

Matt Damon turns star performance as The Informant*win FACT giveaways

by Pierce King. Published Mon 16 Nov 2009 17:35, Last updated: 2009-11-16

To celebrate the release of Steven Soderbergh's new film THE INFORMANT! our friends at FACT have goodies slicker than Matt Damon's 'tache including t-shirts and paper shredders.

Director: Steven Soderbergh
 Starring: Matt Damon, Scott Bakula, Joel McHale, Melanie Lynskey

The story starts in late 1992, as fast-rising agri-chemical executive Mark Whitacre (Damon) admits to FBI agent Brian Shephard (Bakula, Quantum Leap) that his company, Archer Daniels Midland, is actively colluding with its competitors to fix the worldwide price of vital food additive Lysine.

Encouraged by his wife and at Shephard's insistence, Whitacre goes under cover to build a case against his Illinois-based employers.

For the following two years this involves wearing a wire and secretly recording meetings and transactions he and his colleagues undertake around the globe, often with little or no support from the FBI.

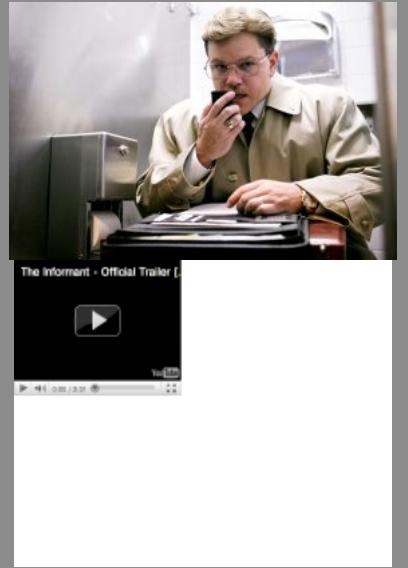
Whitacre clearly relishes his role as a double agent and seems to have something of a split personality, with a pronounced need for public recognition and approval. But the pressure soon affects him physically and mentally.

When the FBI announces that ADM are to be charged with price fixing, the company astonishes the media with claims that the government's prize mole had himself scammed some \$9million from his employer.

Based on the best selling book of the same name by top investigative journalist Kurt Eichenwald, THE INFORMANT! brilliantly chronicles Whitacre's Walter Mitty-ish behaviour, his slide into mental illness and financial duplicity, and the late attempts by FBI agents to obtain a pardon for the man later described as "a national hero" by the supervisor of the case against ADM.

Watch the film at FACT, Wood St, Liverpool.

To win The Informant! goodies send your name and address to newsdesk@clickliverpool.com along with the best sneaky work place story you can devise.



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