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"That's part of your problem: you haven't seen enough movies. All of life's riddles are answered in the movies."
- *Grand Canyon*, 1991

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MARCH 11, 2010

The 25 Best Soundtracks of the Decade (2000-2009)

[Note: This was a rather ambitious post with a lot of embedded content. Please excuse awkward spacing and timing lags.]

Considering it's March of 2010, I guess I should clarify that I've made a list of the best soundtracks from *last* decade, 2000-2009. I started a draft of this at least six months ago but of course it fell into the netherworld of unfinished posts. As late as it is, here are 25 soundtracks from the last decade that I remember fondly, and I use the word "soundtrack" loosely since some of these movies had great songs that weren't actually on the soundtrack album. Also, note that these are soundtracks, not original scores.

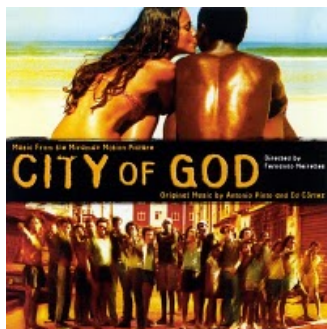
First, here are some that I am setting aside because they fall into the following advantageous categories. Consider them in a class by themselves:

Musicals - *Across the Universe*, *Dreamgirls*, *Moulin Rouge!*, *Chicago*, *Rent*, *Mamma Mia!*

Biopics - *Walk the Line*, *I'm Not There*, *Notorious*, *Ray*

Documentaries - *Dave Chappelle's Block Party*, *Tupac:Resurrection*, *Amandla! A Revolution in Four-Part Harmony*, *Young @ Heart*

Now, on to the list of 25, in alphabetical order with the exception of this first selection:



1. **City of God** (2002) - Was there any doubt my favorite soundtrack of the decade wouldn't come from my favorite movie of the decade? I've listened to this hundreds of times over the years and it never gets old. Antonio Pinto and Ed Cortes struck a perfect balance of soul, romance, funkiness, danger, and fun in their original score for *City of God*, but the supplemental songs really rounded out the album, such as "Convite para Vida" by Seu Jorge, "Na rua, na chuva, na fazenda" by Hyldon, and "Nem Vem Que Não Tem" by Wilson Simonal. Take a few minutes and enjoy a free trip to Brazil:

SEE.

(Twin Cities release dates subject to change)

CURRENTLY IN THEATERS:

127 Hours (A)

Budrus

Client 9:...Eliot Spitzer

Conviction (B)

Cool It

Due Date

Easy A

Fair Game (B+)

Faster

For Colored Girls

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest

The Girl Who Played With Fire

Harry Potter 50/Part MXXII

Hereafter

Inception (A-)

Inside Job (A-)

It's a Kind of Funny Story

Love and Other Drugs

Megamind

Monsters

Morning Glory

The Next Three Days (C+)

Secretariat

The Social Network (A-)

Tangled

Today's Special

The Town (B+)

Unstoppable

Waiting for Superman (B+)

Wall Street 2: Money Never Sleeps (C+)

Waste Land (A)

Wild Target

You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger

UPCOMING:

