

= Jessica Chastain =

Jessica Michelle Chastain (born March 24 , 1977) is an American actress and film producer . Born in a small town near Sonoma , California and raised in Sacramento , Chastain developed an interest in acting from a young age . As a teenager she made her professional stage debut as Juliet in a 1998 production of Romeo and Juliet . She went on to study acting at the Juilliard School , after which she was signed on for a talent holding deal with the television producer John Wells . She was a guest star in several television shows , including ER and Law & Order : Trial by Jury , for much of the 2000s . She also took on roles in the stage productions of The Cherry Orchard in 2004 and Salome in 2006 .

Chastain made her film debut in the drama Jolene (2008) , but found little success initially . This changed in 2011 , when she gained wide recognition for her starring roles in half a dozen films which included the dramas Take Shelter , The Tree of Life , and The Help . Her performance as an aspiring socialite in the latter earned her an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress . In 2012 she played a CIA agent in the thriller Zero Dark Thirty , which won her a Golden Globe Award and gained her a nomination for the Academy Award for Best Actress . Chastain made her Broadway debut in a revival of The Heiress that same year . Her highest @-@ grossing releases came with the science fiction films Interstellar (2014) and The Martian (2015) , as she continued to draw praise for her performances in the dramas The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby (2013) and A Most Violent Year (2014) .

Chastain is the recipient of several accolades , including a Golden Globe Award ; she has also been nominated for two Academy Awards and two British Academy Film Awards . She is known to prepare extensively for her roles , which are typically emotionally grueling in nature . Chastain is the founder of the production company Freckle Films , and is vocal about social issues such as gender equality and mental health . Time magazine named her one of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2012 .

= = Early life and background = =

Chastain was born on March 24 , 1977 , in a small town near Sonoma , California . Her father , Michael Monasterio , was a rock musician , and her mother Jerri Hastey (née Chastain) , is a vegan chef . Her parents were both teenagers when she was born . Chastain is reluctant to publicly discuss this aspect of her childhood ; she was estranged from Monasterio and has said that no father is listed on her birth certificate . She had a younger sister , Juliet , from her mother 's relationship with Monasterio , but following years of drug abuse , Juliet committed suicide in 2003 . Chastain has a half @-@ brother from her mother 's side and two half @-@ sisters from her father 's side . Chastain was raised in Sacramento , California , by her mother and stepfather , Michael Hastey , a fireman . She considers her stepfather to be " one of the greatest people " she knows and has said that he was the first person to make her feel secure . She shares a close bond with her maternal grandmother , Marilyn , whom she credits as someone who " always believed in me " . Speaking about her childhood , Chastain has said :

" I didn 't grow up with a lot of money , and we were evicted a couple times when I was a child . One time , I even came home from school and there was someone locking our doors . And he felt super guilty , and he asked me , ' do you want to go in and grab some things ? ' I always had this fear of being homeless . I decided to become an actor [...] because I grew up without money , so I knew I could live without money . But I always had this thing of , I 'm not going to be able to pay my rent . "

As a student at the El Camino Fundamental High School in Sacramento , Chastain struggled academically . She was a loner and considered herself a misfit in school , eventually finding an outlet in the performing arts . She said , " I used to cut school to read Shakespeare , not to make out in the park " . She first developed an interest in acting at the age of seven , after her grandmother took her to a production of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat . Chastain would regularly put up amateur shows with other children , and considered herself to be their " artistic director " . With too many absences during her senior year in school , Chastain did not qualify for

graduation , but eventually obtained an adult diploma . She later attended Sacramento City College from 1996 to 1997 , during which she was a member of their debate team .

In 1998 , Chastain made her professional stage debut as Juliet in a production of Romeo and Juliet staged by TheatreWorks , a company in the San Francisco Bay Area . The production led her to audition for the Juilliard School in New York City , where she was soon accepted and granted a scholarship funded by the actor Robin Williams . In her first year at the school , Chastain described herself as " a wreck of anxiety " ; she constantly worried about being dropped from the program and would spend most of her time reading and watching movies . She later remarked that a successful production of The Seagull , in which she participated during her second year , helped build her confidence . She graduated from the school with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 2003 .

