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Tarkovsky Retrospective

SOLARIS

1971, Andrei Tarkovsky, USSR, 165 min.

PG-13 only

Astro-psychologist Kelvin is dispatched to investigate strange happenings on a space station circling Solaris, a mystery planet with a viscous, flowing surface and an atmosphere of vivid, unsettling colors. Kelvin discovers that the planet perceives fears and memories buried in the minds of its observers, and then externalized these into living reconstructions; although fully aware of the planet's power, Kelvin himself soon falls prey to it. Hari, his beautiful wife who had committed suicide, reappears to him, more beautiful than ever; Kelvin knows she's a fake, but any effort to dispose of the creature results only in renewed suffering for both of them.

"Immaculately photographed, SOLARIS is the nearest the cinema has come to capturing the complexities of contemporary science fiction, with its intermingling of time and memory, acute uneasiness, and emphasis on elegance and style." — Philip Strick, *Sight and Sound*
