coast China'

LOS ANGELES, Oct 22, (RTRS): BBC Worldwide and China's Shanghai Media Group have agreed to co-produce "Coast China."

The show is derived from the BBC's BAFTA-winning series "Coast," investigating the unique character of coastal communities in Britain. "Coast China" will be the third international version based on the long running BBC series and follows "Coast Australia" which has just completed its second series and "Coast New Zealand."

The agreement, announced Wednesday, is separate and additional to the agreement between BBC Worldwide and SMG to co-produce "Earth" and release "Sherlock" in Chinese theaters. Both deals were signed during the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to the UK.

Filming of "Coast China," a six-episode series, will commence in Spring 2017. It will be produced by one of SMG's subsidiaries, DocuChina and Yunji Jianglai, a subsidiary of DocuChina's. Founded by SMG in 2006, DocuChina is the first TV channel in China to air only documentaries. It has become a satellite channel since 2014, reaching an audience base of 400 million. Yunji Jianglai, established in 2015, is a company specialising in international co-production projects.

"We are delighted to be cementing our relationship with SMG by announcing this exciting new phase of our long term alliance and look forward to working together towards the exchange of expertise and creation in the making of "Coast," said Kelvin Yau, GM, Greater China for BBC Worldwide.

"SMG is committed to producing top-notch documentaries for audiences in China and the world and this is a brilliant start," said Wang Jianjun, director general and president of SMG.

The premiere of "The Great Holiday Baking Show" and anniversary specials for "A Charlie Brown Christmas" and "Toy Story" highlight ABC's holiday programming schedule, the network announced Tuesday.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of "A Charlie Brown Christmas," the Alphabet on Monday, Nov. 30 will precede its annual airing of the beloved Peanuts animated tale with the special

"It's Your 50th Christmas, Charlie Brown." The hour will feature live performances from the memorable music of **Vince Guaraldi**, to **Kristen Chenoweth** singing "Happiness" from the "Peanuts" Broadway hit, and a performance by **Matthew Morrison** of an original song, "Just Like Me." **Sarah McLachlan**, **Boyz II Men** and the **All-American Boys Chorus** are also among the musical guests.

The Charlie Brown programs will be followed by the premiere of four-week series "The Great Holiday Baking Show" at 10. Based on the hit British series and hosted by **Nia Vardalos** and husband **Iam Gomez**, "Baking Show" stars some of the nation's best amateur bakers as they compete in a series of themed challenges and eliminations all hoping to be crowned Holiday Baking Champion.

"The Great Holiday Baking Show" will be joined on Mondays the following week by the return of three-week series "The Great Christmas Light Fight." The competition series in which 20 families and three neighborhoods from across America decorate their homes to the extreme, will air from 8 to 10 o'clock on Dec. 7, 14 and 21.

NBC has found their "Emerald City" wizard in **Vincent D'Onofrio**, Variety has learned.

The "Law & Order: Criminal Intent" alum will play the Wizard of Oz in NBC's drama, which takes a darker spin on the classic tale. He will co-star alongside **Adria Arjona** ("True Detective"), who was previously cast as Dorothy.

D'Onofrio's Wizard of Oz is described as the enigmatic leader of Emerald City. A man of science in a world of magic, he rules through inspiration, fear and a tenuous accord with the grand witches.

After passing on the project in the 2014 development season, NBC gave a 10-episode straight-to-series order to the ambitious fantasy vehicle with "Do No Harm" creator **David Schulner** attached.

Shaun Cassidy ("Blue Bloods") has been added as an exec producer, along with Schulner. **Tarsem Singh** will direct the Universal TV miniseries, marking a reunion with D'Onofrio, whom he directed on the 2000 **Jennifer Lopez** pic "The Cell." Originally, "Emerald City" was being developed by **Matthew Arnold** and **Josh Friedman**.

