



NEWS RELEASE

AFI AWARDS 2003 PROVIDES JURY RATIONALES FOR OFFICIAL MOVIE AND TV SELECTIONS

FOURTH ANNUAL AFI ALMANAC DOCUMENTS MOMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

AFI AWARDS 2003 SELECTED BY DISTINGUISHED JURY MEMBERS

LOS ANGELES, December 15, 2003—The American Film Institute (AFI) today presented the jury rationales for each of the official selections of **AFI AWARDS 2003** announced yesterday (Sunday, December 14, 2003) and significant moments in the world of the moving image which serve as part of AFI's almanac which documents the year's most outstanding achievements in film and television.

AFI AWARDS 2003 is the only form of national recognition that honors the film and television creative ensemble as a whole—those people in front of and behind the camera—acknowledging the collaborative nature of film and television.

The selections were made through AFI's unique 13-person jury process in which scholars, artists, critics and AFI trustees discuss, debate and determine the most outstanding achievements of the year and provide a rationale for each selection. Two AFI Juries—one for motion pictures and one for television—convened in Los Angeles, California, for two days of deliberation. The jurors have remained confidential until today. (Complete list is below.)

"**AFI Awards** serve as the nation's almanac to document the year in film and television. We are grateful to our distinguished jurors who have recorded for history the rationales for the selected outstanding achievements and moments of 2003. We salute the collaborative team from each of these films and television programs," commented Jean Picker Firstenberg, AFI Director and CEO.

AFI will honor the creative ensembles for each of the honorees at a luncheon, sponsored by **Ellen Tracy** on January 22, 2004, at the Four Seasons Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

The honorees are listed below in alphabetical order:

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AFI MOVIES OF THE YEAR—OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

AMERICAN SPLENDOR

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST

Paul Giamatti, Hope Davis, Judah Friedlander, James Urbaniak, Earl Billings, James McCaffrey, Maggie Moore, Vivienne Benesch

DIRECTOR

Robert Pulcini, Shari Springer Berman

PRODUCER

Ted Hope

SCREENWRITER

Robert Pulcini, Shari Springer Berman

COMPOSER

John Kuramoto

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Terry Stacey

EDITOR

Robert Pulcini

PRODUCTION DESIGN

Therese DePrez

DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST

Gary Leib

AMERICAN SPLENDOR is a celebration of the painful dance between life and art. This wry and original comedy of depression tells its story through fiction, documentary, animation and archival footage as if it were turning the pages of a comic book. Harvey Pekar and Paul Giamatti, in a brilliantly bruised performance as the fictional Harvey Pekar, capture the theme of the film best when they say, "Ordinary life is pretty complex stuff."

FINDING NEMO

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST

Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres, Alexander Gould, Willem Dafoe, Geoffrey Rush

DIRECTOR

Andrew Stanton

PRODUCER

Graham Walters

SCREENWRITER

Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson and David Reynolds

COMPOSER

Thomas Newman

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Ralph Eggleston

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Sharon Calahan, Jeremy Lasky

EDITOR

David Ian

FINDING NEMO swam its way into America's heart by combining a razor sharp script that harkens back to the comedy of Preston Sturges and a stunning animated world that entrances with each shift in the light. Albert Brooks and Ellen DeGeneres bring a funny, but always touching human element to the film that will make it an animation classic for generations to come.

Continued

THE HUMAN STAIN

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST

Anthony Hopkins, Nicole Kidman, Gary Sinise, Ed Harris,
Wentworth Miller

DIRECTOR

Robert Benton

PRODUCER

Tom Rosenberg, Gary Lucchesi, Scott Steindorff

SCREENWRITER

Nicholas Meyer

COMPOSER

Rachel Portman

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Jean-Yves Escoffier

EDITOR

Christopher Tellefsen

PRODUCTION DESIGN

David Gropman

DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST

James McQuaide

THE HUMAN STAIN is a moving exploration of three American obsessions —sex, race and class. The bold casting of Anthony Hopkins and Nicole Kidman addresses the fundamental issue of the film —the silent pain of passing for something you're not. Their brilliant performances light up the screen and bring life to this skillful adaptation of Philip Roth's novel.

