I watched because I love most Christopher Nolan movies but mannnn me and my gf had to stop and pause this like 20 times to try and understand certain words that were not in our vocabulary and to try & remember which characters are being disussed and what all the political jargon meant and damnnn we still probably missed like 70% of what would have otherwise made it exciting to watch

Often I found myself bored but trying desperately to understand what was happening lol

I'd like to consider myself a fairly intelligent person but I just couldn't understand the dialogue! Hahaha

I can agree that most people didn't actually expect Nolan to take a full length auto biography as none of his films were familiar to this storyline but many people who enjoyed the film including me has this weird love for autobiographies

And most people weren't actually expecting a political background in this movie while Nolan actually portrayed Oppenheimers speeches as scenes and his interrogation with fbi or whatever they are

But that movie and dialogues are a solid 10/10

I don't get the importance of the sex scenes, tbh. Did it have any value to the plot at all?

Titties always make things better

Finally watched it. Good to really good movie that could have been great. Acting was great for the most part. RDJ was great for the most part but the end seemed like it was RDJ playing RDJ playing Strauss vs him just playing the roll as he was for the majority of the movie. Throwing Einstein in there for the sake of having that character in it seemed contrived. Yet again they overstate the fear of igniting the atmosphere (just about every other movie does this as well so not that big of a deal). That lame thing in the end when they're asking about the votes and the whole "that new guy from Mass." (or whatever it was) when everybody knew who JFK was, given he was a war hero, an obvious frontrunner for the dem ticket in1960, and Joe Kennedy's son. Also it just seemed like they flirted with the point that this was the end of scientists being in the forefront of the political debate as well, vs what happened afterwards which is "just build it or else and we'll worry about the politics"

I just watched it and there's a scene after the bomb where Einstein literally comes out of the dark to talk to Oppenheimer when the car drives off. WTH?

Agreed. It's not in the film, but in the book the film is inspired by there's a documented private conversation in which Oppenheimer says to a friend that living a life as slaves to the Nazis would be preferable to burning the whole world. This was well before any prototype to the bomb being built, but it would have been very fitting to have that in the film.

Hard disagree, they should have had more Einstein. They were next-door neighbours for ages.

amazing actors, amazing visuals - as always with nolan. unnecessary convoluted editing/structure, wooden dialog that leans too heavy into explaining stuff - unfortunaly, it was too much for me, didnt click. also - i HATED the soundtrack.. no themes, just violin noise terror and stock rythmn - especially in the bomb scene man..

Maybe I’m biased because I played violin for 7 years, but personally I think the score was absolutely phenomenal.

Writing just to get some thoughts out... I didn't like it. I think my expectations are partially to blame, to be fair. I thought this was going to be about Los Alamos and the creation of the bomb. That ended up being a relatively small part of the movie (the only part I really enjoyed). I thought the editing in the beginning was really odd. It felt like one long transitional montage. The dialog was hard to hear. There was music playing THE ENTIRE MOVIE. I usually love Nolan movie scores, but this was just weird. There would be a scene with two people talking quietly in a room, and there's loud dramatic ominous tones playing the entire time over it. It was distracting and confusing. The drama of the communism accusations never really grabbed me. I think they did a good job of portraying a haunted man, but it wasn't riveting at any point for me. When you were expecting a dope atomic bomb movie and instead you get a weird artsy movie about a tormented guy for over 3 hours... I don't know. Pretty disappointed. I'm surprised it was so unanimously praised.

Why did Nolan tease JFK like the joker card from Batman Begins

“Maybe they were talking about something more… important”

What a great “go fuck yourself” moment. All the self-importance just gone. RDJ killed it in this role

Emily Blunt’s character answering questions from Roger Robb and not falling for any of his bullshit was a great scene.

Normal people during sex: Oh yeah oh baby

Nerds during sex: I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds

That scene after the bombs have been dropped and Oppenheimer is addressing that classroom of people was one of the most haunting things I’ve seen. The way the background shook, and the flash burned the audience, mixed with the silence was something else.

Academy award "Best Actor" winners Casey Affleck, Gary Oldman and Remi Malek have total screen time of about 5 minutes.

I liked Kitty’s line of “you don’t get to sin and make everyone feel sorry for you.” After he found out Tatlock died

I don’t think it can be understated how powerful that last scene between Einstein and Oppenheimer was. I was already blown away by the film but that scene will haunt me for the rest of my life. 10/10.

Christopher Nolan has perfectly encapsulated what anxiety can feel like. Claustrophobic, loud, and unrelenting.

"I believe we did"

Those final shots just made my heart sink. Even knowing the history I wasn't prepared to be so emotionally drained after this.

Haven’t seen anyone talk about Matt Damon yet…I think he did an incredible job

IDK about anyone else, I absolutely love Damon, but I tend to always have trouble separating his characters from him. Like every time he's in any scene in any movie by brain won't stop saying "Hey look it's Matt Damon lol!" - like he's a meme created by nature.

The dead silence in the theater during the trinity explosion. Something I’ll never forget experiencing in a full theater.

I loved how he showed the bomb explosion in full silence.

The movie is loud, very loud. Yet one of the biggest bombs man has ever created goes off. Pure silence.

"We knew the world would not be the same...A few people laughed, a few people cried, most people were silent. I remembered the line from the Hindu scripture, the Bhagavad Gita. Vishnu is trying to persuade the Prince that he should do his duty and to impress him takes on his multi-armed form and says, 'now I am become Death, the destroyer of worlds.' I suppose we all thought that one way or another."

EDIT: the video

Casey Affleck was terrifying in the small screen time we saw him.

Got Sociopathic CIA vibes from his character

Totally agree. Even Matt Damon’s character seems genuinely frightened of what he is capable of, and Casey nails it with his nonverbal acting, and Cillian nails the unnerved reaction. Fantastically tense scene.

“Do you want them to tar and feather you in the hopes they’ll forgive you for what you’ve done?”

Emily Blunt delivering the most scathing condemnation of Oppenheimer’s character and actions was so fucking powerful. Mix that in with her portrayal of postpartum depression, a mother and wife resigned to be nothing but a caretaker in the shadow of an ego driven, neurotic, anxiety filled genius and then a powerhouse fighter in the hearing, I think she was a real highlight for me.

The film was way more humanising of Oppenheimer then I was thinking it’d be but also so much more damning of him than I’d ever thought it would be.

And by being damning, it was even more humanizing, in the best and most complex way. Awesome stuff. It feels reductive to even categorize this as biopic, but as biopics go, this already has to be one of the most compelling, smart, and sensitive

I believe we did. 💀

music swells

It’s funny to think that the whole barbenheimmer trend is going to convince more than one casual film goer to see a three hour dialogue heavy biopic. It’s very good, Cillian Murphy is phenomenal, RDJ kinda hijacks in the third act but that’s alright I like him too, love Gary oldman’s new schtick of “I’m going to cover myself in some much rubber that even my mama won’t recognize me”

Wait, was Gary Oldman the one playing Truman? I knew he sounded so familiar.

I already know a few people with Tik Tok brains going to see it and I can’t wait for them to tell me how it was so long and how there so much talking.

I love the use of ripples on water to represent nuclear bombings like how they have drawn the blast radiuses on the map. In the end, during Einstein and Oppenheimer's encounter, it was drizzling, and endless ripples formed on the lake.

In the beginning of the movie we started with just one ripple as Einstein was throwing rocks in the water but at the end it was the entire pond as the rain fell.

Strauss and Oppenheimer both being served career implosions at the same exact time to represent mutually assured destruction was genius.

The way my sphincter exploded like the bomb when the audio cuts back in during the gymnasium applause.

For me, the scene in the gym is THE scene of the movie. The way he kept trying to give the speech while reality was breaking down around him felt just like a waking nightmare. The best directing Nolan has done by a country mile.

I don't know what other people's theaters were like but the audience stomping and clapping was the loudest part of the movie for me. Louder than every explosion lol

That one and the bomb one. I knew the sound wave was coming, but damn did it hit.

“I’m not in charge of contraceptives” “I can see that”

Had me cracking up

Damon had a few really good one liners. Was a necessary comic relief at time.

A film that feels like an enormous pop culture event while simultaneously being a 3 hour, dialogue heavy character study that extensively uses black and white photography. Watching such a film on a massive screen with a sold out crowd is honestly quite unbelievable. In this day in age we almost exclusively expect this for comic book movies and not much else. That thought alone genuinely brought me to the verge of tears multiple times. We just don’t get moments like this very often. Thankfully Oppenheimer is worthy of the moment.

I took my son, who is 18. An hour in, I’m thinking OMG he’s gonna be so bored by this. As soon as it ended, he said ‘that was incredible’….I think all of us are hungry for more intelligent, meaningful and fresh art and culture in our lives.

Florence Pugh showed up and got naked, then killed herself. That scene where Oppie’s wife is imagining Pugh just riding her husband, that was something I never thought I’d see in a Nolan film. It was almost Ari Aster like.

Honestly, this movie basically feels like who I imagined Nolan would be after I watched Memento back in the day. Instead, that guy detoured into Batman and big action thrillers and so they gave that guy 100 million to shoot this on IMAX film.

It’s hilarious that the nude scene that everybody made so much out of even included the Destroyer of Worlds Bhagavad Gita quote.

I think that was important because Jean Tatlock was Oppenheimer's most intimate connection to death and suffering and his own responsibility for inflicting pain on others. So its significant that he read that quote in a scene with her.

I'm in the middle east right now and they put a cgi dress on pugh during those scenes. It was kinda funny.

I'm just gonna say that the bowls on the table filling up with marbles might be low-key one of my favorite plot devices.

Most films would give some stupid exposition, try and explain something really fucking complex like bending a piece of paper and poking a hole through it or something.

Not this film. Nolan just shows marbles filling in some bowls and keeps the film focused on what fucking matters. Brilliant.

Yeah they did a really good job of explaining the urgency and complexity of things without dwelling on it. All you really needed to know was they were making the bomb at Los Alamos and the bomb material was coming from other places. The story was compartmentalized to Los Alamos, just like the entire project was designed to be.

They played the trailer to The Exorcist Believer before this movie 🤣

My buddy HATES horror flicks. He just sat and stared at his phone while the trailer was playing and afterwards goes "damn, man, they shouldn't be allowed to do that" lmao

I love how Nolan played with the differences between the speed of light and sound during the Trinity Test. To convey an awe-inspiring visual spectacle only to be engulfed by the force/sound of it.

The atomic bomb was a marvelous scientific achievement but then the magnitude of this creation and the harm it will cause literally hits you like a freight train.

My whole theater was completely silent. It was awesome to be a part of.

if you want you can find HD footage of 1950s nuclear tests on youtube, it really is equal parts awe inspiring and terrifying

EDIT: for the curious

Castle Bravo, 15 MT (was supposed to be 5MT)

Hardtack Umbrella, 8 KT

Crossroads Baker, 22-23 KT

Castle Romeo, 11MT

Ivey Mike, 10.4 MT

EDIT2: The US also shot nukes into HALO/space (Operation Fishbowl) to test the EMP in the 60s

EDIT3: some more

Tsar Bomba, 50 MT

Trinity, 25 KT

Redwing H-bomb, 4-5 MT

Redwing Tewa, 5 MT

Operation Fishbowl, unknown yield

That was one of the most interesting parts for me. I don’t know what I expected when the explosion happened, but it wasn’t dead silence. In retrospect it makes perfect sense, but in the moment I was left shocked.

The last scene with Oppenheimer and Einstein made my stomach launch into my throat

Brilliant ending

Ludwig Göransson might be approaching a Hans Zimmer level of film composer. The way he orchestrated the score adds so much to the tension and anxiety of the movie. Hopefully he picks up the Oscar

Emily Blunt's character where it looks like she's starting to break down and the sudden 180 during the questioning was amazing. Standing her ground and not falling for bait questions.

That’s when I knew, she had my vote for the Oscar nomination. I mean everyone just acted their assess off.

He always answered because there was no caller ID back then.

"Hello, this is J. Robert Oppenheimer"

"Oppie I need you now"

"Dr. Oppenheimer isn't here right now, but if you'd like to leave a message..."

Question about the scene where

Anyway, enjoyed the film, reminded me a lot of Oliver Stones ‘Nixon’ that I love.. it’s missing Stones sense of paranoia though

Yes, it’s ambiguous

there are theories that she may have been murdered, possibly by intelligence, etc. The movie makes it ambiguous

To this day, there are still questions about her death. Drowning oneself in a bathtub is a very unique way to go, and because of her connections to Oppenheimer and the Communist Party, theories mention murder rather than suicide.

Yes, it was suspected she was murdered.

During the scene with the bomb, I couldn't help but think how funny it would be if something went wrong and Josh Peck was forced to push the red button... Look up with a thousand yard stare and say... "Megan..."

Oppy...where's the uranium

Some guy in front of me went for a bathroom break with 15 minutes left. He sat there for 2h45m but just couldn’t make it. Brutal timing lol

I made the decision to take a proactive piss around 1 hour in. I could tell there wasn't going to be a "good time" to go so I figured better earlier than later

The feeling in my theater was palpable after the Trinity Test was successful and everyone on the ground was cheering its success. I don’t know how to describe it but it was kind of out of body to see almost a time capsule of people from 80 years ago celebrating the creation of something that could be the death of myself or my children in the future. Really chilling scene.

Oppenheimer: I’m so conflicted about my creation. Ah and angst of genius!

Teller: you know this is just the fuse for a bigger bomb I wanted to make

Truman: …..pussy

“Maybe they weren’t talking about you at all… maybe something, more important” leading up to the final scene was a great line. The wince from Downey as the door opens and he’s hit with the sound of the reporters waiting to tear him down further.

Reminded me of when the boom hit everyone at the Trinity test. The delay of being in the moment and having the realization of reality hitting you, and BOOM

My brother said that Gary Oldman just needs to play Stalin now and he’ll have played all three world leaders who were at Potsdam.

Nolan seriously pulled every string possible for casting in this. It’s amazing how he knew how all of the people he’s worked with before in their secondary roles would be able to fit together into the puzzle, but that’s part of what makes his films enjoyable. David Krumholtz’s physical transformation caught me off guard, and Rami Malek having no lines until the (verbal) bomb drops at the end was outstanding.

My man Gödel talking about the structure of trees while everybody's trying to blow the world up was my favourite part of the film.

This was literally the Avengers for theoretical physicists

The ending scene tying back into the raindrops hit me so damn hard. Good job Nolan you are the man, never stop making movies.

“Don’t let that crybaby back in.” Holy shit Truman was an asshole. He was on screen for less than 5 minutes and was somehow the worst person in the movie.

apparently he was even worse irl

He called Oppenheimer a “cry-baby scientist” and said, “I don't want to see that son of a b–– in this office ever again.”

The thing that makes this movie incredible is I don't even know where to start with it. Albert Einstein is in just a few scenes and on film for what 5 minutes and the portrayal is amazing and wonderful and heartwarming. There's not a single bad performance in the movie.

Oldman as Truman is awesome and bold because all Nolan does is portray Truman as he was. If you know history you know Truman is a good man/president and yet he comes off as a total asshole. It's remarkable.

Downey and Murphy are 10/10. But so are so many others. Blunt is superb. Branaugh is in 2 scenes basically and he's effing incredible.

The question of if we are doomed is so dark but powerful. And the way the movie used oppenheimer's imagination as surrealism and connects it back to him looking at art is...whew. it's just an awesome, awesome piece of art (the movie I mean).

I'm a history teacher and I try to convey to students how big a deal the bomb is. It really is a break with the rest of our history as a species and arguably the most important thing we've ever done. It will either destroy us or send us total the stars. This movie summed up all my efforts at teaching this subject and then some.

Truman being offended by Opp's sympathy was spoken verbatim to the real happenings. So cool

That little mention of JFK voting against Strauss got a good chuckle out of me

The scene after the bomb goes off and he’s addressing the crowd will haunt me for some time, I can’t remember feeling so uncomfortable in a theatre. I can’t wait to see it again, absolutely incredible spectacle from start to finish

I watched the movie, I felt like this is the best Christopher Nolan movies in years, it felt massive with so many actors in here and yet felt intimate because, this movie peeled the layer of Oppenheimer that we've never seen before on big screen, Cillian Murphy stepped in to a lead role and he executed that so precisely, RDJ also gave memorable performance as Strauss, the antagonist for Oppenheimer.

I also felt like Nolan is firing on all cylinders in here, camera works, sound designs, score, script were all top notch.

The mild surrealism of his anxiety about the victims was so good. Everyone is celebrating and you can't tell what's screaming and what is laughter. There are true surreal images (face melting), but then there's the guy outside throwing up from drinking too much but in that moment representing radiation poisoning. That sequence is stellar.

Didn't know Josh Peck was going to be in it, that was a funny and pleasant surprise

I didn’t know half the cast was gonna be in it. I went to a private screening with only some friends Wednesday night and I swear every time someone showed up I’d just say “Oh Dane DeHaan’s in this? Oh Josh Peck’s in this? Oh Rodrick Heffley’s in this?”

Here are my main takeaways:

We do, its just that most people don't care. If you look at the work being done today on quantum technologies (quantum computing) and biology its nothing short of incredible. Its also that we really haven't discovered any new major theories, most of our scientific progress lately has been aplication.

Cinematic Masterpiece.

Alright, now it’s time to watch it again to try and understand who was what… and why who was mad at who… and why so and so was suppose to be someone important.

Should have paid better attention in 7th grade history.

The biggest thing for me was, just how impactful the first explosion was to the people that were there doing the testing.

They weren’t just creating another bomb, but something terrifying, world ending stuff.

Nolan really gets that across to the audience. Impactful stuff.

But the size of the explosion threw me off. Because you see stuff like this and the close up shots of the buildings being destroyed, like this.

But to realize a nuclear explosion is just this when viewed from afar, I can now totally see the scale Nolan was going for. It never really occurred to me just how almost simple the explosion could be portrayed, I never put a lot of thought into it. But it’s still so horrifying in its destructiveness.

Anyone else catch the black gloved hand in the corner of the frame during the tatlock “suicide” scene? In the Bird/Sherwon book there is a suggestion that she was murdered. I thought this was an interesting way of visualizing the ambiguous circumstances of her death.

Seen it twice now already. Trinity test scene was remarkable and what most people will see the film for, but there are so many other great scenes. Some of my favorite:

Ends with American Prometheus realizing the full scope of what still may come to pass.

This movie was fantastic. RDJ gave one hell of a fucking performance in the final act of the movie. As did everyone, regardless of their screen time throughout. Cillian Murphy conveyed so much through his role id be surprised if he didn't win best actor. Emily Blunt gave one hell of a performance and the shot of her reliving her husband's infidelity during the clearance interview was artistically beautiful. A great "show, don't tell" moment.

The fact that the pace starts and never really never let's up, but has moments of built tension that doesn't release, and moves on to save for later, makes it feel like it also never speeds up either. Its a marathon, but its paced so well its like you were trained for that marathon. My body felt the three hour run time, but my mind didn't.

The ending was also beautiful shot, from almost every aspect. RDJ slowly making his way towards Oppenheimer and Einstein, to the content of that teased conversation, to the way it ended.

I'm sorry, but the first sex scene where THE LINE is read aloud was absolutely ridiculous.

The rest of the movie, 10/10.

Edit:

"Talk dirty to me Opie!"

"I HAVE BECOME DEATH THE DESTROYER OF WORLDS"

They made a avengers assemble movie for all the scientists but didn’t give them each solo movies to flesh out their characters. Also that Einstein guy seems like some bait for a prequel movie

More serious blockbuster summer movies that are for adults please

The last 30 minutes could be its own movie lol, Oppenheimer getting slammed from everyone

The similarity of Oppenheimer to The Social Network is insane to me.

Imagine all of that in 3 hours of epic history. What an unforgettable cinematic experience.

Like many people the ending to this movie is absolutely incredible! Ending with Einstein & Oppenheimer was genius and it gave me literal chills! Nolan’s best in years

For a 3 hour heavy dialogue film to have this type of speed to it is incredible. Honestly it was hard to distinguish where scenes began and ended with it's editing and pacing. It just did not stop and I loved it. It cuts to a single shot for a split second, then back to the scene, then forward to another, then backwards again while in colour for a first person perspective then to a black and white objective perspective with the music swelling along while all being coherent.

The scene where Strauss is told something along the lines of "Maybe they were talking about more IMPORTANT things" had me grinning ear to ear. Oh my god

No, Strauss, you’re not important enough to be discussed by Oppenheimer and Einstein.

Did anyone else notice that when Strauss is retelling the story of Oppenheimer embarrassing him, he laughs along with everyone else, but later in the movie when they show it, he’s completely stone-faced.

I'm glad Nolan restrained himself from showing Hiroshima. Instead he showed Murphy's face who is emoting all the dread and remorse pretty well. The post Hiroshima speech is an all-timer scene.

Cillian Murphy's haunting look at several key points of the film is just amazing. That final conversation with Einstein, his stare is immense and powerful

So, first of all…right off the bat. This movie is absolutely fucking incredible.

The pace was perfect, the cast was amazing and captured the emotions of the scene at hand almost perfectly. Josh Hartnett is still a heart throb, RDJ was unrecognizable yet still captivating every second he was on screen. And Cillian Murphy, my fucking lord is he an incredible actor. The way this man can turn his face into being composed, yet absolutely terrified at the same time. His eyes in this movie alone should win its own Oscar for best supporting actor.

Nolan really outdid himself, but this man really needs to learn how to better soundmix his movies. There are so many times on screen where I wished there were closed captions because you have actors using thick accents trying to talk over the background music, which made it incredibly difficult to understand at a few separate points in the movie.

But that test scene was absolutely incredible, and is up there with one of my favorite scenes to see in a movie theater. I’m glad I sat in a Dolby Theatre.

Absolutely loved the movie. With that said I was a little confused with the 3 timelines and trying to work out characters motivations in the post war scenes. Like i still don’t understand why RDj character had beef with Oppenheimer. Wish I did a little research before watching the film as I think I would have understood it better.

They didn’t explain it well but they had beef for a few main reasons.

I was genuinely surprised when I saw Rami Malek. Didn't know he was here.

I knew nothing of the history between Oppenheimer and RDJ’s real life counterpart he was playing. So when in the 3rd act it’s revealed he’s the one orchestrating the campaign to ruin Cillian Murphy, I was STUNNED.

Legit the best twist I seen since LA confidential.

For the physics folks here, Feynman and his repeated scenes with the bongos cracked me up. Jokes aside, Nolan outdid himself and it lived up to the hype for me.

This did not feel like 3 hours at all.

No weak links, everything about this movie is incredible. Cinematography, score, acting and the visuals of atoms colliding throughout the movie. Had a very anxious feel throughout the whole thing.

Also the first time I've seen a line for the men's bathroom after a movie.

The trinity test is the biggest reverse card Nolan played on the audience ever.

Everybody was excited for the sound of the explosion and it turns out, the waiting in anxiety for 30 seconds for the sound to hit was the heaviest experience I ever had in a theatre. 300 people dead quiet, you see the explosion, you stop breathing, sweating, 30 seconds feel like 5 minutes.

I had a mini panic attack waiting for the explosion sound and at that point we did not care if the exposion was loud enough, we only cared for those 30 seconds of total silence, sweat and anxiety in hearing the detonation.

Everyone acted their asses off in this movie but I will continue to think about Emily Blunt and RDJ's performances. Simply amazing.

Did anyone catch who played Truman? I think it was some nobody who's never been in a movie before...

Probably just some random Old Man they found walking around the studio

Controversial opinion: there is no reason to go out of your way to see this in IMAX.

I'm certain the few scenes like the trinity test and the "synesthesia" (don't really know what else to call it) from the beginning are way more impressive in IMAX but those are about 5 minutes in a 3 hour movie.

Non-controversial opinion: this is the most invested I've been in a dialogue-focused film since Margin Call. Nolan did an amazing job at creating suspense, action, and horror through just a bunch of people talking.

I will absolutely be going to see this again before it leaves theaters.

Nah the shot composition is just better in IMAX as that's the native aspect ratio

Maybe not for the amount of visuals but I think the IMAX speakers really added to the experience.

One thing I think I missed during the movie was in the beginning when they brought the titles for:

I thought this would come back and it didn’t. Anyone have an understand of what that meant? Does it have to do something with the color vs black and white. Could have missed something really basic.

It's the two opposing characters and their views on where the nuclear program should go. Oppenheimer was content with continuing work on fission projects and didn't want to escalate to fusion weapons. Strauss was all about working on fusion. The whole point of the Kangaroo Court at the end was showing that Oppenheimer was "sabotaging" the fusion program because of possible communist sympathies. The numbering at the beginning was to set up this dynamic and indicate that these two men and their opposing views are what drive the tension at the end.

I fucking loved this movie. So much tragedy in this movie. Love Emily Blunts line that went something like just because you sin don't expect the world to feel sorry for you. Of course all the conversations with Einstein were great. Loved RDJ in the third act Pacing and editing is so great. I held my piss in the whole time. Cillian Murphy and Emily Blunt need Oscar nods IMO. Nolan did it again

No one talking about him,

But Jason Clarke as Roger Robb in the interrogation scenes was genuinely brilliant. Just such an amazing performance all round from the whole cast.

I really hated him (Roger Robb), which is a testament to how well Jason Clarke played the role.

I loved how that constant stomping noise is used to make you feel terror, you’re afraid anytime you hear it and then it’s revealed that the terrifying sound, is a crowd of people cheering for Oppenheimer. It makes it even more scary

Our 70mm showing stopped working 2.5 hours into the film! A light bulb or something broke. We had a little 10 min intermission, and got free tickets bc of it! Overall one of Nolan's best films.

I liked how the script incorporated a lot of small things that get passed around as part of legend, like how Kyoto was crossed off the target list because Henry Stimson had a honeymoon there, the student who dramatically interrupted his haircut to go tell Oppenheimer about the successful nuclear fission experiment he read in the paper, the poisoned apple, the making a bet on total ignition of the Atmosphere, and so on, but I was surprised there wasn't a scene about Fermi accurately estimating the yield of the Trinity test with just some tiny papers, the wind, and educated guesses. Can't include it all I suppose.

The way the movie first incorporated the famous "I am become Death..." line felt for lack of a better word tacky.

I thought the scene surrounding the target list was a dark horse candidate for best scene of the movie. That was when the gravity of the entire thing finally hit me; namely, we are stepping out of the theoretical into the practical, and the world will never be the same. To think that cities were struck or chosen due to honeymoon and culture, is highly unsettling. Then again, is there any “good” way to choose where to drop a nuclear bomb?

Had to cancel my tickets for Barbie after, this was intense

You should've listened to the "do Barbie first" crowd, bro.

No one’s talking bout the Kitty visualizing Jean riding Oppie in the testimony room scene?

That was very Shining/Kubrick esque. Didn’t think Nolan had it in him to go “there”. Bravo

I thought the Sex Scenes were pretty wild and punched hard in an unexpected way. Florence Pugh played her part so well!!

Very excited to watch Nolan finally take home all the Oscars

Rami Malek's character (Hill?) was basically the opposite of Strauss. Strauss is met with two minor slights by Oppenheimer, one imagined, and makes it his mission to ruin his life.

Hill was genuinely dismissed, maybe even bullied, by Oppenheimer multiple times but years later decides to essentially exonerate him in front of a congressional hearing.

I had a hard time figuring out Rami's character and why he was even relevant.

It felt like he was in the background for a few minutes then suddenly was key to the whole exoneration. It just felt weird

Really impressed by this movie. Not just because it's so visually stunning or because of all the incredible performances, but because this full three hour movie that is mostly made up of people talking or being deposed is gripping the entire time. The score and the editing keep this thing pumping and it's nothing short of awesome how this movie keeps you invested.

Just a very impressive movie top to bottom. When it comes to the performances I was stricken by so many. Like, Emily Blunt is incredible in this movie but she's like the fifth best performance. Cillian, Damon, Pugh, RDJ, Safdie, they're all absolutely killing it.

But the heavy lifting Oppenheimer does is propelled so much by the score. This is a lot of scenes of people just talking, but the way it's put together and backed by this in-your-face pulse pounding score you'd think it's some sort of action thriller. But really it's just a movie about chain reactions, about cause and effect.

It isn't just a bunch of random scenes that tell the story of Oppenheimer, it's a tower that leads to the end of the world, and every brick is built on a moment or relationship that came before it. That's what really kept this thing moving is very rarely was I feeling like something was unnecessary or out of context. Everything in this movie seems to be a direct result of something that happened moments or years before.

It's such classic Nolan to play with the timelines like this, to shake them up and reveal things in multiple scenes at the same time. But what I really loved about this movie is how timelines would catch up to each other or how we would eventually see or hear about a scene multiple times from multiple points of view by the end of it. Ending it with that Oppenheimer/Einstein scene felt absolutely perfect because the movie had me wondering what happened there the entire time. And Alden Ehrenreich being quietly one of the best performances in this movie had that absolute banger of a line "Maybe it's possible they were talking about something more important."

Speaking of that scene, I know this isn't going to be an unpopular take, but RDJ was unreal in this movie. Not doing his normal thing at all, almost unrecognizable, yet the third act of this seems him as the surprise antagonist and the way he plays it is so fucking good. That subtle insecurity when we first see Oppenheimer mock him in public and the way it obviously had him fucking seething inside but we don't see how much until later, yet it was there in his performance the whole movie. Absolutely masterful stuff.

Yall, it's an easy 9/10. I can't wait to see it again on an even bigger screen just letting those speakers raw dog my ears.

r/reviewsbyboner

One thing you didn't mention is I thought the moat incredible scene was when Murphy is talking to the board/committee about his affair and Emily blunt is visualizing it in real time. It's an incredible scene because it's so bold and captures what an affair is like for the spouse. Just amazing. I was stunned at how creative it was. I have never seen an affair shot that way.

I just want to say, as a physicist I enjoyed the first half hourish of the movie immensely. The jokes about mathematics, experimental vs theoretical, and Oppenheimer staring at a board saying “yep that proves it” really tickled my fancy.

One of the best parts that’s not directly movie related was the exact start time and no movie previews, at least for the IMAX 70mm shows. This should be standard if you watch any PLF (IMAX, Dolby Cinema etc). As for the movie, definitely the front runner for Best Picture and acting nods for Cillian Murphy and RDJ. Hope this leads to more lead roles for Murphy.

The non iMAX 70 mm presentation had two previews, one for the Paul Giamatti movie and one for the new Exorcist. Wasn’t bad, and the projectionist pointed out the Paul Giamatti movie was partially shot in 70 mm.

The thing that stands out to me the most is how well the film portrays Oppenheimer as a truly complex character that remains sympathetic throughout. A really great performance from Cillian Murphy and an excellent narrative.

I also loved the string theory visuals. They felt very real in a way that’s hard to describe even though it’s probably not scientifically accurate/known.

So the 15 minute full penetration sex scene… was not true…

he doesn't penetrate the a-bomb?! wtf did I buy tickets for...

He was so mean/dismissive to Rami’s character and yet he was the one who supported and back him up

I don't think he was that mean to him the first time he didn't want him to take notes on the discussion and took his pen and put it in his pocket.

The second time he didn't want to sign the petition and accidentally knocked over Dr. Hill's notepad, but he clearly had a remorseful look in his eyes.

I feel bad for anyone who can’t see it in IMAX. The trinity test scene was absolutely unreal at that scale.

I really gotta read all three volumes of Das Kapital in the original German so I can impress a cute psychiatrist at the next communist party I attend.

This movie has possibly created a world record by having the most number of Nobel Laureates on screen. (I counted atleast 10).

Ugh. Do they actually serve a purpose to the story, or are they just there to set up the Nobel Laureate Cinematic Universe?

That ending was a real kick in the pants. What a line. When Oppenheimer was like "I'm here to see my gynecologist"

"We're taking Kyoto off the list because I vacationed there once with my wife. Nice people"

I haven't been enraged by a movie in a long time but that sure did it.

Its not just a movie line. Its factual.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry\_L.\_Stimson

Every single casting choice was on the fucking point.

3 hours of people just... talking. And I could have watched another 3 hours. What an incredible movie.

The Soundwave after the detonation was a genuine jump scare in my screening last night. If felt like my packed Theater was all together in wonder at the explosion visuals that the blast sound shocked everyone back to reality.

I’m a fan of Nolan. I was so blown away, like many I imagine, the first time I saw The Prestige it changed how I viewed movies. I stuck with him through the years, and was continued to be blown away.

Oppenheimer is a larger than life film. Certainly seeing it in IMAX 70mm influenced that feeling, but the film truly felt massive. The non-linear storytelling painted a world so complex and big. The cinematography not only enlarged the characters on the screen, but it amplified the consequences of their actions. The score was perfect. It never missed a beat, and the moments when you were thrown into silence was beautifully garnished by the sound of the projector clicking away over my shoulder.

I know I’m not going to form a fully unbiased opinion on the film 10 minutes after coming out of my first 70mm IMAX showing in 6 years, so maybe I’ll save that for another time. But what I do want to say:

Anyway. I’m super happy I got to see it in IMAX 70mm. I’m seeing it again that way on Saturday and will likely return for all the other filmstrip souvenirs. I don’t want analog projections to die and am glad this movie was so good since it makes a great case for it.

Fat Man Begins

My wife and I really liked the film. We're Asians who were invaded by the Japanese during the war and seeing the leadup to the trinity test and the explosion was a very emotional experience for us, so much so that my wife wept knowing how much it had actually affected our history; both for good and bad.

I also really liked how Einstein was like a magical Wizard in the movie throwing some sage advice from time to time.

Einstein was like that in real life. I recommend the book Quantum by Marjit Kumar. Though his greatest achievements were behind him, throughout his career all the greatest scientists in physics still sought Einstein to bounce their ideas off of him and see how he felt. Notice I said how he felt, not what he thought. He was respected for his intuition. He guided other great geniuses, some better mathematicians or simply more intellectually capable than himself, with his intuition. He would say things like ´there is something there´ and that was all they needed. Im talking people like Wolfgang Pauli, Niels Bohr, Enrico Fermi. Gods of physics. They all wrote him with their latest work, to ask what he thought of the direction they planned to take it.

My favourite part of all Nolan movies is the old sage figures. Nicola Tesla in the Prestige, Alfred in Batman.

The filmmakers knew they only had so much screen time to convey the horrors in Opp's mind when he thought of the victims and they did it so well. Shocking and horrific, and also refreshing and new considering what an archetype "nuclear blast victim" is in cinema.

Did not expect Strauss was played by RDJ, or the .

Though he did not showed up, the name call on JFK gave me a widesmile on his comeuppance.

I’m very glad I had no idea the back bones of this story and came in blind except for the bombings of course. Those reveals and hate was so good and I liked teller, until the end.

Florence Pugh is amazing in everything

Titties

Everyone praising Murphy and RDJ

Y'all

Damon was excellent.

6pm showing in 70mm film. It’s top tier Nolan. Somehow extremely gripping with pure scenes of dialog which only he can do. If you go in expecting a lot of explosions, be forewarned this is like JFK and other courtroom dramas. Expertly done.

But it. Is. LONG. At 2.5 hrs checking watch. And it feels it. No clapping at the end of my screening. I think general audiences will struggle with it.

2 things:

9/10.

Jason Clarke plays an asshole so well

Anyone else enjoy it but have difficulty of keeping track of all the characters and the storylines?

Yeah, so many characters and then trying to hear their dialogue was also a problem. I really wish a lot more cinemas would offer closed captions.

The speech where he begins to walk around the ashes of the people who were nuked was really fucked up, and the Trinity test scene was intense to the point where you could hear a pin drop while everybody was watching the test beginning.

The last 10 to 15 minutes are probably some of RDJ's best acting i've ever seen, absolutely goosebump worthy performances all around

When the bomb finally went off, I sat there thinking, wait, there's no audio? Then I was like well ... I guess if they're 10 miles away and sounds travels at 340m/s, the observers must have stood there for 30-40 seconds before hearing the... \*booooooooom\*

On a broader note, I thought it was interesting that there were scenes out on the ranch in Los Alamos where I got that same spine tingling feeling that I did watching Interstellar. It felt very much like a Nolan affair.

Ultimately, gotta say that Nolan absolutely nailed it on this one. Extremely glad that I went and saw it in 70mm - this is definitely one to see in the Cinemas.

Edward Teller making a paper airplane as Oppenheimer is talking with the other scientists is one of the funniest things to happen in the background in such a serious film as this.

There were a half dozen hilarious bits that flew over the audience, seemed like no one knew if it was appropriate to laugh.

The 5 minutes leading up to the bomb going off had my heart racing

Never post in this subreddit but it felt necessary after that...wow.

If it doesn't win best picture it will be a travesty unless killers of the flower moon really ends up being THAT good.

In my personal opinion the part that's meant to shake you is when oppenhiemer gives his speech when the war was announced over and the people were cheering, but he also sees the destruction the bomb causes. A crazy juxtaposition of the crowd not understanding the reality of the use of the bomb. The movie was really trying to show that oppenhiemer truly believed that once the bomb was dropped once the whole world would be horrified and he hoped would be the end of the destruction. So when he sees people drunk on patriotism he realized the chain reaction that would destroy the world was not a chemical reaction that he introduced but the chain reaction of drunk on power. Oppenhiemers ego made him feel godlike that he was all knowing and that he could create a peacetime, but when Truman blew him off and basically said I'm God, oppenhiemer thought the politics and power hungry forces of the world would bring it to its end. Probably why he seemed relieved that the soviets got the tech so that power in the world would be dichotomas

Why the ending scene with Einstein should haunt you, is not any moral question of what was already done at that point but the understanding of the inevitably of science progressing and that each one of us has a responsibility of it after its here. We are the chain reaction, that's when Einstein understood that his legacy would be tainted with the bomb because he started the chain reaction of understanding quantum mechanics. So the moral question leaving the theatre should be we need to take this big leaps in science discovery with the care it needs before it runs away. Makes you think about who you are voting for, how much tech you use, and how we use AI

The movie was a 10/10. But as an engineer that studied nuclear energy I am bit of a fanboy of the scientists involved (it was like the art rennisance but for science, the implications of discovery are still unraveling today ex. quantum computing in the age of AI) I already understood the science and what was happening and it was rewarding to get into the head of oppenhiemer and the politics and moral questions he had as a man. Maybe the movie rewards you more if you know more heading into the film due to the pace. Brilliant character study of one of the world's most interesting people. He felt the music, he truly felt like a vessel of science and had higher Devine purpose.

That dead silence while Trinity was detonating was beautiful.

Nolan should make a spin off movie entirely about Casey affleck’s character

That opening with the Prometheus quote is genuinely one of my favorite things ever

Just brilliant

I haven’t seen many comments on the score, Ludwig Göransson absolutely killed it. Love the string motif.

If I’m a Hollywood male actor under the age of 80 and I wasn’t in this movie, I’m calling my agent first thing tomorrow

I didn't hate it, but parts of the movie felt like a montage and others like reading a transcript. Biopics fall into this trap of becoming life-action wikipedia pages and Oppenheimer did that a little, though not entirely. The trinity test was the "docking scene" of the film though and it was great seeing it in the theater. And most of it was actually audible! (Though during one scene someone in the theater did ask "What did she say" because Emily Blunt whispered something in her British accent.)

Also, it was cool to see Senator Pat Leahy (who cameod in almost every live-action Batman movie and was the longest-serving Democrat in the Senate when he retired earlier this year) get Special Thanks in the credits. I wonder if he helped with the Senate scenes.

Edit: Correction about Leahy.

The scene in the gym after hearing of the bombs dropping and everyone applauding Oppy was amazing.

"For I have become Josh Peck, the destroyer of worlds"

My favourite part was when Einstein showed up from behind a car like Master Oogway

That Truman scene was harrowing.

Also Casey Affleck was scary as fuck.

When they were counting down to the explosion, some dumbass shouted allahu akbar when i guess he assumed there would be a loud explosion. This was at the IMAX showing at the SF Metreon.

That dumbass? Albert Einstein

My screening is about to start and apparently lots of parents didn't get the memo it's an R rated movie and brought their kids. I had Florence Pugh's titties being shown spoiled for me so this should be interesting. Will update.

Update: surprisingly not too big a deal, tamer than I thought it would be. Maybe some covered eyes from the parents but not 100% sure since the theater was dark.

This is the movie event for the ages

Don’t know why but Einstein suddenly appearing after the taxi pulled away cracked me up. He was like the hype superhero cameo showing up once an act lol

walked out of the theater and crossed paths with two girls decked out in pink. you could feel our vibes clash with the same intensity as those neutrons oppy was talkin about. there was no malice between the energies, only unfamiliarity. we went our separate ways but i’ll never forget the peculiarity of that moment.

RDJ fucking killed it in this movie.

One of the best films of the year, probably will be top 3 of the year for me.

Cinematically, Oppenheimer will be remembered as best films of the decade. Will deservedly dominate in award shows next year

For people going into a three hour biopic about a scientist and the surrounding politics complaining about it being a three hour biopic about scientists and politicians talking, what exactly did you expect? The entirety of the movie to just be atomic bombs going off and gory after images?

I thoroughly enjoyed the endless list of bit players in this.

The guy from Numbers, the guy from Band of Brothers and Han Solo working for Strauss, Lucky Number Slevin, Freddie Mercury, the glasses guy from Full Metal Jacket, the Joker's henchman in The Dark Knight, that Hereditary guy...

That scene with Oppenheimer giving speech, while background rumbles and shake is too good

Marvel style JFK name drop cracked me up so much. I think I've over-consumed capeshit

Can’t believe that when Oppenheimer found his catchphrase he was looking at tiddies, that’s crazy

The last scene of the flashbacks near the lake was just incredible. It culminates the entire debate and emotions of nuclear technology used as weapons.

First flashback the audience is made to believe Einstein is upset at Oppenheimer. Second flashback looks like Einstein is upset at Strauss. Final flashback we understand Einstein was upset at himself. It’s the whole debate of who do we blame for everything surrounding nuclear technology. Do we blame the theorist (Einstein), the creator (Oppenheimer), or the user (Strauss). We see all three conflicts in 3 flashbacks to that one scene. Just brilliant.

Oppenheimer had more sex than Barbie and Ken.

Oppenheimer fuuuuuucks.

I rest my case.

Jason Clarke was so hateable in this. Very frustrating character but goddamn what a performance.

The fate of Kyoto partially laying on the nostalgic hands of Henry Stinson’s honeymoon

Oppenheimer is a movie about “smart” people made for a stupid audience. This movie was a three hour cringe/snooze fest that wasn’t worth the price of admission and did not deliver the overhyped promises that have been promoted for months. I expect it’s going to make a box office splash this weekend and fizzle out.

Each scientist gets a two minute cameo but they don’t do anything on screen. Thats not totally true, I guess, Teller sweats a lot. The science also somehow seems unimportant in this movie. People wooed when Einstein came on screen initially, but he wasn’t really featured, nor were his ideas. None of them or their ideas were. None of them seemed to matter and felt like Marvel Movie superheroes. There was a chance for Nolan to show the physics through film that could have been amazing, but instead we just get never ending poorly written dialogue that goes nowhere.

3) Oppenheimer’s character is made to seem like a linguistic pedant (I read Das Kapital in German!) but there is no commentary about the fact that he technically misquoted The Bhagwat Geeta and didn’t actually capture the Hindu meaning. That sex scene where the book is brought out is horribly disrespectful and unnecessary. I was expecting his studies of Hindu religion and philosophy to be explored— maybe he’d have a vision of Vishnu or Siva? Maybe Hindu tests would actually be important? Nah, let’s just show titties.

4) The dialogue was a cringe fest. It was really bad.

5) The explosion was a let down.

Overall that was a waste of time and money. It’s fine, j guess, but I don’t think it’s a very good movie and it did not live up to its hype.

It sounds like a lot of people were fooled into thinking the movie was about the bomb, and not about Oppenheimer.

The movie was filmed and directed in such a way that it felt like a 3 hour trailer for the Oppenheimer movie.

At last i can scream it at the top of my lungs : OPPENHEIMER IS MEDIOCRE

Am I over thinking the scene with Jean where they talk about the Bhagavad-Gita?

In the scene in which Jean (Florence Pugh) asks him to read from the Bhagavad-Gita, he starts by trying to explain the context that Arjuna finds himself, but Jean says she wants him to read the words. So he does, "I am become death, destroyer of worlds".

I don't know if any of you have read the Bhagavad Gita, but the context Oppenheimer is trying to give is that Arjuna doesn't want to commit to war against his kin, but Lord Krishna (an incarnation of Vishnu) convinces Arjuna that it is his dharma (i.e. "duty") to wage war.

The fact that Jean tells him to stop explaining the broader moral quandary that Arjuna finds himself in, and just read the words, seems similar to the expectations laid on him within the military context. It also, of course, reflects broader ideas around "duty".

Edit: I welcome any criticisms of my thoughts from members of the Hindu community. It has been a long time since I read the Bhagavad-Gita, and I'm going from memory.

So how loud was this movie in your theaters? Are the loud parts somewhat predictable or on-and-off?

I love Nolan’s films but I have tinnitus so I’m trying to decide if I should bring hearing protection

It was extremely fucking loud at my screening. And not entirely predictable, no.

Definitely don't watch in IMAX then, when it's loud it's LOUD

Nolan has definitely lost it. Now 4 of his last 5 have been average a best and Interstellar wasn't even all that good. His annoying fans are keeping him relevant.

fr was such an average movie

it was made clear that the more terrifying prospect is that Oppenheimer genuinely doesn't know how much of what he did was for his own personal ego and his desire to be remembered versus his moral qualms.

Did anyone else feel emotional during the actual bomb test when it was going off? Jesus Christ the way he mixed sound and editing did such a great job making you feel tense.

Gary Oldman putting another stone in the Infinity Gauntlet of "Performances as Important WWII Political Figures that Make Me Unrecognizable as Gary Oldman"

Cillian Murphy felt like even if he was making eye contact with someone, he still had that 1000 yard stare. He really carried this movie.

Hot take. Oppenheimer wasn’t good everyone is just caught in the marketing.

Pretentious hollow rubbish. Boring, over long, convinced if its own importance, and suffering from a total lack of narrative flow or characterisation. Watch as reviewers and fans try to get both veg and the meat in they mouth. Here is a naked emperor with an army of sycophants. There are good bits, the subject, the ending, etc. But this is a boring wordy mess, that taught me nothing much about the central character and nothing at all about the actual process. Scam.

This was my worst cinema experience so far. It felt like a business meeting. Boring, useless, overly long, full of talk without pause, you can’t leave for courtesy reasons, and you don’t know when it will end. If I had watched it on Netflix i would have stopped after trinity. I did not care at all about his stupid security clearance, why does he even need it anymore after the project had been finished? I considered leaving the cinema after 2:30 hours, but didn’t because I thought I might be the only person in the room too dumb to get the movie, but it turned out my partner felt the same.

I realize after reading the ratings that she and I are probably the only people in the world that didn’t get the movie, so this will probably also become my most downvoted comment ever. That’s ok, I‘m more sad about having wasted three hours of my life and I won’t get them back ever.

I do not understand the appeal of the movie whatsoever. Maybe it was the german dub that killed it for me, but I really don’t want to waste another three hours to check if the original makes the worst movie I have ever endured a decent one.

One of the more memorable parts was how as soon as the trinity test concluded, they very abruptly packaged the bomb and went their ways.

Oppenheimer finally felt used and spit out.

Was on the edge of my seat when the Trinity test went silent because I knew that BANG was gonna come outta nowhere and be loud af.

12 angry men meets Dr strangelove

Was it just me or did one of the bathtub scenes with Tatlock have somebody drowning her in the water?

The real death is ruled a suicide but it was questionable if it was actually an act by someone else. I think Nolan might be alluding to that there.

It wasn't just you. In a couple of the shots there is what very much appears to be a gloved hand on the back of her head, holding her underwater

The scene where Oppenheimer was effectively being sabotaged in that little room by all of those prosecutors and then his lawyer sits by his side and says, "I'm sorry". Then Oppenheimer quietly says, "When is anyone going to tell the truth about what is going on here?". That hit me in the feels so much. It was disgusting how they treated him after, making him out to be some kind of spy.

I'm sure Michael Caine could've been squeezed in somewhere in the 3 hour runtime.

Saw it 4 hours ago,

I am distinctly underwhelmed by it as a whole.

Positives: i. Very well acted. Everyone in it played their roles exceptionally.

ii. Some moments of it were genuinely captivating cinema, the Trinity Test being "one of those" all time cinema scenes.

iii. It was very nice to leave a movie that was loaded with so much dialogue.

iv. It absolutely does hold your attention

v. Sets, clothing, locations etc are incredibly on point, fully immersive and at no point are you watching going "this doesn't look right".

Negatives i. This movie is essentially about egos and moral dilemmas, but very little actual weight is given to either. However a lot of time is given to said egos and dilemmas. I really don't think any of it is fleshed out beyond a scene or two at the end.

Honestly, after 3 hours of hating a few people, the pay off of seeing a man's ego shattered is not worth the 3 hours it took to have it done in in 3 minutes of scenes.

ii. This movie wants you to know about the subject matter going in, which means it is really rather pleasant to not be spoonfed for once, however, and I appreciate this sounds like I'm impossible to please, if you do know about the subject matter, it's actually a bit enraging.

He tried to kill someone, was a bit of a shithead, nothing is given to this other than 1 scene and a scene of him cheating on partners. Both of which are just brushed off in a few lines of dialogue.

The actual Manhattan project beyond his role, the race against time, the reason it's used against Japan, Potsdam conference, the sheer technical accomplishment, the raging anti-semitism hidden as anti-communism of the era, the rise of the military industrial complex, any explanation of why the US/UK/West distrusts the USSR so much, that the bombs did indeed end WW2 without any allies soldier having to fight on the Japanese Mainland, the reason behind the red scare and a host of other things you might know about the era are blasted over in 1 remark or not at all.

It leaves you feeling like you've either been left wanting the film to explore those in more depth (not a huge amount, but some) or if you had no idea of the subject matter, I imagine a bit clueless about why he is being removed from his role of influence beyond he knew some university-student level communists who still developed the bomb when asked.

iii. Character Arcs. The lack thereof. Honestly, only Matt Damon's Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves Jr is allowed to have anything approaching character development. Everyone else seemingly has maybe 1 tweak in what they end up doing, rather than any change in them. I appreciate it's a mostly biographical movie, but it still requires some level of story telling in my opinion and it lacks something important for it. Honestly, at the end of it, it's very hard to rationalise that anyone had won their war, they had ended war as it was, yes they now had the ability to end all life, but major powers could not go on as they had which means no more world wars. You just don't care enough about anyone based on development to care about them. Yes it's a historical film which is absolutely up my alley, but it's still a film and needs to entertain and catch you more.

iv. Pacing, or more so, dedicating too much time at points for very little pay off.

Again, the issues around his hearing, without any context given just drag on, especially as most seemingly seem to be there, ultimately, to wrap up an Easter egg comment from earlier in the film. They wrap them up neatly and I enjoyed some of the call backs (aka, Oppenheimer is essentially an Einstein - aka the best of his era, but his era rapidly passed - but they take so long, with actors giving it their all to drag weak scenes to be captivating, but ultimately incredibly inessential in the context of things.

v. If this is supposed to be somewhat of a biopic, or at least the telling of his story, Oppenheimer as a film gives you very little of the man himself. I feel like Nolan intentionally kept him an enigma to let the viewer put themselves in his place, but ultimately I feel the end product isn't the tale of an exceptional person, in the exact right place at the exact right time to book his place in history, rather instead leaves him appearing as an annoyed Project Manager who is unhappy and a bit of a dick. I just think he wanted the audience to make up their own mind (commendable) so much that he neglected to give them enough to make their mind up either way.

vi. The soundtrack - brilliant in big scenes, weak af the rest of the time. It just makes you feel dread, but not a paced one, rather just 3 hours of being on edge whilst it goes on. The silence is used brilliantly, but it's made more impactful by the fact it's the only time in the film I felt like I was not being forced to stay engaged by the soundtrack, rather than what was on the screen.

vii. Being a history bore, things were left out, but not wrong. The exception, IMO, is the portrayal of Truman was very harsh. He had arguably the hardest role in the world going on from FDR. Taking the oval office, in a war, from a man who kept the entire Manhattan Project from him, knowing he was playing out both the end of the European arena, needing to end the Asian arena and to set down a marker to his friend by convenience only in the USSR for the end of the war, knowing the iron curtain was coming, demobilisation of possibly the largest force in history all on an unelected presidency. To give him 1 line about how it was him who has to live with giving the order to kill 120k people, then leaving him as some slack jawed yokel with no compassion for the only other man who also shared a similar level of personal guilt felt like a kick in the jaw.

In contrast to Oppenheimer's constant approval of FDR and the films little wink to JFK at the end left it feeling very hamfisted around the political side of things.

God I wrote a lot there. Good, not great, feel it did have the bones of a great film but didn't meet it, which was a shame. Very low down the rewatchable scale for me as well.

Nolan blessed us with some serious asmr

I appreciate Oppenheimer for bravely asking the question: what if an entire 3 hour film was edited and cut like a trailer?

I love Nolan, but across his entire body of work, no matter how ambitious and intelligent the film, I have yet to see him create one truly compelling female character, or at least one who's life doesn't revolve around the male protagonist.

Tenet was sort of the last straw for me and this film does nothing to alleviate the frustration. Casting two of the finest actors in the industry and and giving them nothing to do but either be naked or drunkenly cry is a real shame.

Especially after seeing it with Barbie I was just hyper aware throughout the film how underused and underwritten the women are.

Otherwise it is stellar though, 8/10.

This movie cramped too much story, even it's 3 hour run time is still not enough. It rushed every single scene with dialogues, dialoges, boom, moved on to the next scene, dialogues, next scene, dialogues, boom, next scene... without letting the audience absorb or process the scene.

It's like doing a marathon while holding an explosive diarrhea. This movie can't wait to see the finish line.

Nolan should just focus the story about Oppenheimer and the bomb, leave the story about his communist past, his messy love life, his trial and that strauss rdj story. This is a movie not a documentary. Focus!

Imagine if better filmmaker made this, like Paul Thomas Anderson, Scorsese, Coen bros or Dennis Villeneuve. They would focus the story and let the scenes breathe. Nolan is technically brilliant but he's just an artsy Michael bay.

Downvote me all you want, this was a damn snoozefest. It might not be a bad movie objectively; maybe it was made for cinephiles, but I personally thought it was really boring. Never in my life did I want to leave the theatre in the middle of the movie. Maybe I am a bit slow in the head, but I just couldn't keep up with the pace of the movie. The timeline was all over the place and confusing. I couldn't understand quite a huge chunk of dialogues due to poor sound mixing (it doesn't help that I am a non-native English speaker; the British accent is tough to grasp without subtitles). I also found the third half of the movie too stretched out or rather unnecessary. I was simply not interested in the courtroom drama, although I acknowledge that it might be necessary for the story of Oppenheimer. Lastly, the actual explosion was kinda underwhelming. I was expecting more; honestly, the only part I was genuinely hyped about before watching the movie. Also, they didn't show the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombing, which I found a bit weird. In the end, I would like to say that this movie was not for me. I had a completely different movie in my mind, but the actual result was the complete opposite of my expectations. I was expecting more action, more focus on the making and working of the bomb, and lastly, a bit more emphasis on the actual bombing and test. What I got in return was a "The Social Network" type of drama but with long conversation scenes and characters I couldn't care less about. Again, I am in no way saying that this was a bad movie. The acting was top-notch, the soundtrack was also great, and the filmmaking by Nolan was also absolutely amazing. I just couldn't get into it, and it's totally on me. This was not a movie about WW2 and the atomic bomb; this was a movie about Robert J. Oppenheimer and his life. I just want to give a heads up to the people who are also expecting something more from the movie. It's not an action movie or a WW2 movie; it's a long character study with a lot of dialogue exchange between different characters. I believe many people share my opinion, but at the moment, they are afraid to go against the crowd. You will definitely see conflicting opinions about the movie after its run ends.

This is Nolan’s masterpiece. The culmination of everything he’s done. This movie induced so much dread for something you know will happen. I can’t believe this movie is real

This movie did not go down well with me. It was not what I expected, The pace of the movie is set to 110% the entire way There is so much dialouge it's impossible to keep up With the pace of the dialouge, conversations do not flow or have any emotion or feeling, also it is hard to follow It is rooted in politics 90% of the movie, which most people that do not understand complicated politics of the USA in the 40's will struggle with Time jumping back and forth make it strenuous to follow a story Other character relations are unclear and unmemorable, it's actually easier to call them by the names of the actor What I thought would be the climax, the necluear blast, was so underwhelming it's comical, they clearly used gasoline fire to 'simulate' a nuclear blast and it looked nothing like an actual nuclear blast. The shock wave that hits the spectators is hilarious, I thought the producers just used a leaf blower and some dust on set!

3/10 for me Could be 8/10 if you already have a firm grasp on the political back story

Cillian Murphy and RDJ are 100% getting an Oscar for this movie. The last hour is a nonstop rollercoaster

The gym scene that slowly devolves into a haunting image of what had happened in Nagasaki and Hiroshima without showing it, was incredible.

I thought the movie was trash. Sorry.

Matt Parker and Trey Stone (South Park) once gave a lecture on story structure. "If your story beats are connected by 'and then,' you're f\*\*\*ed. What should happen between those beats are the words 'therefore' or 'but'."

Oppenheimer was nearly all "and then." It was a bad story for the first 2 hours. How were his student days in Europe relevant to the story? The plot and villain only kicked off after the explosion.

Until then, every scene was something along the lines of: "Dr. Oppenheimer, you aren't allowed to do this." "Well what if I do it anyway." "I see your point, lets do it." There was no time for conflicts to establish before they were solved. And then the next scene happens. Tell me the point of showing us Oppenheimer and Colonel Groves selecting the location by drawing a map with an X, Oppenheimer saying "we're going..." on the train, and finishing the sentence with "to Los Alamos" when they arrive as if they stopped talking the rest of the train ride. Another problem solved before it was a problem. And then...

