

Star Trek Review

JJ Abrams has done it!!!!

As a Trekkie I was a little wary about how a prequel would work! Would it be a parody or an attempt to caricature Star Trek - The Original Series?

Characters such as Kirk and Spock are such icons of popular culture with such high iconic status I wondered at the bravery of Abrams, Orci and Kurtzman in writing, directing and producing Star Trek! What would they do and how would they ensure that they did not push fans away but get new ones onboard?

Watching the movie at the World Premiere (yes, the World Premiere in Sydney) I have to say "...boy, did they get it right!" JJ paid homage to Roddenberry's vision of the future whilst taking the franchise in a new and exciting direction. Trekkies of old had enough homage paid to the original series with snippets of character idiosyncrasies to ensure that you knew that you were watching Star Trek.

The writers Kurtzman and Orci are Trekkies and you can tell it. You can see that they loved those characters and wrote words for them that shouted Kirk, Spock, Scotty in fact all of them!

Pine as Kirk was Shatner in a bottle, with added caffeine. I am not talking about those infamous speech patterns but the twinkle in the eye that was lacking in the later TOS movies. My thoughts as I was watching him were that Shatner would approve because he brought great credibility to Kirk as the younger man, irreverent, self-absorbed but completely likable. Pine injected enthusiasm and sheer bravado to the character and has added more to the myth surrounding this fictional character.

Zachary Quinto had Nimoy's Spock right, the eyebrow, the word "fascinating" and the mannerisms but he was able to add to the character. We see a different Spock because different things happen to him.

Karl Urban was a stand out irascible, opinionated and "goddam funny". This man was McCoy. In every scene he grabbed your attention and you just wanted to see what he would do next! Karl Rocks!

Simon Pegg who was thoroughly enjoyable, was a more comic version of Scotty who, thanks to his Scottish wife has a much better accent.

Sulu (John Cho) was portrayed with more gusto than in TOS and boy does he have the coolest sword in the universe, move over light sabre! This Sulu was portrayed as the action man that George would have wanted him to be!

Chekov was Chekov (Anton Yelchin), who still has his wessels and was portrayed more as comic relief than the original. But none the less has his moment of glory that adds to the plot line!

Uhura (Zoë Saldana) was shown as a strong woman with the ability to handle herself. But, once again was left to hold the phone! Hopefully in the newly announced sequel to this prequel her character will be expanded.

Eric Bana (the Aussie connection) was a great villain, but it really did not matter whether he was a Romulan or not! These Romulans are different with a bald look instead of the customary black bowl shaped haircut but never the less held his own and was able to convey the madness of the character.

Is this a good movie? No. It was a great movie!!! As I write this review I am so looking forward to the general release so that I can go and watch it again. It is a movie that you need to watch again just so that you can focus on bits of the scene that you missed.

Roll on the 7th May cus I can't wait to see it again and probably again and well then again.

Do you know what I am pondering right now? When it does come out on DVD shall I buy it as a single movie or wait until it is released as a complete movie boxed set? I know what will happen, I will buy them all single and damn it I'll buy the boxed set as well.

This is a must see movie, Trekkie or not put the date in your calendar, so you don't miss it!

JJ has done it! He has made Trekkies cool!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!