

LIKE SOMEONE IN LOVE

Autumn Season 2013

Release: 2012 Cert (UK): 12a Runtime: 109 mins

Director: Abbas Kiarostami **Screenwriter:** Abbas Kiarostami

Cast: Rin Takanashi, Tadashi Okuno, Ryo Kase

a modern Tokyo story, in which a young woman, both fiancée and escort, is sent to the home of an ageing professor who accidentally assumes the mantle of grandfather. Meanwhile a grandmother is reduced to a series of plaintive voice-mail messages, and a neighbour talks of her thwarted desires to become a wife. Unfolding at an unhurried, observational pace (which crucially never provokes impatience) this is an intriguing, elliptical affair, the emphasis on reflective surfaces (and off-screen voices) reminding us that we are only ever seeing an opaque refraction of the whole picture.

The recurrent mistaken identity motif is employed to subtle effect, with every character seeing only as much they choose, each telling a version of their own story. Masks are donned, roles played (and reversed), lives intersected. Like so much of Kiarostami's work, the further away from it one gets, the more it seems to mean; his real skill, perhaps, is in making the profound appear lightweight, its gravitational pull noticeable only during the escape trajectory.

Mark Kermode - Observer





Abbas Kiarostami was born in Tehran, Iran, in 1940. He graduated from university with a degree in fine arts before starting work as a graphic designer. He then joined the Center for Intellectual Development of Children and Young Adults, where he started a film section, and this started his career as a filmmaker at the age of 30. Since then he has made many movies and has become one of the most important figures in contemporary Iranian film.

IMDB Biography