



A NIGHT AT THE OPERA

Spring
Season
2016

Release: 1935

Cert (UK): U

Language: English

Runtime: 96 mins

Directors: Sam Wood, Edmund Goulding

Writers: George S. Kaufman, Morrie Ryskind

Cinematographer: Merritt B. Gerstad

Cast: Groucho Marx, Chico Marx, Harpo Marx



“A Night at the Opera’ is generally regarded as the last great instalment in the Marx Brothers’ film series before the studio suits at MGM diluted their anarchic comedy with overdoses of sappy sentiment and romantic interludes.

It follows Groucho, Chico and Harpo as they battle arrogant opera tenor Lassparri (Walter King) in an attempt to help their friend Ricardo (Allan Jones) take centre stage and win the

heart of Rosa (Kitty Carlisle).

Whether you prefer their earlier even more anarchic humour or this more ordered comedy, you will enjoy the rib-tickling delights of the Brothers’ surreal anarchy as Groucho and Chico discuss contract negotiations; an ocean liner’s tiny stateroom gets overpopulated; and bandy-legged Groucho woos the towering form of Margaret Dumont with a classic selection of choice insults.

It’s easy to see why ‘A Night at the Opera’ remained Groucho’s favourite film. It may not be as much of a masterpiece as their earlier films ‘Horse Feathers’ or ‘Duck Soup’, but it’s guaranteed to have you giggling from one end of the musical scale to the other.’

Based on Jamie Russell, BBC

