

# Opening film in the 67th annual Cannes Film

*CANNES, France – The Grace Kelly melodrama “Grace of Monaco” kicked off the 67th annual Cannes Film Festival on Wednesday with classic French Riviera glamour,*

*behind-the-scenes controversy and emphatic boos from critics.*

BY Mengjie Li 110110125 class 2

As a movie lover, I like to focus on the major international film festivals. May each year, held

in Cannes, France Cannes International Film Festival is certainly a concern can not go. Cannes

International Film Festival was founded in 1939, is the world's most influential, top

International Film Festival, and the Venice International Film Festival, the Berlin International

Film Festival and International Film Festival called the three major European, the highest

award the “Palme d’Or Award. “This year is the sixty-seventh. At the Cannes Film Festival,

you can not only see a number of stars from around the world, and you can see a lot of good

films from around the world.

To speak for myself, I am most looking forward to is the festi

val's opening film. This year's

opening

film for the opening of the Grace Kelly movie musical "Princess of Monaco."

Surprising is that the film not only has the classic charm of the French Riviera, also attracted

controversy behind the scenes as well as from critics of hooting one.



The film, starring Nicole Kidman as Kelly during her marriage to Prince Rainier III of Monaco

(Tim Roth), gave Cannes some local Cote d'Azur color and star wattage for a flashy opening.

But it also started the 11-day festival on an unusually tumultuous note.

“Grace of Monaco” has for months been embroiled in a feud over the final edit with North

American distributor the Weinstein Co. It has also been criticized by the Monaco royal family

as inaccurate (The film, which chronicles Kelly’s retirement from Hollywood and adjustment

to life as a European princess, is labeled as a “fictional account inspired by real events.”)



But director Olivier Dahan ("La Vie en Rose") and Weinstein Co. cochairman Harvey

Weinstein swept their differences under the red carpet Wednesday.

After twice postponing its U.S. release, the Weinstein Co. will distribute Dahan's version

albeit for a lesser fee.

"There is only one version of the film," Dahan said, adding that at any changes would be

made mutually." There is no longer any dispute. We work well together."

Yet "Grace of Monaco" was met with some of the worst reviews for a Cannes opener

after screening for the press early Wednesday. The Hollywood Reporter called the film

"a stiff, stagey, thunderingly earnest affair which has generated far more drama off

screen than on."



Although the opening film at the Cannes Film Festival's "Princess of Monaco" received

a lot of criticism, But my favorite actress nicole kidman is in this movie, I also want to

see this movie. After all, the film's subject matter was quite interesting.

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# Fashion and Film – The Devil Wears Prada

*In New York, the simple and naive just-graduated in journalism Andrea Sachs is hired to work as the second assistant of the powerful and sophisticated Miranda Priestly, the ruthless and merciless executive of the Runway fashion magazine. Andrea dreams to become a journalist and faces the opportunity as a temporary professional challenge. The first assistant Emily advises Andrea about the behavior and preferences of their cruel boss, and the stylist Nigel helps Andrea to dress more adequately for the environment. Andrea changes her attitude and behavior, affecting her private life and the relationship with her boyfriend Nate, her family and friends. In the end, Andrea learns that life is made of choices.*

BY Mengjie Li      110110125      class 2

The Devil Wears Prada”this movie should be well known in fashion circles, it is also aggressively opened a new wave of fashion films. When you’re watching the film, you will find that the film is actually a very old-fashioned comedy department: A girl is named Andy who don’t know about fashion came into one of the world’s top fashion magazine. And then because she can’t stand here complex and sharp competition and leave. Even the ending, we can see that the film contains moral education which is indifferent to fame and wealth, Just put a fashion coat, but this coat was enough bright,

shining. The film's director and costume designs are famous fashion TV series "Sex and the City," the original cast, naturally have a more profound understanding of fashion, so they didn't put the film into the complation, people thought that sarcasm fashion superficial films. I think the director reflects on the fashion industry is very thorough and objective, not glorify nor vilify, just to show in the fashion industry to survive the objective living conditions of these people, and their actions are necessary in this industry or have to do so. So, in the movie premiere, when people thought that Anna Wintour would be angry yells, she openly, clad in PRADA clothing to the premiere, then in the newsroom big banquets, announced he will begin to write an autobiography.



The first half of the film, the more is the interpretation of fashion; latter part of the main heroine around the mentality change . I think this movie for carrying the contemporary clothing culture is not simply stay in the most popular for contemporary fashion show, but through the plot and characters of the language of the story, it had a profound interpretation. The audience at the same time indulge in gorgeous clothes for fashion also have a more profound and emotional understanding.



