

# Entertaining Ideas

## Gosford Park: A Whodunit With A Twist

(NAPSA)—Robert Altman's film *Gosford Park* was widely hailed as one of his best works when it premiered in 2001. The film won an Oscar for best original screenplay for Julian Fellowes and garnered six other Oscar nominations. The cast includes such acting greats as Maggie Smith, Michael Gambon, Alan Bates, Eileen Atkins and Helen Mirren.

The film blends a whodunit mystery with an *Upstairs, Downstairs* comedy of manners. But *Gosford Park* is not a classic whodunit. It is set in a stately English manor in 1932. A group of aristocrats has gathered for a weekend of hunting. The film is told through the eyes of the household servants and the servants of the visiting guests, who have a social hierarchy and rituals among themselves that rival those of the aristocrats they serve. When the murder is committed, it is the servants who know everyone's motives. The twist on the whodunit is that no one cares who did it. *Gosford Park* is about the characters, not about solving the murder.

The DVD includes a commentary by director Robert Altman, a five-time nominee for an Oscar for Best Director, with Oscar-nominated production designer Stephen Altman and producer David Levy. Screenwriter Julian Fellowes pro-



***Gosford Park* puts a new spin on the classic whodunit genre.**

vides another commentary. There are also three featurettes: "The Making of *Gosford Park*," "Authenticity of *Gosford Park*" and "Cast and Filmmakers Q & A Session."

In addition, the DVD contains scenes that were deleted from the movie and a commentary on those deleted scenes with Robert Altman, Stephen Altman and David Levy.

Lastly, there are filmographies of the extensive cast and crew.

*Gosford Park* will be available on both DVD and videotape. The DVD is priced to own at \$19.95.