

## Film News: First Look at ‘The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey’

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CHICAGO — Warner Bros. Pictures geared up for the release of Peter Jackson's upcoming epic “The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey” by screening 10 minutes of never-before-seen footage at CinemaCon, the official convention of the National Association of Theater Owners (NATO) according to a studio press release. Ian McKellan, Cate Blanchett, Orlando Bloom and Elijah Wood return to reprise their roles as seen in the trilogy “The Lord of the Rings”, the sequel to J.R.R. Tolkien’s “The Hobbit”.

The film, slated for worldwide release beginning December 14, 2012, is the first major motion picture to be made using state-of-the-art high-frame-rate technology utilizing 48 frames-per-second (fps), doubling the typical frame rate of 24 fps.

Jackson introduced the clip via a taped greeting explaining 48 fps is closer to the way the human eye views the world saying, “*As a filmmaker, I always want to create a strong sense of reality, to allow the audience to lose themselves in whatever the cinematic story is that I’m presenting.*”

He goes on to say, “*Shooting and projecting at 48 fps gives you the illusion that a hole has been cut in the wall of the cinema, and you’re watching the story unfold with a heightened sense of reality.*”

The adventure follows the journey of title character Bilbo Baggins, who is swept into an epic quest to reclaim the lost Dwarf Kingdom of Erebor from the fearsome dragon Smaug. Martin Freeman (“The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy”) stars in the central role of Bilbo Baggins.

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