

Recently, we heard that Ben Kingsley was in talks to play the villain in Marvel Studios' third Iron Man film, which begins production next month in North Carolina. Now, Variety reports that Guy Pearce - who recently starred in Lockout and will soon be seen in Ridley Scott's Prometheus - is in final talks to join the cast of Iron Man 3. Pearce will play the geneticist Aldrich Killian. Shane Black is directing the film, which also stars Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow and Don Cheadle. Walt Disney Pictures is distributing with Marvel Studios. The movie will be loosely based on Warren Ellis' "Extremis" storyline (which also influenced the first movie). In the books, Killian co-created the Extremis technology that Iron Man adopts after Killian sells it to terrorists. Iron Man 3 is set to hit theaters May 3rd, 2013. Follow @PaulRomCBM

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