An important aspect of this episode is just entering the fashion magazine soon Andy casual attitude towards work annoyed Miranda, her acerbic language is not only a good lesson to Andy, but also let the audience for fashion and

people living rooms With a deeper understanding of the relationship. Fashion is live on picky. Don't put the picky as a fashion of original sin. Those designers, fashion magazine editors are very picky about detail, sometimes to the point of unbearable, but it is the professional requirements, their professional requirements they must do so. Fashion is a very delicate and sensitive art. It is inseparable from the excellence of detail, it have a popular saying: "Details determine success or failure," which is the survival of fashion rules.



After watching the film, I feel fashion is cruel, and it is forever young,. It is always reborn in a time-out, at this point, as the life, time will take away the innocent youth, But in countless setbacks, people will choose their own life, through life's glory days.

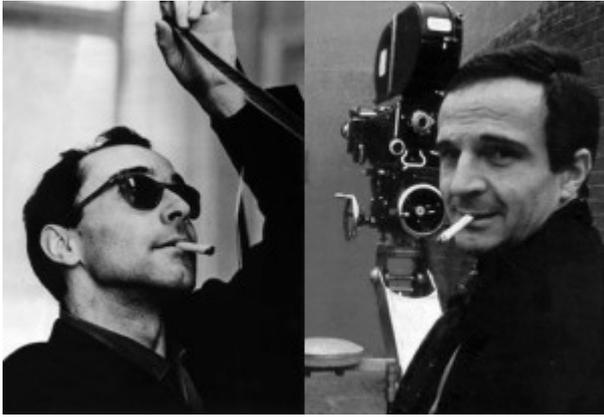
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## **A movie, a history**

By Mengdi Zhang 134302137 Class2

*Jean Luc Godard is a famous film director and film critics in France. He has many excellent works in his whole life. But HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA is called the portrait of his life. HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA by the eight film composition, are independent of each other and the concentration of high work.*

We all know that the movie's development has experienced an extremely long process, and this is not an article or a book can say clearly. But there is a famous director in France, he put the whole film history as the theme to took a large movie works. He is Jean-Luc Godard, and this movie is HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA.



The film full of politics and art innovation. At the beginning of HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA was two famous remarks. One sentence is "Don't change, because all things are in change" by a famous critic Brayson. Another sentence is "Regression is a difficult undertaking" by the poet Willy Gigli Lucius. Godard seems to be specially selected these sentences to make the best annotation for his legendary forward screen travel.

The film is divided into eight parts, are "1A, TOUTES LES HISTOIRE(S)", "1B, UNE HISTOIRE SEULE", "2A, SEUL LE CINEMA", "2B, FATALE BEAUTE", "3A, LA MONNAIE DE LABSOLU", "3B, UNE VAGUE NOUVELLE", "4A, LE CONTROLE DE LUNIVERS" and "4B, LES SIGNES PARMI NOUS". In 1997, they showed the 3A and the 4A in

Cannes International Film Festival, caused great repercussions.

In the "3A, LA MONNAIE DE LABSOLU", Godard was critical of the events of nineteenth Century. Godard took us to find the past on 1942. "Trip to Italy", "Rome: the undefended city", "road", "Charlotte" and so on, these are the most classic of the Italy film that period. And the "4A, LE CONTROLE DE LUNIVERS" is a work To pay tribute to the great director Hitchcock. Godard thinks: those aspiring people, those people who dream of controlling the world, like Peter the great, the Sith, Napoleon, Hitler, they are not successful, and the control of the world is Hitchcock, because he created the myth of the films. All of his films are profound memory remain in the mind of the audience. From July to August in 1999, "CANAL+" for all of Europe showed HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA in public, caused a strong reaction in the whole of Europe. This is called the biggest event in 90 European cultural community.



Until today, this film still plays a great influence. We can enjoy the many excellent films through this movie. Of course, this movie will also become a bright pearl in the movie history.

[Link:<http://www.ifanshu.com/book/2270/67167.html>]

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## **ELLE IS FASHION**

*ELLE, is a famous French fashion brand to fashion guide, is feminine, modern, positive, friendly, tide and full of life breathe.*

By junWu 120307129 class3

The early 1980 s, is the famous French ELLE fashion magazine was born more than 40 years later, named after ELLE clothing

brand was born, and then is given priority to with red, white and blue color, fabric with cotton as the core more.

