



Luke Wilson (right) plays Ben Kingsley's gay AA mentor in *You Kill Me*.

keeps his cameras out of the torture chamber, focusing instead on the plight of Pearl's pregnant wife, Mariane. Angelina Jolie delivers one of her best performances ever, convincingly shifting from stoicism to hopefulness to despair as Mariane hears varying reports on her husband's fate. **A-**

—SB

Sicko

Once again, Michael Moore has delivered the awful truth. You are not going to find the sick, inconvenient data laid and layered out in this documentary anywhere in mainstream media—who receive millions of dollars from health care and pharmaceutical companies. Instead, you will continue to be misinformed (misdiagnosed) about health care from those who profit from your maladies. Supporting *Sicko* is an antidote. **A**

—John Esther

Transformers

Having been in college during the original *Transformers* invasion, and not particularly caring about things mechanical, I approached this big-budget live-action film with trepidation. What I encountered was a slightly dumb, but mostly entertaining, feature filled with jaw-dropping special effects and more humor than you'd expect from a film about giant robots stomping the crap out of each other. Everyone takes it seriously except John Turturro, who overacts as if he's in a vaudeville routine and spoils each scene he's in. At 2 1/2 hours, it's a bit long, but if you check your brain at the door and allow massive robot fights, property damage and the love story (between a geek, his car and the hot bad girl) to wash over you like a violent breeze, you'll have some fun. **B**

—AM

Unconscious

First released in Spain in 2004, this lively and hilarious flick is getting some long-overdue love here in Portland courtesy of Living Room Theaters. Set in Barcelona in 1913, it's a dizzying blend of mystery, slapstick romance and Freudian comedy (in the truest sense) that reminds you how good it is to get out of America once in a while.

Alma Pardo is a modern woman married to psychiatrist Leon, who has a mysterious meltdown after studying under Freud and goes missing. To

find him, Alma enlists the help of her brother-in-law Salvador, kicking off a caper that's as sophisticated and perfectly timed as the best of Pedro Almodóvar. Along the way we meet Alma's bisexual sister Olivia; her forbidding, alcoholic mother-in-law, who takes a swig from Alma's perfume, thinking it's gin; the perpetually cigar-chomping Dr. Mira, who presides over a conference at which Freud will be the guest of honor; an over-the-top prostitute who stabs Salvador in the shoulder with a pair of scissors; and the original Dr. Alzheimer, who is strangely forgetful during his speech at a psychiatry conference. And this is only a slice of the action.

Their search for Leon leads Alma and Salvador to a cross-dressing party where they unexpectedly bump into Olivia, who delivers one of the greatest lines in a movie bursting with great lines: Sex with a woman, she says, is "like the sweetest caress, lasting for eternity." Leon himself finally turns up, kidnapping Salvador and confessing that his exposure to Freud's theories made him aware of a laundry list of his own repressed perversions, including incest, S/M and the fact that the love of his life is none other than his old college chum, Salvador. And so it goes all the way to the suitably dramatic finale, in which the great Dr. Freud himself appears and, against all odds, everything is brought to a happy—indeed, orgasmic—resolution. The only problem is you might have to see *Unconscious* twice to take it all in, as you'll probably be too busy laughing the first time. **A**

—TL

You Kill Me

John Dahl's directing career got off to an auspicious start with the terrific thrillers *Red Rock West* and *The Last Seduction*, but his latest suggests that he ought to take after Stella and get his groove back. Most of the dialogue is flat, the actors look bored, and the two major plotlines merge unconvincingly. In a role that leaves him awkwardly stranded somewhere between Gandhi and his vicious character in *Sexy Beast*, Ben Kingsley plays an alcoholic hit man with a heart of gold, trying to dry out in San Francisco and get into Téa Leoni's pants. Luke Wilson has a small and dull role as Kingsley's gay mentor at Alcoholics Anonymous. **C**

—SB 10



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