PRESS REVIEWS

NEW DAWN FADES

A FILM BY GÜRCAN KELTEK

77. Locarno Film Festival – Concorso Internazionale
Boccalino d'Oro 2024 – Best Film

As of 4 September 2024

BEST OF

"Spectacularly atmospheric."

THE FILM VERDICT

"Dazzling and radical."

IN REVIEW ONLINE

"The most original film in the competition."

CORRIERE DEL TICINO (TRANSLATED FROM ITALIAN)

"Perhaps the most poetic and political film of the festival."

LA REGIONE (TRANSLATED FROM ITALIAN)

"A testament to Keltek's singular vision."

INTERNATIONAL CINEPHILE SOCIETY

"A tremendous look at metropolitan survival."

DIRTY MOVIES

"A panopticon as provocative as it is progressive."

MOVIEBREAK (TRANSLATED FROM GERMAN)

BOCCALINO D'ORO 2024 – BEST FILM

Premio della Critica Indipendente, 24th edition – Locarno, 16 August 2024

"Gürcan Keltek compone un'opera indimenticabile sul nostro tempo, un j'accuse contro i poteri che minano la libertà di pensiero e di espressione ormai globalizzati. Un film su un giovane artista costretto a dimenticare la sua possibilità di avere un futuro. Un film sulla bellezza e il tradimento delle religioni. Un film che regala il pensiero di un domani possibile per chi crede ancora nell'umanità."

Gürcan Keltek composes an unforgettable work about our time, a j'accuse against the now globalised powers that undermine freedom of thought and expression. A film about a young artist forced to forget his chance of having a future. A film about the beauty and the betrayal of religions. A film that offers the thought of a possible tomorrow to all who still believe in humanity.

Jury statement, quoted from movieplayer.it (16.08.2024) and La Regione (17.08.2024)

THE FILM VERDICT

New Dawn Fades

BY CARMEN GRAY – 15.08.2024 – ONLINE – THEFILMVERDICT.COM

"A sensitive mind struggles with esoteric encounters in the Istanbul gloom in Gurcan Keltek's spectacularly atmospheric horror."

"A masterfully intricate, suggestive soundscape hums, taps, mutters and roars."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"There is nothing old hat about the potently atmospheric, sensorily immersive nightscape that Keltek makes of the vast edifices, waterways, mosques and rain-streaked cemeteries of Istanbul."

"A magnetic and intense Cem Yigit Uzumoglu."

"Dynamic, woozy camerawork takes us gliding and swooping through spaces, as if from the point of view of an otherworldly presence in flight."

CINEUROPA

Review: New Dawn Fades

BY MARTIN KUDLÁČ – 19.08.2024 – ONLINE – CINEUROPA.ORG

"New Dawn Fades evolves into a docu-fiction psychogeographic journey, navigating the peaks of religious ecstasy and the depths of despair with a slow-burning, yet entrancing, rhythm."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Cinematographer Peter Zeitlinger, a frequent collaborator of Werner Herzog's, ensures that the camera's fluid movements and intimate proximity to the protagonist create a sense of immersion. The film places a strong emphasis on urban architecture, capturing it with a hypnotic poeticism."

"The surreal experience provided here edges into the mytho-poetic realm."

"While New Dawn Fades remains deliberately opaque in terms of conventional storytelling, it does offer a visceral and sensorial exploration that invites reflection on the nature of reality and the constructs of sanity."

CORRIERE DEL TICINO

In concorso: Yeni şafak solarken – New Dawn Fades

BY NICOLA FALCINELLA – 16.08.2024 – PRINT – RATING: 5 OUT OF 5

"Stavolta porta il film più originale del concorso: un affascinante e ambizioso trip mentale che esplora Istanbul con la macchina da presa quasi mai ferma."

This time he brings the most original film of the competition: a fascinating and ambitious mental trip that explores Istanbul with a camera that almost never stands still.

"Un'opera magnetica."

A magnetic work.

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Una miscela di documentario e viaggio spirituale, potente e ipnotica cui bisogna lasciarsi andare sulla spinta di immagini bellissime (di Peter Zeitlinger, direttore della fotografia di molti lavori di Werner Herzog e non solo) e una musica elettronica che elabora sonorità varie a partire da quelle tradizionali."

A blend of documentary and spiritual journey, powerful and hypnotic, to which one has to surrender, carried by beautiful images (by Peter Zeitlinger, cinematographer of many of Werner Herzog's works, among others) and by electronic music that develops a variety of sounds from traditional ones.

"Ignorati del tutto lavori arrischiati e innovativi come New Dawn Fades del turco Gurcan Keltek e il portoghese Fogo do vento di Marta Mateus. Peccato perché un cinema di ricerca, presente in concorso con opere dagli esiti alterni, avrebbe meritato uno spazio nel palmarès e un incoraggiamento."

