

Fun escapist movie- The Adventures of Tintin (2011)

Well, if you are stuck inside your home, with tons of time on your hands, nothing could be more rewarding than watching this jewel of a movie. For me, as I watched it, I became an eleven year old boy again. It's a movie about adventure, strange lands, mysteries, pirates, and a cute white dog named Snowy. It's also about treasure, hidden secrets, maps, and hidden clues, motorcycle escapes, and survival at sea. Oh, and let's not forget being kidnapped and Shanghaied by your crew and an endless supply of whiskey. It's everything that an eleven year old boy could want and more. And that is why I loved this movies and recommend it for all your co-shut-ins.

The movie is perfect, but I do believe that a bowl or Doritos or Wise / Lays (American style) potato-chips with a nice onion dip would really help to enhance the enjoyment of this movie. Oh, yeah, and don't forget the frosty ice-cold beer while you are at it.

It's a great movie to have your favorite pet by your side as well.

The Plot

Before he died in 1983, (the man who created Tintin) Hergé said that if any filmmaker was to adapt his collection of stories about the adventures of Tintin into a movie, then Steven Spielberg was the only man for the job.

Thus after two decades of trial and error, the cinematic version of Tintin has finally reached our screens.

Alongside Spielberg on this project was maestro Peter Jackson as producer (perhaps you know him from the Lord of the Rings trilogy) and three of Britain's brightest writers (Steven Moffat, Edgar Wright and Joe Cornish).



What begins as a fun, nimble little mystery in the first act soon kicks into comedy-action-adventure high gear when junior reporter Tintin, with his brave dog Snowy, stumbles upon boozy Captain Haddock (an excellent Andy Serkis), whose family legacy may prove pivotal in a race to uncover the secret of the Unicorn.

This 3D motion-capture and CGI masterpiece combines three of Tintin's most beloved stories ([1] The Crab with the Golden Claws, [2] The Secret of the Unicorn and [3] Red Rackham's Treasure).

Spielberg and Jackson and all the team behind this movie adaptation obvious-

ly gave the original material the love and respect it deserved, while making it their own.

To clarify the origins of the story itself, you have to know that it isn't the adaptation of one, but three Tintin comics.

Its beginning takes root in [1] "Le Crabe aux Pinces D'or", while the rest of the movie revolves around the two-albums story of the hunt for Rakham the Red's treasure, [2] "Le Secret de la Licorne" and [3] "Le Trésor de Rakham le Rouge".

While it could seem like a lot of material for a whole movie, the choice of blending those three (two and a half) stories together turns out giving the movie a rather perfect pacing.



Snowy, while definitely smarter than your average cute canine, is also given to chasing cats, digging up fossilized bones from the desert, and gob-

bling sandwiches at decidedly inopportune moments. In other words, he's an instant audience favorite.

After discovering an elegant model of the ship the 'Unicorn' at a market, Tintin (voiced by Jamie Bell) and his loyal dog Snowy are intrigued as to why so many desire it, and comment on the secrets it holds.

When the model is stolen, more information surfaces. And so the pair set out to discover the truth. Thus teaming up, after a surprise meeting, with the boisterous drunkard Captain Haddock (voiced by Andy Serkis).

Adventure

The group's adventure spans the globe, with each destination bringing more danger and that crucial step closer towards unraveling the mystery.

From the moment the picture opens, the film's tone and mood is set: mystery and adventure merged with fun and frolics.

The classy, hand-drawn, animated titles use the Tintin signature silhouette imagery with style and sophistication.



One extended chase sequence through the flooding streets of a North African city is so dazzling and dizzying it reminded me why no other filmmaker can match Spielberg when he lets his imagination out for a spin.

The Adventures of Tintin is an entirely new bunch of blistering blue barnacles – every frame enforces impeccable detail and naturalism. And like the best animated pictures, viewers will forget they are watching digitalised representations in no time.

Visuals

Whether the visuals are mind-blowing as in the all-important action sequences or brilliantly subtle this film is a clear example of just how magnificent technology is in this day and age.

Tintin is brave, and he always gets out of the tangles he gets in. He is a

good guy. He doesn't know doubts...

Haddock is the dark side of Tintin. He is prone to anger and shouting insults, hard drinker, natural born loser...

Far from a being just a comical sidekick, Haddock is the human counterpart to the flawless hero that Tintin is.



The plot is a by the numbers mystery/adventure/treasure hunt, complete with bumbling detectives , exciting sea plane action and hidden clues, but it's brought to life in gorgeous visual style. The whole film is bursting with rich detail, and is given added depth by a good, solid use of 3D. The virtual camera-work throughout is stupendous.

