2005 Movie Version of Pride and Prejudice

The 2005 movie adaptation of Pride and Prejudice, starring Keira Knightley, is now available on DVD. The film was honored with a number of nominations during the winter awards season, although it did not win top honors. Keira Knightley was nominated as Best Actress for an Academy Award and a Golden Globe, and the movie was nominated for a Golden Globe as Best Picture (Musical or Comedy). It also received Oscar nominations for Art Direction, Costume Design, and Original Score.

Click here to see details as well as information about the cast and film locations of this new movie.

Click here to see the film trailer and read more about the movie.

Members who attended the JASNA 2005 AGM in Milwaukee were able to see an advance screening of the film. Click here for information about the Milwaukee preview, including comments on the movie from the AGM coordinators.

In September Nili Olay, a member of the New York Metropolitan Region, attended press interviews of the director and cast of PRIDE & PREJUDICE, as JASNA's representative. Nili provided the following quotations from the interviews and will write an article about her experience for the winter issue of JASNA News. JASNA members will find Donald Sutherland's final comment particularly interesting and will understand it fully after they see the movie.

Joe Wright (Director): I tried to find the cinematic equivalent for Jane Austen's prose.

Brenda Blethyn (Mrs. Bennet):

It is unusual for everyone [in the cast] to be in harmony, and it's all down to Joe [Wright] the people he chose. There weren't any egos among them. It was an ensemble; we all worked together to make the scenes work.

Rosamund Pike (Jane):

Carolyn Bingley is doing all the things that a woman is supposed to do to try and attract a man's attention. She's trying to come up with interesting subjects for discussion, but it completely bores Darcy. He just couldn't find her less interesting. And here's Elizabeth, who sees everything with humor and amusement.

Keira Knightley (Elizabeth):

The reason [Elizabeth's] character has lasted as one of the favorite female roles in English literature is that any woman who reads the book sees herself as Elizabeth Bennet. I was terrified of taking the role... Every woman wants to be her, because she's intelligent, she's got wit, she's extremely passionate.

Matthew MacFadyen (Darcy):

You shouldn't like Darcy at the beginning, because otherwise there's nowhere to go... I think he's a young man who is still grieving for his parents, has this huge responsibility, and is still working out who he is. He is vulnerable in that respect.

Donald Sutherland (Mr. Bennet):

It's a novel about women. It's not about men. It's about Jane Austen trying to deal with the terrible restrictions that are being imposed upon women.

They changed the film for America, because they decided that America needed a sweeter film... The ending that is released world-wide has Mr. Bennet saying, If any young men come for Mary or Kitty, send them in, for I am quite at leisure. Joe [Wright] prefers the English version, but the tests in the United States said that the audiences preferred the version with Darcy and Lizzy together.

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