IN AMERICA

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST

Samantha Morton, Paddy Considine, Djimon Hounsou,
Sarah Bolger, Emma Bolger

DIRECTOR

Jim Sheridan

PRODUCER

Jim Sheridan & Arthur Lappin

SCREENWRITER

Jim Sheridan, Naomi Sheridan, Kirsten Sheridan

COMPOSER

Gavin Friday & Maurice Seezer

CINEMATOGRAPHER

Declan Quinn

EDITOR

Naomi Geraghty

PRODUCTION DESIGN

Mark Geraghty

IN AMERICA is a spellbinding fable that captures the modern day immigrant experience and retells it through the eyes of a child. Jim Sheridan's heartfelt tale struggles between the thrill of a new life and the longing to escape the ghosts that follow us there. Real-life sisters Sarah and Emma Bolger bring a sense of wonder and excitement to a film that overflows with joy for the adventure of tomorrow.

Continued

THE LAST SAMURAI

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Tom Cruise, Timothy Spall, Ken Watanabe, Billy Connolly, Tony Goldwyn, Hiroyuki Sanada
DIRECTOR	Ed Zwick
PRODUCER	Marshall Herskovitz, Ed Zwick, Tom Cruise, Paula Wagner, Scott Kroopf, Tom Engelman
SCREENWRITER	John Logan, Ed Zwick & Marshall Herskovitz
COMPOSER	Hans Zimmer
CINEMATOGRAPHER	John Toll
EDITOR	Steve Rosenblum, Victor du Bois
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Lilly Kilvert
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Jeffrey A. Okun

THE LAST SAMURAI presents a timeless story of honor in the cinematic tradition of Akira Kurosawa. This beautifully crafted star vehicle serves one of America's modern screen icons, and Tom Cruise not only rises to the challenge, but carries the film into the history books with great dignity. The recreation of 19th century Japan is a feast for the eyes, and Ed Zwick's masterful direction not only presents spectacular battle scenes, but never loses sight of what the individual warriors stood for.

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen, Liv Tyler, Viggo Mortensen, Sean Astin, Cate Blanchett, John Rhys-Davies, Bernard Hill, Billy Boyd, Dominic Monaghan, Orlando Bloom, Hugo Weaving, Miranda Otto, David Wenham, Karl Urban, John Noble, Andy Serkis, Ian Holm, Sean Bean, Lawrence Makoare, Paul Norell, Marton Csokas
DIRECTOR	Peter Jackson
PRODUCER	Barrie M. Osborne, Peter Jackson, Fran Walsh
SCREENWRITER	Fran Walsh, Philippa Boyens, Peter Jackson
COMPOSER	Howard Shore
CINEMATOGRAPHER	Andrew Lesnie
EDITOR	Jamie Selkirk
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Grant Major
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Joe Letterie, Jim Rygiel

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE RETURN OF THE KING punctuates the greatest trilogy in American film with an exclamation point. Peter Jackson proves himself to be the true magician of this masterpiece, for only a wizard could summon all the forces of American film three times and utilize them to such astounding success. Against all odds, Jackson met the challenge of visualizing J.R.R. Tolkien's beloved classics for a demanding, global audience.

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LOST IN TRANSLATION

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Bill Murray, Scarlett Johansson
DIRECTOR	Sofia Coppola
PRODUCER	Ross Katz, Sofia Coppola
SCREENWRITER	Sofia Coppola
COMPOSER	Kevin Shields
CINEMATOGRAPHER	Lance Acord
EDITOR	Sarah Flack
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Anne Ross, K.K. Barrett

LOST IN TRANSLATION is only the second feature film by Sofia Coppola, yet it presents a unique voice in American film. Bill Murray and Scarlett Johansson bring great humor and credibility to characters adrift inside the neon and steel of today's Tokyo. The film creates and sustains a bold, but delicate mood where they share days of isolation and celebrity and marriage and loneliness —two foreigners who need each other in an alien landscape.

