



Catching up with three of Hollywood's **HOTTEST NEW NAMES** to know

festival "IT" GUYS

ANDREW GARFIELD and *Twilight* star Robert Pattinson will be getting a lot of comparisons by this time next year. They both have English accents, are as toned as any menswear model, have signed on to colossal blockbusters (Garfield's next role is *Spider-Man*) and are blessed with a forest of voluminously feathered hair made for finger running and tween swooning. However, the similarities end there.

Garfield, 27, is much chattier than Pattinson has ever been and doesn't give an inch of mood or brood in interviews. For example, while doing the press rounds at TIFF for his latest movie, *Never Let Me Go*, the

star describes the Kazuo Ishiguro-authored book that the movie was based on as so "profound [that] it had an effect on my consciousness."

Garfield, recently seen in *The Social Network*, is passionate about his connection to the arts. He cites Montreal indie rockers Arcade Fire as his idols, claiming they make "religious music," and says his next role as Spider-Man's alter-ego is something that means "a great deal" to him. "[*Spider-Man*] is a great symbol. I can relate to the skinny 20-year-old who feels stronger on the inside than he looks on the outside," he says. Sounds like the battle cry of yet another Hollywood superhero. —E.I.

XAVIER DOLAN "[I find] inspiration in my life and my past," says Xavier Dolan. At just 22 years old, he's accomplished what most guys only dream of: huge professional success and widespread recognition. In fact, the Montreal-based director, writer and actor can't even walk down the street in his hometown without getting recognized. "It happens 20 times a day," he laughs from a suite at TIFF.

The attention is the result of his two critically acclaimed features—the 2009 Cannes favourite *I Killed My Mother* (about a strained mother-son relationship) and *Heartbeats*. The latter drama, which screened at TIFF this year, tells the story of best friends caught in a love triangle.

Once again using the theme of love as a jumping-off point, Dolan is busy working on his third film. The lead character is a heterosexual man who tells his partner of 30 years that he wants to become a woman. "Making people laugh, that's something I can do. But what I really want is to touch people," says Dolan. "When someone out there says she cried watching one of my films, that's the most flattering thing." —A.B.



SCOTT SPEEDMAN After Canadian actor Scott Speedman shot into the mainstream in 1998 with the college TV drama *Felicity*, it didn't take long for Hollywood to catch on to his talents and leading-man good looks. He soon replaced Brad Pitt in *Duets*, opposite Gwyneth Paltrow (following the Pitt-Gwynnie split), and starred alongside Kate Beckinsale in *Underworld: Evolution*.

However, Speedman, 35, didn't feel comfortable with the direction his career was headed. "I'm very tough on myself," he said at this year's TIFF. "I have a hard time taking commercially bland material and elevating it; I get very nervous about the whole thing." So, instead of continuing on the blockbuster track, he decided to focus on

small-budget indie flicks.

His strategy paid off. This year, Speedman had two films at the festival—both of which showcased some of his best work to date. He played a serial killer in the quirky thriller *Good Neighbours* with Jay Baruchel and Emily Hampshire and starred as Paul Giamatti's sidekick in the Oscar-worthy drama *Barney's Version*.

He also recently started filming the romantic drama *The Vow* with Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum in his hometown of Toronto. Despite all this success, the L.A.-based star is still most comfortable maintaining a low-key profile. "If I had more money, I would be happiest in New York," he says. "I'm very shy and overly private about being a movie star." —A.B.