With it's tremendous visual flair, the feature's script is a masterpiece. It is beautifully written. It possesses a kind of whimsical dialogue that is frequently hilarious and yet manages to keep people riveted to their seats.

An adaptation from the original

Considering Hergé's original stories are completely separate volumes, the writing trio behind this movie are able to make a sensible structure with the texts at hand.

And let's not forget the laughs, as the script provides great character development for those new to the world of Tintin without insulting audiences with an hour's lesson.

Young children will have no trouble picking up who's who in the early stages, before settling back for the incredible roller coaster ride of the second and final climatic act.



The film is a really mixture of action and adventure. We see the heroes on board ships, rowing boats, fly airplanes, riding camels, having car\bike

chases and crane fights. The time flew past for me and not once did i feel bored.

Action fans will gain greatness from this movie too.

Expect high octane chases, pirate swordplay and more bullets than a Sylvester Stallone entry – just a lot less gore and swearing.



The main character is Tintin, who is a journalist who we never see doing any journalism though, but that doesn't matter because he is the textbook example of a heroic boy with boy scout qualities. Of course I can't forget to mention the lovable dog, Snowy. He steals almost every scene that he is in. He is very realistic, he acts like a real dog and even gets his own chase scene. I'm telling you, you will adore this dog.

Action packed

In fact, although The Adventures of Tintin is action-packed, its PG certifi-

cate is justified. Seriously, I cannot recall anything remotely damaging or frightening for young eyes. So relax. Eat some chips and spend quality time with your young-in's.

The voice casting is collectively brilliant with Bell (Tintin) and Serkis (Haddock) being the obvious standouts.

Bell provides the voice for Tintin. It is his inquisitive tone and frequent high-pitched bursts that mirror the speech bubbles that Tintin utters in the comic panels.

When reading a Hergé story, this is exactly how the character sounds in your head don't you know.



The action scenes are brilliantly written and directed, the angles of the camera, the drive of the action scenes, timing of all the jokes(physical or visual) is genius. Because Spielberg is a genius. He is the master of adventure movies and there never will be another genius in adventure movies like him.

Serkis steals the show as Captain Haddock and is given splendid dialogue to growl through bitter Scottish chords. Haddock's often stupid remarks and forgetfulness is beautifully represented through the animated character.

Daniel Craig is also fantastic as the less-than-trustworthy Ivanovich Sakharine, Heh heh.

And let's not forget Simon Pegg and Nick Frost as the voice overs for the lovable policing dunces Thomson and Thompson.

Plus Snowy (the lovable dog) is absolutely wonderful.



The animation is magnificent, the motion capture has gone a long way. It looks very realistic, especially all the features on Captain Haddock's face. The beard, the wrinkles and the eyes, they all looked amazing.