Daring, innovative works such as New Dawn Fades by the Turkish director Gürcan Keltek and the Portuguese Fogo do vento by Marta Mateus were ignored entirely. A pity, because a cinema of exploration, represented in the competition by works of varying success, would have deserved a place among the awards and some encouragement. (Commentary "Narrazione agli onori nel concorso", 17.08.2024)

laRegione

Sogni e incubi di un'umanità persa – Boccalino d'Oro, è festa – Un Festival da ricordare

BY UGO BRUSAPORCO – 16, 17 AND 19.08.2024 – PRINT – BELLINZONA

"Un film spettacolare ... scritto e diretto con sicura e felice mano da Gürcan Keltek. Il finale è epico nella sua sacralità ... Grande film da applausi."

A spectacular film ... written and directed with a sure and felicitous hand by Gürcan Keltek. The ending is epic in its sacredness ... A great film that deserves applause.

"Forse il film più poetico e politico del Festival."

Perhaps the most poetic and political film of the festival.

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Un film che mette sotto accusa non solo il potere di Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, ma di tutti i governi di destra che lo hanno preceduto, rendendo mentalmente fragile un popolo intero."

A film that indicts not only the power of Recep Tayyip Erdoğan but all the right-wing governments that preceded it, leaving an entire people mentally fragile. (16.08.2024)

"Miglior film tra le sezioni del Festival, opera che regala il pensiero di un domani possibile per chi crede ancora nell'umanità."

Best film across all sections of the festival, a work that offers the thought of a possible tomorrow to all who still believe in humanity. ("Boccalino d'Oro, è festa", 17.08.2024)

In Review Online
film & music criticism

New Dawn Fades – Gürcan Keltek [Locarno '24 Review]

BY MORRIS YANG – 21.08.2024 – ONLINE – INREVIEWONLINE.COM

"Dazzling and radical."

"New Dawn Fades straddles the delicate boundaries between detail and depth, mind and matter, city and man."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"The film is radical in its uncompromising stance; its title takes from a Joy Division song, but what lingers, after a voyage through time that feels as much a few days long as it does a few years, is the crepuscular image of an awakening prematurely snuffed out."

"Scored to the vividly spectral tunes of British artist Son of Philip, New Dawn Fades begins under the hallowed dome of the Hagia Sophia and concludes with a sunset on the Bosphorus – both visions of the sublime, and the madman's highest fear and joy."

Locarno 2024 review: New Dawn Fades (Gürcan Keltek)

BY MARC VAN DE KLASHORST – 17.08.2024 – ONLINE – ICSFILM.ORG – RATING: 4 OUT OF 5 STARS

"An ambient and darkly poetic film that is quite impenetrable but a testament to Keltek's singular vision."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"The cinematography by frequent Werner Herzog collaborator Peter Zeitlinger, with its flowing camerawork and frequent use of a wide lens, adds to the restless nature of the film, perfecting the cinematic representation of the mental state of the film's protagonist."

"Well worth a watch for those who like their cinema contemplative and are not afraid of the absence of a structured narrative."

MOVIEBREAK

New Dawn Fades (2024) – Kritik

BY LIDA BACH – AUGUST 2024 – ONLINE – MOVIEBREAK.DE – RATING: 7.5 OUT OF 10

"Eingefangen in elegische Kamerafahrten, wird die mystische Metropole zum heimlichen Hauptcharakter."

Captured in elegiac tracking shots, the mystical metropolis becomes the secret protagonist.

"Systemkritischer Scharfsinn und spektraler Symbolismus kulminieren in einem ebenso provokanten wie progressiven Panoptikum."

Acute criticism of the system and spectral symbolism culminate in a panopticon as provocative as it is progressive.

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Seine hypnotische Kraft und emotionale Eindringlichkeit zieht Gürcan Kelteks sozialpsychologische Studie weniger aus den majestätischen Motiven als seiner demaskierenden Kritik des destruktiven Einflusses psychiatrischer Institutionen auf die seelische und soziale Stabilität der in deren menschenverachtender Maschinerie gefangenen Individuen."

Gürcan Keltek's socio-psychological study draws its hypnotic power and emotional intensity less from its majestic motifs than from its unmasking critique of the destructive influence of psychiatric institutions on the mental and social stability of the individuals trapped in their inhumane machinery.

"Verfolgt von der gleitenden Kamera verliert sich Cem Yiğit Üzümoğlu in einer fragmentierten Figur, deren gewaltsam gebrochener Geist in Visionen spukhaften Spiritualismus Zuflucht sucht."

Followed by the gliding camera, Cem Yiğit Üzümoğlu loses himself in a fragmented character whose violently broken mind seeks refuge in visions of spectral spiritualism.

New Dawn Fades (Yeni şafak solarken)

BY EOGHAN LYNG – 18.08.2024 – ONLINE – DMOVIES.ORG – RATING: "FILTHY GENIUS MOVIE"

"New Dawn Fades is a tremendous look at metropolitan survival."

"With New Dawn Fades, he demonstrates that he make[s] fiction with inventive aplomb."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Big city pushes young man battling severe mental health issues further into the abysm, in this tremendous Turkish drama."

"Sepulchral in texture – much of the work is filmed in shadows and by dark stairwells – New Dawn Fades flirts with the conventions of horror, not least in its sound design, which utilises a variety of synths."

