

Unsettling & Unpleasant ‘Smile’ is Also Deadly ... Boring

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on September 30, 2022 - 10:00am

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Rating: **0.5/5.0**

CHICAGO – Smile is unsettling and deeply unpleasant ... its whole reason for being is to be unsettling and deeply unpleasant. And in that regard, it worked. I was uncomfortable sitting in a theater as these images flashed across the screen. But you know what else I was? Bored. The first kill happens around the 15 minute mark, and I know that because I was already checking my watch at that point.

The main character is an overworked therapist named Doctor Cotter (Sosie Bacon) at a run down psychiatric hospital. Still troubled by her own mother's suicide years earlier, she provides help to the poor and in need. But the Cotter is traumatized all over again when a patient tells her about frightening images she's been seeing.



Grim Grin in 'Smile'

Photo credit: Paramount Pictures

“Smile” doesn’t have anything to say. It doesn’t have a clue about mental illness, demons, suspense, tension, or storytelling – it has no reason to be. It’s an ugly, out of focus, hackneyed, incompetent, pointless, and worthless project. I wanted to flee the theater and then seriously ponder what I was doing giving two hours of my life to such an unrelentingly grim and yucky enterprise. Smile is, in a word, dreadful.

“Smile” opens in theaters on September 30th. Featuring Sosie Bacon, Kyle Gallner, Caitlin Stasey, Jesse T. Usher, Robin Weigert and Kal Penn. Written and directed by Parker Finn. Rated “R”



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