

**Locarno, Cinema KURSAAL****18:15****Friday, 7th December 2018****GOING IN STYLE****2017**

96 minutes

Directed by **Zack Braff**

Starring: Morgan Freeman, Alan Arkin, Michael Caine

Three seniors who have been wronged by the company where they worked for thirty years decide to rob a bank. They don't just rob any bank, and they don't do it just for fun. They rob the Brooklyn bank that is taking their money.

Joe Harding (Michael Caine), a man who lives with his daughter and granddaughter with whom he has a strong relationship, is having trouble with his mortgage. Willy Davis (Morgan Freeman) lives far away from the only family he has; however he frequently Skypes with his daughter and granddaughter. Willy desperately needs kidney surgery. Albert Gardner (Alan Arkin), a grumpy old man who a long time ago used to play the saxophone, is barely scraping by teaching music lessons to talentless kids.

Joe gets the idea of robbing the bank when he sees a robbery taking place there himself, just as he's complaining that his mortgage has suddenly tripled and he's on the verge of eviction. Then, when the steel company where he, Willie and Al worked for decades shuts down—and their pensions are frozen—the same bank just happens to be controlling the money. Desperate to pay the bills and come through for their loved ones, the three lifelong pals risk it all by embarking on a daring bid to knock off the very bank that absconded with their money. Jesus (Jack Ortiz) is the "thug" that trains them and FBI Agent Hamer (Matt Dillon) is the detective who pursues them.

Critics' comments:

- These types of films always take pains to point out that gray hair and wrinkles don't equal comatose — before the story is through, pot has been smoked, vigorous sex has been enjoyed, and the gents have done an almost perfect job of outsmarting the detective (Matt Dillon) who is investigating the robbery. On the other hand, Christopher Lloyd turns up as a wild-eyed eccentric who embodies an awful lot of senior-citizen stereotypes. Anyway, the director, Zach Braff, better known as that actor from "Scrubs", keeps things moving briskly and surrounds the leads with a well-chosen supporting cast that includes Ann-Margret, John Ortiz and Kenan Thompson. It's strictly comfort food, 99 percent predictable, though the 1 percent that isn't — you'll know it when you see it — is deftly executed. (Neil Genzlinger, *New York Times*)
- The script by Theodore Melfi (*Hidden Figures*) pays lip-service to contemporary economic struggles, referencing the squeeze on traditional industries (all three men are former steel workers) and the breakdown of old-age financial relief and family support. But these nods to reality are just as soft as the movie's slapstick tendencies, which include not-very-rib-tickling scenes of shoplifting, and chases involving mobility scooters. And don't think too much about the plot—it's about as water-tight as a corporate-pension scheme. All three stars deliver exactly what you expect from them—nothing more, nothing new—but their onscreen familiarity is a strange comfort in itself. (Dave Calhoun, *Time Out*)