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Lemon Tree ★★★

Israeli director Eran Riklis manages to bring a complex, intractable political situation down to human level with this sweet, insightful tale of a Palestinian woman (Hiam Abbass) who sets out to save her family's ancient lemon grove when it is deemed a security threat. Abbass, who was so wonderful as Richard Jenkins' love interest in *The Visitor*, gives a touching performance as the stoic widow Salma Zidane, who challenges the might of the Israeli military forces. But this gentle examination of the impact of the Arab-Israeli conflict on ordinary lives does evolve and deepen to push *Lemon Tree* into must-see territory. At the Somerville Auditorium, at 8.30pm, from Monday. Rated G. (Mark Naglazas)