Leaving, Dec. 3

Marwencol, Dec. 3

Black Swan, Dec. 10

CoN: Voyage of the Dawn Treader, Dec. 10

The Company Men, Dec. 10

The Fighter, Dec. 10

Queen of the Lot, Dec. 10

Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale, Dec. 10

The Tourist, Dec. 10

How Do You Know, Dec. 17

I Love You, Phillip Morris, Dec. 17

Made in Dagenham, Dec. 17

The Tempest, Dec. 17

TRON: Legacy, Dec. 17

White Material, Dec. 17

Yogi Bear, Dec. 17

Casino Jack, Dec. 22

Country Strong, Dec. 22

Gulliver's Travels, Dec. 22

Little Fockers, Dec. 22

All Good Things, Dec. 24

The King's Speech, Dec. 25

Rabbit Hole, Dec. 25

True Grit, Dec. 25

Beautiful, Dec. 29

Somewhere, Jan. 7

Another Year, Jan. 14

Casino Jack, Jan. 14

Blue Valentine, Jan. 21

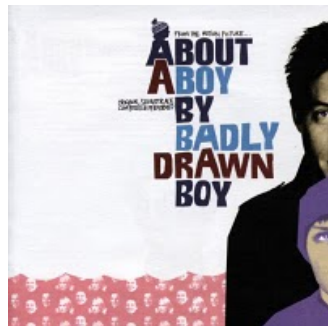
The Illusionist, Jan. 21

Nenette, Jan. 21

Butto, Jan. 28

50 First Dates (2004) - This otherwise completely forgettable Adam Sandler/Drew Barrymore romantic comedy must have required one of the biggest music licensing budgets of any movie from the decade. Nearly every song on the official soundtrack was a cover of a popular 80's hit (311's "Love Song" being one of the highlights), while there were several dozen additional hit songs used in the film but not included on the soundtrack. All in all it was a terrible movie featuring a great collection of bouncy island jams.

8 Mile (2002) - A high point of Oscar night hilarity during the last decade was the 2003 ceremony, when the pit orchestra had to play Eminem's "Lose Yourself" after it won in the Best Original Song category, the first ever rap song to win the award. Another hit, "8 Mile", was on the soundtrack, but here again was a movie that also featured a bunch of classic music that wasn't officially part of the album.



About a Boy (2002) - I'd never heard of Badly Drawn Boy prior to this movie, and I don't know if I've heard anything he's done since, but wow, this was an outstanding soundtrack album in the early years of the decade. Such a perfect blend of whimsy and pop to back a light but subtly meaningful comedy. Here's one of my favorite tracks:

Almost Famous (2000) - Kicking off the decade with a rousing collection of classic rock and original music, this soundtrack set the bar almost impossibly high for the movies that followed it for the next 10 years. For a movie about music, and about how music provides meaning at different points in people's lives, well it was simply a knockout. Here's a great original song written by Nancy Wilson (half of the classic rock duo Heart and also director Cameron Crowe's wife) and performed by the film's fictional band, Stillwater. Just try and listen to this song without playing air drums - it's impossible. Seriously, I just did it like six times back-to-back while writing this, and now I'm sweaty:

Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004) - On this list almost solely because it features "Use Me" by Bill Withers in an **instantly classic scene**, the *Anchorman* soundtrack also boasted the likes of Neil Diamond, the Isley Brothers, and Kansas. Just hearing those songs brings to mind so many hilarious scenes.

Blue Crush (2002) - The only thing more underrated than this funky surf flick was its thumping soundtrack, featuring Nikka Costa, Lenny Kravitz, Damian Marley, Zero 7, and, (used only in the movie) Bob Marley, Bananarama, and P.O.D.'s "Youth of the Nation", possibly one of my favorite

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REMINSCE.

▼ 2010 (108)

▶ November (7)

▶ October (8)

▶ September (15)

▶ August (7)

▶ July (8)

movie songs of the decade:



Brown Sugar (2002) - Another movie featuring a bunch of decent songs (Mos Def, Mary J. Blige, The Roots) and one absolutely stellar track, in this case the most lyrically inspired original soundtrack song of 2002, if not the entire decade - Erykah Badu's "Love Of My Life (An Ode To Hip Hop)":

Crash (2005) - There wasn't much music to speak of in this movie aside from two incredibly powerful songs - Bird York's "In the Deep", which scored an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Song, and Stereophonics' emotionally resonant "Maybe Tomorrow", which played over the end credits:

Crazy Heart (2009) - The newest addition to this list, *Crazy Heart* was a movie that really hooked me with its music - against all odds considering my distaste for anything resembling country. Bad Blake had me tapping my toes to his soulful diddies like "Somebody Else" and "Fallin' and Flyin'", and the Oscar-winning "The Weary Kind" wasn't half bad, either. Believe, I'm much more surprised at what I just wrote than you are.



Garden State (2004) - This likely would have taken the #1 spot on many people's lists, but while I fell for it fast and hard while watching the movie, over time I've grown tired of it for some reason; I think it's begun to feel as empty as the film itself. Ironically hip for the sake of being ironically hip, like Natalie Portman wearing a foam helmet. Nonetheless, Zach Braff snagged some undeniably terrific songs for this movie, including Coldplay's "Don't Panic", Zero 7's "In the Waiting Line", Thievery Corporation's "Lebanese Blonde", Simon and Garfunkel's "The Only Living Boy in New York", and Nick Drake's "One of These Things First".

