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.