

Fine thrillers, quality documentaries, a top Bond villain



Film 2 Review of 2012

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Best - and maddest - film of the year

Holy Motors. An actor (Denis Lavant) is chauffeured around Paris in a stretch limousine, adopting different identities as he goes, and, perhaps, crossing over into different realities. Léos Carax definitely brought us 2012's finest sci-fi musical comedy-drama-thriller to feature Kylie Minogue.

Some other contenders: *Once Upon a Time in Anatolia* starts as a dry police procedural in which some blokes drive through the Turkish countryside trying to locate a dead body, but it evolves into a haunting search for the meaning of life. *About Elly* is the drama that Asghar Farhadi made

before last year's critically adored *A Separation*, and it's almost as compelling. *Searching for Sugar Man* is 2012's most joyous documentary. If you still haven't seen this moving rock'n'roll detective story, do so now. And if you still don't know what it's about, keep it that way. The twists are astonishing.

Best postmodern entertainment

Cabin in the Woods is a horror film that comments mischievously on horror films, while *Seven Psychopaths* is a violent crime thriller that examines, yes, violent crime thrillers. Both are a blast on several levels.



HIGHS AND LOWS
Searching for Sugar Man, left;
Ill Manors, above
right; *Seven Psychopaths*,
below right

