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LINCOLN

SECRET SERVICE

LIANNE LA HAVAS

THE SHARD

JUNIOR ST

The 16th President



This month Barack Obama will be sworn in for a second term as US president. Obama is the 44th President of the United States and the first-ever African-American to hold the office. This month, however, we look back at America's 16th president — Abraham Lincoln. He's the subject of a new Steven Spielberg movie and our first audio article of 2013!

For more, see pages 4,5 & 6

**Also
in
this
issue**

Secret Service — the unusual story of one of the special bodyguards to the US president

The Shard — a new building towers over London like an iceberg rising from the River Thames

Lianne La Havas — one of the new musical talents to emerge in the UK in 2012

UNITED STATES

HISTORICAL FILMS

Lincoln

New movie from Steven Spielberg about the 16th president of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, during the final months of his life



MP3 AUDIO TEXT

very relevant to the world in which we live today.

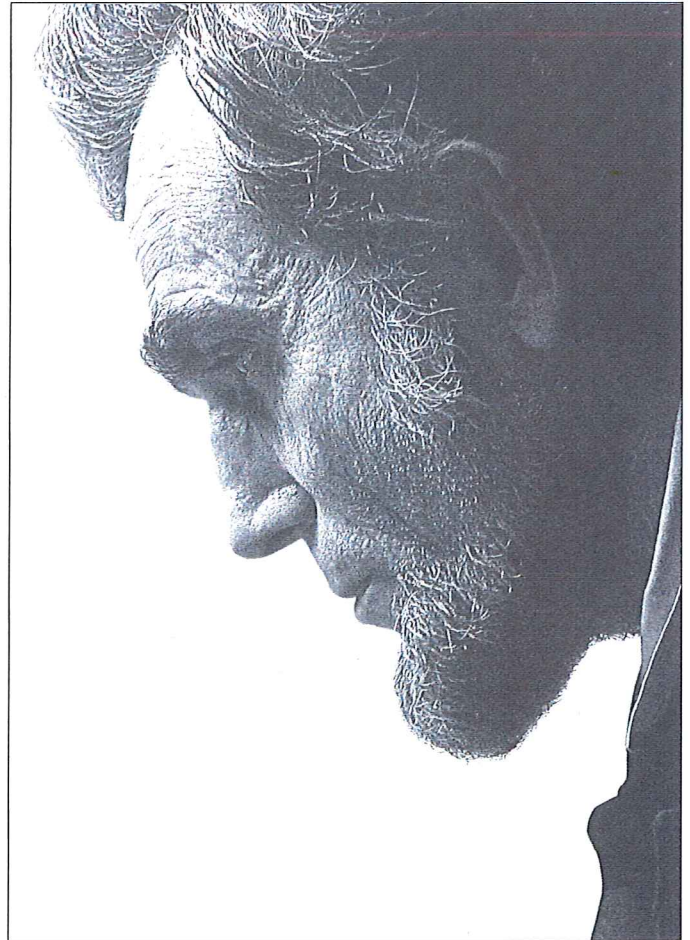
Spielberg's 'Lincoln' focuses on the final months of the president's

WHEN it comes to 'epic' movies there's possibly no greater director in the modern era than Steven Spielberg. The list of his film successes is long, with titles such as 'Jaws', 'Close Encounters of the Third Kind', 'Schindler's List', and 'Raiders of the Lost Ark', to name but a few. Spielberg's latest film is called simply 'Lincoln', and it's about a man who is now regarded as one of America's greatest-ever presidents.

Spielberg says that he's had an interest in Abraham Lincoln ever since childhood. And over the years, through his reading and research, he's become convinced that the life of this 19th-century president is still

life. It takes place at a time when America was tearing itself apart. The Civil War (1861-65) was in its final stages, and not only was Lincoln trying to bring the war to an end, but he was

'If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong'



(Photo: Siebbi)

One of the reasons Spielberg thought that Daniel Day-Lewis was an excellent choice for Lincoln was because he actually looked physically like him and needed very little make-up

also fighting to pass the '13th Amendment' to the US constitution — an amendment that would abolish slavery forever. As Lincoln himself wrote in 1864, 'If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong.'

Spielberg wants to tell the story of Lincoln to our modern generation. Of course, one movie cannot give a full or complete picture of America's 16th president, but it can tell us something about the great man and his life. And this is what 'Lincoln' has managed to do. 'He is

one of the most compelling figures in all of history and in my life,' says Spielberg. Speaking of his childhood experience of seeing the huge monument to the Civil War president in Washington, Spielberg says: 'I can remember being four or five years old when I first saw the Lincoln Memorial and being terribly frightened by the scale of the statue in that chair. I'll never forget that moment and it left me wondering about that man sitting high above me.'