High Fidelity (2000) - Like *Almost Famous*, this movie about music introduced the "Top 5 _____ Albums" conversation on college campuses everywhere. To be honest, most of the songs on this soundtrack didn't do much for me at all (I thought Jack Black's rendition of "Let's Get It On" was a highlight), but it must be included on this list due simply to its significance within the context of its film.

I Am Sam (2001) - Can't really go wrong with an album full of Beatles covers, especially not when they're performed by the likes of Aimee Mann, Sheryl Crow, Eddie Vedder, Ben Harper, Sarah McLachlan, The Black Crowes, and others. I actually don't even remember the significance of Beatles songs in this movie, but the resulting soundtrack was terrific.

- ▶ June (1)
- ▶ May (6)
- ▶ April (8)
- ▼ March (14)
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 - Getafilm Gallimaufry: A Prophet, Fish Tank, Robin ...
 - Short Cuts: "So is Pregnancy if You Don't Have a L...
 - 300 Words About: Green Zone
 - Minneapolis Movie Madness
 - 300 Words About: The Yes Men Fix the World
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- ▶ 2007 (56)

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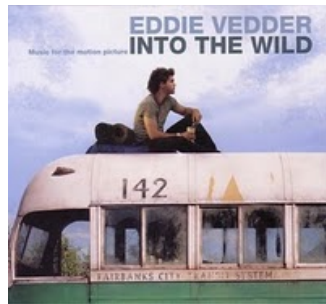
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Into the Wild (2007) - Sean Penn commissioned Eddie Vedder to provide an original soundtrack for his film adaptation of Christopher McCandless' fateful journey. Did it work? Don't ask AMPAS - the lack of a Best Original Song nomination wasn't the only snub the film suffered, and many people considered this the best soundtrack of the year. Here's one of my favorite tracks:

Love Actually (2003) - The music is as sappy as the Richard Curtis-written dialogue in this movie, but it's appropriate, and "God Only Knows" by the Beach Boys is always a favorite of mine. The film is a favorite for many people during the Christmas season, no doubt because it features Wham's embarrassingly fun "Last Christmas" and also Billy Mack's surprisingly catchy "Christmas Is All Around". Did you just start singing it in your head?

Napoleon Dynamite (2004) - If you don't love this music you won't find much to love about the soundtrack, but if you're a Napoleon fan you owe it to yourself to give this a listen. John Swihart's synth-pop score sounds cliché now, but like so many other things from this movie, it was a trend leader, not a follower. And how fantastic were the few song choices that Jared Hess actually made here (Jamiroquai, Alphaville, Sparklemotion)? And of course "The Promise", one of the greatest end credit songs of all time:



Once (2007) - Should this have been included in the "Musicals" category outside of the list? Possibly, but I was never comfortable with the film being defined by that term anyway. It was a romantic dramedy that just happened to be about musicians, but the performances were raw and spontaneous, not rehearsed and staged like *Chicago* or *Dreamgirls*. Of course, *Once* also had the advantage of doubling as a legitimate album by The Swell Season, but nevermind that. These songs (including Oscar winner "Falling Slowly") comprised some of the most memorable movie music of the decade.

School of Rock (2003) - Anytime you give Jack Black the freedom to rock out you're going to get magic, in this case both from his live performances ("It's a Long Way to the Top") and his karaoke (the "Seventeen" scene). It might not have been the most daring classic rock soundtrack, but it sure made me want to pick up an instrument and play along with those kids.

Serendipity (2001) - You may remember vaguely liking the music from this movie, but you have to check out the track listing to remind yourself how impressive this soundtrack was, featuring artists like David Gray, John Mayer, Annie Lennox, Nick Drake, and even Louis Armstrong. Here's Drake's "Northern Sky" that played over the saccharin-sweet ending:

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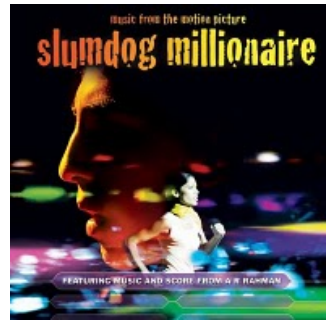
TripAdvisor

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

Daniel Getahun

mnraul

Shrek (2001) - Wow, whatever happened to the band Smash Mouth? Guess the prospects weren't too hot with a name like that, but they probably made some sweet cash from their contributions to this cover-heavy soundtrack, which was decent for an animated non-Pixar film not featuring original music by Randy Newman.