Health

Surgery's effectiveness evidence lacking

Study weighs knee replacement, other options

By Marilyn Marchione

People with knees worn out by arthritis will get more pain relief from joint replacement surgery, but it has more risks and there's a good chance that less drastic approaches also would help. That's the bottom line from the first study to strictly test other treatments against knee replacement, an operation done hundreds of thousands of times a year in the US.

"It's one of the great operations of the 20th century," yet good evidence of its effectiveness has been lacking, said Dr. Jeffrey Katz, a joint specialist at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston.

He wrote a commentary that appeared with the results in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine, and said the right choice will be different for each patient, depending on goals, overall health, and whether the person wants to have or avoid surgery.

More than 670,000 total knee replacements are performed annually in the United States, mostly for arthritis, which deteriorates cartilage in the joints.

Medical experts advise trying other things before considering surgery, such as weight loss, physical therapy, exercise and medicines, and many studies show these can help. But for how long is not known, nor are there good comparisons of side effects.

Researchers in Denmark assigned 100 patients to either 12 weeks of non-surgical treatment — physical therapy, exercise, diet advice, special insoles and pain medicine — or surgery followed by 12 weeks of the other treatments.

After one year, the surgery group improved twice as much as the others did on scores for pain, activities of daily living and quality of life. However, two-thirds of those not given surgery still had a meaningful improvement, and only one-fourth of them ended up having surgery within the year.

Complications were more frequent with surgery, including several serious deep vein clots, a fracture and a deep infection. And other studies show that surgery "is not universally successful," and that 1 in 5 patients still have some pain six months later, Katz wrote.

Others viewed the results as a clear victory for surgery.

Revamped DNA analysis kit gets US nod

Theranos defends blood-test 'integrity'

LAGUNA BEACH, United States, Oct 22, (AFP): The founder of innovative blood test startup Theranos on Wednesday challenged The Wall Street Journal on its own turf about an investigation into the firm's technology.

Elizabeth Holmes took to the stage at the prestigious WSJLive technology conference on the Southern California coast to say the Journal got the story wrong.

"We know the integrity of what we have done and regulators have looked at it," Holmes said during an interview with Wall Street Journal global technology editor Jonathan Krim.

The Journal released a statement standing by its report, which raised questions about whether the Silicon Valley-based startup was delivering as promised when it came to tests done from blood drawn by simple pin pricks.

The newspaper accused Theranos of using nothing more revolutionary than widely available commercial equipment.

"Nothing said at the conference by Ms. Holmes refutes the accuracy of the reporting done by John Carreyrou or of the articles," the Journal said.

"The Journal reiterates that our articles about Theranos were thoroughly reported, fair and wholly accurate."

"This certainly adds to the evidence that what we're doing is effective and improves patients' quality of life," said Dr. Joshua Jacobs, a joint surgeon at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago and spokesman for the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.

Many people get relief with therapy but ultimately need surgery when arthritis worsens, he said.

Lynnette Friend, a retired mail carrier from Crown Point, Indiana, tried joint-lubricating shots before having a knee replaced five years ago. She plans to have the other one done in January.

"This time I just went ahead and went

Holmes maintained otherwise during the on-stage interview, contending that concerns about Theranos testing methodology in the report were "completely false."

"We know what we are doing and are very proud of it, using finger prick testing and trying to expand the universe of how many tests are available," Holmes said.

Theranos has been cleared by US regulators for one kind of blood test as part of a procedural strategy to expand the line-up of tests from there, according to Holmes.

She said Theranos has done more than 3.5 million blood tests.

Theranos is among Silicon Valley unicorns — private startups with valuations of a billion dollars or more based on money pumped in by investors.

The startup, which ironically operates in a building that was occupied for decades by The Wall Street Journal in the city of Palo Alto, has recently been valued at about \$9 billion.

Theranos boasted of being able to do blood tests faster, more economi-

cally, and with only a tiny finger prick instead of needing vials of blood.

Theranos is continuing its work under the watchful eyes of regulators, according to its chief.

"Just because some guy reports false stuff about us doesn't mean it changes our business," Holmes said.

Two years after personal genetics startup 23andMe was ordered by US authorities to stop selling its DNA test kits, a revamped product has gained market approval, the company said Wednesday.

