



Critical Acclaim For

“ARMADILLO”

By Janus Metz

“The achievement of this film is to forestall and complicate easy judgment. You emerge shaken and bothered, which may sound like a reason not to see the movie. It is actually the opposite.”

— **A.O. Scott, *The New York Times***

“The movie's strength and audacity comes from the Danish soldiers, who confront civilians with wariness or bluntness, exalt in their victories and hesitantly exhibit fear in each others' company.”

— **Joe Neumaier, *New York Daily News***

“When the bombs go off and the bullets start flying, Metz and his cameraman provide a real-life vision of what a hurt locker is really all about.”

— **Ray Bennett, *The Hollywood Reporter***

“While the soldiers could turn their cameras off if they chose, they often didn't, meaning that a controversial event involving Taliban fighters is captured for all to see.”

— **NBC Today online**

“This is tough, harrowing stuff.”

— **Bill Goodykoontz, *The Arizona Republic***

“Metz captures and weaves together striking images with great craft. The actual hell of an actual war has never been so beautifully rendered.”

— **Shawn Levy, *Oregonian***

“A brilliant work of cinema, a nonfiction film as intense and visceral as any drama, and an emotional and moral experience that feels horrifying and exhilarating at almost the same moment. . . . A mesmerizing, beautiful and terrifying documentary that can stand among the greatest war movies ever made.”

— **Andrew O'Hehir, *Salon.com***

“Riveting. . . deeply political, but in the broadest sense and without grandstanding. . . . both newbies and vets emerge in the course of the film as distinct individuals. From the start you sense the assured hand of a gifted new filmmaker. . . . An astonishing film.”

— **Erica Abeel, *The Huffington Post***

“An alarming, often harrowing grunt's-eye view of combat operations in Afghanistan . . . The results of Metz's journey raise questions about war, society, foreign policy, and individual responsibility. . . . *Armadillo* observes without condemning, depicting the everyday concerns, fears, and thrills of these recruits with a dispassionate distance, while bearing witness to the complex reality of a soldier's life.”

— **Damon Smith, *Filmmaker Magazine***

“If one film can test our ability to give a rip about contemporary war movies, it's Janus Metz's stellar documentary *Armadillo*.”

— **John Semley, *Torontoist.com***

“Metz has the scruples of a journalist but the sensibility of an artist . . . It’s a sickening but stunning portrait of combat that looks past notions of bravery or brutality, guilt or innocence, to bear witness to a thoroughly besieged humanity.”

— **Eric Hynes, *Time Out New York***

“What it points out, perhaps more clearly and effectively than its American counterparts [*Restrepo*, *The Battle for Marja*], is that war damages everyone who experiences it. . . . And, when young soldiers come home from war, they bring the war home with them. Janus Metz chose his core cast well.”

— **Jennifer Merin, *About.com***

“Director Janus Metz Pedersen has a tiger by the tail in what will eventually be acknowledged as the most controversial war movie in decades. It may be the most controversial war film of all time.”

— **Ron Wilkinson, *Monsters and Critics***

“You may be sick of war films about Afghanistan by now, but *Armadillo*’s boldly objective take on the situation shouldn’t be missed.”

— **Sean Gandert, *Paste Magazine***

“The unprecedented access of director Janus Metz and cameraman Lars Skree reveals the alternating waves of frontline tedium and terror with fresh immediacy. This is partly because their film is edited and scored like a feature, but its bullet-dodging p.o.v. narrative also immerses us in the war’s overall motivational vacuum.”

— **Mark Holcomb, *The Village Voice***

“*Armadillo* is both absorbing and thought-provoking; qualities that make it a significant addition to the documentaries on the war on terror.”

— **Allan Hunter, *Screen Daily***

“The film doesn’t sit in judgment, but it does broaden our understanding of what’s happening behind enemy lines — and behind the headlines.”

— **Alistair Harkness, *Scotsman***