Nolan has always had trouble writing relatable human drama. That's okay, he made up for it in spectacle and blowing my goddamn mind. But without those to fall back on, Oppenheimer fell on its butt IMHO.

They could’ve done a better job at explaining who was who

The ending scene from when he speaks to Einstein to the shot of the world burning gave me absolute chills

“You’re so vain, you probably thought that conversation was about you.”

Was anyone’s theater DEAD silent when the test bomb went off? Unforgettable theater experience.

Maybe it's because I traveled there recently (April), but the quote about not nuking Kyoto because it's importance on japanese culture and it's a cool tourist destination really broke me and haven't been able to shake it out of my head on a week. All those Tori and temples could be dust so easily.

This scene where Oppenheimer steps in a burning corpse while receiving an applause chilled me to the core. A great job of juxtaposing where he was physically and mentally…

Am I the only one who was a bit disappointed?

That script was not good for me. If you had no clue about any of Oppenheimers story I could see it being hard to follow. The score and acting was great but out of the 3 hours there were only about 3 memorable scenes for me (suspense build up for trinity test, gymnasium speech, Einstein talk at the end).

Oppenheimers conflict with Strauss felt so forced. Felt like Nolan went oh no we need a real antagonist to wrap this up? Disappointed in the movie overall

best shot for me was Oppenheimer being lifted up in front of the American flag after the successful trinity test and everyone applauding him. Only for the next hour of the film to be spent shaming him and outing him as a threat to his own country.

I just find it infuriating that Christopher Nolan makes it so incredibly obvious that the movie is about oppenheimers personal feelings and guilt about making the atomic bomb and explicitly makes it clear he is NOT the hero despite being the main protagonist, and yet twitter goes

“This movie has zero Japanese or indigenous people and is about the man who made the atomic bomb so it’s glorifying violence and pro atomic bombing.”

Like how braindead do you have to be to get that take from it?!

I feel like the whole movie got summed up really well when Blunt’s character tells Oppenheimer “You can’t commit sins and then have the rest of us feel bad for you when there are consequences.” I’m paraphrasing, but I think a lot of people wanted a more spoon-fed interpretation of his moral conundrum when that’s it. Nolan did a great job of depicting Oppenheimer as someone who did dubious things for what he thought were the right reasons, but was tortured by the fact his ends may not have justified his means.

The first time we hear the line "now I am become death, the destroyer of worlds" is when Cillian Murphy and Florence Pugh take a break from fucking.

Oh, Nolan...

Nolan has cultivated such a cult and brand surrounding him that any criticism of his movies that are not the technical aspects like sound mixing will be deflected by saying "you just didn't get it".

Nolan made a pretty straightforward biopic that had some great moments but if this was directed by anyone other than Nolan this movie wouldn't get a fraction of the hype.

I loved this movie. I won’t reiterate the thousands of reasons others have here, it’s all the same stuff.

I do have one problem that’s a personal thing and wasn’t enough to take away from the overall spectacle of the movie, but was noticeable.

In Nolan’s interviews he has a very well rehearsed line about why he doesn’t use CGI, describing it as “anodyne” or “a bit safe” or that “it’s difficult to convey threat”

I think unfortunately the trinity test scene seems to suffer from this philosophy a bit, personally I did not find the close up fireball shots to be as impactful to me as even watching the raw, real footage from the test. If there was one place to use CGI in the movie, I think this would have been it.

I could not follow the last (approximate) third of the movie; everything with Downey Junior's character and the senate confirmation.

I was able to piece it together (I mean I don't need it explained) but I'm wondering if anyone else felt lost at this point also?

The way the bomb scene was done was unexpected but amazing. So silent. You don't know what is coming next after the countdown, but you know it'll be something on a majestic scale. 3... 2... 1... and.... silence? You could just feel the weight and meaning behind the images that you get after that, hearing your own heart beat and the breathing of everyone around you in the theater... and then BOOM.

Just wow, what a movie. I'm going to go ahead and look more into Oppenheimer's life now.

Just got out of the theater. Watched in 70mm. The most incredible part of this movie is how it's 3 hours with never ending dialogues and literally no action and it keeps you engaged the whole time. Godly story pacing. I did not expect the silence in the Trinity Test but the amazing part of that was the whole theater was straight up silent too. You obviously see them cheering in the movie, but for us, the audience, we know what terrible consequences this bomb development has caused and, God forbid, potentially may cause.

Thought all the actors and actresses did a fantastic job, Murphy, Downey, Damon, and Blunt. Love how little CGI was used, and it was refreshing to just see amazing cinematography, acting, and storytelling carry the movie.

Did anyone else slightly teared up as Oppenheimer was making his victory speech in front of the crowd and he starts to see what can of worms he just opened? Thought that scene was amazing too. Will see the movie a second time in a few weeks after a bit of processing.

During the suicide scene, you can quickly see a gloved hand at the back Jean Tatlocks head, which gave a little nod to the conspiracy theories that she was actually murdered. It's been theorized that US Agents ahem may have had a hand in her death due to her affiliations with the Communist party, and close relation to Oppenheimer.

There was this one scene where Albert Einstein appears out of fucking nowhere from behind a car that I found really funny.

The fact Oppenheimer took down Strauss with him at the end was a nice reference to the scorpion allegory. He basically atomic bombed him.

The very last scene of the movie makes it clear that Strauss’s beef with Oppenheimer (that he turned Einstein against him) was based on a misunderstanding.

Did Nolan intend this as an allegory for nuclear war starting based on a misunderstanding? Especially as the war between these two ends with mutual career destruction.

I find it amazing how this movie is nothing but dialogue but it feels more exciting and fast-paced than basically any superhero or action movie in this day and age.

It's not going to be for everyone, but I loved the movie.

Yeah now that i've slept on it this was a bad film, I think that a 6/10 may be generous. Plot is not compelling whatsoever, so sterile in general from the character's interactions to the overall vibe of the movie. Oppenheimer himself has no consistency as a character, Cillian Murphy did a good job acting but the script and dialogue was just so lame and lacking anything that resembles an interesting story.

The skipping between time periods thing works sometimes but it did not for this movie, it's jarring to skip forward and backward so much especially when the only interesting plot/conflict comes at the end of the film. Nolan has never been a particularly great writer of dialogue and without an interesting setting or characters the entire film just feels so flat. How you get a cast this good to give some of their most forgettable performances is crazy.

For me, Nolan's worst film and quite disappointing

I would say read a bit about the man's life before you watch the film, really helps out since it such a dialogue heavy movie.

I don't understand the complaints here about the film focusing so much on Strauss's petty grudge against Oppenheimer. Not only is Oppenheimer's political downfall an important part of his story, and it really highlights the underlying dread of the situation -- that these are men who hold control over these weapons. They can be petty, vindictive and flawed like Strauss and yet they still hold the power to end the world. The technology is frightening by itself, but putting into the hands of fallible men is where the true horror lies.

Not enough people are talking about Josh Hartnett. I thought he was fucking incredible in this film.

Just back from seeing this. I thought I was going to love it; I'm a big fan of well-done historical realism, 'competence porn' is my favourite type of film, it was ticking all my cinema boxes.

But I left feeling underwhelmed. Given it was 3hrs long there was so much I wanted to have seen that they didn't cover. I surprisingly wasn't very invested in any of it. I was confused, particularly by all the time-jumping all over the place (I don't know why Nolan felt the need to tell the story that way).

But the weirdest thing was they didn't show them doing any of the 'brainy stuff'. All these scientists, the greatest minds of the day, doing things no one has ever done before, and they didn't show any of it. The Imitation Game was much better. Hidden Figures (though obviously tonally different) was better. When they all cheered after the Trinity test worked, it fell a bit flat because I had no idea how much work they'd put in because they didn't show it.

And I didn't have any sense of the war going on at the same time, and the drive to get the bomb made to end the war. Plus no sense of the discussions that must have happened when Hitler killed himself and Germany surrendered, before they finished it. That must have been a huge shift in momentum, but it was glossed over.

It just felt like a 3hr film shouldn't need to gloss over huge issues like this. Honestly it felt like it even glossed over Oppenheimer's realisation of how bad the bomb was. The speech scene was really well done, but that was it. And the speech would have been right after the successful bombing; he wouldn't have known the effects it would have on people at that point? It's such a crucial part of the Oppenheimer story and yet I didn't get any sense of it... only his communist contacts and how they revoked his clearance. It felt a really odd place to put the focus of the film.

And for a story that turned out to be more about Oppenheimer's career path than his scientific brilliance, what happened after he lost his clearance? Why was he given a medal in the end? When did he die? How did he feel about the arms race when he died? Not even a bit of text at the end to tell us this stuff?

Best movie I've watched in a long while. They name dropped John F. Kennedy at the end like a Marvel cameo😭

A Nolan movie about the moon landing would be incredible.

Cilian and RDJ were awesome, really enjoyed Matt Damon in it as well. Wish Josh Peck or Jack Quaid had more scenes lol. Oppenheimer was The Social Network on crack, so many time jumps. I'm a huge science, history, movie, and politics guy. But I thought the movie was good, not GREAT. Just didn't scratch the movie itch. Loved the whole ensemble they got for this film, the music was amazing. The build up for the testing of the bomb was intense. Favorite part of the film was definitely the last hour when they are all in the room questioning Oppenheimer's allegiance to the US.

People expecting a war drama with some action are gonna be wildly disappointed cause this was all Politics. Half my theater was asleep, but this was during the midnight showing.

Understood like 80% of the dialogue, 10% I'm bad with accents, 10% typical Nolan. It's a lot better than TENET which I only understood like 50% of the dialogue in the theater.

Florence Pugh interesting to say the least in her scenes lol.

8.5/10 movie. Something was missing personally for me that scratch that movie itch.

I see we're already at the point of "you're just not smart enough to get it" type comments in response to people who found this boring.

I was happy to see Josh Harnett in the film, his career has been off the boil for quite a while now so it was nice to see him land a good role and I think he did a good job.

I was not expecting Josh Peck to suddenly appear in this movie.

Loved it but it's not for everyone. It left me with a grave sense of anguish and I would say even trauma, but in a good way. I'm still baffled at how Nolan managed to put so much information in a 3h movie with mostly dialogues and still made it incredibly interesting and action-driven. I'd say that the part I loved the most is the last one with Einstein, that was alone 10/10.

Truly a masterpiece. Contrary to what some people say, I believe the film was quite fast-paced. A bit too fast-paced as I found it hard to keep up with things in the story. Everything came nicely together in the end though.

The cast was absolutely perfect and I loved every performance. Cillian Murphy and RDJ deserve an Oscar nomination, their performances were masterful. Benny Safdie, Matt Damon and Emily Blunt also performed amazingly.

The build-up to the Trinity test was LITERALLY BREATHTAKING and the nuke itself was also really well done. But the last two minutes impacted me the most. Seeing Oppenheimer’s vision of the future, and the fact that we are closer to nuclear war than ever before, just terrified me. And the way it was shot, together with Ludwig’s music and Cillian’s traumatized eyes made it even scarier. The film also serves as a warning for what could happen, let’s hope Oppenheimer’s vision won’t come true any time soon.

During the trinity test, it took 1 minute 40 seconds for the Shockwave to hit people. In the movie, it takes 1 minute 40 seconds for the Shockwave to hit people.

Oppenheimer is even better on a 2nd watch. I went in with a better grasp and understanding of the story this time, so I didn't feel overwhelmed with the amount of information Nolan feeds you. The narrative thread was clearer to me which made the whole film even more emotionally impactful. Especially that crucial scene between Oppenheimer and Einstein at the lake, tying up the black and white version at the beginning with the color one at the end, worked in a tragically epic fashion. One of the best film endings I've ever seen.

It's so impressive to me that Nolan managed to make an 180min film, that is filled to the brim with dialogue and exposition scenes, feel like a 90 min action film. The pacing and the editing were off the charts imo. I never felt the full runtime of this film. It reminded me of Zodiac and JFK, two of my favorite films when it comes to pacing, storytelling and editing.

A lot of interesting comments in this thread. It always genuinely amazes me how people walk away from the same movie I saw with such differing perspectives.

I thought it was a cinematic masterpiece.

Many people saying RDJ acting stole the show because his character was more dramatic but i think Cillian Murphy immersed the role so hard you can no longer see him acting he just fully embodied Oppenheimer as a character and carried the movie with subtleness. We've seen 3 phases of Oppie's age in the movie (young/prime/old) he changed his way to stand, walk and his voice changes with Oppenheimer's age.

Cillian's performance in Peacock movie was another overlooked gem if anyone interested to see more of Cillian's method where he dives into the character.

Biopic is my least favorite genre, and I didn't like Nolan's last few films like at all. So I was seriously considering passing on this film, but my thought was changed after finally watching it in the theater. I liked it much more than I expected. It might be my new favortie film of Nolan.

I really liked Nolan's approach here. He made the biopic almost like a political thriller. I think it was the right choice to choose a story structure where the past and present intersect constantly. It was a bit jarring until I got used to it, but once it clicked, I was immediately immersed in the movie. If the story had progressed chronologically, the hearing scenes might have been very anticlimactic.

Thematically, I loved Oppenheimer's internal conflict about the nuclear bomb. He was proud of what he and coworkers had achieved, but he felt deeply guilty about what the nuclear bomb brought to the human races. It was out of his hands once it was made, but he couldn't be free from responsibility since he contributed to its creation. I found the irony of the fact that an invention that could bring about the end of humanity to be the only solution to end a terrible war very interesting. It's a weapon of mass destruction for sure, but if he hadn't built the nuclear bomb, someone else surely had done. I'm not saying he didn't have a choice, but who could blame his choice after all? What would you have done if you were in his position? I don't think there was a right or wrong answer here.

I’m starting to feel like Nolan is an excellent magician. He’s so good at wrapping a product in an excellent package to manipulate you into thinking it’s good, but once you unwrap the unnecessarily intricate packaging you find a fairly pedestrian product that can’t figure out what it is. It’s like learning the secret behind a great magic trick, a magic trick that was fairly disappointing to begin with. There’s so much slight of hand to cover up his own weaknesses: messing with the timeline to make you think about the story more than you really need to by forcing you to stitch things together as it goes on, blowing through dialogue so you don’t realize how much of it is totally canned, female characters that are played like cliche scenery rather than real people.

The time jumps make it feel like he’s ripping the pages out of a book and throwing them on the floor for you to read just for the sake of unnecessarily challenging the reader.

A LOT of people in this thread who don’t understand what a character study is. The movie is called Oppenheimer, not How We Built the Bomb or Cool A-Bomb Explosions. I’ve seen a lot of comments saying this movie didn’t know what it wanted to be and I couldn’t disagree more. This is a character study of Oppenheimer the man. Everything else is just a framework to explore him and his story. Outstanding film. If you went into this expecting some action packed caper with awesome war footage and explosions, you were watching the movie wrong.

Why does Nolan insist on using music for almost every scene?

Is it just me, but I felt like the focus of the movie was completely wrong? Like the personal quarrel of Strauss is a far far less interesting conflict than anything relating to the building of atomic bomb, yet the movie was exclusively focusing on it. I would have liked to see more of the science, more moral dilemma, more about how the bomb was built and what it took. The Strauss character and his beef with Oppenheimer felt like a C-story that Nolan focused far too much on. Would have liked to see more scenes with scientists and Teller. The movie had way too many supporting characters who only appear for a scene or two. The more abstract scenes and the internal struggle part fel more interesting than seeing the same board room meeting again. Nolan always had an exposition problem, but now he turned his entire movie into exposition and I don't feel like that solved anything.

The comments make me think that a lot of people paid to watch a three hour movie, and all they wanted to see was a bomb go off.

I thought it was 9/10. Amazing performances, score, visuals. I don’t mind long movies, so no issue there. The intro scene with the Prometheus quote, and the finale were gripping, as well as the test scene. I thought the Sanskrit sex scene was silly, I also didn’t like the fast edits and cuts. It was faster paced than a typical Nolan film, but I understand why it had to be, otherwise it would’ve been five hours long.

This is one of Nolan’s movies that I think was hurt by the non-linearity of the story. Felt forced in just because Nolan feels obligated to do so.

The mechanics of every scene mimics that of a chain reaction, at the start I was unnerved by the staccato nature of the scenes and the dialogue, but by the end you can see that each interaction and consequence is related to the theme of entropy. There is also the subjective perspective of personal memory, which can be surreal at times juxtaposed with the chaos of objectivity…outlined by both the colour shots and the b/w shots. You can see the thread from memento, inception, interstellar and tenet on time, entropy, thermal dynamics, chaos and the human psyche linked to place in it all. Wonderfully captured by the excellent scene where he throwing crystal glasses destructively into the corner of the room. Every time we are in the company of a baby, we hear screaming.

What a boring ass movie. Scenes were in the past one second, near-future the next, future the next in black and white, then back to story. Very disjointed. Then a scene that was at the beginning of the movie is suddenly a key point in another. One second his brother is a communist then the next he wasn't and oh my god the music! I couldn't fucking hear half the dialogue because of it.

I nearly fell asleep. I probably enjoyed only 30 minutes of the 3 hours (starting at before the bomb test then it lost me half way into the "discrediting" of him.

One of the most boring films I've ever seen - it now joins Dunkirk & Dune P1 where I almost fell asleep. Hell, I would have left if I wasn't in the middle of the row lol

Edit: Interstellar is one of my favorites so try again with only sticking to hIgH oCtAnE aCtIoN

Watched Barbie, then started the 9:10pm showing of Oppenheimer at the the Regal UA in Langhorne, PA. Halfway through (when Oppenheimer tells Groves he lied about Chevalier to Pash), the film reel caught fire and the whole theater evacuated. Great! 🤪 Will have to watch again tomorrow.

I can’t believe he really said the line during a sex scene. Peak cinema 🫡

Nobody is talking about Jason Clarke. The man stole every single scene he was in. As much as I love Matt Damon and RDJ, he’s my top pick for Best Supporting Actor.

Lemme hear some noise for my man Einstien

Josh Hartnett did great. If they ever decide to remake To Kill a Mockingbird he’s my pick for Atticus Finch.

This movie was a solid 10 on cinematography.

And a solid 3 on entertainment value.

I’ll never watch it again. And I don’t really have any feelings on it. I saw it. Cool.

The whole “must see in imax” thing is a joke. You definitely do NOT need to see this in imax lol.

Anyway. 4/10 I guess?

Nolan has an incredible filmography. But this one lands near the bottom for me.

What I like most about this film is that it’s a big, huge, tent pole summer film…and it’s for ADULTS. It respects the audience and assumes you’re an adult who can grasp nuance, put things together, and not be spoon fed things like a dummy. Refreshing.

All I want from life is for someone to love me as much as Nolan loves petite brunettes.

Why do people think the third act is pointless? Am I missing it or was Oppenheimer worried about mass destruction, while all the politicians struggled to change their ideologies away from big and powerful weapons, towards the realization that the atomic, and hydrogen bomb, are just too destructive for wars.

Yeah the third act was so damn thrilling, might be my favorite part

Every wife of a conflicted genius in mid-century America must be a functioning alcoholic.

The funniest shit ever was when Strauss and Han Solo were talking about the Senator from Massachusetts, and Han Solo named-dropped JFK and people in my theatre gasped like they were teasing the bad guy for Oppenheimer 2.

EDIT: Overall, a highly enjoyable movie. Don't think it cracks the top three Nolan for me but it is still fantastic.

Man this movie was a huge drag to get through. Definitely a big let down.

The beginning of the movie felt completely jumbled. Jumping back and forth between multiple timelines with constant dialog made it hard to actually get invested into the story. The middle act of the movie with the development of Los Alamos and the testing of the bomb was easily the best part. I wish the movie expanded on that more. Instead, the final act and last hour of the movie was just a huge disappointment. The final "gotcha" moment to Strauss at the end just didn't do it for me.

Overall, I really feel like the marketing was misleading. The trailers made it seem like this movie was centered around the race to get to the atomic bomb. Instead, it was really just about Oppenheimer losing his security clearance. Not sure why this was claimed to be a "must see in IMAX," when the movie consists almost completely of just dialog.

Also, come on, did anyone else laugh a little when he used the famous "I am become death, the destroyer of worlds" line while having sex? That was just too ridiculous for me.

I loved the scene where he’s in the gym and giving a speech and he imagines the audience dying like the Japanese did to the bombs.

I thought the main climax of the film was the bomb test and then it would be wrapped up 30 min or so after but it kept going on and on. Imo could have cut 30 min or so

Probably pretty obvious to most but I was struck how the metaphor Oppenheimer delivers of the two scorpions in mutually assured destruction also accurately describes himself and Strauss.

I'll be honest I was a little disappointed, but honestly not suprized. The movie was less about the actual development of the A-bob and more about Oppenheimer defending himself against communist accusations. I would have been more intrigued if we saw more detailed of them coming up with how to build the thing over the years, but really it's a bunch of talking and next thing we know they are sealing up the gaget and it's ready to fire.

The ENTIRE movie is exposition. I couldn't get past it. Every single scene is an uninterrupted spew of expository factoids. It's like a wikipedia audiobook.

I really wanted to like this one but I just couldn't shake the feeling I was watching a bunch of robots reciting very fast cue cards at me. Like, no one even TALKS different. They all have the same cadence, voice, vocabulary, witticisms.

I have to admit I actually laughed when RDJ said "So you're saying the greatest accomplishment of my career is about to become the greatest humiliation in history" or something like that. That's some George Lucas-level writing.

Reluctantly, 6 out of 10. My ears hurt.

I’m sorry, I hated it. I truly hated it. Just got home. I didn’t expect it to all just be talking. They show one bomb. The rest is talking and board meetings and congress. Please don’t beat me.

Come on, downvoting isn’t for disagreeing. If you disagree, type why.

This was a dud. The pacing was all over the place, rushed the first two hours then spent an hour at the confirmation hearings.

We meet scientist after scientist only to never see them again.

Didn't have anything more to say than "nukes bad".

RDJ felt like he walked on set during filming and they wrote a part for him into the movie.

Wanted to know more about oppie's life but we didn't really get much. It was much too focused on skipping around to various legal proceedings.

One scene that really struck me with its artistic choice was when they were asking Oppenheimer about his affair with Jean, and all of a sudden we see him sitting in the room naked. What a powerful visual for how he felt in that moment... His private life being put out there for all to see and judge him.

It was a pleasant surprise to see Josh Hartnett on the big screen again.

My favorite scene might be one of the pre trinity tests.

The guy with the detonator says “heads down everyone” before sticking his head up to watch the explosion. Then when it’s over in under a second and General Groves quips “We’ll I hoped we learned something” and the one scientist says “we learned that we need to be a lot farther away” I laughed so hard. Good scene.

How can this have spoilers? Is there an end credit scene teasing the Cold War?

The woman sitting next to me clapped in the bit where Oppy is giving his ‘victory speech’ after the nukes get dropped on Japan lmao

"What were they talking about?" "Something more important than you."

What an absolutely brilliantly written film. Then beyond that, it was expertly acted, beautifully shot, and with the most haunting use of music I've heard in a long time throughout the entire thing. I'm not even that into historical films or biopics, but this is a masterpiece.

Anyone else feel like they could've done a better job of showing the scale of the trinity test detonation? I know there's some optical illusion camera work being done for a smaller sized explosion since Nolan refuses to use CGI, but he could have done slightly more to show just how tall the explosion was. Like maybe some more prolonged shots of the environment around the bomb site. Kinda like what he did with many scenes of Interstellar. I couldn't grasp the size and was kinda disappointed since it's literally the point of the movie, unless I missed something.

I really enjoyed the movie. The only thing I wanted to see more of was the actual science. The movie was about his life for the most part and the politics of the bomb but I feel very little was focused on the bomb itself. It barely explained why a hydrogen bomb was a much bigger deal than the atomic bomb having focused on it so much. It didn’t explain the differences between the Trinity bomb, fat man and little boy or even explain how many bombs they could make until they shipped the two actually used out of the facility.

For having such focus on the setting up of the Los Alamos lab and the recruitment of the scientists it never explained what they were working on or figuring out. Why did it take 3 years and 2 billion dollars? Were they just waiting to have enough plutonium for 3 years? The only thing the movie showed as far as I can remember was them testing different ignition devices. Maybe it really wasn’t that exciting in reality. I don’t know. But I was expecting this movie to help me learn more about it.

I spent time last week researching how the bomb actually works at a high surface level and thank god I did or I would of been even more lost as I don’t think I learned anything new in that regard.

The scene where Oppe is in the auditorium and the Americans are pounding in the stands and shaking the room with their applause while he wrestles with the weight of the chain reaction that has now entered the world had me absolutely shaken. All the while the crowd doesn't even understand the full gravity of the situation, it was just about the nazis.

Chef's kiss

Saw it last night. Liked it overall but not without faults that I noticed while watching the movie.

I felt like an old man during the opening scenes. I struggled to hear what the hell they were saying due to the music drowning out the dialogue.

The trinity test scene was cool, I loved the tense buildup and then silence. Going completely against what most people were expecting.

That scene where Einstein just emerged from the darkness on the lawn made me laugh. I thought it was ridiculous and he felt very shoehorned in to that moment.

Oppenheimer mentions the Bhagavad Gita while having sex and I thought “christ, here we go”, and then he said it, and my eyes nearly rolled out of my head.

Lots of fun moments like the cut aways to small physical reactions, a who’s who of all the scientists involved (Benny Safdie as Teller was really good) and that sublime whale song of a score are all the standouts to me.

This movie isn't terrible, but neither is it a masterpiece.

Too me - it can be summed up as: too much of everything and too little of anything.

It tries to show you so much about Oppenheimer's life and the circumstances surrouding it in a quantitative sense, that nothing gets discussed with any substance. Oppenheimer is a communist, womanizer, deeply conflicted, genius and whatnot, but none of those aspects felt really tangible at the end of it. Due to that I almost never was emotionally grabbed by the movie and the result was a huge issue with its tension curve - if you can call it that.

The only part where I felt tension and involvement with the story was during the Los Alamos and Trinity sequence - albeit the actual explosion feeling anticlimatic.

The movie also doesn't do itself any favors by putting in all the time jumps. The presentation is already very fragmented, as it pertains to following Oppenheimer chronologically, due to the linear timejumps, hence why the jumps into the future feel like a distraction from the core story no matter how well RDJ plays in those scenes.

The final interview part was largely uninteresting to me, as Oppenheimer's interests in Communism are never explored (why does he support it? what stakes does he hold in it).

In the end it - the movie looks good, has a very very strong cast and gets carried hard by an honestly even stronger performance by CM (considering how much you can do with always looking sad into the camera, he wasn't given much). It ends up being visual eye candy that leaves a lot of character arc and depth to be desired.

4/10

Oppenheimer reminds me of dining at a Michelin star restaurant.

You get 15 tiny dishes over many hours: some are life-changing, some are fascinating, and some are just not for you. You leave knowing you experienced something special, but still a little hungry, and not sure if you'd really go again.

I'd give it a 5/10. Absolutely LOVED the scenes of testing the bomb and Oppenheimer's speech in the gymnasium. The visual and sound effects were 10/10 cinema. The rest of the movie was just too long and a little dull. It's challenging to build suspense when we know the outcome of the bomb/science. I'm hoping Nolan can give us another Inception or Interstellar next because I have little interest in watching this or Tenet again. Hurts as a huge Nolan fan.

I’m feeling a 6/10 at best on this one, I’m generally a big Nolan fan too but I think this is his worst film honestly.

Really meandering pace, the time skipping cuts are bordering on confusing, dialogue generally forgettable. Movie somehow drags at the last 30-45 mins which was the most interesting part.

Genuinely think the script was just bad, I thought that despite the insane cast that all the actors were underutilized and forgettable. Murphy gives a good performance as Oppenheimer but he’s characterized in so many different ways in this film it’s pretty strange.

He doesn’t seem to have a consistent personality or way he acts besides being aloof a lot of the time and not in an interesting way. His familial relationship is implied to be shitty but his wife only exists to act exasperated and crazy while being a housewife stereotype? Pretty weak imo

Just overall not compelling whatsoever to me, big Nolan fan but I think a 6 is generous on this one

I feel like people who aren’t as knowledgable on history or politics, especially revolving around the US, will be quite lost and bored. The trailers seemed to show the movie as more about Los Alamos and the Manhatten project, but what we got was a trial and a lot of post war politics and geopolitical talks and maneuvering. Definitely seems like a movie for history/politics enthusiasts rather than one for people just expecting the development of nuclear weapons and the horrors of them.

For context the entire final hour or so is about a trial relating to his potential communist links and removal of security clearance and subsequent reputational loss.

My thoughts:

The heel turn by Strauss’ aide is also rather absurd.

And generally Strauss was a shit “villain”. If 15 minutes of exposition at the end of the movie is required to explain a bad guys motives, he’s a poorly written bad guy. And that’s exactly what we got.

3. The entire third act just drags. Way too much exposition, way too much “finishing scenes from earlier but with an unexpected twist”.

4. I’ve already whined about it with Strauss but character development!! The wife Kitty goes from being a useless drunk that he’s stuck with because he knocked her up to being the most badass character in the final 30 minutes. There was almost nothing to support her sudden attitude shift in the hearing scene.

5. Man the whole security clearance thing just bugs me. Oppenheimer is the head of the Manhattan project, months into development, already has LoS Alamos built and has assembled his team… and he doesn’t have clearance yet? I don’t know the historical accuracy of that but it seems like some creative liberty to add to the drama. But it makes all the drama about him LOSING security clearance at a time he’s apparently no longer involved in the AEC even sillier

I dunno. I give it like a 6/10 because I saw it on IMAX. I think a home viewing would be a 4/10.

I think the movie would have been much better served by focusing on the making of the bomb or on Oppenheimers public perception and internal turmoil regarding the making of the bomb.

Also a quick perusal of the Google and IMDB reviews suggests to me one of the most overwhelming bot campaigns to fluff a movie I’ve ever seen. Just PAGES AND PAGES of ChatGPT responses to “write a positive review about Oppenheimer” regurgitating the same buzz words over and over

I can't help but think this is a missed opportunity.

I thought there'd be a twist, or at least a sharp deviation from established history/science, like the interstellar bookcase.

When it became clear that it was instead essentially just a well acted dramatization, I thought they'd lean into the messaging more and use the opportunity to share en masse with a general population that the prospect of nuclear war is terrifying, and that it is not an abstract concept. The explosion alone was clearly supposed to do that, but frankly it wasnt enough - we're completely numbed to blockbuster explosions, it didn't feel any more real than any other cinema explosion. They should have doubled down on his paranoia and shown us explicitly the effects of these things. They barely scratched the surface with what we did get.

I enjoyed it for what it was, but I'm not sure I'd recommend this to anybody, really.

Edit: alright guys, I get it. I had a pretty sizable pre-existing interest in this particular subject area so maybe I just let my expectations get too high. It just wasn't made for me, and that's fine.

sorry but why the hell is anyone expecting a surprise twist in a movie that is unambiguously marketed as a historical drama

Strauss' main motivation being revenge for Oppenheimer humiliating him made their whole conflict seem trivial.The humiliation should have been the final straw that pushed Strauss over the edge, not basically his whole motivation.

Oppenheimer's rejection of Judaism/marrying a gentile/Hinduism, his narcissism and self importance, awful conduct in his personal life, all these would have greatly enhanced his conflict with Strauss.

They're were plenty of other ways Nolan could have taken it and he went for the weakest one.

Also that Kennedy, John F Kennedy line was corny as hell

It was decent. Certainly not the worst thing I've seen, but not terribly memorable to be honest. It felt like one of those generic biopic/WW2 thrillers we get every couple years, like The Imitation Game or The Darkest Hour. The Academy loves these movies.

I think it was a mistake to give so much screen time to the Strauss/hearing stuff, especially so early on. It just felt like it was weighing down what could have been a tight, sharp story about Oppenheimer's early life and the Manhattan Project. Maybe have one scene where we see his clearance has been revoked to make the point about how America chews up and spits out people to serve its own ends. It's a good point to make, but you don't need sooo many scenes about it. It just makes the movie feel flabby.

There's a really solid 40 mins or so right in the middle where the film gets focused and linear as they lead up to the trinity test. That's when the film is strongest. But the rest is edited so quickly that you don't get to know or care about any of these people, and the nonlinear editing just feels like a gimmick to make people think the movie is really dynamic and exciting.

The score is great, but jesus it just keeps going! It just goes and goes and goes over every scene and every line of dialogue. That combined with the fast editing makes the whole movie feel like a long movie trailer. Every bit of tension in this movie is created by the music.

I don't know, I just didn't feel like I took anything special away from this movie. James Cameron scared the absolute fuck out of us with that nuke scene in Terminator 2, that still haunts my thoughts to this day. I didn't think this movie even came close to that kind of dread. So then what's the point? To highlight McCarthyism? I don't know.

This was boring and way longer than need be.

I guess I foolishly assumed that the bomb, Manhattan Project, and WW2 would be the main foci of this movie, not Oppenheimer’s love life or a meeting in the mid-50s about renewing his security clearance. I also don’t think there was any reason for a nonlinear narrative.

The movie was super interesting for 10 minutes, then boring for 25, then interesting for 10, boring for 25, and so on for 3 hours. All in all, makes for a less-than-interesting film.

It's a biopic literally named "Oppenheimer." How would one not expect it to be about his life??

This is easily one of the most overhyped films I’ve seen in a very long time.

No CGI/shooting on IMAX cameras was completely unnecessary. 70mm film, sure why not due to this being a timepiece with black and white shots.

The amount of star power was distracting. I love how Nolan somehow chooses the perfect actor for certain roles. This thing threw every known actor they could find on it just for the sake of it. Oldman as Truman? Really?

Musical score was very underwhelming. Every time I leave a Nolan film the score sticks to me. Not this time. Too busy trying to decipher what they’re saying to appreciate the music since it’s a damn 3 hour movie with 90% of it being pure dialogue.

Playing with the timelines doesn’t work for a film like this imo. I shouldn’t have to do homework before I watch a film to fully enjoy it. If you don’t know a brief background on Oppenheimer before watching this, you’re going to be lost. By the time you figure things out, you’re kind of bored by the film.

The only true positives for me were Cilian Murphy and Robert Downey Jr acting their asses off. I feel Damon has already played this exact same character in another movie.

Rewatching in hopes to enjoy it more the second time since I’m a massive Nolan fan.

Movie was great technically but I feel like the story didn't benefit from being told out of order at all. The whole Strauss plotline isn't really related to the main conflict of Oppenheimer's opposition to the further development of the hydrogen bomb and his antagonistic intention is some childish teenage vendetta, which undercuts the heavy subject matter.

Teller would've been a far better primary antagonist and there's no need to do the whole twist reveal at the end. Teller was portrayed to have always been interested in pushing the technology to its limits, and that he was opposed with Oppenheimer in their views.

This movie is about communists, physicists, and the American government. If you want to watch a movie about an atomic bomb, look elsewhere.

The testing of the bomb had a great anticipatory lead up but a disappointing climax. A bit of CGI and better situational references would’ve made the explosion 10 times more intense. It was pretty obvious Nolan decided to blow up a couple tons of TNT and use a forced perspective to make us think it was an atom bomb.

The fact they did not choose to show the bombs being dropped on Nagasaki or Hiroshima or the fallout missed the mark for me. A few scenes of the horrible reality of what a nuclear weapon is capable of doing to civilization would’ve lent way more gravitas to the entire film.

If you want to watch a film about the nuanced shades of moral grey that Robert Oppenheimer operated in then buckle up.

I cannot believe the amount of whiny bastards on Reddit complaining about this movie. “Music was too loud in parts”, “the JFK line was stupid”, “the explosion wasn’t big enough”. All people do now is nitpick the shit out of movies, when there’s not any major problems they’ll find some. Go work for Screen Junkies.

This was easily the best film of the young decade and maybe the best I’ve seen since The Social Network back in 2010? It’s certainly up there.

Never did I think I’d watch a 3 hour intimate character study and court room procedural drama made for $100 million in a theater in the middle of July, and I’m so glad I did. Many of Nolan’s films are great but get overhyped, this one deserves every word of praise imaginable.

I think this has to be in the top 3 for Nolan films for me.

For a 3 hour dialogue heavy film where the majority of the scenes are men in rooms just talking it did not feel like a slog whatsoever.

Oppenheimers visions and then anxiety/PTSD was incredibly well done as well as the audio to go with them.

I felt underwhelmed by the movie.

It jumped around too much and it was hard to really sympathize with Oppenheimer because they offer you nothing to sympathize with. We don't see the horrors of the bomb. We aren't given enough to really get his relationship with his mistress or what she meant to him. The opening scene is him trying to poison a dude for no reason. I did not care for him as a character at all.

Then it was also unnecessarily pretentious with him saying the famous phrase while fucking his mistress - yes I'm super sure that really happened. Then with him imagining the quantum world in the beginning to the point of losing sleep, but then that just magically goes away once he gets sex(?). That could have been an interesting angle, but it just disappears.

I felt like they could have focused on the political intrigue, or the bomb itself. But they did some hybrid that didn't really seem to work. Expectations were set without delivery.

Oppenheimer is two movies. The one about Oppenheimer and the bomb is great. The one about political battles with a bureaucrat is maddenly boring and just irrelevant. Whether he retains his silly security clearance is of no importance compared with his other achievements. I couldn't care less about it. It was so frustrating to have that part ruin the otherwise great movie. 2/5, just awful

The way they used Jean Tatlock to eroticize the Krishna line really grossed me out. Completely made up and it just made me cringe to think of the writer using a real-life woman to play out some kind of fantasy to make that line "sexier".

Gary Oldman is the king of making me not realize he's in a movie until someone else points it out. What an actor.

Nolan thinking CGI is a dirty trick used by commoners really let down the test scene. They really should have either not shown the explosion, just the reaction, lights and shock wave. Or used CGI. Because jesus that was distracting, everyone knows what a mushroom cloud looks like.

The best moments of the film were the moments leading up to the Trinity test. I felt the tension through my whole body and just wondered what it would've been like to have spent years of your life working towards one moment and being able to see how it unfolds in front of your own eyes. And all of that followed by the silence when the bomb actually went off until the sound of the the sonic boom hits your ears and you get to see the euforia of the scientists afterwards who had just decided the fate of humankind for decades to follow without knowing it at the time. Simply outstanding.

Edit: Grammar and phrasing.

I don't understand how people go to watch a movie called oppenheimer, about a guy called oppenheimer , with the director confirming to make it historically accurate and then complain/cry on reddit that it was boring or should've been more than atomic bombs..wtf LOL.

Absolutely amazing movie, stayed historically accurate as possible, with amazing Symbolism and imagery throughout. Sound was on point and the direction of the film, switching between past and present, having the grey screen represent objective views not in the eyes of oppenheimer, was phenomenal.

Look, if you're going to order a fuckin fish and chips, you're goin to get fish and chips - don't expect to get tacos.

Like everyone else is saying, brilliant.

I was glued to screen for all 3 hours, felt like I was binge watching an elite tier limited series.

Some of Nolans best work which is saying something. I am glad however I watched Barbie immediately after haha.

“we visited on vacation, it was beautiful” 🤠

Me: Oh damn they're just gonna make Trinity test silent to underscore the moment.

20 seconds later I experience a heart attack

A lot of movies criticism is the third act sucks but with this movie it was the opposite, I enjoyed the third act (post Trinity test) the most, best part of the movie was seen Oppenheimer grapple with his guilt as well as RDJ scenes. I also especially liked Oppenheimer scene with Truman, Gary Oldman short apperance in the movie stole the show. It's funny also how Nolan treated Kennedy like a marvel teaser when he was mentioned (like what he did with Robin in DKR)

It was a good film.

I went in with 0 expectations of actually seeing THE two nuclear bombs in Japan so I wasn't disappointed when that didn't happen.

Nolan's choice of having Oppenheimer sit through the presentation of the horrors of the aftermath but not showing us what Oppie is seeing was effective in creating dread without showing it.

Heard a lot of chatter about poor representation of women in the film before it’s release, but after watching it I honestly don’t think that’s was the case, not that I’m any expert on the subject.

Florence Pugh’s character got very little screen time but her role was impactful and tragic. On the other hand, Emily Blunt was fantastic. She went from a reserved and quiet character serving as further exposition of Oppie’s life, who seemingly would have a very small role, into an extremely animated character with a lot of gravitas. Her cold rage grew as she watched Oppie cheat throughout the years, and while she rightfully let some of it boil over onto him, it truly showed its face as she displayed the anger and vindictiveness I expected out of Oppie himself during his political crucifixion. It seemed that in the aftermath of his political blacklisting that Oppie was extremely reserved and almost resigned, no doubt in part due to guilt over the Pandora’s box he opened, and the realization he had no power or platform at all to control its future course. On the other hand, Emily Blunt brings a cathartic sense of righteous anger to the whole situation which balanced with Oppie’s nearly constant broken stare and acceptance. The scene where Kitty refuses Teller’s handshake is almost as satisfying as when RDJ’s character finally gets his comeuppance. You could also see the exact moment when the dissenting judge flipped to Oppie’s side while listening to Kitty’s indignant testimony. Definitely one of my favorite characters from the film, perhaps second only to the man himself and Einstein who was awesome.

Minor spoilers follow (in as much as one can have spoilers for a historical drama).

I have been thinking about this movie for two days after having seen it. Obviously a good sign. During that time I have seen commentary to the effect that the trailer is misleading.

I agree.

I thought the drama and excitement was going to come from the Manhattan project. That is what the trailer seemed to be presenting. But it didn't. It came from the interpersonal drama. That is not necessarily a bad thing, but it was not what I felt I had been set up to see.

Interestingly, the very few and brief scenes where the project itself is the focus carry a lot of emotional impact. The original "marbles in a jar" scene was an "oh my" moment. The occasional but recurring shots of the implosion core partially surrounded by explosives were appropriately menacing. These were great scenes, but they were few and far between.

As the movie ended I reflected on why there was so much focus on Lewis Strauss, and in the end I decided that Nolan probably wanted to give the titular character "justice" at the climax, and given the factual history, there weren't many ways to do that.

My frustrations peaked in the scenes where they described both Einstein and Oppenheimer as mathematically sub-par. This is a horrible fiction - particularly in the case of Einstein - that seems to be fed to children who aren't strong in mathematics to prevent them from feeling discouraged. But at this point it has become received wisdom and seems to be accepted generally as a historical fact. The national geographic series "Genius" promoted the same egregious fiction (amongst its many other rewritings of history, but let's not go there). No, adults ought not still believe in Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny either.

Artistically the film was a technical tour de force, but challenging. For the first couple of minutes I thought we were being treated with a montage of events to put the audience into the context, and then the movie proper would begin. But scenes continued to be machine-gunned at me right up to the actual trinity explosion at which point everything comes to an abrupt halt, and the score was written in the same way. Artistically, I get it. it's a deliberate choice to make the trinity test an inflection point, not just in the plot but in the very construction of the movie. I personally felt it sacrificed too much for the eventual effect, but I respect the artistic choice.

Part of what spoiled that punctuated moment for me was the jarringly underwhelming explosion from the test. Going into the movie I wondered whether they might take historical footage and touch it up (the trailer actually does this). I expected the initial jellyfish-like fireball, so intense and massive that its barely translucent surface looks almost uniform, and a sense of scale provided by the shockwave in relation to the surrounding terrain. (Go and watch the original trinity footage to see what I mean if you've never seen it). But no, what we got was a close-up of a rolling fireball with some sparks. The kind movies often produce by setting off a detonator inside a bag of gasoline. To make matters worse, when the shockwave hit the prone observers it looked like some prop handler just off camera threw half a bucket of dirt into the scene from the left.

All that said, I still enjoyed the movie for what it was even if I felt misled by the trailer, and I did appreciate the artistry of the direction even if it didn't quite work for me personally. All of the acting was faultless, even though the amazing cast was barely given a chance to act for the first half of the movie because of the brevity of each scene. The moment when Raimi Malek says "thank you" on being offered a chance to speak (after merely 3 brief scenes for this A-list actor - during which he was very conspicuously given no lines) was a clever and subtle 4th wall breaker. And I was chuffed by a few historical easter eggs (Feynman on his bogo drums, for example).

An excellent movie, despite being unsatisfying.

J Robert Oppenheimer. The J stands for "just because I hang around communists doesn't mean I'm in the communist party"

Daniel Day Lewis was amazing as the bomb.

The Einstein cameo at the very end popping out from behind the car was absurd.

I never thought I'd consider leaving a Nolan movie, thrice.

This was a movie about senate politics, security clearances and love affairs, for three hours. And most every god forsaken dialogue was quick cut between three or more serious men filling in each other's sentences for the entire dialogue like they all split the script's lines between them.

Everything builds up to the test in the middle of the movie and it's just a poof in the desert. There is so much cinematography to explore in order to show what Oppenheimer felt, but this was just him starring at an underwhelming light show. The barely surviving silent black and white original film capture from the Trinity test makes it look more massive and mortifying than this did.

Cillian Murphy is miscast, not as Robert Oppenheimer, but as this Oppenheimer. The real Oppenheimer rolled on the floor in anxiety, this Oppenheimer mostly gulps. He was known to be a dramatic and eccentric individual, this Oppenheimer is timid and bland. I'd love to see Cilian Murphy get to do Oppenheimer right.

Do I even have to mention Oppie saying his "Now I am become death" during. the. sex. scene. The sex scene.

I wish I had seen Barbie twice.

This movie felt like 80% of it was filmed around a boardroom, definitely don't need to watch it at IMAX

Was hoping to see more science and build up to the trinity test. But most of the movie was just politics.

Not my cup of tea

Jason Clarke well done. Absolutely a scene stealer and I don’t have enough words about Emily Blunt.

Not a comment on the film but reactions to people wishing to have seen more of the science in the film. My original trajectory in life was to be a physicist, and I made it to college with that intent, but had to drop before finishing due to illness, so seeing the parade of names in this film was incredible to me. I originally started that track after being introduced to Richard Feynman's work as a sophomore in high school.

The reality is, theoretical physics can't be reduced into layman's terms in an easily digestible way, like many other sciences. You either lay the groundwork for understanding, or you explain it in a way that is generally wrong. I think Nolan opted to avoid it in order to prevent having to contort representations of the greatest minds the world had to offer, saying things that were flat-out incorrect. That's why there were only really broad surface statements about "a photon is both a particle and a wave" or "we can cause a cascade." Once you get beyond that point, you have to either go way to far into detail or be wildly inaccurate in your explanations. Those explanations wouldn't be something that the people in those rooms would require anyway, so that would feel weird in itself.

JFK will return...

Only thing I didn’t love was the slightly suspenseful drag on in the last hour. I mean it wasn’t bad but it seemed like it went on forever

I would like someone to explain to me what they took away from this movie, other than the technical aspects. It looked great, the acting was top notch, and the sound design is the main star here. That's unfortunate. Unless you have an awesome sound setup at home, the best part of this movie will be lost.

The movie didn't really have much to say for me. Of course Oppenheimer was conflicted about what he created. That's a given for anyone who isn't a psychopath.

Nolan has a problem with actually approaching human emotions. It's almost like he's afraid to, and I think it hurts his movies. They're all too cold and clinical.

It finally released here in South Korea, and it was so good! Koreans generally don't learn much about Trinity and Oppenheimer in school - the country was a bit busy being severely oppressed by imperial Japan at the time it all went down. (It's the same reason World War 1 history outside Korea isn't well-known - Korea was under Japanese rule for a long time.) So this movie is the first time some Koreans will learn more than the basic trivia - and it does a pretty good job of teaching. I think it'll inspire a lot of Koreans to do some research and learn the true facts.

The casting was absolutely wonderful, especially Gary Oldman as Truman. I wish we could see some of the actors from this movie play the same roles in other movies - we need more scientist biopics!

Josh Hartnett has aged like a fine wine.

Watched the movie last afternoon. I kinda had to let everything sink in. This movie is definitely gonna stay with me for a long time.

Apart from the fact that every performance is really good, the writing is just so tight. Also the fact that it's 3 hours, non stop, tons of dialogue and somehow it didn't lose me for even a minute. It was so fascinating. All aspects. The science part of it, Oppenheimer's personal life, the questioning of Oppenheimer/Strauss, the horror of the bomb. Legit I got shivers sent down my spine multiple times.

When everything came together with the final scene with Oppenheimer's and Einstein at the pond, the music getting louder, I legit teared up. I never quite experienced anything like it. It's without a doubt the best movie I've seen in years, maybe ever.

I didn't think the movie would affect me this strongly.

Performance wise I think most would agree that Murphy, Blunt and RDJ are the MVPs, but those that also stood out to me where Benny Safdie, Alden Ehrenreich (especial his last line) Rami Malek and the actor who played Einstein.

Great movie - made a list of things I loved about it.

Breaking bad has truly ruined me because when they mentioned heisenberg I could not help but think of Walter white

The delayed sound of the bomb and the delayed sounds of the crowds cheers being used as a way to represent the delayed consequences of the creation of this technology…

The crowds stomps being used as a horror theme to score the scenes earlier in the movie and build the tension as we barrel toward this inevitable ending.

Just a masterclass from Nolan.

I agree with quite a few criticisms, even though I enjoyed it. Not sure I'd want to watch it again though.

Nolans movies can be frustrating.... He has some weird obsession with "time" in different phases, and seems like he has some shortcomings when it comes to telling a human story. This could have been a better movie in the hands of someone else.

I also feel bad for Florence Pugh. Spends most of the movie naked, for no real reason. Nolan typically doesn't put nudity in his movies, so it seems like an odd choice

I felt like the conflict with Strauss was not as engaging as the movie wanted it to be. Strauss's character was supposedly petty and evil, but we weren't really allowed to see that pettiness until it was revealed in a clumsy, in your face way (IT WAS STRAUSS ALL ALONG...uhhh okay what)...and the whole interrogation to remove Oppie's security clearance took too long. I felt like the movie lagged a bit toward the end. I enjoyed the scene with Truman and I would have liked to feel more of the blowback toward Oppie from the whole political apparatus prior to the removal of his clearance. This movie didn't feel very balanced. Also yeah as another commenter said, I needed more Pugh, and I am curious about whether the real life Jean's alleged homosexuality was in the book because I think her character was oversimplified here, and I would have loved to see a more complex portrayal. Overall I enjoyed it, it's hard not to enjoy that streak of genius that is in all of Nolan's work, but I was slightly disappointed.

Edit: I'll also add that the Oppie pro atom bomb speech was powerful but this movie deserved more of a vision of Hiroshima. Follow one person who was bombed and died in the following days.

I felt somewhat the same as you the first time I saw it, as if the part with Strauss and the interrogation were sort of tacked on at the end and didn't really fit with the front end of the film. The second time I watched it, I realized that the interrogation is the film, and that it was better for it. We are left to judge Oppenheimer and his motives, and the kangaroo-court interrogation allows us to feel some pity for him, but it also is the only point at which Oppenheimer is forced to face his own contradictions about the development of the A-bomb, the H-bomb, and his role in it. He is forced into making the somewhat absurd claim that his moral qualms about the H-bomb were based on his belief that there were too many H-bombs built relative to the number of A-bombs. We see in his face how he has avoided this reckoning all along.

This section plays another, related role in the movie, I think. In that first half, focused on the building of the bomb, Oppenheimer is surging forward under the power of his own genius, determination, and optimism, but in the second part, which could be said to begin with the departure of the bombs from Los Alamos, he starts to sense his own powerlessness, in the face of bureaucracy, the rising military-industrial complex, and the logic of the technology itself.

He keeps on talking about how this is not a new weapon but a new world, but we see that he never really got it himself, just in the way Einstein couldn't see past his own accomplishments. He had demolished the old world, but was never able to cross into the Promised Land, to mix metaphors.

More specifically, Nolan is using the kangaroo court about Oppenheimer's clearance (and the kangaroo court around Strauss's nomination) as a lens to judge Oppenheimer himself (and Strauss too), not in the abstract sense of whether they were 'good' or 'bad', but primarily within the context of their actions surrounding the development and deployment of WMDs.

Furthermore, this trick on Nolan's part is itself part of a larger trick he is playing on the audience: we judge Oppenheimer from the safety of our seats in the movie theater and 80 years removed. But, the truth is we collectively make the identical decisions Oppenheimer did, day in, day out. We build weapons well in excess of the power that anything he built and we build them on an industrial scale. Nobody really has an issue with this anymore. We are completely at home with these weapons.

At its most basic level, the movie is about us and the bomb. Oppenheimer is the lens through which we focus on that, because the question is too large for most of us (perhaps for any of us) to confront objectively. I think there are lots of other wonderful things going on in this movie, to be sure, but I think the structure of the movie is sound, and I was convinced of this on the second watching.

I was looking forward to this one, but like some others here, ultimately the experience was disappointing. In my view its major flaw, which choice I understand from a thematic standpoint, was wrapping the core story of the development and dropping of the bomb inside the comparatively bland and bureaucratic proceedings of the committee hearing and security clearance interview.

This structure was a major disservice to the emotional experience of this 3 hour epic for me, largely because it was just about impossible to re-engage with that storyline or care about its dramatic questions after going through the wringer of the development and dropping of the bomb. Every little question about whether he was a spy and was strauss going after him was, in my experience, trivial and near impossible to care about anymore, AND i had to endure that trivia and remember the sterile details of who trusted who to do what for another whole 40+ minutes. That home stretch was mostly clock watching for me. I do understand its function, but that whole dimension felt overdeveloped and the best candidate for trimming this down to a more emotionally engaging and tighter 2-hour experience.

In the end, this didn’t work better for me than any other decent biopic, significant improvement over Tenet, but sitting well behind Dunkirk or Interstellar (both of which were also much better imax experiences than this very talky excursion)

I saw this in fake IMAX a couple days ago but it filled the whole screen so probably like 16:9 which is nice. We don't have a real IMAX where I live and the closest one is more than 14 hours drive away. I don't think I can watch this movie in 2.35:1 scope. Scope is such a horrible format. This movie looked incredible filling up the whole screen.

As to the actual contents of the film. I've been thinking about this movie damn near constantly since I saw it. It's just been living in my head. This is, by far, Christopher Nolan's best film and I believe it to be the best film of the decade so far. Now that I've thought about it, everything about this film worked so well for me. This movie was the quickest 3 hours ever for me and I honestly wish it went on for more. I could have easily watched another hour of that.

I loved how aggressively edited this movie was. It expects quite a lot of the viewer and it throws them around like a ragdoll but I was still able to follow along. The disturbing perspective pov shots are quite damning to the characters. The intense cacophony of noise while Oppenheimer is losing his mental stability, the way nervousness and anxiety are portrayed with the selective sounds passing through the rumbling and vibrations as his world is depicted as literally vibrating behind him. It's so good.

I liked the commitment to being very historically accurate. Some of the dialogue, especially during the closed investigation scenes was word for word pulled from transcripts. The attention to small pieces of history that no one else knows about like the line "God doesn't play with dice." that is flippantly thrown out by a character near the beginning of the film. That was a whole issue that Einstein had with Quantum Mechanics and caused him to reject it for so long as well as become rejected, himself, by the leaders of the new sciences. General Relativity and QM couldn't be reconciled back then. I only know of all of this because I grew up watching NOVA episodes about physics like Fabric of the Cosmos. I loved seeing it referenced in the movie and I'm wondering how few caught the importance of that line. For reference, Einstein argued that Quantum Mechanics didn't make any sense because of it's inability to be predicted and its trends towards chance. Another physicist, one whose name I have forgotten and who was on the QM side, responded to Einstein saying something like "Don't tell God what he can do." I like that they included the bits about Pile 1 under the stands. That's another thing few people know about.

I actually quite liked how it basically turned into a whole different movie for the last hour. People minimize the importance of what was happening by saying stuff like "It was boring. It was just about a stupid security clearance." In reality, that security clearance represented both Oppenheimer's ability to continue influencing the U.S.' nuclear programs and having pull as well as representing his reputation. The revoking of his clearance was a disaster for him in real life and was an attack on his reputation. This is also the part of the movie with the best acting. Robert Downey Jr. deserves an Oscar for his portrayal of Strauss. His facial movements and micro speeches to his aids were incredible. His portrayed of a seemingly softer personality/politician/spiteful and vindictive, and his mix of being soft and also rugged and powerful was one of the best parts of the movie.

Something else I liked about the film was its peculiar story structure. At first I thought it was just a quintessential Nolan nonlinear trope but I noticed something about the way the film was structured. The way the story about the bomb itself was presented was very reminiscent of religious texts like the Bible. I know this is a reach but the film references things like the Bhagavad Gita, the fact that so many of the story's main players were Jewish, and the references to Greek Mythology, I couldn't help but see religious symbolism in the structure of the film. The reality of the bomb is almost symbolically prophesied throughout the first hour of the film as characters make references to things that will occur by happenstance later, like the very real coincidence that Oppenheimer loved the desert southwest and physics and wished he could combine them both. He actually did say that. The small creepy reminders of the future of the bomb are spread out in the first hour similar to how subversive signs of the messiah are spread throughout the Old Testament like the ram with its head caught in a thorn bush to be sacrificed in Genesis 22. I feel like that had to be intentionally done with the story. And don't even start on the blatant water droplet symbolism.

This is not the same Christopher Nolan as before. This is a new version of him that hasn't been seen before. His last movie, Tenet, was the most Nolany of Nolan films it could possibly have been. This is completely different. This is such a weird film from him with so many elements and approaches he hasn't done before really.

Also, the ending couldn't have been better. The reveal of the actual nature of what Oppenheimer said to Einstein, the haunting visions of fire, rows of ICBMs, the new successor of the V2, the Earth being consumed. It was such haunting ending and it couldn't have been better.