SEPTEMBER 2012  
DEUTSCHE AUSGABE

ELLE THE WORLD'S BIGGEST-SELLING FASHION MAGAZINE

SEPTEMBER 2012  
BELGIUM € 6,00  
OSTERREICH € 6,50  
SCHWEIZ SFR 10,90

NEUE  
JEANS  
Lässig, rockig,  
chic: Die  
sitzen wirklich!

IHRE CREME  
KANN MEHR  
So holen Sie das  
Maximum  
aus Ihrer Pflege.  
(5 clevere Kniffe)

die 42 genialsten  
stil-tricks

Die müssen Sie einfach kennen. Unbedingt!

海报网  
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REGIEN € 7,90 NIEDERLAND € 7,90 ÖSTERREICH € 7,90 SCHWEDEN € 7,90 SCHWEIZ SFR 10,90  
DÄNEN € 7,90 KANADA € 7,90 KONTINENTALE € 7,90 SÜDWEST € 7,90 SÜDWEST € 7,90 SÜDWEST € 7,90

Due to the seller of magazine extends to men's and women's clothing, children's clothes, shoes, watches and decorative ornaments of the birth and development. The target audience is 18 to 25, full of youthful vitality and clingy tide of young women. ELLE shoes for the French fashion brand, the French

company assign personnel to be trend analysis, so the brand has been praised for clingy trend. Brand image: modern, vigorous, elegant, creative vitality and accessibility of the perfect combination: leading pop elements, and the unique seasonal trend, high quality, high price, variety of product selection, unlimited space for development, in order to satisfy the demands of fashionable woman is perfect.

All the articles in the magazine are about fashion.

<http://www.elleuk.com/>

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## **Toxic masculinity in Breaking Bad**

*the bad guys in movie always have the distinguished but complicated personalities or backgrounds where always turns out to cause all the contradiction in the episodes.*

By Xiaohan Wu 110307126 class 3



breaking bad

Today, people seem to get bored with classic hero protagonists, as there exists such a factory producing the same characters in an assembly line following the same routine. Surprisingly, bad guys often get the best lines and

got sculpted into various shapes to make them more vivid, it's easy to write different bad asses in multiple ways and attract the audiences to seek the their minds.

Then "Anti-hero" idea was introduced into many episodes naturally when needed. Just as people would get tired of seeing saintly Melanie Wilkes 100 more times than selfish Scarlett from <Gone With The Wind>. And a upright Edgar is always more vivid than his brother Edward in any version of <King Lear>. Our protagonist here, Mr Walter White, is a typical "Anti-hero" when we put him under the telescope observing the growth process of his evil deep inside.

In [breaking bad](#), what's worse could his situation be? A 50 year old man with no money, and plus he teaches chemistry in high school; a man with the pregnant wife; a man with the disability son; a man got diagnosed bad lung cancer. With nothing to lose but a family to support, he risks to cook with desperation. At first, he sacrifices himself for the whole family. But as his ambition goes bigger, the motivation has changed. Once, after his wife Skyler found out his business and started to worry about his safety, he however told her that he wasn't in danger cause himself was the danger. The beast had been waken up once he found out how brilliant he was as a meth cook instead of teaching a bunch of kids that don't care in high school, and dealt with tons of disasters that he had to go through. And moreover, his friend who lives a good life has taken the academic finding he could've made million with by his intelligence away. Every piece of under the satisfaction in reality plus the cancer adds up together leads his way of drowning down with even faster pace.

I remember 3 scenes that Walter White has became a totally different person that everybody knows and it shocked even the audiences: after the meeting of Walter White Junior's high school meeting, they had pretty wild sex in the car, Skyler asked why it felt so good, "Because it's illegal." Said Mr White; when he got a lot of cash in selling his pure meth, he

straight went to buy a Chevrolet Camaro later to drift around with a twisted good feeling face; At his birthday party, he forced his own son to drink pure vodka shots after shots while Hank nearby kept telling him to stop. They all came from one reason: he wants to control his own life; he wants to be the man.

It also reflects on how he fought with another intelligent business drug dealer Gus. They both wanted to come to power and use everyone who is still valuable, targeting on the goals accurately and executing the process perfectly to keep in balance. Once they are useless or the balance he created was broken, they became brutal by any means. Gus killed his own trusted man without blinking the eyes; Walter was unsatisfied with working under the dominance of Gus and finally murdered Gus. Afterwards, his came to power and he became the man he wanted to be rather than becoming the father that he ought to be.

