

Film title

A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence

Tagline

Brilliantly absurd story about humans lives

Short synopsis

Sam and Jonathan, a pair of hapless novelty salesmen, embark on a tour of the human condition in reality and fantasy that unfold in a series of absurdist episodes.

Long synopsis

Like modern times' Don Quixote and Sancho Panza, Sam and Jonathan, two travelling salesmen peddling novelty items, take us on a kaleidoscopic wandering through human destinies. A trip that shows us the beauty of single moments, the pettiness of others, the humor and tragedy that is in us, life's grandeur as well as frailty of humanity.

With a panoramic view it is told by a bird reflecting on the human condition. The pigeon is astonished by the humans—their activities, follies, prides, and agitation, which he tries to make sense of and understand. A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence is the third film of Andersson's trilogy about humans lives, in which the director creates a tension between the banal and the essential, the comic and the tragic—to show the dialectic and dynamic nature of existence, while shaping the thought that mankind is potentially heading towards apocalypse, but also that the outcome is in our hands. Andersson's Pigeon managed to amaze, move and left awe-struck the jury of the oldest international film festivals – Venice, and received the highest festival award – Golden Lion. Swedish master of comic absurdity, Roy Andersson is able to bring a humor in such painful subjects as mortality, aging, unpaid debts and unrequited love in his films.

Technical information and credits

Original title: En duva satt på en gren och funderade på tillvaron
English title: A Pigeon Sat on a Branch Reflecting on Existence
Year: 2014
Country: France, Germany, Norway, Sweden
Language: sv, en
Subtitles: cz
Running time: 96 min
Dostupnost:

Genre: Drama
Directed by: Roy Andersson
Written by: Roy Andersson
Edited by: Roy Andersson
Cinematography: Alexandra Strauss
Sound by: Arvo Pärt, Johann Sebastian Bach

Awards

Venice IFF - Golden Lion - 2014
European Film Awards - Best Comedy - 2015
Toronto IFF - Masters - 2014

Actors

Holger Andersson, Nils Westblom, Charlotta Larsson, Viktor Gyllenberg

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