DIE RHEINPFALZ / PIRMASENSER ZEITUNG

Triumph des anspruchsvollen Kinos – Endspurt beim 77. Internationalen Filmfestival im schweizerischen Locarno

BY PETER CLAUS – 17.08.2024 – PRINT – LUDWIGSHAFEN / PIRMASENS

“Bemerkenswert: „New Dawn Fades“ ... Regisseur Gürcan Keltek („Meteors“) erzählt in einer stürmischen, oft nur schwer zu entschlüsselnden Bilderflut vom Alltag eines psychisch kranken jungen Mannes in Istanbul.”

Remarkable: “New Dawn Fades” ... director Gürcan Keltek (“Meteors”) tells of the everyday life of a mentally ill young man in Istanbul in a tempestuous flood of images that is often hard to decipher.

FURTHER EXCERPTS

“Dabei geht es nicht um eine vordergründige Auseinandersetzung mit persönlichen Wahnvorstellungen, sondern um das Bild einer Gesellschaft, die mehr und mehr in den Wahnsinn einer durch Profitgier sowie politischen und religiösen Fanatismus angeheizten Entmenschlichung abzugleiten droht.”

This is not a superficial examination of personal delusions, but the portrait of a society that threatens to slide ever further into the madness of a dehumanisation fuelled by greed for profit and by political and religious fanaticism.

CALIGARI – REVISTA DE CINE

New Dawn Fades (2024), de Gürcan Keltek – "Abandonar las convenciones narrativas"

BY JOAQUÍN DE LOREDO – AUGUST 2024 – ONLINE (ARGENTINA) – CALIGARI.COM.AR

"La nueva película de Gürcan Keltek se desliza entre los géneros del terror y el drama psicológico, proponiendo un viaje visual y emocionalmente perturbador por las calles y monumentos de Estambul."

Gürcan Keltek's new film glides between the genres of horror and psychological drama, offering a visually and emotionally unsettling journey through the streets and monuments of Istanbul.

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"New Dawn Fades abandona las convenciones narrativas y se convierte en una experiencia sensorial y una meditación sobre la fragilidad de la mente humana y la delgada línea que separa la cordura de la locura."

New Dawn Fades abandons narrative conventions and becomes a sensory experience and a meditation on the fragility of the human mind and the thin line that separates sanity from madness.

NOTOFU

Gürcan Keltek's 'New Dawn Fades': An Affecting Exploration of Madness and Spirituality

02.08.2024 – ONLINE – NOTOFU.COM

"A stirring and introspective cinematic view of psychological trauma."

FURTHER EXCERPTS

"Keltek's previous work ... has established him as a significant voice in contemporary cinema."

FURTHER COVERAGE

Interviews, news, radio and podcasts

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER – 15.08.2024

'New Dawn Fades' Explores Insanity as "a Social Construct," With Istanbul as a Main Character – interview by Georg Szalai

CINEUROPA – 19.08.2024

Gürcan Keltek – Director of New Dawn Fades: "There is an element of psychogeography in all of my films" – interview by Martin Kudláč (en / es / fr / it)

CINEUROPA – 01.08.2024

Exclusive: Teaser for Locarno Competition entry New Dawn Fades – by Mariana Hristova

THE FILM VERDICT – LOCARNO REVIEW DAILY – 16.08.2024

Newsletter, day 10: New Dawn Fades as lead review

MOVIEPLAYER.IT – 16.08.2024

Locarno 2024: New Dawn Fades di Gürcan Keltek conquista il Boccalino d'Oro

ZAZOOM.IT – 16.08.2024

Locarno 2024: New Dawn Fades di Gürcan Keltek conquista il Boccalino d'Oro

RAI RADIO 3 – "HOLLYWOOD PARTY" – 14.08.2024

Locarno77, episode 7 – Gürcan Keltek as guest, conversation about New Dawn Fades

RSI RADIOTELEVISIONE SVIZZERA – "ALPHAVILLE" – 15.08.2024

Locarno 77 (11/13) – festival director Giona A. Nazzaro presents New Dawn Fades

MOVIEBREAK PODCAST – 18.08.2024

Locarno Film Festival: interview with Gürcan Keltek on "New Dawn Fades"

MOIN FILM FUND HAMBURG SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN – 25.07.2024

Vier norddeutsche Produktionen in Locarno (Four northern German productions in Locarno)

RHEINISCHE POST (DPA) – 07.08.2024

77. Internationales Filmfestival Locarno eröffnet (77th Locarno Film Festival opens)

BAYERISCHE RUNDSCHAU (DPA) – 16.08.2024

Endspurt in Locarno (Final stretch in Locarno)

LE TEMPS – 16.08.2024

Au festival de Locarno, un abus de métaphores parfois plombant – by S. G.

IONCINEMA – 15.08.2024

Through a Glass Darkly: Keltek Finds Divinity Through Insanity – review by Nicholas Bell

NEW DAWN FADES

World Sales – Heretic – www.heretic.gr
The StoryBay – stefan@storybay.tv