

# Solo sets bar low

A DECENT FILM WITH POLARIZING RESULTS



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Another day, another Star Wars film. Releasing just five months after “The Last Jedi,” “Solo” aims to appeal to a wide range of audiences whilst paying homage to Harrison Ford’s original Han Solo. It’s definitely a tall order, and depending on who you ask, you’ll get a wide range of responses on the quality of the film. Falling well in line with the previous next generation Star Wars movies that have been released in the past few years, Solo has left audiences across the nation polarized.

Solo stands as one of the few movies to make its way around three different directors. Chris Miller, Phil Lord, responsible for the hit comedies “21 Jump Street” and “22 Jump Street” as well as “The Lego Movie,” were relieved of their duties and replaced by Ron Howard halfway through shooting as a result of the slow going production and insubordination to Disney executives.

According to numerous reports, the pair of directors could flourish in an improvisational comedy environment such as the Jump Street films, though they apparently floundered in a workplace where hundreds of cast and crew members are waiting for exact direction; the sheer size of the production they had to work with was reportedly overwhelming, too. This led to the excusal of Lord and Miller with Howard, an award winning director most prominently known for his narration of Arrested Development, reshooting seventy percent of the movie.

With this knowledge that Howard was assigned to reshoot such a large chunk of the movie back in June, it’s very easy to see the overlaying visions of each of

The film is set as a prequel to the original trilogy, and the Millennium Falcon looks entirely different than the classic hunk of junk (pictured below).

the three directors that left their mark on this movie. “Solo” moves at a rapid pace, with not enough importance placed on each of the scenes that define Han and company. The overall message of the film is at times hard to follow, and without the help of simple dialogue most movie goers would be rather lost.

It should be stated that the film does stay very true to the roots from which its fan base grew, and many long time Star Wars fans will be pleased to see Han and Chewbacca meet for the first time as that is one of the key examples of good filmmaking that keeps this movie from falling into the depths of a poor movie.

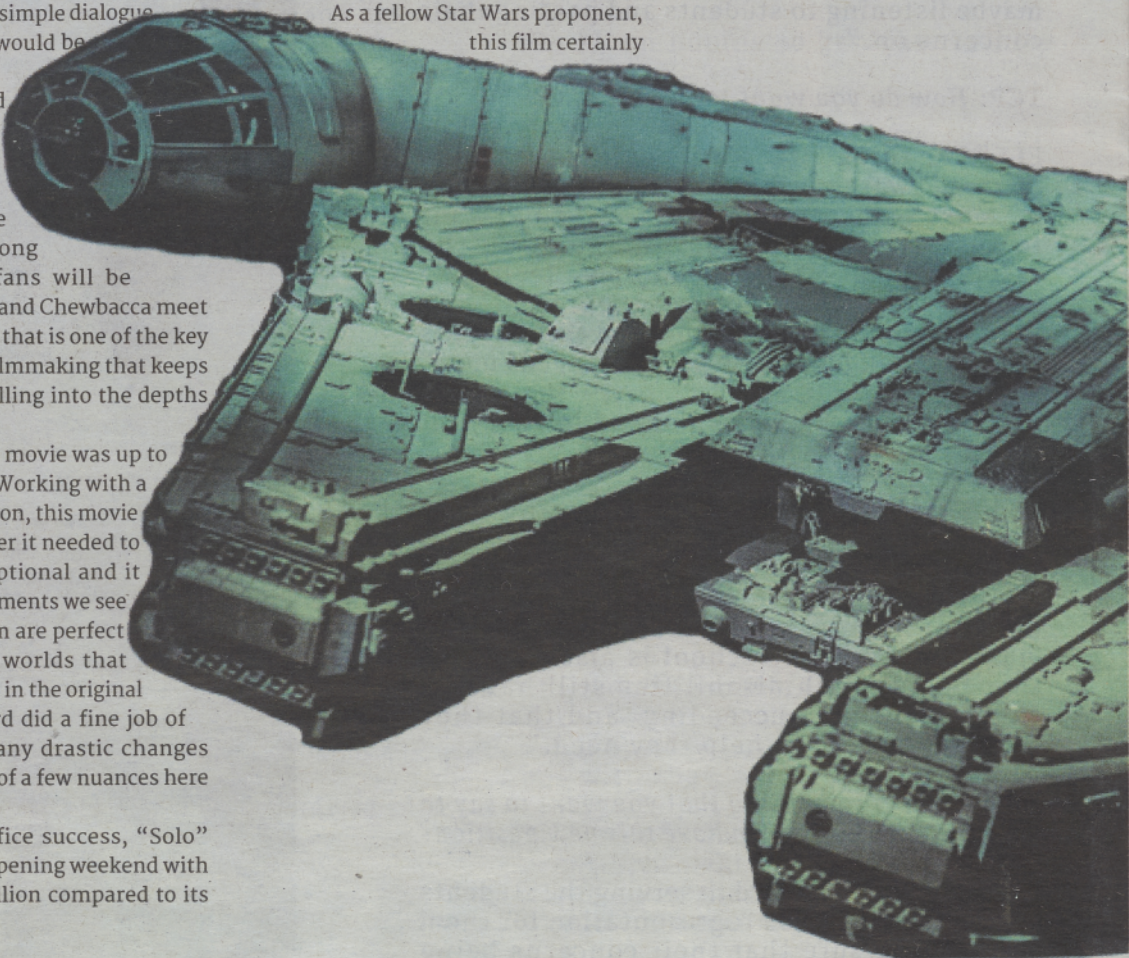
Effects wise, this movie was up to snuff as expected. Working with a budget of \$300 million, this movie had all the firepower it needed to make it look exceptional and it shows. The environments we see throughout the film are perfect reflections of the worlds that caught people’s eye in the original trilogy, and Howard did a fine job of not adding too many drastic changes with the exception of a few nuances here and there.

As far as box office success, “Solo” returned from its opening weekend with a measly \$84.4 million compared to its

impressive \$300 million budget. This is one of the contributing factors to people’s mixed reactions to the film, and it brings into question the validity of the vision for this original Star Wars universe that these next few films are sure to follow.

As a fellow Star Wars proponent, this film certainly

falls short in many areas that cried for a more thorough insight, but it was still an entertaining film nonetheless. If you’re looking for a fast paced sci-fi starring your favorite space scoundrel, give “Solo” a shot.



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