Film Notes

By Alice Heaps

@FilmBathUK

FILM BATH ORG.UK

Wicker

Year | 105 mins
Director: Alex Huston Fischer, Eleanor Wilson
Starring: Olivia Colman, Alexander Skarsgård, Peter Dinklage

F RATED

Alex Huston Fischer and Eleanor Wilson's *Wicker* (2026), is an unconventional romantic fantasy that turns a strange, fairy-tale premise into a story about loneliness, social expectations, and the desire to be loved. Based on Ursula Wills-Jones' short story *The Wicker Husband*, the film follows an outcast fisherwoman (Olivia Coleman) living on the outskirts of a seaside village. Like many fairy-tale villages, this one is firmly organised around its men, with women largely known in relation to their husbands. So, when the fisherwoman decides to commission a husband made of wicker (Alexander Skarsgård), her choice of partner causes a stir that unsettles the village's entire social order.

Colman has played characters who exist outside the conventional social expectations in previous films including *The Favourite* (2018) and *The Lost Daughter* (2021). Here, she is joined by Skarsgård as the wicker husband, with Peter Dinklage and Elizabeth Debicki among the principal cast.

The film's unusual love story and comedic premise offer a sharp look at the expectations placed on women to conform, settle down, and find happiness in the 'right' way. The fisherwoman, content with her unconventional life, has little interest in meeting her neighbours' standards.

The Academy Award winner Lol Crawley worked on the cinematography. *Wicker* has a crisp visual style, using practical effects to enmesh the absurdist wicker husband into what is otherwise a traditional sleepy seaside town. The film's bold, rhythmic score also works to complement both the comedic and dramatic beats of the story.

Whimsical, darkly comic and occasionally surreal, *Wicker* combines folk romance, fantasy and comedy to create a modern fairy tale with a mischievous streak that asks who gets to decide what a happy ending should look like.

***Wicker* is a warming, sometimes poignant pleasure, a film full of lively personality and possessed of a rather humane outlook on our petty foibles.**
– Richard Lawson, The Hollywood Reporter

Excellent 5 4 3 2 1 Poor

What did you think of the film? Please mark or tear the number.

Please add any further comments here

Please detach this from your Film Note and drop it into the box or hand it in at the end of the screening. Thank you!

Film Notes

@FilmBathUK

FILM BATH ORG.UK

Did You Know?

- The wicker husband costume was created primarily with practical effects: a three-layer 3D-printed shell shaped to Skarsgård's body, with real wicker weaving applied on top.
- The wicker costume was created by Wētā Workshop, a New Zealand-based company that is known to have worked on The Lord of the Rings and Avatar.
- *Wicker* was predominantly filmed on location in Budapest, Hungary, using local studio facilities and medieval backlots (permanent, outdoor film sets made to look like villages, towns or farms from the Middle Ages) to achieve the fairytale aesthetics.

Continue Your Journey...

If you enjoyed this film, you might like:

The Shape of Water (2017)
This surrealist fairy-tale follows the story of Elisa (Sally Hawkins), a lonely cleaner who discovers an amphibious man held captive in a secret government laboratory.

Poor Things (2023)
In this reimagining of Frankenstein, Bella Baxter (Emma Stone) is brought into a fantastical Victorian world. Her veracious curiosity propels her into a series of misadventures, guiding her closer to understanding what life is for.

SCAN ME

Tell Us What You Think and Win!

Complete our survey and enter our prize draw with the chance to win a FilmBath Fan Membership and tickets to our Movie at the Museum series in March 2027.

We really value your opinion and your answers are really helpful to help us understand our audiences, improve the festival and apply for funding.

Keep up to date with Bath Film Festival and receive Priority Booking **FREE**

Name .....

Email .....

Please detach this from your Film Note and drop it into the box or hand it in at the end of the screening. Thank you!