Just give Chrostopher Nolan the oscar. Give him all the damn oscars. What a film, absolutely monumental in scope and scale

It was an alright movie. 7/10. The worst of it was the time jumping you’ll be in one year then all of a sudden you’re 5 years later talking about something else. Then you’re back again. Then the explosion they finally showed was so lackluster and underwhelming if you’ve seen these explosions on old film you can tell what they did was just a gasoline explosion. They shouldn’t have done full practical with this it should have been mostly CGI. They didn’t show anything of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings. I’m guessing he was trying to be tasteful but all you get are imagined screams and a ashened body and a white girl with her face peeling.

Edit: I’ll mention I didn’t get to see the film in IMAX or fake imax just regular theater. It may be way better on it as far I described.

I was so pissed that I went to a movie about an atomic bomb and didn't see one single mushroom cloud explosion.

mid

The editing in this movie is top notch. The 3 hours felt hypnotic and I couldn’t turn my head even for a second.

The pacing was so snappy and the dialogues were being delivered like bullets. It was so fast.

The build up to trinity test scene was just insane. My heart literally raced.

I DID NOT expect to see Casey Affleck and Gary Oldman in this. That was truly a great surprise.

I can't wait until Einstein popping up in random places becomes a meme

I felt there were a couple of scenes where I lost track of the conversation....not as bad as some other Nolan films but still kind of frustrating.

Movie was too long and it was definitely overhyped. Take out RDJ scenes and end it soon after Oppenheimer realizes that he made a severe mistake creating the atomic bomb and the movie will be an alright film. Nolan peaked with Interstellar it seems. 😥

The Trinity test, the scene of Oppenheimer's anxiety in the gym and his final scene with Einstein are what stood out the most in this movie, absolute perfection in each case.

Definitely would recommend anyone to watch this.

I’ll get downvoted for this but Oppenheimer was way too long and I lost interest after they dropped the bomb.

I really don't what to make of people that are calling this a 9/10 + or one of the best movie going experiences of their life.

edit : This is not a 9.0 movie. Boring, bad pacing, confusing editing, I frequently didn't like the sound. Not captivating. Too long. Utter disappointment with how the explosions are handled. Hard to understand dialog at points. Completely glossed over the physics and physicists, every time equations are shown, its for less than a second, instead we get multiple sex scenes? Wtf?

After the "nuclear explosion" the audience gets blue balled for any more visual displays of the consequences or power of the bomb (asides from a handful of hallucinations). Instead, the movie stretches on for an hour of some literal who wanting to maintain some political position with some petty grudge, and Op losing his security clearance, which it didn't even seem like he even cared about keeping. This is all pertinent to include in a biopic, but i think the only reason this got highlighted is because of RDJ. Too much time going back and forth and back and forth over whether he was a commie.

The reviews are polarizing, and I feel like some people like it by default or they feel they're supposed to appreciate it for being cinematic.

Saw it last night - no IMAX sadly :( Have to say I’m a little let down. I’m a massive Nolan fan but it felt too long with too many grey haired dudes whose names I couldn’t keep track of talking a lot. The moments where Nolan got to really flex his muscles when Oppy was trippin out were unbelievably intense and awesome. Bit disappointed by the explosion scene too - sorta was hoping for something more but not exactly sure what? Visually stunning, but an hour too long for the story it told

• 3 hours of almost pure dialogue and you don’t get bored. Fast-paced and intense.

• Cilian nails the contorted/twisted and mysterious nature of Oppenheimer very well. Was difficult to get a read on him sometimes.

• Damon was amazing, tbh he always is. It’s difficult to separate him as a person from him on the screen more than other actors but he was great. Thought he was very funny and produced laugh out loud moments, my favourites being his deadpan “right, build him a town” and “we will have him killed.”

• Score was amazing but that’s almost to be expected now with Nolan films

• Blunt has a habit of stealing the limelight whenever she’s in a scene. Best one was where she wasn’t falling for the interrogator’s bullshit and stood up for herself/Oppy.

• Scene with Cilian shagging on the interrogation chair with the woman staring at Blunt was pretty shocking. Not seen something like that in a Nolan before.

• Bomb scene emotions: WTF why is there no sound?! Goddamn this is eerie as hell. Holy shit, there’s the sound – I need new pants. Whole cinema was packed but completely silent for this which added to it.

• Nolan knows the importance of the movie ending and this last scene was one of the better ones. Puts Einstein in colour then Cilian drops the bombshell at the end.

• Didn’t know much about Oppy so had no idea where the movie would go after Hiroshima but the Downey Jnr storyline/twist was very good.

• Gary Oldman cameo was great

• Random thing I learned, the experiment lecturer in the room next to Oppy at the start (Josh Hartnett) turned down Nolan’s offer of being Batman.

• Enjoyed the marbles filling up in the bowl imagery of the bomb being ready

• Harrowing scene where he gave the speech after the bombs were dropped in the raucous crowd one of the best ones.

I loved a lot and disliked a lot

Pros: It was acted brilliantly. Cillian looking completely defeated as someone (can’t remember who) walked out of the interview room was great.

the test’s buildup. The choice to delay the explosion 30 seconds was a brilliant one

The scenes with truman, the army deciding where to drop the bomb and cillian giving a speech were all magnificent.

cons

the test was really visually underwhelming. It looked like they’d blown up a little bit of dynamite not an atomic blast. should’ve gone CGI.

non linear nature of the film was hard to keep up with and i found it unnecessary

Also found the political and security clearance element of the film to be a bit flat, not enough weight was put on oppenheimer not getting cleared for the audience to care.

the Strauss storyline and his motivations were not made clear enough to the average viewer.

7/10 would recommend if you liked ww2 american politics and Nolan

Probably one of the greatest final lines for a movie in my recent memory

This movie had:

So you knew it was going to be awesome.

The best way I could could describe this film :

it has a lot of boners that go soft. So many missed opportunities.

You’re building the biggest weapon on earth to stop Hitler. We find out from a no-namer that Hitler is dead in the middle of a conversation.

The final exchanges between Downey Jr and Ehrenreich felt so badly wasted. Ehrenreich didnt even rub it in his face. It kept building and building and boom, he opens a door and we see camera flashing. Thats the “i really showed him moment” If it wasnt for the booming sounds and strobe light editing, we would have all fell asleep in this film.

Not one person on earth feels sorry for Pugh’s character. We met her as a mysterious outsider and she stays that way the whole film. Not one quality to admire, just out of frame boobs thats it.

There’s just really nothing that feels like a pay off in this film. We see cameras flashing on Robert Downey, Jr., at the end… is this Nolan’s idea of a payoff? We get zero satisfaction out of what happens with him.

The closeups on Murphy were too close and so distracting.. and what’s with all the cold sores? The camera practically ended up down his throat by the end.

Some of the makeup they did to make people look hideous did not look believable at all. It looked like Josh Peck’s skin was sliding off his face like he was D’onofrio in Men in Black.

I feel like they originally intended for a linear timeline, realized what a boring movie they had on their hands, and then mixed it all up with kabooms and disco strobe lighting. We often walk into a scene not knowing what year it is and how high the stakes are.

This was the first movie I ever had to walk away and think about how I felt about it.

My immediate reaction was to wonder why there wasn't much shown or mentioned in terms of the Japanese people and what it did to them, but after sleeping on it it kind of all hit me.

Every significant character in this film is only viewing the events as they pertain to and affect themselves. Obviously this culminates with the mutually assured destruction motif of Strauss & Oppenheimer's careers going up in smoke. If anything had been added, such as an in memoriam, or some other nod to the dead it would have been vulgar. It would have seemed like insult to injury.

The only consideration is "can we build this" and "can we beat the soviets", never "what does this do to the world?"

Even Oppenheimer believes in the false dichotomy - "a peace the world has never seen..."

Again - it bothered me that something wasn't said but now I understand why it wasn't - because it just actually wasn't ever said or thought of at the time, and that's that the peace Oppenheimer is describing is not actually peace; it's Pax-Americana. Pax-Americana is not peace. It's managed peace under the threat of Imperialistic violence. The conditions for war are still there, but now there's a man with a big stick who won't let you fight it. That's not peace. No one says this because no one was even thinking it at the time, which is the entire point of the film. Everyone, including the US, sees themselves at the center, only viewing every event through the lens of how it affects me personally, and what my place in history will be.

Other than that I just didn't get the tits, but great film!

I enjoyed the movie, although like many I have criticisms. I'll hone in on my biggest one which is that I think it was an artistic mistake to not show the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. It was intentional on the movie's part, they wanted to be subtle and only reference it. But a major theme of the movie is "they won't understand until they've used/seen the bomb". So show the audience. Show the actual instant incineration of a hundred thousand souls.

From Hibakusha,

My husband and two children were lost in the atomic bombing. I am Shige Hiratsuka, who was exposed to the atomic bomb in Hiroshima.As a live witness to the misery and anger, I would like to speak out.My family consisted of my husband, myself and two children…, a family of four. On August 6, Showa 20 (1945), just after 8 am, we had just finished breakfast. As my husband was reading the morning paper, and I was cleaning up the breakfast dishes, our two children played nearby. Suddenly, what seemed like a streak of lightning lit the sky, followed by a thunderous noise. The house collapsed around us, and we were trapped.

As my husband and I were trying with all our might to escape, we heard, "Help me! Help me!" Our next door neighbor's wife was calling for help. I called out to her, "As soon as we get free, we will come to help you!"

When we finally escaped from our fallen house, the first thing we saw was the total destruction of the city of Hiroshima. No houses or other buildings were visible. They had all disappeared. Fires were evident here and there. In my shock and fear, my only thought was escape. And, in my fear and rush to escape, I forgot the promise to help our neighbor's wife. My thoughts swirled around finding our children.

Where are our children? As we called out our children's names, we heard, "Help me, Mother! Help me, Mother!", coming from a distance of about 2 or 3 meters away. I rushed in that direction. It was my own 6 year old daughter, Kazuko. I began calling for my husband who was at that time barely able to move. "Come quickly!" I screamed. At that time my husband was bleeding from the shoulder and was badly injured. He was so weak that he was barely able to walk. Our daughter was screaming out, "Mother, my legs hurt, my legs hurt! My legs are trapped. Help me to get them free!" I struggled to free her, but no matter how hard I pulled, her legs remained trapped. She was covered from the chest down by debris from the walls of the house and by dirt. It was impossible to free her.

As I continued to pull on her, the fires were fast approaching. I could see and hear and smell the fires. I was hot and unable to breathe, and could no longer continue my struggle. At that moment, I knew that if I stayed I would die. Dying was not a choice I was willing to make. I could not imagine being burned to death.

I said a prayer for my children. "Kazu-chan, I am sorry. I am a bad mother. Please forgive me. Kazu-chan, I know you don't want to die, either, but your Mother does not have courage to face the fire. Kazu-chan, forgive me, forgive me!" I said as I turned and walked toward the area that was free of fire. I took my husband's hand to help him escape with me, but as we moved away, our hearts were left behind with our daughter.

As we escaped, we didn't realize that we were stepping and falling over dead bodies. As I stumbled and fell on those bodies, I was not affected by a feeling of creepiness. I just felt a deep sadness. As we continued our escape, we realized that we had made it to the riverside of Yokokawa.

Got to see this in 70mm Imax and Jesus Christ it was one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen. I'd forgotten how great it is just to see close-ups of faces projected on the biggest screen possible.

Some of the courtroom/hearing scenes looked as if they were filmed in the mid 70s. Absolutely gorgeous to look at.

And the sound was just unbelievable. I got a jolt through my entire body everytime an explosion went off. And to build up to Trinity and then drop us into complete silence gave me chills.

The scene afterwards where Oppenheimer tries to give a rousing speech and is haunted by Hiroshima was one of the most disturbing and powerful scenes I can remember. Truly like being in a nightmare, especially the way screams bled and bombs began bleeding into the soundtrack. Truly haunting.

I thought all the cast was great. Murphy's never been better, it was great to see Downey Jr given a meaty acting role for once, Damon has settled into the gruff old man phase of his career, Blunt really stole the last hour, and I loved all the brief cameos from big stars.

Only downsides: The first hour was a bit shapeless and dragged at times, Pugh was very good but her character felt like she needed one or two more scenes to really land, some of the dialogue is very heavy handed (they get away with it because it's so fast and often technical, but a lot of this film is verbal exposition).

But they are small issues in an incredible 3 hour film that I could have easily sat and watched for another hour at least. Excellent, excellent film.

Waaayyyy tooooo fucking looonnnnggggg

EDIT: Lol at the downvotes. I'm not out here downvoting people who enjoyed it, relax, this is a forum to share opinions.

Nolan (or some fan) should release the Film with the scenes in chronological order. For a biopic, having to jump between discussions was tiring. Getting yelled at by multiple sources took a toll on Oppie as well as me.

Acting was great, but I hope wardrobe and make-up get praise. I was able to see it in the 70mm IMAX form. There were some nice tracking shots of walking and scenery, as well as beautiful close-ups of actors, but I believe it isn't all too necessary to travel and find a theater.

I will grow to appreciate the film more with subtitles and viewing it alone rather than in a packed theater.

This would have made for a great HBO mini series, as a movie it was a little all over the place.

Oppenheimer made me want to go back to school to get a PhD in physics and write equations in my room for 4 years straight while Ludwig's soundtrack plays on repeat.

Ludwig Goransson’s track played nearly the entire movie and had me sweating the entire time with its sheer intensity. His testosterone-fueled, aggressive tracks mixed traditional orchestra with synths while quieter orchestral motifs enhanced the emotional connections. Ludwig was so committed that he started writing 3 months before filming began and continued throughout production. In "Can you hear the Music," Ludwig changes the tempo 21 times so drastically and aggressively that the track was deemed unplayable, the musicians in the full orchestra required a click played in their headphones before every tempo change, and it took 3 days until the entire song was finally recorded in one take.

The editing matched Ludwig's level of intensity and focus. Nolan kept slamming scene after scene without giving us a second to breathe. This was phenomenal, focused, nonlinear editing. The entire movie was composed of thematic clusters of linked montages and vignettes which flowed naturally and felt like a dream. The brief cuts to particles vibrating, atoms splitting, bombs exploding, and stars collapsing were incredible visuals to complement the physics concepts discussed. The feverish pace was complemented by the music perfectly.

I have been hearing from people that it glorifies the entire Atomic Bomb / Hiroshima / Nagasaki thing. But I went to watch it and didn't get that (glorification) impression at all. Also some comments from friends who found it "so american" are kind of weird to me after watching it myself. Comparing it for example to the Pearl Harbor movie, which I found very Americanized, this was art.

Having said that, this was my first IMAX 70mm experience, and while it is impressive, I did have some issues with understanding dialogue due to, in my opinion, bad sound mixing. I seem to be not the only one, and that it is kind of a Nolan thing to do, so I might just have to see it again once it gets a streaming release.

Not a bad movie, but maybe expected a bit more from it. Or... maybe not expect more, but expect something different. I need to let it sink in for a bit I think

Just watched it again and dear lord it is so good. I appreciated the performances more.

And the subtitles, oh man, I needed it.

It was an OK movie. My two major complaints are that it focused way too much on the trial and the whole national security/commie spy angle which was a big distraction from the actual interesting topics of nuclear energy/weapons/physics/technology/morality. The national security aspect was also quite predictable and boring. The other complaint is that the Trinity test in the movie was very underwhelming and looked nothing like the actual Trinity test (https://youtu.be/wki4hg9Om-k) and did not capture the scale of an atomic explosion.

I bet Chris Nolan has never felt a human emotion, but probably thinks human emotion is fascinating. None of the “people” in Oppenheimer made me feel anything. All but the titular character and Strauss are ridiculously one-note. They’re there to spout exposition to move the narrative along. Tragically exemplified by Emily Blunt’s Kitty, who is introduced as a booze hound and, you guessed it, can’t go one scene without alcohol making a clunky appearance. That’s her character! That’s it. But Nolan has never written or directed a great, or even kind of good, woman character.

But boy, does this move! Edits and scenes are brisk. Too brisk. Nothing breaths, but at least that lends itself to the absurd time constraints of our nerd-Avengers coming together to make the worst invention in the history of human existence.

The technical filmmaking itself is pretty astounding, as expected. It’s gorgeous to look at. And the actors that are actually allowed to shine, Murphy and RDJ, are exceptional. The narrative is inherently compelling and it’s an entertaining watch, especially the courtroom drama stuff where things can actually slow down.

But for a movie that can’t decide if its thesis is an insular character study or a legitimate warning of human extinction via nukes - I still didn’t really feel anything either way.

This film was made with the sensibilities and aesthetics of an action movie, but it is actually a biography of an American scientist. The carving up of what was a linear life into a confusing collage of rapid cuts back and forth over decades of time made it borderline incoherent, and I saw it having read the book twice. Nolan's fear of being boring made him do all sorts of things that are clever, and being clever is the last thing needed in a film with a subject this serious. I went in hoping for the best, but my worst fears were realized. The real Oppenheimer's message was that democracy deserves to have important decisions such as building huge stockpiles of weapons of mass destruction be made by the people. He lobbied for more candor from goverment, and less secrecy, and was destroyed for that. Watching this movie, you'd think it was all a grudge match between Oppie and RDJ. It went much deeper than that. The film also downplayed Oppenheimer's disgust with using the weapon on an enemy that was already defeated. It's just a movie, but it's a shame that the important things about Oppenheimer were buried under a confusing mess of a film.

This was a very ambitious movie with several problems plaguing it that I found too hard to ignore. Will try to keep it spoiler-free. First, the positives:

Issues I had:

All of these problems make the film almost impossible to sit through, despite the sparks of creativity that sometimes show. Overall, 4/10, would not watch again.

That was a bad movie. The actors were great but the storytelling was terrible. I couldn’t hear half the dialogue cause of the ambiance music l. The story was too disjointed and I had no idea what or who some people were at certain parts. Did not enjoy.

I think the movie was told in layers just leading up to the final scene which was incredibly interesting and impactful. But I feel it suffered precisely because of it. Personally I’d have preferred if they told the story linearly and just cut to that moment with Einstein at the end. This intercutting between timelines and constant music overlapping the dialogue became tiresome in its three hour runtime. Like this felt like a movie of moments, not scenes.

Definitely not Nolan’s best. He continues his alarming sound-mixing technique even in this movie. It’s a shame. He’s such a talented filmmaker. But he really needs to hire someone better for editing, sound-mixing & screenwriting.

Funny how the reception is overwhelmingly positive, yet most of those comments are negative. A reminder why I haven't joined this subreddit despite liking Reddit and loving movies.

Movie was disjointed and uninspiring. It has such a clear identity crisis. It had amazing elements but the chef couldn’t bring it all together. Quite a shame

Imagine making a film about the creation of the atom bomb, basing your entire marketing campaign around an explosion, filming in IMAX and then have the actual explosion scene be the most anticlimactic thing ever. God, what a waste.

Nolan made a movie about scientists for scientists. it was glorious.

Einstein. Bohr. Heisenberg. Bush. Von Braun (in a quick reference to reference to V2 rockets. Teller. Loomis. Lawrence. Fermi. De Broglie. Feynman and his bongos. Fuchs.

They mentioned the great American Labs & Universities that supported the amazing Physics works of the mid century. Princeton. Berkeley. Radiation Labs. Caltech. Rand Corporation. OakRidge. Los Alamos. The Berkeley Cyclotron which brought us Berklium, Californium and Lawrencium. ETA: Not only did they mention the sites, but much of the film was shot on location on those sites. It was heartwarming.

The American Presidents of the mid-century who championed policies based on facts and science for early forty years: Roosevelt. Truman. Eisenhower. Kennedy. Johnson.

What an undertaking to bring these brilliant men and women out of the dusty pages of history and put them squarely in the context of their time. Bravo to Mr. Nolan for showing their patriotism, sacrifice and a very different kind of war.

Personally I came out of this movie a little underwhelmed. My main gripes were the dialogue feeling unnatural, especially towards the beginning of the film. The scene where Oppenheimer reads his, "I have become death" quote while in bed with a woman before even starting the Manhattan project stood out especially. But really almost every conversation didnt feel like a real conversation at all, I just kept thinking, people dont talk like this to eachother. It felt like they started with a long list of everything Oppenheimer was known for, then thought about ways they could cram each piece of info into the movie.

Then there was the visual representations of him having mind blowing revaluations about the universe also causing him great stress. Its like cinematic version of, "whoa look at how mindblowingly smart am I." The ending where they mixed in this kind of arthouse feeling by showing the hallucinations really felt out of place. Really there was quite a bit that just didnt do it for me.

What I did enjoy were the performances. Especially RDJ as Lewis Strauss, he really killed it with that part.

For me this might be Nolan’s best movie. Doesn’t have the flash or the flair of Inception, Interstellar, and the Batman trilogy but the story was brilliantly told even though most people know the end result. That the bomb was successful.

Most impactful moments of the movie to me where the conversation with Einstein and Oppenheimer by the lake and the way the context of the scene changes throughout the movie.

You get to see it from afar and it looks like one thing. Then you see Strauss’s interpretation of it and it looks like something else. Then you see it in its entirety with the conversation between Einstein and Oppenheimer that you get the full brunt of it.

Top notch filmmaking right there.

Also a wild Gary Oldman appears and completely steals the scene he is in

I loved it but I didn't really understand what was going on with the Strauss character. He's not in the timeline before the Trinity test and then afterwards is unhappy because Oppenheimer humiliated him in a hearing. Then does something complicated to cause Oppenheimer to be examined in that table hearing, then gets found out because another character we haven't seen much of reveals his plan in the black and white hearing but without providing evidence?

I don't understand what was going on with that. I got up to pee once and assume I must have missed something. I also had a few annoying people around me in the theater which took me out of the movie on occasion. Because I didn't understand that plot thread the last third of the film dragged for me. Can anyone explain what the hell was going on with the character? I know it was to establish whether Oppenheimer was a communist sympathizer and whether he should keep his clearance but who was Strauss, what exactly did he do to cause the hearings and what was the significance of the large black and white hearing where Strauss was being questioned?

Strauss had a vendetta against oppenheimer largely from that hearing as you said. But also from them competing for the Princeton job where oppenheimer was ranked higher than him. Both of these are depicted in the film. They also just had personal and political beef around their religion and political stances.

Ultimately Strauss didn’t trust oppenheimer and had the FBI spy on him. This all leads to him recommending they revoke the security clearance which is also depicted in the film.

Largely because of this personal attack on oppenheimer the scientific community was against Strauss on the Eisenhower cabinet and he ultimates was rejected which humiliated him.

I hope that helps

Did anyone else feel the non linear narrative was at times excessive and slightly jarring and detracted from what was essentially a good movie?

One thing that I really liked about 'Oppenheimer' that I think deserves more praise is the usage of the A-Bomb in the film.

Entering into the movie, you'd think that you'd see a cinematic reliving of the Hiroshima or Nagisaki bombings and its effects on Japanese citizens. Naturally, doing so would help the audience realize the severity of the bombs creation. However, not for a split second of film was there any such thing. Sure, the bombings and the damage it had done were briefly mentioned, but never did we truly see the bomb actually being used. All we saw was the bomb go off during the Trinity test.

It being a "test", which is means it is not at the expense of human life, creates a sense of assurance within the audience. The previous concerns with the bomb setting off a continuous reaction that could ignite the atmosphere and destroy the world are completely mitigated. As people in the current, where the bomb clearly did not lead to the end of the world, this concern carries deadweight for us. The movie also made sure to demonstrate all the safety precautions and preparations made for to the test. The culmination of all these factors were meant to create a bomb that the audience could characterize as safe, dare I say harmless.

Then the bomb goes off. A shroom cloud of fire and smoke. Tremendous, and visually stunning. The delayed sound of the explosion, which whether anticipated or not, resonated through all in the theater. It was epic to say the least. And whether you stared in awe or fear, you were shocked, speechless, and completely stiff. I could not only hear, but feel the silence of the audience.

In the entirety of 'Oppenheimer' we only saw one bomb. This bomb did not level any buildings. This bomb did not destroy a city. This bomb did not take any human life. This bomb did not leave behind burnt bodies or the shadows of disintegrated humans. This bomb did not harm a single soul. And yet we all left the theater understanding the impact and catastrophic severity of this bombs creation.

That's just insane.

Everything else the movie did well others have already acknowledged. From the cast, to the soundtrack, to the visuals, etc. But one thing I felt needed more recognition was the usage of the bomb itself in the movie.

I personally found the movie very relatable as i, too, would throw it all away for Florence Pugh

Florence Pugh tits were the best thing about the movie.

Think quite a lot of people don't realise what a historical drama is, a good chunk of my viewing walked out, some well before the bomb scene. It certainly could do with some trimming, but the core concepts are done fantastically well

The entirety of RDJ's confirmation hearing should have been cut or reduced to a textual epilogue at the end of the movie. Absolutely unnecessary to show all that.

Also, there was really no need for so many time jumps - back and forth, back and forth. It was dizzying at times. I know it's kinda Nolan's shtick to fuck around with flashbacks and flashforwards, but it really felt it was pointless here. Could have just told the same story mostly chronologically, and probably shaved an hour from the runtime in the process.

And why the fuck did Einstein react that way to Oppenheimer's words at the end? It really wasn't that deep, as if Einstein didn't already know what having such a power unleashed could mean for the world.

Shallow. Did not get into the humanity, the physics, the moral dilemmas, or anything else of interest outside of a very superficial treatment, over the top "effects", and scenes that were meant to be artsy but failed to actually achieve anything. Typical modern Nolan. And a formula that works brilliantly on the masses, so expect mass approval of this one just like all his others.

Man, this film was really testing my patience at times. Honestly, I found the whole Robert Downey Jnr timeline a chore to sit through.

The best parts of the film are Oppenheimer's beginnings and the middle stretch covering everything within Los Alamos and the bomb.

Everything else after felt convoluted to me. The Imitation Game did the whole 'betrayed by his country' plot better and more efficiently.

Lastly, sound is still a big problem in Nolan's films. There are scenes where the rustling of clothes/footsteps whilst people walk is louder than the dialogue. I can't comprehend why that is a stylistic or conscious choice?

This movie was amazing in every way. As someone who works in STEM academia, it was wildly fascinating seeing the moral quandaries faced by Opps, young academics, physicists. It brought a tear to my eye actually.

I only wish it focused more on moral questions he faced as Oppenheimer reminds me that history repeats itself. I think about Fritz Haber, the Jewish chemist who created a nitrogen chemical process to cure famine. Germany ended up being like, “hey he’s a genius, let’s ask him to create chlorine gas in WW1 to kill American enemies!” and he did.

Fast forward to WW2 where Hitler ended up using Haber’s creation to kills millions of Jews in gas chambers. Haber’s wife ended up killing herself as a result. And he never forgave himself.

These moral and ethical questions in science with government involvement is so fascinating to me because I think scientists (einstein, opps, haber, etc) fell victim to their own genius - how far can I go, how far can I discover, innovate. And by then, it’s too late.

I wanted to walk out.

I'm a Nolan fanboy and don't mind a biopic, but Oppenheimer just drags on for what feels like forever. The cast is incredible, the shots are nice... but it's just a really boring movie. Even they raved about not using CGI, but the shots of the bomb weren't really that amazing anyway.

Still glad I saw it I guess, but this will be the first Nolan movie I won't re-watch religiously.

I wanted to like this movie but I regrettably could only find myself agreeing a lot with all the hater-esque opinions on the internet.

The movie was engaging from start to end. That's sounds like an impressive feat for a 3-hour movie... only if it was in a vacuum. It was engaging simply by keeping the entire movie at a stagnantly fast pace and equally stagnant tension. To put it very crudely, it's like scrolling TikTok for 3 hours - you are technically engaged for 3 hours.

The idea of "show, don't tell" felt so wrongly executed that it went full circle and became just "telling". Do you need to show Oppie naked to show his shame? Do you then need to show Jean riding him to show the hurt in Kitty? Do you need to have the defeaning sounds, jarring cuts and white light flooding the scene to show Oppie's internal strife? Cilian is known for his phenomenal face acting - just let him do his magic, man. The only part which leverages that is the very last shot of the movie.

To me, a great movie should leave a big impression and be thought-provoking after the fact. After Oppenheimer, I'm just like ". Ok." Yeah, it's not an "ugh" but there's no "wow". Let me compare it with 2 biopics: The Imitation Game and Steve Jobs (2015).

Everyone knows that Oppenheimer made the atomic bomb. Almost everyone knows - and has watched - that clip where he says the iconic "I am become death, the destroyer of worlds". Most people could infer that he felt regret over the fact that Japan was nuked. The movie added nothing to this aspect. The movie's way of attempting to show Oppenheimer's internal strife, as mentioned earlier, honestly felt less compelling than that one footage of the real person speaking on television. It even culminated in him literally going to the president and saying out loud "I feel like I have blood on my hands". Bruh, we may not all be detectives but we can take a hint.

The movie put an emphasis on the communist accusations against him and I actually thought it was good - people don't really talk about that part when thinking of Oppenheimer. However, the execution just couldn't cut it. There was no attempt at dramatising, just having things look bad for Oppie at first, then \*plot twist\* Strauss is the bad guy, then the movie presented Hill speaking for Oppie and against Strauss like a deus ex machina sorta thing, then bad guy loses, yay happy ending. Okay? This was an opportunity to show the significance of that trial for Oppenheimer personally and they let it slip.

And a special mention: Oh dear, the incessant camera cuts during 1-on-1 dialogue scenes towards the start of the movie. I know, there is no right or wrong in filmmaking or in the creative field in general. Still, that's the classic amateur-of-amateurs mistake. And I'm not nitpicking - it's not like I'm scanning through the film again to scrutinise it. It was so jarring while I was watching it.

Perhaps the one thing I liked was the very final moments of the movie. I liked how it circled back to the very start of the movie and it was a good line. Good way to end a 3-hour, all-over-the-place biopic. It did have that thought-provoking spark, although it's nothing novel (Oppenheimer's opinions on nuclear weaponry) and the final 1% certainly can't carry the other 99%. My lasting impression is mostly... this was quite a waste of all the acting talent, especially Cilian.

That ending is continuing to ring in my head a day after watching the movie.

Review by director Oliver Stone:

Christopher Nolan finally learned how to deliver exposition without it sounding out of place and forced (mostly). All the complicated conversations felt much more natural then many of the exchanges that happened in Tenet.

the pacing and frequency of cuts started to become confusing very quickly, especially cutting randomly between many different time periods. I think it would have benefitted from more simple nested framing.

i.e. Strauss hearing recounting the story of how he set up: [ Oppenheimer's hearing recounting the story of [Oppenheimer's life and the Manhattan project]]

I though many good scenes were cut back to and from too rapidly which diminished them. like many scenes with Oppie recruiting scientists, planning out the project, etc.

Also, I couldn't help but feel the Trinity test was underwhelming. I understand his desire to not use CGI, but maybe a little enhancement could have been helpful to showcase the world-changing scale of the bomb? as shown it didn't seem that much bigger than a conventional explosion.

Unlike it’s subject matter this film fizzled out. Way too bloated with filler material (the whole girlfriend/mistress dynamic is dull and drags the film). The explosion viewed in imax was spectacular though and is the films high point and climax. Everything else is anti climactic after this and the film loses steam, partly due to ‘thrill fatigue’ setting in. Movie tried too hard to be epic otherwise and just leaves something to be desired. But due to stellar effects and the gravity of the subject matter, this movie gets somewhat redeemed and I give it a 7.3/10.

Overall, it seems over rated as fan boys gloss over some of the glaring weaknesses of the film. I suspect it will be nominated for many Oscars though

Saw it in 70mm IMAX and I thought that the build up and tension of the Trinity test, along with the gymnasium scene and the speech - that whole 20-30ish minutes was brilliant from a pacing and audio-visual perspective.

I can't help but think if the Einstein convo and end shot was right after that, how much more impactful that would have been.

The Strauss thing and the hearings ultimately felt a little too bloated, and I think the audience needs to shift themselves tonally into something more of a different genre, in the vein of a political thriller, for like an hour or something. To me, that was less compelling at that point in the movie.

Imagine holding on to the feeling of horror and existential dread and have it crescendo into the credits. Good movie, but there were definitely elements that dragged it.

Well, you definitely get your money's worth seeing it on $4 national cinema day lol. It does feel long. Don't really see the need to shell out the IMAX money for this one though. I didn't like Nolan's last two movies but this one was solid, so I guess I got one foot back on the nolan train. Murphy will probably get his oscar but I didnt really need to see his balls or know how Pugh was convinced to go nude for it, but anyway. It did feel almost like two movies between the first 2/3s and the whole hearing thing in the last act. Was a bit melodramatic considering it was all about... getting security clearance renewed?

I feel like the 11 miles of imax film thing is incredibly wasteful there was only really one scene for it 99% of the movie was just people talking.

I found the movie to be way too long and felt like an absolute drag. There was way too much skipping all over the place from scene to scene and the dialogue felt like it was rambling too much. There just seemed to be so much story this movie wanted to tell and so many characters they wanted to introduce that I think this would have been much better suited to being a mini series rather than a 3 hour movie that felt like it was never going to end. I also wasn’t a fan of the constant time skipping, at least if it was a mini series it could have been paced out better and able to tell all of the story. And the actual bomb scene did not have the impact I was expecting or hoping for.

I’m glad to see so many people enjoyed this film but for me I was just glad it was finally over with.

Lol at Josh Peck pressing the button.

I feel a lot of people in these comments were expecting a giant CGI exploding with Oppenheimer jumping in a fridge last minute to survive the blast.

I liked when Einstein appeared like Santa

Might just be me, but it sorta reminded me of the HBO Chernobyl series with how it was done. There were obvious differences between the two, but I feel like they both had similar vibes when watching them. I really liked the Chernobyl series and this movie is also a pretty good film overall.

did anyone else notice when florence pugh was drowning, a hand in a black glove was seen for an instant holding her head down?

i was disappointed. i dont mean to exaggerate or overstate anything - i really dont remember the last time i was this bored in a movie theater. the sequencing and scene changing style that persisted through the movie were really not for me. i also found the dialogue to be too on-point with no filler and it felt super unnatural, like an actual conversation got chopped into pieces and only the relevant information was spoken. i dont think ive ever gotten either of those 2 impressions from a film before, and they really took me out of it. lastly and probably most importantly, i just thought the story itself was not exciting. im glad everyone else is enjoying it, but im sure my partner and i arent the only ones who just didn't really get the hype. its a neat history piece that i would watch for the same reason i'd watch a nature documentary if i was in that mood, but it wasnt a big exciting blockbuster in my opinion.

jesus christ, that's niels bohr

Feynman/quaid telling teller/ Safdie that he’s not using googles to see the Trinity test , because he’s sitting in a car that has UV rays protected front windshield was my ‘surely, you’re joking Mr. Feyman’ moment of movie.

Sat in the 4th row. After the detonation scene, turned my head to my friend and said "This is going to be lou-" and then our eardrums exploded.

I went to the theaters excited for what I thought was going to be an intense and cerebral movie, but I left unimpressed and rather bored.

I’m not saying that the movie was terrible. It was still a good movie. But it’s not one of the “greats”. Nolan has definitely done better work

This movie felt like a masturbatory slog. It really comes across like Nolan thinks he's an absolute genius, and it got in the way of a making a better movie.

The constant changes in aspect ratio were distracting. Some of the prosthetic makeup was distractingly bad. The explosion was... unimpressive. I saw it on IMAX and I think audiences are confusing loud with good. Great example of how some well restrained, but carefully executed CGI can have a big impact. By the time the bomb exploded my partner and I were ready for the movie to be over, but then it felt like they pulled the sheet off and were like "Surprise! You've been watching a much more boring movie this whole time!" and it slogged along for another miserable hour. A guy a couple rows back from where I was sitting let out a groaning "Jesus, finally!" when the credits rolled.

Most of the performances themselves were top tier though, and the photography was somewhere between beautiful and consistently competent. The score was good, but at no point did it seem like it knew what act of the movie it was in. I might would have thought it was the best movie I'd ever seen had it come out when I was 17.

I don't think it came anywhere near meeting the hype it's been getting. IMAX was unnecessary and I suspect that I might have left with a generally more positive impression of the film had I watched it at home where I could actually sit comfortably, stop to go to the bathroom and get snacks periodically, and sporadically engage in commentary before getting back into it.

Did anyone else miss dialogue because of the soundmixing?

I just saw the movie and I am baffled that it gets so much praise. The best way to put it why it was bad, is because you can’t have dramatic scenes if every scene is dramatic. We get 3 hours of overly dramatic music and dialog, we only got 30 seconds of quiet time before the explosion. The way the story was presented might have been interesting if it was more coherent. We didn’t really get to know the main character or his moral dilemma. In some parts it is personal drama story then it shifts to political drama. Not that you can’t have both but not in this way. Also what was the deal with his first communist love affair. This could have been very interesting to see something personal to him and also to see how America viewed communism. Instead we got a sex scene where the girl got of from him reading some ancient script and then she kills herself because he is no longer available to her and he is deeply scared but for like 2 minutes before completely forgetting about it. They could have saved at least 20 minutes not including her at all and we would not have missed much. Sorry guys but the movie is far from what it should have been.

Rabi (David Krumholtz) showing up in a scene felt like seeing an old friend. I love how every-time he’s with Oppie he’s trying to get him to eat, sweet friendship.

Let's take away all the bells and whistles by which I mean the fantastic sound and visual effects, which are par for the course in a Nolan film, and this film is 3 hours of a congressional hearing. You have vast amounts of exposition and dialogue of a very technical subject matter (obviously they didn't delve too much into the science of nuclear fission and rightly so, but the point stands) and the machinations of Washington politics and McCarthyism, set over a booming soundtrack.

It just felt quite jarring and wasn't particularly engaging. Can't help but feel the subject matter would have been better suited for a limited TV series. I would feel particularly hard done by if I saw this in IMAX, because beyond the explosion, there weren't exactly numerous visually captivating scenes.

i’m surprised more people aren’t talking about this:

“Genius is no guarantee of wisdom”.

Powerful, powerful statement.

No need to go out of your way to see this on IMAX or whatever. The visuals were disappointing.

It was a good movie. 7-10.

Would never watch again though.

I was expecting more test scenes and being blown away by the visuals.

Was basically staring at Murphy's bone structure for three hours.

A few themes and patterns that I noticed in the movie, which may be open to interpretation, but I'll give my own. Maybe these have been discussed in this forum before or have different ways of looking at them, but I wanna give my thoughts:

My theory:

Fission is splitting of atoms, or division of one thing into smaller things. The color scenes in the movie are the scenes from Oppi's perspective. This represents how he (like Prometheus) is distributing himself to the world (metaphorically speaking). This happens from different perspectives: Scientific, political and even in his humanitarian efforts later on. He just wanted to give more of himself to the world. Just like splitting an atom gives a huge amount of energy, his contribution did the same

Fusion on the other hand is like forcibly pushing two particles together. The black and white scenes in the movie are the facts in the movie, or shall I say, how the world perceived and reacted to Oppenheimer. This represents the opposite both in the scientific phenomena and in the movie with Oppi. The world constantly tries to push him, with his duality in his nature constantly being pushed together. It's most clear after the bomb, when the feeling of relief in the success of the bomb is juxtaposed with the horrific nature of the tragedy. Oppi constantly feels fused by various elements and to some degree, his own work in fission and fusion (another play they did in the movie)

I don't know how much of this was intended, but in any case, they really paid attention to the details for this.

2. Lack of glamour: This has been addressed earlier by other people and my take on the fact that people feel that there were no grand explosions, or deep exploration of relationships in some cases, or the movie being long/boring; is this:

'Are you watching closely?'

The Prestige, a movie where he laid some of the foundations of what he wants to do in his movies includes his very important line. He wants you to pay attention to every single detail. Of course, this is difficult and sometimes even more so due to sound mixing issues but there are advantages to this.

First, it's a great repeat experience and second, if you understand his philosophies, the movies become a 100 times more rewarding.

In the case of Oppi, Nolan set the stage and the tone of the movie that this is NOT a movie about a hero or a villain, it's not a fictional tale. Nolan's choice of basing the event on reality includes a very important point: Perspective. He does not want you to show you the perspective you want, but the perspective that existed.

Regardless of how underwhelming it is, that was reality.

The emotional relationships, especially with women, was (at that time) much less important with the fear of death and war at your doorstep.

The explosions were not heard or seen, but felt. No one saw what happened in Japan. We are privileged to see them in 2023, so we think, ah it could be better if I could see the horror and feel it. But the true horror is in the reactions, the celebrations, the paradoxes and what follows after.

The bomb was not the climax of the movie, the courtroom drama was, in my humble opinion. The whole movie was building up to how traumatic this experience is as an individual and how ruthless society is : JUST LIKE A BOMB IS.

He showed the implications of the bomb by making you feel the implications of the bomb, rather than show it. He showed what it meant to be in the new world.

And just like the great Robert Downey Jr's character failed to understand, so did many people, that this movie is about more than the self-importance of individuals, it's more than the self-importance of explosions and crucially more that the self-importance of Oppenheimer.

That's all, please let me know what you think

My friends were telling me how amazing the 70mm imax viewing was. I told them i was perfectly fine with watching oppenheimer get questioned for 2 hours in 35mm

"Dude, you're embarrassing me in front of the wizard confirmation hearing." - Lewis Strauss

Bohr, Fermi, Lawrence, Heisenberg, Feynman, Teller, Einstein, literally everyone is here! Did anyone else get elated from this? I was half expecting Oppenheimer to be kidnapped by the Japanese only to be rescued by an elderly Planck and Pauli, breaking down a door and yelling "it's nuking time!"

I guess I’m the only person who thought it was boring

Not enough people are giving credit to score of this film. It was phenomenal. Perfectly encapsulates the feeling of physicist trying to come up with a theory which starts as slow and melancholic to ultimately making one of the most destructive weapons the mankind ever saw filling with how protagonist feels with regrets and power.

70mm IMAX blew me away. The speakers under the seats really made a massive difference.

The scene in the deposition that had the slow build of the music and the stomping was absolutely incredible. I got sucked into it.

I don't think I moved for the full 3hrs.

Also got a REALLY solid theater audience, the scene when the bomb dropped was total silence. Could hear a pin drop.

I thought it was great.

One criticism is the score playing throughout the entire movie. There were two scenes without score that I noticed, one being the trinity test. I guess it gave it more impact.

And a nitpick - hollywood stuff like "who were the holdouts? Some young senator from Massachusetts...kennedy? John f kennedy." This is in 1959, right? Kennedy would be running for president the next year lol. He was a star by then. Kinda felt like cutesy forrest gump way to shoehorn in a reference that kennedy voted to deny strauss. I admit i rolled my eyes.

I still loved the movie despite goofy little nitpick.

A bit too long. The Strauss plot wasn't really interesting. The Trinity scene was great, just wish the explosion itself look bigger. The score throughout the whole movie was a tad too much

After sitting with it, I agree its LONG and slow at times but I think that’s okay since it wasn’t a painful watch.

I do think its a great film, a great cautionary tale of science, arrogance and a critique of how cruel governments are.

My big criticism against the movie is how poor the female characters are. Which sadly is the Nolan mo with underwritten female characters. Glad to see Olvia Thrilby again, Florence kind of came off a bitch and Emily Blunt’s character felt like an entire missing arc. She is introduced as a crazy drunk (when its postpartum) and then the film kind of doesn’t develop her or why stayed with Oppenheimer with the constant cheating and being absent. Her monologue in the end would have hit harder knowing more about her character and I would have loved to see more scenes of her and her performance.

I just watched it again, brilliant stuff. Even the imaginary sex scene which was a bit jarring on first watch works. It's also funny how much of a total dick Oppenheimer is to Hill (Rami Maleks character) both times he meets him as a switch and bait for when Hill to come to his defense.

The dichotomy of reviews in here: either this is the best film of the decade or a poorly executed biopic, lol.

Oppenheimer's speech scene after they dropped the atomic bomb. It parallels his quote "a few people laughed, few people cried, most were silent"

We see the crowd laughting, crying, all in the middle of the shock and silence in his mind, besides the nice horror vibes and Cillian's great performance there, this scene is a masterpiece.

I’m nearly certain I will enjoy this movie so much more when I can watch it at home with subtitles on.

The beginning felt very disorienting—which was maybe the point? My takeaway is there’s lots of good stuff but it’s difficult to digest in a theatre setting.

Finally got to seeing this before it ended its theatrical run! Holy capola, 20k comments!

Completely different film from what I was expecting-not necessarily in any negative way.

Primarily right off the bat, the pacing seems peculiarly fast. Particularly with his love interests, their exchanges come off as these quick back-and-forth quips like it's a dress rehearsal or something. But I was able to get on board with the overall cadence, expecting it to be an intentional build up to the climax.

On that point, you go into this movie expecting to be wowed by the sight of an atomic bomb, but in the end, you find yourself much more blown away by the sound design than any of the visuals, interestingly enough. The explosion of the trinity test was a bit disappointing, I have to say, but I couldn't help but admire the manipulation of senses and making us "disappointed" with the visuals of it playing out muted to follow up and shock us with the sudden return blast of sound-of course emulating the real life experience of being in the presence of the explosion. There were a handful of moments other than that that they used a sudden jolt of volume so strikingly it could damn near be considered a jump scare. The intercuts to the visualizations of the science behind the bomb were also just as effective with the sfx in terms of establishing the eerie, cosmic, anxiety-filled atmosphere. Lastly, the score and sound design contributed such a great deal to making a 3 hour feature consisting mostly of dialogue not have a single dull moment.

It's not a perfect film by any means, with its flaws honestly ranging from amusing to laughable to comparable to the most mainstream generic popcorn flicks. The fetishization of Oppenheimer learning Sanskrit and Jean Tatlock randomly happening to point out the "I am become death" part of the book for him to read aloud was pretty ridiculous; the camerawork with Jean fucking him in that small room where the hearing took place when Kitty was forced to hear his confession was way more gratuitous than artful; Robert Downey Jr's character being revealed as the evil mastermind behind things in the third act was rather melodramatic; Nolan has never really been known for his women/wife characters, and while she's probably his most unique so far, Kitty felt like such a bizarre, alcoholic, plot device presence (except for maybe her highlight scene being interrogated in the hearing); etc. Japan has a whole subgenre of atomic bomb literature, a bit of which I've read, so I guess was pretty nitpicky about the "effects of the bomb" depictions they did. The molten skin on the girl kind of just seemed like simple tape make-up/the peeling of very superficial layers, and the charred corpse he stepped on had a long crack on it like a vase when I feel like something to that degree would just disintegrate; I don't know, felt like it could've been more viscerally grotesque to show the true nature of its effects.

The ensemble cast has been talked about for so long before the movie even came out that I was surprised to both see who actually had important roles beyond a couple of lines and who I ended up liking a lot. Was not expecting Matt Damon to be depicted as Oppenheimer's biggest bro-perhaps other than Izzy (and ol' Albert, lol)-kind of doubt it was that way in real life though since he was spending every day with his fellow scientists and only meeting with Groves every so often. We jokingly referred to Lawrence as the Captain America of the scientist Avengers since he was such an All-American chap, lol. Didn't really buy Casey Affleck as a cutthroat colonel or Russian. Dane DeHaan played an annoying little shit well. Even now, reading the Wikipedia article, I'm surprised to find out about the actors I didn't recognize. That was my girl Olivia Thirlby from Dredd in her first movie role in 4 years?!

The editing alongside the sound design is another unexpected element that carries this film and definitely something worth marveling upon rewatch. One subtle thing I really liked was whenever a particularly minor/hard to remember character's name was mentioned, they did this just the perfect amount of short cut/flashback to a scene of theirs just so we could catch a glimpse of their visage and hopefully be reminded who they were.

For whatever reason, I assumed Albert Einstein was going to be limited to just one/scene cameo. My friend and I turned him into a running gag joke of being this Hannibal Lecter/godlike being too larger-than-life to be directly involved in mortal affairs that Oppenheimer could only go to for vague worldly advice. The scene where they're outside at night, the car drives out of frame, and Einstein appears out of nowhere like some homeless raccoon had us laughing our asses off.

The last scene involving Einstein was killer though. Wrapped up the entire film just short of masterfully. I actually had been spoiled about that line of dialogue "Is it possible they didn't talk about you at all? Is it possible they talked about something more important?" beforehand, but it still hit hard.

~8.9/10 for me upon first watch understanding like 75% of the dialogue without subtitles, lol.

Loved it.

Strictly talking about secondary characters, I was mostly impressed with somone not mentioned that much in this movie's discourse, that being Casey Affleck as Boris Pash. He was TERRIFYING. Only had two scenes, but with how Nolan cut Groves talking about him and the actual meeting with him, I had shivers down my entire spine.

Jason Clarke as Roger Robb was incredibly electric. He was infuriating, portraying the perfect sleazy public prosecutor, and he brought in some of that nuclear energy they used for Fat Man and Little Boy.

Benny Safdie was fantastic as well. He's never been sweatier, but he was incredible. Edward Teller was definitely the standout in that whole pack of scientists.

I found it interesting how they didn't bother to make Josh Hartnett's Lawrence any older than just a bit of grey on his perfect hair. You had there horribly old Oppie, Kitty, Frank, Rabi, and then good ole Hartnett, made me chuckle.

Josh Peck and Devon Bostik I felt were really underutilized. I can understand why, and maybe they simply had no big role in the true story, but them two were particularly hyped actors for this film, and did little to nothing. I was surprised to see that the two that flew under the radar in terms of casting but that delivered one hell of a performance were Alden Ehrenreich and Dane DeHaan.

On a sidenote, I don't understand how nobody recognized Gary Oldman as Truman, he looked way more like Oldman than he did in Darkest Hour, for example. Just a bit fatter, with whiter hair, but that face was pretty much Oldman.

All this said, the true star of the film is the combination of Nolan's directing, Van Hoytema's cinematography and Göransson's original score. Each one of these elements elevated the other and vice versa, making for one of the most immersive and impressive cinematic experiences in my memory.

Just watched it in IMAX and thought the movie was briliant. The cast was fantastic and everyone played their role in an amazing fashion.

The only criticism I have about the movie is the pacing of the first half / two-thirds of the movie (up to the interrogations becoming more the focal point). The editing was too fast in my opinion. It felt like I was watching a stretched-out movie trailer with a big amount of very short snippets of multiple conversations being thrown at the viewer. They could've reduced the tempo a little bit on that regard, but I did feel like they rectified that in the later parts of the movie.

This just didn’t do it for me.

The subject had high potential and Murphy is a perfect pick for the character, yet his was only explored so much, up until the Trinity test — after which my interest vanished. It started well though, exploring his psychological complexities but where the movie lost me was with the whole Russian spy accusations and communism storylines which could have been greatly reduced.

The women roles in the film are sadly pointless. Einstein lacked any depth and wit as we should expect from such a legendary person. The dialogues between him and Oppenheimer could have been iconic. Then, too much music at the wrong times. The many dialogues, composing the movie’s action, unchain way too fast with few pauses and to me just lacked sensitivity or heart.

The Trinity sequence was good with a relieving moment of silence.

The black and white scenes are stifling, visually it’s nothing fantastic, and overall the images don’t really live up to my expectations for Nolan and IMAX.

And again, the moral compass being the crux of such a subject, I wish it would have been fully explored: yet in the second half, Murphy’s Oppenheimer seems almost invisible, dormant. RDJ’s was a big question mark for me: the character doesn’t add anything of value. Everything feels stifled, flat, unimportant. The ending leaves little remembrance.

In the end, it’s way too long, the pacing and rhythm are off, feel obnoxious and the story never breathes. I like Nolan and his work with Momento, Prestige, Inception, Interstellar but this was another waste, just like Tenet.

Woah 20k comments. I will just say that this movie is significantly better upon second watch. Went from a 7.5 to 9.5 for me.

I'm seeing it a 3rd time today in 15/70 IMAX before my AMC ends its 70mm IMAX run of the film

Masterpiece of a film. Christopher Nolan is a genius auteur

Cillian Murphy will win the oscar for this. Wouldn’t be surprised if RDJ gets a supporting character nod as well.

Anyone else get taken out of the moment by the woman with the skin flapping when Oppenheimer was having a vision while giving his speech? It looked like they half glued a couple pieces of paper mache to her face and turned a fan on. I almost audibly laughed in the theater lmao

That was possibly the most terrifying film I've ever seen. I'd love to teach it in my English class if I could.

Was anyone else disappointed with the explosion itself?

Genuinely thought the detonation scene could have been a landmark in cinema history. The build up to the detonation had my heart racing. The ability to convey the inconceivable power and destruction of an atomic bomb detonation without using CGI would have been an enormous achievement, but I just thought it looked like any other explosion - which an atomic bomb explosion isn’t.

That’s my only gripe with the movie. The rest is incredible.

I thoroughly disliked the film. The plot doesn’t know what to do next and the emotional climax occurs 40 minutes before the movie decides to end.

I feel like your experience with the movie strongly depends on what you expect from it and who you are. If you expect a "hurr durr big bomb go boom" action-movie, you'll be disappointed. If you don't care about history, physics or politics, this movie won't be for you. If you watch the movie mainly because you want to see the big explosion of a nuclear bomb, you'll certainly be disappointed. Yes, the movie has some great images, but it's not about those.

This movie is an amazing biopic and a dramatic look into the depths of a man who was harrowed by his own invention. If you don't care about his story, then obviously, this won't be your movie.

Some scenes didn't feel really organic to me, but they were needed for context for people who don't know Oppenheimers story.

The movie is not about nuclear bombs, it's about the insides of the man who invented them, and it does an amazing job portraying just that.

Nolan really tried to turn Einstein into Yoda

I've read American Prometheus and this is an issue I had with it as well: the Strauss stuff(and really the communist stuff in general) just isn't that interesting. Like there's really not much at stake there. I understand it must have been a difficult time for Oppenheimer personally, but why should we care? If anything being stripped of his security clearance was great for his legacy as it made him a martyr of the red scare when actually he was out there naming names (including implicating his students and colleagues). Also, even having prior knowledge of the subject it was hard for me to follow everyone's motivations... like who was Rami Malek's character and how is he suddenly so important?

I also don't like the trope of the scientist as some kind of mystic. I remember there was one really cheesy line, I forget it but the gist was "you've seen into the mysteries of the universe how can you navigate the real world now." The movie treats studying quantum mechanics as if it's some kind of ayahuasca retreat... it's just math.

Frankie Boyle: ''American foreign policy is horrendous 'cause not only will America come to your country and kill all your people, but what's worse, I think, is that they'll come back 20 years later and make a movie about how killing your people made their soldiers feel sad.''

Was anyone else incredibly bored? Way too long.

Had very high expectations

Cinematography and acting were great.

However, the movie itself is structurally all over the place. The pacing was jarring. The fast editing felt out of place. I felt like I was watching a continuous montage. None of the scenes felt like they had a chance to breathe. The constant build up of urgency and tension never seems to pay off and resolve in a convincing or satisfying way. The jumping between different points in time did nothing to enhance the movie and only made it more confusing. Too many characters to keep track of.

The last act of Oppenheimer's security hearing was arduous to get through. The dialogue got bogged down in legalese. There was also a ton of Adam McKay style exposition, particularly in the scenes with Strauss.

There were a few interesting moments and themes. But overall I found it to be a disappointing film.

I might get downvoted for this, but I'm glad they didn't feature the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki for a couple reasons:

I enjoyed Dungeons and Dragons and Puss and Boots more than this, and I like historical and drama movies but this was kind of boring . I didnt really care about anyone because they spent so little time on everyone, I feel like I didnt even learn much about Oppenheimer himself.

Staggeringly dull as a movie. Probably OK if you wanted to sit in on historical conversations presented as docu drama scenes. Instead of dealing with the morality and human tragedy of nukes, it chooses to spend 3 hours in dull rooms with men in suits debating security clearance. Incredibly tedious from start to finish.

“Why wasn’t this movie about what I wanted it to be about?” It’s based on a biography. Anyway, large chunks of the film touched on the morality and human tragedy of nukes, you may have been napping.

I really wish this movie was an hour shorter. It dragged SO much. I kept checking my watch every fifteen minutes once we got to the Trinity test.

its so dumb because the movie was so fast paced and they skipped so many things but it also felt so slow? it was moving so fast that i could barely keep up but it was also unnecessarily slow i dont know what why or how they did that.

I must be the only one who likes the Strauss scenes. Not because the story is particularly intriguing, but I just loved seeing the black and white scenes. The Strauss scenes looked stunning and I enjoyed seeing RDJ play a slimy beaurocrat.

Can I say something without getting downvoted into oblivion?

I didn't like it all that much. It did some things incredibly well. All the acting was great. The run time didn't bother me. Film making aspect of it was all great and what you expect from Nolan.

I just didn't find myself caring about Oppenheimer at all. I dont care about his love life or his relationships. I dont care about the communist party aspect or how the world sees him or his legacy. The most interesting thing about the movie to me is answering whether or not it's morally correct to even create such a weapon, and once that's covered, the rest did not interest me at all. Suddenly, it turns into a political "thriller" that I wasn't all that thrilled about. Somehow, out of nowhere, Downey is the bad guy, and the explanation of that felt rushed to me even in a 3 hour movie. It was just random and didn't resonate with me. I just didn't care.

I guess I wanted something a little more fictitious that was just set around that part of history. I thought it would have some more Nolan flare and something more sci-fi-esque would be happening. But no, it's just a run of the mill biopic type movie.

I didnt out right hate it, and maybe I have to give it another shot later to see what I missed because apparently it's fantastic, and it just didn't scratch my itch.

Things I liked: the bomb scene is Immaculate super well done. The visual and visceral PTSD depiction he felt after making it was great. The stuff with the other scientists was great. But too much on the love life and the political aspect turned me off. His wife's big connecting "we've been through fire together" Moment is that she helped him greive over the death of the chick he was fucking on the side. Insane to me. Lol

Idk it was meh to fine, I guess.

Nowhere near Interstellar, Dunkirk, Memento, The Prestige and Inception for me.

I am not a Nolan fanboy but really like a few of his films, including Inception, The Dark Knight, and Interstellar. I did not care for Tenet at all.

I absolutely loved Oppenheimer and was riveted throughout. It was full of bold choices and I felt it was firing on all cylinders in every aspect. Possibly my favorite Nolan film.

