SAAT UCHAKEY

Director: Sanjeev Sharma

Writers: Sandeep Saket, Sanjeev Sharma

Stars: Manoj Bajpayee, Nitin Bhasin, Annu Kapoor

Strength: Cast Weakness: Story Runtime: 139min

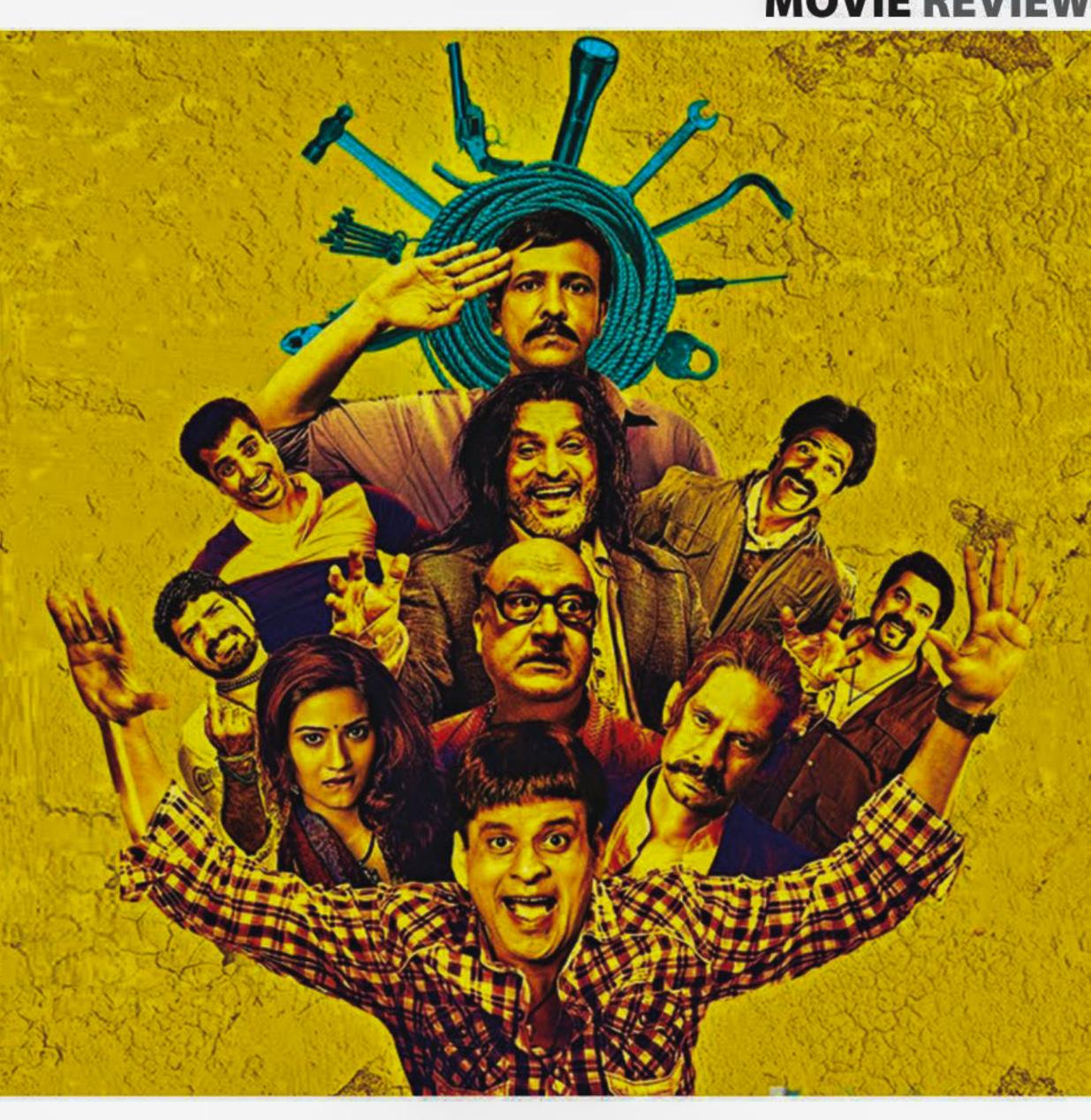
Rating: 2/5

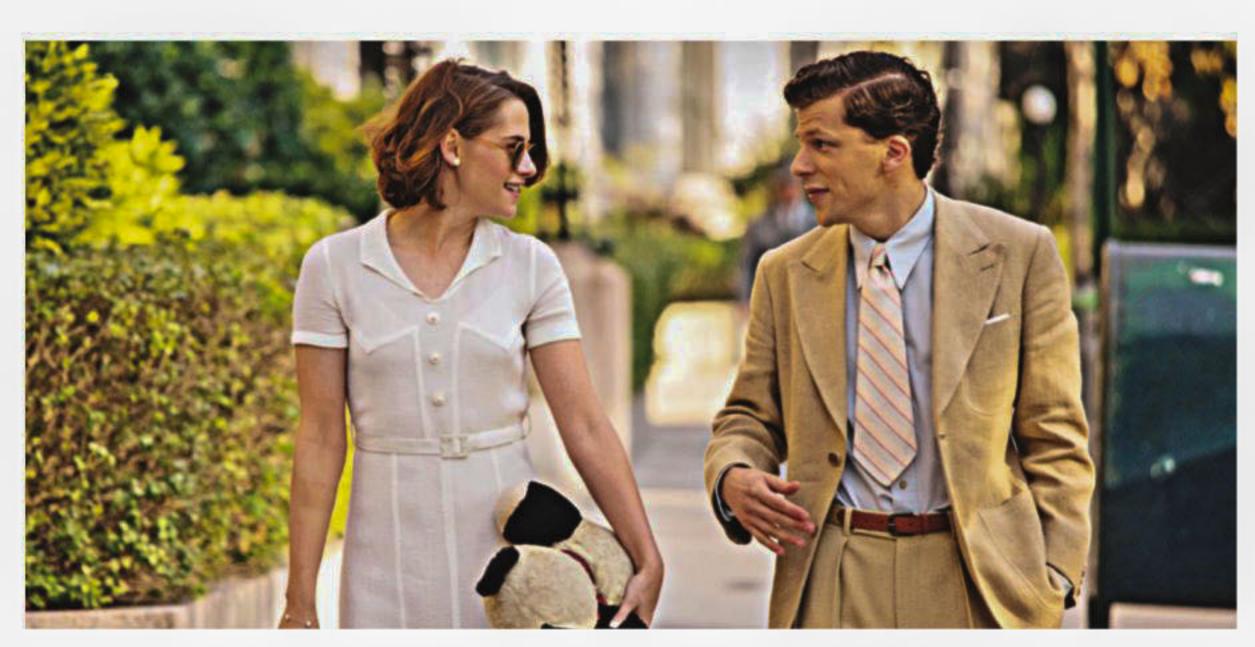
PLOT: Seven petty crooks blunder their way through an exciting gamut of mystery, treachery, greed and falling into one crisis after another. REVIEW: The initial sequences of the film start off with a humorous tone that only lasts for a certain period as the movie starts crumbling due to lacking in the script. On the whole, the film is about a treasure hunt in the "haveli", which goes wrong in every way possible. The cast chosen for the film is strong which includes the likes of veteran stars Manoj Bajpayee and

Annu Kapoor. The film is purposely politically incorrect and is filled with crude language all through out as means to be disturbing. Initially, the characters and their relationships with each other were made realistic, however, as the movie progressed it turned into a stretched out plot, which has a somewhat tiring ending. The constant attempt to be foul-mouthed leaned towards irreverence as there were certain parts in the film where the dirty talk was intended to show affection, but rather turned into an offensive portrayal.

Overall, the movie starts off on a good note, and had there been a strong story to tell, it could have really made a mark especially due to the existence of the strong cast, who were completely underutilised.

Source: The Hindu





CAFÉ SOCIETY

Director: Woody Allen **Writer:** Woody Allen

Stars: Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, Steve Carell

Strength: Cast, Direction Weakness: Story Runtime: 96min Rating: 3.5/5

PLOT: A young Bronx native falls in love with the secretary of his powerful uncle and eventually reconnects with the girl in New York City, where he owns a vibrant high society nightclub.

REVIEW: The movie starts off with smooth introductions to the various characters, with the quintessential 1930s jazz music resonating in the backdrop. This story, from the very beginning was adamant about telling an unrequited love story, which would eventually turn into a heartbroken attempt to shift the focus onto building an empire of social nightclub. The build-up till the end was very immersive, which was finished off with an ambiguous conclusion, making the experience of the film somewhat ironically vague. The script was destined to be very simple, which is slightly disap-

pointing since the movie could have been much better had there been a somewhat intertwining storyline.

