

Joy

By David O. Russell



Joy is an intriguing but weirdly subdued and stylised film starring Jennifer Lawrence, an imperious beauty and stylish fashion plate. She mesmerises Russell's camera, and the director gives her some watchable but weirdly contentless non-speaking set pieces, like pop videos. *Joy* has divided opinion and I find myself agnostic.

The film unspools on a level tone of ironised dreaminess, like an extended pre-credit sequence or 120-minute voiceover montage. It is about the real-life inventor and single mother Joy Mangano, who got rich in the 1990s selling her own **revolutionary self-wringing mop** on the QVC home shopping channel – while battling with condescending male corporate types and various members of her massively dysfunctional extended family.

Watch it here