It was cool and well shot but it felt like it didn't know what it wanted to be. I didn't even entirely understand what it was about. The bomb apparantely wasn't the climax but the trial was, which seemed out of place. Just felt a little weird, felt like several movies in one, but poorly connected.

Also all the romance/sex scenes with women should have been cut. Didn't add anything and just dragged it out.

I thought the movie was fine and don’t get the hype around it. Not even close to Nolan’s “best” work. The editing was such a weird choice. There were like 10 cuts per conversation. There were so many cuts with a constant score that the movie felt more like a 3 hour long trailer than a 3 hour long movie. Cilian looks like Oppenheimer but his American accent was not good enough for this level of movie. It was Benedict Cumberbatch in the first Doctor Strange bad.

Again, it’s a fine movie. 7/10. I don’t get why people are talking like it’s an 11/10.

I enjoyed Barbie, but Oppenheimer is on a completely different level and IMO is one of Nolan's best films. The Trinity scene, speech scene, and final scene with Einstein were extremely well done.

The trinity test is one of the greatest moment and will be remembered in cinema history. Everyone was so captivated that there was pin drop silence in a fullhouse theatre no munching popcorn, no squeaky chairs nothing. That truly showcases the beauty of the movie. It's might sound generic but literally all aspects were great and work together so well collectively to tell the story beautifully the visuals, the music, the cinematography... Best biography I've seen hands downs, being historically accurate while also being so much fun and captivating is truly the beauty of Nolan's direction. I'm not being a fanboy but Nolan deserves all the credit here, most of the story is about a single person and he's the person of focus most of the time yet Nolan manages to keep everyone hooked for every single moment of the 3hours. Even after the movie ended I just sat there till after the end of credits and not because the movie felt incomplete but rather because it's truly complete and you're just sitting there thinking through it knowing what a great time you had and acknowledging that's it the movie has ended.

I feel the critique mostly comes from people who lack some basic understanding of the history of The Trinity project , the war and some basic concepts of the bomb.

Would highly recommend to watch veritasium's yt video about oppenheimer which helps a lot.

Good film with some fantastic acting though I did think it was a bit overrated. It suffered from the Nolan problem of every character having the same voice and I was getting bored at the interrogation scenes between the Trinity tests and the end. Did definitely pick up at the end again though. It also had the issue with biographical dramas where there's a whole ton of characters and events tossed in that were real and so needed to be there for historical accuracy sake but they hardly get any screentime. Too many characters that you never get to know here. Also the bomb explosion was kinda underwhelming even if the Trinity test scene itself was incredible.

I'm disappointed by one small fact not one of the Japanese casualty were shown - on more than one occasion they gloss over the numbers, and the manner in which they died. This coud've easily interspersed in the scene where addresses the class after the bombing - yet they only had to show a white woman with her skin peeling and another one crying!

I get where you’re coming from, but I also thought it made sense. We’re seeing this from the perspective of the scientists and military personnel and bureaucrats who helped develop the bomb and the policy around it. None of them actually saw it, none of them actually knew what it was beyond impact zones on maps and the trinity tests which we saw. They can still wrestle with the issues without having to “see” the effects.

I think the movie has been out for long enough so I am.just going to say it. I don't get the hype on oppenheimer. I am not smart enough to put my thoughts into elegant words, so I am going to borrow the words of Peter Griffin that the movie "it insists upon itself".

I would not even put oppehemier in Nolan's top 10.

Yeah this film isn't as good as people hyped it up to be.

The physics part and the bomb construction and Cillian Murphy is good. RDJ is good. The acting is good.

But someone please explain to me why I should care about the Communists, who don't achieve anything in the film? And why its such a huge thing? Also why should I care about Oppenheimer's security clearance?? Especially, when at the end he's still celebrated for his achievements by all his science buddies.

I think the movie expects you to have deeper knowledge of stuff in comparison to just "oh that's the guy who made the nuke"

It's such a slug to get through with 3 hours that could have been cut down, so easily. But it isn't.

I wish I could see what others see. But from a first viewing, this just isn't amazing. It's fine.

I'm sorry to say I didn't have a wonderful time watching Oppenheimer. I thought it was good, not great. I had trouble following everything especially regarding the back and forth jumps in time. I also got confused about all the different people and their relationships and spent far too much in my own head trying to figure certain things out that I couldn't immerse myself fully in the experience. I also felt that everything moved a little too quickly at times.

In all likelihood, a couple to few more viewings and I might get all the way there but I don't think I enjoyed it enough to go through the effort.

Saw this right after Barbie and it was just amazing. The scene after the bomb was dropped on hiroshima, when oppenheimer is succumb to the enormous guilt and thoughts of the lives taken by the bomb is just astounding. The mix of cheering and hollow screams as he finds the words to share with these people that adore him for something so horrible.

I still can't get over how good Downey was. Certainly was critical of his Tony Stark 'schtick' by the end of the MCU run, but eating crow big time. He played such a great role in this movie.

I hear everyone saying they were bored after the Trinity explosion, but some of the best acting in the film occured after that. Oppenheimer's life was very complex and he was extremely vilified after Trinity, so there was no real way to sugarcoat that entire aspect of his life. He pretty much spent his entire life after Trinity trying to absolve himself from what happened, so I'm not sure what people were expecting after the blast happened in the movie.

Can't stand how omnipresent the score is in this, as it is in most Nolan films I guess. It's a great score but man turn it down during some dialogue lmao

This movie is a testament to the importance of and artistry behind sound design.

I don’t think a scene in a drama has ever made me feel as disgusted as the people cheering and celebrating after learning a bomb they helped create murdered so so many innocent people. I’ve seen comments of people upset that the Japanese people affected by the atrocities weren’t featured, but I think it’s almost more powerful to show that the only way Oppenheimer was made to feel remorse was to imagine the impact he had in Hiroshima and Nagasaki on his own people. Oppenheimer never saw the direct consequences of his actions in Japan. To my knowledge he never even visited Hiroshima or Nagasaki.

Also to see that would have been too much even for a movie like this.

I do agree that there could have been a place in the movie for the local Hispano populations of New Mexico and the devastation the testing in Los Alamos caused.

Overall I was a huge fan of the cinematography (which felt especially refreshing for me after watching the recent Mission Impossible), visual effects, sound design, and soundtrack.

The ending felt poignant and the movie was as horrifying and unsettling as a movie like this needs to be

I’m not sure how a movie can be so thrilling and boring at the same time, but here we are. I kept wanting to look at my watch after the Trinity test.

Gonna be honest their where so many big actors playing tiny parts that everytime I saw them it took me out of the movie, like anyone could’ve been cast to play half of the Scientists and it wouldn’t of made me go “oh look it rami malek and Josh from drake and Josh”

Simultaneously a cinematic masterpiece and a depressing introspection of mankind's propensity for destruction. I need a drink.

I'm always a little hesitant to contribute to huge movie threads like this one that already has 8K comments, but might as well add my two cents for posterity.

This film is an absolute technical masterpiece, but strangely I don't feel it quite lived up to the hype, at least the hype I had built up in my own mind. Nolan is obviously a master and made sure that everyone involved with his film is the absolute best at what they do. Along with the direction, it had fantastic acting from everyone (shout-out to Benny Safdie), Oscar-worthy cinematography from Hoyte, another great score from Ludwig, solid VFX, and almost perfect editing.

Like many other modern movies, I felt it was a touch too long. The third act felt more like an epilogue and it started to drag when the kangaroo court and Strauss confirmation hearing was being wrapped up. If the run time was condensed to around 2:30 or even 2:40, I think it would've made a world of difference.

I think Nolan did a great job of balancing who Oppenheimer was as a person with the significance of what he was called to do. I also really liked how he constantly kept asking the moral questions behind the Manhattan Project without lecturing the audience (at least until the very end, and even then only a bit). I personally would've liked to hear more of the science and the technical struggles that went on. As an analogue, I really liked the scenes in Hidden Figures and First Man when we saw about how challenges presented themselves and how the team overcame them.

Regardless of my mostly minor gripes, this movie delivered in almost every way and left me very satisfied. I'd put this Nolan entry squarely in the middle of the pack of his oeuvre. 8/10

I just got out of the 70mm film showing, and was kind of underwhelmed honestly.

I knew it was a straightforward historical biopic, which I'm fine with, but it was just a lot of (like a lot) of talking in rooms and direct logistical depictions of the actual production of the weapon. The big "payoff" scene was personally underwhelming, since they went with an extreme close up of the explosion (for obvious reasons, since Nolan didn't want CGI) and I felt a ton of the impact of the test, the explosion, and the ramifications for mankind was lost.

Overall it felt way more direct history chanel biography to me than cinematic experience about a man, a project, and a weapon changing the course of humankind.

GARY FUCKING OLDMAN

I did NOT realize Harry Truman was played by Gary Oldman until checking the cast

Well my Barbenheimer weekend is complete. And holy shit. Oppenheimer. I’ve never had a 3 hour movie fly by like that. The pacing and underscoring were incredible. Just so so good.

For such a long film with almost zero breathing room when it comes to a constant barrage of narrative information, I left the theatre baffled by how little information there is when it comes to character motivation.

Why did Teller turn on Oppenheimer when it was Oppenheimer who stood up for him in front of the other scientists, repeatedly? Why did Borden accept the role in producing that accusatory letter when he himself wasn't shown being involved with the whole affair previously (what's in it for him)? Is Strauss' motivation (and hence the whole third act) really just a result of that single radioisotope event? (Strauss even went as far as recruiting Oppenheimer initially, so clearly he admired him?)

This is all from just viewing the film itself. I'm sure you could get better understanding from actually reading up the history but — that defeats the point of a biopic, no?

This movie was just a little too long for me considering how ridiculously uncomfortable the IMAX theater seats were holy hell like leaning against metal the whole time.

Everything was awesome but I was a bit disappointed in the actual nuclear test. There were quite a few scenes that looked very good but almost all the shots used looked like completely different blasts. There was a wide shot where it was clear it was a very small explosion and another where the fireball was really weird and skinny. I don't know the whole editing showcase of that scene felt really off and I personally think that CGI would have been a better alternative. It simply didn't look like the Trinity test at all and it's not like it would have been impossible to recreate considering the nature of that nuclear explosion.

Other than that and some really strange sex scenes it was awesome.

Did anyone not like it?

I personally did not like the non-linear structure of the film. The way that Nolan tried to spin Strauss's betrayal as suspense was lackluster and off-putting . Firstly, the structure really just made the trial lack build-up. Practically, the last ten minutes or so is where things unfold haphazardly. Almost trying to piece together a cop-out climactic surprise villain ending. Then 'thematic' suspense is just off-putting for what it was trying to do, create a complex view of Oppenheimer. By the end, he was just doing Spielberg's school of Heroes vs Villain. Strauss, very bad man. Oppenheimer, complex but mostly good. Its too simplified for comfort. The use of time could have been more effective in showing the change that the film aims to show with Oppenheimer's view of the bomb to be honest.

It had more success in telling the pre-trial Oppenheimer. I think its much more successful in creating the enigma of Oppenheimer. You could see him weak, uncompromising, a bit psychotic, and just a tad bit hypocritical. I felt that some portion can be edited down clearly, especially the Communist period or the pre-Alamo days, which was while important in the trial, does not really hold any weight once told verbally. It is what it is, people he had knew. The relationship between his wife and him could have been the better choice to focus on. The three hours is not entirely necessary for the film to be honest.

Otherwise, the film is marvelous and well-crafted. I think Cillian, Emily Blunt, Matt Damon and Safdie were noteworthy in the film. The story could definitely had be tweaked. 3/5.

My honest opinion is going to get me hate for this but I’ll say it anyway. I didn’t think the movie was that good.

Yes it managed to keep me entertained but that was impressive due to the fact but the way it was portrayed was pretty shoddy. The play on the timeline was hard to follow at least to begin with. The confusing use of black and white shots to show scenes from Strauss’ view was not obvious. The black and white seemed to initially present scenes that happened after the creation of the bomb which led to confusion until you later figured out what they were trying to portray. The first 30 mins of the film felt like it used 30 seconds clips to introduce every character one after the other. Not long enough for the characters being introduced to create a lasting imprint in your brain. Some of these characters seemed to only be reintroduced in the last 40 mins of the entire film meaning you had completely forget their names and who they were from the beginning of the film which at this point was over 2 hours ago. The scene transitions and time leaps seemed random. One minute Oppenheimer is teaching a class, the next he’s attending a party with seemingly no mention or lead up to the party actually happening from what I can recall. The whole movie to me played out as if it was a mood board, random scenes and ideas that were important to the plot of the movie but lacked any actual structure to lead one scene into the next. It felt like reading a book that had all the major plot points for the story but no build up or Segway into each plot point. Like a bullet point list of events in Oppenheimer life rather than an actual movie.

The cast was great The subject matter fantastic The scenes overall entertaining But the structuring of the film absolutely ruined it

OVERALL SO GOOD!!

My fav parts:

My least fav parts:

9/10 film for me! Maybe even 9.5! Maybe even 10!

After seeing it again im more frustrated with people saying it should have explored more of the impact on Japan and the people. This was an Oppenheimer biopic not a WW2 movie.

The whole point was not the consequences of the nuclear bomb that went off in Japan but the consequences of nuclear bombs just existing. And I think they explored that perfectly. Incredible ending and it's still 5/5 for me.

Did anyone else feel like the babies crying were louder than the bomb?

The Trinity test scene is what film was made for.

I just watched it, something like two hours ago. one of the best movies I've watched. and I watched a lot of movies. I left the theatre stunned. everything was perfect. the casting, the writing, the filming itself, the script. I'm really glad I went to see this movie.

Fantastic movie, though a bit long, and the audio mixing between the dialog and everything else was kinda off in a few moments, as I was having trouble understanding what they were saying. It was a suprise to see Raimi Malek in the movie, as well as "Shiv, Thomas. Paranoid schizophrenic." I was hoping they would incorporate Oppenheimer's "I am become Death" speech, and the first time they used it was... interesting.

But damn, that ending is haunting.

Yo guys, what did Oppenheimer say to Kitty when they first meet because he had cooked up the most unforgettable Physics rizz I have ever heard

It was alright, considering the fact that it was 3 hours, I would have preferred to see less titty and more bomb.

We got like 15 seconds of them making the actual bomb which is the most fascinating thing to me.

They talked way too much about making the bomb and did not show enough of how they made the bomb.

Also the explosion itself was pretty meh. Probably due to it being practical. I know that the real one wasnt that big either but its a movie and that looked like they lit a big puddle of gasoline on fire

I’m in the minority, as I didn’t enjoy it. The score, the tension, the cinematography were all fantastic, but I was bored.

I didnt look at the cast beforehand so i had a blast recognizing some of my favorite actors.

It was crazy to me how Benny Safdie nailed that role so well with the accent and all. I was thinking there's no way it could be him but then i thought, who tf else looks like that? no one

I didn't even recognize Robert Downey Jr. when i saw Strauss so that is pretty crazy. Loved Matt Damon's performance. Emily Blunt killed it too but really, everyone's acting was perfect.

Maybe it's just me but did some people find the dialogue hard to hear at points? Especially with the music in the background?

Saw this last night and loved it. I'm neither a fan or hater of Nolan, but I do like his movies, so I knew I would at least like this one, but it really hit all the right buttons for me. I was honestly surprised at how much I loved it, I went in thinking "okay, incredibly stacked cast but it's three hours long and from what I hear, lots of talking, I'm prepared to be impressed but bored" and by the time it was over I was thinking "that was incredible and I can't wait to watch it again." I went on cheap night at my local theatre, it was packed, lots of weird energy, people fidgeting, being really loud for the first 15-20 minutes, but within a half hour the whole theatre was silent, and I didn't see one person walk out or even go to the washroom, on the way out everyone was talking about now much they loved it, just overhearing those conversations is one of the things I love about going to the movies, sharing those moments with strangers.

Performances were all top notch, Cillian was incredible, shoe in for at least a best actor nomination (still too early to call that) and it was so nice to see Robert Downey Jr. doing interesting work again, not knocking the MCU, but it feels like he's been Iron Man for the last decade or so, and he really nailed his role. Benny Safdie was a nice surprise too, loved him in Good Time. Emily Blunt was really great too, no weak links in the cast in my opinion.

Still wrapping my head around it all and reading reviews from more eloquent folks, and even some very valid criticism, any film that starts discussion is good in my books.

Saw it in 70mm IMAX in Indy today. Theatre was absolutely full. What a delight.

man the old make up at the end was ass

This is maybe the most propulsive thing I've seen in a theatre. My heart was cranked for almost the entire runtime, using what is essentially a courtroom drama to tell this story is genius.

That noise of them all stamping their feet... Goosebumps.

Easily the best thing since There Will Be Blood. I don't see how this doesn't win every academy award.

10/10

I think the general audience consensus on this will be that it’s kind of a masterpiece, but it drags on for too long after the bomb drops. I saw a lot of people in the theatre checking their phones constantly in the last 30 minutes or so, while at least 3 people actually got up and left the theatre (seemingly) for good.

I think that this film is like a beautiful puzzle wherein the pieces are laid out slowly one-by-one, until we finally complete the picture that is the atomic bomb at the centre.

Out of the 14 films I’ve seen in theatres this year, it’s easily the best. The only issue I have is that you need to know a lot about the players involved to really understand the importance of the meetings in the film, which may not be the case for all film-goers.

I’ll probably go see it again before its IMAX run is finished. It’s a lot to process, but it’s very rare for a movie of that length to keep me engaged like Oppenheimer does. If you aren’t into dialogue-centric movies and you’re expecting heavy hitting action, I’d probably stay away from this one tho.

Unpopular opinion but what’s the point of seeing a movie like this in IMAX when it’s mostly a dialogue-driven movie.

So…did anyone else think the SFX for the trinity was kinda…cheap? Lame? I expected some visuals like the first time you see Gargantua from Interstellar, but it looks like they just blew up a huge drum of gasoline. I dunno.

I think the flaws in Nolan's execution can be summarized in the scene where Florence Pugh is riding Cillian, and inexplicably takes a break to go through his books, happens to find a book with sanskript writing, and makes him read it out loud while she rides him again. And what words does he read out loud?

"I am become death, destroyer of worlds." Lol so goddamn dumb.

Puritanical filmmaking. So much was made of Nolan’s refusal to use cgi for his explosion that I think he forgot there are other ingenious ways of making films without cgi. I’ve seen bigger and better explosions in the opening credits of the A-team. After that we had to sit through 2 hours of supposedly caring if Oppenheimer got his security clearance renewed!? We’re we supposed to care? Nolan singularly failed to make me care. He tried though, by dumping free YouTube action music over otherwise utterly dull conversations. And why was imax so important? Nolan doesn’t even seem to care if his shots are lit nicely, so why would I care how big it is?

5.8/10

Scrolling through this thread is so great because someone will write a very articulate, thoughtful comment on why this movie didn’t work for them and then a swarm of Nolan fanboys will swarm in and say “NOt eNoUgh ExplOSionS fOr YoU? gO bACk to TiC ToK!” You people are the worst.

Mark Hughes' review is the most accurate, in my opinion.

The review starts several paragraphs down after some preamble about the box office. Some snippets of quite a lengthy review:

And...

And this just sums it up for me most accurately;

My general feeling is that Nolan is much better at Inception / Interstellar style films, and this would have been handled much better by someone like Spielberg with his Schindler's List hat on.

Thought the stuff with Florence Pugh was utter nonsense and totally egregious, however true it may have been it added nothing to the film. I was riveted at times, completely lost in the movie, then suddenly acutely aware of just how long I had been sat there. Thought there were some fantastic individual performances, RdJ in particular.

Also, Can You Hear The Music by Ludwig Göransson is a sensational piece of music.

I'll make this brief.

I'm sorry. I don't see this being Nolan's ticket to the Oscars. Put aside his ever-present issues with women, he gets a lot of the history wrong, there are some scenes that had me laughing unintentionally (don't tell me Strauss was unfamiliar with Kennedy, bad Dutch, famous quote during sex), and it lacks an emotional center for me to grab on. The aspect ratio shifts were annoying. The A-List cameos were distracting, especially Oldman's. The sound design is as incompetent as his recent flicks. I did like the cinematography, the score, and Murphy but other than that, it's a disappointment.

4/10

Unpopular opinion: Oppenheimer was okay and people are afraid to jump off the bandwagon and say how they really feel. It was good but not great. People are raving about how this is the greatest movie of all time and “YOU GOTTA SEE IT IN IMAX!”. I think this movie was way overhyped and people are afraid to go back on it now. 6.5/10

unpopular opinion: just because you didn't like the movie that much doesn't mean everyone else is lying about how much they liked it.

There were stretches of the movie where it was utterly brilliant. The trinity test, the clapping speech, Hill's speech.

But as a whole I was bored. This Nolan's style didn't really click for me. I have seen dialog heavy biopics from other directors and loved them so much. Bridge of Spies comes to mind. But those movies had lot more tension, suspense, the stakes were felt.

Here it just flowed with not much of anything. Entire world was at stake, but I didn't feel it. Time was ticking apparently, but it wasn't shown. What was so great about getting the clearance, what did he accomplish which he couldn't before. How was their progress being seen by the higher-ups. What was the blocker and why did it take 3 years for the bomb to be completed.

3 hour biopic but none of it is explained. Some really do have boring answers, it took 3 years cause it's hard and needed lot of reasearch. There was no boogeyman stopping them. In that case, deciding to make this a biopic even was a mistake.

Nolan Could easily have written an alternate history Sci Fi where they create the same atomic bomb but with a better story. He could have had his cake (practical effects for nuclear explosion) and eat it too (his very own suspenseful time bending story)

I enjoyed this movie (7/10) overall but something about Nolan's directing just falls cold with me, and not just in this movie. The endless quick cuts, the lack of stillness, the timeline jumping, black and white, no now it's colour, another movie with the dialogue issues. He's had a great career but he's also gotten shots at projects that I think other directors could have done more with, I think there's a lack of true genius/ability with Nolan.

The film also just should have focused on the Manhattan Project, the true beating heart of this story, the stakes of his later career and political battles were just so insignifcant compared to what happened around the development of the bomb. I'm sure this is a common criticism but those last 45 minutes were just tedium.

Only Christopher Nolan could create a film that I still can’t comprehend what actors are saying despite me paying full attention in an IMAX theater.

Man I feel really underwhelmed. It's good but no where near the "masterpiece" people made it out to be.

Felt very rushed but also dragged at the same time.

The explosion scene was phenomenally done, and the ending was fantastic. Performances were great as expected from this stacked cast.

But I don't know, I just didn't like it as much as I hoped I would. Maybe needs a rewatch.

I felt nothing watching this , the movie just jumps here and there then here then there etc the flow was all over the place

The relationship between Cillian and Emily was also poorly done again scenes just dropping in out of nowhere where they talk then back to the main plot I felt nothing for the relationship with her or Florence’s character

There was zero emotional attachment to this character for me

The best chunk of the movie was in the middle when los alamos was in full swing and they where gearing up to the trinity test I think shorting this down to 2 hours would have benefited because that last 40m draaaaaggedd

No Country for Old Men shows how to do tension correctly in a movie. It’s about a serial killer after his latest victim. When someone’s fighting for their life, there are no bombastic horns or drums in the background, it’s just deathly silent. It was haunting to me, how much the tension was allowed to breathe organically. It felt more authentic than anything I’ve ever seen on screen.

Compare that to this movie, where they lay the music on so heavy that you can barely hear people speak. Excessive use of music just screams “I’m trying to add emotion to a scene that I’m worried doesn’t earn it organically” and it feels disingenuous, like they’re trying to sell you something.

This movie also drags on way, way too long. No one cares if Oppenheimer loses his security clearance, why are we on this for the literally over an hour to end the movie? I saw people leaving the theater, and I wanted to join them eventually. That’s something that should have been done in 10 minutes, then cut to credits.

Seeing Josh peck detonate the first nuclear bomb was the redeeming grace of the film.

Oppenheimer losing his security clearance matters because:

I guess I’m in the minority in that I didn’t like it. It was way too long and didn’t need to be 3 hours. By the end I was ready to go.

This film blew my mind. It scared me, the ending left me quite speechless. The extreme closeup on Oppenhemier, with the background distorting as his reality breaks (happens in other scenes where he disassociates too) is so incredible! Cillian Murphy has to get an oscar

What a shocking ending though, serious slap to the face. We will either die of nuclear war or climate change, maybe both :(

Had the immense privilege of seeing this in IMAX 70mm. My first takeaway is that this is the best movie I’ve seen this year. Nolan fucking did it. RDJ for best supporting actor

What was the point of the plot lines of Strauss and all those interrogations for Oppy’s security clearance? Those took up two thirds of the movie, and for what? Good lord that was way too long

why didnt bryan cranston play hiesenburg?

It was ok. Cillian Murphy killed it (as did the whole cast), but it's too long, and the first TWO HOURS are edited like B-tier MCU fair, imo. Nolan just doesn't have it anymore for me.

Question: In NYC there aren't any shows on the 70mm IMAX with reasonably good seats for an ACTUAL FUCKING MONTH! Do you guys think they'll extend the screenings beyond the month they have on schedule now on AMC website or should I just suck it up and get on the last seat on the edge of the line?

I'm also torn between waiting for it to see it on IMAX 70MM, vs. having to go see it in the 70MM theater?

Way too long. It’s structured like the Social Network but less riveting and focused. It needed to be 30-40 min shorter.

I am so glad I watched videos about world wars, and history in general as a hobby. As a non-US citizen, I'd never be familiar with names like Truman, Roosevelt, or Cold War/Russia references and I was so happy to understand the movie thoroughly! I loved it and it was so emotional!

My favorite scene was Oppenheiner snapping his fingers to decimate humanity and then saying "I am...become death, the destroyer of worlds."

Honestly it felt like 12Angry men mixed with some action sequences. Im a bit dissapointed ( i think court dramas are utterly boring)

The movie did not have to be shot on IMAX, and i feel Nolans NOCGI policy made this movie worse. It made the atomic bomb feel small.

The use of soundtrack after the TRINITY test was ridiculous. Nolan only added this because without the classic Nolan suspense soundtrack "something is happening soon" the last hour would feel like 4hours.

I feel like this Nolans weakest work. although is not a bad movie. But the movie would be 10X more impactful if Nolan had cross cutted the Oppenheimer story with a Story from Hiroshima. I know its a Biopic and character study. But it felt rushed, and the movie did not move me at all. I did not feel we were at war, and the atomic bomb felt like a upscale new years rocket.

The editing is also weak at times, 1second reaction shot. No time to dwell on the characters.

Honestly, I expected to love it, but I kind of disliked it. Performances were stellar, it looked great, the music was great, this is easily Nolan's best dialogue and Oppenheimer is his most fleshed out character.

But I really hate the structure of the movie. There wasn't any reason to keep cutting between the different time periods and I think it mostly added confusion because it's not well established when each one is and what exactly they're talking about. They vaguely mention things that were currently going on in the earlier period but not in any way that felt like it immediately added intrigue. It added frustration. The movie would have been far better if they had played it in chronological order. I'm very tired of Nolan's time altering shenanigans at this point. It worked in Dunkirk because it kept the pace up and eventually paid off with them all intertwining, but there is literally no pay off here to it. There was also a severe lack of clarity given to the passing of time weirdly. They used the glass bowl to show time passing but even then it doesn't give across "years are passing by" until Matt Damon says something about it being 4 years of work and the atom bomb is already built.

I also found the movie far too fast paced. I can't really tell you anything about any of the characters because they're not at all fleshed out, which makes them coming back in Act 3 feel weightless and unearned which sucks a lot of the drama out. I'm convinced that's why every character is played by a known actor, otherwise there would be nothing for the audience to grab onto with each one besides maybe Safdie's character I think is called Teller. I think the only character it worked with was Rami Malek, simply because you think he'll be the final nail in the coffin for Oppenheimer and don't know what side he leans on. Cut out all of the pre-professor stuff and use that time to slow the movie down and actually let people understand what the other characters roles were. This is a Biopic, yet it has the same ability to explain to the audience what's going on that Tenet does. This pace would make me annoyed and confused even with a pure action movie.

Speaking as someone who has never read the book or had much exposure to the project beyond the broad essentials, this movie was borderline incomprehensible because of the last two points. I'm sure I'll like it better on a rewatch, but I think that's more of a criticism since that comes from a place of better understanding of what the movie is trying to do (and doing independent research to fill in all the gaps the movie leaves out) rather than the rewatch being based on finding new layers and understanding things I couldn't have known until after it was over (like Prestige/Memento)

Positives:

Negatives:

Curious what other’s thought tho!

Just saw it in IMAX. I loved almost everything about it with a few exceptions:

I still would give it a 9/10. Excellent movie.

Nolan every day for the past month: "There's no CGI in Oppenheimer."

Movie comes out

This entire sub: "WhY DiDn'T hE sHoW JaPaN gEt bLoWeD uP hUhhhHhhH 🥴???!!"

The only fault of the entire 3 hours, is the sound mixing...

I am become deaf.

Honestly I’ve never seen a movie so boring, a ten minute read on Wikipedia about the whole los alamos and his rise to fame and they managed to make 3 hours out of it and bored everyone to death. Walked out an hour 15mins before it finished

I just wanna give appreciation to the scene when Oppy switches from the military uniform to his “iconic” look. Felt like a superhero putting their suit on for the first time lol.

Nolan again doesn’t give a single shit about you hearing or understanding the dialogue. This made worse on a movie that is 95% dialogue.

This movie is the type of movie where you need to know the context and have a bit of understanding of what is going on in order to enjoy it. I saw people leave the theater during the first hour and I can't blame them; the film is very fast paced and doesn't shy away from telling you the story the way it happened, incorporating a lot of terminology used exclusively within the realm of physics and mentioning a lot of events from WW2 and the Red Scare. These are not things the layman theatergoer will enjoy if they don't know or at the very least aren't interested in them.

But if, like me, you're a fan of nuclear physics and its history, then you'll enjoy it a lot. I know I did. Easily a 9/10.

Reading the comments here I’m probably far into the minority, but I didn’t really like it.

The pacing made it difficult to emotionally invest in the outcome of any scene. The entire film was a giant montage. The story meandered and wasn’t very coherent (I know Nolan likes to play with time). The visual sequences were underwhelming.

I did however thoroughly love the cast and acting.

Too many characters, too much plot and I literally lost track of their names and gave up. Stellar performances across the board but it stressed me out at the end. I felt like I have to take notes, pause and replay to understand wtf is going on. I'm probably a dumbass so may be this isn't for people like me.

This is the first that I've even seen it suggested that Oppenheimer is a right wing movie.

Reading the comments, it seems most people were disappointed Nolan didn't use an actual nuke for this movie.

Overall I enjoyed it. Nolan's film making skill is exceptional and it's worth seeing in cinemas for that alone.

The build up to the test was gripping. The explosion itself didn't live up to the hype, but that's a reflection on me as a moviegoer who grew up on Terminator movies.

The speech/hallucination sequence where Openheimer addresses his staff was brilliant. It was so powerful that it impacted the rest of the film. The stakes in the dual hearings weren't high enough to overcome the loss of momentum. I just wanted to know what Einstein said ffs. However the payoff was worth the wait and one the best endings in recent memory.

I had really high expectations going in, and I was still blown away by how captivating the dialogue, acting and visuals were.

I really loved this movie, but I have to admit my experience was a little tainted by how disrespectful the audience at my showing was.

Multiple groups were talking during the bomb scene and tons of people were on their phones throughout. I honestly don't think a lot of people have the attention span for 3 hour historical biopics anymore. I'll probably rewatch it once it gets a streaming release so I can enjoy those moments without the disruptions. Kind of a shame tbh because this really is a movie made for the big screen.

One thing I haven't seen mentioned, lots of 50 star flags showing up in 1945...

So in short I really enjoyed it, Cillian Murphy killed it the cinematography was outstanding. But like all Nolan films the editing and pacing leave a lot to be desired. But as the title suggests I want to talk about the Trinity test and how much i loved it and what thoughts I had when seeing it.

With the way that scene is shot it brought to mind Cosmic Horror, something right out of the pages of a Lovecraft scene. Seeing the fireball rise higher and higher brought images of an Old One awakening from a long slumber. A sight so horrible so alien that even thinking of it drives one to insanity. It was horrifying. Throughout the sequence my hands were gripping my hair in anxiety. And with the way Nolan shoots it, it's as if the movie is telling me "You were not made to witness this".

Did anyone else get weirdly emotional? I was so embarrassed because I started to cry at the end, which is very unlike me - it was very heavy hitting.

Phenomenal film. A bit slow in the third act but man there’s so much about everything here that is just incredible.

Ludwig with an amazing score. Probably going to get another Oscar.

The buildup scene to the test was one of the most intense buildups I’ve ever seen on film.

All acting was superb. I mean everyone just nailed their parts.

The horror elements were amazing too- from the auditorium speech to the reveal of Oppenheimer’s adultery.

Loved all the macro shots of molecules, atoms and strings. Just pure genius all around by Nolan. 10/10

Just saw it. Liked it. Wish it was 30 minutes shorter.

Saw this film THREE times. 1st in 70mm IMAX, again in 70mm & lastly in standard with AVX (Enhanced Audio). Each time subsequently better than the last. Just speechless, definitely a new modern masterpiece & cinema classic.

Ofcouse Nolans best "villain" since Joker would be the Face of the MCU 🤣🤣... Fantastic movie

Barbie was soo needed to calm me down after this epic

I have a lot of mixed feelings about this movie. It's a well-made movie for sure. It's also such an important story to tell. But I also think it has been overhyped. People were talking about how it's going to save cinema and change the way we watch movies forever and stuff like that. I mean, it's great, but it's not like a once in a lifetime cinematic experience great.

Just saw it. Started off great but by the end I was waiting for the credits. The constant, rapid scene and timeline change for the last 30 minutes was annoying and boring.

best academic thriller since a beautiful mind.

lmao, but actually though i enjoyed the interstellar swirly space bits in the very beginning.

also loved feynman's bongos place throughout the movie.

felt like they didnt quite get the gravitas around some of the scientists (bohr), but thats details for uber dorky science nerds. but the scientist cinematic universe was awesome, and just fantastic cast in all of the little roles. casey affleck was just dripping in lethal poison.

heady topic, handled really well, 10/10 would donate to spanish rebels again.

Is it me or does anybody think that Robert Downey Jr. was looking like Grouch Marx as Strauss later in life in this film. I failed to recognize him for at least 10 minutes into the film.

Oppenheimer eats a fried egg sandwich. The music says, "Oh my god, the pathos of life!" Oppenheimer walks down a street, the music says, "Behold the majesty of creation!" Oppenheimer wipes his ass, the music says, "Oh the sweet bitterness of love!"

I know all films have music intended to manipulate the viewers' emotions, but I couldn't handle this. Gave up after 40 mins.

Don’t let this crybaby back into the theatre

Honestly no way to sugar coat it. This is a really bad movie. It isn’t interesting at all. It’s dialogue in a room for 90% of the 3 hours. Extremely underwhelming. 3/10 only for good music and acting.

Dr. Mann lived quite a life

If I'm being honest this movie is a bang 6/10, cinematography is beautiful, acting all good however after the bombing and after the 2 hour mark it is very draining and dull nothing to keep me engaged as to the first two hours.

Masterful sound design.

And I love that the most tense moments have nothing to do with the bomb

Apologies for the unpopular opinion. But this wasn't a good movie. Like at all. Technically, it's amazing..I don't expect anything less from Nolan, he's a great technical director. But, this movie wasn't good. Nothing about it really hit me on an emotional level.

So yeah, the Academy goes to Cillian Murphy...

After watching this film a second time, I loved the courtroom hearings in the last half of the movie even more.

Nolan's signature crosscuts as the tension ramps up during the hearings is just amazing. And the final scene with Einstein and Oppenheimer still hits like a truck

I can’t believe Nolan gave Josh peck the role of pushing the button that changed the world. I was so happy to see him

24 hours later and the ending still stays with you. Super poignant. Been thinking about it all day.

In the suicide snippets, apparently there were gloved hands in the scene dunking Jean Tatlock’s head.

Anyone see this? That's incredibly creepy and reminds me of the ghost scene in Tár.

I genuinely don't know why people are so shocked that Christopher Nolan is not Michael Bay. The movie is about the theoretical physicist behind the atomic bomb, not the actual bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, which are already well documented.

I feel like everyone who’s talking about this movie watched a completely different movie than me. I don’t know what’s wrong with me but this has to be one of the most boring and uninteresting movies I’ve seen in my life. I guess I just had the wrong expectations going into it but there was just nothing going on in it but endless back and forth dialogue that meant nothing to me. There were a few cool parts but nothing to justify a 3 hour runtime. Downvote me if you want I guess, I just had to get this out there.

So the whole movie was about Lewis having a petty grudge against Oppenheimer, the stakes being a cabinet position and a security clearance. Like, that's the actual climax of the movie, that Oppenheimer looses his clearance and Lewis looses a senate vote. It's structured in a way that it only comes together how petty the whole thing is at the very end. They spend more time on communists and unionization than the bomb, but even that is boring because nobody has anything interesting to say about it, we don't know why Oppenheimer is a fellow traveler, it's just repeated as a circumstance again and again. So never "about communism" it's just "about people being communists".

And sure the movie is "Oppenheimer" not "Nuclear Weapons", but this movie is only concerned with nukes is to get trailer footage, and insofar it's related to the investigation. It's ridiculous how they hyped it up as a movie that make you terrified of MAD. But they almost purposefully don't show anything that doesn't directly effect Oppenheimer.

I kinda expected to see how recklessly the feds tried to figure out nuclear strategy, see shit like Operation Crossroads, or at least Hiroshima. They even have a scene where someone is showing pictures of Hiroshima burn marks, and we are purposefully facing away from the pictures, like he is taunting us. And they tried to flip it positively with the "no CGI" shit, of course you don't have to when you only show Trinity. Hell, real Operation Crossroads footage is more impressive than what they show in the film.

This movie is just not on that scale, it's about arguing about who is a communist in a small room for three hours.

The Richard Feynman's bit on him using the car glass to block UV light from the nuke instead of wearing dark glasses came from his book Surely You're Joking, Mr Feynman! Glad to see it featured in the movie!

As soon as I heard Einstein’s voice, I immediately recognized it and knew it was the same actor who helped Bruce recover in the pit during TDKR

Time between detonation and the sound hitting: 100 seconds. (Just because some people were talking about the sound delay in here yesterday, I timed it on my second watch)

The movie played like a trailer for the entire 3 hour run time. It started off the same way and before i knew it we were half way through and it felt like it never slowed down. I don't think there is a scene in the entire movie that lasts more than 2 mins(Ill even say 1) before moving onto another. Way, way to fast. Also, the scene with Florence Pugh, was so out of pocket it felt like a fan made edit and did not fit the movies tone whatsoever. Idk what Nolan told himself there but that should have hit the cutting room floor regardless of her attractiveness.

The way they showed Jean’s death was amazing. Offering the ambiguous reality of suicide or “suicide” so subtilely made it so much more troublesome/tragic

Didn’t expect the amount of naked Florence Pugh that’s featured in this movie. A surprise, but a welcome one.

The reference to John F. Kennedy reminds me of the post-credits scene in The King's Man where they introduce Hitler like he's the villain of the next Avengers movie.

To long. Slow pacing. Boring over dramatic courtroom drama. Too much talking. Underwhelming bomb explosion, but the lead up to the bang was good. Also really quaint period furniture, architecture, costumes, style, cars etc which was cool. I'm a Nolan and artsy film fan normally, but this ain't it.

Should have gone to see Barbie instead.

Every time I thought this movie would end, it kept adding another 20 minutes lol.

Good movie, but I'd probably never willingly watch it again.

I loved how they built up the delays for each “boom” for each bomb they tested, ultimately leading up to the big one later on. I was anticipating it, but it still scared the crap out of me lol

First two hours flew by. Last hour? Bit of a slog. Partly because the stakes weren't particularly clear. Why exactly was Strauss out to get Oppenheimer? What were the stakes of the "This is not a trial"? Was it just because Einstein blanked Strauss one time? It just felt very teenage girls having a spat, that didn't fit in with this "Great minds changing/destroying the world".

After watching this, I realize just how long its been since I've seen a piece of cinema carried by its acting, story, and storyboarding/cinematography so much instead of a product that's simply on a much larger screen. I was on the edge of my seat during simple conversations and felt emotional thrills just seeing some characters come into a frame or from seeing facial expressions change (shoutout Alden Ehrenreich). There was this level of tension I felt from the very beginning that waxed and waned but never actually left until I was walking out the door.

The movie was truly fascinating, in so many different kinds of ways.

Loved how simple but important is Rami Malek’s roll in this film

Ehrenreich was a low key standout, going toe to toe with RDJ.

By far the loudest movie I've ever seen.

Surprised be the amount of people who seem underwhelmed by the film. I think a lot of people seem to have come in to the film expecting spectacle first and foremost because of how much we've heard about Nolan and practical effects, but at the end of the day this movie is a character study. Yes the IMAX format can be used to heighten the spectacle, but here it's used so we can see every pore on Cillian Murphy's face. It's more about close ups on moments of high emotional intensity than about making the explosions look impressive, and I think it succeeds.

The bomb scene is so dissapointing. You can even see huge sparks around it like it's a miniature fire filmed with a big lens. No sense of scale, NOTHING like the actual footage on youtube which is 100x more impressive. If there's one thing we were expecting from Nolan is that for sure the big explosion scene would be badass. It was 5 seconds of underwhelming close up gasoline explosion.

I had no idea that was Gary Oldman. He loves hiding in plain sight.

Classic Gary.

When they name drop Kennedy and Strauss gives the little smirk my mind just jumped to STRAUSS KILLED KENNEDY

Trinity test countdown had me scared like a bitch ngl. Big props to papa Nolan

I think it was spectacular.

Pretty much every conversation was brilliantly written and acted which is absolutely essential for a film like this. The film is gripping and filled with tension, but doesn't ever pretend to draw tension from the questions of whether they will successfully build the bomb or not.

The politics and characters of the film are complex and brilliantly showcased. I really enjoy the way the story unravels personally, and allows Nolan to sneak in his non-linear storytelling and some twists in a story that most of the audience know the outcome of.

I really don't think it was overhyped, but you could argue it was wrongly hyped. The sound design is spectacular, and the successful bomb test is wonderfully directed, but I don't think that's one of the scenes that stick with you when you walk out of the theatre. I'm glad I saw it in IMAX, but the things that make the film sensational wouldn't be lost watching it at home.

An an absolute smorgasbord of incredible actors, given some fantastic dialogue to sink their teeth into, coupled with Nolan's typical top class sound and visuals.

I think it's Nolan's first home run in a while.

The way it was edited makes me think the original cut was five hours long and they cut and cut and cut

I literally was able hear like 30% of what was being said. Nolan really needs to work on his sound mixing - and he can’t make an excuse for a movie like this, which is solely based on dialogue.

And before anyone asks I did watch it at a legit 70MM imax theater and the audio levels for dialogue was still shit.

This movie was a 6 or 7. Way too long, way too self-important. And the horrific, droning musical score was awful and made hearing the dialogue next to impossible. Sorry, the non-linear script was the wrong approach here. Total needless distraction. This movie should have been directed by someone like a Clint Eastwood. Somebody who understands character development. This movie was a cold arthouse project and while technically impressive, a bore and a slog.

I wasn’t even that impressed with Cillian who showcased a very narrow range. And please with the needless sex scenes that served no purpose whatsoever and were just awkward drop-ins.

Murphy and Matt Damon have such an understated yet spellbinding chemistry in this.

Just absolutely enthralled every-time they appear in a scene with one another, I love the nod between them in that back room hearing.

Maybe I'm just stupid but the non linear storytelling was a bit much here. Like 3 timelines of keeping track with soo many characters made it very convoluting. And the court hearing in the end dragged a bit too long.

Also the scene Oppenheimer humiliated RDJ wasn't very clear or did i miss something? I felt like I kept up with the plot to that point but suddenly he was deeply humiliated by that statement and plotted revenge like what?

Incredibly boring movie, very underwhelming. Hardly any scenes building the bombs, don't bother going to Imax because 99% of it is people arguing in rooms.

I didn’t realise in the moments leading to Trinity’s detonation that I was holding my breath and squeezing the arms of my chair. That was until my Apple Watch gave me a high heart rate alert. What an incredible sequence, and a hilariously unique experience for me. This movie was a masterpiece.

Initially, as soon as I heard about the film's production, I wanted to see it. I really wanted to see the movie, not because it's directed by Nolan (although I did like Interstellar) but because I like biopics.

Apparently, it was a mistake to think that this was either a biopic about Oppenheimer or a story about the Manhattan Project. If it's a film about Oppenheimer, why doesn't it show his childhood and teenage years up until his death? If it's a film about nuclear weapons, why not show more of the technical/scientific challenges? We see almost nothing about the bomb itself. I think it would be better to call it The Oppenheimer Hearing, because apparently, in this film, the main point is this safety hearing. And even if the film was called that, they never explained what that audition was about. Why it's important. What possibilities/roles this security clearance gives the person who has it. Another point that I didn't liked is the constant flashbacks. Normally, I don't have a problem with multiple flashbacks. But here, I couldn't find any logic behind it. Normally, when there are flashbacks, it's just after a discussion between two characters that calls up something in the past, a moment when the character is thinking about a past moment. Here, the scenes have nothing to do with each other. We see Oppenheimer filling glasses with marbles and then we go on to the trial, with no connection whatsoever.

Last week I went to see Barbie. I said then "Wow this was not a great movie, I am sure that Oppenheimer will be much better".

Now that I have seen both movies, I take back my words. Barbie is better than Oppenheimer

The scene where Oppenheimer is giving the triumphant speech after the bombing seems like it intentionally imitates Hitler’s speeches, with the ecstatic and bloodthirsty crowd. Especially when he says “I wish we could have used it on Germany”

The most distracting part of this movie is how eerily similar Matt Damon with a mustache looks to my dad

Not impressed at all. There was so much going on that at times it was hard to follow and nothing felt like it was told well. To me, this would have perfectly if it was a 6 partner mini series like Chernobyl. It only got good with the twist in the senate hearing

Visually powerful but lacked substance

Side note, it is like a and of who's who. Some many but parts played by well known people

Surprised seeing the top comments praising all actors but rarely mention Cillian Murphy who i think carried the movie...

Do you think he deserves Oscar nomination or no?

I love how the US government is so paranoid about Oppenheimer being a communist when they have Viktor fucking Reznov as their president.

Overrated.

Anyone notice the hand holding down Jean Tatlock's head in the bathtub? It only appears for a split second and is never mentioned or shown again. Thinking it might be the manifestation of Oppenheimer's guilt, as he clearly felt responsible for her death?

As a physics degree holder, boy am I sad with how much I hated this movie. Really was looking forward to it and expected to love it.

In the first 30m I was giddy with the parade of all the historical physics juggernauts, feeling like the movie was gearing up for something really special only to be confused and disoriented by an unnecessarily convoluted timeline and equally unintelligible dialog that is punctuated by a build up to an almost comically impotent bomb blast that unquestionably should have been CGI.

The majority of this movie being a confusing board room hearing makes it feel like the most pointless IMAX movie ever made.

I did not pick up on the B&W shots indicating the timeline so maybe that makes me the dumbass. Idk. I really had no clue what was going on for a huge majority of the movie.

By the third act I kinda felt like I started to get what was going on but was already so worn out I was just waiting to be set free by the credits.

Loved the last scene with Albert.

I am hoping I will like this one better when it streams with subtitles but I feel pretty bummed about it on first watch.

gave me a fat existential crisis 10/10

One thing that really amazed me was the intensity of the score as the detonation grew more and more imminent, followed by the use of silence. We’re just left to see this culmination of his work, resulting horror, moral implications, and an agonizing wait for the sound to return. Just brilliant execution there

Watched it for the second time and got to analyze more scenes pickup more things. Gotta say, the explosion was pretty underwhelming to look at visually. The sound design and the music delivered but not the explosion. It was cheated to look larger than it was and also had a short zoomed in clip of the actual trinity test but it just looked way to small for my liking. Watch the actual trinity test footage for reference. Otherwise the movie is still 5/5 for me.

Absurdly overrated imo. Knowing the physics, history and having experience how such technical project is approached I couldn‘t name a single thing which was done well. Character study? After sitting in this movie for 3h I couldn‘t tell you anything about Oppenheimer‘s character apart from some vague generalized guilt. Felt very superficial and one-dimensional all the time

Saw it in IMAX today. This is probably the most dialogue-dense film I've ever seen/heard. There was nary a quiet spot aside from the Trinity test itself, it was 100mph the entire film. Absolutely need to watch a second time.

Wtf Gary Oldman was Truman?

It felt like there were two movies, the first part was good the second part turned exclusively into a court show, which also wasn't really a court. The bomb explosion was a little disappointing, but the acting was 10/10.

one thing i haven't seen anyone mention is how much i loved the framing of his annihilation visions through the pilot in the bomber and the view of the V2 flying past

Scattershot first hour, compelling second hour and a third hour that felt like a completely different film.

Oppenheimer definitely lived up to the hype for me. Still feels weird seeing Josh Peck in this kinda movie though. Hard not to see him as the dorky brother from Drake and Josh

I felt the themes and ideas were there, but it was sooooo poorly executed. I saw this with three friends. We all work in the film industry, so we had a long discussion afterwards. We agreed on a lot of things, but interestingly I was the only one that came away disliking it.

I think the purpose of the trial and communist angle is to show that in the war machine anybody and everyone can be a casualty- a microcosm of dropping a bomb on innocent city/bystander. Even for someone like Oppenheimer, the father of the bomb, was just a pawn in the game who can be chewed up and spit to the side. Oppenheimer gave the US an incredibly powerful weapon and edge in the war, yet ends up becoming a casualty himself. He tried to speak on the dangers of the bomb, but gets silenced in the end. That's why at the end, they say "The awards aren't for you"- he's just a pawn to use and they use his notoriety for propaganda - lauding him on magazines like an American Hero. If you drop a nuke, it doesn't give a flying fuck if your its Dad does it?

So I felt the idea and theme was there, but incredibly poorly executed. The scenes, dialogue, story, character dynamics, felt so redundant, repetitive, and long. So many scenes where different people getting questioned about his communist past all felt the same, the plot never felt like it moved forward. Didn't feel like there were any cause and effect. Oddly, I didn't feel like his reputation getting dragged in the mud as a communist or the trial didn't hurt his life, so the purpose rather seems meaningless in the end. My friends and I discussed how people in a room talking can be interesting - look at 12 Angry men - a masterpiece that still holds. The difference is IMO, 12 Angry men the arguments and dialogue move the story in different directions. For Oppenheimer, those scenes felt very repetitive and stagnant.

Even the scenes where Oppenheimer feels the weight of what he's done, just felt surface level to me. Any10 year old understands dropping a bomb is a horrific event. So the scene where he sees everyone nuked - It was like "oh yeah you didn't know bombs do that?" lol. The purpose of Florence Pugh relationship was to show his loss, grief and how that relates to if he felt like how he lost someone to a nuke, but again it just felt so poorly executed. Pugh's character was so one dimensional and their relationship felt so forced and contrived. After the film, I joked to my buddy "Why the fuck he so hung up on his side piece?" and we couldn't stop laughing about it. One second he meets Emily Blunt and they have chemistry, next scene she's knocked up, and then next scene she's suddenly a drunk - poor relationship and character development.

I think they missed the boat on exploring the humanity and duality of creating a weapon of mass destruction. The US was afraid of monsters that could use nukes on them, yet they become the monsters themselves dropping two bombs on a country that was ready to surrender. The morality of preemptive strikes was just an afterthought.

At the end of the day, we all like movies for different reasons. My film friends and I agreed it was too long, convoluted, repetitive, but they enjoyed it for various reasons. Some liked the history of it, some enjoyed the artistic directorial and editorial choices, cinematography etc. For me, I'm very critical of story, character, so it just was not for me.

I loved old school practical effects in the movie. Not in pretentious "I hate CGI" way. But because they felt different. I could tell that Oppies visions were some glitter particles filmed close up. Or that burning Earth was unrealistic and barely adding together. But it created the unique retro vibe combined with unusual surrealism. They were also very modest, minimalist.

The gym/speech scene was so flawlessly executed. I can give some personal insight to this as well and why this scene was portrayed the way it is. A few months ago, I took a little too much shrooms and ended up going through drug induced psychosis (which involves high levels of anxiety, paranoia and hallucinations). When the background started to shake behind him, I knew what was about to happen because that’s how it felt to me. Damn near had a panic attack in the theater because it took me back to that horrible experience and made me relive those memories. This scene was incredibly accurate and portrayed perfectly what extreme paranoia and schizophrenia/hallucinations are like.

Everything from the confused feeling, to hearing sounds (like the screaming), misinterpreting faces and other people’s emotions (like the woman crying), or straight up hallucinating visuals (like the couple making out or the guy throwing up, which is basically how you feel on the inside but projected outward by your brain into the environment) was horrifically accurate. Props to Nolan for conveying this feeling/experience so well—not sure how he did it unless he went on a trip himself lol

Apologies if this doesn’t make much sense, I tried to put my thoughts into words as best as I could. I wish I could use the excuse that I’m not a native English speaker but I am, haha. Can’t wait for Nolan’s next project :)

Finally saw Oppenheimer today, and really enjoyed it. I noticed some symbolism which I haven't seen mentioned in any other online forums and I'm curious what you all think of this theory:

Are the horses in the movie, (especially the white horse) a metaphor for death?

When Oppenheimer rides to Los Alamos desert with Lawrence and his brother (before the Manhattan project), they bring four horses. Each of the three people ride dark horses, and Openheimer also leads a white riderless horse along after them. Shortly after, there is a nighttime scene in which camera is framed so that the white horse appears as a blurry spectre immediately behind Oppenheimer, almost like his own shadow or spirit.

The four horses of the apocalypse is a classic Biblical symbol, especially when there are three dark horses and one white horse (i.e. the pale horse of death). It doesn't seem like this could be a coincidence, since the plot gives no reason why the three riders would go through the trouble of bringing a fourth riderless horse way out into the desert with them. The only reason to include the riderless fourth white horse is for the symbolism of Openheimer leading Death to this site.

Horses are also associated with death in other scenes like when Oppenheimer dreams he is feeding his horse an apple causing him to suddenly wake up to

I'm sure there are also scenes with horses that aren't associated with death, like when he has a romantic ride with Kitty shortly after they first met. But the overall metaphor seems strong and clear to me despite those exceptions. If I watch it again, I'll have to pay more attention to the color of the horse in each seen to see if it was consistently the white horse associated with death, and also if there are any scenes in which someone rides the white horse or if it's always riderless and being led around by Openheimer.

Finally saw it yesterday. While it was a great docudrama I think I overhyped it in my mind. Maybe it was the lack of epic sceneries and scores that I hoped to experience. Still, I read all about him and some of the other characters in Wikipedia because it was all very intriguing. Interstellar is still my top favorite Nolan film though.

Hated that Nolan thought that this movie needed a pissy mustache twirling villain with monologue included with RDJ. "He was mean to me with Einstein!!" made me laugh

I had no issues understanding dialogue, but I did see on an IMAX screen ($4 yesterday!).

Definitely didn't recognize Gary Oldman as Truman.

Best movie of the year, hands down. Saw it 4 times, 2 times in 70mm IMAX. I can only hope it returns to theaters one day so I can experience again in the future.

If I had a nickel for every time I get to listen to Cillian Murphy breathing while his character witnesses a nuke going off, I would have two nickles.

This movie was mostly disappointing and over hyped. I hate how they down played the explosion, I thought that was a cop out. The last act of the film was also extremely slow and boring.

Stick with Michael Bay if you just want big explosions lmao

Just watched it, really enjoyed it.

I knew going in Oppenheimer was head of the Manhattan project that created the atomic bomb.

What I wish I had known was he was accused of spying for the Russians and discredited, if I'd known that from the start the flash forwards would have made more sense, had trouble at first working out the relevance of the black and white sections and the appeal panel section but it all fell into place by the end.

Are we supposed to know who this Strauss character was and his relevance from the beginning? I'm not American so not sure if he is well known.

Loved the final couple of scenes, the not important fuck you to Strauss just as he was about to face the press, and the conversation with Einstein at the lake. That last line gave me chills

Fucking exhausting. I say this as a fan of Nolan, although I think he's 0-2 recently.

This editing and dialog style is something he used to use tastefully and to good impact, but now days it seems like he just want's to do it for a full three hours, the movie suffocates and never takes space to breathe. It's mostly unentertaining.

This is some of the worst dialogue I’ve ever seen, pared with absolutely flat characters and action-movie editing and jump cutting in the middle of normal human conversations. One of Nolan’s worst efforts. 9.8/10

The Trinity test explosion feels like it goes on forever and just when you think it's over—BOOM!

Went into this movie with no expectations and surprisingly enjoyed it. I finally understand the Cillian Murphy hype.

This will probably anger the Nolan fanboys, but I felt like once again the female characters didn’t get much/any development…

The scene in the room with the bleachers was so chilling and I think the stand out moment from the film.

My only critique of the movie is I feel like they were a bit indulgent with showing off Florence Pugh’s body.

It made sense in the scene where Oppe is being questioned and we visually see him being naked and vulnerable along with his wife’s reaction to hearing him document his affair.

It just felt like they reduced her character into a sex object instead of a full person.

I wanted to love this but I'd say there was about 30 mins of brilliance and the rest left me pretty cold.

There wasn't enough build up with Straus to make the "reveal" have any real heft and more generally I didn't feel the stakes of the courtroom stuff considering all the time that was dedicated to it - or indeed any emotional investment into the potential consequences. The jumping between timelines or even just rapid cuts in the same timeline in the third act were tedious at times.

For me, there was so much potential in there for something that was a more straightforward character study of the weight on Oppenheimer's shoulders and the dissonance of being responsible for this terrible and brilliant thing - the bits where they did explore this were the best for me.