It was the death of his D.E.A brother-in-law Hank Schrader reminded him who he truly is. Even though he did all the crazy things and still thought he did that for his family until then he witnessed his own family member's death personally even though "Anti-hero" doesn't want to; he started out the whole thing but got every thing out of control. Finally his family faded away and that's when he realized his credo collapsed, all he did before was just to fulfil his own desire. At last, we saw him telling the truth to Skyler through the phone that he did it for himself because he was good at it and he liked it after claiming 100 of times that he did it for the family.

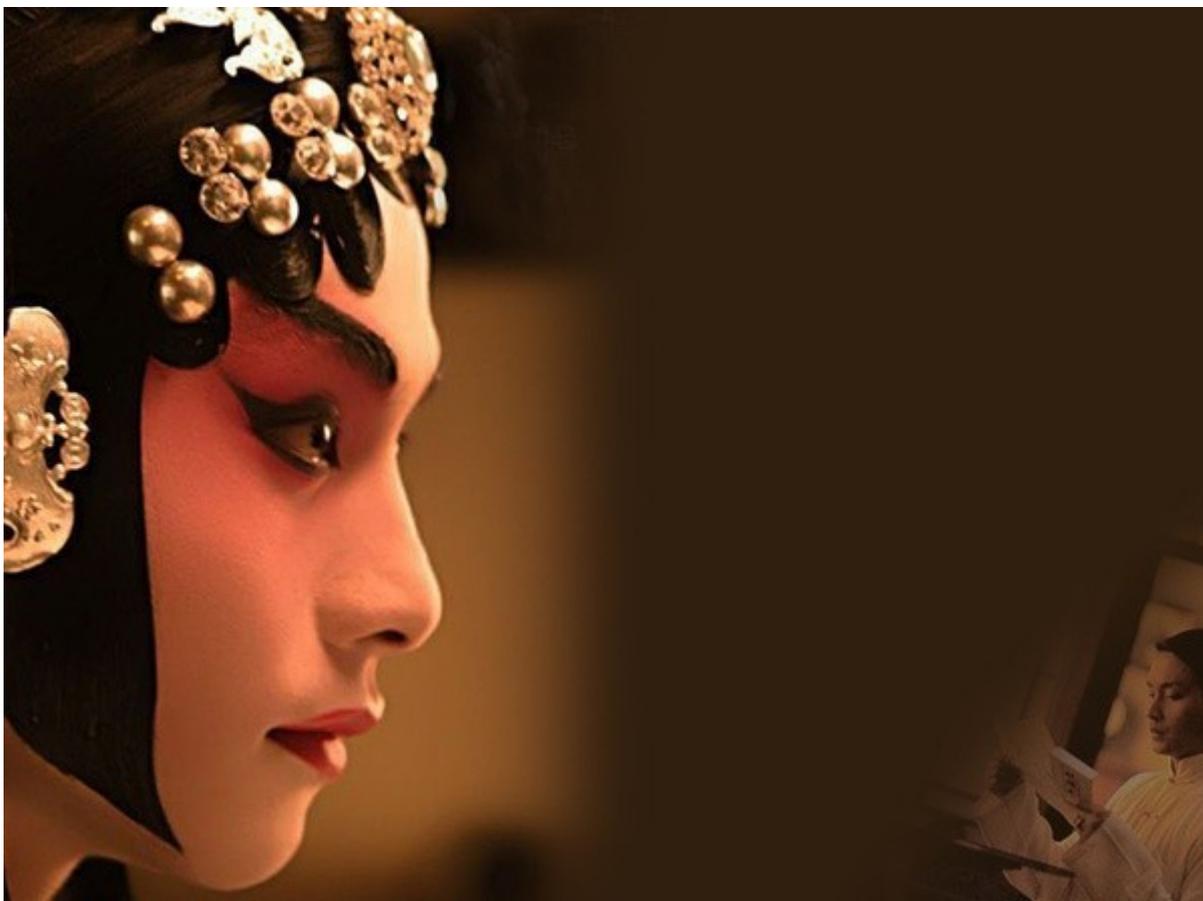
Therefore, the ending sounds reasonable: he died for his own will instead of a normal pathetic mid-age man dying of cancer. Somehow he controls his own fate. "It felt right and satisfying and proper to us that he went out on his own terms; he went out like a man," Breaking Bad creator Vince Gilligan shared in a recent podcast, describing the death of Walter White in the series finale.