MASTER AND COMMANDER: THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Russell Crowe, Paul Bettany
DIRECTOR	Peter Weir
PRODUCER	Peter Weir, Samuel Goldwyn Jr. and Duncan Henderson
SCREENWRITER	Peter Weir & John Collee
COMPOSER	Iva Davies, Christopher Gordon and Richard Tognetti
CINEMATOGRAPHER	Russell Boyd
EDITOR	Lee Smith
PRODUCTION DESIGN	William Sandell
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Stefen Fangmeier, Nathan McGuinness, Robert Stromberg, Daniel Sudick

MASTER AND COMMANDER: THE FAR SIDE OF THE WORLD transports its audience to a 19th century ship and shows what it would be like to live among its crew. The film unfolds in the tradition of sea-going movie classics, but with a modern attention to detail and camerawork that fully enlists the viewer in the journey. Russell Crowe proves once again that he is the leading man for human tales in epic form.

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MONSTER

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Charlize Theron, Christine Ricci, Bruce Dern
DIRECTOR	Patty Jenkins
PRODUCER	Charlize Theron, Mark Damon, Clark Peterson, Donald Kushner, Brad Wyman
SCREENWRITER	Patty Jenkins
COMPOSER	BT
CINEMATOGRAPHER	Steve Bernstein
EDITOR	Jane Kurson
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Edward T. McAvoy

MONSTER tells the gruesome story of serial killer Aileen Wuornos and manages to find a human being amidst the horror. Writer and director Patty Jenkins brings light to this dark tale of a woman whose tragic story is never condoned but deftly brought to life in all its complexity. Charlize Theron gives a breathtaking performance that ranks among the best of the year.

MYSTIC RIVER

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRINCIPAL CAST	Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, Kevin Bacon, Laurence Fishburne, Marcia Gay Harden, Laura Linney
DIRECTOR	Clint Eastwood
PRODUCER	Clint Eastwood, Robert Lorenz, Judie G. Hoyt
SCREENWRITER	Brian Helgeland
COMPOSER	Clint Eastwood
CINEMATOGRAPHER	Tom Stern
EDITOR	Joel Cox
PRODUCTION DESIGN	Henry Bumstead

MYSTIC RIVER is a masterful portrait of fate and friendship across generations. Director Clint Eastwood draws brilliant performances from an outstanding ensemble cast in which Sean Penn's searing portrayal of a father in pain calls to mind a young Marlon Brando. The use of locations in working class Boston presents an authentic background for a story of people whose lives are woven together in a world that they cannot escape.

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AFI TV PROGRAMS OF THE YEAR—OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

ALIAS

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR	J.J. Abrams
SHOWRUNNER	J.J. Abrams
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	J.J. Abrams, Ken Olin, John Eisendrath, Alex Kurtzman-Counter, Roberto Orci
PRODUCER	Sarah Caplan
PRINCIPAL CAST	Jennifer Garner, Ron Rifkin, Michael Vartan, Bradley Cooper, Merrin Dungey, Kevin Weisman, Victor Garber, David Anders
DIRECTOR	Jack Bender
WRITER	J.J. Abrams
EDITOR	Maryann Brandon
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Michael Bonvillain
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Scott Chambliss
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Kevin Blank
COMPOSER	Michael Giacchino

ALIAS is a weekly thrill ride that races through mind-bending plot twists and drops viewers in a maze of identity and motive. There is a rare, emotional core to this spy saga, however, as family and friends find themselves loving and loyal, but never trusting. With production values worthy of a James Bond film, ALIAS also boasts one of the finest acting ensembles on television.

