

THE INSATIABLE MOON

★★★★☆

Rated M; 90 minutes. Out now.

This movie controversially stresses the blurry boundary between us (the sane) and them (the insane), with the subtitle: “Sometimes you have to let go and see where you end up.”

The film festival hit follows a floundering Auckland boarding house run by the loudmouth, loyal Bob (Greg Johnson) as the last resort of the likes of alcoholic Norm (Ian Mune) and the loveable Arthur, aka the Second Son of God (Rawiri Paratene).

The establishment’s future polarises Ponsonby-ites concerned about their children’s safety and plunging property prices. Will they accept these neighbours or banish them to the ’burbs?

Strong lead performances suspend disbelief, if not discomfort, about the connection between Arthur and community worker Margaret (Sara Wiseman).

Indeed, the film’s power lies in that reminder of the preconception that people like her don’t mix with people like them . . . not *really*.

Sarah Lang