Subject: The Loved One
Posted by Rusty on Sat, 22 May 2021 14:22:27 GMT
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Has anyone ever seen the movie, The Loved One? A study in Black humor, satire, a lurid reflection on society and culture. From 1965. Shot in black & white and starring Robert Morse, Rod Steiger, Jonathan Winters, with Liberace, Sir John Gielgud and a host of others. They seemed to make some very good movies in that vein back then. Dr. Strangelove being the most famous maybe. But this little movie that skewered the funeral business is a great character study for the actors within it, particularly Rod Steiger. His character, Mr. Joyboy is as creepy as is ludicrous. Is he gay? A pervert, a psycho, weirdo. What the hell is he? Then there's his mother! She's obsessed with food and has the look to fit. Jonathan Winters plays two parts, one a funeral director and an equally sleazy twin brother involved in the business.
All the cast create a movie that shows the creativity that Hollywood could muster up back in the swinging 60's. A very interesting look at the curious and kooky American vignette.

Mr. Joyboy

Mama

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 22 May 2021 15:07:16 GMT
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How funny! I've gotta check that out!

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Beck on Thu, 02 Sep 2021 15:11:52 GMT
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The theme of the movie funeral business is intriguing, and it's far from the genres common today. I'm glad I saw this since I've been looking for movies that are old but gold. Nowadays, you're more likely to get influenced by algorithmic recommendations on Netflix.

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Rusty on Thu, 02 Sep 2021 17:48:14 GMT
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Well alrighty then. Hope you enjoyed it. If you liked that black humor and a touch of irony it conveys. If never seen, it's a must to watch Dr. Strangelove with George C. Scott, and Peter Sellers in three cameo characters in the movie. General Jack Ripper, (Sterling Haden), has gone a little funny in the head and orders in his wing of B52's to strike Soviet Russia. Colonel Kong, (Slim Pickens) is the only one to get through. What a ride he does at the end. A satirical masterpiece.

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Leot55 on Sun, 05 Sep 2021 12:30:43 GMT
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I've seen it, but it was ages ago. I don't remember liking it much. I enjoyed Evelyn Waugh's satirical novel that the movie is based on, so I thought the film would be a riot. It felt more like a misfire. Had I not read the book first, I probably would've enjoyed it too.

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Rusty on Sun, 05 Sep 2021 17:47:14 GMT
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I understand Leot. I've had similar experience from reading a book and then seeing the film adaptation. The Shining, one of the many Stephen King books put on film. Was a big disappointment for me when I saw the film. It seemed wooden and lackluster. Books give so much more detail and nuance than any cinematic experience can capture. So, now I'm interested in the book by Evelyn Waugh. Thanks.
Years later I re-watched The Shining. On the merits of the film alone. I really liked it.

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by LCallan on Sun, 05 Sep 2021 21:54:20 GMT
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Yes, I've seen it; it's a hoot! That was the first time that I'd seen Liberace on film. The movie is pretty camp, but it has a good message at its core and I dug the outrageous ending. I thought Mr. Joyboy was also into Aimee, but I could be wrong on that. It's been a while since I've seen it. I usually do like old films like that. They managed to convey a story without all the gore, vulgarity, and loud background noise that we're subjected to today.

Subject: Re: The Loved One
Posted by Rusty on Mon, 06 Sep 2021 12:03:23 GMT
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Near as I can tell LCallan. Most movies today depict fantasy superhero's having epic fights with super baddies or aliens. And or good guys vs gangs, with scenes of them beat'n the hell

deservedly out of dozens of scuzzy tattoo'd baddies in bars and buses. With slo mo to highlight their creative use of objects and moves to vanquish the dirty dozens. Violence consumption for a violent society.