The California-based firm announced the launch of its new "Personal Genome Service," which will test for mutations that could lead to disease.

"We've worked with the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) for nearly two years to establish a regulatory path for direct-to-consumer genetic testing," said a statement by 23andMe co-founder and CEO **Anne Wojcicki**, ex-wife of Google co-founder Sergey Brin.

"We are a better company with a better product as a result."

The new product is a "complete redesign," offering "an entirely new experience," for \$199, said the statement from the company, which is named after the 23 pairs of chromosomes in the human body.

officer, also tried shots before having a knee replaced in 2011. When the other one worsened, he had it replaced in May, and now is able to lose weight and walk a couple miles a day with his wife.

"I wish I had done it sooner," he said. "It's such a pleasure, really, you don't realize how great it is to be able to go outside and take a walk."

Soren Skou at Aalborg University Hospital Science and Innovation Center in Aalborg, Denmark, led the study.

The results give "convincing" evidence that surgery helps, but that there are trade-offs on risks, said Dr. David C. Goodman at the Dartmouth Institute for Health Policy and Clinical Practice.



In this March 5, 2014 file photo, a doctor holds a model of a tri-compartmental total knee replacement in Chicago. (AP)

for the knee replacement," she said. "There's not much that can be done when it really starts to deteriorate."

Kenneth Rose, a retired Chicago police

TV highlights

Cinema

Cinema programme from Thursday 22/10/2015 to Wednesday 28/10/2015

Sharqia 1	Ahwak (Arabic Film) 11:45 (No Fri) 17:00, 19:30 (Daily) 15:30, 20:00 (Daily)	360° 3	13:15 (No Fri) 15:15, 17:15 (Daily)
Muhalab 1	11:30 (No Fri)	360° 7	11:30 (No Fri)
Fanar 2	12:15 (No Fri) 16:45, 19:15, 23:45 (Daily)	Al-Kout 2	16:30 (Daily)
Marina 1	15:15, 21:30 (Daily)	Bairaq 2	15:30 (Daily)
Avenues 4	18:15 (Daily)	Grand Gate 7	14:00, 16:00, 18:00 (Daily)
Avenues 10	12:00 (No Fri) 14:30, 17:00, 19:30, 22:00, 00:30 (Daily)	Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials Grand Gate 7 20:00, 22:30 (Daily)	
360° 7	13:30, 16:00, 18:30, 21:00, 23:30 (Daily)	The Last Witch Hunter	
Al-Kout 2	14:00, 18:30, 21:00 (Daily)	Sharqia 2	13:30, 15:45, 20:00, 22:15, 00:45 (Daily)
Bairaq 2	17:30, 22:00 (Daily)	Muhalab 3	12:00 (No Fri) 14:30, 17:00, 19:30, 22:00, 00:30 (Daily)
The Martian			
Sharqia 1	14:00, 00:05 (Daily)	Fanar 4	15:00, 19:30, 00:05 (Daily)
Fanar 3	13:45, 00:30 (Daily) 21:30 (Tue, Wed, Sat, Sun)	Fanar 5	13:30, 17:45, 22:15 (Daily)
Marina 1	12:15 (No Fri)	Marina 3	12:00 (No Fri) 14:30, 17:00, 19:30, 22:00, 00:30 (Daily)
Avenues 3	00:45 (Daily)	Avenues 2	00:15 (Daily)
Avenues 4	15:15, 23:45 (Daily)	Avenues 5	11:30, 16:30 (No Fri) 14:00, 19:00, 21:30, 00:05 (Daily)
Avenues 6	14:00, 17:00, 20:00, 23:00 (Daily)	Avenues 11	12:30 (No Fri) 15:00, 17:30, 20:00, 22:30, 01:00 (Daily)
360° 1	12:15 (No Fri) 15:15, 18:15, 21:15, 00:15 (Daily)	360° 5	13:15, 15:45 (Tue, Wed, Thu, Sat, Sun) 18:15 (Tue, Wed, Thu, Sun) 22:00 (Sun, Tue, Wed)
360° 9	12:00 (No Fri) 15:00, 21:00, 00:05 (Daily)	Avenues 6	11:45 (No Fri)
Al-Kout 3	13:30, 16:30, 21:30 (Daily)	Avenues 9	13:15 (No Fri) 15:15, 17:15, 19:15, 21:15, 23:15 (Daily)
