



OPENING GALA

IN THE LOOP

Glasgow born Armando Iannucci is, quite simply, a comic genius. Nobody has done more to elevate the ambition of British comedy. *The Thick Of It* was his television masterpiece; a bile-ridden satire on the back corridors of British politics that cut so close to the bone that it hurt. *In The Loop* is not *The Thick Of It: The Movie* but it is a very close family relative. Tom Hollander's Simon Foster is the kind of fresh-faced idealist who entered politics because he felt he could make a difference. Now he is secretary of state for the Department of International Development and about to become embroiled in a brewing war in the Middle East. He seems to be against the war but winds up appearing the ideal hawk in the eyes of the American and British governments. Soon he is the toast of Washington, hob-nobbing with Army Major Miller (James Gandolfini) and set to become a helpless innocent thrust into the snake pit of international diplomacy. Naturally, foul-mouthed spin doctor Malcolm Tucker (Peter Capaldi) is never far from the action.

Fresh from its world premiere at Sundance in January, we are thrilled to open the 2009 Glasgow Film Festival with the UK premiere of *In The Loop* - a combination of biting satire and acid wit so close to reality that you will laugh until you cry. Thanks to Optimum

Check www.glasgowfilmfestival.org.uk for updates about special guests and for details of the opening party.



With live music at the opening party curated by

GFT
Thursday 12 February (19.15)
Thursday 12 February (20.15)
Cineworld Rerunw St
Friday 13 February (18.00)
Director
Armando Iannucci
Featuring
Peter Capaldi
Tom Hollander
James Gandolfini
Steve Coogan
Paul Higgins
UK 2009, 1h42m, 15



CLOSING GALA

LAST CHANCE HARVEY

You are never too old to fall in love. That's the message of this expert romantic comedy featuring the dream team of multi Oscar-winners Emma Thompson and Dustin Hoffman. Both stars have received Golden Globe nominations for their performances and it is their magical chemistry that makes *Last Chance Harvey* that little bit special. Hoffman brings all his rumpled charm to bear on the role of Harvey Shine, an aspiring jazz pianist who barely endures his job as a jingle writer. He arrives in London for his daughter's wedding. At Heathrow Airport, he brushes against Kate Walker (Thompson), a survey taker who is dealing with her own disappointments which mostly take the form of an exceptionally demanding mother (Eileen Atkins) who fails to accept that Kate needs a life of her own. Excluded from the wedding party and stunned by the news that his daughter has asked her stepfather to march her down the aisle, Harvey is more despondent than ever but maybe when you least expect it life can have a pleasant surprise in store. Warmly witty and surprisingly touching, *Last Chance Harvey* has a humanity that is often missing from modern comedies. Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson make you believe in the characters and root for cupid's arrow to find its mark. *Last Chance Harvey* is a treat for incurable romantics and the UK premiere is our fairytale ending for the 2009 Glasgow Film Festival.

Thanks to Momentum

GFT
Sunday 22 February (19.00)
Director
Joel Hopkins
Featuring
Dustin Hoffman
Emma Thompson
Eileen Atkins
James Brolin
USA 2008, 1h32m, 12A