

RAMS (Hrútar)

Spring Season 2016

Release: 2015 Cert (UK): 15

Language: Icelandic Runtime: 93 mins

Director: Grímur Hákonarson **Writer:** Grímur Hákonarson

Cinematographer: Sturla Brandth Grøvlen

Cast: Sigurður Sigurjónsson, Theodór Júlíusson, Charlotte Bøving



In a secluded valley in Iceland, Gummi and Kiddi live side by side, tending to their sheep. Their ancestral sheep-stock is considered one of the country's best and the two brothers are repeatedly awarded for their prized rams who carry an ancient lineage. Although they share the land and a way of life, Gummi and Kiddi have not spoken to each other in four decades. When the entire valley comes under threat from disease it is a near death sentence for all the farmers, whose sheep are their main source of income. Gummi and Kiddi don't give up easily - and each brother tries to stave off the disaster in his own fashion.

Rams, you won't spot it coming, but fate, circumstances and brilliant filmmaking deliver a final image that not only sets individual conflict within the broader realm of human brotherhood but somehow also prompts a surge of emotion from an outcome on the very tipping-point of exquisite uncertainty. A minor classic, no less.

This is the third full length film from director Sigurður Sigurjónsson. He has won minor awards before, but 'Rams' has won him his first major award with 'Un Certain Regard' at Cannes.