Slumdog Millionaire (2008) - As unabashed as I've been about my love for this movie over the last year and a half, I don't think I've ever expressed how powerfully transcendent the soundtrack is. In fact it can't be expressed, but only experienced. You'll remember that A.R. Rahman won both the Oscar for Best Original Score *and* Best Original Song ("Jai Ho", which of course beat his *other* nominated song "O...Saya"), but the scary thing is that the "non" Rahman songs on this soundtrack are just as good. Of course there is M.I.A.'s "Paper Planes" ([foreshadowed here](#) in 2007) and Javed Akhtar's "Aaj Ki Raat", but one of my personal favorites is "Ringa Ringa", performed by Alka Yagnik and Ila Arun:

Talk to Me (2007) - An unsung movie in 2007 and a highly overlooked soundtrack, featuring old-school R & B from the likes of Otis Redding, James Brown, Sam & Dave, and a bunch of other artists whose names I didn't recognize but whose music I surely did. This is absolutely a movie I would watch again just to experience the music in the context of the story, namely Sam Cooke's classic "Change is Gonna Come", which is curiously missing from the official soundtrack.

The Beach (2000) - My first exposure to this soundtrack was from the [trailer](#), featuring Moby's "Porcelain" during a scene in which Leo & Co. stumble upon the impossibly perfect beach at Ko Phi Phi Le in Thailand. While that song was absolutely critical in the actual film, so too was a pounding jam that was somehow left off the soundtrack - "Touched" by V.A.S.T.:

The Royal Tenenbaums (2001) - What would this list be without at least one Wes Anderson film soundtrack? As far as I'm concerned this was the last great compilation Anderson put together after *Rushmore*, and the score by Mark Mothersbaugh was nearly as memorable. *Tenenbaums* features Nico, Nick Drake (on a lot of soundtracks last decade!), Elliott Smith, Paul Simon, The Ramones, and the Vincent Guaraldi Trio. Every song is classic - and classic Anderson.

Wonder Boys (2000) - Another early decade soundtrack to be celebrated, this one featured heavy doses of Neil Young and Bob Dylan, including Dylan's original "Things Have Changed", which won the Oscar for Best Original Song.

Honorable Mentions (in no order):

Juno

Ocean's Eleven

Kill Bill (I & II)

Donnie Darko

Boiler Room

The Princess and the Frog

ATL

Little Miss Sunshine

So...which ones did I forget? Which ones are ridiculous choices? Which ones will be remembered years from now? Which year boasted the best soundtracks, and how was 2002 such an amazing year of movie music when, according to my math, it was the **worst movie year of the decade?**

Posted by Daniel Getahun 

Labels: **best of decade**, **musical**, **soundtracks**

41 comments:



J.D. said...

I would whole-heartedly agree with you on ALMOST FAMOUS, HIGH FIDELITY and WONDER BOYS being real stand-outs. Nice mention on BLUE CRUSH. I had forgotten about that one but I know how you and I both dig this film.

I would also cite 24 HR. PARTY PEOPLE which features an amazing collection of British rock 'n' roll music, including the likes of Sex Pistols, Happy Mondays, Joy Division, The Clash, The Buzzcocks and New Order. How could you go wrong with that stellar line-up?

Altho, I'm not crazy about the film per se, DEATH PROOF had a great soundtrack with "The Last Race" by Jack Nitzsche over the opening credits as well as fantastic cuts from the likes of Ennio Morricone and T. Rex and old school R&B with the likes of Joe Tex and The Coasters.

SNATCH also has a memorable soundtrack with electronica (Overseer), old school R&B (Maceo & the Macks), New Wave (The Specials) and pop music (Madonna). The coolest musical cue in the film is when Brad Pitt's boxer prepares to enter the ring for the climactic fight to the epic sounds of Oasis' "Fuckin' in the Bushes."

