

Memento (OT)

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 18 Dec 2000

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Tony Ellis — 18 Dec 2000, 11:26

While we're recommending films, allow me to add art-house thriller "Memento" to the list. I would have mentioned it earlier, but I'd assumed that since it was over here, it had already been and gone in the US. I've since been told it doesn't work that way for art-house films...

The protagonist in Memento is trying to track down his wife's killer. Due to a brain injury, he has no short term memory. He has to constantly write messages to himself, and tattoo the major clues he gathers onto his body so that he doesn't lose them.

Brilliantly, the short scenes which compose the film are shown in reverse order. That means that at the start of every scene you have no idea what's going on or how the protagonist got there, which is precisely his perspective. Just when you think you've worked out what's happening, you're whisked back to the scene before, and immediately disorientated again.

This film nailed my eyes to the screen from the finish to the start, and has to be the best film I saw this year. Wolfe fans, this film was made for you.

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