= = Career = =

= = 2004 ? 10 : Early roles = = =

Shortly before graduating from Juilliard , Chastain attended an event for final @-@ year students in Los Angeles , where she was signed on for a talent holding deal by the television producer John Wells . She relocated to California , taking up residence in Venice Beach , and started auditioning for jobs . She initially found the process difficult , remarking that " being a redhead and not having very conventionally modern looks , it was confusing for people and they didn 't know exactly where to put me . " In her television debut , The WB network 's 2004 pilot remake of the 1960s gothic soap opera Dark Shadows , she was cast as Carolyn Stoddard . Directed by P. J. Hogan , the pilot did not perform well and the series was eventually not picked up for broadcast . Later that year , she appeared as a guest performer on the medical drama series ER , playing a woman she described as " psychotic " , which led to her finding a niche in portraying neurotic roles . She said , " I played a lot of girls who had something off . Maybe they 'd been the victim of some horrible accident . Or they were crazy . " She went on to appear in such roles in a few other television series from 2004 ? 07 , including Veronica Mars (2004) , Close to Home (2006) and Law & Order : Trial By Jury (2005 ? 06) .

In 2004 , Chastain took on the role of Anya in a Williamstown Theatre Festival production of The Cherry Orchard in Massachusetts , in which she starred with Michelle Williams . Also that year , she worked with Playwrights Horizons on a production of Rodney 's Wife as the daughter of a troubled middle @-@ aged film actor . Her performance was not well received by the critic Ben Brantley of The New York Times , who thought that she " somehow seems to keep losing color as the evening progresses " . While working on the play , she was recommended by her director Richard Nelson to Al Pacino , who was looking for an actress to star in his production of Salome . Written by Oscar Wilde , Salome tells the tragic story of its titular character 's sexual exploration . Despite written as a 16 @-@ year old , Chastain , who was close to 30 then , was cast in the lead . The play was staged in 2006 at the Wadsworth Theatre in Los Angeles , and Chastain later remarked that it helped bring her to the attention of several casting directors . However , writing for Variety , the critic Steven Oxman criticized her portrayal in it : " Chastain is so ill @-@ at @-@ ease with Salome , not quite certain whether she ? s a capable seductress or a whiny , wealthy brat ; she doesn ? t flesh out either choice " .

Chastain made her film debut in 2008 as the titular character in Dan Ireland 's drama Jolene , based on a short story by E. L. Doctorow which was inspired by Dolly Parton 's song " Jolene " . It follows the life of a sexually abused teenager over the course of a decade . While the drama received mixed reviews , Chastain 's performance was praised by a reviewer for the New York Observer , who remarked that she " not only holds her own corner of every scene , she 's the only thing you want to watch " . Chastain won a Best Actress award at the Seattle International Film Festival . The following year , Chastain had a minor role in Stolen (2009) , a mystery @-@ thriller film , which was criticized by critics and only received a limited theatrical release . Also in 2009 , she played the part of Desdemona in The Public Theatre production of Shakespeare 's tragedy Othello ,

co @-@ starring John Ortiz and Phillip Seymour Hoffman . Writing for The New Yorker , Hilton Als commended Chastain for finding " a beautiful maternal depth in Desdemona " .

The year 2010 saw Chastain star in John Madden 's dramatic thriller The Debt , in which she portrayed a young Mossad agent sent to East Berlin in the 1960s to capture a former Nazi doctor who carried out medical experiments in concentration camps . Chastain shared her role with Helen Mirren ? both actresses portraying the character at different phases of her life . They worked together before filming to perfect the voice and mannerisms of the character and make them consistent . In addition , Chastain took classes in German and krav maga , and studied books about Josef Mengele and Mossad history . William Thomas of Empire termed the film a " smart , tense , well @-@ acted thriller " and noted that Chastain " pulses with strength and vulnerability " in her part . Chastain also appeared in an episode of the British television series Agatha Christie 's Poirot , based on Christie 's 1934 novel Murder on the Orient Express , which marked her final guest star role in television .