Welcome to the world of Tintin

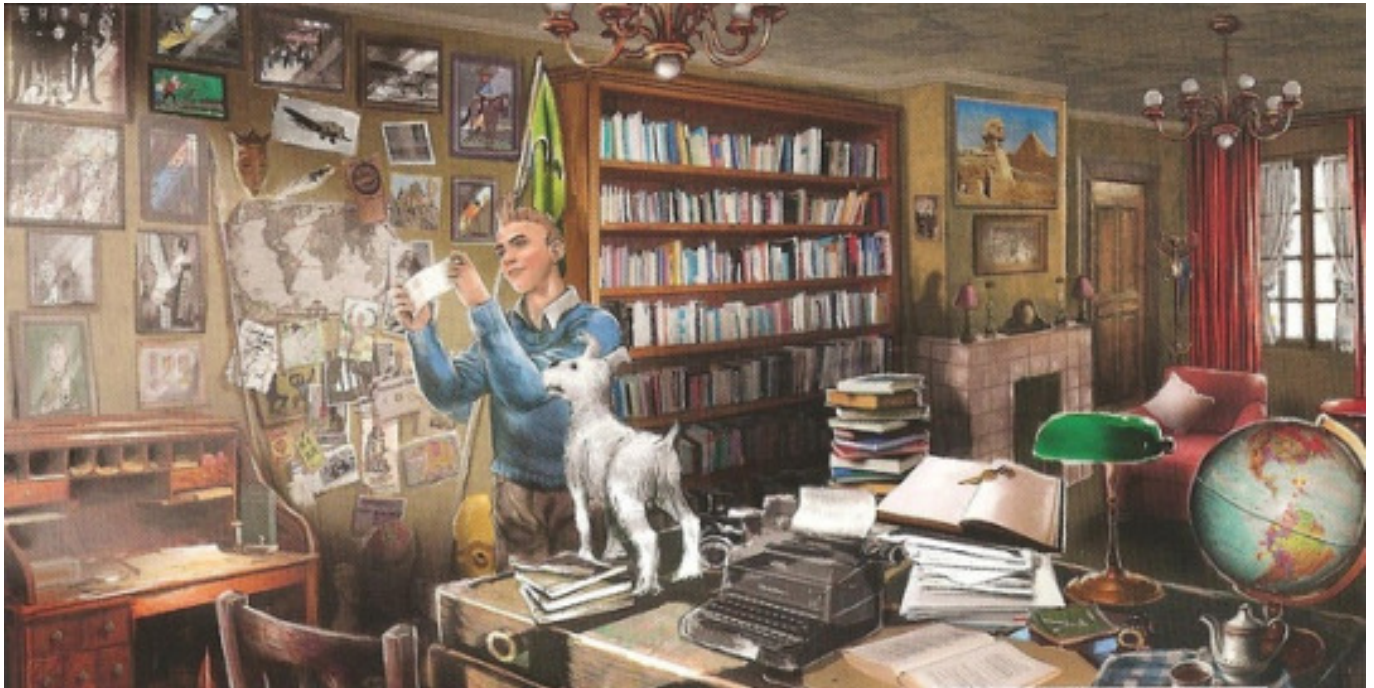
Perhaps those new to Tintin will be influenced to re-visit the books and television shows of yesteryear and become more involved with one of the century's most beloved and important literary creations.



Overall Spielberg has created an old-fashioned style adventure movie for the whole family to enjoy, where the important things are just the hunt for the treasure, the friendship two people can make and the most important thing of all that it is an entertaining ride. Spielberg never disappoints, it doesn't matter if you are a fan of Tintin or not, you will enjoy this film nonetheless

This was such an enjoyable film, there are so many great things about this movie.

Easily one of the most visually stunning films I have ever seen. The animation is perfect. it's bright, colourful and scarily lifelike.



Tintin (Jamie Bell) is a young reporter who gets tangled in the affairs of smugglers when he buys a model ship from a scrap meet. When he gets kidnapped to the smugglers' ship, he meets Captain Haddock (Andy Serkis). The adventure takes the pair to the Atlantic, Sahara, Morocco and finally back home.

The characters, scenery and landscapes all look incredible and so creative. Even the opening credits look fantastic! I can't stress how good the visuals are in this film.



The film's story is faithful to the comic book, and thus ends promising more. I hope there will be, because I was willing to follow Tintin and Haddock on new adventures straight away! The film is excellent escapism from the dreary day-to-day life and it made me smile for the rest of the day.

The Movie Flows Well

Spielberg has done an incredible job here, nothing could have been improved in this aspect. The way the movie flows and the way the scenes intertwine and change is beautiful.

There are scenes where it switches from past to present and back again in such a way that you just get lost in it.. you will understand what i mean when you see the movie.

There are scenes of fights and chases which are so creative and so imaginative, the way he uses angles and the way everything links on is a real joy to watch. Its hard to explain, watch the film and you will know exactly what I mean.



Billions of blue blistering barnacles, Ten thousand thundering typhoons – for a whole generation these were the epitome of cuss words thanks to Captain Haddock.

However, the film is not just a visual feast like many films are. It has a good solid story with likable, interesting characters – I found the story line kept my attention throughout. A very original adventure/quest film, searching for hidden treasure and defeating the bad guys along the way!

I cannot recommend this film enough, i was so surprised by just how good it was. I am sorry I didn't go and see this in the cinema as it really would have been a fantastic experience.



Captain Haddock works brilliantly for the most part: he's unpredictable, endearing, and colorful in all the ways Tintin himself isn't. Tintin and Haddock make for a good double-act, though: brains and brawn, cunning and in-over-his-head rashness; together they'd make a good Indiana Jones.

Exposition

The movie also deftly skips what could have been a typically Hollywoodish mistake of giving Tintin exposition. But none of that nonsense here.

Exposition in a written work is the passages which explain where events take place, what happened before the story begins, and the background of the characters.

Tintin is a reporter, that's all you need to know.

That's all the comics ever told us about him. None of them ever showed Tintin doing actual reporter work.