The romances felt really hurried and unnatural to me too....

For very different reasons it reminded me of watching Thor: Love & Thunder where I felt I had reached saturation point with some of Taika Waititi's worst qualities - this really laid bare some of Nolan's for me.

Cinema's back y'all

I saw it today on IMAX. This movie will win all the Oscars; best movie, best direction, leading man, supporting actors, music, sound, editing etc. And deservedly so.

Cinematography, script, editing, sound composition and performances overall are excellent.

But. It’s not 10/10 masterpiece. Even after 3 hours and fantastic performance from Cillian Murphy and the others, I felt empty, like I didn’t care if Oppenheimer loses his security clearance or not.

And I realized what’s missing from most Nolan’s movies: heart. They are masterful displays of technical excellence and pure cinematic revelations, but sometimes the characters feel somewhat empty and just tools for a puppetmaster to spin his creations around the playground.

In contrast, earlier this week I saw Mission Impossible in IMAX. As a movie, its not at the same level as Oppenheimer, even though its a very good one. But the moment main character Ethan Hunt jumped off the cliff on a motorcycle, I was in tears. Both for the technical excellence of the movie crew and for actually caring about the character.

Really hoping Nolan will next direct something scifi again, so his inability to bring warmth to his characters is not so distracting and he can solely focus on technical excellence and complex plot.

This film has me kind of in a knot really. I really want to like it but it is messy. I think the 3 narratives aspect was good on paper but just messy in execution because the film's flow is chaotic.

I like Cillian Murphy but he is not a main lead in a movie kinda guy because I think a different actor would have done more. I know part of his character line was he was a martyr but Murphy does not really do presence well. I think he gets kind of cucked by his peers in this film especially against RDJ who dominates this film in a good way.

If RDJ was not in this film it would be unbearable honestly because he is the best actor in this film though the supporting cast was very strong Murphy just feels weak so the supporting cast actually raise him up a bit.

It's too long and honestly, I was expecting more existential crisis but Barbie had me covered at that.

I thought it was a decent watch but definitely overhyped. Unpopular opinion I’m sure

I went into this movie expecting to like it, and it is good but it's not perfect.

Pros-

-It is a gorgeous looking world. The set design, costumes of the Oppenheimer world are incredible it looks great. Easily the most impressive and best aspect of the film, but it also has great performances.

-The performances were really good at conveying these characters that live in this Oppenheimer world.

Cons-

-You have to accept the fact that this is basically a commercial. The informercial aspect of it is a little jarring, it does take you out of it.

-You have to accept that it's heavy handed commentary. It doesn't shy away from talking about nuclear capability. It does poke fun at nuclear capability, but it's not complete villification. It's just a tease. You have to be able to laugh at yourself.

Verdict

If you can look past that, there's a lot to like here. It seems like we have a crowd pleaser. People in my showing I overheard thought it was "So good," and "they can't wait to see it again.

This movie is like caviar. I recognize what I'm consuming is quality. Well made, well crafted, well prepared, but I don't love it.

I love Christopher Nolan, but much like Dunkirk, I find Oppenheimer an incredibly well made movie that's not for me.

The performances are incredible across the board. This film might have one of the most stacked casts of all time. Seriously, there's so many scenes where a well established actor shows up for what could have been an extra. That aspect is awesome. Cillian Murphy may have just solidified that's he's one of the best actors of this generation.

However, the three hour runtime, occasional forced dialogue, and the fact the movie peaks in the middle, really hurt it for me. The last hour felt like a slog.

If you like movies like The Ides of March, Charlie Wilson's War, and All The President's Men, I'd highly recommend it.

The trinity test was very underwhelming, it was very obvious that instead of seeing a nuke going off miles away we saw a large conventional gas explosion going off a hundred feet away. The decision to go all practical really harmed the impact it could've had. The explosion didn't have any debris being thrown into the air around the base because you can't do that practically without even more obviously giving away the small scale of the explosion (could've at least used VFX to add it in). It was pure fireball in the gasoline mushroom cloud vs a real nuke that pulls up so much of the earth below it into the air.

A lot of recency bias with this film, I feel in one year, everyone will look back and say ‘yeah, that film was so hyped up and didn’t really deliver 100%’

Anyone else covered their ears when the bomb went off? It was dead silent and scary for entire 20 seconds lmao

I am a massive Christopher Nolan fan, just saw the movie, a masterpiece indeed, I just wish they spent more time on the science part and building the bomb and cut some of the political stuff at the end, I just couldn't empathize too much with Oppenheimer at the end, all his punishment was to revoke his security clearance? They made it appear that he got exiled or tortured for 30 years in an underground dungeon. It would have been better to focus more on the bomb building, the climax happened too early in the movie. Nevertheless, a solid 9/10 movie, we are lucky to have Nolan in our lifetime.

The last 20-30 minutes felt so intense. It was like everyone was acting out of the screen lol.

As much as everyones dunking on people who didn't like this movie and saying they expected some insane action marvel movie, this to me felt like one big marvel-esque biopic \*queue epic jfk namedrop\*

The cast, I could not take seriously. They usually get some big framed entrance with the camera in their face taking up the whole screen only to be a minor character. The reason why they get all these entrances is because it's a cameo for actor, not the character which completely takes out of the movie. (seriously, there's no way you guys saw Rami Malek read his script for 10 minutes and thought "WOW HIS CHARACTER THAT I TOTALLY KNEW THE NAME OF BLEW IT OUT OF THE WATER!")

Matt Damon is particularly egregious in this movie as he does not fit whatsoever and is the least convincing for his part in the movie. On the other hand, Emily Blunt and RDJ I felt were the most convincing ignoring some of the issues with Blunt's character.

A lot of the dialogue for kitty in the last hour felt like she was only there to be a vehicle for the script to baby the viewers so they can explain to the audience how complicated and nuanced Oppenheimer is. Every fucking issue or motivation a character has, every fucking bit of nuance a character possesses is always directly spelled out and explained to you by some character's dialogue.

Also with the dialogue.. Nolan has this thing where he wants to do a lot of "iconic" lines that are meant to feel smart and cool but the thing is, he does this with every other fucking line of dialogue to the point where every conversation feels very unrealistic, manufactured and corny and none of the \*cool sentences\* hit as hard. He has the very same issue with the editing and score.

The editing and score in this movie is so adhd it's incredible. The first 2 hours is legit edited like a trailer and not a single one of the "iconic" scenes were able to get a sense of tension or emotion out me because none of them had an ounce of room to breathe or sit with the audience.

He wants to blast the music every fucking scene to make it grandiose or make me feel something, but instead, it hinders entire movie because his over-scoring fails to make a single scene stand out. He is not thoughtfully selecting where to put the music, he's just putting it in for the sake of putting it in. Due of this, the emphasis and the enhancement scores are supposed to give is lost because Nolan is afraid I will lose interests if he doesn't have some orchestral music playing during every little moment. Same goes with the mindless editing which I guess was a poor attempt to make things feel frantic. The movie does this bullshit where they will cut like 5 times in 3 seconds for no fucking reason. The movie refuses to let me sit with anything or digest SOMETHING! The thing where Oppenheimer is talking about something and it will cut quickly onto whatever he's talking about was cute but became quickly overused and almost a parody of itself. Basically moral of the story, Less is more.

The cinematography was meh as a lot of it consisted of close ups of some actor's face taking up the screen. Which isn't bad! if done purposefully. But again, this is a 3 hour long movie and this is like every fucking shot. To me it just felt like "HEY LOOK AT THIS ACTOR, LOOK! DO YOU SEE ALL THE STAR POWER WE HAVE? COME LOOK AT THIS ACTOR!"

Because of the bad dialogue, the bad editing, the bad score usage and the meh cinematography. Every big/important scene flopped. I think the last \*Oppenheimer imagining the room blowing up\* scene where he was being questioned was the most successful scene in the movie in terms of setting out to achieve its goal, All the other "big" scenes in the movie failed to hit its mark.

I know a lot of people were complaining about the trinity bomb scene, and yes lets please all admit, that was pretty underwhelming. If you want to see a good version of that, I direct you to the Twin Peaks Trinity atomic bomb scene easily found on youtube.

The last hour of the movie was the better part, but there was a lot of telling instead of showing with the characters explaining Oppenheimer's (as well as themselves) motivations and feelings in great detail because Nolan can't write dialogue to save his life. Due to this it got pretty annoyingly pro-Oppenheimer preachy with the characters (not the movie itself). It feels like again, the script was treating the audience like babies and trying to get some marvelized superhero come back moment for Oppie.

Final thoughts: This isn't a bad movie, just felt very amateurish with a lot of it's creative decisions. I don't find this movie boring, it would have been ridiculous to end the movie at just just the bomb scene and cut out the last hour. The time jump idea was okay but poorly executed.

Also random thing. One scene that was kinda annoying is when Kitty is doing her testimony thing and she's like "16, no 17, actually sorry 18" or whatever, the way they had her read her lines, that one specifically was like Disney channel levels of babying the audience. If I was in that room, I would instantly assume she's lying with her playing it up to that extreme degree. It felt like she was just reading her lines that way so the audience knows that yes she knows what she's doing and she's being strategic about it but to the detriment of the believability and seriousness of that scene where i'm just like "there's no way those guys in the room are not thinking she's clearly lying".

6/10

7.5/10.

I went in with huge expectations but the movie honestly didn't click for me. Sure, it was an excellent movie in terms of filmmaking (the cinematography and score definitely stood out), but I felt like Nolan could have done much more with the plot and dialogue.

A lot of it played out like a courtroom drama with cheesy dialogue (e.g. the Groves line), and the significance of the felt forced. Even Oppenheimer's security clearance getting revoked was not a huge turning point for his character given how much of the screentime and attention it got.

I wonder if the movie would have been better with more of Oppenheimer's interactions with Jean and Kitty to portay his cognitive dissonance.

It's been so long since I've seen Josh Hartnett I was thinking to myself the whole time "who is that absurdly handsome man??"

Reading these comments made me realize how lucky I am to have watched it with subtitles.

Every single scene in a Nolan movie feels like it's meant for a trailer. There's this weird energy to everything.

I was a bit disappointed in the story. Every bit of it that was about physics and the Manhattan project and the military and the war was quite enjoyable to me. But that was significantly outweighed by the political drama that surrounded it. To me, the choice to anchor the film in the Strauss hearings was a mistake. Sure, they interrogated Oppie about his misgivings and regrets but we didn’t really get enough of his personal struggle with what he was doing and what he unleashed. IMO the interrogation was a clumsy way to tease that out. Some of my disappointment comes from what I should’ve realized by the title. This was a movie about Oppenheimer the man, first and foremost, and the thing he is most famous for, the Manhattan project is almost glossed over. It’s background. I think that was a mistake in storytelling.

Am I the only one who feels underwhelmed with the atomic bomb test?

I kinda felt that at the start of the movie when oppenheimer was having visions, it looked way more spectacular and immense. Like the one in the trailer, I thought it would be more of that.

First movie I watched in cinema this year that I would give a bad rating.

It just feels like the movie doesn't know what it wants to be and so it drags on for 3 hours. If it is the story of building the atom bomb, then great, leave out the entire hearing and court sections afterwards. If it is a political thriller, then do it the other way around. If it is about the life of Oppenheimer, then include his past and later life more, and cut down on the RDJ plotline.

The music was irritating the whole way through. It just won't stop. Can it quiet down please.

Good movie. Had great pace, not easy to do for a literal 3 hour film. But, even though the movie was, in parts, tense, and had good pacing - I never felt a sense of emergency, pressure. The race against the Nazi's never felt like a looming threat in the film. It was stated, but never pressured onto the story imo, and therefore lacked additional thrill - which I was expecting. The courtroom drama was pretty mundane in comparison to the trinity test. Blew a lot of steam going in to the 3rd act, and it's kind of hard to top a nuclear explosion.

Good music and a much better sound mix for the subject matter (as mentioned by others).

I just want to say that I was so mesmerized by Cillian Murphy. This is my first time ever watching anything with him and he was so incredible. He played this role seamlessly

Excellent film.

Great acting throughout despite the long screen-time.

Also appreciated the inclusion of small details like having Feynman declining the safety goggles and the Einstein and Gödel walks.

That was a return to form for Nolan. Much better than Interstellar, Dunkirk, and Tenet.

Nolan works best when it’s something more grounded with a twist. While Dunkirk was fine, that movie felt like it was three hours while Oppenheimer felt like two. Tenet and Interstellar run times could also be felt while watching.

Maybe it’s because I had read “In the Matter of J. Robert Oppenheimer” in high school that it all started connecting as the story went on. I hadn’t read that play in over 15 years so details of who and what was happening were fuzzy, but when they revealed Strauss as the antagonist, I remembered more and more of the context of the play that helped guide the film along.

Really good work by him and really hoping he stays within reality, either for a biopic like this or something like The Prestige, Memento, or Insomnia for his next.

Going into the movie I knew Americans hated communism but after the movie ended I think the hate was a lot more than I ever imagined. Anyone here who lived during the cold war what was it like living with two different ideology? And what was the root cause of McCarthyism apart from the obvious Soviet fear?

While not terrible, I was pretty disappointed. I really wanted to like it - I have a background in theoretical math and history of math and science, and was really compelled by the subject matter. But damn, despite the great cast on this movie, it was completely soulless. I know all of the scenes with women were based on real life, but there was no emotion in them and I would have preferred they be cut out of the movie. I did not buy him as a womanizer. In fact, all of Oppenheimer's relationships felt empty. There was no chemistry between Cillian and anyone, except Matt Damon at times, and Albert Einstein. When Cillian played Oppenheimer in moments where he was alone (e.g., when people were cheering or stomping and he was fading out), he killed it, but otherwise, he overdid the stiffness to the point where every interaction felt dry. Thank god for the RDJ scenes, they weren't even amazing but at least they were a change of pace.

This movie felt a lot like Nolan read "show, don't tell" and got scared he wasn't showing enough. Every demonstrative scene of something (e.g., Cillian and Josh Hartnett disagreeing about unionization) felt forced, the result of which being I never actually felt like they were ever friends. While I liked the emphasis on the fact that this was a large group effort, they threw so many names out there all the time just to have them. I also fucking hated the style. All of the Oppenheimer scenes felt so goddamn rushed. I get what Nolan was trying to do, and I'm glad it worked for most people, but for me, I wish instead of trying to add in all this tension and stress at the beginning, it let it slowly build up. The movie did find its feet in the last 80 minutes, but by that time, I was super worn out and annoyed, I didn't enjoy it as much as I would have otherwise. Ultimately, these issues wormed their way into the biggest issue: I didn't even care about the movie's message, because it was sort of flung at me. Don't get me wrong, I felt a lot of tension and suspense watching the movie, but it did not get me to think critically, nor did I feel like it actually had as much to say as it thought it did. It was classic "I think I'm so smart" stuff. Teller challenging Oppenheimer to share his beliefs was such an important part of the movie and it just fell completely flat, like the rest of their relationship (which again, I was supposed to care about)? So by the time Oppenheimer started shouting in the break room, I didn't really care about anything but the (admittedly fun) adrenaline rush the soundscape was taking me on.

Now that that's out of the way, here are some things I liked: the sound effects were incredible. The detonation sequence in New Mexico was also incredible, as were the scenes with Cillian melting down in crowded spaces. I really liked the Einstein scenes, maybe because the movie actually chilled the fuck out. Was probably worth seeing, but sooooo long and such a slog to get to the good stuff that I'll gladly never watch it again.

TL;DR: this movie was tryhard and rode on some really fun and excellent soundscaping. It is different, and creative, but not in a way that actually made the film better, in fact, the experimentation with the storytelling contributed to why it sucked.

Edit: grammar.

Florence Pugh should have been cut out of the movie

We watched this right after Barbie. So many similar themes that it gave me the shivers.

The themes: Death. Men with deep insecurities. How to deal with change. Political power.

My favorite scenes:

It was good.

Nice mix of the urgent WW2 efforts with the lingering concern of the future risk, different views on martyrdom (Truman was portrayed as a bloated ass (from Oppies POV of course) but he did give Oppenheimer a reality check) the pragmatic policies mixed with the madness

Minor annoyances:

The Trinity Test scene was a true masterpiece, I loved every bit of it, and yes, it was surprisingly not boring for being a 3 hour movie.

Saw it last night in Imax. It was ok, it's a solid movie but not meeting the hype. Think the overwhelming sentiment of our group is "i'm glad I saw it but I'll probably never watch it again".

Don't think the storytellling, writing or structure of the film was very good, the first two thirds are messy. Don't think the crescendo of the film lived up to expectations and it lacks the epicness I think I expected and if it was going for a more subtle look at him then it missed the mark widely.

Just reading about the Hiroshima bombing on Wikipedia and saw that it happened on August 6. Huh…lemme check….yup that’s today. Funny coincidence that this was the day I saw the movie

Saw the movie yesterday. I was hoping for a little more on why Oppenheimer opposed the H-Bomb, and less on the trial drama. Slightly disappointing how it turned into a typical drama/thriller with a moustache twirling villain at the end.

I really enjoyed the movie! Sure, the female characters are underwritten, but no more so than most of the male supporting cast. I thought it was actually quite well paced, I didn't feel like I was sitting in a chair for 3 hours, the story kept it's momentum.

I think my only real criticism of character portrayals would be that the first sex scene really didn't need to be a sex scene, he and Jean had an intimate relationship, but they were more of an emotional/intellectual match than a physical one irl, so having that first scene of them together just being a (still intimate) talking scene with their clothes on I think would have been more representative of the real people. On a similar note, I think one of the sex scenes should've been with his wife, cuz apparently she had to teach him all about how that stuff goes, but it's possible that Emily Blunt just wasn't up for that.

I could probably nitpick other things, but overall I thought the movie was really well done, and accomplished what it set out to do. I think the unscreen portrayals of these people were very interesting, and seem to have been mostly accurate. I really appreciate it then bringing attention to the fact that a lot of these scientists working on the bomb or Jewish, and it was initially intended to be used on the Nazis, not Japan. That's a really important piece of context that I think too often goes overlooked.

Symbolism of flowers in Oppenheimer movie... Any thoughts?

I was looking down at Barbie movie and looking forward to Oppie movie like some sort of opposites. They ended up being very similar. Both had lots of potential, kick ass visuals, greatest cast, but fell flat with the actual storytelling and emotional involvement. It just wasn’t good storytelling that makes you want to go back to the characters and the story and relive it all again be it comedy or drama.

I’m a huge Christopher Nolan fan but this movie was a huge masturabatory circle jerk as is this thread and all the downvotes and ostracizing when someone is saying anything remotely critical. Shame on this thread and this sub, it should be a safe and honest place to discuss cinema and instead it’s a firing squad for anyone that’s not willing to come and grab their dick.

Watched it today. It was an okay film in my opinion. Yes, the acting was good, particularly Cillian Murphy. However, it didn't have to be so long. Many scenes, particularly the sex scenes were absolutely unnecessary. I expected some more discussion about the physics and logistics challenges of making the bomb. 3/5

For me after watching the Movie for the first time I was confused by parts of the plot and timeline. I understood the main events that took place but got lost in the smaller moments. I then read the book American Prometheus and went back to watch it a second time. This time I had a clear understanding of the timeline and all of the events that were unfolding which made it an even more fascinating experience.

It was fine. I'm not sure where all the hype for this movie came from. Nolan has become synonymous with event films, I guess. As I was watching it unfold, I kept thinking back to Paul Schrader's comments about this being "the best, most important film of this century." And I was like, no. It's just another biopic. It's well-made, it's well-acted, it's got some cool visual effects and a bombastic score, but it didn't do much for me on a personal level. Not a bad movie, but I thought the whole thing was overblown to be honest.

Oh yeah, and...

Whoooooooooooooooooo! That's been waiting to EXPLODE out of me for the past 6 hours! She's got nice titties, baby!!!!!!! YEAH!!!!!!!!

Remember when we were led to believe by the media that there was a two-hour full frontal scene in this film, where all the actors are just lounging around nude? Instead it was just two short intimate scenes completely blown out of proportion because people are so outraged by the human body nowadays. And honestly, all I kept thinking about after those scenes was that all I really care about are women's tits. I don't care about anything else. I don't care about atomic bombs, I don't care about Commies, I don't care about long, drawn out congressional hearings, or artistic uses of B&W and color, or Chris Nolan fanboys downvoting this post. Just tits.

Anyway, onto Barbie...

Can someone explain why “more useful than a sandwich” was such a burn?

Did every scene with Einstein happen in real life?

The one where he suddenly appeared out of nowhere behind the car in the middle of the night looks like something out of a comedy movie. It caught me off guard.

I can believe the other scenes, but that one? Really?

This movie legit makes me want to study physics. I'm 36. Too late? Fuck it.

Einstein appearing out of the dark when a cab pulled away got a good laugh from everyone

Three hours felt like 1:30. Very well directed, the premise was not so much to be amazed by the visuals, but rather understand the role each person played in this project.

It felt like reading a book.

Also RDJ did such a great job, I was amazed at his difference in acting along with his accent.

The movie was quite good but I can't say anything blew me away. Maybe I expected a bit stronger anti war message. I think the part that had to do with the bomb was greatly executed but the rest was just decent.

Feels like there was some weird editing with a tonne of jump cuts like I'm watching a music video, I guess thats the only way to make those endless hearings entertaining.

Talking about dialogues I feel like Nolan just doesn't write great dialogue, the lines just sound a bit robotic.

Movie could've been shortened by half an hour at least imo.

Id give it something like 7,5/10. With some more efficient editing it could've been a 8,5/10.

The silence as the bomb went off was an exceptional choice.

Masterful movie all around. RDJ truly shines.

Seems like a lot of the negative reviewers in here were expecting a boom-boom exciting war movie and not a biopic about a scientist.

Just saw it in IMAX 15/70. My thoughts:

Positives:

Negatives:

Neither positive nor negative:

Overall a 8.7/10.

I hope the editor got a sack of money for this one. I don’t think we had one long cut in this movie.

The technical aspects of the movie were great, but I think Nolan needs someone to focus him in. This went a little overboard on Strauss. Its going to get some Oscar nominations.

I buy many physical copies of Nolan movies, but this is one I think I’ll skip. I don’t see myself wanting to see it again. I am glad I saw it in theaters. It’s one of the better movies I’ve seen this summer.…but if I had to see Oppy or MI:7 again, I’m seeing MI:7.

This movie was honestly pretty mid. I would have walked out if I had gone by myself. The political/courtroom rivalry was the worst part of the movie for me and they chose to spend what time they had there. Instead of Oppenheimer as a man and his personal relationships with other characters which was much more interesting. Also I wanted to know about the actual creation of the bomb. Which felt completely glossed over. I don't care about his political believes or his reputation.

The movie was much funnier than I would've expected, the scene where Oppenheimer says "birth control in not under my jurisdiction" or something like that then the camera pans to his pregnant wife was hilarious

Few problems I had:

Otherwise it's definitely one of Nolan's best films. Acting is phenomenal. People should definitely go with some knowledge about the story, especially if you're not American. Some clowns sitting next to me didn't understand anything and were talking continuously.

Overall 8.5/10

I enjoyed it, but I didn’t think it was the momentous piece of filmmaking that some critics were hailing it as.

•The editing was great and made the 3 hour runtime fly by for the most part (the last 35 minutes dragged a bit).

•Great acting performances all around.

•Sound drowned out a significant chunk of dialogue.

•Explosion was a bit of a let down, and I know Nolan is a practical effects purist, but a little CGI would’ve definitely helped him out here.

The good certainly outweighs the bad though. The man took a 3 hour historical biopic with no action and turned it into a blockbuster. That’s a testament to his skills as a filmmaker.

I really appreciated how ballsy the film was. For one, it's a major blockbuster where the majority of the movie is people talking in rooms. Secondly, there was so much hype about the bomb and when it finally is detonated after an incredibly tense buildup, it's absolute silence. I found that to be really impactful. I also loved how ambiguous Oppenheimer's character is throughout the movie. I can see people hating that half the movie is dedicated to the "trials" but I felt that it was a great lens to explore the various contradictions of Oppenheimer, without ever providing an answer. The suspicions leveled by the govt are under unfair circumstances and they are fueled by manic McCarthyism but it was fascinating to imagine all the different motives he may have had, his communist agenda which is never really confirmed or denied (in history or in the film) and why he created the weapon in the first place then stood firmly opposed after the inevitable was realized. Also, the scene of him accepting his medal years in the future was profoundly sad. Loved it

I just realized this was the first time in a long while we haven’t seen Michael Caine in a Nolan film.

It’s possible he was the trinity test bomb. We’ll never know.

Just when we thought we had reached armistice, Oppenheimer set off a chain reaction of guys buying fedoras because they think they’re as cool as cilian murphy

The air conditioning was broken in the theater of my 70mm showing and I would normally be really upset about it but it kind of added to the tension as the air got hotter and heavier towards the end.

Albert Einstein magically appears seemingly out of thin air no less than two times in this film.

The film treats him like oppenheimers fairy godmother. Appears when he's most In need and gives abstract somewhat poetic advice.

Went for the Barbie / Oppenheimer combo today. Oppenheimer. Man what a bust, that's kind of it. I was falling asleep at certain points, not because I was tired, more because I was bored.

I'm aware what this kind of movie is, but it ventures into ground and breaks so surface level that I can't actually get hooked in. It's going all over the place all the time, the time jumps, skips, unsure what period you're in. It's a mess, honestly. At a point I found there were so many characters and people in the background that I wasn't quite sure who was who at certain points. It reminds me of the chaotic nature of uncut gems, but it doesn't need to be..?

I'm in the minority. Reddit and the film community absolutely adore this film. I need more from a film than "wow actor is good and the camera direction is fantastic".

>!What I don't accept is more time spent on a damn un-needed sex scene than there was in the entire film even mentioning radiation. It was such a glossed over topic. I coulda sworn that guy running out the bunker to get a raw look would have resulted in something happening, but nothing happened!! This was the vibe throughout much of the film. Pearl Harbour had about 3 seconds dedicated to it. I know this is about the main man, but come on, can we explain a bit about the background. It's a three hour film for fuck sake.<

The opening scene with the Prometheus anecdote sets up the whole point of this movie. I went in thinking it would be a historical epic on the Manhattan project, using Oppenheimer's role as the driving force of the narrative. It seems to be more devoted to the human experience of Oppenheimer, and the demons he carried with him publicly and privately.

I’m gonna go out on a hill and say Emily Blunt should win Best Supporting Actress.

I'm glad I didn't see this in Imax because there's not much spectacle in this movie. Felt like 2/3 of this movie is Oppenheimer fighting the communist allegations.

It's still a good movie, but it wasn't as horrifying or as visually awesome as I was hoping for.

The final scene with Einstein. Holy shit. With Strauss ominously walking towards them in the background too.

So I did indeed see Barbie and Oppenheimer together and I'm just saying that there's a scene in oppenheimer where he's pouring his heart out about his guilt to Emily blunt and she's pretending to be sympathetic and then loses patience with him, that would literally fit in that scene in Barbie movie where the kens are pouring out their hearts to the Barbies. Physicist ken.

Also he literally had Jean Tetlock be his long distance low commitment casual girlfriend. He loves going on random self important tangents and quoting things, people call him a dilletante, womanizer and insecure, neurotic.

There's even an early scene in the movie where he's pursuing Jean before he became a bigshot physicist and she rejects him and he sulks off.

Just saying the dude would have fit right in Kendom

Watched in IMAX, I feel like some of the dialogue was muffled? Like the actors were mumbling? Would have been nice to have subtitles.

Anyone have this or was it just me? Most of the time it was fine just the odd few times.

I realized quite late into movie the black and white scenes were pov of Robert downey Jr and not flashback scenes

So it was definitely better than tenet for me however time jumps weren't that great. The movie's pacing was unbalanced and uneven as hell. Probably I'm gonna get down voted because of this but the imitation game was a better WW2 genius races against Nazis movie to me. The characters felt more real and sincere. I felt more for them, I was fearful for them etc.

The cast was great even though so many actors were kinda underused. Even cillian could've done more than this. Dialogue was okay (at least we could hear them lol) but I could not build the connection with the characters that well as everything kinda lost their importance after like 5 minutes

Also the characters were quite one dimensional. Florence's character: she's a kommie and she hates flowers. That's about it. His brother a kommie and had a gf. His wife, well she had some husbands and she had some problems with him and their children but we are not that interested with these. Even the man himself wasn't that developed. Still this is miles better than whatever the tenet's characters were supposed to be. Still.

Rdj was great. Matt Damon was fun.

Sound design. For fuck sake man I'm a musician and I found myself in quite the loud places but nothing raped my ears as much as this movie did. Literally there are some scenes that the volume slider is like at 150 percent. And the explosion should be like this yeah absolutely but this happens throughout the movie and it's fucking deafening. The music was good the explosion was great. Showing the man's psychological struggle through music was also great. But come on chill out a bit.

That courtroom sex scene with Florence looking at Emily's eyes was weird and unnecessary as feck lol.

The last, old Oppenheimer make up looked kinda funky.

Rami's character is getting: "well I guess it's just a cameo" to: "well I see!" was fun but meanwhile lots of other actors got kinda cameo-y roles while I was quite excited to see more from them.

I feel like for now it's 7-7.5/10 but I will be rewatching it and maybe some stuff will get better the second time around.

This movie really highlighted my biggest qualm with Nolan which is if 90% of the movie is expositional dialogue why would you have the score so blaringly loud in the mix? I couldn't parce together half of what anybody was saying because the score overtook every voice.

If you walked into this movie not knowing a thing about this story I would suspect you left not knowing much more.

The most entertaining part to me was when it turned into a court room drama at the end and I could actually discern what people were saying.

All in all, I'm pretty blown away with the reviews being so praiseful. I don't think this is even a top 3 Nolan movie.

I had no fucking idea Gary Oldman was Truman

Why was it a huge deal he lost his security clearance and kitty cared so much about it?

He was working as director at the Institute for Advanced Study, which provides their director with housing on-site (and where he and Kitty lived for around 15 years, and raised their two children). He made a number of controversial decisions and the board was considering calling for his resignation, and he correctly suspected Strauss, who was also a board member at the Institute, would use the result of the security clearance hearing (and anti-Communist momentum) against him.

He didn’t want to turn out like his brother and so many of his colleagues, who never again found work in, or even related to, the field of physics. And he feared that if he didn’t get the outcome he desired, that is exactly what Strauss would do to him.

Whilst I mostly enjoyed the film it's break neck speed had me wondering why I was meant to care about certain scenes and events. It felt messy a times and a I had no idea why I was meant to care about thr trial at any point. The stakes were unclear.

I really wanted to love this movie but it just had too many issues, the run time maybe the biggest one, I can't think of any movie that's earned a 3 hour runtime except Fiddler on the Roof; at that length turn it into a mini series, after Chernobyl I think HBO would have done a better job. It just gets too boring, people took out their phones in my theater, people fell asleep, etc.

Second biggest mistake might have been focusing so much on Strauss, why do we care if Strauss gets to be secretary of commerce(?) or not if they're worried about a world ending arms race and ever more powerful weapons? The payoff of the third act felt totally inconsequential, with the weird time jumping (and also switching to and from black and white, why?) I think we already knew he was another Einstein right? Basically informally influential but totally out of date in terms of the science and just working at universities. Clearly his reputation was important to him but it seemed like he was going to end up alright no matter what.

If it went longer into his life and showed how he died during arguably the height of the nuclear arms race and didn't see how his fears of MAD with the soviets never happened it would have been more impactful, but it couldn't decide if it wanted to be about Trinity or a biopic.

And the trinity test itself felt like a letdown. After all the theater shaking sound effects and music, we get a bright fireball, looked cool but I was expecting awesome.

As someone that read the first handful of chapters of American Prometheus and is generally interested in the subject matter this was pretty disappointing for me unfortunately =/

I constantly felt like every scene was a missed opportunity.

I never felt like it truly came together and overall I think to me this felt lesser than the sum of its parts

Good acting for the most part, scenes were well shot, if it truly had zero cgi that’s impressive, all good

That said, given the man and given the deadly serious subject matter this movie felt like it soft balled everything

To me this movie ironically felt like a very pop sci, clickbait kind of adaptation

Which is funny given the framing device and the whole conflict between the government’s concerns about Oppenheimer’s words and actions that the movie itself would also sort of hold back on the horrors and gravitas in its retelling

it just kind of felt more like a Ron Howard movie than Nolan to me, like obviously his style is here and in the end I’m glad he, a non-American made this movie instead of an American director

They might’ve gone even softer on portraying the U.S. government in a nicer light or something so I’m still glad this is Nolan. I just think the story never came together well enough for me and I didn’t find it very interesting in terms of cinematography.

I’ve also never liked Ludwig Goransson’s music so that was almost a complete miss for me, I’m overall glad that Zimmer is on DUNE but I’ve really missed him in Nolan’s last two projects

I’ll definitely watch it again when my girlfriend and our friends do a barbenheinmer double feature but on a first watch I felt kind of disappointed and dissatisfied with a lot of the choices and for me it never really came together as a story or movie very well which sucks because I want to love every movie I ever watch but especially those I already am primed to enjoy like this one with subject matter I’m interested in and a director I usually mostly enjoy

Maybe I’ll have different thoughts as I sit with it longer and when I watch it again but for now I think I’ll say I found it mostly unsatisfying, wanting it to tap into untapped potential, but overall glad it exists and appreciative of the craft and performances.

Wish I’d enjoyed it more.

I thought the sound mixing was supposed to be solid for this but I had such a hard time understanding dialogue for most of the movie.

Also was tough on a first watch when a lot of important dialogue was referring to characters off screen by their name, but there are so many characters it is hard to get straight who they are even talking about.

It was impressive that they were able to fit the whole story into 3 hours. The Los Alomos Trinity Test storyline and Oppenheimer communism trial storyline felt like they could've been two entirely individual movies.

I have never been so entertained by a 3 hour history lesson, and I'm not even a huge Nolan fan. Top notch filmmaking here imo.

Genuinely how were all these geniuses alive at the same time!!!

And so recently my god. It’s incredible

Something I'm not seeing many people talk about is the sound design. The way the crowd's feet rumbling every time Oppenheimer begins to doubt the morality of what he's doing, long before we actually find out what that sound means, for it to transform into probably the most chilling scene of the movie was brilliant. It's the literal embodiment of a crowd of people cheering over the mass murder of the Japanese people

There are lots of fantastic sound design elements in the film but that motif was by far the most profound

Anybody thought the bomb scene was super underwhelming?

I feel for Josh Peck, a man who may have signed up for this very small role specifically because he thought he would get to say Kenneth Bainbridge's famous line "now we are all sons of bitches" only to be denied the opportunity to deliver that baller sentence.

In all seriousness, this was amazing.

I absolutely loved the Social Network stuff that happened in the 3rd act. IMO the real bomb scene was in that hearing room

I loved the part where Oppenheimer has to say “and Nagasaki.” No one ever remembers Nagasaki.

Would recommend everyone to watch that 30min Veritaseum doc on Oppenheimer first, since it gives a lot of context and it makes it so much better to decipher who is who and what happens in which timeline.

Never seen a german crowd applaud after a movie aswell, which means it did really, really well. One of the best cinema experiences ever.

As I was watching Oppenheimer try to argue for his security clearance, all I could think was "Why is he doing this to himself?" even as someone who read American Prometheus.

Then, as the film went on, all I could think was "This man is trying, in some way, to atone for what he did and what he birthed. He's letting his name be dragged through the mud because he feels he deserves it".

Then Kitty delivers that line...

Seeing Rami Malek tear apart Strauss in the hearing was so satisfying to watch. Him trying to look calm and composed as his life's ambition is left in bloody tatters in front of his face was incredible. Equally, him thinking that Oppenheimer wanted it all to be about him, only to see that it's actually him thinking it's all about him was great too.

Honestly, to me, this is Nolan's best film. It's a spectacle without being a spectacle. Not seen enough love for Ludwig Göransson's score either, which made me feel like I was watching an opera, which suited it perfectly.

Will be very surprised if Cillian Murphy and Robert Downey Jnr. aren't at least nominated for the Academy Award. I think DiCaprio and DeNiro will both give them a run for their money after Killers of the Flower Moon, but they have a very good chance of winning here.

Would love to see Nolan win for Best Director too, but I fear Scorsese may just have this one.

This was a 3 hour movie that sailed along for one reason; the score. Without it, the movie would have felt longer and a chore to sit through. The music never stopped, it ebbed and flowed with the story beats and for the most part drove the story with its direction. It isn't overwhelming, it doesn't have any overbearing motifs like a score to Lord of the Rings or Star Wars - it is simply in the background driving the story. And its breathtaking.

Then there's the sound design; the sound effects added to the movie. Specifically something comes to mind is the stomping of feet on bleachers that occurs repeatedly in soundbites through the film. We don't fully understand what the sound is until almost the very end (we learn that it is the crowd cheering for Oppenheimer after a successful test of the bomb), but its shown at odd moments throughout the film before that reveal - and it is open to interpretation. I interpret it to be the audio representation of Oppenheimer's moral dilemma and PTSD of creating a weapon of mass destruction. This simple sound bite expands the depth of Oppenheimers character in a way that dialogue or anything else simply can not. The sound of cheering and stomping bleachers to the idea of killing thousands of people and "ending the world" is seared into his brain and psyche - to come out at moments of dread.

Never have I seen a movie incorporate sound in its storytelling better than this. Its a masterpiece.

The silent delay before the explosion scared the shit out of my theater. I also like how they didn’t ham up Oppenheimer as this big infallible hero and showed he was a person with flaws.

I saw Barbie before this one and they’re both really good. I expect to see both films nominated for big awards this coming season.

I love that they kept telling Fuchs to keep his head down during explosive lens testing a subtle way to signal he is the spy among them

I found it a little unfortunate that a 3 hour movie felt THAT rushed. It seemed like so many of the stories (for example, his own internal issues, and his wife's mental health problems) did not get their due time.

While I did like that they ended the movie with the Einstein conversation, the constant time jumps didn't really make it easier to follow the story and contributed to the whole thing feeling rushed.

Am I the only one that had a hard time hearing some critical dialogue because of the weird audio mix in this movie? It's nowhere near as bad as Tenet, but especially the scenes with music I couldn't make out wtf was being said.

I couldn't even hear THE THING that the whole movie was leading up to, what he said to Einstein.

The people next to me didn't know either. Maybe it was the IMAX mix, I don't know.

(Amazing movie otherwise, the sound design itself was phenomenal.)

When there is no CGI in a blockbuster, the end credits are crazy fast, turns out.

“HE SHOULD BE THANKING ME!!!” “well, he’s not”

I was pleasantly surprised by the pacing, 3 hours actually felt like a reasonable length of time for this movie (and it so often isn't).

Emily Blunt and RDJ were great and it was nice to see Matt Damon portray a soldier/military type who doesn't just say "explain it in English" to the scientists.

The best part by far was the musical score, particularly re-using the feet stomping multiple times to build tension. I thought it was soldiers marching at first, but then it turned out to be the celebration after the successful test.

I really liked this movie, but was anyone else underwhelmed on the supposed big screen experience? They said see this on the biggest screen possible and I’m not really sure why after watching it. Fucking great movie though.

I think it would've been better if the events were shown in chronological order (except the last scene), I was a bit lost in time, or he could've at least flashed a year number at the start of the security clearance hearing and strauss hearing, but still a masterpiece, ending gave me chills

I really enjoyed this movie! I'm going to get a few downvotes for this, but it's not perfect, and I'm going to disagree that it's his Magnum Opus. Nor is this film a masterpiece. For me, Nolan's best films are a three-way tie between Inception, Insomnia, and The Prestige. With that said, here are my thoughts:

Pros:

Cons:

Anyways, those are my thoughts, and while I was underwhelmed by some of it, I still enjoyed my time at the theatre, and I really have to commend a filmmaker who is still taking risks, putting passion into his projects and doing it in a BIG WAY. For that alone, Nolan gets my respect. 7.5-8/10.

As I walked out of the theater after it ended, the only thing I really thought about was how much I will enjoy South Park ripping on it. The constant super epic music slowly picking up as a totally normal conversation is happening made me roll my eyes in the theater. It was just okay. As someone who is usually a fan of boring movies, I thought this was boring.

Just saw it in 70mm IMAX and it was great. I noticed the aspect ratio kept changing between every scene but the film quality was great.

Also someone in my theater ripped a huge ass fart at the 1 second mark before the trinity explosion.

I was so immersed into the movie that when they were lifting and arming the bomb at the trinity test site, I was unnerved and uncomfortable. Being that close to something and knowing what it's capable of, it sent shivers down my spine. I can only imagine what it was like for the actual scientists that day.

Emily Blunt was sensational. For real. That break from acting really did her well because she turned it out. and I'm not just talking about the interview scene. In general throughout, she gave a really compelling performance with fairly limited screentime.

The complaints in this thread about not seeing the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki on screen remind me a lot of the complaints First Man got about not showing the flag planting

I love the film overall but my biggest complaint is the non-linear storytelling.

I felt like it took away from the urgency and drive to get the bomb completed when the film keeps cutting to after the success of it in the trial scenes. Given that the big drawing scene of the film is the trinity test, I would have liked the entire film up to that point to revolve around it. And I would have liked a scene or two to show the pressure of the Nazis or Japanese enemies to further drive it home cuz this is WW2 dammit. The constant timejumps also made it hard for me to keep track of the many,many characters in this film.

Other than that, a really good movie. Just wished it was a lil easier lol.

And now I am become Barbenheimer, the savior of cinemas.

What a quick three hours! Never wish I had captions more for a movie than this one with how quickly the dialogue and scenes cut time to time as well as the background sound being too loud at times sort of like Tenet.

Gonna need some time to digest this one but really excited to rewatch this incredible movie once it comes out on digital. Highlights were definitely the bomb test and Oppenheimer's speech which made me feel so uneasy.

I thought it was good, but slightly disappointing. Pretty different from what I thought it was gonna be with the trailers since it focused so much on Strauss’ congressional hearing and Oppenheimer’s security clearance hearing etc. and less on the actual Manhattan project. I don’t think Nolan does his best work with working on biographical/historical material. He tries to fit so much into three hours that it starts to lose focus. 7.5/10.

it actually focused on Oppenheimer, rather than the project. Everyone complaining about the security clearance plot is missing the entire point. It's not about the security clearance. I's about his loss of control, the inner turmoil he experiences, and his realization that he created a chain reaction that he can't control and how reckless he now realizes that was, because he is powerless to stop it.

Reading through the comments it seems many disagree but personally I thought the second half of the movie was much more intense than the first one save for the countdown sequence. Either way every minute captivated me and every actor pulled of a fantastic performance.

Guys I had no fucking idea that was Josh Hartnett.

The Hartnettaissance is alive.

The issue for me was there was too much to cover.

The movie was too broad.

I felt like I didn't also get a sense for the time period. Kind of wish there were just quiet scences not so much tempo

Soo much happened that it was hard to reflect.

I kinda wanted to be guided more.

Anyone who is planning to watch this should know what they are getting into. This movie is all about politics and a court case. There is not much science. Los Alamos and the trinity test just take up minor screentime in the movie.

The trailer makes the movie out to be some thriller where they are racing against the Nazi's to make the bomb and it's a life and death situation. They need to build the bomb to end the war, but they don't know if the bomb will destroy the world. Super high stakes. But I kid you not, 80% of the movie revolves around a boardroom and courtcase.

My favourite part of the movie by far was building up Los Alamos/team and the trinity test. Even the trinity test felt abit anti climatic, the blast didn't feel epic. Maybe a bit of CGI would've helped here. Was hoping to see more science of building the bomb, the technical issues they had, the fear they had whether it will work or not, the fear whether they will blow up the whole world etc...

The final hour of the movie was the biggest issue. Imagine going from the high stakes tension of the trinity test to a one hour court case where the only thing on the line was whether Oppenheimer would lose his security clearance. That's right, the entire tension of the last hour was about a security clearance... WTF

Like others have said, the acting was amazing but the movie is letdown by the storytelling

I love Nolan, Interstellar and Inception are top 10 movies of all time for me. But this movie was not good imo

If you want to watch a loud explosion as a movie go watch some shitty marvel movie. Or the original footage of the bomb. This movie is NOT about the bomb. Stop complaining about the bomb footage.

It's about the life of a man who has/had an outsized influence on history. And he wasn't ready for it. That's it. It was a GREAT movie.

One of my favorite parts was when Einstein asked Oppenheimer who’s notes they were on the possibility of a chain reaction and when Oppenheimer said Teller Einstein just said “So thats where we are” lol Teller was really ahead of his time

NOLAN'S BACK, BABY

Saw it today in 70mm IMAX at Irvine Spectrum. Other than what looks like specks of dust throughout the film and the entire screen turning black for about a second around the point after the sex scene, where Murphy and Pugh are talking, the movie went well. I don't know if 70mm IMAX is necessary for a film like this, but damn, does it pull it off well. When Nolan said he purposely filmed this in 70mm, I believe it. The sound mixing is incredible. Some bone-shaking moments especially the first 30 minutes and towards the end. The shots where the entire screen fills up look amazing. Sort of in awe whenever it happens.

I'm a sucker for sound/audio and watching this in this format confirmed for me that sound is the most important quality in making a film. My only complaint about it is that the dialogue was tough to hear throughout the film. Background music being played for like 90% of the film is an interesting choice although I guess that's Nolan's thing.

As for the film, at least for me, it feels like it requires multiple viewings. 99% dialogue. Tons of characters. I lost focus a few times during the first 1.5 hours, but the third act picks up. That ending though with the soundtrack accompanying it. Sheesh.

This movie could've been way better if they just get rid of the Strauss plotline and just focus entirely on the creation and detonation of a-bomb. As a result, the movie felt very unfocused with most scenes not allowed to breath. The movie felt less drama and way more thriller with how it's edited.

Just saw this in 70 mm IMAX. Its weird because the boom is a minor part of the movie, really. He probably should have either CGI’d it, commissioned 15 kilotons of tnt, or just asked the government if he could set off a small A-bomb.

That being said, the imax experience and sound really made this into a thrilling, suspenseful, experience.

At the end, there was no clapping, no people getting up, just complete silence for a minute. I’ve never seen that before in a theater. I believe it was the contemplation of the magnitude of harnessing the power of atomic physics to create an unstoppable race to make weapons of mass destruction.

I’m glad Nolan made this movie but I’m waiting for a updated version of Hiroshima, to really show what the destructive power of these weapons are.

Great acting, great score. The point of the b/w vs. color scenes was not clear to me. The explosion in total silence was brilliant, and I think the best scene was the speech after the test.

Shame about the accents though. All actors portraying non-native speakers of English seemed to gone for fantasy or "generic foreigner" accents. One could even have hired e.g. a Danish actor for playing Bohr etc.

B/w was strauss point of view , colour was oppenheimer. Strauss doesn't see nuance , everything is black 🖤 r white for him

Nothing productive to add besides Einstein just strolling around in nature most of the movie and doing his own thing was so comical to me that I almost laughed when he showed up the last (timeline wise) time seemingly out of nowhere.

Not a Nolan fan, but this was his best film. That being said, I still put it as a 7/10 (maybe 7.5).

The cons:

- Way too bloated, could easily cut 45-50 minutes out, particularly in the first hour and the last. Too much time with RDJ's character and the whole thing with Oppy possible losing his security clearance.

- Dialogue was better than most Nolan stuff, but still pretty bad. Too many exposition scenes, too many "cute" comments from the characters, and way too many references to earlier lines from the movie.

The meh:

- The acting for the most part was fine. Nothing terrible, nothing that impressive.

The pros:

- Cillian Murphy was phenomenal. Absolute perfection start to finish.

- The middle of the movie was incredibly strong. Firing on all cylinders.

- They 100% nailed the test scene. Maybe the best 10-15 minutes of Nolan's career.

- The last 5 minutes or so was perfect.

Overall, very good but typical Nolan; can't get out of his own way.

Ultimately, a solid match-up, but Barbie wins Barbienheimer!

Great great film. Incredible experience.

While I'm sure many here might have found out, the decision to revoke Oppenheimer's security clearance was vacated late last year.

I have to see it again.

I’m sure the movie was fantastic but it was one of the worst theater experiences in years for me.

I finally get to see it in IMAX and three people on my right were talking full volume, laughing and joking for the final 45 minutes. They kept dropping their stuff and laughing at it and would stand up way too much. They took a photo with the flash on and used their phones flashlights to look for random things they dropped on the ground. One played a random YouTube video? Then someone else’s ringer went off at a pivotal moment.

I got nothing from the last 3rd of the movie because of them. Plus my friend chose seats in the far back for some reason. I wish I had the balls to confront the people but I have no backbone. I’m surprised no one in the audience did anything.

Needed to see the titties imo really helped deliver the significance of the I am become death line

is no one hear gonna talk about josh hartnett being a daddy

It all came together at the end, I can see this easily winning best picture this year. Going to take another viewing for me to get the relationships down but the message at the closing of the film hit me really hard.

I wanted to make a thread asking if any English-speaking Japanese people here had seen the film and what their thoughts on it are, but automoderator refuses to let me post it because apparently a month-old general discussion thread is better than a new thread for a specific separate question and discussion

Only gripe is at the end when the old boys looked like genuine thunderbird characters

I think I would have preferred a Coen Brothers interpretation of Oppenheimer. Nolan takes Oppenheimer's perspective too seriously. A look at a Jewish protagonist grappling with the meaning of his ultimately nihilistic and barbaric work. A man learning to fit into a role laid out for him, act out the life that he fell into, gradually learning how to play the part, only for the same political machines that made him to engineer his downfall. A moral examination of how we are all simultaneously actors in history and prisoners of fate, and how we deal with that psychospiritual burden. The Manhattan Project played as a farce, laying bare the detachment with which people can calculate and design the annihilation of lives many thousands of miles away with smiles on their faces, without ever fully grappling with what they've done, until it's too late.

Hell, I'll shell out for movie tickets again for a Coen Brothers remake. I think it'd be good.

Christopher Nolan really did it again. I have not watched a lot of biopics that kept me interested 3 hours in, and this was one. Reminds me of Aviator.

I saw it in 70mm IMAX just now and it looked great, visually a very appealing movie. Overall a great movie with fantastic acting, though I felt the movie felt a bit oddly paced after the detonation scene. I also wished they talked or even showed more about how the bomb effected Japan. There was just one scene where they described what happened to the victims and it was fairly short, I feel that could have been explored more.

Maybe I’m reaching here but I thought that the fact they glossed over the actual detonations in Japan was representative of how the situation was out of Oppenheimer’s hands. Once the project was completed, the military took hold of the devices, effectively ending the scientists’ involvement. Oppenheimer didn’t know when or where they were going to use the bombs and he pretty much found out about the news the same way any civilian would have.

If they had explored the effects of the bomb in Japan, it would have strayed from the movie’s path as an Oppenheimer biopic. The audience is seeing these events unfold through his perspective.

If anyone is waffling whether to see this in imax or not, DO IT, 110% worth it.

Imax tix were hard to come by around here, I had to resort to see an 8:15am movie.

This is a movie that makes you feel very small - this is not a criticism, but a testimony to the power of it. I walked out stunned.

Casey Affleck had like 15 minutes of scream time and left a big impact on me

Just rewatched it in IMAX 70MM and wow what an experience it was on that massive screen. Still great enjoyed it my second viewing although I definitely am looking forward to it going on digital for captions.

Saw it again this week, this time on imax 70 mm.

Mind blowing for sure but the most intense shot was the line of nuclear missiles being revealed in the last scene. Combined with the music, that was bone chilling.

I'm glad I didn't watch this in imax. It was a decent enough movie in my opinion but I was honestly disappointed by the bomb scene. The actors were great. It was just a pretty muddled story.

Crazy how people can react so differently to the same movie. This was IMO easily Nolans best work. And more then anything his most emotional. The genius of it is that he gets you to feel not for the characters sake but for our own.

Every day we ignore the elephant in the room who at any time could destroy us all. More then anything this flick makes you take a second to see the elephant for what it is and why it was created in the 1st place and it's probably the heaviest horror movie of all time because of it.

He's always trying to use the visual and audio components to tell the real story and that never worked so well as it did for this flick. It helps to see it on the big screen or on a good at home atmos setup for instance given what he tried to achieve here.

To make a movie like this where no matter your opinion on atomic bombs going in, you get to see every angle, justification and reason for why he did what he did was remarkable. The audience is pushed to change it's pov like Oppenheimer did himself. To see the logic of his choices and eventually deal with the weight of those choices much like he had to.

I wish I could have watched this movie properly. My 70mm imax screening was a complete shitshow. Right from the beginning, the audio was de-synced from the video and would cut out for 10 seconds every 30 seconds into the movie.

Eventually they said they wouldn't be able to fix it for this showing and that they would be lucky to get it fixed for the evening show today and that they were cancelling the screening.

I'm getting a refund and will re-book a few weeks down the line when hopefully they'll have everything figured out, but it would have been nice to see this tonight.

What a fantastic movie. Cillian and crew killed it. It felt Memento-esque in a way with the story structure, and I loved that. I only wish I had a better grasp of the historical and political context to appreciate it even more. Some pretty good moral and ethical questions for the viewer to ponder too. Can’t wait to see it again!

Average. I'd rate it a 5/10, but only because I really enjoyed being able to see so many great scientific minds portrayed on screen

The pacing was insane. It felt like I was scrolling through TikTok, honestly. No scene lasted more than 60 seconds. Characters were never allowed to sit with their feels, it was all just this rapid fire barrage of events.

The two plots are both fine on their own, but one needed to be secondary to the other. As it stands, they're both given equal screen time, which considering it's 3 hours long, just made it feels like this was two movies cut together.

But overall, I liked it. All the performances were fantastic.

I do wonder how those unfamiliar with scientific history will fare though. They don't take much time to explain anything.

It's a pretty good movie-great for history buffs, science nerds and Cilian fans. Great performances by all, with RDJ being the standout. Excellent cinematography by Hoytema, as usual. Great soundtrack too. The movie was never dull despite its runtime thanks to the pacing.

But God, was some of the dialogue unbearable. Too expository, too stilted and sometimes even cringey. Scientists don't talk that way to each other. A lot of discussions were dumbed down way too much for the general audiences. I think someone like Sorkin would've done a better job. And the name drops were quite insufferable. Especially John F Kennedy's at the end. It was so unnatural, the way they bring his name up over all the other senators who held out.

I'm a Huge Nolan fan but I felt a little underwhelmed with the delivery of the trinity test. I don't feel like it delivered on the scale of horror it boasted. In fact the beginning explosions in the opening were scarier.

Intense movie. But way too long. The political scenes got repetitive.

The bomb scene was good. But I was slightly underwhelmed by it given the numerous "explosive visions" throughout the movie. The bomb scene wasn't audiovisually as cool as e.g. the lightspeed ramming scene in The Last Jedi.

It looks like I'm in the minority here, but I thought this movie was painfully average. There were a few striking moments, and the last 4 or 5 minutes with Oppenheimer and Einstein was amazing.

But there were a lot of moments that felt like they didn't reach their full potential. For example, the scene where Oppenheimer is being applauded by everyone in the gymnasium wasn't nearly as good as it could have been. I thought it was going to do something amazing when the woman's flesh was being seared, and then Oppenheimer stumbled on the charred corpse... but then he walks outside and some random dude is throwing up, and then it ends. It would have been more impactful if everyone in the audience was slowly disintegrating and everything was destroyed when he got outside (or something else like that).

I feel like the movie didn't give us enough of a reason to care about the relationship between Oppenheimer and the politician that RDJ played, so developments in the last part of the movie kind of fell flat for me. Also, RDJ had a horrible line of dialogue that made me laugh out loud in the theater: something along the lines of "he knew I would make him the most famous person in the history of the world!!!"

A small detail I appreciated: they accurately depicted the speed of sound. I always hated movies where the flash of lightning and its thunder occurred concurrently. Especially with that classic cartoon lightning sound, you know which one I'm talking about

The gym scene was truly incredible, but the cheering and applause after the trinity test was absolutely haunting.

Listen up, Nolan fanboys: just because it's Nolan doesn't mean it's good.

The overarching story itself (Oppy vs. Strauss) is interesting and Downey is amazing, but the journey to get there is a minefield of incredibly awkward and unnatural dialogue. At few points do two characters have an actual conversation as two human beings would. Instead they exchange clipped exposition as quickly as possible and move on to the next scene. Occasionally Nolan will throw in a flashback to whomever the two characters are discussing - helpful, but amateurish.

Nolan likes to bite off more than he can chew (see: Interstellar, Tenet), but someone's got to reign him in for his next project.

And - Jack Quaid was wasted in this film.

IMO, I feel quite conflicted about this film. I really liked how the story was sewn together but there were a couple of choices I didn’t quite understand. Mainly it was the sound. I wasn’t watching it at IMAX but at times the sound effects got so loud it got uncomfortable (the extremely loud stomping by the crowd in the basketball court for example). I was contemplating leaving the movie midway due to this. There was also a constant non-stop background music throughout the film. It was to build tension but I started getting fatigued by all the nonstop constant tension build up. The dialogue also felt very tamed and it made connection to the characters a little difficult especially by midway of the movie.

Editing-wise, this movie felt like a 3-hour-long trailer. Or a climax stretched for an entire runtime. Jumpy, jumbled, no scene had any room to breathe. One of my most anticipated movies in a long time, but I walked out very disappointed. Wish I saw what most of y'all and the critics saw.

Great movie, I'll give it a 9/10

The cons:

\*Pacing was too fast, all highlight no filler. Really didn't let some moments sink in.

\*Excessive soundtrack, I prefer movies where you let silence speak. The nuke scene was perfect to me for that reason.

The pluses:

\*Cillian killed the role, really had you rooting for him.

\*Not an RDJ fan, but he made it easy to hate his character.

\*Most of the ensemble cast knocked it out of the park.

\*Source material is 10/10, and the interpretation was perfect. Loved all the historical namedrops.