March 11, 2010 10:08 AM

 **Daniel Getahun said...**

Nice additions, J.D. *Snatch* is a huge pick! I've always kind of dismissed that movie in favor of *Lock, Stock*, but the soundtrack deserves some love.

Here's where I admit that I still haven't seen *Death Proof* or *Grindhouse*, but considering QT's soundtrack legacies I'm sure it's pretty solid. I think I still prefer **Jackie Brown's soundtrack** over his others, even *Pulp Fiction* and *Reservoir Dogs*. Wow, crazy to think how good all of his soundtracks have been!

I saw *24 Hour Party People* in the theater and quickly forgot it, which is a shame if the music is that good.

And somehow you just made me remember two MAJOR soundtracks that I inexcusably forgot. Just can't believe it:

The Grocer's Son (2008) - You can see from my review that people around the world have spent the last two years trying to track this soundtrack down - it's that good.

L'Auberge Espagnole (2002) - almost definitely in my top 10 for the decade, and not only because it features Radiohead and Daft Punk. Just **CAN'T** believe I forgot this one. It's almost as if the list is worthless without it!

Now I'm afraid to remember what else I forgot, but that was risk I took in not researching and just coming up with the list off the top of my head.

March 11, 2010 12:46 PM



J.D. said...

Yes! *JACKIE BROWN* has my fave QT soundtrack as well. It's just plain awesome. And since you weren't really going for scores I didn't include David Holmes' soundtracks for all three Soderbergh *OCEAN* films which are top notch but I digress.

March 11, 2010 3:01 PM

 **Daniel Getahun said...**

Had I gone for scores also I think I would have exploded the embedding capabilities of the

Blogger platform.

Since you mention them, though, I think my favorites include:

1. **Gladiator**

And some other solid ones:

Moon
Revolutionary Road
Catch Me If You Can
Brokeback Mountain
Babel
Kung Fu Panda
Atonement
Wall-E
Notes on a Scandal
Slumdog Millionaire
Benjamin Button
Avatar
The Dark Knight
Pirates of the Caribbean
The Queen
The Fog of War
Up
The Motorcycle Diaries

March 11, 2010 4:10 PM

Sam Juliano said...

Some great soundtracks here Daniel, but alas I too prefer to talk of "scores" myself, though my favorite of your golden collection there is ONCE.

The two best scores of the decade for me are:

Far From Heaven (Bernstein)
The Fountain (Mansell)

But a number of the ones you mention here like ATONEMENT, WALL-E, BABEL etc. are exceptional too. This past year we had UP, A SINGLE MAN and THE LAST STATION leading in that department.

As far as musicals, I know that you are no Lars Von Trier fan, but DANCER IN THE DARK, with its extraordinarily moving score, needs to be mentioned, and like the film or not, Andrew Lloyd Webber's score to PHANTOM OF THE OPERA is magnificent.

This is a terrific post!!!

March 12, 2010 2:02 PM



Danny King said...

I can't really disagree with much here. I appreciate how you described Once as simply a romantic drama set within the framing of two musicians, because I looked at it in a very similar way. The film is in no way, shape, or form a traditional Hollywood musical. Every time the characters sing, there is a reason why they do it, and we can connect with them because of it. That's why I prefer Once to most musicals in which characters just burst into song and dance without reason. I know there has to be a suspension of disbelief factor, but the format of Once is just so much easier to connect with in my opinion.

March 12, 2010 4:21 PM

 **Daniel Getahun said...**

Thanks for those additions, Sam. I definitely should have included Mansell's other work in addition to Moon, but unfortunately the Far From Heaven score isn't coming to mind. I'll have to track it down and jog the memory. And I would say I'm more of an ignoramus about Von Trier than a non-fan, and sadly I haven't seen either Dancer or Phantom! Shameful.

Well said, Danny, very well said. There are few movies like it and yet it couldn't escape the "musical" definition, somehow. If I could recommend something similar with a different style of music, last year's Guy and Madeline on a Park Bench was a great little movie/"musical" hybrid.

March 12, 2010 4:31 PM



Matthew Lucas said...