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# Farewell to My Concubine

I am hesitating before I begin to write this article, because it is one of my favorite movies in my heart. And the leading man, Leslie Cheung, is my favorite actor as well, although he was die. I am so fear if I could write it well, but I do really want to write a film review to express my feeling.

Xiaoya Luo 120211324



This is a story which took place in 1924, Cheng Dieyi (Leslie Cheung) and Duan Xiaolou (Yifeng Wang) was best brother who grow up with each other when they are children at the beginning of Dieyi come into Beijing opera group. We can see many pictures which moving us when they are young: when Xiaolou be punished, kneeling on the yard on a winter evening, Dieyi look at him behind the window, when Xiaolou come back,

he give guilt to Xiaolou, even he is naked □because he warm bed for Xiaolou□. In addition, when Xiaolou knows Dieyi is not interested in Beijing Opera, so he release Dieyi under master's eyes. And it is inevitable, it been found by master, Xiaolou been punished again. We can see in this period of time, Xiaolou protect Dieyi like his brother, however, Dieyi may have another emotion about Xiaolou.



As time went on, they all grow up, because of a opera [Farewell to my concubine](#), Dieyi act yuji□Xiaolou act Xiangyu□the conqueror. Dieyi and Xiaolou become famous due to this opera in Beijing. By the way, Dieyi always play a female role, learn the female's singing and

posture, so it is easily find, Dieyi's social character is more like a female. And we can see Dieyi loves Xiaolou as before. But Xiaolou do not know Dieyi's secret love, he married with Juxian, a prostitutes who have rough life but strong. In which Dieyi find her brother may do not like him as he, Dieyi want to break up with xiaolou. However, I believe Xiaolou love Dieyi as before, but in that time, he may unable to protect Dieyi before, although he beg to Siye, who is his enemy.

In this movie, it take about 52 years□they experience the war of resistance against aggression, and the cultural revolution. So many years later, when they make up and sing the same opera as before, we can find, xiaolou become more cowardly, we can easily to see what life he lives, and Dieyi, in fact, I believe he is stubborn as before. When they become sing, old thing rolling in their brain.

Drama likes life, life likes a play. The most different between them is, Dieyi believe drama is the same as life, so when he loves, he never change like yuji. And it is normal, when they last sing the Farewell to my concubine, Dieyi commit suicide by cutting his throat. But Xiaolou knows what is

drama, and what is life. He may be the conqueror on the stage, but when he removing make up, he become mediocre.

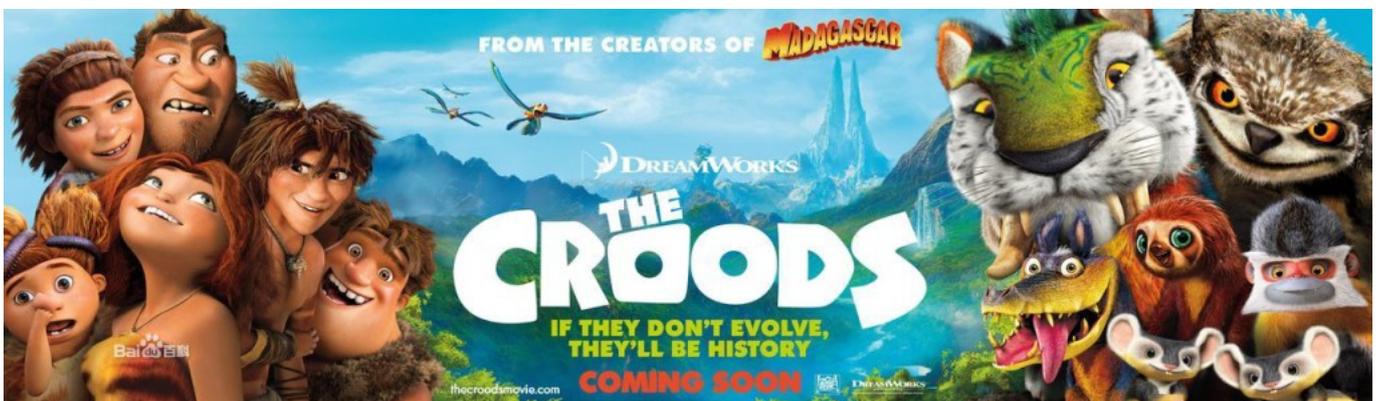
During this movie, we can see, Leslie is a man disguised in female attire—the make up which is more absorbing rather than beautiful. Each sight and the posture, Leslie have a very good deduct.



I am so regret and sad that I know I didn't write this article well. What a pity.

