

Document Citation

Title	Total balalaika show
Author(s)	Chuck Stephens
Source	<i>San Francisco Bay Guardian</i>
Date	1994 Apr 27
Type	review
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	Total balalaika show, Kaurismäki, Aki, 1994

S.F. Guardian

4/27/94

TOTAL BALALAIKA SHOW

Everyone I know who has seen Aki Kaurismäki's new Leningrad Cowboys "comedy" loved it. I found it loathsome. A one-joke film — in which "the world's worst rock and roll band" teams up with the Red Army Chorus for a megaconcert in front of 70,000 cheering fans in Helsinki's Senate Square — this is the sort of adolescent drool that *Saturday Night Live* might use on a slow night. Yes, they play *Happy Together* and *Sweet Home Alabama*: yuk, yuk. Can you believe that Kaurismäki — whose previous work (*Ariel*, *Match Factory Girl*, *La Vie de Bohème*, etc.) showed world-class directorial chops — has another one of these tedious turkeys already in the can (*Leningrad Cowboys Meet Moses*)? wasn't the colossally unfunny *Leningrad Cowboys Go America* enough? Just because the festival is supporting this pap doesn't mean you have to. (Stephens)

Thurs 100 at 7 - - - - - 051. 0-1-00