3D Or Not 3D

Last Easter prior to watching the first 3D movie I have seen since Freddy's Dead: The Final Nightmare (but of course it wasn't), I saw the trailer for part the first of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows. As the summer swept by, I kept seeing television and movie ads proclaiming the same. About a month ago whenever a promo came on the air, I noticed something missing... no mention of the 3D concept. Finally, this morning, I did a bit of research. As I had feared, the penultimate chapter in the cinematic adventures of the wizarding world would only be shown in two dimension. I look at it this way: if the movie is going to suffer from a lackluster 3D experience, sacrifice the gimmick for quality of the overall experience. I have been for the most part, quite pleased with the transfer of the tale from the printed page to the big screen and cannot wait until Saturday afternoon to see the newest extravaganza. However, the article I came across promised that the climax would indeed be shown with the added dimension on July 15, 2011 (a few short days after someones celebrates their birthdays)

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October 10th, 2010 by Castina

Harry Potter and his pals won't be using magic to combat evil in 3D after all.

On Friday, Warner Bros. Studios announced that the first part of the film in the <u>blockbuster</u>Harry Pottter film franchise will only be released to standard and IMAX theaters in 2D – not the eye-popping 3D technology as was originally planned.

Hollywood bosses say they simply don't have enough time to

convert the film to 3D before its Nov. 19 release date. Warner Bros. had hoped to be able to transform the film into 3D format, but trashed the idea after taking inventory of their timetable.

"We will not have a completed 3D version of the film within our release date window," read a <u>press release</u> issued by The WB last week. "Despite everyone's best efforts, we were unable to convert the film in its entirety and meet the highest standards of quality. We do not want to disappoint fans who have long-anticipated the conclusion of this extraordinary journey."

"This decision, which we completely support, underscores the fact that Warner Bros. has always put quality first," says director David Yates.

At least there's one bright spot: The studio says <u>Harry Potter</u> and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 will still be released in both 2D and 3D on July 15, 2011.

Interestingly, the announcement was made a month ago. I am surprised that it has not been better publicized. Perhaps in order to not detract viewers who would rather see the 3D even if it is done in less than spectacular fashion. Wonder if the PTB will continue to perfect it in time for a re-release next summer.