

My Films Of The Year

Film in 2020 was hit hard by COVID, just like everything else I suppose. From studios having to put back their release dates (by years in some cases) to whole projects being put to a stop over COVID safety. However, Hollywood always seems to find a way, and we got some good ones this year for sure! Now the nominations for the 93rd Oscar's ceremony are out, I think it's time to give MY top 5 best contender nominations. Academy who?

Judas and the Black Messiah - Warner Bros. Pictures

Can I just say, the academy picked well on this one. Shaka King's biopic, set around the events which lead to political activist Fred Hampton's assassination in 1969, is incredible. Nominated for multiple academy awards, including best picture and two best supporting actor nominations, the film tells an important story of the racial tensions in late 60s America; and the internal conflict faced by William O'Neal (LaKeith Stanfield) as he operates as an FBI informant while undercover as a member of the Illinois Black Panther Party. It had to be on the list - and honestly I wouldn't be surprised if it turns out to be a winner.



Warner Bros.

TENET - Warner Bros. Pictures



Warner Bros.

Now, I know a lot of people said Tenet didn't "live up to the hype" but I'm going to disagree. John David Washington and Robert Pattinson isn't the partnership we deserved, but it was the one we needed to help get us through lockdown. I really hope I see them partner up again because the onscreen chemistry between the two actors made 'Tenet'. Christopher Nolan's eleventh feature film, a modern spy thriller with a time twist, and a focus on covert operations put in place to prevent the end of the world, easily goes in my top 5. It's a Nolan film so "visually stunning" goes without saying, and with the mind bending concepts put forward it's probably just complex enough to be Nolan's most out there film. It will not let your mind rest.

His House - Netflix

Scary is an understatement, brilliant is a fact. Remi Weekes' debut feature was very impressive. After escaping a war-torn homeland of South Sudan, an immigrant couple face troubles from a malevolent ghost and racial tensions in their new home. This is one which caught me off guard because I honestly didn't expect it to be as good as it was, and it was a pleasant surprise. Even though I couldn't sleep after...



Netflix

watching this, it's a film with a strong plot and great performances from leads Wunmi Mosaka and Sope Dirisu - I guarantee if you're a horror fan you love it. Hell, if you like good films at all you'll love it.

The Devil All the Time - Netflix

I could honestly talk about this film for a lot longer than I'm going to, it might be my favourite of the year. Another Bobby P entry, alongside a lead performance from Marvel mega star Tom Holland, that has blessed all the movie lovers out there.



Netflix

If you thought Tom Holland was gonna stay playing nice guys, 'The Devil All the Time' has proved you wrong. This film was dark! In fact, it had a strange ability to get even darker at every point you thought it definitely couldn't. Antonio Campos' graphic depiction of police corruption, abuse scandals and MURDER in southern Ohio and West Virginia - make it not for the faint hearted (or stomachs) so maybe watch this with the lights on? Scratching my head as to why I didn't see it on the Academy Awards nomination sheet.

"Soul" - Disney

It's an animated film sure, but this doesn't need a separate category it can hang with the rest on this list. There's a reason Disney makes the big bucks, they don't miss. I'm not one for kids films, so we'll call this a motion picture aimed at a younger audience, which I just happened to enjoy...a lot. Seriously though, wow! It's rude of me to have called this a kids film because it really is so much more. Typical of Disney projects, 'Soul' takes its audience on an emotional journey, and teaches lessons that a lot of adults could do with learning themselves. As it just won the Golden Globe for best animated motion picture it's safe to say this is something special. But all the same I'm letting everyone know, in case you missed the news.



Disney

Now, I know I said only five but I have to give a few honourable mentions. They are as follows:

- "One Night in Miami" (Dir: Regina King, Starring: Eli Goree, Aldis Hodge, Lesley Odom Jr and Kingsley Ben-Adir)
- "Nomadland" (Dir: Chloé Zhao, Starring: Frances McDormand and David Strathairn)
- "The King of Staten Island" (Dir: Judd Apatow, Starring: Pete Davidson, Marisa Tomei and Bill Burr)
- "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" (Dir: George C. Wolfe, Starring: Chadwick Boseman and Viola Davis)
- "Pieces of a Woman" (Dir: Kornél Mundruczó, Starring: Shia LaBeouf and Vanessa Kirby)

So there you have it. My top films of 2020. If you haven't seen them yet make sure you do ASAP, spoilers are always lurking!