I was actually considering doing a post about the top ten scores of the decade. Strangely enough, I'm not really a fan of many of these, but I'm not familiar with them all either. I LOVED GARDEN STATE, that film meant a lot to me when it came out and kind of defined my first year of college. I also love the SLUMDOG and ONCE soundtracks. I would have included ADVENTURELAND and WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE from this past year over CRAZY HEART, but I do love "The Weary Kind."

March 16, 2010 12:18 AM



Matthew Lucas said...

Also, probably my pick for best soundtrack of the decade = MARIE ANTOINETTE.

March 16, 2010 2:53 AM



Daniel Getahun said...

Garden State was really one of those movies that you had to see right at a particular time to "get". I was a couple of years out of college and the whole quarter-life crisis thing was relatable in a narcissistic way; I haven't seen the movie in years now. Interestingly enough, while I didn't like Adventureland all that much (though you're right that its soundtrack is a major omission from these lists), I think it ends up being a more meaningful film than Garden State. In any event they're kind of peas in a pod.

I never saw Marie Antoinette but from what I remember hearing, Coppola had a modern soundtrack for it? Dunno. You should shoot out your top 10 scores post - these are wildly subjective lists and I find them fun to peruse.

Meanwhile, I have acknowledge another unforgivable omission from my favorite score list a couple of comments ago: **The Bourne Identity**.

March 16, 2010 10:27 AM



Matthew Lucas said...

Yeah, MARIE ANTOINETTE is very modern. Lots of 80s, New Wave rock.

March 16, 2010 2:25 PM



Fletch said...

At this point, it's hard to think of any that were forgotten, with more than 30 in the post plus the comments, but I'm glad that J.D. mentioned Snatch - that's the one additional one I've seen added that really ought to be in the top 25 somewhere. I'd put Ocean's 11 (and/or 12 and/or 13) in there as well, but they border on being scores.

Of the ones in the main post, Garden State and Tenenbaums are the ones I still listen to the most, and "Porcelain" is pretty much the reason I became a fan of Moby, so I was thrilled to see it called out. Danny Boyle pretty much always has great soundtracks.

March 27, 2010 7:53 AM



Daniel Getahun said...

Good point about Boyle - Trainspotting and then The Beach and Slumdog, both of which are on here. I guess I don't remember much of a soundtrack in Sunshine or 28 Days Later. And what I've heard from someone working on his next film is that the first half of the film is nearly silent - both dialogue and music free. So probably not much of a soundtrack to speak of there...

March 28, 2010 6:43 PM

Anonymous said...

WICKER PARK!!!

June 8, 2010 2:41 AM

Anonymous said...

Am I really the only one here who is going to point out Requiem for a Dream? Mansell is amazing.

June 14, 2010 12:48 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Anon #1 - Looking at the track listing I can believe Wicker Park's is an underrated soundtrack. Shockingly, I also see that "Maybe Tomorrow" by Stereophonics is included (see my description of Crash in the list of 25)...

Anon #2 - I did miss Mansell in the original list but if you scroll through the comments you'll see he was mentioned for Requiem, The Fountain, and Moon.

June 14, 2010 7:02 PM

f boarder4life427 said...

How About the Wackness??

July 27, 2010 9:19 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Wow, nice call. I totally forgot about that one!

July 28, 2010 10:59 AM

Beav said...

Awesome post! I had about 6 in my head and you nailed them all, except maybe one. SUNSHINE!!! I went through the comments to see if anyone mentioned it and only you did, but referring to it as forgettable!! You schlub!!!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFnn6iRcEc&feature=related>

July 29, 2010 4:29 AM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Dang, another good one, ya schlub. Sounds really familiar - I think it's gotten a lot of use since that movie in other things...

Yep, most recently in the trailer for The Adjustment Bureau with Damon this fall.

July 29, 2010 11:12 AM

Anonymous said...

The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford

August 24, 2010 1:32 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Yet another missing link, albeit it a little more from the "score" category than the "soundtrack" category. I need to check out that movie again, if only to make sure Casey Affleck was really as fantastic as I remember.

August 24, 2010 3:17 PM

basby76 said...

