

Movie Review:

Disney "Enchants" Us, Once Again

By Ashley Rowe
Layout Editor

Welcome back, Disney. We have missed you. With a film industry that is obsessed with creating the next "Shrek"-like masterpiece, we moviegoers have felt a lack of creativity from the

filmmakers. The Disney movies of years past have been dull representations of the artistic capability that the studio has to offer. Last years' "Meet the Robinsons" and "Underdog" cannot stand up to the cinematic genius that is "Enchanted". Luckily, for those of us who have been missing this awesome force

of filmmaking, Disney finally got it right.

The opening of the film is reminiscent of the Disney of yesteryear, bringing back memories of "Sleeping Beauty" and "Cinderella." Older audience members will be delighted at this deliberate attempt to evoke a feeling of familiarity. In true Disney

style, the film's first ten minutes are shown completely in animation. "Enchanted" begins in the tiny village of Andalasia, where the beautiful Princess Giselle (Amy Adams) is searching for her true love. Of course, her true love is none other than Prince Edward, (James Marsden) the typical gallant hero, complete with a white steed and impeccable hair. The two meet by chance and decide to be married the next day. Of course, Edward's evil Stepmother Narissa (Susan Sarandon) wants nothing of this marriage, and vows to have Giselle killed, or worse, sent to the strange land of New York City.

A little magic goes a long way. Once Giselle is sent into New York City, she is transformed into a human. Though Adams is delightful as an animated character, her performance as human Giselle, for a lack of better words, is "enchanted." She brings to the character a sense of naivety that is endearing. Though Giselle is a princess, she does experience a few complications along the way. She befriends an attorney named Robert (Patrick Dempsey) and his daughter, Morgan (Rachel Covey), who let Giselle stay in their home until she can find her way back to Andalasia. Both Robert and Giselle teach each other the value of true love, even sparking mutual feelings of their own.

However, while this film is, on the surface, a Disney film, it has an underlying quality of parodying its own genre. Robert encourages Giselle to get to know her true love, instead of marrying him the next day, which seems typical in traditional fairy tales. Many references to other Disney works are made throughout this film.

It's refreshing to watch a film that hits all of its marks. One might say that the film is cheesy, but perhaps that is why it is such a remarkable piece of work.

The musical numbers are absolutely fantastic. The dynamic duos of Alan Menken and Stephen Schwartz have brought us a

handful of new, delightful songs to sing-along with. In a musical number entitled "That's How You Know," Giselle parades around New York City, gathering a choir of citizens to help Robert understand the ways a woman knows that her true love is true.

"Enchanted" is a delightful film that will leave audiences feel good about taking the whole family to



Disney delights audiences of all ages with their newly released animated-real life feature film, "Enchanted."

see. There is something to entertain everyone, from side-splitting laughter, feel-good musical numbers, and sweet, sensitive moments. The box office has had no immunity from this charming piece of fluff. "Enchanted" was the top film at the box office two weeks in a row, grossing over 51 million dollars since it debuted.

Disney is not recreating; it is simply evolving. Hopefully the success of this film will bring a new era of Disney classics. Enchanted is now playing at a theater near you.



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