ANGELS IN AMERICA

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Cary Brokaw, Mike Nichols
CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Mike Haley
PRODUCER	Celia Costas
PRINCIPAL CAST	Al Pacino, Meryl Streep, Emma Thompson, Mary-Louise Parker, Jeffrey Wright, Justin Kirk, Ben Shenkman, Patrick Wilson, Brian Markison, Robin Weigert, James Cromwell
DIRECTOR	Mike Nichols
WRITER	Tony Kushner, based on his play
EDITOR	John Bloom, Antonia Van Drimmelen
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Stephen Goldblatt
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Stuart Wurtzel
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Richard Edlund
COMPOSER	Thomas Newman

ANGELS IN AMERICA was born a masterpiece of the theater and lives on as a masterpiece of television. The imaginations of Tony Kushner and Mike Nichols explode and embrace as their collaboration expands

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the boundaries of the art form. This heroic achievement carries a message for the ages that is delivered by some of the greatest actors of our day.

ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR	Mitchell Hurwitz
SHOWRUNNER	Mitchelle Hurwitz
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Brian Grazer, Ron Howard, David Nevins, Mitchell Murwitz
PRINCIPAL CAST	Jason Bateman, Portia de Rossi, Will Arnett, Michael Cera, Alia Shawkat, Tony Hale, David Cross, Jeffrey Tambor, Jessica Walter
DIRECTOR	Anthony Russo & Joe Russo
WRITER	Mitchel Hurwitz
EDITOR	Lee Haxall
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	James Hawkinson
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Dennis Dugally
COMPOSER	David Schwartz

ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT is a quirky comic voice in the grand tradition of MISTER ED and GREEN ACRES. Entertaining and distinctive in its documentary style, this eccentric look at the extremes of American family life delivers the all-too-rare belly laugh and instills new hope for growth and maturity in today's stunted comedy environment.

EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR	Philip Rosenthal
SHOWRUNNER	Philip Rosenthal
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Philip Rosenthal, Ray Romano, Stu Smiley, Rory Rosegarten, Lew Schneider, Tucker Cawley, Steve Skrovan, Jeremy Stevens
CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Tom Caltabiano, Aaron Shure, Lisa Helfrich Jackson
PRODUCER	Mike Royce, Ken Ornstein
CONSULTING PRODUCER	Leslie Caveny
CO-PRODUCER	Holli Gailen
PRINCIPAL CAST	Ray Romano, Patricia Heaton, Brad Garrett, Peter Boyle, Doris Roberts, Madelyn Sweetin
DIRECTOR	Jerry Zaks
WRITER	Philip Rosenthal
EDITOR	Pat Barnett
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Mike Berlin
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Sharon Busse
COMPOSER	Rick Marotta and Terry Trotter

EVERYBODY LOVES RAYMOND continues to tilt America's laugh meter as it enters its eighth season. The show's writers never fail to find timeless comedy in the simplest details of everyday life. Each

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member of this peerless comic cast makes the effort appear effortless, and together, they have become part of the nation's extended family.

JOAN OF ARCADIA

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR	Barbara Hall
SHOWRUNNER	Barbara Hall, James Hayman
CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Peter Schindler, Randy Anderson
PRODUCER	Tom Garrigus
CONSULTING PRODUCER	Hart Hanson
PRINCIPAL CAST	Joe Mantegna, Mary Steenburgen, Amber Tamblyn, Jason Ritter, Michael Welch
DIRECTOR	Steve Gomer
WRITER	Barbara Hall, Hart Hanson, Randy Anderson, Tom Garrigus, Joy Gregory
EDITOR	Tracy Lee Curtis, Nina Gilberti, Lauren Schaffer
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Charlie Lieberman
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Bill Eigenbrodt
DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST	Dave Lezynski
COMPOSER	Jonathan Grossman

JOAN OF ARCADIA is proof of divine intervention. Just when it appeared that original family dramas were dead, the airwaves brought America this fresh and funny story of a girl who talks to God. Spiritual without being self-righteous, Joan's struggle to live with the inconvenience of a moral life raises issues the entire family can watch, discuss and enjoy.