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## Discover all the wonders



*I think a problem most of the time : what's the instinct with the people since we born? Eating? Sleeping? Or love? Devotion? Of course,different people have different opinions, all the answers above are right, but today, i want to tell you a magic power—discovery.*

**130306209** FangJiaqi

I have always thought, In the big category of the film, animated films have been a special category, they take a

lively way and be liked by adults and children in worldwide. Several days before, i watched a excellent film named< The Croods >. This is an adventure comedy filled with laughter and dangers. The story is set in prehistoric times, tells the story of a primitive family living in caves to leave the cave adventure travel experiences.



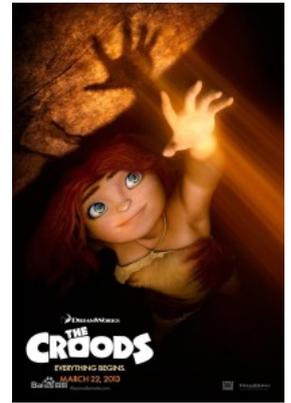
Primitive Croods family of six living in the shelter of the father Grug. Snatching ostrich eggs for food each day, avoid the chasing of the beast, listening to dad narrate the same story every night, living static lives in a cave. Eep is the elder daughter and she is a curious girl who opposes Grug's character, she does not satisfy the life stay in this single cave. Eep intends on chasing the novelty of the world outside the cave. But they don't expect the sudden end of the world coming, the cave has been destroyed, the family is forced to leave their homes and start a new journey.

Most of the people have been attracted by Eep's adventurous spirit of discovery, so do i. In this film, you can easily find the differences between Eep and Grug, one is always adventurous and loves fresh but another always worries about everything that could be risks and expects a lifetime to stay in the safe cave. Eep's past exploration was always relentless opposed again and again by her father. Although he knows there's a greater and more colorful world outside, perhaps fear of the unknown overcomes courage before, Grug did not take that step. Of course, he can never imagine how exciting is the magical world outside. Discovery, makes all the sweet

dreams come true.

In reality, We sometimes stop moving forward because of fearing falling or injury. Our old shelters can protect ourselves from hurt indeed, but it also prevent us finding more beauty. Just as the Croods family, when they step out the cave, they discover many new animals, new tools and new life. In our lives, we change our lives and discover more wonders step by step. We are growing up, not just a fragile baby needs parents' protect, we change our appearance, characteristics and more things. If we compare life to a long and wonderful trip, that all the things bring you wonder you will need to use eyes to discover.

Discover. Yes, all the things need discovery. If we don't have the ability of discovery, we will still live in the caves like the Croods family, we won't have bikes□planes even spaceships, we can't eat yummy foods all over the world..... Maybe when I'm speaking here, you can see how important "discovery" means to us, so, use your eyes and heart to discover all the wonders.



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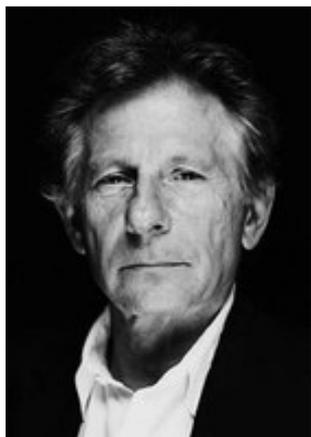
## Classical music in the movie

*Classical music is art music produced or rooted in the traditions of Western music (both liturgical and secular). It encompasses a broad period from roughly the 11th century to the present day. The most outstanding characteristic of classical music is that the repertoire tends to be written down in musical notation, creating a musical part or score. This score typically determines details of rhythm, pitch, and, where two or more musicians (whether singers or instrumentalists) are involved, how the various parts are coordinated. Referred to classical music in the movie□I have to say, Polanski originality in the choice of music is special*

*extremely.*

By 130907124 XueMeng Zheng, class 2

Roman Polanski's classic music film "The Pianist," as a great director filmed reflects Poland Polish Jews during World War II suffered brutal persecution of German films, inevitably chooses Chopin's music for the film's leading music.



Polanski selected three nocturnes from Fryderyk Franciszek Chopin numerous works, two ballads, a waltz, a prelude, two mazurkas and the end of the movie. Every single music which the director used in the film—they all to the point and also responded to the structure of the film and emotion of the characters.



At the beginning of the movie, the pianist recorded Chopin's "Nocturne in c minor" in the studio. Starting with a sad broad

tone seems to presage the doom that lives of millions of Jews is end in. In fact, Polanski used here is entirely facts: September 23, 1939, just as the pianist Spellman recording studio in Warsaw Chopin's while Nazi bombs relentlessly falling down.

