

Chester Film Society presents

The Good Boss

Spain 2022 | 2hr 00m | Cert 15

Director: Fernando León de Aranoa

Starring: Almudena Amor, Javier Bardem, María de Nati, Sonia Almarcha, Manolo Solo, Celso Bugallo

Synopsis

Spanish comedy drama in which the owner of a manufacturing company is beset by workplace problems just as his business is about to be judged for a prestigious award.

Critical acclaim

"Bardem soars in these settings: soothing, dissembling and manipulative. As a modern Machiavelli with an MBA in management, he is riveting." *Deadline Hollywood*

"Fernando León de Aranoa's film, a sour comic drama, is too impressed by simple ironies (the boss's company, for instance, makes scales — as in the scales of justice)." *The Times*

"Bardem is one of the few actors who could really carry off this role: Blanco needs to be at once loathsome, reassuring, cosy and yet plausibly seductive -- and the Spanish star fleshes him out with brio and a nicely deceptive middle-age joviality." *Uncut*

"An impressively slick and slimy performance from Javier Bardem is the standout selling point for this serviceable if (perhaps appropriately?) workaday satire on corporate corruption and alienated capitalism." *The Observer*

"For all the bagginess and overly on-the-nose symbolism, it can also display a finely calibrated grasp of farce." *Financial Times*

"The raffish charisma and sinister, saturnine handsomeness of Javier Bardem is what raises this

movie above the standard of soap-opera... mostly." *The Guardian*

"An admirer of Alfred Hitchcock and the Coen brothers., [director] de Aranoa also appears to be a fan of Christopher Guest. The humor is bone-dry, wickedly deadpan, concise, and precise. De Aranoa isn't interested in cheap laughs or broad physical comedy." *Epoch Times*

"In the end, Fernando León de Aranoa's film suggests that there may not be a lot of daylight between a good boss and a true villain." *Slant Magazine*

"Delighting in hitting its barn door-sized targets, "The Good Boss" works best when writer/director Fernando León de Aranoa uses a subtler hand to dismantle the illusion of solidarity between employer and employee." *The Playlist*

Conclusion

Led by Javier Bardem's charismatic performance and writer-director Fernando León de Aranoa's sharp humor, *The Good Boss* is a workplace satire worthy of promotion.

Our next film...

9th January – All We Imagine As Light

Chester Picturehouse – Screen 1, 7.30 PM

Don't forget to buy your tickets in advance!

www.chesterfilmsociety.co.uk

Please rate tonight's film using the scale below. We welcome your comments! Detach and hand in as you leave.

| ---- I loathed it ---- | ---- I disliked it ----- | ----- It was OK ----- | ----- I liked it -----| -----I loved it ----- |

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10