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UNITED STATES

Spielberg himself admits that his movies are often told more through pictures and images than through words. However, in this latest film he lets the ‘pictures take second place to what he describes as ‘the incredible words of Abraham Lincoln.’ Spielberg explains: ‘With “Lincoln” I was less interested in an outpouring of imagery than in letting the most human moments of this story evolve before us.’

Nearly a hundred years after Lincoln, Dr Martin Luther King in his famous ‘I have a dream’ speech referred to the 13th Amendment that Lincoln worked so hard to make a part of the US constitution. He said, ‘This momentous decree came as a great beacon light of hope to millions of Negro slaves who had been seared in the flames of withering injustice. It came as a joyous daybreak to end the long night of their captivity.’

Of course, it took many years before African Americans enjoyed the same civil rights as other US citizens, but the outlawing of slavery was achieved during Lincoln’s presidency.

The actor Daniel Day-Lewis was chosen to play the role of the legendary president. He was given the difficult task not just of playing a statesman and a military leader, but also of showing the human side of Lincoln — as a father and

continued on page 6

The 16th Presidential Puzzle

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ACROSS

- 1 Place where you can see a film
- 5 Lincoln was shot in the Presidential ... at the Ford Theatre in April 1865
- 7 Word used by Martin Luther King for ‘beginning of the day’
- 9 We say ‘a’ slave, but ‘...’ American
- 11 The film shows Lincoln as a father and a ...
- 14 I ..., you are, he/she/it is
- 16 The main actor was not ... sure the part was for him
- 17 Actors pretend to ... someone they’re not!
- 18 Period in time
- 19 ... are, you are, they are
- 20 Opposite of ‘hers’
- 21 Present tense ‘went’
- 22 There was a ... war in the US from 1861-65
- 23 In the US this is called an ‘automobile’
- 26 Lincoln is now seen as ... American hero
- 27 Another word for ‘film’
- 28 Word for ‘every’

- 30 Definite article!
- 32 Short way to say ‘hello’
- 33 Present tense of ‘did’
- 34 Adjective used to describe Spielberg’s films
- 36 Spielberg’s role or job
- 37 Word used when talking about oneself!
- 38 Dr King’s famous ‘I Have a ...’ speech is mentioned
- 39 Lincoln lived ... the White House
- 40 What he wanted to ... was to outlaw slavery
- 43 A negative answer!
- 44 Present tense of ‘sat’
- 45 Spielberg has been interested in Lincoln since ...

DOWN

- 2 Acting is about creating an ...
- 3 Opposite of woman
- 4 Current US President
- 5 Another word for ‘to outlaw’ something
- 6 Short for ‘okay’
- 7 Short word for ‘father’
- 8 US word for ‘taxi’

- 10 Present tense of ‘felt’
- 12 Distress signal
- 13 African-American
- 14 I am, you..., he/she/it is
- 15 ‘Jaws’ film director
- 19 Lincoln worked hard to ... the war for the ‘Union’
- 24 The 13th ...
- 25 He was the ... president
- 26 Short word often used to join sentences!
- 29 Every president has a ‘...-president’
- 31 Presidents are ... into office by the public
- 32 In English, we talk about ‘...’ and ‘her’
- 35 Daniel Day- ...
- 38 When talking about the past we sometimes use the phrase ‘in the olden ...’
- 41 Same sound, but three spellings and meanings: to, ..., two
- 42 The leading actor felt ... when the filming of Lincoln was finally over