NIP/TUCK

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR	Ryan Murphy
EXECUTIVE PRODUCER	Ryan Murphy, Greer Shephard & Michael M. Robin
SUPERVISING PRODUCER	Lyn Greene & Richard Levine
PRODUCER	Patrick McKee, Sean Jablonski
CO-PRODUCER	Jennifer Salt, Michael Weiss
ASSOCIATE PRODUCER	Bonnie Weis
PRINCIPAL CAST	Dylan Walsh, Julian McMahon, John Hensley, Valerie Cruz and Joely Richardson
DIRECTOR	Michael M. Robin
WRITER	Dell Chandler & Ryan Murphy
EDITOR	Story by: Dell Chandler
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY	Byron Smith
PRODUCTION DESIGNER	Christopher Baffa
COMPOSER	Ed McAvoy
	James S. Levine

NIP/TUCK takes a glamorous look at the ugly reality of plastic surgery. The series is propelled by an addictive storytelling style that graphically cuts under the skin of America's obsession with appearance and, ultimately, will change the way audiences look into the mirror.

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PLAYMAKERS

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR/ SHOWRUNNER
PRODUCER

John Eisendrath
John Eisendrath, Orly Adelson, Michael Angeli, Charles
Holland, Jamie Paul Rock

PRINCIPAL CAST

Tony Denison, Omar Gooding, Russell Hornsby, Jason Matthew
Smith, Marcello Thedford, Christopher Wiehl

DIRECTOR

T.J. Scott

WRITER

John Eisendrath

EDITOR

Michele Conroy

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

John Berrie

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Rocco Matteo

COMPOSER

Lou Natale

PLAYMAKERS takes viewers into the locker room for an unsparing look at the lives of professional football players, coaches, fans and fanatics. This courageous programming for an evolving sports network not only shatters assumptions about the world of football, but it also humanizes these modern day gladiators by dramatizing the pressures they endure both professionally and personally.

SOLDIER'S GIRL

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

PRODUCER

Linda Gottlieb, Doro Bachrach

CO-PRODUCER

Ron Nyswaner

PRINCIPAL CAST

Troy Garity, Lee Pace, Andre Braugher, Shawn Hatosy, Philip
Eddolls

DIRECTOR

Frank Pierson

WRITER

Ron Nyswaner

EDITOR

Katina Zinner

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Paul Sarossy

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Lindsey Hermer-Bell

COMPOSER

Jan A.P. Kaczmarek

SOLDIER'S GIRL carries the flag for thoughtful television movies that address extraordinarily complex and emotional matters through the strength of character. Inspired by the true story of a soldier who falls in love with a transgendered woman, the film skillfully finds a voice for two people who grapple with emotions they can't explain, all without exploiting the haunting tragedy of their destiny.

Continued

24

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR

Joel Surnow and Robert Cochran

SHOWRUNNER

Joel Surnow

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Joel Surnow, Robert Cochran, Howard Gordon, Brian Grazer

CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Evan Katz

SUPERVISING PRODUCER

Michael Loceff

CONSULTING PRODUCER

Stephen Kronish

PRODUCER

Kiefer Sutherland, Tim Iacofano, Jon Cassar

PRINCIPAL CAST

Kiefer Sutherland, Dennis Haysbert, Carlos Bernard, Elisha Cuthbert, Reiko Aylesworth, James Badge Dale, Penny Johnson

Jerald, Xander Berkeley, Sarah Wynter

DIRECTOR

Jon Cassar (series director), Ian Toynton

WRITER

Joel Surnow, Robert Cochran, Howard Gordon, Evan Katz,

Michael Loceff, Stephen Kronish, Duppy Demetrius

EDITOR

David Latham, Scott Powell, Chris Willingham

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Rodney Charters

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Joesph Hodges

COMPOSER

Sean Callery

24 is a Molotov cocktail of conflict, tension and surprise. Hour by hour, this groundbreaking exercise in sustained suspense never ceases to amaze. Most importantly, what may appear to be a sheer guilty pleasure is also a rumination on how far people will go for their country and demands viewers to ask this question of themselves.