= = = 2011 : Breakthrough = = =

After struggling for a breakthrough in film for a number of years , in 2011 Chastain had six film releases , gaining widespread acclaim and recognition for her roles in several of them . The first of these roles was in Jeff Nichols ' Take Shelter , a drama about a troubled father (Michael Shannon) who tries to protect his family (Chastain played his wife) from an impending storm . It was screened at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival , and the critic Tim Robey of The Daily Telegraph thought that Chastain 's supporting part aided the narrative , writing that she " backs [Shannon] up with luminous concern " . She received an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Female nomination for the film .

The 61st Berlin International Film Festival saw the release of Coriolanus , an adaptation of Shakespeare 's tragedy of the same name from actor @-@ director Ralph Fiennes , in which Chastain played Virgilia . Her next role was opposite Brad Pitt , as the loving mother of three children in Terrence Malick 's experimental drama The Tree of Life , which she had filmed in 2008 . Chastain signed on to the film without receiving a traditional screenplay from Malick , and she improvised on several scenes and dialogues with Pitt . She considered her part to be " the embodiment of grace and the spirit world " and in preparation , she practiced meditation , studied paintings of the Madonna , and read poems by Thomas Aquinas . Following several delays in release , the film premiered at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival to a polarized reception from the audience , although it was praised by critics and won the Palme d 'Or . Justin Chang of Variety termed the film a " hymn to the glory of creation , an exploratory , often mystifying [...] poem " and credited Chastain for playing her part with " heartrending vulnerability " .

Chastain 's biggest success of the year came with the comedy @-@ drama The Help , co @-@ starring Viola Davis , Octavia Spencer and Emma Stone , which was based on Kathryn Stockett 's novel of the same name . Chastain played Celia Foote , an aspiring socialite in 1960s Jackson , Mississippi , who develops a friendship with her black maid (Spencer) . She was drawn to her character 's anti @-@ racist stand and connected with her " zest and love for life " ; in preparation , she watched the films of Marilyn Monroe and researched on the history of Sugar Ditch , Tennessee , where her character was raised . The Help earned \$ 216 million at the box office to become Chastain 's most widely seen film to that point . Manohla Dargis of The New York Times praised the chemistry between Chastain and Spencer and Roger Ebert commended her for being " unaffected and infectious in her performance " . The ensemble of The Help won the Screen Actors Guild Award for Outstanding Cast and Chastain received her first Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress , in addition to a BAFTA , Golden Globe and SAG nomination in the same category , all of which she lost to Spencer .

Chastain 's final two roles of the year were in Wilde Salomé , a documentary based on her play Salome , and the critically panned crime @-@ thriller Texas Killing Fields . The latter , co @-@ starring Sam Worthington and Jeffrey Dean Morgan , was a partly fictionalized version of the events in the killing fields of Texas , in which she played a homicide detective . Los Angeles Times ' Betsy

Sharkey praised Chastain 's polished Texas drawl , but criticized the film , writing that " as good as [the cast] can be [...] they just can 't quite pull it off " . Chastain 's work in 2011 , especially in *The Help* , *Take Shelter* and *The Tree of Life* , gained her awards from several critics organizations , including the New York Film Critics Circle , the National Society of Film Critics and the Los Angeles Film Critics Association .

