



## HOW THE STARS REACTED ON TWITTER

### Ellen DeGeneres

@TheEllenShow: Philip Seymour Hoffman was a brilliant, talented man. The news this morning is shocking and sad. My heart goes out to his loved ones. ►



### Mia Farrow

@MiaFarrow: Rest in peace Philip Seymour Hoffman. We who marveled at each of your performances, are grateful and very very sad.

### Chris O'Dowd

@BigBoyle: Can't believe the news about Phil Hoffman. One of the most charming, understated and generous men I've worked with. And my favourite actor.



### Susan Sarandon

@SusanSarandon: Philip Seymour Hoffman was a genius, brave and sweet. Can't believe he's gone. Huge loss. My deepest sympathy for his wife and children.

Stephen Fry @stephenfry: Oh no, I've just heard the news of the death of Philip Seymour Hoffman. What a blow to the industry & most of all of course to his family...

# Shining star

## Oscar winner found with needle in his arm

ACCLAIMED as the actor of his generation, in the end it wasn't enough to save Philip Seymour Hoffman.

An Oscar winner at the top of his game, he died on Sunday, another addict lost to drugs in New York City.

The final hours of the 46-year-old's life were spent in a lonely Manhattan apartment and culminated in a fateful decision for one final hit of heroin. He was found in his boxer shorts, sprawled in the bathroom, a syringe still jabbed into his arm.

It was a scene that could have been lifted from exactly the kind of Hollywood script he might have wanted to bring to life on screen. Except this was a horrible reality; another A-listers' lost battle for purpose despite success.

This was a man who built a loving family and a sterling career, but struggled to wash the stain of addiction from his life.

"I liked it all," Hoffman once said of his early drug use.

But he knew he had to get

### AARON LANGMAID

clean. "I was 22 and I got panicked for my life," he said.

Tributes poured in from around the world yesterday as investigations continued into the exact circumstances leading up to his death.

Officers who inspected the apartment where Hoffman died allegedly found a charred spoon in the kitchen sink and about 10 waterproof envelopes branded by the ace of spades and the ace of hearts — markers for a type of heroin police claim hasn't been seen on the streets since 2008.

Last May Hoffman shocked friends when he checked into rehab after being clean for more than two decades.

At the time he told gossip site TMZ that he had progressed from prescription pills to snorting heroin, but that he had only used the drug for a week before seeking help.

His rehab stint appeared to have coincided with the separation from his partner, 46-



Hoffman, pictured with his family in Sydney in 2010, won the best actor Oscar for his performance in *Capote* (left).





◀ **Justin Timberlake** @jtimberlake: Just hearing about Philip Seymour Hoffman. Devastating. What an amazingly gifted actor. RIP

**Russell Brand** @rustyrocks: Love and prayers for Philip Seymour Hoffman's family. Addiction kills, I hope all who need it have access to abstinence-based recovery.

**Seth Rogen** @Sethrogen: Terrible news. What a nice and unbelievably talented guy. ▶

**Jim Carrey** @JimCarrey: Dear Philip, a beautiful beautiful soul. For the most sensitive among us the noise can be too much. Bless your heart.



**Christina Applegate** @1capplegate: I have no words. You will be missed! ▶

**Albert Brooks** @AlbertBrooks: R.I.P. Philip Seymour Hoffman. One of the greats of his generation.



# died alone

year-old Mimi O'Donnell, with whom he had three children, Cooper, 10, Tallulah, 7, and Willa, 5.

It's understood Miss O'Donnell asked friend and playwright David Bar Katz to check on Hoffman when he failed to pick up the children on Sunday.

Hours earlier Hoffman had reportedly been in good spirits when he dined with friends at one of his favourite local restaurants.

One witness reported that he had eaten a burger, drank only cranberry and soda and seemed "totally fine".

But others say Hoffman had shown signs of struggle during his last public appearance, where he looked pale and unhealthy.



Police outside the apartment where Philip Seymour Hoffman's body was found.

Speaking in his final interview at the Sundance Film Festival, he said many people would be able to connect with the character in his latest film *A Wanted Man*.

"It would be hard for anybody not to connect with the loneliness," he said.

"He was pretty lonely, a very driven, obsessive guy, unforgiving of himself... a lot of traits a lot of people carry in one grade or another."

It was Hoffman's ability to

stand out as a supporting actor that first earned him fame.

His breakthrough film performance came as a gay boom operator in *Boogie Nights*, but was only strengthened with flawless performances as a rock journalist in *Almost Famous* and later as an accused priest in *Doubt*, alongside Meryl Streep.

But it was a lead portrayal of writer Truman Capote that

earned him an Academy Award in 2006.

Hoffman also went against the Hollywood grain, proving that how you looked had nothing to do with delivering a polished performance. He often gained or lost weight for roles, but he remained portly and almost always sported a rough mop of grey-white hair.