I agree totally with About a Boy by Badly Drawn Boy, although unlike yourself, I had his first album, 'The hour of the Bewilderbeast' it's a great album, you should check it out if you haven't already! I had actually bought the About A Boy soundtrack before I went to see the movie! so when I watched the movie, it was great! :)

August 26, 2010 8:52 AM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Thanks for visiting, basby76. You are correct that About a Boy was my introduction to Badly Drawn Boy. In an odd way, though, I don't know if his other albums (which I admit to not having heard) would get to me in the same way because they're not connected to this story. When I hear any of those songs on the soundtrack I immediately think of scenes in the movie. Kind of a strange point of reference, but that was one of the reasons I chose this one - it has such a presence and creates such an identity for this specific film. Funny how that works for some songs and some movies.

August 26, 2010 9:35 AM

e Kym said...

What about Cruel Intentions? Romeo and Juliet? And The Craft?

August 26, 2010 10:59 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Fine, EXCELLENT, and fine...but all from the 90's. ;-P

August 26, 2010 11:59 PM

e Kym said...

HAHA. I just exposed my age.

August 27, 2010 12:24 AM

e Daniel Getahun said...

No no - I only meant in the context of this list being from the last decade! Had I done so from the 90's it definitely would have included Romeo and Juliet and the other two and Singles and Reality Bites and Empire Records and all of the other old hits. No matter, thanks for bringing them up anyway!

August 27, 2010 12:37 AM

Anonymous said...

I think O brother deserves better than honorable mention. Hey, that movie, specifically the excellent soundtrack selections, from what I could see, put folk music back into the popular consciousness for a while. Hey, when the pop country station is playing Man of Constant Sorrow in the lineup, that's pretty heavy shaking for a soundtrack to a movie of that box office weight.

August 27, 2010 12:48 AM

Anonymous said...

Hey what about 500 days of summer?

August 27, 2010 7:41 AM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Anon #1, that's a pretty strong case, actually. Nice work. "Man of Constant Sorrow" was definitely a soundtrack hit from the decade, but maybe I never gave that whole album a deep enough listen - or appreciated its significance in pop culture.

Anon #2, another solid choice that I've seen on other lists. I'm surprised you're the first to mention it, actually. Maybe it was just too recent when I was compiling this list, though I guess I have Crazy Heart on here so that excuse doesn't fly.

August 27, 2010 9:58 AM

Anonymous said...

great posts all! i would like to add 25th hour if you dont mind.

September 7, 2010 6:28 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Thanks for visiting - I don't mind at all. I actually just saw a scene from that movie again and found the score to be kind of intrusive. It was when PSH was visiting Barry Pepper at his condo and they were overlooking Ground Zero. I think Lee spent a little too much time burying into the sorrow there.

Anyway, nice to see people continue to pitch in to this list.

September 8, 2010 10:18 AM

Billy D said...

I have to agree with Anonymous here, The Assassination of Jesse James soundtrack was exceptional and my favorite soundtrack of the decade. Its instrumentation is sparse, melancholy and hauntingly beautiful. Great soundtrack for a great movie.

September 12, 2010 7:29 PM

Anonymous said...

Jason Eastwood Says.....

EM i think all those are good choices.. But i'm very suprised that Lord of the Rings wasnt picked to be up there.?? The soundtrack music is great real classy songs i Think. Very Chill,

September 12, 2010 8:02 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Billy D, thanks for visiting - no doubt Jesse James was a great score, but just to clarify I was focused on highlighting the soundtracks with this particular post. Incidentally I did profile some great [scores from 2009](#), though.

Jason, thanks for the interesting addition. Believe it or not I don't remember much about the music from any of the LOTR movies; in a way they just blend together in my head. I'll have to be more attentive next time I come across them.

September 12, 2010 10:56 PM

Anonymous said...

nice

September 22, 2010 8:53 AM

Anonymous said...

how bout queen of the damned soundtrack... that was amazing

October 22, 2010 6:18 PM

Anonymous said...

so glad i found this site. everyone hit on a lot of great sounds. thanks to all

October 31, 2010 12:57 PM

e Daniel Getahun said...

Thanks to you all for checking it out!

November 3, 2010 11:10 PM

e Vids said...

pirates of the caribbean?

December 4, 2010 9:13 PM

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