\*Compelling story that seamlessly wove a handful of threads.

\*Cinematography 9/10.

\*Felt short for a 3 hr movie.

One of Nolan's better works, curious to see who gets the Oscar Nods. Best picture? Cillian best actor? RDJ best Supporting? Loved it and would recommend to anyone who can enjoy a dialogue heavy film for 3 hours

People nowadays have been so numbed by simple to follow, high on mindless action movies that they want even real life stories to have action just to keep them in. I have not seen any biopic which is this fast paced and yet people are focussed on showing of more bombing. Movie is called Oppenheimer, not Atomic Bomb.

You can not remove the Manhattan Project or the atomic bomb from Oppenheimer's story - anything after concerning the man isn't particularly interesting. It's like focusing on T.E. Lawrence's life after the very embellished Lawrence of Arabia days. I'd also argue that by refusing to show the extreme horror of dropping a nuclear weapon on two civilian centers, vaporizing, melting and burning thousands of people instantly and effecting them years after is letting audiences off the hook. It's typical of American movies on the subject.

Dude, it's not about lack of action, it's about lack of compelling dialogue. There are great court dramas out there. Oppenheimer isn't one of them.

nolan fanboys are wild - this was not a great movie.

this movie was so stuffy and boring to me, I got tricked by the trailer, leading me to think that the movie was going to be more action packed and focusing on the science of the atomic bomb, as someone super into physics and chemistry. Silly me though, having read the book I should have known it was going to be a 3 hour boring film, switching flashbacks and arguments and conversations every 5 minutes. The only entertaining shot of the bomb exploding, which wasn't even over Hiroshima lasted.. what.. like 5 minutes?? I really wanted something like interstellar or the imitation game but instead I got 3 hours that I will never get back.

This movie was like somebody took a world class HBO show, 3 seasons of 10 hours each, and edited it down to a runtime of three hours. Every individual thing about this movie was amazing, casting, acting, cinematography, set design, music, etc. But as a cohesive piece, it suffocates under its own weight. Lines are delivered too quickly, the beats of the story aren't really connected causally, its just "this happens, then this happens, then this happens" for three hours. In my humble opinion, this film has so much wasted potential. If Dune gets two films, this should have had at least three. When some of the most interesting and enigmatic scientists of the 20th century show up as cameos with less than ten words of spoken dialogue, there's a problem. People are going to call it one of the best films of the year, but I honestly really don't see it. To me it's just the cult of Nolan all over again.

I rate Oppenheimer, Citizen Kane and Lincoln as my top most boring movies I have watched. I was expecting something like the Imitation Game with a little Nolan over the top flare for the atomic bombings but it was just mind numbingly boring.

It’s so funny watching people predictably call the three hour biopic “boring” as it was never gonna be the type of movie for them.

You gotta distinct when something is “boring” and “not for you”.

This is Nolan’s best movie full stop in my eyes. It felt like the culmination of everything Nolan’s worked on up until this point and has the perfect premise to not drown itself in convoluted nonsense (looking at you Tenet).

Edit: Cillian deserves an Oscar for this performance

Holy shit. What an insanely incredibly well done movie. Just saw Oppenheimer in IMAX. Finally a movie that lives up to the enormous hype and still delivers more.

Visceral, cerebral, emotive, and left me and everyone else who shuffled out of the theatre with in a daze with a sense of dread in the pits of our stomachs. This is Nolan's masterpiece.

The whole film just feels like it's building and building to something massive and that's helped with the very quick, intense and masterful editing between 3 timelines (because of course it does, it's a Nolan movie...). I love how the score is just played throughout like 98% of the film. The music is just as much a character as Oppenheimer himself is and it sets the tone so clearly. It's a really beautiful score. The Cinematography and practical effects are amazing too and it was nice to actually see something that wasn't cgi for once, it's been so long! Along with the editing it's kind of like actor wack-o-mole throughout the runtime as new actors keep popping in out and of the movie each giving stunning performances even when they only have a few lines. One actor in particular who came near the end of the movie I think should be nominated for an Oscar and they were really on screen for maybe 2 minutes? Shout out to Josh Harnett too, glad to see him back and killing it.

Cillian Murphy is the real star here and fantastic in the title role and I think deserves recognition for his part. This is not just a movie about the man who man the atom bomb, but also about the guilt the comes there after. Murphy effortlessly glides through the timelines in this movie and makes each new iteration of Oppenheimer feel different & nuanced but the same. It's subtle but really hard to achieve I think.

The final hour for sure drags ever so slightly after the middle climatic scene, but the movie won me back in the end. And it's there to really showcase that feeling of guilt that so prevalent to the thesis of the film. The biggest flaw is how Nolan still writes women but there is a v memorable and gnarly scene involving Pugh and Blunt that I felt was powerful and kind of bad ass for Nolan to do, didn't know he had it in em.

It's probably one of the most well-crafted bio flicks I've ever seen and one that'll be in my mind for a long time. The power, money, and influence that went into the creation of the most devastating weapons in mankind and the deaths that resulted from it is horrifying. I really want to give grave of the fireflies a rewatch to see this all from the Japanese perspective. Would be a great double feature I think.

Let's enjoy this great time to be a movie lover.

Seen in 70mm IMAX.

That quick scream that sounded like it could be from a little girl at the end of the cheering for his speech got to me, what a movie

Did anyone notice the scene when Jean died - in one of the shots, someone’s hand is holding her underwater? I was wondering if it was a reference to the theory that she was murdered…

This movie was fantastic. I’m still reeling.

Gary Oldman is 2/3 of the way there to making a one-man show about the Potsdam Conference.

Are people insisting this movie blew them away and that you have to see it in IMAX trolling or did I watch a completely different movie? More than half of the movie is literally dialogue in a room, I actually hope someone does a time analysis of this to prove how absurd it is to say that's how it needs to be seen. This was the most unimpressive movie I've ever watched in IMAX and I've seen a lot.

Why are people here so fucking negative? Like, it's not even constructive criticism, which would be fine, it's people legitimately not being able to comprehend that there could be a 3 hour long dialogue heavy movie. Yes people, not every movie is action heavy, some movies are slow burn and it's just people talking. Idk what people were actually expecting, lol. That being said, this was a fantastic movie, albeit, not flawless. Cillian Murphy absolutely killed it.

Oppenheimer: I feel like I have blood on my hands

Truman: Here’s a tissue for your issue

Going to go against the flow I'm seeing here and say I thought the opening had more issues than the ending. The first cut to RDJ was so jarring it felt we were watching a DVD and someone hit the "Next scene" button on accident.

First 15-20 mins I was questioning if I was going to even like the film at all. Then enjoyed the rest. Far from Nolan's best work though.

Robert Downey Jr. absolutely blew me away in the last act of the film. His facial expressions when he realizes what is happening in the court room and then when he breaks down in his office. Strauss hated Oppenheimer and RDJ performed that brilliantly. I’ll be very sad if he doesn’t get nominated for best supporting actor

Kinda surprised by all the lukewarm or negative feelings on the movie in this thread. It’s not my favorite film ever but the level of ambition and filmmaking pedigree on display here compared to 95% of other films we get in theaters now-a-days is not even comparable. I always enjoy Nolan films but he’s never been a go-to filmmaker for me, but this is my favorite film of his for sure. Seems like a culmination of all the techniques he’s built up over his career paired with an unbelievable adaptation of the novel, with which staying true to the original work was one of his priorities.

Someone’s fucking phone went off during the trinity test silence at my theater. For multiple rings. Yes I’m pissed about it

I missed out on the trinity test cuz I almost shit my pants. I was trying to hold it in but I started getting the bubble guts. Thank God for Dolby Digital bass drowning it out, but I felt like as the score got more intense so did the feeling of almost shitting my pants. Once Josh Peck put the key in I had to run from the middle of the aisle to the bathroom. I dropped my own bomb, and got back in my seat right as Benny Safdie was smiling at the sky. I have to go back and watch it again but everything else I saw was amazing

All the complaints about the Trinity test are a symptom of meme culture clearly getting to people lmao

People really went in ready to rate this movie explosion against others like it was some Michael Bay type shit instead of a Nolan directed biopic.

I thought this movie was good. I liked it. This is gonna sound paradoxical but I felt the overall film was too fast and too slow at the same time. Many other people feel the same as me that there were just too many characters, with so much dialogue and such a short introduction. Then there was the transition between black and white and colour. This could've been easily explained but instead we just saw 1. Fission and 2. Fusion. I loved the development of the bomb, testing etc. I know there's gonna be people who say this film is a masterpiece and that's fine, each to their own. Just don't come at me for saying I didn't enjoy it.

The scene of him addressing the crowd was enthralling, this was one conflicted individual. A deeply conflicted Oppenheimer worrying about Japan underneath but then outwardly finishing off his speech with "if only we could've done it to the Germans!" or something like that was just moving af.

I would've liked to have seen some coverage of his early life growing up in the upper west side in a German Jewish family. This was not your typical early 20th century American Jewish upbringing like that of Isi Rabi's was. There was a quick reference to that between the two early in the movie, and only a brief mention of his father, but Robert's childhood would've influenced the man he ultimately becomes quite a bit and it's a bit disappointing that Nolan didn't explore a young Robert at all. Overall i liked it tho, 9/10.

Call me dense, but I didn't really get the point or message of the movie.

Was it about the horrors of a nuclear bomb? Didn't really deliver that home for me.

Was it about Oppenheimer's life? It jumped around so much, and every scene felt like little snippets/anecdotes of his life that I really didn't connect with him at any level. Just seems like a brilliant scientist with a shitty personal life.

I think the most effective message it delivered to me was how dumb McCarthyism got and the paranoia that was prevalent in the 50s

There is a scene where Oppenheimer gives a lecture in the Netherlands, but he speaks German instead of Dutch, and afterwards it’s confirmed it should have been Dutch. Anyone noticed this aswell?

I’m from the Netherlands btw, so i know that it doesn’t sound Dutch at all

This is definitely gonna require a rewatch or two more, but I think this was definitely one of Nolan’s best films in years, and maybe his best work from his filmography yet.

The cast, including supporting actors and even actors that just literally showed up for a scene, were fantastic and firing on all cylinders. I was amazed by the amount of faces I saw that I didn’t know were involved; Casey Affleck (who was terrifying in his brief appearance as a understated, sociopathic intelligence officer), Alex Wolff and certainly not Gary Oldman. All phenomenal.

The two leading standouts though are obviously Cillian Murphy and Robert Downey Jr. I’ve been waiting for Murphy to have a leading role for awhile now, and this was an absolutely stellar debut.

I did some reading on Oppenheimer while in high school, and Murphy managed to convey quite a bit of who Oppenheimer was; from the brilliance, to the ideological & political indecisiveness, to the womanizing etc.

Robert Downey Jr. was great as Lewis Strauss, and I’ll have to think about it for awhile, but maybe one of my favorite performances from him. Incredibly cunning and sinister, but also weirdly petty and paranoid.

This movie had an incredible, building sense of dread, but I think my favorite scene from the movie was when Oppenheimer was given the speech in the little, church like building, and the celebration progressively got more crazed and animalistic, and then the lone scream broke out. The whole sequence had a very uncanny, eerie atmosphere. Think this was great both as just a genuinely unsettling horror scene, and an insight into America’s gross indifference at the bombing.

The only one downside/critique I have would be the trinity test bombing. I know Nolan is fanatic of practical effects and filming everything in camera, but some smartly and minimally used CGI would have made the scene better I think. I’ve viewed some nuclear bomb footage, and unfortunately, at least for the time being, there’s no way to accurately depict it using only practical effects.

Overall, truly enjoyed this, more so than a lot of Nolan’s recent stuff. The runtime breezed by for me, cast was great and the score was amazing.

This movie made me immediately buy the biography it was based on (American Prometheus by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin), where I found that both Kitty and Teller’s testimonies at the “hearings” were essentially verbatim from the true story.

Probably made a mistake by watching Barbie before this, but for a 3 hour long movie, the film felt really fast paced. I kept getting lost for a second during some time jumps, but I really want to watch it again

Columbus Day of biopics.

How profound, a morally corrupt politician vs a heart-eyed scientist. What could possibly be more important in this tale, aside the hundreds of thousands of people who lost their lives amidst this time.

The least important story that's ever been told to me, about the violent and heartless motions of a governing body. This movie communicates that heartlessness momentarily, before swiftly turning back to the flaws of American infrastructure. Groundbreaking. America is violence+power and water is wet, take notes y'all. Don't come to this movie to get away from the hotbed of modern politics, come here to see a three hour explanation of why the American people are paranoid, untrusting, and fearful. But come see it shown with no more wit to it than we see in modern broadcast news.

The buildup and surprise reveal (follow the music) of Emily Blunt being capable indicates that the audience should expect less of her. Since Nolan geniusly showed her as a struggling mother, alcoholic, and side piece of a genius, that's quite the moment. Wow, girl become capable. Florence Pugh is a muse but only seen peripherally. This three hour conversation between white Ivy League graduates definitely makes her "importance" quite clear.

Can't wait for two years from now when people can talk about this movie without parroting it's marketing. Would do just about anything to get these three hours back, but my regret and sorrow about my decisions does not a good story make.

I think a lot of people are forgetting that the movie was a biopic about J. Robert Oppenheimer. It wasn’t intended to be a history doc about the manhattan project or a science lesson about how fission works. The senate scenes are incredibly important to the story of Oppenheimer (not the story of the Atomic Bomb). Strauss successfully revoking his clearance and destroying his credibility alters the US nuclear policy for the duration of the cold war. Oppenheimer created this existential crisis and then his opportunity to try to fix the wrong he feels was made is revoked. He’s forced to live the rest of his life knowing he can’t do anything to help with what he created. Expecting anything else is like walking into dark knight and expecting more cuts of the joker than batman

I'm realizing so many people are disappointed because for some reason they thought this would be about nukes and ww2 and not the guy the film is named after.

I read the book this movie was based on last October before I knew this was being turned into a movie. I can not fucking tell you how happy I was to watch this movie after having read the book. Life can be so incredibly rewarding sometimes, I feel blessed

It was an incredible cinematic experience BUT...

The only thing I was bumbed about is the big elephant in the room:

The explosion...

The build up was perfection.

But the actual detonation was very underwhelming for me compared to the actual footage.

See for yourself: https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=nAm\_OPVeS4w

I wish Nolan would have captured this better. I think it's lack of CGI played a factor in it not being/feeling nearly as big and impactful.

All i could think about was how intense the postproduction must have been.

There was music playing for probably about 2 hours and 45 minutes of the 3 hours. And it was cut quicker than any other movie I’d ever seen. Felt like each scene was only 2-3 minutes in a 3 fucking hour movie. A script like that is a ridiculous achievement.

It felt like the only time i could breath was when the trial bomb went off

I like how he subverted my expectations for the Trinity test by keeping it near silent before exploding with sound.

My favorite parts were when reality was kind of bent with hallucinations of another blast, people sick from radiation, Florence appearing during the questioning, etc.

The only thing that took me out of immersion were the constant cuts in some parts. Like in rapid fire conversation, cuts every time the speaker changes, which was a lot.

Also, there were so many great actors in small roles that I recognized from various places, but it didn’t distract me much. They fit.

Just feeling blessed we got a movie for adults. Need more of that.

Fantastic film but the final act of the interview scenes was 15 minutes too long and it felt agonising after such a fast paced narrative and shooting style. There wasn't enough weight on 'Oppy' losing his security clearance for me to care long enough to be invested in the final act, until the brilliant closing 5 minutes.

the gym speech scene... wow. louder and more painful than the trinity test.

had my doubts going in but this was a great movie, nolan deserves praise. so many ways that this could've gone way wrong.

The countdown to the explosion and the explosion itself was an incredible experience. Everyone knew what's gonna happen, yet everyone seemed totally invested in it. My heart was pounding. No thriller ever gave me as much thrill as this movie did with its soundtrack and presentation. I also think it was generally very mature and on point. Somehow made a fast-paced 3-hour movie that I wished would go on for longer. Brilliant.

I loved it. Especially how breakneck the pace was. I've never seen a biopic that felt like such an action suspense thriller.

It felt like Nolan watched "The Theory of Everything" and said "Fuck this tripe; I'm gonna do that but as a horror movie"

Honestly this movie sucked. So much talk, hard to understand who is playing what role. 3houes is way too long for a n All talk movie. I don’t watch movies for the director, so everyone here is saying this is another hit for the director, but that doesn’t apply since I don’t follow movies just based of directors.

Anyway so much talk that I fell asleep at 2:45 with minutes left. The last hour the talking and up close face shots increased 3x and I was getting very anxious how much longer do people talking is going to go on for. The sex scene he was imagining was pointless. What was the point of that?

I wish they gave you a context of when their was happening, because not everyone knows history well enough to know that the Japs got bombs when there was more talking in the movie. I didn’t even realize this was happening at the same time. Now if you know history that’s great but the movie should’ve presented the timeline of events better than having to have you do a WW2 cram session before you see the movie.

No way Jose from me

Sorry, I must be reading this wrong. Either you're saying an insanely ridiculous thing that not everyone knows that Japan got bombed by the Americans. Or you're saying a different, very ridiculous thing that not everyone watching the movie realised that Japan got bombed even though Oppenheimer was broadcasting the radio broadcast of the announcement that Japan got bombed to his entire little town through the speakers.

I will admit I only watched because my dad wanted to go see it and because of the Barbie/Oppenheimer memes, but I still enjoyed it. I didn’t really understand what was going on most the time because of the science speak but what I could catch was really enticing. Even if I didn’t catch everything I was still on the edge of my seat.

To me, the score was the real star of the show. Just marvelous. I’m glad we saw it in IMAX, too. My first experience with it and I was blown away.

Cillian Murphy was sublime

It was pretty enjoyable. I'm not a big fan of Christopher Nolan movies so I went in with tempered expectations, and what I saw was better than I expected. A few things I didn't like about it (or I thought was meh):

Despite the movie clearly shooting to present itself as somewhat as an epic, the global physics academic milleu shown in Oppenheimer lacks charm and ultimately feels dull and lifeless, especially in comparison to movies like Goodfellas or Boogie Nights that pull off the vibe of a "crew" pretty well. Maybe scientists are just boring people, but I suspect it has more to do with Christopher Nolan just not being able to write or direct normal human interactions. Take the scene at the Christmas party for example - here is a perfect opportunity to spend some time letting the various characters we've only seen at work act more natural, feel more "human" to the audience, and Nolan has to ruin it right away by making the event all big and historic with Bohr being introduced at the party.

There are some odd choices when it comes to detail. Like the one scientist dude with the drums - why is he always playing on the drums? It felt like a cool detail Nolan decided to put in because some character consultant on set knew that fringe detail about one of the scientists at Los Alamos. Just felt a bit distracting. There are other references to history that also are distracting like this (like the name dropping of John F. Kennedy, Marvel Cinematic Universe style).

Some of the stylistic choices felt pretty stale. Like when Kitty hears about Oppenheimer's infidelity, or when Oppenheimer is talking to a crowd after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Also, despite the movie attempting to tell us so, I would assume that there's a world of difference between feeling guilty for developing a nuclear bomb that killed 70,000 people, and feeling guilty for breaking up with someone before they commit suicide? Like I get that Nolan's trying to draw parallels here since he's known for creating "intelligent" movies, but it's quite a stretch.

I laughed when I saw Einstein appear from behind the car after Oppenheimer gets dropped off at his house - I get that Einstein's supposed to be the Physics Yoda in the movie, but it felt so out of place. A friend I watched the movie said he thought Oppenheimer had hallucinated Einstein in that scene.

Emily Blunt's character was pretty bland. She seems to have a tad more character in the first half of the movie, but in the second half she devolves into a pretty stereotypical Hollywood movie wife/ Oppenheimer's anger translator.

I just feel like Christopher Nolan just doesn't really trust his audience. He doesn't think they'll know how to respond to a scene, so he oversaturates most scenes in his movie with background music, and then stops the music at scenes that he really wants you to think as "important." He has characters often explaining what's going on in a scene to the audience because he thinks the audience can't grasp what's happening onscreen. This kind of spoon-feeding sometimes feels too obvious to the point where it almost feels 4th wall shattering.

Despite these flaws, it was overall pretty watchable. The atomic bomb scene people said was underwhelming - I actually quite liked, but not enough to watch this movie again. 6/10.

I loved the pacing of the movie until the trials. They felt a little dragged out.

But the atmosphere was something else. It was so intense waiting for the bomb tests etc.

We literally sat there holding our ears when waiting for the trinity test lol. It’s one of the movies that I will never watch again at home, because it relied so heavily on the audio experience and will never work at home. Also the music was great.

I finally saw it last night. Had to wait that long to get a showing in 70mm.

Great movie, expertly shot, acted, and the sound design was awesome. It could have lost 20 min of runtime and nobody would have known the difference (most movies these days have that problem). As others have said here...there was a lot of of buildup of a few plot lines without a respectful payoff. Those threads could have been left on the cutting room floor and the movie would not have suffered one bit.

That said...there was no reason to shoot a courtroom drama like this in Imax.

I'm really hesitant to watch this in the movie theater as Interstellar and Tenet were really hard for me to watch because of the sound.

It's insanely frustrating for me to know there is important dialog that I can't hear because of the loud music or just the audio volume is really low.

If it's bad, I will wait till it's out in some form of streaming service with subtitles instead of being annoyed for 3 hours in the theater.

What interesting is, these people are who are super brilliant have their regular lives outside of their field in disarray, just like the rest of us.

War is pure evil

Just finished a second watching. Did anyone else notice all the pianos? I don’t mean in the score, like in the actual movie. I counted five:

in his classroom in Berkeley

in the house where the communist party meeting was when he meets Jean

in one of the meeting rooms in Los Alamos

in the room where Dr Hill tries to get Oppenheimer to sign the petition before he meets the War Secretary) in Washington

in his house at the end, when Kitty is trying to get him to fight back against the hearing

What’s it all about? I’m sure at the time it was common (as it still is) to have a piano in the house, but the other ones are kind of odd. Apparently Oppenheimer didn’t like music much either so it’s all a bit weird. Any theories?

Huge Nolan fan, Saw in IMAX London. Underwhelming.

Acting, especially Cillian, was brilliant.

The audio mixing was borderline painful. Struggled to hear around 20-30% of dialogue over the ambient noises and average score (particularly in the first hour). The sound design itself is really cool but it's hard to take in and enjoy when you're being clubbed to death by it.

The structure is really janky and barely felt like a Nolan film. Act 1 is a clusterfuck of dialogue and music passing by at light speed. Act 2 ending with Trinity is definitely the strongest. Act 3 was enjoyable but could have been a different film entirely.

Visuals were brilliant but I wasn't a fan of the black and white cuts in Act 3.

Film is decent but I probably would have enjoyed watching it at home more than IMAX due to the audio. Cillian steals the show. Easily my least enjoyed Nolan film.

Does anyone else feel like this movie executed one of the most successful social media marketing campaigns of all time to construct a narrative that this movie is a masterpiece? Not just a masterpiece, but one that must be viewed on the big screen and in 70 mm IMAX if possible.

Cillian's performance was superb, but the rest of the film was dull, droning and forgettable. There was no reason to see this on a big screen. I waited for a month to be able to get a ticket to see it on 70 mm IMAX, and the ticket was like $27. I feel swindled and wish I just saw it in a standard theater for a fraction of the price. I can't remember a single scene in the movie that benefitted from the IMAX experience. Maybe the gym scene with the stomping? In fact, I think I would have enjoyed it more at home on a TV or laptop where I could take a break from the tedium of the film. I'm curious to see how people will remember this movie in a year or two.

Sorry, that was not my experience at all. I think IMAX greatly enhanced the viewing experience.

felt the movie had a meta commentary from the Struss line - Oppenheimer wants it to be about the Trinity Test and not Hiroshima/Nagasaki. The movie is totally about the Trinity Test/ Clearance hearing/ Confirmation hearing down plays the A-bomb drops on Hiroshima/ Nagasaki. Brutal episode of history.

I watched it yesterday and i found that the Storyline with the interrogation was drawn out a bit too much, especially at the end but other than that i thought it was a pretty great movie. The editing was pretty genius, and they gave a neat portrayal of Oppenheimer, in so far that you get a good Idea of the Kind of Person that He was.

Finally got to see it last night, we loved it and were knocked back on our heels by it for a good long while afterwards.

One thing we agreed is we’d love to see a Kitty Oppenheimer movie. Fascinating individual as portrayed.

Incredible movie. Any time I watch a Christopher Nolan movie, I avoid all trailers and hype and wait till the day I see the movie to leave all expectations out. Cillian Murphy is the perfect man for the role and the supporting cast delivered. I will definitely plan to see it again. Right now I’m debating if this is the best movie Nolan ever made. I don’t know, but it feels like it.

There are some Japanese people flew to the US just to watch the movie because it is not released in Japan.

Truman asked Oppenheimer in the movie,

"Do you think anyone in Hiroshima or Nagasaki gives a shit who built the bomb?"

Japanese people do truly care about who built the bomb.

Einstein once recounted his distress at Japanese people asking him why he built the nuclear bomb, and he had to repeatedly tell them and anyone else who asked that all he did was write a letter to FDR urging him to research nuclear weapons since the Nazis were doing the same.

You could have heard a mouse fart in my full theater when the test went off. Everyone was holding their breath.

Lotta love for this movie in here but I gotta say. Not my cup of tea. Didn’t really care about the whole Strauss v Oppenheimer rivalry by the time it came up. Good acting. Liked the Einstein piece. But I wish I could have that 3 hours back. Boring. Could have easily been under two hours.

Am I crazy or in the scene where Jean Tatlock is committing suicide, is there a split second where you see a hand that isn’t hers push her head into the water?? Need to see it again but man I thought I saw that.

It was really good. The nuke scene and Oppenheimer's "speech" to the people of Los Alamos will stick with me for a bit.

Was there an act number at the beginning of the film but never a second act title?

In the bottom-left it said like "1. Somethingsomething"but I never saw a part 2 come up. Was it actually a location name?

1 was fusion, 2 was fission (or maybe the other way around). They were both displayed pretty close together

I really enjoyed the movie but I think this is one that people are either going to love or not. No explaining why it was good will sway anyone.

I went to see it alone. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Didn't try to explain why to my wife though. I doubt she will ever see it and I know she wouldn't care for it but that's okay. It's not for everyone

Anyone else feel cold in the instant things go silent, dropping the bomb?

When they cut to Murphy’s face, it just felt cold for like 3 seconds.

Most of the people that I've talked to after the movie didn't like the last hour or so, I personally think that the third act (after the bombs on japan drooped) was brilliant but I feel like people would appreciate it more on second viewing or if they had more historical background... mostly because the whole political drama had so many moving parts and characters.

And does anyone know how they made the whole nuclear apocalypse sequence with no cgi?

How explicit is the nudity/sex in this movie? My grandpa wants to take me and my dad to see this, but I'd rather avoid awkwardly sitting next to them if there's a pretty raunchy sex scene(s) in the film.

I wouldn't call it raunchy, though it is explicit nudity (you see Florence Pugh's breasts during and after sex scenes). But it's reasonably "tasteful", not raunchy and exploitive.

You do not see dong.

The people who compared it to The social network hit on the nail. The final act is a whole courtroom drama. Can understand why some people were disappointed with last 45 minutes. But man no one is giving the dialogues the credit it deserves here. It was like Nolan brought out his inner Aaron Sorkins with this film. Every performance with their delivery made the movie interesting. Also reminded of La confidential in the way the script was structured. Definitely need to watch more times to fully give a score.

The only problem I had with the film was how little context I had while watching it.Nolan should have better explained who's who and why they do what they do.The scene with Einstein and Oppenheimer is going to stay with me for ages.

I have several things I wanna say but I'm gonna start by saying it's fun seeing Alden Ehrenreich on the screen (Lucasfilms did him dirty) and he and RDJ played so well off each other.

The "Jump scares" in this were more effective than any horror movie I've seen in a long time

I'm speechless Oppenheimer was fuckin insane, Cillian Murphy was so good man what a actor he is and that last scene between Oppenheimer and Einstein was Perfect Wow What a Experience.

I can’t imagine walking from this into Barbie without some significant time to shake off the funk - but it’s Nolan’s best in years if not decades IMO. The first time in a very long time that I felt he cared as much about his lead character as he did about the concept.

Beautifully shot, fantastic performances, and Nolan's direction just might be the best it's ever been. I have some relatively minor issues, but all in all, more than worth a watch, and if you're on the fence or thinking you'll wait for it to hit VOD, just go to your theather - it actually makes a difference.

I've always though Nolan's movies are needlessly convoluted and complicated almost just for the sake of it. My favorite of his is probably Dunkirk, but even there, it feels like the non-linear narrative kind of unravels at a couple of points. In Oppenheimer, though? Not only does it work, but it works damn near perfectly. Funnily enough, I randomly felt the urge to rewatch The Social Neteork yesterday, and I can't help but feel like this is the same movie, but with nukes instead of Facebook. For a good chunk of its runtime, it's a very dialogue-rich movie that transcends everything Nolan has written before thanks to career-best performances from just about evertone involved.

Robert Downey Jr. is fantastic, and I'm so glad he's coming back to "real" acting. Murphy is a true revelation, and just plain excels in the portrayal of a very complicated, very conflicted figure. You know how people say there's character actors stuck in leading men's bodies? Murphy is the opposite of that, and he should absolutely get more leading roles after this. Florence Pugh and Emily Blunt are very underused, sadly, but that's just because the script doesn't give them a whole lot to work with. When they are on screen, though, they're as good as they've ever been.

And that last point sort of brings me to the only real issue I had with the movie. There's just so much stuff going on all the time. It feels like someone triee to condense Band of Brothers or Chernobyl into three hours. A new character is introduced every five minutes, only to come back again an hour and a half later or at the end of the movie. There's some pacing issues as well, with Nolan introducing a new little diversion on their way to the Bomb, but then that's resolved two minutes later, while the next issue they run into takes them 15 to get through. A lot of the comments I'm seeing here say they had issues with the last act, but it was the opposite for me: there were some parts leading up to Trinity that felt really messy and undercooked, but once the test was done and we got to Oppenheimer's "kangaroo court" and Strauss' confirmstion hearing, I was all in. It was a good twist for those unfamiliar with that part of Oppenheimer's life, and the stakes feel higher than they did during the building of an actual atomic bomb.

I really liked the film. The comments I've seen about not caring about the Strauss and Oppenheimer dynamic don't make sense to me. The whole point of the story seems to be the development of god-like destructive power against a backdrop of unjustified human belligerence, be it genocidal (like Germany) or petty (like Strauss). Strauss's grudge was unimportant yet he and other humans like him (and like all of us) are the ones wielding this important destructive power. This is directly pointed out when Strauss and others were speculating about what Oppenheimer and Einstein had discussed.

no way this movie is better than interstellar/dark knight/inception right?

That ending though. Holy shit. Couldn’t have been wrapped up better. The anticipation to seeing what Oppy and Einstein were talking about, thinking it’s about Strauss, only to find out that it’s the true message of the film.

We are all fucked, and this was inevitable.

As excited as I was for the movie, I was really worried that I’d start to get bored somewhere during the three hour run. Somehow, I was glued to the screen during the entire run. That was an amazing success in compelling storytelling.

Really superb in so many ways.

Although, as someone who is relatively uneducated on Oppenheimer and WW2 history, I did struggle to keep track of all the characters, and I was a bit confused during the black and white scenes.

With that said, the cinematography and acting was really something!

Personal pet peeve, but our imax sound was too loud at some points. I understand the artistic intent, but I literally winced with pain in my ears more than once.

"Maybe they spoke about something more important"

Who would have thought that in a movie about thermonuclear weapons, Jamie Dornan would give the biggest burn.

Edit: I have been told that's not Jamie Dornan.

I watched this yesterday and am coming to see what people thought

BUT, I still can’t get over the sick as intro card. I don’t even remember the full quote but as a total casual who didn’t know Prometheus or anything, having that dark line over the nuclear bomb in the back was a great way to start

Anyone who's dissing Barbie to prop of Oppenheimer here are... How shall I put it... Absolute Losers.

You don't have to be a genius to understand what level of iconic movie marketing Barbieheimer has been. Both movies gained more traction together than they would have apart. They are not eating each others' business. They are doubling it.

The absolute second the bomb dropped someone’s iPhone alarm went off. For a moment I thought Nolan had memed everyone cause everyone in the theatre laughed.

I loved it. Definitely left me feeling unnerved - not just about how the atomic bomb changed our world/trajectory, but also about how the machine chews people/countries/groups up & spits them out.

I'm sorry but Nolan should've inserted the actual footage of the trinity atom bomb test (with a little bit of CGI trickery ) into the test scene, portions of the film are in black and white anyway. The practical effects detonation in the film looked like a large propane explosion instead of an atomic detonation....

Edit: Heres HD footage of the actual trinity test - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wki4hg9Om-k

Couple of thoughts.

Otherwise, a really great movie!

Best part of the movie was when Good Will Hunting solved the equation on the blackboard

It is an extremely over engineered movie, you are trying to follow what's happening but at all times, artificial complexity makes it impossible to do so.

In the first hour, the narrative has a premise : how/can they build the bomb. There is a logical progression in that arc. You understand what we're going toward and why it's important.

However the movie already has its signature absurd complexity, so it's still hard to follow. They say that the story is built in three times: the script, the shooting and production, and the editing.

In the script, the story probably makes sense. In this first act we have a clear premise, so we can try to hold on to the script. It's an inherently difficult story I am sure, but in three hours they had the time to lay it clearly if they had wanted to.

The production is very impressive, but is it very good? Of course it looks good, it's well directed, well acted blablabla we get it you got all the best actors, of course it looks good.

The money shots are okay (just okay IMO, nothing like Interstellar space sequences), but there aren't even many of them. You really only get one smaller scale explosion, and that's it. Call me shallow, but part of why I went is for the grand spectacle, and I feel like I didn't get it.

The Imax (Dolby in my case) technology is completely unnecessary for that reason. The vast majority of the movie is in a small room, with dialogue editing. Avatar completely justified its technology, almost all of it looked amazing. This looks amazing for like 3min out of 3 hours. Those who didn't get their premium technology ticket won't miss out on much.

The editing is where they truly took the script, and then put it in a blender, pressed the "turbo destruction" button and served us the result. It is such a mess, it is so impossible to follow that you just feel bad for those who had to do it.

First of all, the entire movie is in a cross editing format, meaning that different scenes get presented together. This is the style of editing that they use for example if in a cop movie, you see the bank robbers leaving and the cops leaving the station in their cars, and it keeps cutting between those two scenes happening at the same time.

In Oppenheimer, the cross editing occurs between 4 or 5 different time periods, of course this already makes it harder to follow than editing between different places at the same time. Some periods also have different visual identities, with one being black and white because?

The periods also refer to each other, since some are trials, or some not trials, idk like a hearing or whatever, I never understood that clearly.

So that is the macro structure of the movie in how it presents its narration: cross editing between 4-5 time periods.

Now on a sequence scale which is smaller, we keep cutting between scenes all the time, as fast as possible. There is a complex subject of discussion, being discussed very fast, and I never had time to finish understanding a sequence before we moved on to the next very fast sequence.

There are almost no pauses in the movie. It moves so fast, you don't have time to blink if you want to have a chance at understanding it.

By the end of the "building the bomb" act, I had forgotten what was happening in the other timelines, which are the subject of the next acts. When I left the cinema, I had forgotten Robert Downey Jr's role, how he got into the movie and story and why.

I could not tell you right now what the story is about past the first hour, except for a very vague "it's Oppenheimer's trial about if what he did was right or not". But if you asked me about the exact characters, the exacts sequence of events, I would have literally no idea.

It all becomes a word soup, and at some point I just gave up on understanding it. I'm sure I could understand it if it was presented it clearly. But the never ending stream of words, cut, music, sound effects, visual effects just start to hurt the brain.

On a scene scale, I don't think I've ever seen such fast dialogues. The movie is 3 hours long, but there are SO MANY words to fit in, every dialogue has to be edited as fast as possible, before moving on to the next one. This is how current celebrity vloggers edit their videos about going shopping, why does a historical movie with very complex subjects need to be edited in the same style?

Some of the techniques used are actually interesting, for example at one point there is a flashback of two characters talking, but we don't need to actually know what they said, so as the second character responds, he gets cut mid sentence, which I liked.

But it is the extreme density of it that completely spoils the creativity.

I don't know what to say anymore, if people say it's great and perfectly understandable then I'd challenge them to write 10 lines clearly presenting the story, characters and events in a chronological manner, because I don't think it's possible.

What an exhausting movie, my goodness. I don't get why the movie needed to be shot in IMAX. The IMAX screen showing constant extreme closeups was plain uncomfortable. I genuinely think I would've enjoyed the film more on a laptop with subtitles.

The cutaway shots of particles swirling, atoms splitting, wave functions mingling and collapsing, V2's flying overhead, the atmosphere burning, and others were beautiful and exciting.

The cast was excellent. All around. Emily Blunt and Cillian Murphy are standouts to me.

Some details were recreated with astounding accuracy, the gadget itself looks exactly like the photographs of it.

Oh my god, holy shit, every other line in this movie is a character explaining either a technical or plot detail. Matt Damon says "I've heard a lot about you, you are a womanizer, a dilettante, etc." It's such weak dialogue. This is the Oppenheimer movie, he's the main character, but it sounds like Damon's introducing him as a member of the Suicide Squad.

I'd be shocked if any scene in this movie was longer than a minute. The movie has a relentless pace. For 3 hours we hardly get any time to take in the characters just being in a scene.

This complex, interleaved narrative structure is what Nolan is known for, but I think the movie strains under the weight of this format. So much screen time and dialogue goes to showing us the inner workings of this political attack that is ultimately just a petty smear campaign. Bland details are shown, then reshown, then re-litigated again in hearings to tie down this messy structure.

The movie is so long and it exposits so aggressively, why is the science is reduced to pure mysticism. Christopher Nolan seems obsessed with realism so I don't get why these genius men and women are relegated to speaking in platitudes about the science they devoted their lives to study.

About half the movie is focused on Lewis Strauss' attempts to smear Oppenheimer. We the audience do not hold the fervent anti-communist views of America at that time. We don't care if Oppie is a communist or not. This hearing is a natural framing device as Oppie's past is combed through and exploited, but why on earth do we focus on the precise details of who wrote what memo to whom based on which leaked document.

The making of the atom bomb involved some truly fascinating events and many brilliant scientists, but they all show up in the movie almost like cameos. Here's Feynman, here's Leo Szilard, here's Fermi, here in the corner is Pile 1, and oh my God is that Moon Knight? I can respect that Nolan stuck to Oppie's story (he was only around for certain events at certain times), except I can't respect that because the whole second half of the movie is about fucking Lewis Strauss!

Oppenheimer was a weird, fascinating dude. He considered the Bhaghavad Gita to be one of the books that most shaped his philosophy of life. In the movie it comes up as a curiosity that leads into a sex scene, why not show more? The story is about a warrior named Arjuna hesitating before a large battle. His charioteer, Krinsha (an avatar of Vishnu depending on who you ask), counsels him. Krishna is "death, destroyer of worlds" and he says that Arjuna would only be slaying men Krishna had already taken. Arjuna needed not mourn the many he would have to kill, their lives already belonged to the infinite devourer of all things. Too bad that story has no bearing on the themes of this movie /s.

Like I said, those pulsing, whirring visual cutaways were awesome. Why did they just stop? Was it so we could go to the Strauss Housse? They lent such magic to the first few beats of the movie and then they abated. There were so many elements of the Manhattan project that could've been visualized in this way (lookup explosive lens). Moreover, Oppenheimer cared about things other than the bomb, we could've also been treated to mystical visions relating to his deep interest in Hinduism. Or why not some vision like this one from Dr Michihiko Hachiya who survived the atom bomb:

How much more captivating could this narrative have been if we were allowed into all of Oppenheimer's thoughts, not just the ones Nolan thought were interesting.

It was certainly different, perhaps the promotional material over-emphasized the scene's importance, but I can't help but feel like that scene was intended to be a big moment. Nolan certainly likes his set-pieces and he spent a great deal of time and money trying to get it right. But man did it fall flat for me. We've all seen footage of real nuclear explosions. It seemed like Nolan was trying his darndest to recreate it "in camera" to seemingly no purpose. Why not just use the existing trinity footage and gussy it up a bit? He's filming something that's already been filmed without really choosing a new perspective. He had so many options to make this scene a bit less lame:

To Nolan's credit, this film does reflect the historical fact the bombs were dropped not just to end the war but also show our power to the soviets. Many historians argue that Japan was on the precipice of surrender before the weapons were deployed.

I think Nolan made the wrong choice not showing the bombings in some way. The charred corpse and burned face I think were not sufficient. We needed some sort of vision, depiction, description, or reaction beyond what was presented. The very end of the movie is this fiery vision of doomsday, we ignore that fact that the same doomsday was already unleashed, and that our government would've unleashed it again and again on whoever they could've if the soviets hadn't developed their own weapons.

Many victims in Hiroshima were effectively melted but did not die right away. They lingered in blind agony, pawing with macerated limbs for their children and their parents who were dead or left as moaning faceless ghouls. Rivers of corpses ran red then black with the sooty fallout that came down afterwards. Nolan did not shock and upset us nearly enough, these scenes should've been excruciating.

This movie's trailers sold it using the atom bomb, not Oppenheimer's chaotic and influential life. I think it's fair to say that the bomb is what drew a lot of folks into the theater in the first place. You cannot make a story about the bomb and gloss over it's true victims like this. It's irresponsible, and it supposes the scariest thing is an imagined apocalypse rather than the real ones our government triumphantly wrought on cities full of civilians.

But that's the power of the bomb. No nation, no matter how cruel, can ignore that using these weapons guarantees doom for everyone. We are powerless before the infinite maw of death, devourer of all things, destroyer of worlds. The greatest invention of the last century may still save us. But we cannot forget the lives it destroyed.

(editing as I see typos)

I think this movie stomps on its own message a lot by spending less than 30 seconds discussing the Japanese people who were underneath the bomb. Very on brand for the characters in the movie, but raises the question of whether this story needs to be told.

The first half of this movie feels like you started watching 20 minutes in. I’m aware they were real people, but it feels like I’m watching a sequel or something and I’m supposed to know everything about these people already. Where’s Oppenheimer’s exposition?

I think it was a good movie

I agree that they could have gone into the Physics part in detail, but I get that the average layperson may not understand all the Physics behind this, so they kept it short and simple

I was actually impressed that they spent a good deal of the runtime on Oppenheimer grappling with the guilt of putting his hands on something so catastrophic. It was amazing that Christopher Nolan showed the humane side of Oppenheimer, and not just a war-raging Physicist.

The ending was also so good. I absolutely loved the way he described how the events are going to shape the world we live in today

Everyone's entitled to their opinion, but the people calling it boring are definitely missing the point. I can understand why they may feel that way, but it also goes to show just how little the general public knows or appreciates its own countries history. As someone who studies political science, the nuclear treaties are actually the most well followed international agreements

I appreciate the restraint in not showing Hiroshima or Nagasaki being bombed and just the Trinity test. Seeing the two bombs being transported in shaky trucks was more unerving than actually seeing the blasts again.

I also appreciated how Kitty Oppenheimer didn't have some historonic reaction learning about his affair with Pugh when she had cheated on her husband with Oppenheimer. It was fascinating seeing him interact with Niels Bohr and Einstein and Enrico Fermi. Even knowing they were real people, they've almost become mythical figures at this point. The three interwoven stories were also a master stroke in structure.

I would have like to see more of the smear job with senator Mcarthy and J Edgar Hoivers' involvement but felt the private committee kangaroo court did an effective job.

Not gonna lie if I was Oppenheimer I would also go to sleep with crushing guilt every night for the rest of my life for choosing an alcoholic Emily Blunt over a commie Florence Pugh.

That bomb testing scene was, IMO, one of the greatest scenes in cinematic history. The iconic visual, the incredible sound design, the edge of your seat build. There is something special about a filmmaker who can make you nervous about a moment when you already know the outcome.

This movie, and specifically that scene, was Nolan’s magnum opus.

I just want to say that above all else, this film left me with a deep longing to know more. A yearning to study these abstract concepts that these brilliant scientists navigated with dexterity and genius.

I regretted not taking my education so seriously as I left the theater. I wish I had seen this movie when I was 14 - it would have set me on a course to study physics and quantum mechanics and things that can change the world.

I wonder if any young man or woman is seeing this film and setting a course for magnificent scientific achievement…I hope so.

Interesting that the poll results currently have this with a median rating of 9/10, yet the majority of comments seem to be from people who didn’t like it at all. Lot of quiet appreciators I guess?

FWIW I scored it 9/10, thought it was a near flawless biopic that far exceeded what I thought was the ceiling for how much I could enjoy a biopic about a theoretical physicist.

I thought this would be a straight biopic, a movie in chronological order but Christopher Nolan being Christopher Nolan decided to make it a small puzzle box (just like Dunkirk). I kind of struggled on the first few minutes trying to determine the order of the scenes and fortunately I caught the grasp of it, although I'm pretty sure I'm still wrong with quite a few things.

I have enjoyed every minute of it especially the whole Los Alamos thing. The highlight of the movie is definitely the Trinity Test. The buildup, the score, the sound effects, and the suspense, it all came beautifully.

I understand now why people say the movie could have ended few minutes after the trinity test. I think the movie could have ended on the scene where they carried Oppenheimer and celebrating the success of the Trinity Test. Freeze the frame there, play some dramatic music, transition to black screen with texts and images telling the aftermath of the bombs (just like how the last episode of Chernobyl ended).

But honestly, I'm so glad we got 1 more hour and a huge fraction of it is courtroom drama. I really love courtroom dramas and I think Oppenheimer did it well. I understand how some people found the last hour boring after all it's hard to top the whole Los Alamos sequence.

Overall, I really love the movie. It's my first time watching in an IMAX theater and I'm glad my first Imax movie is Oppenheimer. I'm still lost on some details because I missed some dialogue due to sound mixing and the characters speaking fast. I guess I've got to find a copy of American Prometheus now just to understand the whole context of the film.

I feel Nolan could have left an hour of this film on the cutting room floor. It was just too much in my opinion and I love movies. But this was a case of grandiose expectations from the director. I didn’t care for the non linearity, I’m watching a biopic with a lot of different eras and shit ton of characters. It would have been nicer to slow it down and let the audience work it out through a normal timeline. He could have still shifted the Einstein scene at the end to make it more powerful. I simply feel the director could have condensed an hour or so of that movie into two 15 minute scenes and made them connect with the plot much better. It seemed so excessive. I didn’t think Matt Damon was a great fit for the role of the General. Something seemed very off about his performance.

Overall I think this a 6.5 out of 10. Music was fantastic and perhaps the best part but as per usual for CNs work it was mixed so terribly it was hard to hear any dialogue or any other background noise.

Why isn't anyone talking about the scene where Oppenheimer convinces everyone that they should still go ahead with the bomb even though Germany has been defeated?

Deeply insidious scene from him

So, I saw this movie on IMAX (I assume digital). And I went in blind, only seeing the trailer and was aware on surface who Oppenheimer was and it was the first Nolan film I've seen. But, I really liked the film and 3 hours went by breeze. Sometimes jumping from scene to scene was a bit meh, but otherwise I was really pleased and I liked it.

Disappointing. Not worth seeing in imax at all.

It's undoubtedly a great movie, but I do think the hype around it set my expectations too high.

Unlike most movies it's actually the best right near the end, the start of it didn't really hook me. I especially thought the opening with the loud music and flashy science particles was a bit tacky. The film overall could use some more quieter moments, it would have made the impact of the bomb stand out more and have more impact.

Nonetheless everything else was fantastic. Acting was amazing, Oppenheimer's character was fascinating to watch, especially since the movie doesn't make him into a complete hero but shows him for the incredible but flawed man he was. The dialogue was also excellently written. Overall an 8/10. Definitely has a few faults, but it's positives more than make up for it.

Honestly the one problem I had with this film was the footage of the trinity test really didn't look like a nuke. After that fantastic buildup sequence and the incredible sound design, it just makes me wonder how amazing that scene would have been if it didn't just look like a standard Hollywood explosion and actually conveyed the scale, horror and destruction that all footage of actual nuclear detonations contain

Just watched for a second time in 70mm. I think it's alot better the second watch.

I'd say the biggest weakness of the film is that it's hard to know what story it's trying to tell on the first watch. And because you go in without that context, it's easy to be confused by what's going on in some of the early scenes.

Once you understand the context, those early scenes flow well and communicate the message clearly.

I think it could have used a title card maybe to explain a few of the basics for first time watchers, like who Strauss was, and some of the time frames for different scenes. It wouldn't really detract from any of the scenes but would help people understand what's going on.

Very good movie though. It's easily my favorite from Nolan. Knowing what I know about the Manhattan Project (from reading Feynman's book), it seems mostly pretty accurate.

I think the people complaining about not showing Hiroshima/Nagasaki are being stupid. The movie is about how bad nuclear proliferation is and how terrifying nuclear holocaust is, you can't make a spectacle of the deaths of a hundred thousand when thats your message.

Also, I'm personally glad the movie is softer on American communists while portraying the anti-communists much worse. I think it's sensible to dislike communists who leaked information to the Soviets, but as Kitty says most communists didn't really support that. I think it more or less portrays the political situation accurately, with American communists being questionable by sympathetic and the anti-communists as almost lunatics.

One of the most fast paced movies I've ever seen. It just felt like it was speed running from scene to scene, leaving zero room to breathe.

The part with Truman was awesome

Honestly I’m still trying to take it all in. This was an incredibly powerful experience, and one I’m thinking about constantly over the last couple of days. This is a movie that makes me want to pull out all the cliches when it comes to describing a truly great film. Tour de force, cinematic masterpiece etc etc. The writing, acting, directing, pacing, music - it all just comes together perfectly.

That scene in the auditorium after Hiroshima, with Oppenheimer addressing the crowd, might be the best thing Nolan has ever put together. The final scene with Einstein gave me chills. And there’s so many scenes both little and small in between that blew me away. Can’t wait to watch it again.

Also, for a 3 hour movie this seemed to absolutely fly by. I don’t think I’ve ever felt that way in a movie this long before. It was that compelling.

Another thing of note…this is a very raw, emotional and human movie in a way that Nolan’s films usually aren’t.

Bruh why did I get goosebumps when Kennedy gets name dropped? Jim Gordon handing Batman Joker's card at the end of Batman Begins type of goosebumps

The trinity test scene was something else. The absolute silence and eventually the lines from Oppenheimer immediately followed by the blast was so powerful and something I’ve never experienced in a cinema.

Also never experienced such a impressive ending in a movie, the buildup with the music and the lines are just amazing.

The build up around the middle of the film, from when they're discussing potential targets with the minister of war to the actual trinity test, was some of the most haunting cinema I've ever seen, despite knowing exactly what happens I was on the edge of my seat, palms sweaty with nerves.

Best film I've seen in a while although I can completely understand why people wanted more Oppenheimer with their viewing of Oppenheimer.

Unpopular opinion: Oppenheimer was kinda clickbait

Im a bit dissapointed because I was expecting a lot more physics and engineering in the movie and problem solving. Instead we got a more personal approach, with moral and psychological struggles in the focus and the boring capitalists vs commies conflict.I dont think thats bad per se but that wasnt how the movie was presented in advertisiment. I put the blame on the overwhelming ads that just put the expectations in the wrong direction which just ruined the experience in the cinema for me a bit. The ending was probably the best part of the movie for me I must say. So to conclude, if i knew the movie was like it was, I would watch it from a different perspective and enjoyed it more. It isnt truly made for science geeks. Feel free to disagree with me here.

I can't believe it was 3 hours. It felt like 2 and a half, if that. I absolutely loved it. I suspect I will appreciate it even more on a second viewing.

My only main gripe was the test itself. I just don't think they managed to convey the immense power of the bomb. The scene leading up to it was extremely tense and done so well and then the detonation itself was a step down. I know Nolan wanted it all practical, but I think that scene would have benefitted from some hybrid CGI or something. Just a little. The real test footage looks so much more terrifying.

SPOILER !!!

I agree with another comment here, the Lewis Strauss storyline was not as engaging. The last bit of this film could've benefited more from the moral dilemma scenes. I felt they should have sat in them a bit longer (same with the scene where Oppenheimer was mourning Jean).

The Trinity test is worth the price of admission alone though! HOWEVER....I felt that the actual explosion/mushroom cloud was lacking. I know he's anti-CGI for this film but I felt it could've benefited from it. Even just a touch up. Still, the entire sequence is one of the best movies experiences I've ever had.

people are afraid to say that this movie was underwhelming

One thing I always expect from Christopher Nolan movies is the good old-fashioned visual spectacle achieved through practical effects. While some may not care about it, for me, the use of practical effects adds a sense of wonder that CGI often struggles to achieve. Remember Batman flipping a truck in Downtown Gotham, or the gravity-defying fight scene in Inception, where an old movie trick was utilized?

When I heard that Nolan would recreate the Trinity test using practical effects, I couldn't wait to experience the awe and terror of that on the biggest screen available to me. The build-up to the detonation scene was fantastic, with the initial silent flash followed by the actual explosion. It appeared as a good movie explosion, but it lacked the uniqueness I was hoping for – resembling more of a common gasoline explosion or a fast fire rather than the awe-inspiring footage we've seen of the real Trinity test.

The snippets shown in the trailer of the fireball expanding and hitting the desert were missing from the actual scene, only appearing as brief flashes earlier in the movie. Trinity, being the centerpiece of the film, left me feeling somewhat disappointed compared to the impact of real footage. I had anticipated a little more movie magic to simulate the sheer power of an atomic bomb.

When I first saw it, I thought the third act was great albeit a dramatic drop in intensity. But as I've reflected on the ending, I've realised it's about how the Western state apparatus chews you up and spits you out once you dissent, and that political actors care only for the assertion of their power regardless of consequence. Strauss was obsessed with a graph and what people thought of him, Oppenheimer was obsessed with his own hypocrisy in the adulation of creating a device that could destroy the world. The film actually doesn't work without it

Unpopular opinion, movie was meh. So many opportunities to be great, but to me was overhyped for what it was.

You have one of the most interesting topics in the history of the world, an amazing cast, endless budget, and we get 3 hours of mostly closeup dialogue?

Bomb scene was great as was the speech to the frenzied audience. wish they had put more effort into the rest of the movie or cut it by an hour. Seemed like a lazy River of a movie to me.

Everyone else seems to like it though, so what do I know

Finally saw it today. Just some thoughts on the visual effects.

First, I thoroughly enjoy Nolan films. Interstellar is one of my all-time favorites, as is Dark Knight like many people. But sometimes he misses, like Tenet. Tenet was just okay, really. Nothing wrong with it, it's just an okay film. I think Oppenheimer is in that same group.

I was really hoping it was going to focus more on the Manhattan Project, and some of the lives lost during the creation of the bomb itself. I thought the detonation was a letdown, especially when compared to the actual footage of the Trinity Test. The questioning was focused too much on whether Oppy was affiliated with the Communist Party and I think many parts could have been left out or at least shortened up a bit. Honestly, there were moments where I was just plain bored.

All that being said, the actor's performances were top notch. Everyone crushed it, and it was refreshing to see RDJ in a drama again where he can really flex his skills. Cillian was on-point. That man can say so much with just his face, especially his eyes, it's incredible.

Would I recommend this one? Yes, I would never discourage someone from seeing the film. Watch it and see what you think. I think this one just isn't for me, like Tenet wasn't for me. Nothing wrong with it, maybe a little long, but just okay.

A movie like this, this long, I have too much to say. More than you’re likely willing to read.

One of those movies that makes you sit back afterwards and feel humbled that we get to consume entertainment at this level.

Nolan’s jumpy storyboard works a lot better for nonfiction recounting than it does for fictional stories, particularly with the historical context. This was a very non-linear movie, yet I found it very easy to follow given it’s ties to real events. I’d like to see Nolan go down this path some more.

I have a biology degree with minors in chemistry and physics. Hearing names like Fermi and Heisenberg and Bohr spark memories for me, and part of the reason this film is so great to me is the directorial skill executed on both historically important and scientifically fascinating subject matter. With that said, I can see 80% of my friends being so lost and confused that they would leave the theater halfway through. This was much less approachable than Interstellar in that way, but I’m thrilled to have seen it nonetheless. It felt like a little masterpiece made just for me.

Technically it's as good as it gets, but I think the screenplay was wrong. Basing this on the hearings is not a good idea, since the Manhattan Project gets sidelined and I have no interest about the political games against Oppenheimer. Furthermore the ending seemed completely pointless to me. Einstein's speech about everyone applauding Oppenheimer in the end being a selfish act didn't have much connection to the rest of the film, and the film tried to make it look like that was the whole point. It wasn't.

It's a technically good film based on an average screenplay, saying absolutely nothing about the man himself in the end.

Also Oppenheimer is not Einstein, he wasn't a leading physicist at any point, so why the movie tried to paint his early years like a physics genius is beyond me.

This is the first Nolan movie that I watched in English, with no subtitles (because movie theatre, duh).

I now totally get all the complaints about Nolan's inability/refusal to properly mix the dialogue sound. I kid you not, I must have missed about 40% of the dialogue in the movie, because I just couldn't hear what the characters were saying.

Even the final, most powerful phrase that Oppenheimer said to Einstein was fucking mumbled under his breath, it felt like. Definitely negated the dramatic effect for me.

This movie’s was a bajillion times better than Tenet’s

I also loved the storm before Trinity test (I only realized it after the movie that its based on reality as well). It’s like Mother Nature trying to stop this horrendous thing from being used.

I loved this movie. I understand some people frustrations with it though.

It requires 110% of your attention. It’s 2 hours and 59 minutes of dialogue. The Nuke scene isn’t really the climax. I get how some people are let down by that. However it’s so much more than that. It’s a massively important story about American/World history and a character study of all the big players involved.

