

## Goodbye Solo

USA 2008

**Director**

Ramin Bahrani

**Writing By**

Bahareh Azimi

Ramin Bahrani

**Director of Photography**

Michael Simmonds

**Music**

M.Lo

**Cast***Souléymané, 'Solo'*

Souléymané Sy Savané

*William*

Red West

*Alex*

Diana Franco Galindo

*Quiera*

Carmen Leyva

*Roc*

Lane 'Roc' Williams

91 minutes

*Our next screening...***Amal** (Canada)

30 March 2007

Dir: Richie Mehta

Extremely rare chance  
to catch this heart-  
warming fable.

Four years ago, Ramin Bahrani's debut feature *Man Push Cart* closed our 1<sup>st</sup> Winchester Film Festival. His reputation has steadily increased since, and tonight we're delighted to be screening his third film.

Two actors. One from Africa. The other who was a bodyguard for Elvis. Who but Ramin Bahrani would find these men and pair them in a story of heartbreaking depth and power? Bahrani is the new great American director. He never steps wrong. In *Goodbye Solo* he begins with a situation that might unfold in a dozen different ways and makes of it something original and profound. It is about the desire to help and the desire to not be helped. A film like this makes me wonder if we are coming to the end of the facile, snarky indie films. We live in desperate times. We are ready to respond to films that ask that question. How do you live in this world? Bahrani knows all about flashy camera work, tricky shots, visual stunts. He teaches film at Columbia. But like his fellow North Carolinian, David Gordon Green, he is drawn to a more level gaze, to a film at the service of its characters and their world. Wherever you live, when this film opens, it will be the best film in town.

*Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times*

Sometimes a film knocks the wind out of you, leaving you with a melancholic satisfaction that only a well-told drama can do. Ramin Bahrani's newest, *Good Bye Solo* is the first film to do just that in quite some time. *Oxford Film Freak*

If cinematic form follows cinematic function then *Goodbye Solo* is a perfect Mercedes of a movie. It is comprised of a quietly purring but powerful narrative engine; handcrafted scenes; intuitive, delicate acting; and both technique and technology that draw no attention to themselves. Like Bahrani's previous film, *Man Push Cart*, *Goodbye Solo* launches into its story without credits, mimicking the opening of a book. This is no accident, as Bahrani's film world is all about narrative drive, character development, and all things literary as well as visual. *Goodbye Solo* is highly successful in its sensitive use of local non-professional actors and authentic location shooting to create a rich geographic context.

*James B Evans, Little White Lies*

**PS - Fingers crossed we've got lead actor Rupinder Nagra attending our 30 March screening of *Amal*, where he will introduce the film and hold a Q&A afterwards. Check our website & email alert over the next week for confirmation!**

