



THE PURITAN POST

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This Week on Home Video

Oscar Nominated Short Films 2019

There was controversy this Oscar season when The Academy (almost) decided to have four categories including Cinematography, Editing, and Live Action Short presented during commercials. Luckily AMPAS quickly reversed this horrendous decision and Live Action Short will be included with the others. If you want to see all of the Oscar nominated shorts, you can find them on iTunes as well as other onDemand platforms. Additionally they will be screened in select theaters around the country this weekend. While these shorts don't often get the credit they deserve, they often launch careers of many talented filmmakers such as Taika Waititi.

This Week on TV

The 91st Annual Academy Awards (Sunday, 8pm EST, 5pm PT)

When The Academy initially made the decision to exclude the awards from Cinematography, Editing, Makeup and Live Action Short, I was initially going to pass on The Oscars for the first time in my lifetime. And even though I know they only reversed said decision because of the overwhelmingly bad publicity, I will still probably tune in to The Oscars this year, as I always do. I will be rooting for *Black Panther* to take home the top prize. Because while I do think *BlacKkKlansman* is the best of the Best Picture nominees, I believe *Black Panther* stands a better chance of winning.

Director Spotlight: John Ford



Birth: 2/1/1894, Maine

Death: 8/31/1973

Notable Works: *The Quiet Man*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Stagecoach*, *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*, *How Green Was My Valley*, *The Informer*

Fun Fact: Holds the record for most Best Director Oscar wins (four).

R.I.P. John Ford (1894-1973)

FIVE Reasons The 2019 OSCARS Will be Unlike Any Other in History

Sunday's Academy Awards are shaping up to be perhaps the most curious year in Oscars' history. Here are ten reasons why that is the case.

No. 5: NO HOST (PROBABLY)

The last time the Oscars had no host was at the 1989 ceremony. Audiences were regaled with a musical performance by Rob Lowe singing and dancing with Snow White. Also an equally bizarre "Stars of Tomorrow" segment featuring Patrick Dempsey, Ricki Lake and other now-irrelevant people. There is however, a theory brewing on the internet that Whoopi Goldberg will be a surprise host as she has been absent from The View this week.

No. 4: FOREIGN FILM AS THE BEST PICTURE FAVORITE

The last time a foreign film was even nominated for the Best Picture Oscar was when *Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon* was nominated in 2001. While *Crouching Tiger* won four Oscars, it failed to take home the top prize. Alfonso Caurón's *Roma* could be the first Foreign Language Film to win Best Picture, but it has its own share of hurdles to leap in the process, particularly its being a Netflix release, which hinders it slightly. That said, *Roma* is currently the overwhelming favorite to win.

No. 3: THE FIRST NETFLIX BEST PICTURE?

Not only is *Roma* making history for potentially being the first Foreign Language Film to win Best Picture, but it is also making waves as the first Netflix title to be nominated for Best Picture. Additionally, *Roma* is the first Best Picture nominee to have no box office gross. While vast majority of cinemas won't screen Netflix titles because they don't honor traditional windows, *Roma* did screen in enough rented theaters to qualify for Oscars, but did not report any official box office numbers.

No. 2: FIRST SUPERHERO BEST PICTURE NOMINATION (AND WIN?)

For the first time in Oscar history a superhero movie has been nominated for Best Picture in Marvel's *Black Panther*. This was news to me, as I thought both *Erin Brokovich* and *Babe* both counted as superhero flicks. I couldn't be happier to see a main stream movie like *Black Panther* nab a Best Picture nomination. While it wasn't my favorite superhero flick of the year (*Avengers: Infinity War*), nor my favorite of the nominees (*BlacKkKlansman*), I would love to see *Black Panther* take Best Picture. Particularly for the incredibly talented Ryan Coogler, whose previous movies (*Fruitvale Station*, *Creed*) have been snubbed by The Academy.

No. 1: ALL THE GUILDS ARE SPLIT

This is a particularly strange year for The Oscars in that all of the guilds who award their own individual awards are all split, be it SAG, DGA, WGA, PGA etc. Generally, looking to the guild awards is a nice barometer for where The Oscars may go. With those guilds all awarding different films, the 2019 Oscars are shaping up to be the closest ever. The Academy is hoping this unpredictability draws in lost viewership.

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