

TRANSLATION

From Lithuanian language

Love is more important than politics

The audience was bigger than usually at the first-night of a new Lithuanian film "Wooden Staircase" which took place at Vilnius Cinema Centre. Everyone eager to watch could hardly get a seat. "I am glad that nobody left till the end of the film and watched attentively."... As if joking said the author of the film, the director and the debutante Vidas Rasinskas. I believe that the next week, when the film will be screened twice a day, the interest will not reduce.

It is gratifying that there are no political problems in the film at this noisy period of politicking and it is a real pleasure to watch it.

The only sign pointing to the time is the policemen's contemporary uniform.

The action of the film "Wooden Staircase" takes place in a symbolic space, far from the row of the life and social problems. Only emotions, memories, dreams and longing exist there; only the things, which protagonists in their early twenties are interested in.

The main protagonists are: Monica (actress from Germany Gabrielle Odinis) and Vilius (actor Evaldas Jaras).

Perhaps there is no need to speculate what relates them. Monica is not the first love for Vilius though and his past-time comes back all of a sudden. It seems as if it comes back to Vilius' life with a purpose to destroy his present. This is totally unexpected even for Vilius himself. He came to the island, the most beautiful place in Lithuania, with Monica for couple of days to celebrate her twentieth birthday. However, the influence of Vilius' past is so strong that it influences badly his present... This could be a motive of the film's plot.

The film "Wooden Staircase" attracts one's attention with its surprising morality, purity, sensitiveness, so uncommon to Lithuanian films, and excellent acting, as even minor parts were acted by the cinema and theatre masters. Famous actors such as: Dalia Melenaite, Vaclovas Bledis and Virginija Kelmelyte, took part in the film.

As soon as the first-night of the film was over, one man from the audience pointed out that this film should be watched by our hearts... Maybe it is true, but perhaps we are all made for life, where nothing is more important than pure, beautiful emotions that can raise us above the ground...

The film "Wooden Staircase" should be watched as a poetry on a screen or a confession of our emotions.

The wonderful scenery makes the film even more dramatic. Undoubtedly, the cameraman, Jonas Tamasevicius, makes wonders. He was able to shoot the scenery so well that it hypnotize the audience and deepens the film directors Vidas Rasinskas' idea.

Daiva Simkute

A Film Critic

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