

INTERNET ARCHIVE
 waybackmachine
 2 captures
 15 Dec 07 - 20 Dec 07

http://www.the-trades.com/article.php?id=6094 Go

NOV DEC JAN
 15
 2006 2007 2008 Help

t **the Trades**

Home · Reviews · Interviews · Contests · Forums

SEARCH ARTICLES

DVD Review: Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End

by [Doug DeBolt](#)
Published: December 5, 2007

Print this article
 E-mail this article
 More articles by this author

Having seen the first two installments in the "Pirates of the Caribbean" franchise, I felt compelled to watch the final chapter -- "Pirates of the Caribbean 3: At World's End." Frankly, I was a bit skeptical, but hopeful that I'd be pleasantly surprised. After thoroughly enjoying the first film, I was a bit disappointed with "Dead Man's Chest," which relied more on gimmicks and special effects and less on the clever storylines and strong performances which were hallmarks of the original movie.

- Rating:** [PG-13](#)
Country: United States
Release Date: December 4, 2007
Distributor: Buena Vista
Director:
 • Gore Verbinski
Cast:
 • Johnny Depp
 • Orlando Bloom
 • Keira Knightley
 • Geoffrey Rush
 • Jack Davenport
 • Bill Nighy
 • Jonathan Pryce
 • Chow Yun-Fat
 • Keith Richards
Related Sites:
 • [IMDb: Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End](#)

Sadly, my skepticism was well-warranted. "At World's End" was sometimes pleasant but never really a surprise. Mostly, it was a confusing mish-mash of as many elements as the director could jam into almost three hours of film. What's missing is a cohesive story to pull all of those elements together, which will likely leave most viewers -- even those who have seen the first two movies -- scratching their heads.

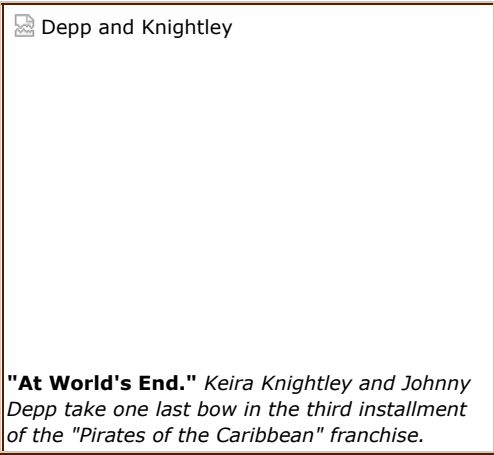
To be honest, it appears as though the Bruckheimer empire took a look at what audiences enjoyed about the first two movies and decided to multiply those elements by 1,000. The result is more characters than you can shake a stick at, and close to 2 1/2 hours of [Johnny Depp](#) hamming up his Captain Jack shtick to the hilt. (Depp doesn't even appear on-screen for the first half-hour of the movie.)

New to the trilogy are [Keith Richards](#) (in a bit part as Jack's daddy) and [Chow Yun-Fat](#) (as an enemy Chinese pirate). Still here are Will Turner ([Orlando Bloom](#)), who seems to get blander with each incarnation of POTC, and Elizabeth Swann ([Keira Knightley](#)), who is as beautiful as ever, even when she dresses like a man. Also back is Captain Barbossa ([Geoffrey Rush](#)), who somehow reappeared in the final minute of "Dead Man's Chest" (despite dying in POTC).

Grade: C+



I would try and describe the basic plot to you, but frankly, I don't think the Internet has enough space (and I don't have enough time) to accomplish that feat. The real plot was how much money [Jerry Bruckheimer](#) and Disney were able to rake in through these three films. At last count, the franchise had pulled in more than \$2.6 billion worldwide, not counting DVD rentals and sales, not to mention the associated merchandise. (How many Captain Jacks and Davy Joneses have you seen the past few Halloweens?)



Having said all this, there is some entertainment value to "At World's End." The special effects are stunning, and Johnny Depp is still a hoot as Captain Jack (though I'm fairly happy that we've reached the end of this character's reign). Fans of the franchise will undoubtedly (and understandably) clamor for the DVD.

However, for a three-hour investment, I think viewers deserve a better storyline and tighter direction. The \$34.99 suggested selling price (for the two-disc collector's set) is a sizable chunk, given how few times most viewers will

INTERNET ARCHIVE
Wayback Machine

[2 captures](#)

15 Dec 07 - 20 Dec 07

NOV **DEC** JAN [Close](#)

2006 **2007** 2008 [Help](#)



For those who ante up for the two-disc set, you'll get a number of bonus features, including bloopers, deleted scenes, character featurettes on Keith Richards and Chow Yun-Fat and five different features about various aspects of the filmmaking process.

Copyright © 1997-2007 Burlee LLC. All rights reserved.

[Reprints](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [RSS Feed](#)