

FILM REVIEW: Jane Campion's The Power Of The Dog

Description



THE POWER OF THE

DOG: BENEDICT CUMBERBATCH as PHIL BURBANK in THE POWER OF THE DOG. (Photo credit: KIRSTY GRIFFIN/NETFLIX © 2021)

Jane Campion's latest work, *The Power of the Dog*, screened as part of a Red Carpet Premiere at the historic Chinese Theatre in Hollywood California, during the American Film Institute's AFI FEST 2021, on Thursday, November 11th. Campion is a New Zealand screenwriter, producer, and director. She is the second of seven women ever nominated for the Academy Award for Best Director and the first female filmmaker to receive the Palme d'Or; both of these achievements came for *The Piano* (1993).



ne Campion, Kirsten umberbatch – AFI t Premiere VER OF THE DOG, Los Angeles, 21 – Photo Credit: Shutterstock

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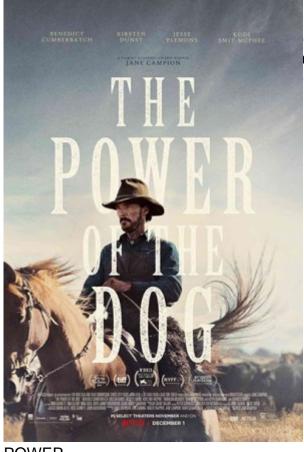
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d by Campion, is set in 1925 Montana and circles around Il ranching operation. The Burbank brothers, played by Jesse e across as polar opposites. Phil Burbank, played by

Cumberbatch, is an infamous Phi Beta Kappa graduate of

POWER OF THE DOG, TCL

Chinese Tale University who prefers the daily grind of working the ranch with the hired hands. Cumberbatch Theatre, and the prings a deep dark presence to the character in what might be his best performance to date. Plemmons plays Gordon Burbank, the slower, mild-mannered younger brother, embodying a ranch and less a style. Kirsten Dunst portrays Rose Gordon, a compelling love interest as a callifornia salvon-style restaurant owner who serves dinners to the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the locals with her son, Peter, portrayed by Kodi Sovial Department of the local Sovial Depart

While The Power of the Dog is set in Montana, the actual film location is New Zealand – adding a sufficial quality. And, Campion's writing matches it full force. The twists and turns in the dramatic, psychological, roller-coaster ride narrative combined with Cumberbatch's powerful, dark character with the sufficient on the edge of their seats and their eyes fixed on the big screen. Undoubtedly, Campion is in the mix for her second Oscar for screenwriting and appears to be in the mix for a directorial nod as well.



Q & A, on

November 11th, 2021, following the screening of The Power of the Dog, inside Hollywood's TCL Chinese Theatre. (Photo by Larry Gleeson/HollywoodGlee)

Following the screening, a fun-filled Q & A unfolded as the film's actors, editor, cinematographer, and director sparred, cajoled, and informed under the watchful eye of moderator Hahn as she effectively marshaled the energies of *The Power of the Dog* conversation. *The Power of the Dog*, set for a December 1st, 2021, release date, is a magnificent and majestic work tantalizing and titillating – a bonafide Oscar contender for now – in multiple categories! Highly recommended. One of the year's best films!



Benedict

Cumberbatch as Phil Gordon in Jane Campion's The Power of the Dog, set for a December 1st, 2021 release. (Photo Cr. KIRSTY GRIFFIN/NETFLIX © 2021 Cross City Films Limited/Courtesy of Netflix)

Until next time, I'll see you at the movies!

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