The most thrilling fragment of movie is when the pianist's tribulations will get over, in order to open cans of a room, was found by a German officer beside the fireplace .At this time, the first movement of the "Moonlight Sonata" floated vaguely, this music will play German officer full of compassion, filled with melancholy and frustration, which suggested that he is an appreciator of art and sympathizers and hinted his German executioner cruel nature. With this ground work, he, as a German officer, linger adventure to save a Jewish artist born unlucky, it does not seem abrupt. . . .

At the last moment of life, the pianist chose to play Chopin's "g minor first Ballade." This is a morally choice, he wants to use the last moment of life, to express their opposition to the persecutor.

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## **Love in The Buff**



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“[Love in the buff](#)” the biggest characteristic is that it is not like the movie very much, it’s more like a person in the dance of adding to their elder brothers or girlfriends about their recent period of time. In fact, these so-called emotional experience, the narrator is often not himself, engraved on the object and tell most feel dull, nor is it a butterfly lovers, zhu JueLian life and death, there is nothing can go beyond people’s imagination. “From jiao” is originally a mayday song, this is two men and women of the most common name in Taiwan, of which is the most common way of love, even if is to capture the thought the most interesting one of the most emotional appeal, sounded to others but also is the hair spring temple syndrome. Wit to pang, he should be able to realize this, how to make a film of pure chat not so boring, so he USES swearing and yellow to adjust atmosphere. Was people to the vulgar taste of normal in daily life, but after the big screen magnification, the audience immediately there

is a kind of steal the drug, so the film in Hong Kong is classified as a level 3, can say it is a promotion strategy director is very smart, or so extremely small and light, the theme and form of thrown into film market would be "swamped" immediately.

Film is a big background of the Hong Kong government ban smoking in public places, in fact, cigarette itself has a strong symbolic meaning, represents a kind of negative and unrestrained attitude, while the last two people made a seems to make people feel a trace of light and positive decision, but I can't get rid of the film or pessimistic tone of despair. Plot is a very important, once pointed out in the interview VCR will remarkably girlfriend chi Ming let her hard to bear most of childish behavior, the tzu chi jiao happen again between the Ming and spring, although the wonderland toilet under the tender feelings sweet meaning of the two full of expectations of love, we through the move can be foreseen that two people in the future of life will inevitably encounter the sad ending, the despair of life do not need to explain, it is a normal life, is people's endurance test, rather than the feelings of metabolism

Drama about tzu chi from advertising companies to Ming (shawn yue) and work in the cosmetics department spring jiao (Miriam yeung) met there, chi Ming's misfortune as well as the spring of jiao cigarette action let spring tender affection for the gentle man rare. In the next few days and nights, two people from time to time, send text messages and meet the corner smoking. Feelings transmitted through the thumb, love in the smoke, a vague message eventually lead to spring jiao break up with her boyfriend home hao (Huang Debin). When spring jiao ready to devote relationship with tzu chi Ming, Ming's attitude has become confused. Continue to smoke at the corner after lane hover, but was not able to bridge the gap between two people. With increased tobacco taxes to issue, the smokers have started to search for and stockpiling cigarettes. In the smoking process, tzu chi Ming and spring jiao the convenience store in the first time they met again.

Favorite "from jiao" inside a gaudy sing K, they sing is ZhenNi "the last rose," this one. When tzu chi jiao no advance and retreat of the Ming and spring, also do not have to work around a circle, no enemy don't say I don't speak, enemy said I was denied. And this is after a karaoke scene SMS attack and defense in the sweet music. Careful testing, who also don't speak first, copy is like who love to drop off by, I hate this kind risk.however, I hate such calculating, but fell back to their often is like this, but failing. While I'm still feel the love is one of the most wonderful thing in the hours before the ambiguous time, one is at the beginning of love, but it don't be too ambiguous knowledge

Also like a interview spring Jo is said why I smoke that – at first like a boy, in order to close to him, to learn to smoke, and specifically to find what brand he smoked, often get smoke in front of him as casual, everyone from smoking began to open the topic, the results look he tells her that she prepared to give up smoking, because he met a girl, but the girl don't like smoking boy. Spring jiao has just said "OK, ah, ah good". It can even more than this, because it showed more cruel face of love, no movie's tail show sweet smooth, but full of bitterness of not for a third person to know and shall not, don't put.

