L2295 LADYKILLERS (USA, 2004)

Credits: directors/writers, Ethan Coen, Joel Coen; novel, William Rose.
Cast: Tom Hanks, Irma P. Hall, Marlon Wayans, J.K. Simmons, Tzi Ma, Ryan Hurst.

Summary: Comedy/caper film (a re-make of the 1955 British film starring Alec Guinness) set in contemporary Natchez, Miss. Marva Munson (Hall) is a spry, elderly woman who is looking for a tenant for the spare room in her house. Professor Goldthwait H. Dorr (Hanks) moves in and gains Munson’s permission to use the basement for rehearsals with his “medieval music ensemble.” Dorr is masterminding the robbery of a riverboat casino, and the fellow musicians in his ensemble are actually the crew he’s assembled to pull off the job. Despite their best efforts, Munson finds out about their scheme and Dorr decides the best solution is to silence her permanently. The Tzi Ma character ‘The General’ is an ex-NVA tunnel digger.

Amdur, Meredith. “‘Ladykillers’ ladles out southern charm” Daily variety (Mar 25, 2004), p. 35.


Heller, Steven. “Giving credits the credit they’re due” New York times (Mar 28, 2004), sec. 2, p. 11.


Puig, Claudia. “Rollicking ‘Ladykillers’ sends Hanks on a romp” USA today (Mar 26, 2004), p. 3D.
Rogers, Nick. “Coens can’t lose by adding Hanks to comedy formula” State journal-register [Springfield, IL] (Mar 25, 2004), p. ?
Strickler, Jeff. “Hanks slays ‘em; The star employs sophisticated humor in ‘The ladykillers,’ his first flat-out comedy in years” Star tribune [Minneapolis, MN] (Mar 26, 2004), p. 11E.
Wilonisky, Robert. “Suth’n comfort; Tom Hanks steals the Coen’s latest by playing – get this – very broad and funny” Dallas observer (Mar 25, 2004), p. ?