

Cage's next flick?

Nicolas Cage has purchased the rights to play an NYPD detective in a film based on the book "Circle of Six," which delves into the still officially unsolved murder of a city police officer inside a Harlem mosque in 1972. **AP**

The family Pavone

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Jessica Pavone keeps her bandmates close

PREVIEW. Unlike the leather-jacketed punk godfathers that prompted the name, Jessica Pavone, of The Pavones, doesn't insist that her bandmates change their surnames to gain membership into the band. Still, the vibe remains one of extended family.

"I'VE CHOSEN the musicians in this band because they're all friends of mine," Pavone said via e-mail. "I feel it adds so much more to the music as well as the experience of playing it."

Pavone, who sticks primarily to electric bass in this band but is better known as a violinist, is most closely associated with guitarist Mary Halvorson, who also plays in The Pavones. The duo creates gorgeous avant-chamber-pop miniatures together, songs that are as catchy as bubblegum tunes but as inventive as free jazz.



Known for her impressive violin skills, musician Jessica Pavone is on bass tonight and is branching out with improvisation and experimental music at the Rotunda.

"OUR LIVES and our music are completely intertwined," Pavone said of Halvorson. "When we play together, I feel like I'm 'home.' Our body of work

feels like a diary to me. We'll be playing music together until we are 80, and who knows what it will sound like then?"

The Pavones began to

evolve when Pavone started listening closely to the instrumental backing on Otis Redding songs, performed by Stax Records house band Booker T and

the MGs. "I began transcribing his songs to learn how they were composed and discovered that the structures and the parts were really basic," she said. "The clever and simple ways in which the notes were placed as well as their sound of having played together for years is what made them sound so great to me."

INSPIRED BY the MGs' sound, Pavone added horns and, eventually, Halvorson on guitar to arrive at the group's current sextet lineup. But, she points out, "I'm not in anyway trying to imitate a soul band. As a musician, my background is rather eclectic and it's impossible to not subconsciously and consciously draw from all of the music I've ever participated in or enjoyed as a listener. If I decided to write a piece for this band that drew from my love of The Ramones or Terry Riley, then fine. This is my folk music."

The Pavones

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Kay

Producer cites manipulation of 10-year-old director

FILM. Adults may be manipulating a 10-year-old director in a lawsuit over the short film "Saving Angelo," a producer has said.

The lawsuit was filed in Los Angeles' Superior Court last month on behalf of Dominic Scott Kay, who directed the film, which is based on his real-life effort to nurse an abandoned, badly injured dog back to health.

Kay, who voiced Wilbur the pig in the 2006 movie "Charlotte's Web," claims in the lawsuit that producer Conroy Kanter unfairly demanded creative control and distribution rights for "Saving Angelo."

Kanter, who put about \$11,000 into the project, said the lawsuit has to do "with a dispute between adults over business and monetary issues." **AP**

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Miss USA helps promote Trump's Jones Beach site

NEWS. It was probably not the day at the beach Tara Conner had in mind.

With winds whipping on a frigid February afternoon, the controversial Miss USA was at Jones Beach, N.Y., on Tuesday, doing a photo shoot to promote Donald Trump's \$40 million planned catering facility, Trump on the Ocean.

"I'm good," said Conner, modeling off-the-shoulder bridal dresses in 24-degree weather. "I'm cold, but I'm fine."

Trump told Newsday in Wednesday's editions that using Conner as "the face" of Trump on the Ocean will help revamp her image. She recently completed a stint in an alcohol and drug rehabilitation center after it was revealed in December that she was drinking and partying in New York nightclubs.

Trump said at the time



BILL DAVIS/AP PHOTO/NEWSDAY

What she'll do to get back into his good graces: Miss USA Tara Conner modeled for Trump on Tuesday, one of the coldest days of the year.

she could keep her crown if she straightened up.

Conner thanked Trump for giving her a second chance, but avoided commenting on the feud that developed between her benefactor and "The View" co-host Rosie O'Donnell.

"I just want to finish my lunch," Conner said. **AP**

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