Finally oh, completely personal feeling, I think pang is perfect for that kind of love and laughter, black with bright, hate and slag, is CuiShengSheng lai xi xi, but if he called Turkey, I mean, really tough, he seems to have a little confused, I can't imagine, for example, from jiao really together, not so handsome, so not port of female, less like elder brothers and point the finger in the distance of the alienation of love. , however, that not a pang proposition, volunteers from the two unreliable youth own sexual love is love, as you can from this relationship on many dust, such as: not at first sight, not handsome and pretty girl ah not goldwind high curative value, not vows of eternal love, but these are all the luxury of love, without the luxury of ajay love, actually it is still not perfect. So, in fact from jiao

is perfect men and women relation, because the story stopped until they obtain harmonious trust only a moment...

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## **The anti-war-theme question in Grave of the Fireflies**

*Since the film Grave of the Fireflies was released, the debate that whether the theme of the film is anti-war or not had never ended. Audience, critics and even the director himself has been entangled in this heated debate. Apparently, people fall into two groups: the anti-war-theme group and the not-anti-war-theme group. Many audiences who have experienced the war time therefore burst into quantities of tears and they are anti-war-theme big fans. However, some critics and the director of this film repeatedly denied that the film was anti-war. Personally, I hold the same opinion with the director that the focus of this film is not anti-war.*

**Siyi Shen,130112129,class 1**

People who are in the [anti-war](#)-theme group attribute their attitude to the graphic and emotional scenes in the film that were bloody and horrible: including the scenes about dead corpse and buildings in ruins. They said they shared the same feeling with the characters in the film because they had experienced just the same horrible historical event as the characters did which

was still left in their mind and kept appearing in front of their eyes occasionally.



However, some critics and the director himself seemed to fail to agree with this kind of opinion. According to the director, he had just intended to convey to the audience an image of two children who lived a failed life because of isolation from society so that the sympathy could be invoked especially among the people in their teens and twenties. Because the director felt obliged to straight up these people through the film and make them show respect for their elders for all the pain and suffering the elders had gone through during the undoubtedly darkest period of Japan's history.

Personally, I hold the same opinion with the director that the focus of this film is not anti-war.

First, this film was adapted from a book of the same name so it might be helpful to refer to the book and its author. According to the author of the book, he said he wrote this book just to convey a personal apology to his own sister who died from malnutrition during the World War Two. From this point of view we can find that since the film has paid more attention to individual memories and self-releasing rather than social cynical criticism, we can hardly say that the film adapted from it has a lot to do with a deeper, more extensive, critical anti-war-theme. Although we have to admit that the books and films adapted from them do not always share the same topic, however, in this case, they do because of the high conformity they share from plot to character setting.

Second, I do not agree with the opinion that the film's theme

is anti-war just because there exist bloody and terrifying scenes in this film. As well known, this film is set during the [World War Two](#) a war time. Therefore to depict the story more credibly, bloody and terrifying scenes in the war serve as a fundamental and indispensable role. Even though this kind of scenes exist, we can not say that they are thus the main trend or the theme of the film. In addition, it is not difficult for us to find that the film never focus on what horrible destruction the war has caused and how deeply the people detest the war. Instead, the director spends most of the time depicting the two children: Seita and Setsuko, just like what the director himself said: I had just intended to convey an image of the brother and sister living a failed life due to isolation from society and invoke sympathy particularly in people in their teens and twenties, whom I felt needed to straighten up and respect their elders for the pain and suffering they had experienced during arguably the darkest point in Japan's history. From this, we can also say that the horrible war scenes exist to beautify and accentuate the two innocent and pure lives.



However, of course we have to admit that in this film we can feel the cruelty of the war and that we do feel sorry for Seita and Setsuko's death and perhaps therefore denounce and accuse of the war. But as far as I am concerned, it is exactly what the films have in common of which the plots are set in a war time. But every film set in a war time has its focus and hence not every film set in a war time has to be an anti-war-theme film.

In my opinion, people who regard this film as an anti-war-theme film fail to distinguish the film's theme from their own

emotion. Many of them themselves have experienced the war time so it is unavoidable that they would feel more impressed and sentimental while watching the film. Since the film is adapted from a semi-autobiographical which is based on real people and real events, the audience's empathy towards the war time might be easier to be aroused and thus the audience might be easily overwhelmed by their emotion. In this way, since the audience have been manipulated by their own emotion, it is understandable that the audience mix their own emotion with the theme of the film.

what's anti-war <http://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/>

more information about world war two <http://baike.so.com/doc/335501.html>