UNITED STATES

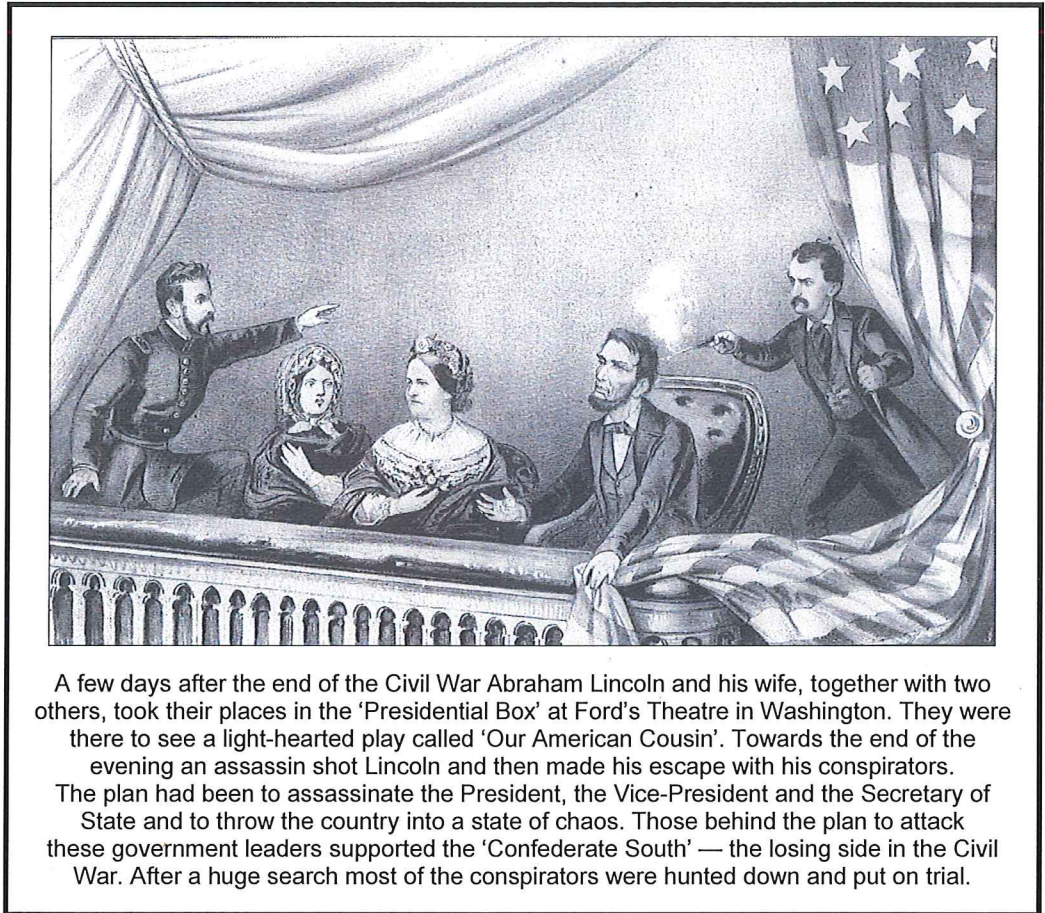
a husband. Oddly enough, [Day-]Lewis, who is British, liked the idea of the movie but did not feel it was a role for *him*. However, he was persuaded to take the part. In fact, he became rather emotionally involved in the main character. Speaking to *The New York Times*, Day-Lewis said that he felt a 'great sadness' when the movie was completed, and that he still feels connected to his role as America's 16th president.

He also said, 'I know I'm not Abraham Lincoln. I'm aware of that. But the truth is the entire game is about creating an illusion, and for whatever reason, and mad as it may sound, some part of me can allow myself to believe for a time without questioning, and that's the trick.' In other words, Day-Lewis really 'lived' as Abraham Lincoln. That's not surprising: before filming began the actor spent a year studying Lincoln. And soon you can judge for yourself if he is convincing as the Civil War president. The film has already been released in the US and will be coming to European cinemas very soon.

➔ 729 words
3,404 characters
(2¾ DK normalsider)

For more, see *Worksheet 1*

For more on the subject of presidential protection see, pages 7 & 8 of this issue



A few days after the end of the Civil War Abraham Lincoln and his wife, together with two others, took their places in the 'Presidential Box' at Ford's Theatre in Washington. They were there to see a light-hearted play called 'Our American Cousin'. Towards the end of the evening an assassin shot Lincoln and then made his escape with his conspirators. The plan had been to assassinate the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary of State and to throw the country into a state of chaos. Those behind the plan to attack these government leaders supported the 'Confederate South' — the losing side in the Civil War. After a huge search most of the conspirators were hunted down and put on trial.

WORDS

- abolish** – stop; put an end to
- amendment** – change; adjustment (in this case, to the Constitution of the United States)
- beacon of light** – in the text, inspirational or something that gives hope
- compelling figures** – fascinating or hugely interesting characters
- conspirators** – people who take part in a plot to do something wrong or illegal
- convinced to** – won over to; persuaded to
- convincing** – believable; realistic
- daybreak** – beginning of the day; dawn
- emotionally involved in** – psychologically attached to
- epic** – with regard to movies, hugely expensive blockbuster types of films
- era** – period in time; age
- focuses on** – concentrates on; gives attention to
- illusion** – fantasy; false impression
- legendary** – famous; well-known
- monument** – memorial, often in the form of a statue
- outpouring of** – stream of
- relevant to** – important to; significant for
- research** – study
- scale of** – size of
- seared** – in the text, harshly affected by
- withering** – in the text, merciless

Questions on the text

- 1 How is Abraham Lincoln regarded (thought of) today?
- 2 What did Spielberg become convinced about as he studied Lincoln?
- 3 Why was passing the 13th amendment important to Lincoln?
- 4 What did Spielberg see as a child that frightened him a great deal?
- 5 How do Spielberg movies often 'tell their stories'?
- 6 What side of Lincoln did Daniel Day-Lewis have to show — apart from being a statesman and military leader?
- 7 How did the actor prepare for his role as Lincoln?

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Next month

‘A Culture of Violence’

Will America's gun culture change after the shocking Sandy Hook Elementary School shootings?

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