I don't think he ever used a typewriter, he has no boss, no workplace. Tintin just finds himself where adventure is.

Because he's a reporter.

Hergé never needed more, kudos for the guys behind this movie for keeping true to that. It will be held against them, but that will be coming from people who don't know the original material.



Spielberg is almost perfect in designing the characters. The look and the way the screen Tintin reacts brings in nostalgia of childhood days. The attitude to expression was all nicely done. Same goes for Snowy, the cute loyal dog of Tintin who can fight with the goons to save his beloved master. In fact children will fall in love with Snowy after watching this film. In one

of the scene when Tintin gets kidnapped Snowy follows the car of the goons to the ship where Tintin was deported.

CGI Bad?

Yet the movie did a great job of shutting up the anti-CGI geek in me. It simply looks stunning, and your mind easily jumps back and forth between forgetting these are cartoon characters and appreciating their transition to a 3D environment, respectful of the original designs but literally bringing them to life.



The detective duo Thompson and Thomson is appropriate and so is famous nightingale singer Bianca Castafiore. Captain Francis Haddock and Red Rackham's characters were true to the original book and it worked well.

In short, all these elements drew me to the same conclusion, Spielberg and co. managed to deal a great adaptation.

One that has true respect for the original material, and the great ambition of adding something to it.

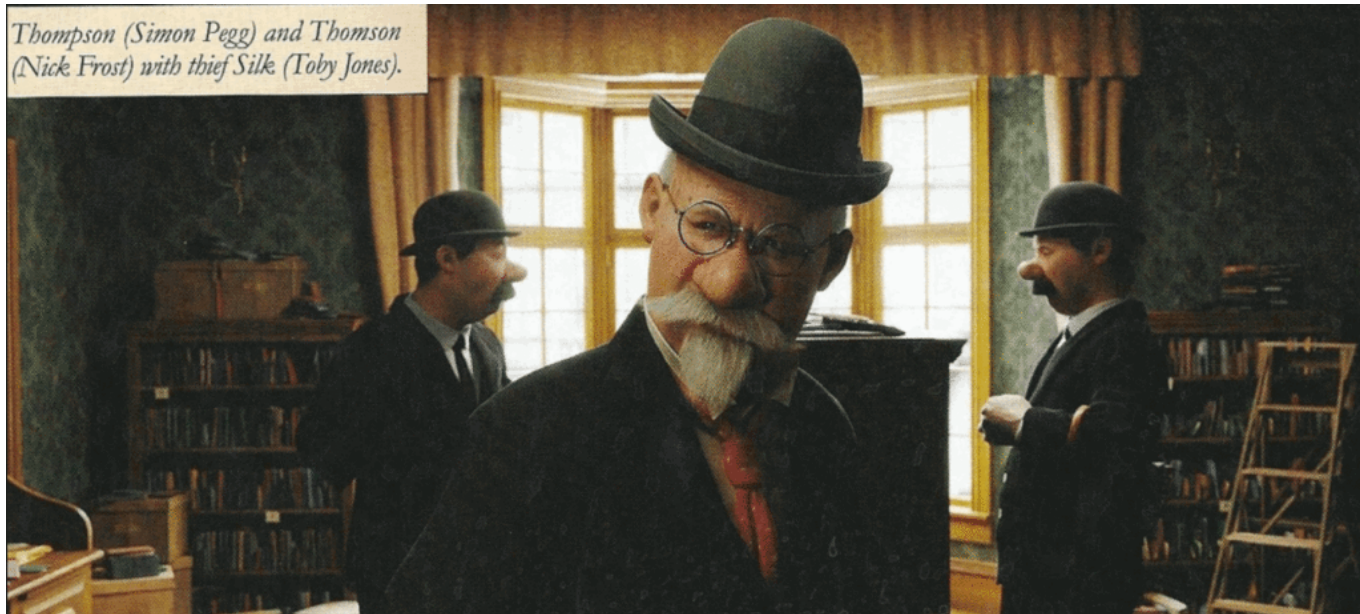
Yes, not everything of it. "Le Crabe aux Pinces D'or" could have deserved a whole movie itself. So yeah, shortcuts are taken, and as true to their originals as they are, the characters have been redesigned.

But in the end you have a movie that can be appreciated both by fans of the comics as well as people who have "just heard about them".

It is fun, packed with adventure and action, enjoyable at all ages.

And most of all, you can go see it without having to worry about seeing another piece of Hollywood-flavored perversion, a fast-foodified betrayal.

