

## Sunshine on Leith – Review

Directed by Dexter Fletcher and featuring the songs of **acclaimed** Scottish folk-pop act The Proclaimers (**whose** second album's title track **gives** the film its name, and whose **biggest** hit 'I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles)' has been **embraced** by popular culture), *Sunshine on Leith* is a fun, extravagant - yet, occasionally, **subtle** - musical, **replete** with all the drama and emotion that the genre **necessitates**.

The story **follows** lifelong best **friends** Davy and Ally, played by George MacKay and Kevin Guthrie respectively, as they **return** from a **tour of duty** in Afghanistan to their homes and families in Edinburgh. Ally's **girlfriend** Liz, Davy's sister (Freya Mavor), is a nurse; she introduces Davy to her English friend, Yvonne (Antonia Thomas) at a pub on their first night back, and the two **begin** a romantic relationship, as both Davy and Ally adjust to their return. Meanwhile, Davy's father Robert 'Rab' Henshaw (Peter Mullan) discovers that he has a daughter he has never met, much to the shock of his **wife** Jean (Jane Horrocks).



Thus, a **web** of stories is **spun**, upon which the cast do The Proclaimers proud with some sensitive and engaging translations of their songs. Amid all the drama - the **fights** and reconciliations, proposals and hospitalisations - is a warm, beating heart: given that the film is so **often** described as Scotland's (and The Proclaimers') very own *Mamma Mia*, that should come as no

real surprise.