

NOW YOU SEE ME 2 (2016)

- Rated PG-13 for violence and some language
- 90 million dollar budget
- 2 hour and 9 minutes
- Directed by [Jon M. Chu](#), Replaced Louis Leterrier
- David Copperfield - Co-Produced
- The film was produced by [Lionsgate](#) and [Summit Entertainment](#)

QUICK THOUGHTS

- Phil Svitek
- Marisa Serafini
- Stephanie Wenger

DEVELOPMENT

- On July 3, 2013, after the box office success of the first film, Lionsgate CEO [Jon Feltheimer](#) confirmed that there would be a sequel to the film, with production beginning in 2014 for an unspecified release date
- In September 2014, it was confirmed that [Jon M. Chu](#) would replace Louis Leterrier as director
 - Louis did not want to return
- On October 2, 2014, Michael Caine confirmed in an interview that [Daniel Radcliffe](#) would be playing his son in the film, and that shooting is expected to begin in December in London
- The sequel was thought to be titled *Now You See Me: Now You Don't*, but it was announced in November 2014 that the film had changed its title to *Now You See Me: The Second Act*
- "But even in the pre-vis, we didn't know cardistry well enough. We had to practice before with our cardistry expert."
- For card tricks, they turned to expert Andrei Jikh
- Chief magic and mentalism consultant [Keith Barry](#). Change in tonality of voices works more effectively during hypnosis.

WRITING (Ed Solomon, Pete Chiarelli)

- One year after outwitting the FBI and winning the public's adulation with their Robin Hood-style magic spectacles, The Four Horsemen resurface for a comeback performance in hopes of exposing the unethical practices of a tech magnate. The man behind their vanishing act is none other than Walter Mabry, a tech prodigy who threatens the Horsemen into pulling off their most impossible heist yet. Their only hope is to perform one last unprecedented stunt to clear their names and reveal the mastermind behind it all
- Ed Solomon – screenplay
- Ed Solomon & Peter Ciarelli – story
- Boaz Yakin & Edward Ricourt - characters

STORY/CAST

- **POINT OF DISCUSSION:** The plot

- **POINT OF DISCUSSION:** The eye
- **POINT OF DISCUSSION:** The magic
- In October 2014, it was announced that [Isla Fisher](#) would be unable to reprise her role as Henley Reeves due to her pregnancy, and [Lizzy Caplan](#) was cast as new character Lula to replace her as the Fourth Horseman
- On January 28, 2015, [Henry Lloyd-Hughes](#) was confirmed to play the role of a tech whiz kid named Allen Scott-Frank
- On December 22, 2014, it was reported that [Morgan Freeman](#) was not going to reprise his role as Thaddeus Bradley, but on January 19, 2015, film director Chu posted a [selfie](#) with Freeman on his [Instagram](#), verifying that he would return

JESSE EISENBERG (J. Daniel Atlas)

- Known for Social Network, Now You See Me, Adventureland, Zombieland, Batman V Superman, End of the Tour

MARK RUFFALO (Dylan Rhodes)

- Known for Shutter Island, Spotlight, Avengers, Begin Again, Eternal Sunshine of a Spotless Mind
- Father was a construction painter and mother a hairstylist. His three siblings (Scott, Tania, and Nicole) are all hairdressers
- Bartended for nearly a decade while trying to break in to show business
- In an interview with Moviemaker magazine, he claims to have made 800 auditions in his lifetime before making it big

WOODY HARRELSON (Merritt McKinney)

- Known for No Country for Old Men, Zombieland, The Duel, Hunger Games, True Detective, A Scanner Darkly
- Moonlights as the lead singer in the band Manly Moondog and the Three Kool Hats

DAVE FRANCO (Jack Wilder)

- Known for 21 Jump Street, Superbad, Neighbors, Unfinished Business, Lego Movie, Fright Night
- “For example, for me, my brother helped me get a manager, which I don't take for granted. It's tough getting a manager, let alone one that actually cares about you and is smart. But from there, no one's going to cast me just because I'm James Franco's little brother.”

LIZZY CAPLAN (Lula)

- Known for Cloverfield, Mean Girls, 127 Hours, The Interview
- “I try to bring elements of my own personality to every character I've played, but I think I'm pretty similar to the character I'm playing now (on the series [The Class](#) (2006)). The biggest departure would have to have been [Freaks and Geeks](#) (1999) Sara, who was this sort of subordinate and shy girl.”

