

Romulus, My Father **Film Reviews**

Jim Mitchell – Filmink (June 07)

“Eric Bana continues to prove himself as a talented dramatic actor with a moving, highly affecting performance, and young Kodi Smit-McPhee, who features in most scenes meets him every step of the way. Csokas and Dykstra are also very strong, no doubt aided by the direction of acclaimed actor Richard Roxburgh, who makes an impressively strong directorial debut.” (\$13.50 out of \$15.50)

Peter Galvin – Inside Film (May 2007)

“Director Richard Roxburgh and screenwriter Nick Drake have conceived the film as an episodic narrative of impressions and feelings. This undercuts the inherent melodrama, erasing traces of romance and sentiment. It's involving precisely because one can't anticipate the outcome of the action; instead we watch, enthralled by the way the characters negotiate each small victory and cope with every blow.”

Chris Barlett – QLD Sunday Mail 03/06/07

“A terrifically taut script. First-timer Nick Drake has mastered the art of brevity and clarity. Working from this, first time director Richard Roxburgh has crafted a story that will grab and twist your heart. Eric Bana is quietly dignified, even in his madder moments, while Smit-McPhee gives the film heart and soul. *Romulus, My Father* is another quality Australian drama that helps makes up for all those awful comedies. ★★ ★★ 1/2”

Megan Lehmann – The Hollywood Reporter (May 15th, 2007).

“Like the great Shakespearean tragedies, *Romulus, My Father* manages to transcend a wretched pile-up of calamities and emerges as a work of melancholic beauty.”

Clark Forbes – Sunday Herald Sun (Melbourne) 03/06/07

“It's remarkable how director, writer and actors have fashioned such a moving, delicate and melancholy – but never maudlin – tale... First time director Richard Roxburgh barely misses a beat, summoning up a wonderful feeling of time and place and allowing his cast the space to weave some magic around this tale of emotional survivor. ★★ ★★”

Margaret Pomeranz – ‘At The Movies’ 23/05/07

Romulus, My Father is another major achievement for our industry, it is ultimately a very quietly moving experience. ★★ ★★”

Helen Garner

"I can't think of a single Australian movie with such a dense and complex emotional texture. I know I will never forget it."

Des Partridge – The Courier Mail (QLD)

A strong visual film that demands a big screen experience and that will carry the Australian badge proudly wherever it screens. ★★★★★

Julie Rigg – ABC Radio National – 31/05/07

Eric Bana as Romulus gives his best, most considered performance since *Chopper*. Nothing in the big budget films he has done in the past six years or so approaches the gravity and emotional resonance of his Romulus: a man with the tenderness to take clusters of bees from icy ground and revive them gently by the warmth of a single lightbulb; or a man, finally, broken by a final betrayal."

Rob Lowing – Sun Herald 03/06/07

"If you listen hard at screenings of *Romulus, My Father*, you will surely hear the sound of grown-ups trying not to blub. That's not just an emotional reaction to the most elegantly told and genuinely touching Australian drama in ages. It's also pure relief that after the past few years of being sometimes uncomfortably squished into Hollywood flicks, Australian star Eric Bana has found a role, here at home, that suits his talents. 9/10 "

Vicky Roach – The Daily Telegraph 31/05/07

"Eric Bana reveals hitherto unsuspected range as Romulus, a man striving against almost impossible odds. An acutely observed and exquisitely photographed father and son story."