

## Film Review on: The Wolf of Wall Street The wolf territory of Wall Street

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## Overview

The film, "*The Wolf of Wall Street*", is a 180 minutes long biography about Jordan Belfort (*depicted by Leonardo DiCaprio*) and his over-the-top lifestyle as a stock-broker. The piece was directed by Martin Scorsese and first premiered on the 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2013 in the magnificent city of New York. Some actors besides *Leonardo DiCaprio* you might know are: *Jonah Hill, Margot Robbie* and *Matthew McConaughey*. The film is based on the auto-biography written by Jordan Belfort himself.

Jordan Belfort, a 22 years old newly married young man, goes to wall street to fulfill his high-minded ambition: being rich. He there is confronted by the chaos of the trading floors, he loves it. Though he did get some tips from his boss, to prevent him from stressing out: *do drugs and have sex as much as you can.* Welcome, to the crazy world of Wall Street.

Overwhelming in all respects, the number of impressions, the speed, the cursing and the awesome skill of the actors. Within minutes I was hooked.

Though I am not quite familiar with the stock market, aside from some lessons taught during history and economic courses, I was able to recognize immediately how chaotic and weird the trading floors of Wall Street and the life as a stock-broker must be. The atmosphere created by the production designers, the director and of course the brilliant actors create a clear picture of how they want you to see the stock market; you see paper lying everywhere on the trading floors, stock-brokers desperately trying to convince people over the telephone. And then there is the music, setting the mood when it's needed: when everything is going well, a relax song is playing in the background and when there's something exciting happening an upbeat song is playing.

The film is seen from Belfort's point of view; there is no scene without him and occasionally he describes what happens and you can hear his thoughts through a voice-over. The numerous wide, mid, close up and tracking shots also emphasize this; most of them focus on Belfort.

So if the movie depicts a drug addicted money crazed stock-broker, who is so notorious in the stock market business that he got the status of *the wolf of Wall Street* from the Forbes, who makes love about 3 times a day with 3 different women and uses the f-word around 300 times throughout the whole film, how come that the film got the permission to be made by the *real* Jordan Belfort, or better yet, to even be made? Simple answer: Jordan Belfort wrote



all about it himself in his auto-biography. And that is surely not the only thing told in the film; it teaches a lesson. I do not want to spoil the whole plot for you, so what that lesson would be, you can go and interpret by yourself.

So, to conclude, what do I think of the movie? Maybe it is because I do not watch a lot of films, or it is because I am a culture fiend. But I liked everything about the film! That's right, from me you will not hear any points of critique; I loved it. The acting is spot-on from minute 1 to minute 180, the atmosphere is amazingly created, the use of props was awesome and the visual effects were stunning. The last point I haven't yet described, so I will now. I shall give you an example: they modelled the whole yacht of Jordan using computer software, and edited it in the film later on, I did not know it was a computer model until I read an article about it online!

I can truly say that this is a fantastic film and you should have watched it *at least* once in your lifetime!



Sources: Info on the movie: Imdb - <u>http://www.imdb.com/title/tto993846/?ref =nv sr 2</u> Info on the VFX in the movie: Video on Vimeo - <u>http://vimeo.com/85001985</u> Info on the real Jordan Belfort: Wikipedia page on Jordan Belfort - <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jordan\_Belfort</u> Info on how to make the review: Jantien Spijker

