

Saturday, December the 4th, 12:30 pm, readers Club

## **Closing movie**

Press conference with Cecile De France and Thierry Neuvic, actors in *Hereafter* by Clint Eastwood.

**Cecile De France:** It was a great honor to work with Clint Eastwood and it has radically changed my life. As a director he's very confident in his actors and lets them do in such a way they feel more creative hence more productive.

**Thierry Neuvic:** I met Clint in Person only five minutes prior to shooting, before I only knew him through his work. I was chosen with the classic casting in a Hotel in Paris, thus I must say it was a rather classic iter. Often in France they ask the director what kind of hue he wants for his character, when I asked this to Clint he told me it was my problem, not his for sure. This is to let you understand how much freedom he'd leave us actors on set, just like Cecile rightly said.

Cecile De France: I must say everything was on script, Clint is very thorough. The characters are accurately carved moreover it's amazing how the stories of each one develop in parallel to join only in the end. Clint always shoots simple scenes, except the special effects used for the Tsunami scene, which was 90% done by ourselves, without stunts, in Pinewood studios and part in Hawaii. This makes me remember of the moment we were shooting the scene with the little girl in the water, together with two operators: Clint was on the shore and you could see we was frustrated he couldn't be with us. Eventually he took off his t-shirt and dived in with us.

**Thierry Neuvic:** What is very strong in the movie is the solitude of characters caused by the loss of someone you love. I really like how the movie deals with death, often considered tabu, not aiming to develop a theory, but creating a relationship with death that makes us appreciate life even more.

**Cecile De France:** I think the scene where the camera rolls around us while me and Matt Damon are kissing, that hadn't originally been planned, was added on to give a sense of hope.

To enter the character I investigated a lot on afterlife theories: I read many books and writings of who truly lived this sort of experiences and I spoke to doctors of rather rational and Cartesian approach. Personally I believe death is part of life therefore it doesn't scare me at all and I believe destiny has already been generous with me. I also don't try to prevent time and accept its flow. I also got information on what it means being a journalist, but this was a lot more easy, I just had to

watch some journalists to get inspired in painting this character who uses her popularity to share her experience with the world.

**Thierry Neuvic:** My character has an opposite vision compared to mine, however I tried not to judge him. He chooses not to question and lives in a disorder that keeps him going in some way and I tried to best represent this nature of his.