

## We Are The Best! *Vi är bäst!*

Sweden 2013

### Directed by

Lukas Moodysson

### Writing credits

Lukas Moodysson

Based on comic book by

Coco Moodysson

### Cinematography

Ulf Brantås

102 mins

### Cast

Mira Barkhammar

*Bobo*

Mira Grosin

*Klara*

Liv LeMoyné

*Hedvig*

Johan Liljemark

*Kenneth*

Mattias Wiberg

*Roger*

*Our next screening...*

### How I Ended This Summer

Tue 6 Jan 2015 8:00pm

Dir: Alexei Popogrebsky

Psychological drama set in a remote Artic weather station in Chukotka, in the north east tip of Russia.

Wishing all our members a very happy Christmas and very best wishes for 2015. Many thanks for all your support since our relaunch at Winchester Science Centre!

It would be easy for this sort of film to become condescending or twee, but *We Are The Best!* never falls foul of this trap. The period detail of the set design helps; it's recognisably 1980s, without doing that thing where Rubik's cubes and space hoppers are strewn about the place. Yet despite the period setting, this isn't a nostalgia piece; it's a film that lives moment to moment, completely invested in the character's present lives, and spending as little time fretting about what the abstract future holds as these girls do. Too many films about the teenage experience are noticeably from an adult perspective, looking back with the benefit of hindsight. Equally, when a film does have the gloss of written-by-a-teen authenticity, the focus is often firmly on the grimmer end of the teen experience (*Kids*, *Thirteen*). *We Are The Best!* is neither of these things – despite being adapted by forty-something spouses Lukas and Coco Moodysson, it always feels 100% like we're seeing the world through optimistic thirteen year old eyes, for whom the world is sometimes difficult but never dark. Utterly charming, fresh and funny.

Catherine Bray, *Film4*

Lukas Moodysson's status as the prodigy of Swedish cinema has somewhat faded in recent years, partly as a result of following two abrasively experimental films (*A Hole in My Heart*, *Container*) with the leaden globalism statement *Mammoth*. *We Are the Best!* comes as a surprise – at once a return to the youth-feminist energy of his 1998 debut *Show Me Love* and a return to comedy, 14 years after his much loved *Together*. Compared to the director's darker work, *We Are the Best!* might seem an easy option but it's clearly a very personal film – not least because it is based on a comic strip by his wife Coco Moodysson. She is presumably the original for Bobo, whose early-teen insecurities provide the film's emotional focus. *We Are the Best!* is a low-key pleasure. It is perhaps not a project that tests Moodysson as a director but it resoundingly shows his brilliance at directing young performers; he'd be a hell of a lot better at running a youth club than Kenneth and Roger.

Jonathan Romney, *Sight and Sound*

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Voting for *Call Me Kuchu*: A-20 B-23 C-7 D-0 E-0 Attendance: 55 Rating: 81.5%