The cast chosen in the film were wonderful. The likes of Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart and Steve Carell unmistakably provides for the movie. Each character was given a unique personality with exceptional virtue and imperfection, which were tailored by the stars to fit perfectly.

The direction was done exceptionally by Woody Allen, turning a very simple script into an engaging tale of life. The set was designed very well to seem like a very close replica of the 1930s setting. The shots taken in LA and New York were rich and filled with authentication.

On the whole, the movie is a great narration to witness, but perhaps the simple story may be a bit tedious for some. With great background scores and engaging characters, the movie is a must-watch for people of all ages, especially for those who enjoy retrospective backdrops.

Reviewed by Syed Ahnaf Sadeed

CLASSIC REVIEW

THE SON'S ROOM (2001)

Director: Nanni Moretti **Writers:** Nanna Moretti, Linda Ferri

Stars: Nanni Moretti, Laura Morante, Jasmine Trinca

Runtime: 99min

PLOT: A psychoanalyst and his family goes through intense emotional trauma when their son passes away in a scuba diving accident.

REVIEW: The story follows an Italian family through the various stages of grieving. Throughout the film the family's instinctive denial, sorrow, anger, bargain, depression and acceptation is thoroughly seen. The overall effect is very touching as these stages reflect in the clearly seen details of everyday life. The film uses the accident to show each family member's effort in coping with the loss, spinning themselves into their own private corners. Giovanni, portrayed by Moretti, displays the most real grief among the cast and is vibrant during his alone-times,

where he becomes obsessed over miniscule details such as sonic bridges in opera songs. The director, Moretti, focuses more on the shades and tones of the film rather than the plot itself. A particular sequence is crucial in the film; a letter arrives for the dead Andrea from a girl named Arianna, whom she met for only one day. The film uses this letter and Arianna's appearance as a way of resolving the story. Arianna becomes the instrument of acceptance, representing the notion that life must go on.

The movie is a demonstration of how a director can sometimes reach out to the audience and touch them in an extraordinary way. One of Nanni Moretti's finest, which brings out trepidation from the very core and finishes off with a message representing the merciless truth.

Source: Robert Ebert