Thompson (Simon Pegg) and Thomson (Nick Frost) with thief Silk (Toby Jones).



It's an old-fashioned treasure hunt. Tintin runs into a frequently inebriated Captain Haddock (voice of Andy Serkis), who has a strong connection to the original Unicorn and to the scrolls themselves. With Haddock and Snowy at his side, Tintin races across the globe to solve the mystery before Sakharine, a journey that takes him to multiple continents, fighting bad guys with swords, guns, fists, and feet.

Some background

Since 1981, Spielberg has become an avid fan of this gorgeous "Tintin" comics and has been longing to create a film about it. Before he and "Tintin's" master, Herge could meet, Herge passed away.

However, Herge's widow decided to give them the rights and began the adventure to re-create this marvelous wonder of art.

Three comics

Adapted from three of the comics, Spielberg's re-creation of the comics introduces us to Tintin (Jamie Bell), a Belgian reporter who gets caught up in all sorts of adventures.

One day, he found a model of a ship, the Unicorn and bought it and brought it home. However, when Tintin was buying the ship, two men came to try to buy the model, Sakharine (Daniel Craig) and Barnaby.

Later, Tintin discovers that the model holds an important secret and somehow, the secret is linked to the real ship itself. On the way for answers, he meets the grumpy Haddock and head off to an adventure spanning around the globe with his white fluffy dog Snowy.

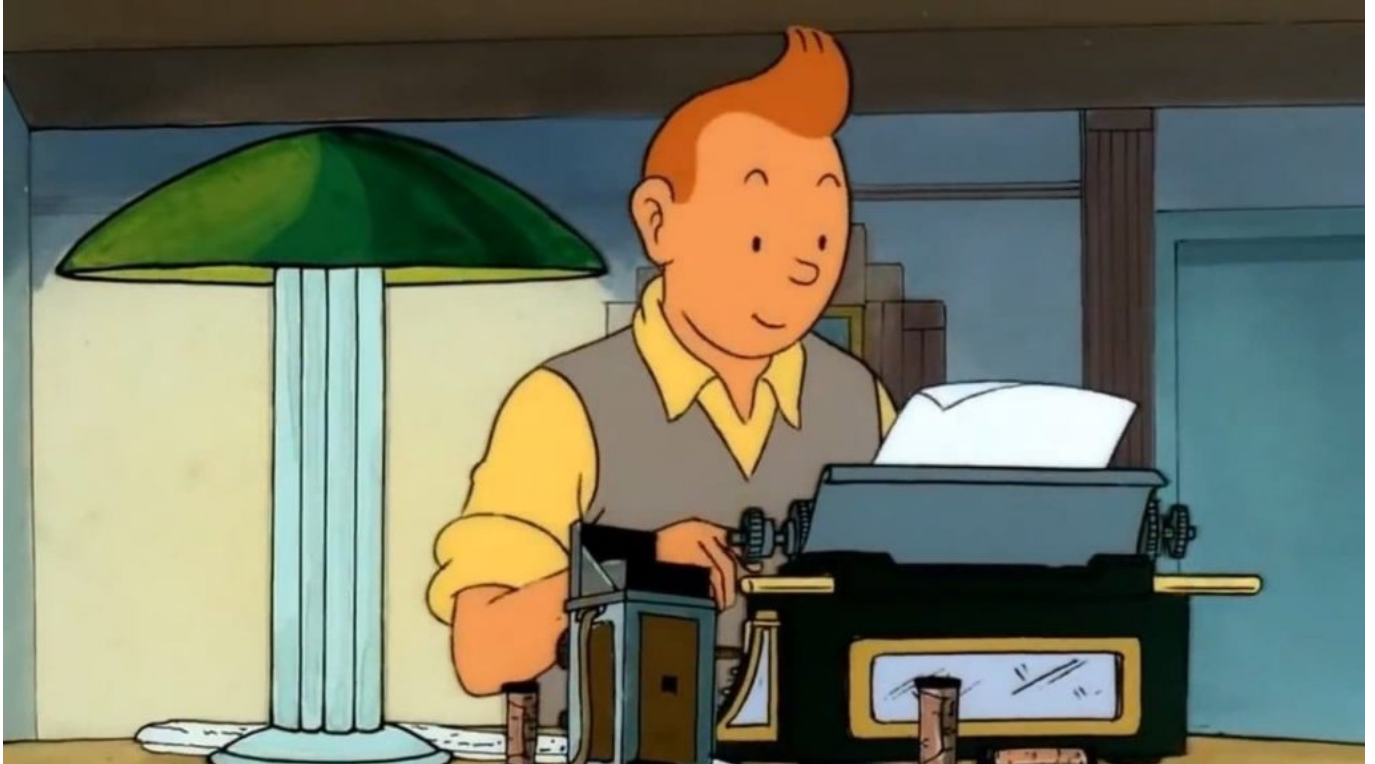
Animation

The animation is one of the most beautiful I've ever seen. It's not right to call it a CGI film as the motion of the characters are much smoother than that of CGI films. Tintin's animated self looks stunning (even though he looks kind of different from his comic-self) in his blue long sleeves.