THE WIRE

CREATIVE ENSEMBLE:

CREATOR/SHOWRUNNER

David Simon

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Robert F. Colesberry, David Simon

CO-EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Nina Kostroff Noble

CO-PRODUCER

Karen L. Thorson

PRINCIPAL CAST

Dominic West, Chris Bauer, Paul Ben-Victor, John Doman, Idris

Elba, Wood Harris, Deirdre Lovejoy, Clarke Peters, Wendell

Pierce, Lance Reddick, Amy Ryan, Sonja Sohn

DIRECTOR

Ernest Dickerson

WRITER

George P. Pelecanos

Story by: David Simon

EDITOR

Thom Zimney

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Uta Briesewitz

PRODUCTION DESIGNER

Vince Peranio

DIGITAL EFFECTS ARTIST

Company 3NY

COMPOSER

Blake Leyh

Continued

THE WIRE portrays mundane police work with tragic grandeur and, in doing so, captures the seemingly intractable problem of drugs in American society in a daring and unique way. Complex and subtle, the series offers a look at police procedure more realistic than any show on television.

AFI MOMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

PIRACY ISSUE ACHIEVES CRITICAL MASS

The crucial moment has arrived for motion picture makers as the threat of piracy has begun to affect decision-making at every level of the process—production, distribution, exhibition and marketing.

How the industry will combat the global threat of illegal copying and swapping of movies is yet to be seen, but with the troubled music business as a model, film studios have made this issue a priority.

At stake is the future of the motion picture as we know it.

AMERICA'S EYE ON QUEER EYE

Bravo's QUEER EYE FOR THE STRAIGHT GUY captured the nation's fancy each week as five gay men known as the "The Fab Five" provided a make-over to a straight man in each of their respective expertise: fashion, food, interior design, grooming and culture.

QUEER EYE brought gay culture to the national fore by spoofing and celebrating stereotypes, and unlike other reality shows, it did so in a winning and genuine manner that developed a bond between the gay and straight men.

Its impact proved far-reaching, effectively changing the meaning of the word "queer" by bringing it into the vernacular in a positive light.

It also broke broadcast barriers as the show's popularity encouraged NBC, Bravo's parent company, to air the show for its more mainstream audience.

TWO TICKETS, PLEASE...TO A DOCUMENTARY

2003 marked the emergence of a new trend in exhibition in which people who go to the multiplex for entertainment have the opportunity to choose documentaries.

Continued

Old barriers between non-fiction and fiction films have fallen in part because of the narrative intensity and unique subject matters of such films as WINGED MIGRATION, SPELLBOUND and CAPTURING THE FRIEDMANS.

EMBEDDED REPORTERS IN IRAQ WAR

Television reporters who wish to cover the war in Iraq must now comply by rules provided by the United States Government.

This double edged sword provides the American public a real-time view of the war, but also threatens the purity of a news voice by requiring reporters to shape their view of the war as the government mandates they experience it.

AMERICAN FILM GIANTS PASS ON INTO THE FLICKERING LIGHT

In 2003, America said goodbye to several movie legends: Gregory Peck, Katharine Hepburn, Bob Hope, Elia Kazan, Art Carney, Stan Brackage, Donald O'Connor. The cumulative effect of these dimming stars is a forceful reminder that a generation has passed. It is AFI's mission to preserve and protect their film legacies, but the institute also looks to the future to see who in time, if anyone, will take their place.

REALITY OWNS THE WATERCOOLER

Reality programming continues to capture the fascination of viewers across America. From the rise and fall of JOE MILLIONAIRE to TRISTA AND RYAN'S WEDDING, viewers are attracted to the idea of unscripted television, even though the number of writers and story editors on "reality shows" continues to increase. Interestingly, this type of programming is among the least recorded by VCRs and TiVo, suggesting that an added value to the viewer is the ability to share the experience the next day with family and friends.

DIGITAL REVOLUTION CONTINUUM

The availability and relative affordability of the tools to make movies has more filmmakers doing so in their homes and away from Hollywood.

Continued

In 2003, this trend is personified by multi-hyphenate Robert Rodriguez, who created two mainstream films from the comfort of his personal studio in Texas. The success of both *ONCE UPON A TIME IN MEXICO* and *SPY KIDS 3-D* will provide more power to people who own their tools and hopefully open the door for other voices.