DANIEL RADCLIFFE (Walter Mabry)

- Known for Harry Potter

JAY CHOU (Li)

- The newly joined actor Jay Chou is not only fond of singing, song composing, and acting, but also of magic performing. Being a megastar in the Chinese region, Chou has played magic tricks, especially card tricks, in several popular TV shows in Taiwan and Mainland China

MICHAEL CAINE (Arthur Tressler)

- Known for Dark Knight, Prestige, Inception, Interstellar, Austin Powers in Goldmember

MORGAN FREEMAN (Thaddeus Bradley)

- Known for Driving Miss Daisy, Se7en, Shawshank Redemption, Million Dollar Baby, Dark Knight, Dolphin Tale

EASTER EGGS / TRIVIA

- Now You See Me 2 will be the sixth time Morgan Freeman and Michael Caine appear in the same project. They previously starred together in Freedom: a History of Us, Batman Begins, The Dark Knight, The Dark Knight Rises and Now You See Me. They are set to star together a seventh time in Going in Style

DIRECTING (Jon M. Chu)

- “It’s always a challenge to shoot magic in a movie because magic really happens in person,” Chu told me. “You want to know that there’s no strings attached, nothing up the sleeves. So we take big efforts to make as many things practical as possible.”- Jon M. Chu/Tech Crunch
- The principles of magic are “used to manipulate us every day,” making the movie’s Four Horsemen “the people who know the tricks and are trying to expose the idea that these tricks are everywhere. I think that’s a great concept for these superheroes. But their superpower is storytelling and manipulation and psychology. I think that’s very a different take on how to create justice in the world.” – Jon M. Chu/Tech Crunch

PRODUCTION/CINEMATOGRAPHY (Peter Deming- DP)

- On November 25, 2014, [Mark Ruffalo](#) posted to his Facebook that filming had begun on the sequel, as the film was shooting in [London](#), England
- On March 11, 2015, shooting began in China, where filming took place in [Macau](#) and [Macao Science Center](#)
- Water Fall Trick- Motion after-effect (MAE) and is a phenomenon often called the ‘waterfall illusion’ after being spotted at a waterfall in Foyers, Scotland in 1834. It causes cells in the brain that are sensitive to a certain direction of movement to tire, which then activates the cells that respond to the opposite direction. This makes stationary objects appear to move in that opposite direction

EDITING/VFX (Matt Johnson- VFX Supervisor)

- [BlueBolt](#) (VFX Supervisors : Angela Barson & Stuart Bullen)
- [Cinesite](#) (VFX Supervisor : Nicolas Chevallier)
- [Framestore](#) (VFX Supervisor : Anthony Smith)
- [Blind Ltd](#) (CG Supervisor : Andrew Booth)
- **ULTRA- SECURITY ROOM:** We’re using little lipstick cameras. We’re going through shirts and jackets, making things large so that bigger cameras could go through things that look like bigger shirts and jackets,” The other challenge is the whole thing is

happening in a relatively small room. So the movements and transitions had to be very crisp. "It took a good two weeks of shooting each section," All the actors were really bouncing cards off of people. Dave Franco actually did the 3 different card palms in one shot.

SOUND/MUSIC

- Brian Tyler who is known for *Iron Man 3*, *Thor*, *Furious 7*

EDITING

- Stan Salfas who is known *Dawn of the Planet of the Apes*, *One Tree Hill*, *Let Me In*

PROMOTION

- On November 2014, the film was officially titled *Now You See Me 2*, and was set to be released on June 10, 2016
- In March 2016, the film's international release date was announced as July 4, 2016

BOX OFFICE

- Domestic Summary
 - Opening Weekend: \$23,025,000
 - (#3 rank, 3,232 theaters, \$7,124 average)
- Widest Release: 3,232 theaters
- In Release: 6 days / 0.9 weeks
- In the United States and Canada, *Now You See Me 2* opened on June 10, 2016, alongside [Warcraft](#) and [The Conjuring 2](#), and was projected to gross \$23–26 million from 3,232 theaters in its opening weekend

RECEPTION

- On [Rotten Tomatoes](#), the film has a rating of 34%, based on 113 reviews
- The site's critical consensus reads, "*Now You See Me 2* packs in even more twists and turns than its predecessor, but in the end, it has even less hiding up its sleeve."
- On [Metacritic](#), the film has a score of 48 out of 100, based on 30 critics, indicating "mixed or average reviews"
- Audiences polled by [CinemaScore](#) gave the film an average grade of "A–" on an A+ to F scale, the same score earned by its predecessor

SEQUEL

- *Now You See Me 3* is already in the works. *Now You See Me 3* was announced during a Lionsgate company conference call to discuss quarterly earnings with analysts

FINAL THOUGHTS