



Post Mortem

Spring
Season
2012

Release: 2010

Cert (UK): 15

Runtime: 98 mins

Director: Pablo Larraín

Cast: Alfredo Castro, Antonia Zegers, Amparo Noguera

Awards:

2011 Best Film – Cartagena Film Festival (Colombia)

2011 Best film – Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival

More than just cinematography, the film's success lies in its ability to introduce snatches of dialogue that are strained, unremarkable and yet all the more potent given what follows. Politics is only murmured about by elderly men, until the humdrum intimacy implodes and we are forced to reflect on how the change in regime might have affected even the most modest of households and their freedom of speech. When the coup rears its bloodied head, in the portly shape of Allende, we have even forgotten the original premise of this film, and the intrusion of historic activity takes us by surprise.

Latino Life

For the two protagonists in Pablo Larraín's latest feature, small comfort comes against the backdrop of the 1973 Chilean military coup that put an end to socialist President Salvador Allende. Mario Cornejo (Alfredo Castro) spends his days typing up autopsy reports; at night he harbours desires for his neighbour, a dancer called Nancy (Antonia Zegers). As Chile implodes, Nancy is forced into hiding while Mario is press-ganged into cataloguing the endless bodies that pile up daily under the new regime.

A sometimes shocking, often moving journey through a blood-stained corner of the past. Like Costa Gavras's "Missing" through the eyes of an everyday Chilean.

Empire

