



OF HORSES AND MEN (HROSS I OSS)

Autumn
Season
2014

Release: 2013

Cert (UK): 15

Language: Icelandic

Runtime: 81 mins

Director: Benedikt Erlingsson

Writer: Benedikt Erlingsson

Cinematographer: Bergsteinn Björgúlfsson

Cast: Ingvar Eggert Sigurðsson, Charlotte Bøving, Helgi Björnsson



Benedikt Erlingsson has been an actor on Icelandic TV and in a few of their movies, but this is his first attempt at directing, for which he has been rewarded with awards from festivals around the world, albeit the smaller ones. If there was a global award, this film would be up for 'cult film of the year'. It is not an easy film to sum up, so here are 3 critics' views:-

"Of Horses and Men' is from Iceland and a marvel. It is clever, funny, shocking and lyrically absurdist, this tale of nag-nutty ranching folk pursuing, taming, riding and, if necessary, killing – but tenderly or as last resort – wild horses. Think of Arthur Miller/John Huston's 'The Misfits'. Add volcanic scenery and bleak comedy. – Nigel Andrews, Financial Times.

'Ronald Reagan used to say: "There is nothing better for the inside of a man than the outside of a horse." I wonder what the Gipper would have made of this short, sharp, startling little movie from Iceland: a rather bracing film in which the insides of humans interact with the outsides of horses. Humans' outsides feel the benefit of horses' insides, too' – Peter Bradshaw, Guardian.

'A story of feuding neighbours with the emphasis on the neigh, Of Horses and Men is a filly's-eye view of human folly from Icelandic writer/director Benedikt Erlingsson that's both hysterically funny and oddly moving. It's a collection of interlinked episodes which fuse to form a picture of an isolated Icelandic community comprised of eccentric valley dwellers who are united by their love of horses and divided by their pettiness, jealousies and propensity for rash, invariably asinine antics. So don't be fooled by the sober-sounding title, not least because many of the characters are constantly soused' – Emma Simmonds, Little White Lies



