

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Films Bring Laughter, Tears, Impact

Two new screenings outside the lines of dominant culture

Two films available for screening now find the truth, humor, and beauty outside the lines of dominant culture and convention and in the spaces where things appear to be slightly askew. Both films evoke laughter, tears, and deeper thought that you might at first expect.

“Together Together” is set up to look like a romantic-comedy; middle-aged single man Matt (Ed Helm, excellent) engages a gestational surrogate, Anna (Patti Har-

OPINIONATED JUDGE BY **DARLEEN ORTEGA**



ri-son, a revelation), so that he can realize his longing to be a parent, and some sort of relationship ensues. But this film doesn't just rely on the unusual circumstances to carry all the weight of this story; it finds truth here that feels more honest and relatable than in any rom-com.

Matt is 45, white, and well-off, having designed an app that allows people to essentially window-shop for people they are not going to date. Anna is a 26-year-old Asian-American barista trying to scrape together the means to resume her plans to attend college,

which were derailed by a teenage pregnancy that her family seems not to have gotten over. Matt is earnest, well-meaning, and inclined toward too many opinions about how Anna lives while carrying his child; Anna has already relinquished one child and adopts a sort of matter-of-fact stance—but perhaps because of the losses she has suffered, she notices a lot and is quite capable of holding her own against Matt's intrusions. And both are unattached—which does not mean that they are destined to be “together together,” as Anna's coworker notes, but does



Ed Helms and Patti Harrison explore love and parenthood from unexpected angles in 'Together Together.' (Courtesy of Bleeker Street Media)

support a kind of togetherness that in some ways feels more together than a lot of romantic relationships do.

Along the way, things happen that will make you think of your own life no matter what your experience (speaking as someone

who has never given birth nor been a biological parent, but who has deep relationships that frequently don't fit into conventional boxes). Matt's resourcefulness about his situation is admirable

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ROOTS
MARKETPLACE

Summer Market on Dream Street
sponsored by Black Food Sovereignty Coalition

Fresh produce. Wellness products
Baked goods, Art and much more!

Come enjoy Roots Marketplace at Dream Street Plaza
and support local Black farmers and businesses.

WHEN: 2nd & 4th Thursday of the Month July 22nd - October 7 4 - 7pm	LOCATION: At the heart of the Soul District NE Sumner St. and NE MLK Jr Blvd
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PHOTO COURTESY SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES
The Fifth Dimension performing at the Harlem Cultural Festival in 1969, in the documentary “Summer of Soul” from Ahmir Thompson, better known as Questlove.

Hollywood Theatre Reopens

‘Summer of Soul’ movie kicks off return

After 475 days, northeast Portland's Hollywood Theatre reopened Friday, the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, with the first screening of Summer of Soul, a brand-new documentary directed by The Roots' Questlove.

To celebrate, the nonprofit theater will also begin a series of

70mm screenings starting on July 16, including Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey (1968), and Christopher Nolan's Tenet (2020) to celebrate the landmark's 95th anniversary.

“We're extremely grateful to the Portland community for the 15 months of support we received during our closure. We truly would not be opening our doors if it weren't for our audiences

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