= = = 2012 ? 13 : Rise to prominence = = =

Two of Chastain 's films in 2012 premiered at the 65th Cannes Film Festival ? the animated comedy film *Madagascar 3 : Europe 's Most Wanted* and the crime drama *Lawless* . In the former , which marked the third installment of the lucrative *Madagascar* franchise , Chastain voiced the character of a jaguar in an Italian accent . With a worldwide gross of \$ 747 million , the film ranks as her highest @-@ grossing release . *Lawless* , directed by John Hillcoat , was based on Matt Bondurant 's prohibition era novel *The Wettest County in the World* . Chastain played a dancer from Chicago who becomes embroiled in a conflict between three bootlegging brothers (played by Shia LaBeouf , Tom Hardy and Jason Clarke) . The film received generally positive reviews from critics , with Richard Corliss finding Chastain to be filled with " poised , seductive gravity " . In an experimental biopic of the author C. K. Williams , entitled *The Color of Time* (2012) , directed by the New York University students of actor James Franco , Chastain took on the role of a young Williams ' mother . Originally titled *Tar* for its premiere at the 2012 Rome Film Festival , the film was renamed for its theatrical release later in 2014 .

A short part that Chastain had filmed opposite Ben Affleck in Terrence Mallik 's *To the Wonder* (2012) was edited out of the final film , and due to scheduling conflicts , she dropped out of the action films *Oblivion* and *Iron Man 3* (both 2013) . She instead chose to make her Broadway debut in a revival of the 1947 play *The Heiress* , playing the role of Catherine Sloper , a naive young girl who transforms into a powerful woman . Chastain was initially reticent to accept the role fearing the high anxiety she had faced during her early stage performances . She ultimately agreed to the part after finding a connection to Sloper , saying : " she ? s painfully uncomfortable and I used to be that " . The production was staged at the Walter Kerr Theatre from November 2012 to February 2013 . Brantley was disappointed with Chastain 's performance , writing that " curiously for an expert film actress , she is guilty here of oversignaling the thoughts within . And her delivery of dialogue sometimes has a flatness that I associate with cold readings of scripts . "

Kathryn Bigelow 's thriller *Zero Dark Thirty* marked Chastain 's final film release of 2012 . The film tells a partly fictionalized account of the decade @-@ long manhunt for Al @-@ Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden after the September 11 attacks . Chastain was cast as Maya , an emotionally hardened CIA intelligence analyst who helped capture Laden . The difficult subject matter made it unpleasant for Chastain to film , and she later considered it as " the worst experience " of her life . She suffered from depression while working and said , " [one day] I excused myself , walked off set and burst into tears " . Chastain was unable to meet the undercover agent on whom Maya was based and she relied on screenwriter Mark Boal 's research . *Zero Dark Thirty* received critical acclaim but was controversial for depicting enhanced interrogation techniques as effectively contributing to the search for Laden . Peter Travers of *Rolling Stone* reviewed , " Chastain is a marvel . She plays Maya like a gathering storm in an indelible , implosive performance that cuts so deep we can feel her nerve endings . " Roger Ebert made note of Chastain 's versatility , and favorably compared her ability and range to that of actress Meryl Streep . For her performance , Chastain won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Drama and earned Academy , BAFTA and SAG nominations for Best Actress .

Chastain next took on the lead role of a musician who is forced to care for her boyfriend 's troubled nieces in the horror film *Mama* (2013) . She was attracted to the idea of playing a woman drastically different from the " perfect mother " roles she had played in *Take Shelter* and *The Tree of Life* , and she based her character 's look on the singer Alice Glass . The critic Richard Roeper noted on how different the role was from the ones she had previously played , and described it as " further proof she 's one of the finest actors of her generation " . During the film 's opening weekend

in North America , Chastain became one of the few performances to have leading roles in the top two films (*Mama* and *Zero Dark Thirty*) at the box office . *Mama* eventually earned \$ 146 worldwide . She then starred as the titular character of a depressed woman who separates from her husband (played by James McAvoy) following a tragic incident in the drama *The Disappearance of Eleanor Rigby* (2013) , in which she also served as producer . Initially written by writer @-@ director Ned Benson from the perspective of Rigby 's husband , he wrote a separate version of the story from Rigby 's perspective on the insistence of Chastain . The film was premiered at the 2013 Toronto International Film Festival in two parts ? *Him and Her* ? and a third part told from both their perspectives ? subtitled *Them* ? was released separately . The critic A. O. Scott believed that Chastain " short @-@ circuits conventional distinctions between tough and vulnerable , showing exquisite control even when her character is losing it , and keeping her balance even when the movie pitches and rolls toward melodrama . " However , the film did not find a wide audience .

