



No

Spring
Season
2013

Release: 2012

Cert (UK):15

Runtime: 118 mins

Director: Pablo Larrain

Language: Spanish with English subtitles

Cast: Gael García Bernal, Alfredo Castro, Antonia Zegers



Pablo Larrain finishes his 'Pinochet' trilogy with 'No', which is almost as much a satire of the media as it is a political thriller. 'Tony Manero' showed life under the dictator, while 'Post Mortem' went back to the start of the coup. Here, Larrain moves to near the end of the regime when Pinochet thought to keep himself in power for another 8 years by holding a

plebiscite, which he assumed he would win; who would dare to stop him?

The film shows how those against him gathered together to try to persuade the Chileans to vote against him. Pinochet makes life as difficult for them as possible by harassing the opposition all the time and making sure their television slots are very late at night, thinking no-one would watch.

The opposition asked Rene Saavedra, a young advertising executive, to spearhead the campaign, which he does, upsetting most of them by ignoring politics. Instead of harping on the horrors of the past, he 'sells' the future to the Chileans. Can he persuade them there is hope? Will they dare to vote NO?

Saavedra is played brilliantly by Gael García Bernal (who we saw recently in 'Even the Rain') and Larrain's usual star - Alfredo Castro - leads the YES campaign.

Pablo Larrain has been nominated for various awards for all three of these films, culminating in a nomination for the Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film for 'No'. This film is definitely the easiest to watch and is likely to have you on the edge of your seat, both for the tension (will Pinochet allow the campaign to go ahead? Will Saavedra get killed?) and the desire to see them win...

