

Wild Rose



Drama, Music | USA | 2019 | 100 mins | Cert 15

Director: Tom Harper **Screenplay:** Nicole Taylor

Cinematography: George Steel **Film Editing:** Mark Eckersley

Original Music: Jack Arnold

Cast: Jessie Buckley, Julie Walters, Sophie Okonedo, Matt Costello

SYNOPSIS

Fresh out of prison, a Scottish woman juggles her job and two children while pursuing her dream of becoming a country music star. She soon gets her chance when she travels to Nashville, Tennessee, on a life-changing journey to discover her true voice. Starring Jessie Buckley and Julie Walters, *Wild Rose* is the stuff of classic country tunes, a tale of heartache, 'honky-tonkin' and hard-won redemption. It's also the stuff of every movie about an underdog who dreams of music stardom, with its hardscrabble origins, a raw talent, inner demons and a final triumph upon a glittering stage.

REVIEWS

Rose-Lynn Harlan (Jessie Buckley) is an ex-con and a wannabe country singer from a Glasgow housing estate. Clashing with her mother (Julie Walters), can she reconcile reality and mundanity as a mum with dreams of reaching Nashville? After last year's feature film debut in the bleak psychological thriller *Beast*, there is little doubt that Jessie Buckley is more than just another new actor with star potential. She is the real deal, capable of a depth of dramatic delivery that actors stretch their entire careers for.

Buckley is Rose-Lynn, a gobby, impulsive, working-class country singer from Glasgow, who we meet in the hours before being released from prison, white plastic tag tightly gripping the ankle beneath her white cowboy boots. "You're gonna be the next Dolly Parton," shouts another prisoner gleefully as Rose-Lynn leaves, fist-raised, for what may or may not be the last time, her dreams of a life in Nashville seeming nigh-on impossible.

But just when you're sure of foot, you're tipped off-balance with narrative pivots that transform the film from heart-warming Brit flick to something with considerably more bite and substance. The film puts an elbow into the hot waters of motherhood, of female sacrifice, of what becomes of our sense of self and right to personal nourishment. There, the film — and specifically a beautifully paired Walters and Buckley — shines, swelling around the issues it kneads without hitting upon any easy answers. For the journey, it turns out, is not one of the 3,900 miles from Glasgow to Nashville, but the distance between a mother and daughter, and for Rose-Lynn, the journey to find herself.

Empire on-line Terri White. 8th April 2019



DID YOU KNOW?

- *Wild Rose* was screened at Dingle International Film Festival in Co Kerry, Ireland - The same county where Jessie Buckley was born.

Awards and Nominations

- Dublin International Film Festival 2019. Winner Best Actress for Jessie Buckley
- Golden Trailer Awards 2019. Nominee, Best Foreign Music Trailer
- Newport Beach Film Festival 2019. Winner, Acting for Jessie Buckley

COMING UP NEXT...

Friday 22nd November 7:45pm

Faces Places

Director Agnes Varda and photographer J.R. partake in a special art project travelling around France in a truck equipped as a portable photo booth and printing facility, taking photographs of people around the country. They enjoy an odd friendship exploring their views on the world. **Cert 12A, 94 mins**

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