= = = 2014 ? 15 : Success in science fiction films = = =

Chastain had three film releases in 2014 . She played the eponymous protagonist in *Miss Julie* , a film adaptation of August Strindberg 's 1888 play of the same name , from director Liv Ullmann . *Miss Julie* tells the tragic tale of a sexually repressed aristocrat (Chastain) who begins an affair with her father 's valet (played by Colin Farrell) , and Chastain was attracted to the project due to Ullmann 's feminist take on the subject . Writing for *The Hollywood Reporter* , David Rooney was disappointed with the picture , writing that despite " nuanced work " from Chastain the adaptation was " a ponderous , stately affair that lacks relevance " . The film received a limited theatrical release and was not widely seen . While filming *Miss Julie* in Ireland , the script of Christopher Nolan 's science fiction film *Interstellar* (2014) was delivered to Chastain . With a production budget of \$ 165 million , the high @-@ profile production , co @-@ starring Matthew McConaughey and Anne Hathaway , was significantly filmed using IMAX cameras . She was cast as McConaughey 's adult daughter , a role she shared with Mackenzie Foy and Ellen Burstyn , and she was drawn to the project for the emotional heft she found in the father @-@ daughter pair . Drew McWeeny of the entertainment website *HitFix* found the film to be " ambitious and amazing " and took note of how much Chastain stood out in her supporting part . The film earned over \$ 675 million worldwide to become Chastain 's highest @-@ grossing live @-@ action film .

Chastain 's final release of 2014 was the J. C. Chandor @-@ directed crime drama *A Most Violent Year* . Set in New York City in 1981 , the year in which the city had the highest crime rate , the film tells the story of a small heating oil company owner (played by Oscar Isaac) and his ruthless wife (Chastain) . In preparation , Chastain researched on the period and worked with a coach to develop a Brooklyn accent . She collaborated with costume designer Kasia Walicka @-@ Maimone to work on the character 's wardrobe , and reached out to Armani to use their costumes from the era . The *San Francisco Chronicle* 's Mick LaSalle believed Chastain to be " the embodiment of a nouveau riche New York woman of the era " and Mark Kermode of *The Guardian* found Chastain to be " terrific as the Lady Macbeth power behind the throne " . She received a Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress nomination for the film . For her work in 2014 , the Broadcast Film Critics Association honored Chastain with a special achievement award .

The year 2015 saw Chastain take on the part of a commander in Ridley Scott 's science fiction film *The Martian* . Starring Matt Damon as a botanist who is stranded on Mars , the film was based on Andy Weir 's novel of the same name . Chastain met with astronauts at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Johnson Space Center , and based her role on Tracy Caldwell Dyson . She spent time with Dyson in Houston and said , " My character is dealing with the guilt of leaving a crew member behind , but she 's still responsible for the lives of five other crew mates . I tried to play her as Tracy would have been in those moments . " With a revenue of over \$ 630 million , the film became her second top @-@ grossing film in two years . Also in 2015 , Chastain played a villainous countess who plots with her brother (played by Tom Hiddleston) to terrorize his new bride (played by Mia Wasikowska) in Guillermo del Toro 's gothic romance *Crimson Peak* . Despite the character 's misdeeds , Chastain approached the part with empathy , and in preparation read graveyard poetry

and watched the films *Rebecca* (1940) and *What Ever Happened to Baby Jane ?* (1962) . Toro cast her in the film to lend accessibility to a part he considered " psychopathic " , but critic Peter Debruge of *Variety* found her to " alarmingly miscast " in the role , writing that she " flounders to convey [her character 's] vicious insecurity and black @-@ widow ruthlessness " . Conversely , David Sims of *Slate* magazine praised her for portraying her character 's " jealous intensity to the hilt " .

