



247 centre street floor 2 nyc ny 10013  
p 212.274.1989 • f 212.274.1644 • <http://www.zeitgeistfilms.com/DVDpressroom>  
For home media requests contact Elizabeth McKee at [elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com](mailto:elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com)

## TURKISH MASTER NURI BILGE CEYLAN DESCENDS INTO ISTANBUL'S SHADOWS: "THREE MONKEYS" BOWS ON ZEITGEIST DVD

New York (September 22, 2009) — A sexy and devastating neo-noir, **THREE MONKEYS** (**Üç maymun**) is the stunning fifth feature by Turkey's leading filmmaker, Nuri Bilge Ceylan. After winning him the Best Director prize at the Cannes Film Festival, as well as a nomination for the Palme d'Or, the film went on to garner widespread critical acclaim throughout its 2009 national theatrical run. **On November 24, 2009 Zeitgeist will release *THREE MONKEYS* on DVD.**

Following his award-winning mood pieces *Distant* and *Climates* (also a Zeitgeist release), Ceylan shifts gears in this gripping, intricate tale while retaining his mastery of ambience, nuance and astonishing cinematography. **THREE MONKEYS** opens with an ambitious politician fleeing a hit-and-run accident in the dead of night. Afraid of hurting his election chances, he pays off his chauffeur Eyüp to take the rap. While Eyüp stewes in jail, this devil's bargain takes its toll on his brooding son Ismail and restless wife Hacer, who falls into an illicit affair with the politician. Ismail's discovery of his mother's infidelity and Eyüp's suspicions after he gets out of jail crank up the simmering tensions in a household already haunted by hidden ghosts.

Zeitgeist's DVD release of **THREE MONKEYS** features an anamorphic transfer created from Hi-Def elements and enhanced for widescreen televisions. Supplemental materials include theatrical trailers, optional English subtitles, and a print interview with director Nuri Bilge Ceylan.

**THREE MONKEYS Film/DVD info:** 2008 • 109 minutes • Turkey • Color • In Turkish with optional English subtitles • 2.35:1 Cinemascope aspect ratio • Not Rated

*Note: Zeitgeist's DVD release of Three Monkeys is available in the U.S. only.*

Celebrating its 20th Anniversary as one of America's preeminent independent distributors, New York-based Zeitgeist Films has built an impressively diverse catalogue of foreign, documentary and arthouse titles by such renowned directors as Todd Haynes, Jan Svankmajer, Peter Greenaway, Abbas Kiarostami, Guy Maddin, Kirby Dick, Atom Egoyan, Agnès Varda, François Ozon, Derek Jarman, Yvonne Rainer, Olivier Assayas, Philippe Garrel and the Quay Brothers. Recent releases include Oscar winner ***Nowhere in Africa***; blockbuster doc ***The Corporation***; dance doc hit ***Ballets Russes***; Oscar nominee ***Sophie Scholl—The Final Days***; Oscar nominee ***My Country, My Country***; Sundance winner ***Into Great Silence***; and 2008 Oscar nominee ***Trouble the Water***. Launched in 2001, Zeitgeist Video has released dozens of highly praised DVDs, including the recently-released remastered Two-Disc Edition of Quay Brothers shorts, entitled ***PHANTOM MUSEUMS***; a Four-Disc Box Set of Derek Jarman masterworks entitled ***GLITTERBOX***, starring Oscar winner Tilda Swinton (*Michael Clayton*); an Essential Edition of Olivier Assayas' cult fave ***Irma Vep*** starring Maggie Cheung; and a brand-new "Repressed and Remastered" Edition of Guy Maddin's 1992 mountain film classic ***Careful***.



247 centre street floor 2 nyc ny 10013  
p 212.274.1989 • f 212.274.1644 • <http://www.zeitgeistfilms.com/DVDpressroom>  
For home media requests contact Elizabeth McKee at [elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com](mailto:elizabeth@zeitgeistfilms.com)

## CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR *THREE MONKEYS*

"A ripe and pulpy melodrama! Fits squarely within the logic of **classic film noir**, where cold-eyed self-interest quickly becomes entangled with **unruly desires** and the primal imperatives of honor and obligation." —A.O. Scott, *The New York Times*

"Gripping and beautiful! **One of the best films you'll see this year**—a masterwork from a director at the top of his game." —Bilge Eberi, *New York Magazine*

"Unpredictable and gratifying! A **psychologically suspenseful, spare and contemplative neo-noir**... A stunningly visual mastery of moods." —Kevin Thomas, *Los Angeles Times*

"An elegant exercise with four characters trapped by class, guilt and greed.... Fascinating." —Roger Ebert, *Chicago Sun-Times*

"Equal parts **Bresson and Buñuel**, a merciless etching of the indiscreet charmlessness of the Turkish bourgeoisie.... **Hauntingly slow rhythms underscore the immanent violence** and impotent rage that cripple already attenuated lives." —Ella Taylor, *LA Weekly*

"Draws you into many **strange and mind-altering spaces**! There isn't an element, a gesture, a moment of *Three Monkeys* that doesn't lock in with the others and feel true." —Stuart Klawans, *The Nation*

"A striking Turkish film noir.... With this picture [Ceylan] **pushes the boundaries of digital cinema**, teasing out its expressive.... Certain things in *Three Monkeys* **can only be described as brilliant.**" —Michael Phillips, *Chicago Tribune*

"In the best tradition of Antonioni and Tarkovsky.... This is **powerful filmmaking** for discerning viewers." —V.A. Musetto, *The New York Post*

"★★★★! Tense, poetic.... The **whirlpool pull of this tragic psychological thriller is irresistible.**" —Colin Covert, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*

"An **understated noirish drama** full of lies, yellow light, sexually charged violence, and a few **startling moments of ghostly magical realism.**" —Lindy West, *The Stranger*

"Superlatives like 'visionary' and 'genius' are thrown around all too often to describe directors, though few truly deserve them; Nuri Bilge Ceylan, however, is one of those few.... The skill Ceylan has in conveying the complex inner lives of his characters is perfectly complemented by his **peerless visual style**, making *Three Monkeys* **a rich, complete cinematic experience.**" —*Filmmaker Magazine*

"A weighty stream of gorgeous shots and deep emotion. It also proves again that **Ceylan...has the eye of an artist**, with the soul to match." —Mike Scott, *The Times-Picayune*

"A confident trust in the combination of stark realism and unadorned melodrama.... **Carries the kind of thematic heft that made critics swoon over Michelangelo Antonioni in the '60s.**" —Jeff Shannon, *The Seattle Times*