



Cooking With Stella

Director(s): Dilip Mehta

Country: Canada

Starring: Don McKellar, Seema Biswas

Program: GP

Rating: NNN

Review

BY SGC

When chef Michael (McKellar) moves to New Delhi to play househusband to wife Maya (Lisa Ray), a Canadian diplomat, he's a bit resentful until he realizes he can learn some culinary tricks from house cook Stella (Biswas).

Thing is, Stella has other tricks – she's been making a ton of dough scamming the diplomats living in the house for decades, and the new arrivals are no exception.

The portrait of the cunning, grasping Indian may rankle those tired of the image (for example, it colours just about everything written by Booker winner Aravind Adiga), but the film is beautifully shot by the reliable Giles Nuttgens (*Water*), Biswas conveys a range of complex emotions, and McKellar shows some charm for a change.

Bonus: smart, subtle commentary on how Canadians living in India relate to the locals.

Show times:

Wednesday September 16, 2009, 6:30 PM at ROY THOMSON HALL

Friday September 18, 2009, 11:15 AM at ROY THOMSON HALL