= = = 2016 onward = = =

After portraying a series of intense roles , Chastain actively looked for a light @-@ hearted part . She found just that in the fantasy film *The Huntsman : Winter 's War* (2016) , co @-@ starring Chris Hemsworth , Charlize Theron and Emily Blunt . The film served as both a sequel and a prequel to the 2012 film *Snow White and the Huntsman* . She was drawn to the idea of playing a female warrior whose abilities were on par with the male lead , but the film generated negative reviews and performed poorly at the box office . Also that year , Chastain launched a production company named *Freckle Films* , headed by a team consisting exclusively of female executives , which is expected to partner with *Maven Pictures* to develop the film adaptations of two books .

As of July 2016 , Chastain has seven upcoming projects . She has completed work on the drama *The Zookeeper 's Wife* , an adaptation of the non @-@ fiction book of the same name from the director Niki Caro . Chastain co @-@ stars with Johan Heldenbergh as the real @-@ life zookeepers Jan and Antonina ?abi?ski who saved many human and animal lives during World War II . She has also completed filming for the part of a lobbyist in the gun control thriller *Miss Sloane* , which reunites her with director John Madden . She is filming for Xavier Dolan 's first English language film , entitled *The Death and Life of John F. Donovan* , in which she plays a shrewd gossip columnist , alongside an ensemble cast including Kit Harington , Kathy Bates , Susan Sarandon and Natalie Portman . In addition , she will feature in three upcoming biographical films ? she will star as the country singer Tammy Wynette opposite Josh Brolin 's George Jones in a biopic of Jones , entitled *No Show Jones* , as the 19th century activist Caroline Weldon , who was an adviser to the Sioux chieftain Sitting Bull in the drama *Woman Walks Ahead* , and as Molly Bloom , a disgruntled skier who ran a high @-@ profile gambling operation , in Aaron Sorkin 's directorial debut *Molly ? s Game* . Chastain is also set to appear in Patrick Brice 's comedy film *Plus One* , opposite Cecily Strong .

= = Personal life and off @-@ screen work = =

Despite significant media attention , Chastain remains guarded about her personal life , and chooses not to attend red carpet events with a partner . She considers herself to be a " shy " person , and describing her routine in 2011 , she said , " I walk the dogs , I play the ukulele , I cook . I ? m not a girl who goes to big parties " . She has cited the actress Isabelle Huppert as an influence on her life for managing a family while also playing " out @-@ there roles " in film . In the 2000s , Chastain was in a long @-@ term relationship with writer @-@ director Ned Benson , but the couple broke up in 2010 . From 2012 onward , she has been in a relationship with Gian Luca Passi de Preposulo , an Italian @-@ born executive for the French fashion brand *Moncler* . As of 2016 , she lives with Preposulo in New York City . Chastain is an animal lover and has adopted a rescue dog . She was a pescatarian for much of her life , but following health troubles she began practicing veganism .

Chastain is a feminist , and has often spoken against the discrimination faced by women and minorities in Hollywood . She wrote an opinion column on gender imbalance in the industry for a December 2015 issue of *The Hollywood Reporter* . Among other issues , she is vocal in her support for equal pay in the workplace : " I think people know , if they ? re going to hire me I ? m not going to just be grateful . There have been situations where I have lost movies because I ? ve said , this is not a fair deal , and I ? ve walked away . ? In 2013 , Chastain lent her support to the *Got Your 6* campaign , that helps empower veterans of the United States Army , and in 2016 , she became an

advisory board member to the organization We Do It Together , which produces films and television shows to promote the empowerment of women .

