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MODERN TIMES



TIFF13 Review: La última película

Posted by Brandy Dean September 2, 2013 4 Comments 2433 views

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Sigh. Here's the part where a film review is supposed to provide a brief, yet tantalizing synopsis. For the first time (is this my last review?), I'll just give you the one-line summary helpfully provided by the press kit: "A famous American filmmaker travels to the Yucatán to scout locations for his last movie. The Mayan Apocalypse intercedes." Glad that's out of the way.

Now, what is *La última película*, from co-directors Raya Martin and Mark Peranson, really about? Well... the end of cinema? No, it's more accurately about the endless prattle about the end of cinema. It's also kind of a re-make of sorts of *The Last Movie*, made by Dennis Hopper in 1971, plus the documentary about that movie and Dennis Hopper, also from 1971, called *American Dreamer* – both of which were 1.) hot messes, 2.) the end of something, and 3.) the beginning of something else. Confused yet?

Really *La última película* is a cinematic meditation on the nature of cinema via the medium of cinema, so words kind of fail. It's also a hot mess of sorts, but just when you think the film is about to collapse under the weight of its own pretentiousness, *La última película* gives you a big cartoon wink and metaphorical elbow nudge and – voila! – hipster cynicism transcends itself. Then you come to understand that the eight different formats on which this movie was shot – from 16 mm to an iPhone camera – wasn't just a result of poor equipment management. If you struggle to answer the dinosaurs who bemoan the end of celluloid as the end of cinema, just point them to *La última película* and say so, nyah!

Now, should you see *La última película*? If you've even pondered the questions, What is cinema? What will the last movie look like? Will it know it's the last movie? then yes, sure see it and see it when premieres at TIFF13, cause really the first screening might be the last screening. That's not a judgement – seriously, this film isn't going to make it to the local Cineplex Odeon before the apocalypse. Is it worth trading a precious festival pass or a standing in a rush line? That depends on

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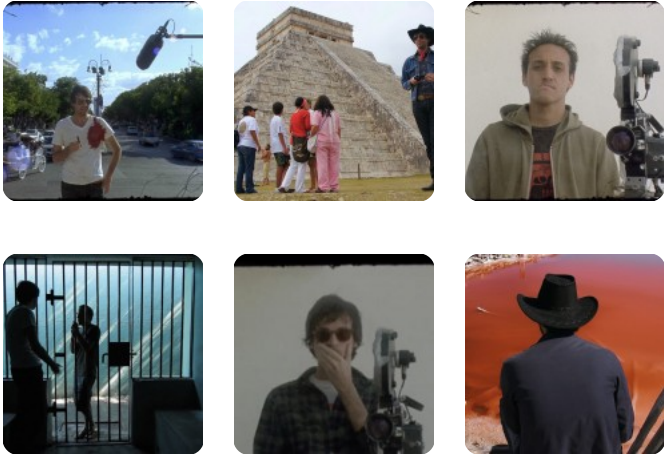
how hip you are.

Screening Times for La última película

Tuesday September 10 Jackman Hall 9:30 PM

Thursday September 12 TIFF Bell Lightbox 4 5:00 PM

A Gallery of Images from La última película



The Pretty Clever Films TIFF13 Coverage is brought to you in part by MUBI, your online cinemetheque.



FESTIVAL COVERAGE MARK PERANSON RAYA MARTIN TIFF13

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About Brandy Dean

Social media consultant, blogger for hire, and lover of classic movies and silent films.

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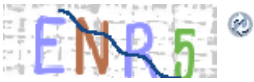
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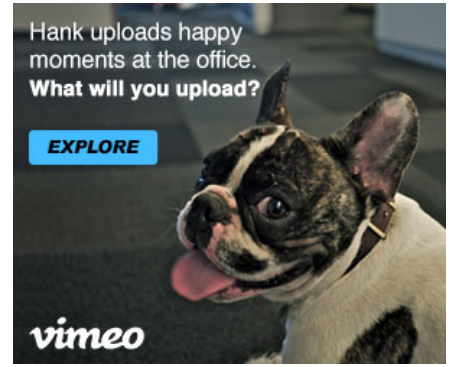
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