Bairaq 3	13:30, 21:15, 00:15 (Daily)	360° 11	12:15 (No Fri)
Laila	15:30 (Daily)	War Pigs	
Grand Hamra 2	14:15, 17:00, 19:45, 22:30 (Daily)	Sharqia 3	13:45 (Fri) 16:00, 21:00, 23:00, 01:00 (Daily)
Grand Gate 2	14:00, 16:45, 19:30, 22:15 (Daily)	Muhalab 1	11:00 (No Fri) 13:30, 18:00, 22:30, 00:45 (Daily)
01:00 (Thu, Fri)		Fanar 4	13:00 (No Fri) 22:00 (Daily)
June			
Sharqia 1	22:00 (Daily)	Fanar 5	11:30 (No Fri) 15:45, 20:15, 00:45 (Daily)
Fanar 2	14:45, 21:45 (Daily)	Marina 2	12:00 (No Fri) 14:00, 18:15, 20:15, 22:15, 00:15 (Daily)
Marina 1	19:30 (Daily)	Avenues 6	11:45 (No Fri)
Avenues 2	18:15, 20:15, 22:15 (Daily)	Avenues 9	13:15 (No Fri) 15:15, 17:15, 19:15, 21:15, 23:15 (Daily)
360° 3	19:15, 21:15, 23:15, 01:15 (Daily)	360° 6	12:45 (No Fri) 15:00, 17:15, 19:30, 21:45, 00:05 (Daily)
360° 5	13:30 (Fri)	The Intern	
Pan			
Grand Hamra 5	14:45, 17:15 (Daily)	Grand Hamra 4	15:15, 17:45, 20:15, 22:30 (Daily)
Grand Gate 4	14:00, 16:15, 18:45, 21:00 (Daily)	Muhalab 2	22:00, 00:05 (No Thu)
23:30 (Thu, Fri)		Fanar 4	17:30 (Daily)
Wlad Rizk - Exclusive (Arabic Film)			
Grand Hamra 5	20:00, 22:00 (Daily)	Marina 1	17:30, 00:05 (Daily)
Grand Gate 6	15:00, 17:00, 19:00, 21:30 (Daily)	Avenues 7	11:30 (No Fri)
23:30 (Thu, Fri)		Avenues 3	15:30, 21:45 (Daily)
Hotel Transylvania 2			
Sharqia 2	11:30 (No Fri) 18:00 (Daily)	360° 2	19:00, 22:00 (Daily)
Muhalab 2	14:00 (Fri)	Plaza	21:45 (Daily)
Fanar 3	11:45 (No Fri) 16:30 (Daily)	Ajial 4	16:00, 19:00, 22:00 (Daily)
Marina 2	16:15 (Daily)	Ennu Ninte Moideen (Malayalam Film)	
Avenues 2	12:00 (No Fri)	Avenues 3	18:30 (Daily)
Avenues 3	14:15, 16:15 (Daily)	360° 8	14:45, 18:00, 21:15 (Daily)
13:15 (No Fri)		Plaza	18:30 (Daily)
Shaandaar (Hindi Film)			
Sharqia 3	13:00 (No Fri) 18:00 (Daily)	Ajial 1	15:15, 18:30, 21:45 (Daily)
Muhalab 2	14:00 (No Fri) 19:00 (Daily)	Dheepan	
Fanar 1	16:00, 19:00, 22:00 (Daily)	Avenues 8	12:15 (No Fri) 14:30, 16:45, 19:00, 21:15, 23:30 (Daily)
Avenues 1	13:00 (No Fri)	360° 14	13:15 (No Fri) 15:30, 17:45, 20:00, 22:15, 00:45 (Daily)
How to find us			
1. 360° Zahra'a Area, South Surra, 6th Ring Road, corner of King Faisal Highway			
2. Ajial Ajial Complex, Fahaeel			
3. Al Bairaq Between Jaber Al Ali East & Al Agalia West			
4. Al Fanar Al Fanar Complex, Salem Al Mubarak Street, near Sultan Center, Salmiya			
5. Al Kout Al-Kout Complex, at the end of the Coastal Road, Fahaeel			
6. Al Muhalab Al Muhalab Complex, Behind Hawalli Clinic, Hawalli			
7. Al Sharqia Arabian Gulf Street, Souq Sharq, near the Amiri Hospital			
8. Laila Gallery Salem Al Mubarak Street, near Sultan Center, Salmiya			
9. Marina Marina Mall, Between Salem Al Mubarak Street & Arabian Gulf Street, Salmiya			
10. Metro Metro Complex, Farwaniya, near Crowne Plaza Hotel & Farwaniya Garden			
11. Plaza Salem Al Mubarak Street, near Sultan Center, Salmiya			
12. The Avenues The Avenues Mall, Al Reggal near Al Rai, 5th Ring Road & Ghazali Road Intersection			
NB: Friday no show before 1:30 pm Regular show KD3:000; 3D-Digital — KD3.500; VIP show — KD6.000. *On Monday, price is KD1.500 except Digital movies.			
Cinescape cinema movies inquiries and Fax Back hotline 1803456			
13. The Scientific Center IMAX Opp Holiday Inn, Salmiya, Gulf Road			
14. Grand Al-Hamra Grand Al-Hamra, tel: 22270333, www.grandcinemas.com			
15. Grand Gate Grand Gate, tel: 22056464, www.grandcinemas.com			