Having suffered through the suicide of her sister , Chastain aims to create awareness on depression , saying , " If I can do anything to help someone move through any darkness that they ? re in , I ? m gonna do whatever I can to help " . She supports charitable organizations that promote mental health , and is involved with the non @-@ profit organization To Write Love on Her Arms to help high @-@ school students of alternate sexual and gender identities overcome their insecurities . She was teased as a child for having red hair and freckles and now takes a stand against bullying and body shaming .

= = Media image = =

Describing Chastain 's off @-@ screen persona , InStyle magazine published in 2015 that " she ? s an adult , which isn ? t always a given in Hollywood . Unconsciously candid with her answers , she retains a sense of perspective uncommon among her peers and has real opinions " ; in addition , the magazine credited her for being the rare actress who is ? all about the craft ? . Evgenia Peretz , an editor at Vanity Fair considers Chastain to be " the most sensitive and empathetic actor " she has interviewed , and her colleague Jessica Diehl takes note of Chastain 's " timeless elegance " which she thinks is " almost incongruous for the current times " .

Chastain specializes in portraying emotionally grueling roles and is drawn towards parts of strong but flawed women . She believes in extensive preparations for a role , and (in her own words) she tries to " fill myself up with as much history of the character as I can " . Chastain is unique in being a Hollywood actress who overcame ageism to become a leading lady in her 30s . The critics Roger Ebert and Richard Roeper have praised Chastain 's versatility , and W magazine credits her for avoiding typecasting . Guillermo del Toro (who directed her in Crimson Peak) believes that she is " interested in being chameleonic " and that " no matter how bizarre the situation [...] she ? s able to bring completely real emotions to the game " . Describing Chastain 's abilities as an actress , Sophie Heawood of The Guardian wrote that " she brings so little ego to the roles she plays , so little of herself , that you go away with no idea who that actress actually was . " Harper 's Bazaar opines that " she goes for total immersion , sinking so deep into character that her face seems to change shape with each one " . Lea Goldman of Marie Claire compares her craft to that of actresses Meryl Streep and Cate Blanchett and believes that her " looks are always an afterthought " .

Chastain 's beauty and sex @-@ appeal have been picked up by several sources , including Vogue , who describes Chastain 's physical features as " excessively luscious [with] pale Botticelli features wrapped around a bone structure that has a touch of the masculine , right down to the cleft in her chin " . She was named the sexiest vegetarian actress in a poll conducted by PETA in 2012 . From 2012 ? 14 she was featured in AskMen 's listing of the most desirable women , and in 2013 she was placed in Maxim 's listing of the 100 hottest women in the world . In 2015 , Glamour magazine ranked her as one of the best @-@ dressed women . Time magazine named Chastain one of the 100 most influential people in the world in 2012 . Also in 2012 , she was invited to join the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences , and was named the celebrity endorser for a Yves Saint Laurent fragrance called Manifesto . In 2015 , she became the global ambassador for the Swiss jewelry and watchmaking company Piaget SA .

= = Acting credits and awards = =

According to the review @-@ aggregate site Rotten Tomatoes and the box office site Box Office Mojo , Chastain 's highest @-@ grossing and most acclaimed films include Take Shelter (2011) , The Help (2011) , Coriolanus (2011) , Madagascar 3 : Europe 's Most Wanted (2012) , Zero Dark Thirty (2012) , Mama (2013) , Interstellar (2014) , A Most Violent Year (2014) , and The Martian (2015) . Among her stage roles , she has appeared in a Broadway revival of The Heiress in 2012 .

Chastain has been nominated for two Academy Awards : Best Supporting Actress for The Help (

2011) and Best Actress for Zero Dark Thirty (2012) . She won the Golden Globe Award for Best Actress in a Motion Picture ? Drama for Zero Dark Thirty (2012) and has been twice nominated for the Golden Globe Award for Best Supporting Actress ? Motion Picture for The Help (2011) and A Most Violent Year (2014) .