Snowy is fluffier than ever.

Captain Haddock is grumpier than ever.

All of the animation is simply breathtaking and the best I've ever seen.



Here's an added bonus – apparently, the movie is very close to the source material. Tintin has not been updated or modified to mollify new audiences; remember, so many Americans have never heard of the intrepid reporter. And there's no time waste on explaining who Tintin is, or what he is, or how old he's supposed to be. You know why? Because it's irrelevant, that's why. He's just an adventuring dude with a smart dog and a lot of panache.

Scene shifting

I like how they change scenes.

While most other movies just shift scenes normally, this film uses a little imagination and is ingenious in shifting scenes. They can change from a scene of shaking hands to a desert scene by using the outline of the two hands into the surface of the desert.

This thing is just entertaining and great in its own right and deserves some reward.

A Fun Movie

The movie itself is fun to watch. The story is compelling, the lines are natural-sounding, and the action is plenty of fun to watch. It is great excitement to watch and I was hooked from beginning to end. Great plot + awesome action + breathtaking animation equals up to amazing movie.

The 3D is perfectly fine. The depth is seen and the 3D just makes the movie even more fun to watch.



The movie is animated, both literally and figuratively, and the animation is so exquisitely realistic that it's easy to perceive it as completely lifelike. The action is intense and relentless, but because of the depth of detail in the animation, it's tough to imagine it as anything other than a terrific live-action film. When Tintin leaps from building to building or from a moving car, we actually cringe – can he make it?

Excitement

OK, let's release now all the excitement about this movie. If I had just five short seconds to say how I think this movie is I'd chose 7 words: Mesmerising from the beginning to the end. That's quite true if you consider that even the opening credits are little shining pearls of direction and creativity.

Overall Impression

The general impression you get from this movie, talking about direction, is that nothing could have been better. Spielberg's direction is, in this case as well, a real warranty of general great quality.

Three things I particularly appreciated:

- There's literally a STORM of brain-waves (and here comes the Spielberg's touch); especially, in the connection phases between one scene and the other the director totally expresses his genius, turning the open ocean into a pond, making two shaking hands become dunes in the desert and so on (you'll understand what I mean when you'll watch the movie)
- The 'camera's movements' literally pull you into the movie and you can't help feeling excited or scared according to the situation.
- The movie flows perfectly; it is kind of a pleasure for your eyes and for your brain to follow the adventure.

You can tell it's a Spielberg's movie even just looking at these things.

The quality of animation.

I really could not find a proper term to define my astonishment when my eyes approached the beautiful places and landscapes shown in the movie.

They look perfect, shining and bursting with emotions, sensations; they almost look like paintings: For instance, there's a sunset in the movie that I will hardly forget. It's the same with the CGI models: you can see the wrinkles on the character's faces, even their sweat.

The Actors

Furthermore, some words about the actors: Bells and Serkis are maybe the sole two living beings who could have given birth to the cinematographic version of the two main characters.

The first succeeds in the hard challenge to provide the audience with a convincing and faithful interpretation of the beloved protagonist (he did A GREAT job indeed), the second is a delightful surprise again, with a funny Scottish accent and a very good interpretation.

Soundtrack

One last word goes to one of the best composer alive: Sir John Williams. There's nothing to do, every piece of music he creates is able to touch the deepest strings of our hearts.

With a soundtrack that ranges from the epic tones to the mysterious ones he gives us another example of his limitless genius, because he still remains one of those composers able to make us cry.

Conclusion

‘The Adventures of Tintin’ is quintessentially the perfect family film and has plenty to offer audiences of all ages. This is an incredibly joyous, thrilling and comically genius adventure. Hergé was onto a winner with his thoughts towards Spielberg and he can rest easy now knowing his tales have been faithfully and beautifully translated into a cinematic masterwork. Great Snakes, it’s good.

I hope that you enjoyed this post. I have other similar posts in my movie index [here...](#)
