

THE NEW YORKER

“United 93”

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Issue of 2006-05-01

Posted 2006-04-24

As an ensemble, the players are stolid, but in a good way—they exhibit a combination of incomprehension and intelligence, befuddlement and alertness, that feels right. They live within the moment without overdefining it...

This is true existential filmmaking: there is only the next instant, and the one after that, and what are you going to do? A few people made extraordinary use of those tormented minutes, and “United 93” fully honors what was original and spontaneous and brave in their refusal to go quietly.