

CHELMSFORD FILM CLUB

An Independent film society based in Chelmsford

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Member feedback: Mahanagar - The Big City

36 people voted. The breakdown and comments are listed below.

'Excellent': 21 votes

- A fine, classic, humanist film. Good to see it again.
- A really interesting drama of relationships, and good to see the awakening of desire for equal opportunities in India in the 1960's.
- Really enjoyed this film, amazing actress!
- Particularly for anyone who remembers the 1950's – developing countries in the 1960's. Astonishing how little of that can now be understood by the next generation (from our first world "Progress" as Americans might term it), who have no idea of the world before the bomb!
- Stunningly restored. The 2½ hours rocketed by – and serendipitously relevant to UK today, in more ways than one would guess. How refreshing to be profoundly moved by a couple's kindness and consideration – instead of meanness and misadventure. I wonder if this sort of story could catch on, one day, in our beleaguered west as the corporations which exploited India now turn on us.
- Although the photography was dated, the storyline was not. How modern society could learn from the selflessness and humanitarianism of the past.
- A wonderful film. The character development was fascinating, full of humanity. The pace was great.
- Outstanding acting, especially Mahaba Mukherjee (Arati). Outstanding cinematography – every shot beautifully composed. Very much enjoyed the gentle pace * focus on relationship/work tensions that are universal but also particular in the Indian setting of the film.
"Worrying about work can make you spineless" – key quote.
- Even better the second time. Very intimate but unsentimental. The way everyone wears their hearts on their sleeves but at the same time is so discreet is very Indian!
- Excellent film. Ray is a real master.
- Moving and beautiful.
- Almost a silent film! With a few "Psycho" references!
- Just wonderful! Fascinating photography, slowly building the story. Great!
- A very well realised story of universal themes.
- Atmospheric, and of its time, but curiously contemporary. And optimistic – what's not to like?
- Superb. Beautifully paced and filmed – except for the slightly wobbly back film in Mr Mukherjee's office!
- Beautifully filmed. Way ahead of its time, the message is still relevant today.

- Fascinating
- Classic

'Very Good': 8 votes

- Completely absorbing.
- Slow to start, but thoroughly involved by the upbeat finish.
- Based on a short story! What would a long story be like!
- Very enjoyable film, showing changing relationships within the family and workplace. Excellent in black and white.
- A good film – enjoyed it!
- Very engrossing.
- But a bit long.

'Good': 6 votes

- Lovely, lovely film, location, characters and story.
- A vast improvement on “Beyond the Hills”. I managed to stay awake ‘til the end. Beautifully shot but a slim plot, nonetheless, for a longish film.
- Enjoyed very much. Interesting to see the 60’s Bengali way of life. Cheesy end though!
- Very sweet & enjoyable – more like a 40’s style western film.
- But far too long.

'Satisfactory': 1 vote

- Like a Bengali version of Mad Men, without the excitement!

'Poor': 0 votes

Based on the above, the film had an overall score of 4.36.