ERA OF TELEVISION PASSES WITH FRED ROGERS

Known to generations of people around the world as "Mr. Rogers," Fred McFeely Rogers passed away in 2003. Rogers' death is emblematic of the end of an era, one where children's television was a new tool for learning.

Mr. Rogers was a unique figure who had a one-on-one relationship with his audience, teaching children tolerance and understanding for people not like them. Rogers was also notable for the measured and mannered way he presented information to children.

Rogers served as star, writer, composer, puppeteer and producer of *MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD* since its initial broadcast in 1968, making it the longest-running program on public television. The show's library of nearly 900 episodes continues to be seen around the country.

WAR OF WORDS

Television provides a window on a world where an increased lack of civility in political discourse and commentary are threatening to undermine creative freedoms. People with opposing views no longer discuss and debate, but instead, destroy.

This is notable in news talk shows where commentators shout over each other to prove their point; in television programming, where a movie about former President Ronald Reagan found unfavor among a vocal group who demanded it not be aired on network television; and in the movie world, where Mel Gibson's film *THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST* is being damned by many groups who have not yet seen it.

Differences of opinion should be embraced in this nation and discussion should be encouraged to explore all sides of an issue, for only then will our nation truly be able to find its voice and, ultimately, its cultural legacy.

AFI AWARDS 2003 JURORS

AFI JURY FOR MOTION PICTURES

Leonard Maltin
Entertainment Tonight
Chair, AFI Jury for Motion Pictures

John Badham
Director

Jeanine Basinger
Wesleyan University
AFI Trustee Emeritus

Jay Boyar
Orlando Sentinel

Anne V. Coates
Editor

Kirk Honeycutt
The Hollywood Reporter

Glenn Kenny
Premiere Magazine

Curtis Marez
University of Southern California

Ted Perry
Middlebury College
AFI Trustee Emeritus

Tom Pollock
Producer
AFI Board of Trustees

Richard Schickel
Time Magazine
Producer/Writer/Director

Leonard Schrader
Writer/Director
AFI Conservatory

Vivian Sobchack
UCLA School of Theatre, Film & Television

AFI JURY FOR TELEVISION

Richard Frank
Integrated Entertainment Partners
AFI Board of Trustees
Chair, AFI Jury for Television

Irby Brown
University of Richmond

Mary Corey
University of California, Los Angeles

Chuck Fries
Producer
AFI Board of Trustees

Ted Harbert
Producer

Helaine Head
Director
University of Southern California

Brian Lowry
Variety

Horace Newcomb
University of Georgia
Director, George Foster Peabody Awards

Dorothea Petrie
Producer

Matt Roush
TV Guide

Penelope Spheeris
Director

Dean Valentine
Former President & CEO, UPN

Diane Werts
Newsday

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ABOUT AFI

AFI is the preeminent organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers at its world-renowned Conservatory, provides film preservation leadership and explores new digital technologies in moviemaking. AFI's New Media Ventures programs bring together the creative and digital communities, as the department seeks to develop a literacy program for the 21st century, helping young people learn to read and write screens of all sizes—cinema, television, computer and the Internet. With AFI ON SCREEN, the institute is the largest nonprofit exhibitor in the US, with programs at the AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival (AFI FEST); the AFI National Film Theater at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, DC; and the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center in Silver Spring, Maryland. A 49,000 square foot complex with three theatres—one historic, two new state-of-the-art stadium-style theatres—the AFI Silver exhibits film and video generally unavailable elsewhere in the region. AFI's annual almanac for the 21st century, **AFI AWARDS**, honors the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year. **AFI's 100 Years . . . 100 Movies, 100 Stars, 100 Laughs, 100 Thrills, 100 Passions and 100 Heroes & Villains** have ignited extraordinary public interest in classic American movies. During the past 31 years, AFI's Life Achievement Award has become the highest honor for a career in film. More information about AFI can be found by visiting its Web site, located at www.AFI.com.

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**AFI AWARDS 2003 Official Selection
Logo Available for Download at www.AFI.com:**

<http://www.AFI.com/awards03>

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