

FILM FESTIVAL REVIEW

REVIEWED BY ANTHONY EWART



USED AND BORROWED TIME WRITER/DIRECTOR SOPHIA ROMMA

Dr. Sophia Romma is a fascinating Writer/Director. She has more in common with David Lynch and Salvador Dali than most filmmakers. She's an accomplished playwright and has won numerous awards and is known for infusing surrealism and mysticism in her films.

"Used and Borrowed Time" is her feature length submission to our film festival and clocks in at over 3 hours. The reason for this is at her heart, Dr. Sophia Romma is a dramatist and playwright, so her characters must speak...about themselves. They must reveal who they are...through words.

This is the trap that many novelists and playwrights fall victim to when writing screenplays. But Romma is more like a David Mamet when it comes to transitioning to film, except she's much more visual. A camera may hold on a leaf, or beautiful colors in nature. Bold colors. An explosion of colors. So Dr. Romma allows us to hear who these characters are while being stimulated and entertained by her creative camera angles and shots.

"Used and Borrowed Time" is a story about time travel. She has a unique twist to the cinematic flashback in that her main character actually travels back into her own timeline. It is the story of a blind Jewish girl who falls in love with an African-American man in the south during the 60s. They were relentlessly persecuted by a southern racist family who also include incest in their bag of sins.

This film is a statement about inequality, hatred and bigotry which is of course very relevant today. Dr. Romma wants to turn her characters inside out and show their motivations, regardless of how disgusting it may sound. This is an adult movie made for adults who are capable of change. The horrors and pathos of this film is a road to change.

"It is the duty of righteous men to make war on all undeserved privilege, but one must not forget that this is a war without end." --Primo Levi