The way the timelines all interplayed with one another I thought was masterful. Totally get how some view it as chaotic though. It’s not a Linear A to B, but if you keep attentive through the whole thing you will be rewarded when it all clicks.

It’s a case of “a tremendous movie I can’t really recommend to most people”. I think you really have to be a fan of films and the art to like it, however I wouldn’t tell anyone not to see it because of that. Just understand this isn’t a typical WW2 movie nor is it a typical biopic. It’s done in the artists style.

The fucking balls on Nolan to include a shot of Godzilla rising from the ocean in a post credits scene

It sucked. I learned nothing scientific. I wasn’t entertained and the explosion was shit. I didn’t even get to see his dong as I thought I would.

Hot take?

My wife and I both agree that this probably would have been more enjoyable as a high quality TV miniseries. Stretch out more of his romance with Jean before the Los Alamos, His connection and leaning towards communism, etc. Make it a 4-5 1hr episodes. We both really liked it a lot, the story was good the history and background. But we left the theatre thinking we probably would have enjoyed this on our TV instead.

I didn't realize Gary Oldman was there. Dude is a chameleon. He just melt into this roles.

Haven’t seen a single comment on it yet, but one of the biggest things that stood out to me was the pacing of this movie. From the very first second the film starts it seems like a ticking time bomb up to trinity. What a spectacle. Nolan does NOT miss.

I finally saw this and it might be my favourite film of the last 10 years. I'm seeing it again next week in IMAX.

Just saw Oppenheimer and I'm a bit confused on the ending. At the end when we flash back to the pond scene with Einstein and Oppenheimer and he brings up the calculation, the one Oppenheimer brought to a Einstein in the woods, didn't the scene where he brought Einstein the calculation happen after the scene with the pond? I thought Oppenheimer hadn't even joined the program yet when he met with Einstein at the pond, and then much later on was when he brought Einstein the calculation, or am I just confused? In the theater I thought the ending dialogue was a nod at the relativity of time and the way time does not behave the way we expect it to in quantum mechanics but upon googling it I'm not seeing anyone else discussing this and I feel I may have lost something....

Oppenheimer went to Princeton well after the Manhattan Project. Einstein and him had the convo with the paper during the Manhattan Project. Both were flash backs but took place at different times

Dan Carlin’s Hardcore History - The Destroyer of Worlds https://open.spotify.com/episode/2CW1iOwym34Whn5JpAjBRs?si=MmSuwnqzTBujixU2fEJj2A

This is must listen for those interested in deeper dive of the atomic bombs and what it was like for Truman to hold such power

I thought it was a great film that really might take a few viewings to properly digest. Overall I felt it was mostly about how science is hijacked by political agendas rather than about the moral position of Oppenheimer himself. It shows how he was, really through his empathy (note the exchange with Truman) manipulated by cultural hegemony. I don't think they mentioned Antonio Gramsci in the dialogue of the film (I wouldn't have the capacity to clock it honestly) but I came away thinking about this quote “The old world is dying, and the new world struggles to be born: now is the time of monsters.” ― Antonio Gramsci, Antonio Gramsci: Prison Letters

Just watched the movie. Mesmerizing. I was glued to the screen from start to finish. A mesmerizing performance by Cillian Murphy, the script was tight and the directing/cinematography were also mesmerizing.

I loved most three elements of the film.

First was that they didn't glorify the test atom bomb explosion as could be expected from Nolan's previous works of elaborate action/effects. It was more depicted as an imperfect, wild and untamed force. It was a bit ugly even.

The second was the depiction of the disjointed, irregular and aimless nature of Oppenheimer. (I just lack the vocabulary to explain it.) He was given a goal, an aim, a purpose by general Groves. Before that he was simply highly intelligent, strong-willed and highly energetic person, whose energies he barely contained. Even his Jewish comrades didn't know who he actually was. His whole life was a disjointed mess. It felt like at his core he didn't know who he was. He lacked purpose. I had the impression that the real person Oppenheimer was a deeply disturbed and unhappy man throughout his whole life. Maybe that's false but since this is based on his autobiography, which is considered an accurate and important work, I'm inclined to believe so. Anyone who knows more is welcome to enlighten me.

The final element was the depiction of the political side of the whole ordeal. A group of people in a room made decisions about how many people to die and where. That scene was chilling. I was devastated. The magic of the movie collapsed and I was back in the real world. Damn.

I didn't understand a lot of the political stuff - so many names, parties, etc. I may have to look things up.

Overall, I was left with no words after that brilliant - iconic and beautiful - last shot. No words. Just sat there and looked at the credits and listened to the ominous music. With only a burning furnace of all kinds of emotions in me. I cannot give less than a 10 to this movie. I think that it is Nolan's best movie and perhaps my favorite of his.

[EDIT: Some nice moments. When Oppenheimer got the apple from Bor's mouth: "worm holes". I like how they touched upon the "feud" (not sure about the right word) between mathematicians and physicists, which I read upon recently. As a lay person I found those two funny.]

Very solid movie in my opinion. Found the first act a bit boring, but the movie became increasingly suspenseful and interesting throughout the rest. I personally loved the third act, as it shows the disconnect that scientists face against policymakers (who don't necessarily understand the science that they legislate). Definitely worth a watch

an other movie held back by Nolan's reluctance to use cg. it was jarring to see Dunkirk with a whopping 200 extras and a bunch of modern buildings in the background (both of which could have been fixed in post) and now the trinity bomb test just felt like a bunch of pyrotechnics in someone's backyard. Here's the real footage, the scale is not even remotely comparable.

I loved the movie but call me an idiot... I really didn't understand the beef between Strauss and Oppenheimer, as well as the reasoning for the US to question Oppy so much.

To add to what others said, Oppenheimer made a lot of enemies in the post-war period. He continued to push for nuclear arms control and cooperation with the soviets. He opposed continued work on the H-bomb. He pushed for resources in air defense rather than retaliatory strikes and an increased role of the Army and Navy in handling smaller tactical nuclear weapons.

Strauss and the FBI used Oppenheimer's communist party ties to push him out of government and policymaking.

To me it seemed like a culmination of a lot of little things

Strauss thinks the world revolves around him so he takes all of these imagined sleights personally. Over time it built up into major resentment and Strauss recruited other aggrieved parties to help him.

I really like the distinction between Oppenheimer's motivation for 'going through the motions' of being discredited and Strauss' assumptions about his motivation.

Oppenheimer felt he had a reckoning coming, invariably, to the extent that even a kangaroo court repudiation still held some ethical validity. Strauss thought he only cared about being attached to the 'heroic' element of the Manhattan project, the purely anti-Nazi necessity of the Trinity test, and not the utter soullessness of a-bombing thousands of civilians. But 'succeeding' at framing himself heroically to the world/history is the last thing Oppenheimer would want.

Also really enjoyed the inversion of the pacing, where the classroom and political scenes are edited fast as fuck and you barely get a sense of the physical space before the scene's over. It only slows down during momentous conversations (meeting Groves, talking with Einstein, the Trinity test countdown, sex-as-fatalistic-debate, and the most significant testimonies in the farce trial.)

However, the ending didn't quite hit me because I couldn't figure out why Einstein would pretend to be nice/not hate Strauss until that conversation. It seemed like he basically just chilled out and tried to avoid being used as a pawn by politicians after fleeing Germany, so...why would he bother in any case? It was like the movie got so wrapped up in framing the ending with Strauss' self-centered thinking making him make a mistake that it forgot Einstein wouldn't have really cared to put on a nice face before that point, either.

I saw Strauss’s fixation on Einstein’s silence as an early indication of both his own pride and insecurity. To me, at the time and later with the movie providing the context, Strauss was immediately comparing his own influence and renown to Oppenheimer’s — and his fixation on Einstein was just an extension of that. He thought himself important enough that Oppenheimer would convince Einstein to hate him. He was insecure enough to cling to that moment. I don’t think the isotope humiliation is what made him want revenge in the film, it just confirmed what he’d already convinced himself that day by the pond.

Einstein was just being himself and got pulled into some guy’s bizzaro villain origin story.

I saw that scene as Einstein pondering the weight of what Oppenheimer has just said to him, and Strauss taking it as a sign of disrespect

Strauss got Tony Starked but really though what a performance by RDJ and everyone really. it started a little too slow for my liking but the way he wrapped it up was incredible

Chiming in after seeing Opp last night. My history with Nolan is mostly positive and slightly complicated. His editing choices have often felt too fast and choppy to me, but that can sometimes serve the movie well and might not bother me. I despised Tenet though, as it was loud, choppy, confusing, and felt like a mess. It was the one that shook my faith that Nolan could continue pumping out blockbuster hits. Now onto Opp...

I really liked it! The score, the cinematography, the acting are all A1 and I have no complaints. Seriously, the cast is stacked here, and it was awesome to see Robert Downing Jr in a role outside of Marvel again. And a Sadfe brother? Rami Malek?! I was obviously having a blast with the cameos. My favorite scenes are the Trinity test, the security clearance scene where they show him feeling exposed and naked, and Opp's speech after the Hiroshima bombing.

And while I thought that speech scene was a fantastic way of expressing the duality of the situation (you've accomplished a scientific breakthrough but it's now been used to extinguish thousands of lives), I wanted more of that. After that speech, the remaining act seems to alienate us from Opp, choosing to instead go for twisty reveals by withholding information from the audience. While I think that fits well in this movie, a fast-paced and what seems to be a strict retelling/showcasing of events, I still find myself struggling with the fact that we lose that emotional core by moving away from Opp's internal struggle.

Early on in the movie, Nolan shows Opp having visions of dread in some really fascinating ways as he hones in on quantum mechanics and it's uncertainty. Like having him in bed, visualizing the atoms spinning at unfathomable speeds and later envisioning stars swallowing themselves infinitely. And later, after his speech, with the background warbling and seeing the audience distort into radioactive aftermath. I would have loved to see that visual design carried into the third act more, having these visions become more grotesque and surreal as he grapples with his participation in the creation of this frighteningly destructive and otherworldly weapon. Those visions are still there and I think they work when they're on screen, but what I really wanted from the movie after that Trinity scene was to spend more time with Opp's psyche and less time with senators. Film could be the best medium to explore that emotional and mental conflict, so it feels like a bit of a missed opportunity.

Overall, I thought this was a great time though and yet another movie from this year I would recommend to almost any avid moviegoer. The editing and focus can be strange (felt like we were getting barraged with 1 minute vignettes every once in a while), but there's still some very impressive filmmaking and composition here that we'll be thinking about long after seeing it.

3.5/5 ⭐️

Loved it overall, the auditorium speech (the deafening stomping, the crying couple and his student throwing up… the feeling of dread was enormous) and the ending scene were all big standouts and haunting as hell. Great great movie, huge rebound from Tenet. It was mostly just dudes in rooms talking but I had this dread throughout the entire thing and it was really well shot and edited, didn’t feel 3 hours long and held the entire theatre’s attention the whole time. Liked seeing RDJ being able to show some chops at the end too even if they did make Strauss almost cartoonishly villainous at points. Also had no idea Casey affleck was in this but his scene was one of the creepiest and more unnerving parts of the movie, can’t imagine how scary it’d be being around one of those wackjob CIA types that could just end you whenever they wanted.

And the sound for the big bomb not kicking in at first was great, made a person in my theatre scream for their fucking life when it finally happened lmfao

I’m sure it was a combination of very well done makeup and sparing use of cgi possibly, but the aging and deaging was phenomenal.

Young Cillian Murphy looked absolutely real, 99% of the time even when it’s well done I feel our brain can tell something is off. But with this movie it straight up looks like an actual young Cillian Murphy.

And RDJ looking old was just perfect. Yeah he’s not a super young guy but the thinning hair and age spots again looked absolutely 100% real. You just could not tell there was any makeup or effects used, but they were. Idk if that’s enough to get best makeup but it’s pretty much the best I’ve ever seen. Especially with how detailed and close up Nolan likes to shoot, it was just crazy good

I think this movie was perfect example of how not to tell a story. There were three good stories here and none of them really got told. The three stories that could have been told were: The challenges of making the bomb (but I get that, it was done really well in Fat Man and Little Boy), the story about the conflict between the general and Oppenheimer over the need for secrecy while working on the project, the story of who leaked the information to the Russians and how they turned on eachother which resulted in Oppenheimer being hung out to dry. They kinda touched on that last theme but not really because we really didn't see how it impacted Oppenheimer emotionally or practically. Everything appeared to take place behind closed doors and it was just rather boring as it was portrayed as insignificant.

Does anyone know why the Americans didn't just drop the bomb somewhere in the mountains in Japan?

Wouldn't that be enough to show it's power and force Japanese surrender, whilst killing very few civilians?

I enjoyed it but found the interrogation scenes repetitive.

I’m going to need to watch this again with subtitles. I felt the trial scene was very drawn out, and (possibly unpopular opinion) you don’t necessarily need to watch this in IMAX. Yes, the couple scenes with explosions were stunning, but I think this film had far fewer visual effects than most Nolan films that make an IMAX viewing worth it. But I still enjoyed the film! 6.5/10

My gf didnt like it and I want to die. I was so moved by it.

She’s allowed to have an opinion

I saw it on Tuesday in one of the best theaters in the nation in full IMAX and I'm frustrated by how good some aspects were while others were not. I don't have the time to get into everything but I can't believe how simple some of the writing is. And my biggest issue with the movie more than anything else was that the constant swapping from IMAX to letterbox just seemed so arbitrary. There seemed to be no reason why we'd establish a shot of Oppe and Einstein in IMAX for one second and then simply cut to another angle and it's no longer IMAX. Just film the whole damn movie in IMAX and make it beautiful or if you can't then come up with some kind of artistic decision around which shots are IMAX and which ones are not. Even something as simple as exteriors are IMAX and interiors are regular. Or something more interesting like a certain character is larger than life and is shot in IMAX while other side stories are not. But the randomness of it was frustrating and it seemed they didn't even attempt to keep a constant color temperature between different shots in the same scene. Just like Avatar 2 with the flipping from 48 fps to 24 fps doubled back and forth this was a massive distraction and would love to hear it defended or explained to me.

Why did Einstein act mad at the end? Was it because Oppenheimer included him in the blame for the creation of the bomb (due to his letter to Roosevelt in '39)?

Quote:

O: When I came to you with those calculations, we thought we might start a chain reaction that might destroy the entire world.

E: What of it?

O: I believe we did

He's disturbed, I think.

From my perspective, the chain reaction is not only referring to the A-bomb itself but an entirely new page on the history of mass destructive weapons. Countries will be on a massive army race after those events, and newly created with even stronger destructive forces will be created rapidly. And eventually, the A-bomb that Oppenheimer created ironically became the beginning of the end for the world.

Yea, that's my opinion tho, I have a very narrow knowledge about physics and wars and stuff, but that's what I've got after watching the movie.

He wasn’t mad at Oppenheimer, he was just lost in the horrible implications of what Oppenheimer just said, because Einstein too believes this could be the beginning of the end

He wasn't mad, he was overwhelmed and upset.

The movie was terrible, extremely long and jumps around in the timeline so much that it's annoying to follow.

I laughed out loud near the end

(Paraphrasing) "Did you think it was immoral to drop the bomb?"

BONNNNGGGGG

Fucking Nolan lol

Wow! I can't remember the last time a film moved me this much. Really well done and stellar musical score by Ludwig Göransson. If he doesn't win an Oscar for that beautiful soundtrack it will be a crime.

It’s really good. But me and both of my friends agreed it would not have suffered by being trimmed by about a half hour. By the third act we were so mentally exhausted by the constant barrage of sweeping orchestral music laid over casual conversation that we were getting headaches.

But yeah, amazing performances all around. Beautifully shot and edited. Score was good just WAY too loud in a lot of places.

I saw it in 70mm true imax (not that liemax crap) and it was a stellar experience, but the movie is 100% too long. I understand and appreciate how big this story is and how much they fit into that three hours, but the last 30 minutes were a bit of a struggle for me. Not because of the quality of the film, but simply because it was over 2.5 hours of staring at a screen and being assaulted mentally. I was actively ready for it to end. That entire investigative hearing could have been trimmed down to just a couple of minutes and gotten the exact same point across. IMO, the movie should have cut back to the conversation with Einstein by the pond right after the scene where Oppie delivers the victory speech to the cheering crowd and starts hallucinating then ended.

Would have landed just as hard.

RDJ was amazing but I was just starting to clock out mentally that far into the runtime.

Overall 8/10 though.

Awesome movie, watched it on IMAX today.

Only thing I don't get is, the part where Oppenheimer went to Leiden (Netherlands) to give a university talk in Dutch, he actually talked German?!

I mean, that would have been researched so easily. Kind of a bad mistake if you ask me 😀

I watched in 70mm, I appreciated the grey hair twinkling on the screen

Truman was made look like a horrible man 🙃. Hope that was artistic license.

i cried so much during the Trinity test. nolan beyond perfectly executed the cosmic feeling of horror and awe. i have never in my life felt that sort of thing before. it was beyond empathetic and spoke to this higher judgment of human tragedy. a spectacle of human being hubris.

Why wasn't Robert Downey Jr. mentioned more

Movie was great, but the bomb was a tiny bit underwhelming. I think Nolan's refusal to use CGI was more of a detriment than a benefit when it came to the explosion itself.

What a fantastic movie. It was 3 hours long, but never dragged or felt boring. This is my favorite movie of the year so far. This felt perfect.

It was an exceptional movie and I’m glad I saw it in theaters because a. It’s just not the same at home with distractions b. Audiences need to regularly show up for movies like this so they continue to make movies like this.

I do find it somewhat amusing how so many “regular people” I know all started talking about “why is IMAX 1570 such a big deal,” and how the theater format became such a huge talking point leading up to the release. Even people that don’t talk about this sort of thing hit me up with this very question last few days. Content creators that made all those film format explainer videos seem to have had it good with the YouTube algorithm ha.

I just want to say for people that can’t see it in IMAX 70, it’s fine. See it on the best screen in your town that has the best audio and comfortable seats and you’ll get 99% of the experience. Don’t let online chatter convince you you’re getting a subpar experience.

Film was decent but I wish they would have included some and taken out some scenes .

They missed his most important speech about being death and later on another speech before he died .

I'll be brief : It was a good movie. Nothing remotely extraordinary though. Infact nothing on Nolan's past work. If script is king, he's had better ones. Its a pretty alright biopic with standout moments in a non-linear setting. The women dont really get to do much. Pugh is completely wasted. Blunt steals every scene she's in. RDJ,Damon and Safdie are spectacular. The former is winning the best supporting actor Oscar. Cillian is great but somehow even after 3 hours watching him be central figure.. I feel like we didnt get enough of him and his range. I wonder if anyone else feels the same.

So, I saw it in imax. It was very polarizing for me. The sound effects, the seat shaking booming bass, the music, all amazing and really made all the bomb scenes and tension moments that much more dramatic.

But I really struggled hearing dialogue, especially with music playing. Maybe it’s just me and my 46 year old ears but I kept having to ask my son what they said and finally stopped and just watched as I missed some lines. I look forward to see it again with subtitles.

The criticism Nolan gets is hilarious man. Some people here are just nitpicking for just hating his work it seems. Saw one guy here saying this movie is bad because the way his presentation of women is how a man would look at women in a old fashioned way without any direction like tipical Nolan lead women and got a tons of upvotes. This is a post world war 1 movie. Like what did they expect? Him to rewrite history and have a barbie cameo and tell Hitler that war is bad in the middle of the movie?

Because neither of the female leads get any real character development in this film. Like a lot of his films the women are plot devices to develop other characters/plot. For a character study it sure lacked characterization

Usually don't like seeing reviews before watching but in this case I'm really really glad I did. I knew what I was getting into

Before I thought of it as the atomic bomb movie. The bomb being the climax, the bomb scene being the reason you buy a ticket. Yes its called Oppenheimer, but still hard not to focus solely on the spectacle of the bomb given the trailer + summer blockbuster release + IMAX hype + so much bts talk about how he filmed that scene. etc.

Loved this so much. I was thrilled. But if I had my previous image in mind, this probably would've had a different impact because my mind would be elsewhere. Anticipating something that only comes and goes 2 hours in.

I think thats what happened to many here, many are clearly disappointed the spectacle of the bomb itself wasn't the point.

I couldn't understand half the dialogues. I am not a native English speaker but I haven't had the issue so bad with other films I watched in the same IMAX theatre. I think Nolan's use of non-stop background music during all the dialogues and especially when the dialogue is spoken slowly (hushed tones), makes it completely inaudible.

Did anyone feel the same?

The way I whisper gasped, “Bernard the Elf” when he came on screen.

Idk if anyone else noticed, but it seemed to me that the Color scenes represented Oppenheimer’s perspective while the black & white represented Strauss’.

I need to see it again but I can’t stop thinking about that Casey Affleck scene.

Genuinely felt like the Farmer/Hans Landa scene from Inglorious Basterds or the basement scene from Zodiac.

Affleck’s interrogation was tense as fuck and there was a foreboding atmosphere that filled the theater. Masterwork by Nolan.

I personally thought it was a good movie, but I didn’t like the huge focus on whether or not Oppenheimer was a communist… to me it diluted the emotional impact of the movie and diverted too much from the subject matter. At the end they revoke his security clearance… I mean are we supposed to feel bad? Who gives a shit?

A lot of people saying that Oppenheimer trial was not important and his communist stuff was not needed in the movie. Well let me just say that was indeed the most crucial part. Why? Because the impact of his atom bomb directly effected the cold war which is why communism vs American philosophy in the movie directly defied Oppenheimers later life.

People really thinking that USA dropped the bomb to make Japan surrender are dead wrong. After German's surrender it was only matter of when Japan would surrender. While USA was making their own plan Soviet were on the verge of invading Japan. These made it necessary from USA perspective to make Japan surrender quickly. They also wanted to Russia to see the real strength of their power by dropping the bomb.

Then when nuke happened and WW2 was over but the main war between USA and Soviet had just begun. After the world war Soviets got their own bomb and hence the new age of fear and anxiety that world was on verge of being destroyed by two different ideology started for more than 50 years. This is the ultimate war that Oppenheimer had to face. He was facing the challenge of his ideology on one side and his home country in another both of whom had the power the destroy the whole world by his creation. Every thing that happens on the trial is pitting his beliefs and his creation with one another. Without that this is just a movie of bomb which would have been forgotten in a week.

But the movie focuses more on morality, ideology and creativity which will be discussed on who was wrong and right for years to come. The movie was never about the world war 2 or about the atom bomb but rather it was about consequence of those things to Oppenheimer's life.

Why didn’t I like it :(

I’ve been going through this thread and many don’t like how anti climatic the bomb test came off. Initially I agreed. However, maybe that wasn’t the climax. I think the real climax was when Oppenheimer gave his speech to the residents of Los Alamos after dropping the bomb on Japan. The residents were clueless to the devastation that just happened. Cheering and applauding. Oppenheimer was going through a life changing understanding. Picturing every one before him being annihilated by a nuclear bomb. From that point on he made concerted efforts against everything he spent his life to achieve. Maybe my interpretation is wrong, but that scene was really emotional for me. Seeing it in IMAX definitely added emotion to Cillian’s award winning performance.

It’s wild how breakneck the pacing of this movie is when 98% is people standing around talking. Loved it!

I've never said this before about a movie, but it's both good and boring. If that's possible.

It was a well-made movie; beautifully shot and superb acting. It just wasn't for me.

Edit: The score needs some recognition too. It was brilliant.

Petition to have Benny Safdie in every movie. He always crushes it!

Brilliant performance by all honestly. The one thing that threw me into a loop was how Josh Peck had a pretty significant role 😂 I couldn’t unsee it lol.

The actor that played Frank Oppenheimer is relatively new so what a career milestone for him. One thing I would’ve really appreciated however was more into Oppenheimer and Tatlock’s relationship. Historically, he was obsessed with her and I am sure she knew more than what Nolan led on.

That second to last shot of Earth being engulfed in flames was chilling. Excellent score to top it off as well.

When it landed on that last lingering shot of Oppenheimer’s face by the pond, I was just sitting there going “please cut now please cut now please cut now” because I felt how good of a fricking ending it would be. And then he shuts his eyes closed in distress and the credits roll! What an ending. It’s so devastating and perfectly encapsulating of humanity’s doom. I loved this film.

It was wild how from one scene to another-- practically every character introduced was portrayed by a familiar face. An actor worthy of being their own main character or leading role but instead a relatively minor if not background part.

This has to be one of the deepest casts of all time, yeah?

wonder how many people are going to get like halfway through Oppenheimer and realize that they liked the idea of watching it more than they actually like watching it.

One thing that bothers me is that the fast pacing takes away some of the impact of good dialogue.

Pauses. Add. Drama.

For example the "What stops the glass?" comment would have benefitted from a slower pacing.

It was too long for no reason,I was falling asleep multiple times. And Idk if its the cinema where i been but many conversations were difficult to understand , it was just mumbling. Too many characters and keep switching on the timeline were very confusing 3/10

Quite a few great scenes in there, but as a whole I thought the movie was an utter mess. Extremely fast pacing, frenetic cutting between 3 different story lines, dialogue that's yet again hard to hear over the background music, a shit load of characters accompanied by numerous name drops... I could go on.

The scenes I did like were the ones that lasted more than 30 seconds, had discernable dialogue, had a focused story beat, and just had the damn time to breathe. Examples: The Trinity test, the meeting where they decided where to drop the bombs, Oppy meeting Truman, the last conversation between Oppy and Einstein.

A whole lot of people are going to watch this movie for a meme and then realize that three hours is a really long time

The time jumps in this movie are jarring. I could usually figure out when most scenes were happening but it took a lot of context clues and a decent familiarity with the history of the period that I think a lot of viewers might overlook. Sometimes I was several minutes into a scene before they gave me some idea which storyline it was in.

There are scenes in this that make the film. The gym scene was amazing. The Truman scene was hilarious. The ending line really worked. On the other hand, this could have been a half hour shorter if they'd cut a good bit of the last hour. The Senate hearings and the security clearance hearings went on and on and on and we got the point long ago.

Nolan likes reveals too much. There's that name-drop of Kennedy (which doesn't even make sense, Strauss absolutely would have known who Kennedy was at the time that scene takes place) and Einstein earlier in the movie. But he goes so far as to make a big dramatic thing out of revealing what actors are playing what characters. The audience is clearly supposed to go "OMG it's ! Wow it's ! Holy crap is that ?" The funniest one for me is that they build up a guy for like a full minute before they show his face and it's just .

I’m getting that a lot of people were watching this movie (a biopic) for…the bomb. And that’s where a lot of the negative viewpoints are coming from. The bomb wasn’t good enough, all the silly dialogue after the bomb scene was boring, any plot points outside of the bomb were excessive and could have been cut. It makes me chuckle. So some of you really just wanted to watch him scribble theory on a chalkboard, build the bomb, test the bomb, have an amazing CGI mushroom cloud, and then end with the bombings on Japan, some destruction porn? Maybe a side note about how he grappled with a guilty conscience or something to add a bit of theme to the movie and call it a day?

I much prefer the version of the film that we got. The bomb was a big part of his story and everything in the movie does ultimately tie to the Manhattan project, still. However, the accusations against him, his ex-colleagues boardroom depositions on his character, his political associations, Kitty’s deposition (loved that scene), this was all much more interesting to me than the very simple movie I described above, which I think many of the negative reviewers would have preferred. The version we got shows Oppenheimer as a complex individual, for example, Strauss wasn’t wrong about a lot of what he said about Oppenheimer, however, we also were showed that Oppenheimer was against the H-bomb because he was genuinely scared for humanity. I would understand if the biopic was about someone extremely dull, but I’d say J. Robert Oppenheimer had a pretty interesting life.

Editing to add: the non-linear timeline also threw people off because I guess it does require more attention to follow. I know Nolan is sort of known for using this method now but I did LOVE it here. I think telling his story in a non-linear way and bouncing back and forth really just made the film more interesting to watch for me. Biopics inherently can be on the dry side and Nolan’s touch with the timeline jumping just made it that much more of an exciting cinema experience for me!

9/10 from me - point docked for sound mixing.

I felt like 20% of this movie was absolutely brilliant, but the remaining 80% unfortunately rather dull. Had it been 30-45 minutes shorter, I would have said it was a much better movie.

Obviously the Communist accusations and security clearance aspects were important parts of Oppenheimer's life, and absolutely needed to be addressed in some way, but I felt those scenes were too repetitive and went on for much too long - not to mention delivered over monotonous foreboding music that was too liberally applied.

I really wanted the camera to get out of that tiny room and see some magnificent landscapes and epic cinematic moments, but instead we obsessed over bland legal arguments that just frankly aren't that important or interesting to someone watching this decades later. After the Trinity test (which I thought was incredible), basically the entire rest of the movie was devoted to this relatively dull and irrelevant plot point - Wikipedia is a better medium than cinema for all the detail.

At least there was some payoff at the end. The crux of the storyline rested on what was said between Oppenheimer and Einstein by the lake, and this was revealed marvellously, but my goodness it took a lot of time and dialogue between men in suits to get there.

I found the movie a bit underwhelming, direction, editing, music and acting were top tier but the story felt rather weak.

At first I was wondering why the hell Josh Peck had more lines and screentime than Oscar nominated actor Rami Malek. Then it all came together

Too many people in this thread wanted this to be ‘Atomic Bomb’ the movie, not Oppenheimer. We were never going to get grisly footage of bomb results or actually see what happened in Japan, and the fact that so many people eagerly wanted to see that terrifies me. What we got was perfect, those anxiety scenes are more effective than watching some random people get vaporized

The musical score was phenomenal. I downloaded the sound track the moment we drove out of the theater.

Ludwig did a great job, and added immensely to what was shown on the screen.

I don’t know why but my favourite scene is when Oppenheimer and Rabi are in Los Alamos while it’s still under construction and Rabi has a moment of vulnerability over what they’re creating. Then when they decide they have to do it, Rabi gets to business and tells Oppenheimer to be himself.

The music when he’s putting on his hat while staring out the window is so epic and perfect. It just feels amazing.

Pretty great movie overall. Great performances, score, screenplay. Not sure imax made a huge difference outside of the bomb scene. Also once the trinity test happened the stakes of the security clearance stuff seemed a bit trite, but I get it

An hour-long trailer, followed by a Mythbusters episode, followed by a political thriller

Maybe I was just propagandized by my American education, but I was always lead to believe the end of WW2 went:

Nuclear bombs dropped

Japan surrenders

Hitler suicides

Germany surrenders

It actually blew my mind that Hitler had been dead for months before the bombs were dropped in Japan. Just the realization that they could’ve stopped because there was no more danger of the Nazis building their own bomb, and Japan was more than likely far more vulnerable now with no allies left, without the necessary force of two whole nuclear bombs, what a goddamn gut punch

Edit: I should clarify, a large portion of my history education took place from 2001-2010 in post-9/11 NYC, so maybe some details were withheld to not villainize the US in a very jingoistic era an hour away from Ground Zero 😅

Yeah, I think most people who have a casual understanding of WW2 know Hitler died first.

I think it was you not paying attention in school.

Didn’t the opening of the movie it say 1.Fission, like it was going to have set chapters; and then those didn’t appear the rest of the movie?

Edit: I guess Fission is the first track in Göransson’s soundtrack so maybe a mistake?

Those are the 2 narrative layers. 1. is the color section from Oppenheimers perspective, 2. is the b&w section from RDJs perspective. They run parallel throughout the whole film, that’s why the chapter cards never reappear

This was like a history book I might have picked up 6 months ago, read half of it, put it down for whatever reason and then forgot to go back to it.

People are making this out to be his magnum opus.

It's not. Not even close.

Memento and The Dark Knight are VASTLY superior in craft and thematic impact. And why the fuck does Nolan prefer us to not hear the dialogue in his movies now?

I didn't dislike it. I think the intense score and breakneck pace did a few of the plotlines disservice---plotlines that could've used some quiet, pensive moments to develop the characters a bit. I felt like there was never time to settle in to anyone's thoughts or feelings before something else was happening, or some loud music started blaring.

I expect a lot of people will say that the fast pace was the point, that it was meant to illustrate how fast things were moving from his perspective---in fact, I think the rapid pace lost some of its illustrative ability in never being contrasted with literally anything slower or calmer.

Well, it's a biography right? It was more about Oppenheimer himself than the bomb.

I don't have the same conclusions as you. I walked away feeling like Oppenheimer was an actual human being than some genius physicist I read about.

The last few shots of the movie was some sombre ass shit for the times we live in.

The sound design in this movie was incredible. That scene in the classroom with the shouting and cheering drowned out and that one particular scream. Chills. The music was amazing too.

I’m all for people doing the Barbenheimer double-watch thing, but when there’s a group of teenagers in your theatre who clearly AREN’T interested in watching a 3-hour historical drama and are instead flicking through Snapchat and Instagram half the time, you start to wonder what was even the point?

Has any other big name actress spent a higher percentage of her screen time naked than Florence Pugh in this movie?

When there’s just a string of too many cameo appearances they start to seem like a joke.

Rami Malek randomly saving the court room was so fucking random, i just did not care by that point I was so glued inside my head thinking wtf is rami malek still doing here and was there any plot prior to this to lead him into giving a sh\*t about Oppy’s hearing ?

I wish it was just less of an identifiable quirky actor.

He had two prior appearances. From what I remember, he was working on the Chicago based team, he was the assistant taking notes. And then, again approached Oppenheimer in the hotel lobby to sign a petition.

I thought it was intentional. Oppenheimer's interactions with this man were rude, he criticized him taking notes, and then knocked his hand away when he asked for the signature. His lack of screen time, and the rudeness, I took this to mean that despite how Oppenheimer didn't give a shit about him - he still took the mic at the hearing and defended Oppenheimer.

This is such a silly criticism, this is a biopic, based on real life, real lives of hundreds of different people that intersect the story in different way.

History does not follow proper storytelling structures, it’s pretty random, and there’s so many people in anyone’s life that most will indeed be “random appearances”.

What could have been done instead? Given Dr.Hill’s role in the appeal against Streuss to some other more involved character? Forfeiting the historical nature of the movie for pure fiction.

Or maybe given Dr.Hill way more focus that he needed in the earlier bits of the movie, ( where he was a straight up less eventful figure in the grand scheme of things ). Either focusing on his less meaningful actions or making shit up just to give him things to show off?

Random people do incredibly important things all the time after being low profile their entire life, and there is no way to display these dynamics in ways that conform to fictional story structures. These are the constraints that the genre puts on the movie.

One of the best films I’ve seen. Got to see it on digital Imax. My whole body was clenching when they began the trinity test and they showed everything in silence and when the sound waves from the bomb swept through the cast, the whole theater shaked, I thought that was a genius move. I loved the color grade (reminded me a bit of Kodachrome ),music and the acting was phenomenal!!!

One of the best films I've ever seen

Great movie but a weird theater experience. Right when the sound cut out during the bomb test some guy a few rows back ripped a pretty sizable fart.

I'm still in awe at the decision to use just a lone scream in the theater scene. I feel like it would have been an easy choice to include a cacophony of screams but just having one makes it so much more poignant somehow.

Amazing film.

Oppenheimer? More like Rizzenheimer. My dude had serious game with the ladies

Loved the Film - 9.5/10 (Would be a 10 out of 10 but as always Nolan needs to fire his sound guy, I suspect it's due to the amount of dubbing required due to the use of IMAX camera, the score/sound effects were excellent however.

I really got a sense of the duality of Oppenheimers success becoming his own mutually assured destruction.

This film was never about the bomb, it didn't even really need to be shown, it was the human reaction to the most powerful force ever released, every human 15+ alive knows what an atomic bomb going off looks like.

The presentation (70mm IMAX) was also an experience within itself.

This was a Film, not a movie.

Bro got Skinny Josh to push the button in the pivotal scene

It's mad that the reasons is actualy insane and crazy but actualy makes sense....

I think I've come to the conclusion late stage Nolan isn't for me.

The Prestige will continue to be one of my favorite movies of all time and Dark Knight will continue to be my favorite superhero flick. But I just can't with modern Nolan.

I feel like his nonlinearly storytelling is at this point just smoke and mirrors to obscure a really simple plot. His treatment of women as objects that only exist as a memory is a pattern and not one I'm a fan of. Like Tenet, I felt like Oppenheimer was made to highlight a bunch of cool set pieces and special effects he'd rigged with little substance and a lot of noise.

I'm happy a lot of people loved it. I'm genuinely disappointed I didn't.

This was a very solid two hour movie.

Am I correct in that this movie, about 10 minutes in, had a caption on-screen that read

> 1. Fission

And then no other caption ever appeared on-screen again?

It seemed like it was going to be a storytelling device, like his version of chapters of every stage that occurs during an atomic explosion. But I don't seem to recall any other captions throughout the movie. No captions regarding what year they were in, no captions when they went to another area.

So, as for the movie, I think its three distinct stories occuring in three distinct parts of Oppenheimer's life and they should've been edited so that they mostly stay separate. Sorta like the Aaron Sorkin Steve Jobs movie.

I can't make any sense as why some scenes where in black and white. We even have one scene in which they meet at a lavish round table, and some of those shots are in b&w and later on in the movie they are in color. I don't know if its meant to represent "flashback" or "dishonest recollection" versus "present-tense" and "truthful depiction."

The scenes involving Oppenheimer's personal life and personal drama are just not handled well. Nolan simply does not know how to do this type of drama adequately.

I want to compare it with how Damien Chazelle is able to create a logical emotional through-line with Neil Armstrong. Of course, its probably because Chazelle doesn't rush through it like Nolan did here. We have scenes in which Cillian Murphy and Emily Blunt are riding horses, and then 90 seconds later they're kissing each other with dramatic music like as if we've just witnessed a key pivotal relationship moment. It just doesn't connect. Its flat.

The IMAX 70mm viewing...um, I can't really say that its necessary. There's only one key shot in which its perfectly framed for the aspect ratio. And not only that, I'd say that this movie contains a somewhat noticeable level of film grain.

Trinity bomb test, I think they spent too much time having the camera on the actors instead of showing us what it really feels like to look at a bomb. I was expecting a shot in which they show the entire area being lit up like its the middle of the day.

Final hour actually gets into a pretty good pace and interesting storyline, except I think the climatic moment doesn't really feel impactful, the movie just gets loud at that moment.

I know its a cop-out to say this, but this should've been a 5-hour HBO miniseries.

There was a caption "2. Fusion" when RDJ character pov/the black and white scene first appeared. Thats what the scenes being and b&w mean btw, its from srauss' prespective while the color ones are oppenheimers prespective. Probably has to do whether how the two PoVs are different and the names are based on their different opinions on the H-Bomb.

Firstly, Talbot's 'suicide' haunted me, the blink and you'll miss it shot of the gloved hand drowning her head while she screamed and then leaving the shot, was so frightening. I know it's up in the air whether she actually committed suicide or if she was actually murdered because she was a communist with connections to Oppenheimer. But those brief images are just haunting. The sound design was just nightmarish. A lot of this film really did feel like a horror film.

Does anyone have any thoughts on the nudity? Not like 'those thoughts', and it made sense in the sex scene,

but when they are sitting across from each other in the room in the chairs.

I thought it was supposed to mean they saw through each other like 'naked truth' type of thing. Like had they been in bed talking would have been one thing, but they are just having this conversation spaced far a part completely nude in chairs. It was tastefully done and not erotic, though Pugh was gorgeous, but it was just curious to me. Plus we never see Kitty nude and she didn't know of all of Oppenheimer's secrets. So I guess that was the point?

I thought the movie was slightly above mid and def overhyped. If I get spammed for having an opinion, the Russians have won.

That was depressing, gotta watch something funny to help my mood.

RDJ could get an Oscar for this film I think

I am become confused

I liked the movie, but I think the intercutting of timelines is a gimmick and a crutch for Nolan.

E.g. it was unclear what year the Soviets had the bomb test (the giant dinner table meeting w/ Downey's character and all the scientists).

And in some cases the intercutting breaks some of the tension (other cases it adds)

Absolutely enjoyed this movie but have two main critiques

Ps. I don't think this movie passes the bechdel test but since when does CN care lmao

Amazing movie but felt pretty dragged out after the trinity test, could have either replaced some scenes with something else or just cut them out.

Loved the visuals, the build up and writing

The Oppenheimer superhero costume dress up scene I'm crying lmao.

Overall, pretty great. Have to be honest wasn't entirely on board in the beginning but the second Matt Damon barged into the room everything somehow clicked.

Felt like the movie was far over hyped and I felt it was a good movie but not GREAT. Maybe it missed the mark or something for me but the first act felt far too chaotic and the cuts too frantic.

I think I took more issue with Oppenheimers character in general. I understand it’s a biopic but he felt incredibly self absorbed and while that might have been the intent to portray him that way I found him insufferable.

They needed to do a better job explaining the two different timelines in the beginning. I must have missed a line of dialog or something and was confused throughout. Strauss is not a good character imo, why should we care about him at all?

Not perfect but deeply depressing primarily through its central narrative over the downey jar character who essentially was quite prepared to attempt to destroy Oppenheimer over some minor perceived slight even though he ended up destroying himself in the process and was still going down lashing out at anybody he could. A scientific endeavour handing immense destructive power to mere humans with all there human faults.

7/10

I have watched this twice. 70mm IMAX and in Dolby Cinema.

Acting and set/costume design are excellent, however dialogue was drowned out by the stupidly loud soundtrack. This would have worked better as a Nolan miniseries. They crammed too much in 3h, and the editing, flashbacks, and color shift were unnecessary. The Senate hearing and the Security Clearance hearing were overly long, and the Trinity explosion was underwhelming compared to the nuclear-related documentaries I have seen.

Since I was the only who had read American Prometheus in my group, I think Nolan did a poor job explaining all of these different characters and their motivations. Few people could hear the critical dialogue.

The Prestige and Interstellar and Dark Knight remain Nolan’s best movies imo.

Not a big fan of Nolan's work in general. the movie had great moments, but overall the disjointed story telling was difficult to follow if you were not already somewhat familiar with Oppenheimer's story. My wife, who knew of Oppenheimer but not his story was lost a lot during the movie. This is also a typical Nolan approach that never works for me.

The opening sequence of Oppenheimer seeing the motions of atomic particles, etc was overblown and too long.

The dialogue was cold and emotionless- really only a few moments with Damon's character brought any warmth to the movie.

Cyllian spent most of the movie walking around with wide eyes and a blank , haunted look in his eyes...otherwise not a wide ranging performance.

The nudity was unnecessary, as it usually is in mainstream movies, was just used for a shock moment during the security clearance hearing.

The movie was swamped with loud sounds that overwhelmed too much of the dialogue. This was hampered by AMC theater having seen This is Spinal Tap Far too many times and thought that turning up the volume to 11 was better than 8..Much of the effects were just white noise.

Finally, I thought the actual moment of the test was disappointing...

Oppenheimer is famous for his thousand yard stare. Cillian did awesome performance portraying it, reflecting how much things running in his mind.

Agree on the nudity. It's definitely not important.

Just saw the movie. I think, by the 2 hour mark, I was sort of diappointed, but the final hour is fantastic and Nolan at his best. That scene with him giving a speech for the Los Alamos crowd after the first bomb was harrowing.

I wish Emily Blunt had a bigger screen time. And they should've focused a little bit more on the sciene of it all too. Still, great movie

Loved it.

As someone who shoots occasionally video and primarily photos, I want to address the comments that say shooting in 70mm was pointless. I think a lot of people would say me shooting in 35mm film today is pointless because, sure, I could get a recipe for Protra 800 or something right? But it's not the same. If I'm shooting something, even if its for a client or a friend or job or whatever, there's still a part of me that's going to do it for selfish reasons, those being that I am a huge fan of using another tool.

And that's what IMAX 70mm essentially is right, it's another tool for him to use. If I had the opportunity Nolan had, I would shoot with that camera as fucking as I fucking could. I like the more full frame look.

I don't agree this didn't need to be 70mm imax. Doesn't need to be a crazy action movie or sprawling cityscape for the justification to be in imax 70mm.

I didn’t quite expect to be immersed to that level. Rarely felt like I was watching a movie - simply stunning and cannot wait to revisit.

I had a chat with a friend and we debated what IMAX would bring to such a dialogue heavy movie, less action. Well, it elevated the experience having that monstrous screen fill my peripheral.

Bravo!

Anyone else intrigued by the flip of color and B&W compared to most films? Here, it was surprising to me that Nolan used B&W for the more modern scenes, and color for the older ones. Was this to represent the world post-bomb? Or more practical in not wanting the bomb sequences to be in B&W?

Overall, liked the movie but agree with many commenters it was far from flawless. Also, I loved Benny Safdie in Good Time but found his accent a little cringe here.

I took it as Strauss side of the story (black and white) very Oppie (color)

I get that the movie is supposed to be about the people behind this historical event, but the unending stream of close-ups of characters' faces (whose ensemble grew exponentially with every scene) made me feel dizzy. It was like watching a giant zoom call most of the time.

Some person in my showing clapped during the Trinity test. Thought it was douchey

Saw it last night

I would say it was good but not great, like most of Nolan's movies; super high production value, great performances, looks great but something felt missing.

I get that the shots were short in order to develop this frenetic pace of the chain reaction of neutrons getting cast off that explode into the long shots but I really dislike short shots so that didn't do much for me.

When I heard Nolan was making an Oppie movie I was worried he was going to miss the most interesting part of his story, which to me is everything that happened after the bomb, but I'm glad that was actually the focus of the movie.

This has been negative sounding for a movie that I enjoyed and thought was good, it's just that every time I see a Nolan movie I think he's one idea away from making something great, and instead just makes good movies -- still leagues ahead of the average movie hitting the theater

I thought it was weird people were criticizing Asteroid City for like parading the super cast as like a look who it is but Oppie definitely had me thinking that in the first 30 minutes. Also this might be the movie that ends the "nolan right-wing" stuff

Finally saw this film last night and I'd describe it in this one sentence:

How they blew up the man who blew up the world

Good movie, not the masterpiece being claimed though unfortunately. Excellent acting (Murphy, Downey Jr. And blunt are great). Way too long a movie ( about an hour too long); and drags quite a bit at times.

I’m a huge Nolan fan but prefer his sci-fi/comic (inception, interstellar, tdk) over his historical (Dunkirk, Oppenheimer).

The best parts for me were

Am I the only one who thinks this should have been a TV show and not a movie? There are so many tangents that could have been explored further AND a 3 hour movie was absolute torture to sit through.

9/10 for me.

Murphy was unreal as Opponehimer. E

I went in with somewhat middling expectations and was delightfully surprised. It’s a three hour movie that feels like six, but I enjoyed every moment of it. Feels like there’s a sizable amount of negativity around the fact that people think Nolan is putting on airs, but the movie and narrative comes neatly together, and getting flustered over imagery included for effect misses the forest for the trees. I think it was a beautifully told story. If it wasn’t for Nolan at the helm, those same people would be singing its praises.

I watched it with my dad in August 1, but neither of us really knew what to make of it as the overall cinema experience was terrible and we both didn’t really know what it was about other than the guy who made the atomic bomb.

Just rewatched it on my own tonight, and oh my god it is the greatest film of all time. I totally get it, and I absolutely love it. It just so epic.

I’m a native English speaker but fucking hell did I struggle to understand some of the dialogue

Positives: I really liked how the camera work shows Oppenheimer's isolation(?) with close-ups of his face and Dutch angles. The soundtrack was neat. At moments I felt as if I was watching "Interstellar". The Trinity test scene is great. Murphy was really good. Nothing extraordinary, but real solid work. Negatives: the movie was really tiring. When the Strauss twist came about I was just like: "Huh, alright". I turned it off around the 2 hours 40 minutes mark and I don't really feel like finishing it. As far as I've heard the ending isn't really that satisfying. And now my biggest problem: it is too long. Most, if not all of the McCarthy stuff could be removed without any detriment to the movie. Also it is a bit of a wasted opportunity. Nolan could've focused primarily on Oppenheimer's guilt instead of politics, but welp. I feel like it could have ended with the gym speech scene, where he sees the audience get vaporised by an atomic blast: the screen fades to pure white and we get the end titles. For me it was 3-4/5.

I really liked the way Nolan perfectly integrated Oppenheimer's private life and his work at the bomb. Never rhetorical, I don't think it's a long film, but rather, everything was essential to the story.

I do not get what's so good about this movie.

It is just an average boring biopic. It felt like a crammed log of events from a biography or Wikipedia with not much developed themes. Personal doubts or dilemmas on communism or guilt from 'being used' or 'OMG what have I (we) done' come across as a comic book caricature

A few good cuts during the interrogation sequences ('feeling naked') are the only good directorial moves. The rest seems pretty nice filmed but pretty schematic and as expected. No drama anywhere. Trivial pop culture memes on physics and equally trivial particle animation...Whodunnit of academia backstabbing is ... boring. To me at least.

Being betrayed by everyone would be dramatic if we had an idea of the main character's 'character', which we do not as he comes across as pensive but bland.

The story of Trinity, the Manhattan project, chasing Heisenberg and general quantum physics and progress vs. self-destruction conundrums are good material - maybe someone will make something out of it. The chilling and weird 'now I have become Death' quote is still better to watch in the original archive video.

I don't know if anyone who does not know the cast of characters made of the most famous real-life physicist stars (Einstein, Heisenberg, Fermi, Feynman, Szilard, Teller, Bohr...) even has any grasp of what is going on in this story.

A heavy bass soundtrack and excellent cinematography do not make a good movie.

Cinema seems to have evolved into a stage where production techniques are perfected to nth degree. Technology advances so much that anyone can film a perfect-looking and sounding take, almost without effort.

However, ideas and script remain the most challenging bit in filmmaking - the parts where the brain and pen and paper are the required technology.

It won't be solved with ChatGPT.

Yo, this thing was long.

If I had a nickel for every time Cillian Murphy played a character whose job was to create a fear weapon in a movie directed by Nolan, I would have two nickles

Great movie but there was something missing..

Maybe i just had incredible expectations for it and it somehow affect the experience; but compared to to other Cristopher Noal films i missed breathtaking images, soundtrack, characters.. Don't get me wrong i really enjoyed the historical accuracy, the science understanding behind, the acting, the images.. but there was something missing. It didnt make me feel as much as i expected. I will have to rewatch but not in the same league as interstellar :/

I just finished watching it. And then I watched it again immediately.

I love the way Nolan tells a story. I was oddly engrossed in the security clearance and cabinet appointee hearings, which almost seemed like a whole nother movie in a long 3rd act.

I was impressed by how moving every single character was and how RDJ was revealed as the antagonist and how petty his motivations were.

Going to watch it again to wrap my head around the timelines and motivations.

As a Dane, I was impressed by Branagh's Danish accent as Niels Bohr. Most actors playing Danes do a generic Swedish accent, but he obviously did his homework.

I think a lot of people are really gonna hate this movie, but I thought it was once-in-a-lifetime incredible.

The last half of the movie was not needed overall. It felt like two movies altogether.

Eh. I walked out after 2 hours. What a boring movie.

It's a good, not great film. I've also learned watching a Nolan film on opening day is the worst way to experience it.

Oppenheimer has received polarized reactions from viewers. American audiences seem more receptive to the complex, dialogue-heavy plot dealing with the development of the atomic bomb. However, viewers outside the U.S. appear less engaged, with some even leaving the theater before the ending due to the heavy emphasis on American politics and history.

While the marketing created great anticipation, the actual film differs from expectations. The trailers promised a different kind of movie than the cerebral, conceptual biopic Nolan delivered. Though an impressive cinematic achievement, Oppenheimer challenges audiences unfamiliar with mid-20th century U.S. politics and World War II.

In just three hours, Nolan ambitiously weaves together numerous historical figures and intertwining storylines across past and present. It's remarkable that audiences can follow such a convoluted plot at all. But the film's sophistication may frustrate viewers hoping for a more straightforward drama about the creation of the atomic bomb.

I strongly believe it would have made a really great 3 Episodes 1h30 each show.

It's a solid 8/10 movie. I'm just glad they didn't make anyone look like a hero.

I don't understand people saying that they didn't know who was who when watching the movie and then reviewing it based on that. It's not a documentary where you learn about that stuff. It's a movie based on a 700+ pages biopic, so it was clear that you have to have somewhat of a knowledge about some people going into the movie. It's not the movie's fault if people don't know who certain characters are.

But the marketing is mostly "spend all your money to watch the atomic explosion in IMAX 70mm". The "you need to do some research " part has not been really there . Is that really the fault of the audience?

If you have to read a book in order to watch a movie, then the director fucked up. It should stand on its own.

Was this a pandemic movie? Its like a trick of scale. It feels big but actually isn’t. The set pieces feel small. Most of it is in that tiny room. A lot of landscape shots to trick us into bigness but it feels like a pandemic movie.

Can i just say. I wished they added cgi to the test bomb. It was too small and too “free”( idk how to describe it)

As much as it looked good id definitely didnt feel like an atomic bomb. It felt like heaps of tnt detonated alltogether. My take only

No spoilers but I can't wait: do we win WWII?

To echo the comments of others, I think this is Nolan’s best work to date. It’s a bit messy around the edges and I felt like some of the time jumps in the first half did more to muddle than to clarify. But, it’s undoubtedly a masterpiece.

Also, RDJ and Emily Blunt steal every scene they’re in. I’m sniffing best supporting Oscar nom for RDJ.

It was very mediocre imo

I love everything Nolan had every directed but this was just…meh

I was expecting more i guess

The movie is a masterpiece, actors really have a chance to shine. I am extremely impressed. I know Nolan’s work and I read a lot about Oppie, including the book the movie was based on. This was a truly great experience. People saying it was boring didn’t understand it. People saying there’s too much characters didn’t get that this is a biography. It’s not gonna be a classic 2 mains, 5-7 supporting. This movie is kind of like an opera. You should prepare in advance, familiarise yourself with the story and some people and then you’ll get your money’s worth an then some.

I went to the IMAX viewing of this movie, its was pretty great ngl.

But my date went to the movie bathrooms to smoke weed and get totally baked before the screening and she didnt understand shit about it and kept asking stuff and when the bomb went off, she was just like "wooooooo"

Overall, it was good

so I wasn’t able to understand what Cillian Murphy was saying when he humiliated RDJ… can someone let me know what the judge asked and what Oppenheimer responded with?

I forget the exact phrasing. The judge essentially asked if isotopes were important to the development of nuclear weapons, which RDJ had said very confidently they were. Cillian Murphy responded by saying they were as useful as a cold beer or a sandwich, essentially saying RDJ didn't know what the fuck he was talking about.

The real MVP is the guy who took Kyoto off the list.

I am very disappointed that the movie kept the lie that Los Alamos was created from scratch and not from stolen land, where the Latino population were given 24 hours to leave and all their herds were shot. And then they were forced to work - without the protection given to white people.

Otherwise, good movie.

I’m glad so many of you enjoyed it, but personally I was really bored by it. I appreciate how well made and acted it was, but the structure of the story didn’t keep me engaged. Just kept bouncing around different periods of time without any room to breathe and it became hard to keep up with what happened when. Gonna watch it again in the future at home with subtitles and hope that helps.

I wasn't a fan.

The cinematography and acting is some of the best I've ever seen in a movie.

On the other hand I found the pacing to be boring. I'm familier with Oppenheimer and his story and even then at times I found it hard to follow. It's as if the movie wanted to pull a Westworld season 2 and try to be obtuse as possible with telling the story out of order. I like that in fictional stories, but not in a bio pic with a lot of charectors.

The marketing also heavily pushed nuclear weapons, and the movie swung and missed here. Oppenheimer in the movie of course feels bad terrible and awful for having created such a terrible weapon, but the movie doesn't really show why they're so bad and terrible. He winces at some slides of the aftermath of Hiroshima but they aren't shown in the movie. He goes crying to the President about his feelings. The movie didn't really show why he was so against it. We all know why but the movie would have been better served if it showed that better. It assumes the audience is intimently familier with why nuclear weapons are bad, but in the modern day I think the horror of nukes needs to be shown on screen to remind us. It tried by showing ICBMs flying and skin peeling off of random audience members but IMO it didn't get the message across. It focused more upon his personal hand wringing rather than about the topic of nuclear weapons themselves, which with the advent of the Ukraine war and Pakistan/India sabre rattling, is needed now more than ever.

Too long and the the final hour was an absolute mess.

It was a very impressive movie, captivating from the beginning until the end and right up my alley. Sidenote as a Dutch person: why do Hollywood movies always pretend someone is speaking Dutch when they’re actually speaking German lol, the one scene in Leiden.

Good movie. Chris Nolan does a biopic.

The bomb is probably underwhelming on purpose, in order to show the disappointment Oppie feels.

In the scheme of things, the test was miniscule.

In the scheme of things the real bombings are out of his hands, distant, unseen, but devastating long term for him and his psyche.

In the scheme of things, he was probably most hurt by the loss of his "security clearance" above all else in life. To go from being the 'heart' of top secret projects to being an outcast is painful. He was the golden child. Father of the largest modern weapon.

The structure and focus were masterfully crafted to reflect Oppenheimer's perspectives, and that's a right proper thing. By no means a Hollywood blockbuster, but rather, the showcasing of how those hard moments felt to the genius himself as he rose and subsequently fell.

Absolutely brilliant film. Can't recommend it enough. Really well told and had some brilliant moments in it. Everyone was excellent as expected. Easily best film I've seen in the last year.

A phenomenal film from one of the premier directors of his era. The organization of the various storylines was not only coherent, but exceptionally crafted to represent the complexity and gravity of this dark period in history.

Brilliant direction, acting, and cinematography. Many people nitpicking the Trinity Test as underwhelming are missing the point. From the perspective of Oppenheimer, the bomb, and its initial explosion, is not about admiring/glorifying its raw power and destructiveness, even after dedicating years of one's life towards its creation.

Nolan respects his subject matter and its surrounding history, doing well to not deviate too much into the stories of the side characters, but in highlighting their roles in relation to Oppenheimer. The sex scene in the trial between Oppy & Pugh is one of the only complaints I have. Nolan seems to be talking down to his audience and spelling out the words for them, afraid they are unaware of Kitty's perspective in lieu of Oppy's infidelity, which Emily Blunt masterfully does already through her facial expressions.

