

Loving Vincent

Cert 12A Poland/UK 2017 94 mins

Crew

Directors /	Dorota Kobiela /
Screenplay	Hugh Welchman
Cinematography	Tristan Oliver
Film Editing	Dorota Kobiela /
	Justyna Wierszynska
Original music	Clint Mansell

Cast

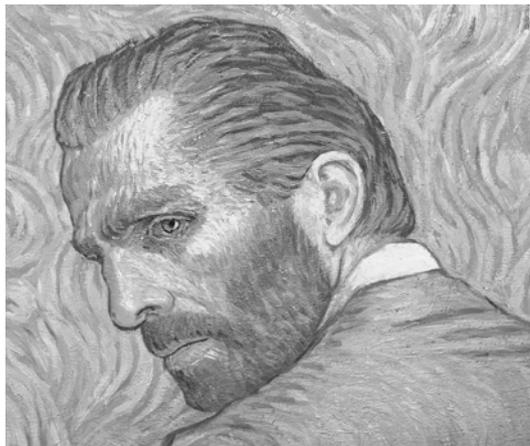
Robert Gulaczyk	Vincent van Gogh
Douglas Booth	Armand Roulin
Jerome Flynn	Dr. Gachet
Saoirse Ronan	Marguerite Gachet
Helen McCrory	Louise Chevalier
Chris O'Dowd	Postman Joseph Roulin
John Sessions	Père Tanguy

Synopsis

Arles 1891. The postman Joseph Roulin learns of the suicide of his friend Vincent van Gogh. He has a letter Vincent wrote to his brother Theo which was never posted. Joseph sends his son Armand on a mission to find Theo and deliver the letter.

Armand arrives in Paris, to discover that Theo has also since died, and so he heads for Auvers-sur-Oise, where Vincent stayed with Dr Gachet in his final months.

There he hears about the circumstances surrounding Vincent's death, and he starts to become suspicious....



Booking Information

Distributor: Altitude Film Distribution

DVD bookings:

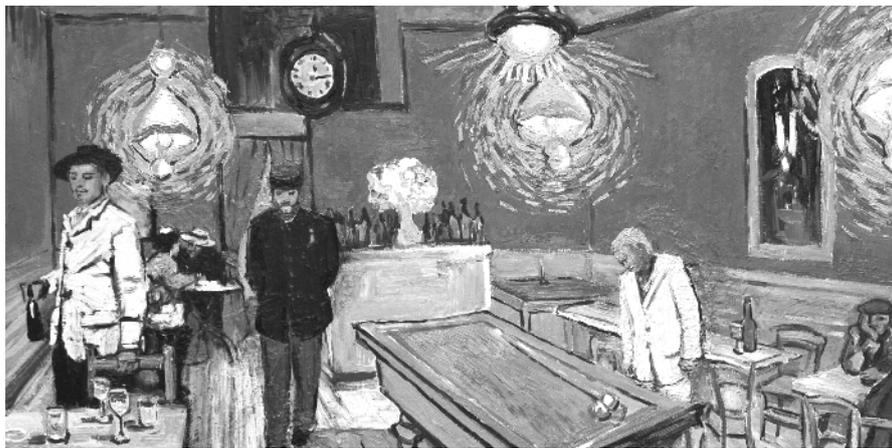
CINEMA for ALL Booking Scheme

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www.cinemaforall.org.uk

Available: now



Review

Stand in front of a painting by Vincent van Gogh for more than five minutes, and your brain starts to react in strange ways. Even today, more than a century after the artist's death, the brushstrokes pack an almost psychedelic energy, vibrating with an intensity that seems to have sprung directly from van Gogh's tortured personal life. Now imagine staring at one of these paintings for 90 minutes straight - or crazier still, watching a series of them actually start to move.

Such was the vision Polish animator Dorota Kobiela had for *Loving Vincent*, a truly awe-inspiring portrait of the great Dutch artist that boasts the distinction of being "the world's first fully painted feature film." That means every one of the nearly 65,000 frames in this near-lunatic labour of love was rendered by hand with oil paints, following a style intended to mimic that of the master - which has precisely the effect you might imagine, pulling audiences into the delirious, hyper-sensual world suggested by van Gogh's oeuvre.

.....*Loving Vincent* may exist as a showcase for its technique, but it's the sensitivity the film shows toward its subject that ultimately distinguishes this particular oeuvre from the countless bad copies that already litter the world's flea markets. To the extent that van Gogh's style permitted him to capture a deeper sense of truth, he makes a noble model for the filmmakers to follow.

Peter De Bruge, Variety, June 2017

.....There are sequences of extraordinary beauty - I particularly loved a scene that captured Vincent's tortured countenance in reflection, shattered in the surface of the water of his washbasin. In the visual poetry of moments like this, the film comes closest to capturing the maverick genius of the artist.

Wendy Ide, The Observer, October 2017

FILM FACTS...

- ☆ Lauded at many Film Festivals, the film won the European Film Best Animation Award in 2017, and was nominated for a BATFA and an Academy Award in the same category.
- ☆ Co-director Dorota Kobiela is herself a painter, and student of Van Gogh's paintings and letters. Her original concept was for a 7 minute short film...
- ☆ Production was mainly funded by the Polish Film Institute, with support from a Kickstarter campaign.
- ☆ It was first filmed with a live actor cast and edited in the normal way. Then each frame was separately shot onto a blank canvas, and a team of 125 volunteer artists from more than twenty countries painted over each image. The entire process took four years to finish. Co-director Hugh Welchman said it was without doubt "the slowest form of film making ever devised".