

Digital Review: Amazon Prime for Chicago-Based Christmas Film 'Solstice' on Nov. 27, 2019

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on November 26, 2019 - 12:47pm

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CHICAGO – It's that time of year, and many gatherings use the spare time on Thanksgiving weekend to start the holiday movie tradition of the season. Although not many people know it, Chicago was the location used for the first Lifetime Christmas movie in the 1990s. "Solstice" was written and directed by Jerry Vasilatos, and premiered on Lifetime in 1994. To celebrate its 25th Anniversary, it will premiere on the post-millennial version of television (Amazon Prime) on November 27th, 2019, and will get a deluxe Blu-ray release on December 15th.



Rating: **4.5/5.0**

The simple story of a lonely professional man at the Christmas holidays is remarkable for many reasons, including a stellar performance by lead actor Michael Kelley. But also it is a glimpse into a pre-gentrified Chicago, where Northside neighborhoods were warm enclaves for discovery, not speculative property. The light of the story takes place in that distant early 1990s era, and if anybody you know lived in Chicago at that time, then "Solstice" will be a reminder of both being young and being a Chicagoan. "Solstice" is a Christmas gift to the city and any seeker of warm holiday inspiration.



'Solstice,' Written and Directed by Jerry Vasilatos
Photo credit: SolsticeMovie.com

So why not kick off the season with something "Chicago Classic" as part of the Thanksgiving weekend? "Solstice" is the warm fuzzy holiday feeling with a Windy City kick that is perfection for launching the season.

[Click here](#) [22] for a Podtalk with writer/director Jerry Vasilatos of "Solstice" from 2018.

The 25th Anniversary of "Solstice" will premiere on Amazon Prime, November 27th, 2019, with a deluxe Blu-ray Edition – featuring 140 minutes of extras – available on December 15th. [Click here](#) [23] to order. Featuring Michael Kelley, Mary McCloud, Edward Pinkowski and Christina Ballester. Written and directed by Jerry Vasilatos. Not Rated.



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