Al-Kout 3	11:30 (No Fri) 19:30, 00:30 (Daily)	Island of Lemurs: Madagascar 3D	05:30 pm
Bairaq 3	11:30 (No Fri) 16:15 (Daily)	Pandas 3D	08:30 pm
Monday			
Showtime Available for Groups			
Pandas 3D	9:30 am		
	10:30 am		
	09:30 pm		
	11:30 am,		
	05:30 pm, 08:30 pm		
	12:30 pm,		
	06:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
Tuesday			
Showtime Available for Groups			
Mysteries of the Unseen World 3D	9:30 am		
Jean-Michel Cousteau's Secret Ocean 3D	10:30 am		
	09:30 pm		
	12:30 pm,		
	05:30, 08:30 pm		
	06:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
Wednesday			
Showtime Available for Groups			
Jean-Michel Cousteau's Secret Ocean 3D	9:30 am		
	10:30 am		
	05:30 pm		
	11:30 am,		
	06:30 pm, 08:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
Thursday			
Showtime Available for Groups			
Galapagos 3D	9:30 am		
Jean-Michel Cousteau's Secret Ocean 3D	11:30 am,		
	06:30 pm		
	12:30 pm,		
	07:30 pm		
	05:30 pm		
	08:30 pm		
	09:30 pm		
Friday			
	02:30 pm,		
	06:30 pm, 09:30 pm		
	03:30 pm		
	04:30 pm		
	05:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
	08:30 pm		
	08:30 pm		
	09:30 pm		
	04:30 pm		
	06:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
Saturday			
Showtime Available for Groups			
Fires of Kuwait 2D	09:30 am		
Kenya 3D	11:30 am,		
	05:30 pm, 08:30 pm		
	12:30 pm		
	01:30 pm		
	02:30 pm,		
	07:30 pm		
	03:30 pm,		
	04:30 pm		
	06:30 pm		
	07:30 pm		
	12:30 pm		
Notes: All films are in Arabic, except "Fires of Kuwait 2D" & "Fly Me to the Moon 3D". For English, headsets are available upon request. Film schedule is subject to changes without notice.			
For information call 1 848 888 or visit www.tsc.org.kw			