



ALICIA VIKANDER

ARS TECHNICA

Ex Machina is a funhouse mirror reflecting our fears of technology

As *Ex Machina* opens, Caleb (Domhnall Gleeson), a lanky, awkward coder of some sort, wins a staff prize. He's whisked off to the middle of nowhere, landing in a glass-and-concrete home-slash-bunker where his company's founder, Nathan (Oscar Isaac), is out boxing on the deck. Nathan is a man

of extremes: shaven head, giant beard, either drinking himself into a stupor or working himself into a sweat.

Caleb, like the audience, is initially unsure what he's doing there, until Nathan spells it out: He's developed an artificial intelligence and wants Caleb to talk to it, to see if it passes the Turing test. Can it convince Caleb it's an

intelligent being?

For several days, Caleb meets and interviews Ava (Alicia Vikander), Nathan's AI. Ava appears decidedly not-human — when she tilts her half-metal head, it causes an eerie whirring sound, like hummingbirds or dragonflies — but her wide-eyed responsiveness intrigues Caleb. She wants out of her glass-walled room. Will Caleb help her?

Nathan is helpful or rude, brilliant or wasted; he lives alone but for his silent chef/maid/aide Kyoko (Sonoya Mizuno). When, during a power outage, Ava tells Caleb not to trust Nathan, the setup's inherent tension — the testing, the locked rooms, the isolation — ratchets up.

With its looming soundtrack and soulless environments, *Ex Machina* presents as a kind of technological horror film, its lead at the mercy of a dangerously smart man. Before long, it turns into a different kind of horror, as Caleb uncovers Nathan's secrets and begins to doubt his own humanity, even as he tries to understand whether Ava has any.

Sleek, glossy and unsettling, *Ex Machina* generates far more questions than the singular Nathan poses to Caleb. Is it feminist? Is it misogynist? Is it about gender or technology? Can it be about both? Can you use the question of an AI's desire for freedom as a parallel to women's struggle to not be seen by men as objects to be improved or reprogrammed? What if you reverse that question? What if you reversed the genders of the characters? Is the fictional history of robotic females a history of man's assumption that women are less threatening? Does putting an AI in a female-presenting body make it female? Does it think so?

Ex Machina is full of reflective surfaces; it's a funhouse mirror on our fears and ideas about technology, information (Nathan's Google-like company is doing everything you think a creepy tech company might do), identity and power. It's also a challenge to our notions of heroes and villains, ending on a note that's either satisfying or disturbing, depending on the character with whom you identify. Who is this story about, and why do you think that? What are you programmed to believe? (*Bijou Metro*) ■



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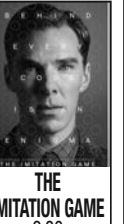


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ALOHA (DIG) (PG-13) 10:35, 1:35, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00 AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON (DIG) (PG-13) 11:20, 2:55, 7:00, 10:20 ENTOURAGE (DIG) (R) 10:20, 1:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:15 FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (DIG) (PG-13) 7:40, 10:30 HOME (DIG) (PG) 10:00, 12:25, 2:50, 5:15 INSIDIOUS: CHAPTER 3 (DIG) (PG-13) 10:40, 1:20, 4:20, 7:45, 10:15 JURASSIC WORLD (3D) (PG-13) SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS 10:10, 11:40, 12:10, 2:10, 2:40, 4:10, 5:10, 6:40, 7:10, 9:10, 10:10 JURASSIC WORLD (DIG) (PG-13) 11:10, 1:10, 3:10, 6:10, 8:10, 9:40	MAD MAX: FURY ROAD (DIG) (R) 10:25, 1:25, 4:25, 7:20, 10:10 PITCH PERFECT 2 (DIG) (PG-13) 10:45, 1:40, 4:45, 7:35, 10:20 POLTERGEIST (2015) (3D) (PG-13) SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS 2:45, 7:45 POLTERGEIST (2015) (DIG) (PG-13) 12:15, 5:20, 10:25 SAN ANDREAS (3D) (PG-13) SPECIAL EVENT PRICING: \$3.00 UPCHARGE ALL TICKETS 12:20, 3:05, 6:30, 9:35 SAN ANDREAS (DIG) (PG-13) 10:30, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 SPY (DIG) (R) 10:15, 11:15, 1:15, 2:15, 4:05, 5:25, 7:05, 8:15, 9:55 TOMORROWLAND (DIG) (PG) 10:05, 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:25
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SHOWTIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE • VALID FOR FRIDAY ONLY

