

TWO SHOWINGS

"Regret to Inform"

A FILM BY BARBARA SONNEBORN

WITH
**Xuan
Ngoc
Nguyen**



FILM SUBJECT:
A film interviewee
and member War Widows
International Peace
Alliance and interpreter

Sunday, June 22 • 7p.m.
First Christian Church
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Wednesday, June 25 • 7p.m.
United Lutheran Church
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(childcare provided)

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movies BY LOIS WADSWORTH



Charmless

Nothing works here.

HOLLYWOOD HOMICIDE: Directed by Ron Shelton. Written by Robert Souza and Shelton. Produced by Lou Pitt and Shelton. Executive producers David Lester, Joe Roth. Production design, Jim Bissell. Editor, Paul Seydor. Music, Alex Wuman. Music supervisor, Dawn Soler, Kathy Nelson. Costumes, Bernie Pollack. Starring Harrison Ford and Josh Hartnett, with Lena Olin, Bruce Greenwood, Isaiah Washington, Lolita Davidovich. Also Keith David, Master P, Gladys Knight, Lou Diamond Phillips. Cameos: Dwight Yoakam, Martin Landau, Smokey Robinson. Revolution Studios. Columbia Pictures, 2003. PG-13. 111 minutes.

Hollywood *Homicide* is a Ron Shelton picture. That might be enough said for movie fans who know to expect a man's man-type with a simpler buddy and a woman who bends with the breeze. Once again the writer, director, producer doesn't quite believe he's really got the movie he wants, so he tarts it up with cute cameos, old and new music stars playing straight, and subplots up the kazoo. I was bored almost immediately.

the way real life goes down. Ruby (Lena Olin) is a radio psychic and Joe's girlfriend. I hope Olin got a lot of money for playing this woo-woo queen, because it makes me sad to see her here. Cleo (Lolita Davidovich) fares no better as a cartoon madam who needs Joe's help. Bruce Greenwood plays a police internal affairs guy who hates Gavilan and is out to get him. Isaiah Washington plays a wealthy music entrepreneur, a morally corrupt criminal.

Most of the film wants to be funny. It isn't. Some of the film wants to be something else, especially the opening scene in a club. Guys wearing ski masks spray the band and dancers with bullets. It's bloody, brutal and made irrelevant by the immediate actions of Gavilan and Calden, who order lunch right after they arrive on the scene.

This **sloppy mess** of a film may satisfy some viewers, but I've seen some really good movies lately . . . and **I'm not happy** wasting time watching **drivel.**

Zero chemistry between the buddies leaves the viewer with no place to go. Seasoned detective Joe Gavilan (Harrison Ford) and hotshot rookie K.C. Calden (Josh Hartnett) are cliches, the "new" twist being that Joe is also a real estate agent in financial trouble up to his neck, while K.C. teaches yoga classes at home, eats bean sprouts, wants to be an actor and knows every pretty girl in the valley. Shelton unwisely assumes their differences will amuse viewers, but in fact their relationship never catches fire and is tiresome.

Everyone quips clever, which is hardly ever

This sloppy mess of a film may satisfy some viewers, but I've seen some really good movies lately — *Rivers and Tides*, *The Man on the Train*, *The Good Thief*, the upcoming *Man Without a Past* — and I'm not happy wasting time watching drivel. Also, I am really tired of car chases, and the long chase at the end of the film is gratuitous. If you want to see a good car chase, catch *The Italian Job*. Shelton can't play in that league.

Hollywood Homicide is now playing at Cinema World and Cinemark. You're on your own. **EW**

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