Directors loved it and so did his fans. In fewer than 25 years

Hoffman notched up appearances in more than 50 films.

Robert De Niro and Jim Carrey were among the stars who led tributes yesterday.

"Dear Philip, a beautiful soul," Carrey wrote. "For the most sensitive among us the noise can be too much. Bless your heart."

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## ON THE BIG SCREEN

1991	<i>Triple Bogey on a Par Five Hole</i>	<i>Magnolia</i>
1992	<i>Szuler</i>	<i>The Talented Mr. Ripley</i>
	<i>My New Gun</i>	2000 <i>Titanic 2000</i>
	<i>Leap of Faith</i>	<i>State and Main</i>
	<i>Scent of a Woman</i> ▼	<i>Almost Famous</i>
		2001 <i>The Party's Over</i>
		2002 <i>Love Liza</i>
		<i>Punch-Drunk Love</i>
		<i>Red Dragon</i>
		<i>25th Hour</i>
		2003 <i>Owning Mahowny</i>
		<i>Cold Mountain</i>
		2004 <i>Along Came Polly</i>
		2005 <i>Strangers with Candy</i>
		<i>Capote</i>
		2006 <i>Mission: Impossible III</i>
		2007 <i>Before the Devil Knows You're Dead</i>
		<i>The Savages</i>
		<i>Charlie Wilson's War</i>
		2008 <i>Synecdoche, New York</i>
		<i>Doubt</i>
		2009 <i>The Boat That Rocked</i>
		<i>The Invention of Lying</i>
		2010 <i>Jack Goes Boating</i>
		2011 <i>Moneyball</i>
		<i>The Ides of March</i>
		2012 <i>The Master</i>
		<i>A Late Quartet</i>
		2013 <i>The Hunger Games: Catching Fire</i>
		2014 <i>A Most Wanted Man</i>
		<i>God's Pocket</i>
		<i>The Hunger Games: Mockingjay</i>
1993	<i>Joey Breaker</i>	
	<i>My Boyfriend's Back</i>	
	<i>Money for Nothing</i>	
1994	<i>The Getaway</i>	
	<i>The Yearling</i>	
	<i>When a Man Loves a Woman</i>	
	<i>Nobody's Fool</i>	
1995	<i>The Fifteen Minute Hamlet</i>	
1996	<i>Hard Eight</i>	
	<i>Twister</i>	
1997	<i>Boogie Nights</i>	
	<i>Liberty! The American Revolution</i>	
1998	<i>Culture</i>	
	<i>Montana</i>	
	<i>Next Stop Wonderland</i>	
	<i>The Big Lebowski</i>	
	<i>Happiness</i>	
	<i>Patch Adams</i>	
1999	<i>Flawless</i>	



The Ides of March

## Leading or supporting, Hoffman was the best

WITH Philip Seymour Hoffman, you invariably got two great actors for the price of one.

In either guise, the full value of his performance was always there for all to see.

First, there was Hoffman the leading man. Looking back over his decorated track record across two decades, it is surprising to note how rarely Hoffman was the featured player in a production.

Hoffman rarely received legitimate top billing in a movie. However, when he did lead from the front, you could be sure he would be taking you on a singular journey.

A Best Actor Oscar in 2005 for *Capote* stands as a remarkable achievement for a

**LEIGH PAATSCH**

performer whose number of leading roles was less than 10.

Both on paper and in person, Hoffman appeared to be the wrong choice to play the celebrated American writer Truman Capote.

Hoffman's rich, sonorous voice and bearish physical presence were completely at odds with Capote's famous vocal whine and flamboyantly capricious demeanour.

Nevertheless, Hoffman disappeared completely inside his convincing portrayal of Capote.

Hoffman's work in *The Master* — a thinly-veiled biopic of controversial Scientology founder L. Ron

Hubbard — arguably stands as the finest showcase for his gifts on screen.

Though the film had its problems, Hoffman most certainly was not one of them. His performance fused the charisma and enigma of a figure such as Hubbard into a complete, convincing whole.

Other great leading performances include powerhouse displays as a degenerate gambler in *Owning Mahowny* (2003), and a scheming son in *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead* (2007).

Second, and just as vitally for audiences, there was Hoffman the supporting player. From a small, but noteworthy start in *Scent of a*

*Woman* in 1992, Hoffman continually embodied the ethos of a character actor par excellence.

No genre was beyond him. The highbrow (*Magnolia*, *Doubt*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley*), the lowbrow (*Along Came Polly*, *Mission Impossible III*), the mainstream (*The Hunger Games* franchise) and the unorthodox (*Happiness*, *Synecdoche New York*) were all dispensed with in the same memorable manner.

No matter how minor the role, Hoffman would briefly carry a film with great verve and intuition, then gracefully return it to where he found it.

Vale Philip Seymour Hoffman. Gone way too soon at the age of 46.