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Crown Club Members \$5.50 Tuesday
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IMAX: JURASSIC WORLD 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 7:00 PM 10:00 PM IMAX: TOMORROWLAND [CC,DV] (PG) ★ 11:40 AM 2:40 PM JURASSIC WORLD [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 7:30 PM 8:30 PM 9:30 PM 10:30 PM 11:30 PM JURASSIC WORLD 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 7:15 8:00 9:00 10:15 11:00 12:01 INSIDIOUS CHAPTER 3 [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1200 230) 5:00 7:30 10:00 SPY [CC,DV] (R) ★ (1100 1210 150 300) 4:50 6:45 7:45 9:35 10:35 ENTOURAGE [CC,DV] (R) (1115 200) 4:35 7:15 10:10 ALOHA [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1150 235) 6:30 9:40 SAN ANDREAS [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1125 215) 6:35 9:30 SAN ANDREAS 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ (1155) 4:20 7:05 10:05 POLTERGEIST [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1145 220) 4:45 7:25 10:30 TOMORROWLAND [CC,DV] (PG) ★ (1110 210) 6:25 9:25 MAD MAX: FURY ROAD [CC,DV] (R) ★ (1135 225) 6:50 9:50 MAD MAX: FURY ROAD 3D [CC,DV] (R) ★ (1205) 4:25 7:20 10:20 PITCH PERFECT 2 [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1120 205) 4:55 7:40 10:25 AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ (1130 250) 7:00 9:45 AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 10:15 PM HOME [CC,DV] (PG) ★ (1105 155) 4:40 7:10	ALBANY 7 Next to Fred Meyer JURASSIC WORLD [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 9:10 PM JURASSIC WORLD 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ 7:00 PM INSIDIOUS CHAPTER 3 [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1145) 4:20 7:15 9:55 SPY [CC,DV] (R) ★ (115) 4:10 7:00 10:00 ENTOURAGE [CC,DV] (R) (130) 4:30 7:35 10:15 SAN ANDREAS [CC,DV] (PG-13) 4:00 PM 9:40 PM SAN ANDREAS 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ (100 PM) 6:50 PM MAD MAX: FURY ROAD [CC,DV] (R) ★ (350 PM) 10:10 PM MAD MAX: FURY ROAD 3D [CC,DV] (R) ★ (1250 PM) PITCH PERFECT 2 [CC,DV] (PG-13) (1240 PM 3:30 PM) 6:30 PM AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON [CC,DV] (PG-13) ★ (1230 340) 6:45 9:50 9TH ST. CINEMAS 4 541-928-7469 Behind Skippers 9th St Crown Club Members \$5 Tuesday 3D up-charges/holidays excluded SPY [CC,DV] (R) ★ 4:15 PM 7:20 PM 10:15 PM TOMORROWLAND [CC,DV] (PG) ★ 4:00 PM 7:00 PM 10:00 PM MAD MAX: FURY ROAD [CC,DV] (R) ★ (350 PM) 9:45 PM MAD MAX: FURY ROAD 3D [CC,DV] (R) ★ 6:45 PM PITCH PERFECT 2 [CC,DV] (PG-13) 4:30 PM 7:30 PM 10:20 PM
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FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD
1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

IRIS
12:00, 2:00, 4:00

EX MACHINA
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS
6:00, 8:00, 10:00

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