



ABOUT COLOMBIANA

From writer/producer Luc Besson (The Fifth Element, Leon: The Professional) comes Colombiana. Zoe Saldana plays a young woman who has grown up to be an assassin after witnessing the murder of her parents as a child. Turning herself into a professional killer, she remains focused on her ultimate goal: to hunt down and get revenge on the mobster responsible for her parents' deaths.

SCREENPLAY

Luc Besson, Robert Mark Kamen

PRODUCER

Luc Besson, Ariel Zeitoun

DIRECTOR

Olivier Megaton

ACTOR

Zoe Saldana, Lennie James, Cliff Curtis, Jordi Molla, Michael Vartan

STORYLINE

A young woman, after witnessing her parents' murder as a child in Bogota, grows up to be a stone-cold assassin.

REVIEW

Overall, the movie has enough clever chases, break-ins, and escapes – not to mention a sweet, small tragic romance – to make it worthwhile. But this isn't one of Besson's stronger efforts. It's by turns effective, silly, and sluggish, sometimes forgetting the usual slick, lightweight mood of Besson's best films. Colombiana has a great deal in common with Besson's films *La Femme Nikita* and *The Professional*, but it lacks the former's pathos and the latter's warmth.

Though producer/writer Luc Besson has endorsed a stable of good action directors over the years, Olivier Megaton (*Transporter 3*) is one of the most bombastic; his action is a little less slick and a little harder than that of his colleagues. Here Besson and Megaton have focused on a female character shaped by violence as a young girl who grows into an adult life of irredeemable killing and revenge.

This review of Colombiana was written by Jeffrey M. Anderson

- In 1992 Bogota, a little girl (Amandla Stenberg) watches crime lord Don Luis (Beto Benites) and his henchman Marco (Jordi Mollà) murder her parents. Fifteen years later, the now-grown Cataleya (Zoe Saldana), who is named for a Colombian orchid, works as a contract killer for her Chicago-based uncle (Cliff Curtis). Leaving a lipstick drawing of her namesake on every victim, Cataleya carries out her assignments with cold, frightening efficiency and dreams of avenging her family.

Initial release: 27 July 2011 (France)

Director: Olivier Megaton

Box office: 61 million USD

Music composed by: Nathaniel Mechaly, Craig Walker