This film properly grapples with the agonizing moral complexity inherent to the bomb's creation, its purpose, and its future influence on world relations. The dialogue is Kubrick-esque at moments with its humor, and is also reminiscent of screwball comedy in other snappy exchanges. Most importantly, Nolan captures the development of Oppenheimer succinctly, as his arrogant and stubborn personality transforms into ambiguity.

One of the best films in the last decade, one of the most surreal and polished biopics, and arguably Nolan's best film to date.

Absolutely loved this film from start to finish, I was totally invested. Some people are hating on this film, I am not a Nolan fanboy but I thought this rocked. Cillian Murphy is such a great leading man.

Question: This movie made me want to scratch an itch regarding Oppenheimer and the Manhattan Project. Any books you all could recommend?

Thanks.

Note, I'm not a film critic or anything. I have no idea what I'm talking about, these are just my feelings from seeing the movie, and movie expert people may be able to correct me on some stuff.

I was pretty frustrated. I love Nolan, and some of his work probably isn't as good (Dunkirk, Tenet), but whenever I think of Nolan, I think of Interstellar. Or at least, I went into this movie hoping to be floored, the way that Interstellar floored me. I loved that movie so much, that I bought The Science of Interstellar, and read the whole thing in a day or two (something like that anyway). Point being, Nolan made me so immersed in the Interstellar universe, that I couldn't get enough of the details involved in how it was made up.

I guess I was hoping for something similar here: Who was Oppenheimer? What did his story look like? What were his motivations? What did his work on the bomb look like?

And some of this was addressed, I think (again, I'm just a guy who doesn't know much about the subject as a whole): Oppenheimer is a guy from America, I think? I don't know. He loves the wild west, I guess? He's level-headed, and attempts to do the right thing, like when he donated to those suffering in Spain. He was the director of the Manhattan project, I think.

Some things really frustrated me. I almost left the theater after about an hour or so.

Also, I have no idea why he wanted his brother to come to the base. He kept asking for this, and even I was like dude compartmentalization. Matt Damon is right.

Oh, and the dialog was fucking horrendous. Every few scenes someone would come to Oppenheimer and go "Oh my God Oppenheimer you have to do something, you're God's gift to mankind, the smartest guy in the universe." No one talks like that to their friends or colleagues, even if they respect them. I really wanted to like this movie, hopefully Christopher Nolan will put out a good one in the future.

Wow. What a movie. This movie will clean up at the Oscars.

RDJ was just brilliant. Cillian delivered a near perfect performance.

I would have loved to have seen Adrian Brody in this movie.

Don't understand at all how people are disappointed with the trinity test...... the dead silence after all that buildup is absolutely suffocating especially in imax. Does a fantastic job of portraying how oppenheimer felt in that moment. I don't even think the "I am become death" quote was needed. The scene alone perfectly gets that point across

The film was far too long. They could have cut all of the romance and that would have saved at least 20 minutes for example. It felt very self indulgent.

I feel the film didn't know what story it wanted to tell: scientific discovery or political thriller. I feel the payoff in the third act was messy and relied far too heavily on the audience recalling every scientist and their actions and motives. The black and white scenes were a failed idea.

The score whilst fitting and functional didn't leave me wanting to rush home and boot up Spotify like other Nolan films.

The acting was excellent.

I cannot believe I’d ever say that I found a Barbie movie superior to a Nolan movie, but here I am.

I really enjoyed it and it had me riveted despite being a fairly talky 3 hour movie. Cilian Murphy gave a tremendous performance and I hope he gets an Oscar nom for it. The nearly continuous music score was a wonder to listen to as well. I think it's a movie that I'll only watch once though. Not really much replay value for me.

For whatever reason, I was thinking that Nolan would show us an on the ground perspective from Hiroshima or Nagasaki when the atomic bomb detonated.

I looked forward to Oppenheimer, having had a lot of physics in college.

Found it to be... OK, but not entirely up to its hype

very bold and genius decision to have the actual explosion be quiet and we just hear everyone's breathing. i was ready for the sound but the scene made me really take in the implications of the blast and its effect

Did anyone else find the first 2/3rds of the movie a mess in terms of pacing? Get like a 5-6 hour miniseries condensed down to 3 hours

I haven’t seen anyone mention this yet, I think the reason Nolan had a character go out of their way to mention JFK was because he cited Oliver Stone’s movie “JFK” as a huge influence on this movie, especially those scenes

JFK was also the president who awarded Oppenheimer the Enrico Fermi prize that served as a redemption for Oppenheimer.

JFK got killed before so Lyndon Johnson handed it over but that doesn’t change the fact.

To me it felt like 3 hours of exposition. The scenes felt carelessly placed together, non stop talking and no real emotional depth.

It was boring. I really wanted to see more regarding the nuclear side of things, not actors dropping "quantum physics" in dialogue every now and again. The bomb test was underwhelming too.

It just felt like nolan threw all these scenes together. I was really trying to enjoy it. I didn't want to see a (really underwhelming) court room drama, honestly why focus on something with stakes so low?

I felt no connection to any of the characters.

Good to see Josh Hartnett back at it again though.

I feel like I'm going crazy here seeing everyone saying it was too long and the last hour with Strauss and the hearings should've been cut. For me, the last hour was probably my favorite part of the film.

Admittedly, I'm a major Manhattan Project/atomic history nerd. I've read American Prometheus and The Making of the Atomic Bomb multiple times, among other things on Oppy and the project. If any part of the film was a bit of a let down, it was the time at Los Alamos. That could very well be due to my familiarity with the subject, but I felt like it was lacking depth. Curious to know what people not as deeply familiar with the science and history thought of those scenes.

I never once felt bored, the 3 hours felt like like 1 hour, I could've easily gone for another hour of run time.

I think that a lot of people are going to be disappointed by the focus so much on Oppy's personal like and downfall rather than the Bomb and Hiroshima/Nagasaki, but the films title is Oppenheimer, not The Manhattan Project. It's a portrait of a deeply fascinating and complicated figure, who's actions, alongside all those on the project, irreversibly changed the course of human history. I absolutely loved it

That is probably the last Christopher Nolan film I go out of my way to see

I'm glad I didn't go through with my original plan of travelling 1.5 hrs to see it in IMAX.

3 hours wide-eyed close ups

3 hours is just too long for most movies, it's good but dragged for me

Loved the movie, but felt like it was edited by MrBeast. That was the fastest paced 3hr movie I've ever seen. I'd love to see a list of Nolan films and how fast each scene was before it was cut, because I watched Interstellar before this, and the pacing of Interstellar was fast too, but I feel like the cuts were just like Nolan machine-gunning the movie to the audience.

Probably my 3rd or 4th favorite from him. Which is to say its still really good, just not his best.

This was a solid film but wish it went more into the science

Asking this in good faith, because i've seen this sentiment a lot, but why are so many people 'shaken to the core' by the ending exactly? I expected the end to be a real gut punch after everything that's been said, but Oppenheimer expressing that the nuclear weapon might be the destruction of us all is....

a) objectively true - he would have known that the second he understood the scale of the weapon, so why would it be a revelation for him to think that?

and

b) something he'd already expressed many times in the film already.

Those were the unsexiest sex scenes I've ever scene. (In the best ways possible.)

No CGI for a nuclear bomb that’s capable of destroying the earth as reiterated multiple times throughout the film?

A weapon that nearly eradicated two major Japanese cities?

A weapon that accelerated the arms race?

No CGI for a weapon so strong that it ensured the concept of Mutually Assured Destruction?

Extremely strange editorial choice in my opinion.

Anyone else find the dialogue hard to understand/hear at times? Saw it in IMAX.

Just got out of my 11:15 viewing of this. Incredible film. Cillian Murphy rightly deserves all the praise he is getting and he will undoubtedly be nominated and possibly win best actor.

However, to me RDJ absolutely knocked it out of the park as Strauss. He gave a powerhouse supporting performance.

Anyways, the movie was sooo good. I could hear a pin drop in the theater during the “I have become death, destroyer of worlds” scene when the bomb went off. What blows my mind is that there was no cgi used. I’m still trying to figure out how they did that.

Anyways, imo among Nolan’s best, if not, his best. Best Picture is likely in the bag.

What an absolutely astonishingly fantastic movie! Great direction, great acting, great audio, great emotion building, great visuals both evocative and real, and of course incredible storytelling with the time jumps to introduce the psychotic anti-leftism of post-(and pre- tbh)war USA, and then returning to resolve it after the los alamos focus in the middle. Also a great coverage of the relevant parts of Oppenheimer’s life

I was on the edge of my seat for literally three hours, and people call it a “boring biopic”??? Like wtf!?!

I get that it wasn’t for you, everyone has different taste, but holy hell, it was not a biopic, and if an event that has affected the whole world since it happened is boring to you I really don’t know what to say..

(With peace and love ofc!)

We must respect the genius of Nolan to turn a biography of a scientist into a blockbuster movie.

I’m pretty torn on this one. The acting was all very strong, so I have no complaints there. I think the final third was pretty underwhelming, though. All of that drama and arguing and talking over a security clearance.

The thing really sticking in my craw is Oppenheimer’s relationship with his wife. She seemed so dedicated and loyal for the test and during all the security clearance stuff, but pretty much everything else made it seem like they didn’t really like each other. Weird dynamic.

Good movie but not using cgi for the atom bomb explosion was an unnecessary handicap they gave themselves. That scene could've been more larger than life.

My only complaint is that the first 20 minutes were very quick and felt I wanted more from Pugh’s character. After that the movie really got into its groove and never let up. Also, I think that scene in the gym is the best scene Nolan has ever made. That singular scream, the melting face, stepping in a charred corpse… yeesh

Everyone talking about best actors and nobody mentioning Jason Clarke, the man behind Roger Robb.

Most hated character since Jofferey.

I wanted to jump across that hearing table and strangle him when he was yelling at Oppenheimer.

Amazing acting.

All the performances were great. Murphy, Damon, RDJ, Blunt, Pugh, Malek, etc. but I think the one that really stood out to me as surprisingly phenomenal was Jason Clarke. Man you really hate his character but he was so good in that role

Robert Downey Jr. should always be in every Nolan movie moving forward.

Obviously it's a movie about Oppenheimer and not the bombings themselves, but I'm glad they showed glimpses of the effects of the bombs in the gym scene.

Having recently been to both of Japan's bomb site memorials and seeing the very real legacy of nuclear warfare there, the gym scene was especially heavy for me.

Using parallels of people crying for joy and holding each other (while thousands across the world are crying in anguish and holding each other in their last moments) right after the skin melting and charred corpse scene was a masterful work of filmography imo.

It was great but I honestly had higher expectations. I wanted to see the bombings and every aftermath aspect from it, I also think it was unnecessary to focus that much on the trial with RDJr, other aspects could have been touched. Also the trinity test bomb was underwhelming, didn't resemble atomic bombs at all. I don't get why I'm being downvoted. I seriously wanted myself to love this but it was kind of a let down. I remember working on middle school presentations about these events and when years later I saw the teaser I was extremely hyped, now mildly disappointed.

Mixed feelings overall. Film was gorgeous and extremely well-directed and acted, but it was overstuffed, overwritten, over-edited and over-scored.

Did not care for the communist ties stuff, and I wish the last hour had leaned more into him coming to grips with what he had done, rather than give us one (incredible) scene and have us take the rest for granted.

I thought the women were pointless, even though Emily Blunt was great in her scenes. I did not get what her deal was as a character. Actually, I didn’t get anyone’s deal as a character.

For a character study, I feel like I didn’t get to know a single thing about Oppenheimer’s inner workings.

There was just too much going on, too much bombardment of dialogue, too much time jumping, sequences which never felt more than the sum of their parts.

The score, while lovely on its own, felt manipulative in creating dramatic tension.

I think RDJ did a great job, however, I’d really love to see a cut of the movie that didn’t rely on him as a framing and exposition device. I think you could still find a way to use that character in moderation that would make the film feel less bloated. The last 45-minutes I found myself wondering “…and it’s over, right?” The film doesn’t need an antagonist throughout. The story is compelling enough that it works on the merits of trying to tell a story about the man behind the atom bomb alone.

I thought the first half felt very disjointed, more like a collection of scenes rather than a coherent movie. Do you guys think that was an intentional stylistic choice (maybe to show the craziness of his life then, to really juxtapose it with the post-bomb world?)

For context, I absolutely loved the movie. I thought it was alright in the first half save for the above comment, but the second half was astounding.

Anyone else laugh their ass off when Matt Damon delivered the line: this is the most fucking important thing in the fucking world!!!

I went with a friend who is usually apathetic about movies and only joined because of the hype. Throughout the movie I thought that he would be bored but after the movie ended he kept repeating how incredible it was. I never saw him like that

Just saw it, and I'm mixed. I knew what I was getting into with a biopic, a lot of dialogue and to hopefully learn more about the man who lead the development of the atomic bomb. However the scenes were so disjointed with multiple timelines and story beats that I had serious trouble following along at times. This felt more like a collection of scenes that somehow ended up being less than the sum of their parts. I also feel like I didn't get to know Oppenheimer that well, I could see how the creation of the bomb affected him as well as the legal battle with Strauss, but I felt like I didn't get to know him compared to other biopics. It was overscored to hell, not every scene needs to have a piece of music tied to the background. I thought Interstellar and Tenet had similar issues, so I'm assuming it's just a Nolan thing. I did enjoy the race against the clock aspect and the build up to the Trinity test was the most tense I've felt in a theater in a long time. Also absolutely loved the ending scene with Einstein. It was a solid 7/10.

Was overall a great movie and a wonderful cinema experience.

However, can't help but feel like the non-linear storytelling was completely unnecessary for the most part in a film like this. A choice based on style over substance. It made the story that much more difficult to follow and almost pretentious.

Also, didn't feel like there was an emotional connection with any of the characters at all, partly due to the speed of the film (3 hours of going at 100mph), which ties into my first point again.

The trinity test scene was absolutely amazing, loved how it was done, as well as the scenes following that, particularly the gym speech. Some of the best directing and conveyance of emotion I've seen in a while. Those are the 'show' parts of the movie. The third act unfortunately is entirely 'tell' and does not leave much to the imagination. A courtroom drama can be fun, exciting and thought-provoking. This had all the material to be that, but truthfully it just felt exhausting trying to keep up with all the information being thrown at you. Overall 7-8/10 for me.

In the third act, when RDJ was explaining to the audience how smart Oppenheimer was for fooling them, it was sooo annoying. Felt like a badly written scene.

The first half of the movie lost a lot of points in my eyes from the editing. There were so many flashbacks, flash forwards, change of time, change of scene, etc. At one point there was even a flashback within a flashback, which really got me. It was digestible but so... unnecessary. There was also probably 15 minutes of unnecessary material in the last act surrounding the trial over his security clearance. The story really bogged down in that section.

People in the prisoner of the moment keep bandying around words like masterpiece and magnum opus. But to me it wasn't, it was any other Chris Nolan film, which had like 95% brilliance, and 5% "what the hell were they even doing here". Closer to an A- than an A+.

Poorly written and poorly edited.

The movie should've focused only on the Manhattan Project, not his early life and post-war political struggles. It's just spread too thin.

It also moved way too fast. Every scene is "sprinting" as fast as possible, and so none of the scenes had air to breathe and take on life.

It was a good movie - but you really don't need to see it on an IMAX screen. In fact, I don't understand why Nolan even shot it in IMAX, since the majority of the film is just discussions between scientists/politicians, and the Trinity Test just looks like every other Hollywood explosion - in fact it was extremely underwhelming/disappointing. I say Nolan failed to deliver on that end, especially when all the advertising says to watch this film on as large a screen as possible.

So yeah, IMAX is very unnecessary imo - save your money and see it on a regular screen.

But still - good movie. I'm sure Cillian and Robert Downy Jr will receive Oscar nods.

I can’t remember the last time I was in a packed cinema and the whole audience was so locked in. Especially considering it is basically a 3 hour talkie. No one, was fidgeting, looking at phones or leaning in to talk to their partners even.

The theatre didn't have subtitles which i kind of need and the audio mixing with music happening a lot of time did not help.

Two jump scare explosions to represent the two bombs dropped was a nice touch by Nolan because I was shitting bricks when the room got bright during the scene of Oppie and Rob going at it.

Waiting for that third jump scare explosion that never happened was some edge of your seat horror shit.

Cannot wait to rewatch this again.

Honorable shoutout to the old man sitting next to me, idk if it was the hearing aid or maybe the man was a war vet but he did not flinch during both explosions while I jumped out of my seat like a cat stumbling upon a cucumber lmao

The one thing I was a bit hazy on, in retrospect, was the impetus for Strauss' animosity toward Oppenheimer.

I think the film was suggesting that Strauss initially wanted to "collect" Oppenheimer in his institute as a sort of feather in his own cap, but soured on Oppenheimer when he turned out to be an independent thinker (scientifically and politically.). Coupled with his own insecurity -- his insistence that Oppenheimer turned Einstein against him, and the isotope joke that really stuck with him -- I read it as an egotistical man who wanted Oppenheimer as an achievement but ended up viewing him as an opponent.

...but was it really that petty? And what was the context for the joke that clearly rubbed him so much the wrong way? I wasn't quite sure what the setting for that exchange was; looked like another hearing of sorts?

Haven't seen anyone talk about this yet, but Nolan is always good at sprinkling in small bits of humor throughout his movies and this one still pulls that off, even in the most heavy moments. Definitely some successful dark humor.

Was Einstein the same guy who fixed Bruce's back in the pit in TDKR? 🤯

Did anyone else notice the lump (cyst) on the right hand side of Cillian Murphy's neck?

Can we give some love to Josh Hartnett? Dude had a presence in his scenes that I adored. You could feel he was a get your hands dirty, I don't believe it until I see it in action guy. His relationship with Oppenheimer and practicality was a great part of the movie for me.

I am a huge fan of Nolan, but I must say I was a bit disappointed. I get that this movie is a biography about Oppenheimer, not atomic bomb. But the trailer and all the posters helped shape my expectations such that I expected to see more visually stunning scenes portraying the explosion (as well as the Nolan-typical science things). The movie was good overall but it fell short of my expectations.

Somehow Nolan combined the intensity of Dunkirk and the timeline mysteries of Prestige with a historical biopic and it worked.

What a colossus of a film. The ending alone was one of the most… hopeless and helpless feelings I’ve ever had watching a film. This should be required viewing along with Threads.

The sound design was the best part of the movie for me. Absolutely classic Nolan score out of Göransson as well. Some moments brought me almost to tears without anything traditionally dramatic happening.

When all the masters of their crafts come together, you get a master class movie

This was one of the best movies I have ever seen. I loved it.

Does anybody feel that the whole discourse surrounding Nolan and his apparent disdain for CG has reached toxic levels? Especially in light of the news that he hasn't credited 80% of the people who worked on the VFX of Oppenheimer.Personally, as someone who feels that CG is an incredibly effective tool that has given us some amazing sequences ( and I'm not just referring to the great, but obvious examples like, say, Avatar or Gollum or Caesar, but more so something like Fincher's skillful use of them ), the whole current 'Everything is done for real' anti-CG trend just feels thoroughly mean-spirited to me, especially when they're downright lies and downplays the contributions of hundreds of CG artists who've put in their blood, sweat and tears into the work.And it's not just Oppenheimer, I noticed this with the new Mission Impossible, where all the marketing suggested that ALL the stunts were practical whereas it's evident that CG has been used ( quite judiciously I might add ) in all of the stunts ( something that even the director confirmed ).At this point, being a CG artist feels like an utterly thankless job - you do your job well, and nobody notices and are blamed when it doesn't turn out 100% perfect. All that after working for low pay under insane crunch and deadlines.Lastly, and this may be an unpopular opinion - Nolan's distaste for CG actually affects his work adversely in my humble opinion. Post Inception, none of his films's set pieces have ever filled me with awe or felt spectacular to me, Interstellar being the sole exception.CG works great in accentuating the impact of a set piece, even if it is mostly practical ( George Miller himself has admitted to used a lot of CG to heighten the impact of the stunts in Mad Max: Fury Road ) but most of Nolan's set pieces post Inception have fell flat to me. Not least of which was the much hyped Trinity Test sequence in Oppenheimer. The build up to the test was more exciting than the actual test itself. In fact, if anyone here has seen Twin Peaks Season 3, I wager you can attest to the fact that same test sequence in that film ( done with CG I might add ) conveyed way more of the dread, awe and sheer terror of an atomic bomb blast.

My first comment to my gf about this movie was, "I'm so glad I read the book beforehand." I don't know how anyone could follow all the political intrigue and characters involved in any other way. Maybe that wasn't the point, and people got the effects without necessarily following every line of reasoning and every accusation leveled at Oppie?

Also, Nolan's dialogue sound thing is still an issue. I felt I was constantly trying to decipher the dialogue, despite being a native English who had read the entire book a month ago, sitting dead center in an IMAX theater. Anyone outside these parameters, especially non-native English speakers will definitely have a hard time and appreciate when they can watch with subtitles. I know I personally will.

Having said all this, I enjoyed it and am just shocked at how Nolan basically adapted the whole book, minus adolescence and retirement.

I am become bored.

Pacing was too hectic. Never a moment without score or dialogue. No chance to let the audience absorb anything, it was always right on to the next thing. At first I figured it was a reflection of the sense of urgency of the project, but the pace kept up for the whole movie.

Mixing was bad. I had to really focus to listen, and my girlfriend said she couldn't understand at least 25% of the dialogue.

The problem with not using CGI is that you're now trying to use conventional methods to portray a completely unconventional method of warfare. As a result, the Trinity test was underwhelming. There was no sense of scale to the explosion. The fireball looked like a pool of gasoline set on fire.

With such a lack of focus on the atomic explosions, why was there a need to see this in IMAX or 70mm? Sure the hearings looked good, but I would have enjoyed them just as much on a regular screen I think.

Good movie, got its point across effectively, but there was a lot that could have been done better in my opinion.

Honestly one of the best theatrical experiences I've experienced. I normally scoff at the "go to the biggest screen possible" shtick as meaningless hype but I put it up there with Fury Road in terms of "bigger the better."

I go the IMAX in Reading, MA for movies I expect to be good on the big screen and the shaking seats (buttkickers?) really put in some work.

The sound design was incredible.

While the film is visually stunning I found the narrative to be weak and incoherent, it was just all over the place

I've been describing Oppenheimer as a classic, straightforward biopic wearing a Christopher Nolan costume. Some of the most tense and nerve-wracking moments were just Cillian Murphy pouring every ounce of emotion he could into his eyes while the score went bananas, not intense action scenes. I left satisfied that I had seen a solid Christopher Nolan movie and was surprised that I had highly enjoyed and remained engaged with a 3 hour biopic. I was expecting it to drag a little; it did but still held my attention while it slowed down.

Here's a fun fact from LPOTL: During the Trinity test one of the scientists described the initial flash of light as an all-consuming brightness that overpowered him until he was screaming in his brain for it to stop. He said it felt like eternity--it was 2 seconds. I couldn't help but remember that during the many moments of extreme, unbearable music that went on \*just\* long enough, and would not be shocked to learn that it was a conscious choice to mimic that sensation.

The movie was interesting for sure. But it dragged on for too long. There were plenty of scenes that could have been cut and the movie would be the same. There was no real plot, it didn't really feel like a story. There wasn't really a climax or resolution. It felt like a camera following around a real person, Oppenheimer, during a portion of his life.

I am become erect, destroyer of puss

Anyone else immediately recognize Bernard from The Santa Clause movies?! Can’t believe how far he’s come! He’s now been in an Oscar-worthy, cinematic masterpiece..and Oppenheimer. LOL jk, fantastic movie

I watched this movie in IMAX and I'm in a conundrum. Wonderful experience, but I have no big rush in seeing it again and I honestly don't think it'd work outside of theaters. I'm 100% a go see in theaters kinda guy for movies like this, MI, Avatar, ATSV, something that utilizes the theater format to its absolute limits and this quite easily did. On a technical level this film is a genuine 10/10, the sound design, the editing is impeccable.

But on a personal emotional level... Idk? Should I feel "less intellectual" because I didn't come out of the movie really feeling anything else? I loved the movie's technical aspects but I just don't really resonate it with it beyond that like I did with movies like Everything Everywhere All At Once. I try to not see myself as a snob but I also don't see myself as a complete normie either, I loved EEAAO but I personally loved Top Gun Maverick over EEAAO because it did what Oppenheimer did last year, give you an experience that can pretty much only be felt, be truly appreciated in theaters.

The blast itself also didn't work too well for me. I get the tension building, I get the intention but I guess I wanted an atomic bomb to feel like it'd engulf you, like you couldn't outrun it, like it'd destroy an entire city, which it did but I just don't feel like the scale was conveyed nearly as much as I hoped it would.

I definitely do not hate nor love the film, I feel like it's a very solid 8/10 from me just on the technical feats alone

This movie perfectly encapsulates anxiety. 10/10

I'm seeing a lot of people disappointed and underwhelmed with the movie. And I'm not sure if it's because of the marketing or what their expectations of it were.

Personally I felt this movie was a mix of The Social Network and Tàr. Part courtroom drama, part psychologcial drama with classic Nolan intercutting between timelines. And for what it's worth I feel it's his best movie yet.

The Trinity Test really landed for me but I think a lot of people wanted to see the bang but Nolan went for the psychological impact of it all, with the music cutting out and "I am become Death.." right before the shockwave and I respect that and it really worked for me. But I can see how that might have underwhelmed someone who was expecting a proper Big Bang mushroom cloud.

My favourite part of this movie was how the ending calls back the scene where in the early stages of the atomic bomb one of the teams biggest fears is atmospheric ignition. A runaway reaction that sets the entire atmosphere ablaze. The film does a wonderful job of visualizing this theory.

After some calculations, they determine that the chances of this happening are near zero, Oppenheimer even laughs about this with Groves. They are confident in what they are creating.

This is contrasted in the ending of the film. Oppenheimers fear is of thousands of nuclear warheads being detonated that set the entire world ablaze. Eerily similar visuals to the atmospheric ignition. Oppenheimer’s near zero confidence that they will destroy the world is now near zero that they won’t.

Haunting.

this was easily my favourite nolan film. It's just so so good, I want to see it again immediately. Also as a science student, this was my infinity war lmao, it felt so funny that every 2 minutes another physicist showed up.

Can someone please tell me how Rami Maliks' character just knows everything about RDJ and Cillian?

It was a good scene but I didn't understand how he could have known all these things about RDJ's characters' plans, given that he was just there taking notes in 2 scenes; the one intro scene where Cillian meets him and the other scientist and the second one where they are about to meet the secretary of defense (and it looks like he is advising Cillian against it.)

With very few exceptions (e.g., Teller), the vast majority of the scientific community supported Oppenheimer during the security hearing. After Oppenheimer's clearance was revoked, 494 Los Alamos scientists signed a petition that was sent to Eisenhower and the AEC strongly protesting the decision

Furthermore, Strauss actually released the full transcripts of the security hearing, basically salting the earth after already destroying Oppenheimer's public career. However, the move backfired and further cemented the opposition in the scientific community against Strauss, as it did amongst his detractors in the Senate.

I love Nolan but this was such a disappointment for me. It was impeccably acted by a brilliant cast but I can’t say I’d ever want to sit through it again, it was way too long and dwelt on the parts I had least interest in. In the context of the whole story, was his security clearance really that important to spent an hour on? I actually found the ‘courtroom’ scenes very tedious and repetitive by the end.

It’s also the first time I’ve bought into the Nolan ‘must see at IMAX’ hype and thought afterwards it wasn’t worth it. If anything it set my expectation of a spectacular movie (at least in part ) when actually I’d have been better off watching it in a smaller indie theatre like I did for stuff like The Social Network.

My main thought is, this is not a “summer blockbuster”. This feels like a winter Oscar movie type release.

There were a ton of famous people in this thing and ton of great performances here, but seeing "old" Josh Harnett was a real surprise and he was great in this.

I rewatched the movie last night and I was still left totally baffled. I'm definitely recommending a rewatch because it allows you to enjoy the story more after the shock on the first watch. So i just want to write this down somewhere in order to remember this interpretation and try to see other peoples thoughts on it. Im aware that it might end up too long but no pressure in reading it all its just my interpretation of this absolute masterpiece.

Well obviously there are 4 of the most disturbing scenes in the movie. The Trinity testing, Oppenheimers speech after the Hiroshima bombing, interrogation of Oppenheimer in his hearing and the last scene where he discusses the future with Einstein. All of those scenes have something in common. The same build up music is happening each time. We can hear violent violins which absolutely demolished me in IMAX. Then we can hear the loud beats (Trinity- countdown, speech - people banging their feet, interrogation - the way they start speaking louder and louder lake scene - again we hear similar banging as in speech scene representing drops of a bomb arsenal that was shown) and in the end of each build up there is obviously a large boom(representing the explosion) and horror of people witnessing it.

So then it struck me.

And then suddenly everything changes. From him being the main guy now the military took the bombs away and he needs to wait to see how the military will use them. He knows the destructive capabilities of them. You can see him being troubled waiting in the night of 6th of August. But after the bombing was successful that's just it nobody is in shock or feeling remorse instead people are congratulating him. So idk i felt like when he got praise instead of judgement thats where things went wrong for him.

2. Speech after the Hiroshima bombing

Even years after Oppenheimer obviously still feels guilty. We see that first in his meeting with the president where he says "I feel like i have blood on my hands". Second time we see him feeling guilt is in the midst of the unfair hearing which he voluntarily accepts as some kind of a martyr. At the moment his wife confronts him with sentences "When will you fight back" and "Did you think that if you let them tar and feather you the world would forgive you?".

3. The hearing of Oppenheimer representing Nagasaki bomb

4. Build up representing the possible nuclear war apocalypse

Sorry for this being so long its just that Nolan created a fking masterpiece and i want to understand it better so feel free to add up something or correct me if you think the interpretation is not correct. Also the rewatch was amazing and i would recommend it every time. 10/10 movie for me.

It’s so great that this movie is an event. I love Marvel but I feel like it’s applied pressure on directors to assume viewers have no understanding of nuance.

Oppenheimer isn’t needlessly complicated either, it’s not meant to be a mindfuck. The non-linear structure complements the narrative by contrasting the perspectives of Oppenheimer and Strauss as “fusion” and “fission”.

Class movie man, hope Nolan goes on to make more.

Man, leaving out Josh Hartnet in the cast list feels wrong, never been a big fan, but I thought he killed it in this role. Almost unrecognizable.

Cilian murphy was mesmerizing. Rdj evolved from tony stark to Strauss in the monologue .

Did the soundtrack remind anyone else of There Will Be Blood?

Parts of it felt very Jonny Greenwood to me.

Just seen it, was one of the best films I have seen in the past 10 or so years. I expected more inaccuracies, but I was genuinely impressed with how much Nolan got right. The Trinity Test scenes were visually stunning and would give it a solid 9.8/10.

Cillian Murphy gave one of the best performances I've ever seen. Very few times I've ever been as stressed about and for a main character than Murphy here. It's fascinating to see Oppenheimer's charisma in his domain (the classroom/lab) and then a place where he's uncomfortable and helpless (the private subcommittee). Murphy just didn't miss the entire movie IMO.

This 3 hour movie didn’t drag. First movie I’m on the edge of my seat, for the detonation scene.

Cool to see Josh Peck in the movie. Come a long way since his Drake and Josh days

I thought there was something really cool about how this movie used the American desert town as a set-piece. A hastily built town with a lone architect ruling over the whole thing, all so that they could extract as much value as they could from it - literally dropping nuclear waste all over it - and then abandoning the ruins and deciding to “return it to the Indians”. Not a fully formulated thought but it’s yet another layer to this movie I thought was interesting.

What a great film. I often come away from films with something about them I didn't like, or would've changed, but this is the first film in a long time where I couldn't think of a single criticism.

Every scene, every actor, everything was as perfect as it needed to be.

I really enjoyed how the movie was essentially a deconstruction of great man theory; a lot of the characters see themselves as Great Men who define history, only to be bought down by their own hubris. Chiefly Oppenheimer and Strauss, but even Einstein, Teller, and Truman. Each one thinks they're the centre of the universe only to have it come crashing down (Einstein and Truman are loose fits; Einstein doesn't give off the same hubris as the others, but the outcome is the same, while Truman's treatment of Oppenheimer and his statement of "they don't care about who built the bomb, only who dropped it" channels the same hubris but we don't see the same vilification Oppenheimer and Strauss experience). What was ironic about this was that a trailer for Napoleon preceded the film.

Such a layered film. Probably Nolan's best.

I really enjoyed this and will definitely be watching it again, but the pacing in the first act was so jarring. It honestly felt like I was watching a trailer for Oppenheimer and not the movie itself.

Reading through the comments and it's astounding how prudish and anti-sex so many people are. My god some people need to grow up.

Loved the movie. I'll say that the movie was terrifyingly beautiful. The moment when the bomb dropped my theater was dead silent and then the Sound boom came from the bomb and that was epic.

Anyone recommend more historical movies like this?

I just watched it and I cannot say that I enjoyed it. I think 3 hours is simply too long. The movie could have been best served with an edit as I felt some scenes dragged on, the plot in parts was too convoluted, and the three parts of the movie were just not cohesive enough to justify it being 3 hours long. Is Nolan untouchable that nobody wants to dare edit the movies to a more bearable 1.5-2 hours?

The scene everyone was looking forward to - the nuclear blast - was, as others have pointed out, underwhelming, probably deliberately so. But in a movie like this, I think that the nuclear bomb should have packed more of a punch to show the terrifying and frightening world-changing majesty of it. The silence was a wise choice, but the bomb itself just looked small, like any other bomb, really. It made me question what all the hype about it being IMAX-suitable was all about. The only scene that really packed the necessary punch was the last 10 seconds of the movie, sadly.

I think the movie bounces around from scene to scene so frenetically that it's easy to get lost (as with Tenet, an even worse film, though fortunately it was easier to hear what was being spoken in Oppenheimer).

I don't think the movie did enough to really make us care enough Strauss, nor did I think it really made a lot of sense to dedicate so much time to this man's ego. It felt like a little random bit of isolated drama, though I will say that Robert Downey Junior can act, as too can all the other actors.

Einstein's scenes were just all accidentally funny. He reminded me of some random bumbling villager in a video game who appears in random scenes in the same city to offer a bit of thinky-thinky wisdom to the main character.

I note the scarcity of women in Nolan movies is always obvious - they're just supportive two dimensional characters who act as shadows of a man, or in this case, just let their kids cry relentlessly every time they appear in a scene. The lack of women is pretty ironic given Oppenheimer's competition is the feminist Barbie movie.

I will say that I am at least now more curious to read about Oppenheimer, the Manhattan Project, American Prometheus, The Making of the Atomic Bomb, etc.

The atomic bomb didn't have a sound, because... Well, it didn't in reality. The main "sound" was from the shockwave.

Overall, I think it's a really interesting picture, and a solid biopic of the man. Cillian Murphy really does the title role justice, and although there is a strong supporting cast, I think only a couple manage to stand out - Downey Jr, and David Krumholtz. Maybe Josh Hartnett.

I don't think Emily Blunt's character was particularly well developed, and there were maybe too many characters overall.

The first two thirds are rapid and build a real excitement for the project being undertaken. This is certainly the heart of the movie. However, once the bomb goes off, I think the film loses its way a little.

Very little is done to really show the atrocities of what took place. There is one scene where Oppenheimer addresses a rabid crowd, and it begins to suggest there is a real horror to what has happened. But it also feels that a number of opportunities were lost to really do something with that.

Also, the final third seems more preoccupied with whether he was a Communist or not as opposed to what the ramifications of dropping the bomb were. Obviously it was a key part, but not quite what I was looking for in that section of the film. And with the black and white segment reaching its conclusion, you can't help but draw parallels with Memento and The Prestige, and think Nolan couldn't help wrap it in a puzzle with a surprising conclusion. But what was the need for the puzzle? What did it matter who was behind it all? The entire B&W sequence could have been lost, and I genuinely think the film would have been no worse off.

My favorite part of this thread is that all 6% of the people who didn’t like it on the RT meter are in here. If you did nothing else but read this thread, you would think the movie was ass. Lol

This movie was amazing, watched it in the glory of 70mm.

Tbh I was surprised that Louis Slotin wasn't portrayed in this movie and they didn't mention the Demon Core incident in the events after the Trinity Test and WWII.

Also holy shit just got home from watching it and totally forgot Gary Oldman is in this

Visually, the film was stunning, (As per the usual of Nolan's work). After reading some of these comments, I find it odd that some people are so negatively receptive to a film that doesn't necessarily follow a linear, typical story path. The film was completely unpredictable, and I loved it. Also, the sound accuracy/delay during the explosions' was simply impeccable to hear. And what a great way to begin and end a film!

I just wanted to add that it was nice to see Alden Ehrenreich acting again. He is a talented actor that really did all he could to make Han Solo a thing and I hope to see him in more films again.

That little “breath out” that RDJr does mid sentence to let out his frustration when he was arguing with Oppenheimer felt real asf.

The pacing was terrible. I've never been to a movie before that felt this long and fast at the same time. The first two acts were so crammed together it left no room to breathe. Dialogue after dialogue after dialogue. No explanations on the maths, the figuring, anything... It just happens. Pacing was a little better in the third act but by then I was growing antsy due to the length of the film. Overall I'd still rate it a 7.5/10.

I like my fair share of slow movie but I definitely felt it with this one. Although I do like the film I did expect atleast more sciences revolving the nuke. I also think he should’ve used cgi instead of making a huge bomb look like a nuke cause I was able to to tell that wasn’t big enough

Amazing cast with great performances all around. Cilian Murphy, Emily Blunt, and Robert Downey Jr all killed it. Cinematography and soundtrack were also amazing and the Trinity test and final scenes were both great. All in all a masterpiece. Nolan killed it with this one 👍

Really great film. First time watching any film in IMAX and phew, great experience. Every actor did justice to their role, loved Rami Malek attacking Strauss. The delay in audio and the focus on Oppenheimer’s breathing as the bomb detonated was sick and a great experience nonetheless.

Just saw it. Loved it. I just wish they kept the book title American Prometheus instead.

I recently saw the new Oppenheimer movie, and the main reason I like it so much is that it's really good at giving me goosebumps, especially with the ending. So this question goes to people who have also seen the new Oppenheimer movie: what other movies can I watch that are just as good at giving me goosebumps as Oppenheimer; and are also not classified as horror movies?

Not a movie, but the mini-series Chernobyl has a lot of similarity and intensity and is amazing.

Just finished a second watch, this time at an IMAX, and I thought it was even better. It was a lot better knowing who all the characters and timelines were going in and not worrying so much about keeping everything straight. To me, this is a 10/10 movie.

Here is the context of the “mermaid” quote from Dr. Rabi in the kangaroo court hearing, taken from the real-life transcript:

MR. MARKS: “Dr. Rabi, Mr. Robb asked you whether you had spoken to Chairman Strauss on behalf of Dr. Oppenheimer. Did you mean to suggest in your reply -- in your reply to him you said you did among other things -- did you mean to suggest that you had done that to Dr. Oppenheimer's instigation?”

DR. RABI: “No, I had no communication from Dr. Oppenheimer before these charges were filed, or since, except that I called him once to just say that I believed in him, with no further discussion. Another time I called on him and his attorney at the suggastion of Mr. Strauss. I never hid my opinion from Mr. Strauss that I thought that this whole proceeding was a most unfortunate one.”

DR. EVANS: “What was that?”

DR. RABI: “That the suspension of the clearance of Dr. Oppenheimer was a very unfortunate thing and should not have been done. In other words, there he was; he is a consultant, and if you don't want to consult the guy, you don't consult him, period. Why you have to then proceed to suspend clearance and go through all this sort of thing, he is only there when called, and that is all there was to it. So it didn't seem to me the sort of thing that called for this kind of proceeding at all against a man who had accomplished what Dr. Oppenheimer has accomplished. There is a real positive record, the way I expressed it to a friend of mine. We have an A-bomb and a whole series of it, and we have a whole series of Super bombs and what more do you want, mermaids? This is just a tremendous achievement. If the end of that road is this kind of hearing, which can't help but be humiliating, I thought it was a pretty bad show. I still think so.”

The cinematography was incredible. But that's all I enjoyed from the film.

The pacing was too fast. So many scenes went by with a flash with normal conversations having dramatic zoom ins. It was hard to grasp what was going on when we keep jumping scene to scene, time skip to time skip. The best moments in the film was when we actually stuck around a bit and focused on something for more than 5 minutes. Some characters purely existed for character development.

Another issue was the audio. It was so loud that it was hard to discern what the characters were saying at times.

It felt like a botched amateur documentary. Interstellar was Nolan's last good movie. What a shame.

I love Nolan movies, but looking back at the Dunkirk release, I really don't understand how Oppenheimer had what feels like a lot more hype. I finally saw it today after trying to get IMAX tickets since release, and I didn't even get to see it in 70mm. I haven't seen a movie this sold out in a while. especially with Barbie hitting $1bil at the same time. It's like the country got hit with cinema craze.

As for the movie itself, I enjoyed it. Cillian Murphy is great. Gary Oldman blends in again if you don't see it coming. Everything around the test sequence is incredible. But this is a film about Oppenheimer and not the bomb, so it goes deep into the Strauss issue, and it ends up being too far IMO. A film about the bomb would have been a better watch but i understand we would have lost a lot of the nuances with Oppenheimer. the regret after the bombing of Hiroshima could have been slapped on to anyone but this was the Oppenheimer movie so we got a little more than that. i don't think i needed to see Florence Pugh naked in the conference room either...that was an excessive amount of nudity serving no real purpose. and lastly, what about the environmental impacts of Los Alamos? Oppenheimer took this place that he loved and destroyed it with lasting impacts to the environment and native people. and then personally, the University of Chicago scenes, there's no way you can convince me that basement was just 2 guys in an empty room and a reactor

I‘m really getting annoyed how Nolan occupies great ideas and then produces pretty mediocre stuff from them, except for some aspects of visual aesthetics

Saw it last night in 70mm IMAX. Great movie.

I gotta say though… if you don’t live near a 70mm IMAX theater, I really don’t think it’s worth making a special trip unless you’re very interested.

Yes, IMAX is still better than standard format. Yes, it’s a unique experience to watch a movie on film, and there are some spectacular shots that fill the entire screen. But this movie has no action sequences and not much special effects. It’s about 90% characters in rooms talking to each other.

Fantastic direction and brilliant acting by Cillian Murphy. It's worth watching.

Too loud for me. Standard imax El Dorado hills California. I'm thinking something went wrong? As other people also complained.

Only other disappointment was the explosion. It was small and unimpressive. All that black soot is a tell tale sign of a gasoline or other liquid fuel explosion. Please Nolan you got to know when cgi is needed.

I wish we could've seen the consequences of Opie's actions more than just him seeing visions, the whole point of what happened after Nagasaki and Hiroshima was that guilt he carried would've loved to explore that more instead of the courtroom drama we got.

Also hot take we should've seen the bombs in Japan go off, but I doubt they would give Nolan the budget to create more bombs.

Why should we see that when Oppenheimer didn’t see it?

I was looking forward to Oppenheimer but I found some aspects of the film's execution disappointing. I am sorry if I got anything wrong, I plan on watching the movie again (with subtitles this time, my first language is not English, so that along with the background music score made it so hard for me to understand the dialogue in the theatre).

The film's execution in the first half left me somewhat disconnected from the characters and their complexities. I did find the second half much more gripping. Oppenheimer's haunting expressed by the foot-stamping in the room he comes to give his speech after the bomb; the scene of the bomb itself; his future vision, him telling Einstein "I believe we did" in response to setting off a chain reaction; Kitty telling him that he does not get to sin and then expect others to feel sorry for him; Kitty's response to the board in the trial room, all of these were amazing. I think it's just since the first half fell flat, I couldn't feel the intensity of being swept away by a character so morally grey and haunted and tortured as Oppenheimer. I plan to watch the movie again, and would appreciate any comments that can help me maybe understand and appreciate this movie better.

The black and white scenes are from Strauss’s perspective since he only sees things as binary. There’s no consideration of anything besides what’s good/not good for himself. Oppenheimer’s views are in color to symbolize his depth of vision. He is seeing every aspect of the universe, even down to an electron.

The music drove me absolutely bananas. Every. Single. Scene. had the swelling, dramatic score behind it. Even when the on-screen action was perfunctory. The only time I got a break from it is when an actual nuclear bomb went off.

"Portrayal of women"

That's odd that you felt that way because to me it showed exactly how women feel about affairs. Some other woman touched her man, pleasured him, "marked her territory" so to speak. It's burned into her mind, and the other girl "looking her in the eyes" shows that age old resentment for the other girl. Women never forget the "other girl".

To me this was a very realistic portrayal of this. It shouldn't be "tasteful" because cheating is not "tasteful".

as close to a 10/10 I can think of

one of the best films i've seen in the last few years. every actor hit it out of the park, even the small roles. every beat hit the right note and the pacing was perfect. emily blunt's kitty has to be the best female character Nolan wrote as well lmao.

only issue i have is how the film shifts atmosphere pretty quickly post-trinity. the whole movie is centered around the security clearance but i thought it was over dramatized with the the clearance and hearings for strauss. maybe not exactly the most interesting subject matter to treat it with such intensity. still, it was all well shot and well told within the movie. so the only real issue is the dramatic shift towards strauss' hearings and oppenheimer's clearance.

other than that, near perfect story and storytelling by Nolan. I read the reviews and reactions and went in thinkint the dialogue will remain stiff (nolan) but i found it surprisingly engaging. yea, it's still nolan's dialogue but I thought it was still great. maybe it's the acting that carries most of it as well lol.

also really really surprising to see the two biggest movies of the year (barbie and oppenheimer) be this political and about progressive/leftist politics. don't think i've ever seen a big hollywood movie portray communists so positively and portray the government basically as the bad guys. and ofc, barbie was so explicit about the patriarchy. doubly surprsing it's Nolan of all people telling a story (pretty positively) about communists and communist sympathising figures.

I was able to easily interpret what that scene meant and I frankly can’t imagine how it could effect your opinion on the movie that dramatically lol

the movie was excellent. the people next to me who kept whipping out their phone were terrible and it took a lot of restraint to not yell at them.

In my theatre the exact moment the bomb went off and everything became silent somebody shouted "Allah u akbar" and people started to laugh. So yeah, I understand how you feel.

Finally watched it in 70mm IMAX. my first ever IMAX experience. And it was fucking brilliant. For a very dialogue heavy movie, it was very engaging.

Managed to get the very last IMAX showing in my local theater for my first and presumably only theater watch of this magnificent film.

I knew plenty going in through memes and even spoilers like Strauss being behind everything and the final conversation, but I was still blown away by all of it.

the soundtrack album tho

Just watched the movie on Blu Ray so my initial impressions are:

Finally watched it and it was much less confusing than Tenet, so I’m back on the Nolan train. Have total faith he could do a Bond movie now

This movie was great until the end when they all looked like johnny knoxville in bad grandpa

Can Nolan make a movie that doesn't flash back or flash forwarded every other scene? This style of his becoming more and more overused by him.

apparently it's just me but every scene was so over dramatic. And then after ever piece of over dramatic dialog was delivered massive string instruments would start blaring. And it went on for three hours. Meh. It was a good movie. The cast is stacked. I won't be watching it again anytime soon.

Lots to say.

Overall the movie was good.

The entire third act with west wing style drama was overdramatized and boring.

Cillian was great.

Emily blunt was great at times. Overacting in others.

Matt Damon should stop doing southern accents.

The little side stores with the first wife and the physicists were great.

Casey affeck - unnecessary distraction. Rami malek - unnecessary distraction.

6.5/10

Could anyone have predicted that the first occurrence of the "I am become death, destroyer of worlds" line would be right as he slides his Oppenhammer into a hot commie whose knockers are on full display?

I don't know what I expected entering in to this movie after all the Barbenheimer hype, but it certainly was not that. Right up there for me with discovering how perfectly they nailed what Ken's favourite song would be.

honestly, it was good but not extraordinary. It definitely was a little long, and idk I wish we got to see more of the scientists interacting and stuff, although i dont know shit about quantum mechanics or bombs their interactions were really exciting to me. Also i though oppenheimer would be doing science stuff and be more involved, but he was just moving around and not doing science stuff. Like where he would get a eureka moment or something xd. Lots of missing context imo.

5/10 too long

I just wanna say that the black and white IMAX sequences were absolutely beautiful. Looked like an old 4x5 press camera being shot wide open which fits perfectly within the theme and time period of the movie.

watching it in imax (not 70mm imax, that one was too far away) i felt all the explosions down to the very core

and during the big explosion it felt like the theatre was about to collapse it shook so much

I knew this movie had a great cast but wow, felt like the Leo meme pointing at the screen whenever a new actor popped up. This was also the most packed I've seen the theater since End Game. Casey Affleck was terrifying, I want to see him play in another horror movie with the same energy.

Matt Damon's line of " I'll kill him, just kidding he hates me not America." Killed me, he nailed his performance, as did everyone in the movie.

I don't know if I understood everything in the movie but they did a good job at making it feel like I was smart enough to understand.

The score was perfect. The editing was great. Definitely made for the big screen.

movie was boring, they summarized the climax by saying they dropped the nukes on telephone—if nolan would’ve actually shown the explosion/impact of it, oppenheimer’s actions would’ve been significantly more impactful after. instead we get a phone call… on one of the most impactful explosions of human civilization…

I think I have realized that I'm just not a fan of Christopher Nolan anymore.

Disliked this a lot. I'm quite invested in the history of this era and I can't believe how dirty Nolan has done so many people. Everyone rattled off exposition and surface-level history constantly for the first 2 hours, then we rush through the Trinity preparation to get to the massively underwhelming explosion. You can go watch Trinity test footage. It looks much grander than what Nolan achieved here. I guess you start to understand the difference between 25kt of TNT vs however many 0.000something kt Nolan could use. It just wasn't impressive, even if the silence was. Just reading about the test and accounts from those there will give a more true and impressive mental image of how it actually looked.

Beyond that, we get to a bogged-down finale in a rivalry that's hard to care about because the film spends so much time jumping between timelines from the beginning that we never get to dwell on why exactly the Strauss-Oppenheimer rivalry is so important to both. Ok it's about one getting a cabinet position and the other not being convicted of being a commie... but do we really care about that? We don't get to know their history at all beyond the H-bomb talks and half of that is spent trying to set up the thinly strung relationships oppie had with others. Dr. Hill's support for Oppie also seems to come from nowhere given how little time we spend with him... But it's like Nolan has self-inserted here. He immediately starts with Oppie as a 'visionary' who sees what he feels and is burdened by visions of the hidden world of quantum mechanics, but abandons it quickly. Nolan sees a great man but I'm not sure he knows why Oppenheimer, not anyone elese involved, was as great as they were. If he did we wouldn't brush over some of the most incredible achievements of 20th-century physics and have them play 2nd fiddle to Oppie every time they come up. If you read quotes from that time, you'll also find that people were saying things far more profound and insightful and human than Nolan's stiff, unnatural dialogue.

Fundamentally I hope someone comes along and does a miniseries about the Manhattan project so we can get a much more faithful, much grander display of what actually went down. There's too much to explore in a 3-hour film that also wants to mainly be about one man.

And that's the other issue. Oppenheimer's demons were numerous but he also had a much depper and much more troubled heart than the film even begins to cut into. He grew up sickly and depressed and it haunted him, but barring the one scene after Jean dies, we don't really see how he dragged his own self-burden along with him much BEFORE the bomb was used (also we don't see how enthusiastic he was about using radiation as a weapon).

Details matter in history. Lots of little things add up and can't just be treated as name-drops for those with surface-level knowledge. The deep cuts cut deep and let a lot out. A really good biopic like First Man knows this and takes the time to develop those little details. Possibly the only time Oppenheimer achieves this is when he has a vision of the auditorium being bombed while cutting it with a patriotic speech. That sort of duality feels like it should have been much more present throughout.

Oppenheimer fizzed as a film. It didn't live up to its own promise and it seems Nolan can't uncouple his own idea of a great man from himself, and once he's read and absorbed something at a surface level he wants to lecture you on it. He has characters who speak in ultra-basic physics because he himself isn't a scientist but likes to imagine that all it takes is knowing that little bit and magicking exposition out of thin air to explain everything. But reality doesn't work like that, and it's the insightful and personally deep conversations, and the messes and accidents and fumbles that keep things interesting. A waste of a good cast... maybe next time?

So I just saw the movie, and it was pretty fantastic.

Christopher Nolan is one of the most well-established auteurs working today, and this might be his biggest monumental achievement.

This is a great character study of the man who made the Atomic Bomb.

There are so many nuances behind Cillian Murphy's performance, as well as the writing of the performance.

All of the other actors played their roles effortlessly, and both the editing and score really COMPLEMENT the tone of the film.

My only real complaint is that the sound mixing was a little distracting at times. But it definitely wasn't as bad as TENET, which was his previous movie.

Overall, I'm giving this a 9 out of 10.

Equal parts great and frustrating. The opening act/first 45 mins is very rushed - much to the detriment of getting the audience invested with the characters outside Oppenheimer/Murphy.

People are lauding it's sound design and I agree to an extent, but the bulk of the films soundstage drowns out much of the dialogue in typical (and frankly amateur) Nolan fashion.

The biggest issue I have with this film though is Emily Blunt and Matt Damon feeling like mis-casts. I prefer when Nolan didn't rely on Hollywood names to sell his movie and instead used reputable names but in a way that gave a film a more unique experience. Like, fuck, I've seen Matt Damon and Emily Blunt in too many damn blockbusters to give a damn about their role in this movie.

Also, I'm incredibly disappointed with Nolan not pushing the envelope with the depiction on how the construction of the atomic bomb killed 250k+ innocent Japanese civilians. Sure, it's talked about and you can sense "some" implicated remorse through Murphy's character and dialogue but the overall execution and almost complete dismissal of the significance of the only time we used atomic bombs on people (the Japanese) would be like watching Schindler's List without any of the gripping scenes of Jewish brutality at the hands of the Nazis that made the film so harrowing and engrossing. Instead, we get political mind games and scheming that out stays it's welcome.

I'd give Oppenheimer a 7/10.

It's good, but nowhere near great.

I have some mixed feelings about the film. Overall I enjoyed it, but I think the first hour is a little strange, and in the end exhausts you a little bit. Someone else said it, but it feels a little bit like a very long trailer. I understand it needed to be there, otherwise you’re getting thrown straight into Los Alamos, which would be a terrible starting point.

The 2nd act (mostly Los Alamos) flows much better, but isn’t perfect. Damon’s introduction as Groves seems to streamline the film, and as a result makes it more enjoyable. Cillian also gets a more linear storyline, and as a result shines more.

The 3rd act I feel is the best. RDJ should be looking at a supporting actor nod. He is absolutely convincing as Lewis Strauss, to the point where I was forgetting it was him playing the character. He is vindictive, ambitious, intelligent and spiteful, but he isn’t cartoonishly evil. Brilliant acting.

Cillian Murphy as Oppenheimer is outstanding. He successfully portrays this incredibly complex character, and in the end he’s not some paragon of virtue who fought against the establishment, but he’s also not a despicable womaniser and coward who gave in at every opportunity. He’s both, and he’s much more compelling for it.

For the rest of the “side” characters, I don’t think anyone put in a bad performance. Blunt, Affleck, Damon, Clarke, Malek, Oldman and whoever else were all brilliant.

Also, I think a reading of American Prometheus massively helps in understanding all the different characters. Oppenheimer, Chevalier, Lawrence, Tatlock, Kitty, Fermi, Einstein, Strauss, Feynman, Rabi, Tolman, Szilard, Groves, Pash, Bohr, Bethe, Robb, Serber, Bush, Borden, etc. These are all names that are really hard to remember in the space of a few hours. Over 600 pages however, they’re much easier to follow.

Overall I’d say a 7 or 8 out of 10. If it were 2.5 hours or even 2 hours, I think it would be a 10/10, but that’s an admittedly hard task for a biopic about Robert Oppenheimer.

Undoubtedly the most exciting and intense movie about dudes sitting around talking for three hours that I’ve ever seen.

Really tho. It’s incredible.

Jason Clarke, Alden Ehrenreich, Josh Hartnett, Dane Dehaan, James Remar, Casey Affleck, Rami Malek, Benny Safdie, David Krumholtz, and Gary Oldman won't get any award recognition for their performances, but it's insane how every single one of them were firing on all cylinders. They all play small parts but are so so good. One of those few films where every actor is just so locked in and at the top of their game. Oldman, Affleck, and Malek are all Best Actor Oscar winners! They have like 8 minutes of total screentime together. It's so crazy but also super cool to see them do small roles like this for the sake of making a great film.

I have not read through all the comments yet but one thing I haven't seen is the talk about scorpions. Oppenheimer compares the US & Russia race to scorpions killing themselves and he and Strauss ended up doing that, they both lost security clearance.

Can anyone explain the significance of the B&W scenes? I know it’s jumping around in the timeline of how things happen, but I can’t figure out what the turning point of when in the timeline it switches to black and white. Towards the beginning of the movie, I thought everything in B&W was post-trinity test, but the color footage also extends into the board interrogation scenes which is well past Trinity as well.

The ending though. Amazing and depressing

Great movie. If Cillian doesn't get an Oscar for this, he never will. RDJ is fantastic. Even though you know how the story will go, it's still tense.

I think I just watched Robert Downey Jr. win an Oscar.

Watched it in 35mm - which thankfully meant there was a much needed 10 minute intermission.

I think intermissions should be standard everywhere for movies over 2 hours.

the movie feels like it could've been one of Oppenheimer's bad dreams where he recalls all the traumatic events he's been through.

Mixing in his guilt and anxiety made him dream things out of order, but it's grouped together by how he felt at the different events.