

# Luminaries hit the 'green carpet' for screening

By Dino-Ray Ramos  
STAFF WRITER

Romantic absinthe dispensers and bottles lined the "green carpet" in San Francisco's Metreon Theatre on Wednesday night for the premiere of David Arquette's short film, "The Butler's in Love."

Flashbulbs went wild when Arquette, along with his wife, Courteney Cox Arquette, walked in for the screening of the film based on a Mark Stock absinthe-era painting that hangs in Bix Restaurant, which was the site of the couple's wedding rehearsal dinner.

"It's a really romantic and beautiful painting," says Arquette. "It has so much love painted within it. I just never forgot it."

Not long after that, French absinthe Le Tourment Vert approached Arquette about an artistic venture with Converge Entertainment to promote its product through art. The short film will be one of four that Le Tourment Vert plans to release on DVD at a later date.

"They wanted to recapture the essence of the era and what absinthe stood for at the time," says Arquette. "It was real time of expression."

Something that might have been expected: shameless product placement. Happily, there was none.

Something that might not have been expected: As audience members filed into the screening, they needed one interesting accessory to grasp the absinthe essence of the film — 3-D glasses.



LAURA K. MORTON

**DAVID ARQUETTE** and Courteney Cox Arquette arrive at the San Francisco premiere of the absinthe-era short film "The Butler's in Love."

Arquette says that he wanted the film to be 3-D because he wanted to bring the two-dimensional painting to life.

Mayor Gavin Newsom also walked the green carpet with fiance Jennifer Siebel, who stars in the film alongside Elizabeth Berkley and Thomas Jane.

"This is a great film," says Newsom. "Some of the most successful movies in the history of American cinema have come through San Francisco."

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