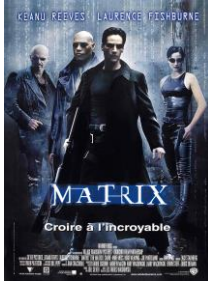


Short Review: “The Matrix” (1999) by Dr. John L. Flynn



The Matrix (1999) Warner Bros., color, 136 min. Directors and Writers: Andy and Larry Wachowski. Producer: Joel Silver. Cast: Keanu Reeves, Laurence Fishburne, Carrie-Anne Moss, and Hugo Weaving.

In this urban world, Neo (Reeves) is a corporate computer geek by day and a hacker by night. Soon, the rebel Morpheus (Fishburne) leads him to believe that his 1999 reality is a matrix of illusions created by an incredibly complex malevolent artificial intelligence system that’s been ruling humankind for over 200 years. Neo joins the rebels, develops a relationship with Trinity (Moss), and is hailed as “The One” who can help humankind overcome the machines and save the few free humans. This film set a high standard for special effects and for effective use of religious thought and allegory/myth. It also has some of the best action sequences of the 1990’s, thanks to the cast’s extensive training in Hong Kong martial arts and wire-work. Neo represents one of us, and as the geek who scores with the hot babe in leather and saves the world, we dig it! The sequels, “The Matrix Reloaded” and “The Matrix Revolutions” (both in 2003), were not as much fun.

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