2024 Untitled Film Set

Questions by Ani Perumalla

Packet 2

Tossups

1. **This author’s 1926 essay “The Cinema” contains a passage admiring a tadpole-shaped projection artifact on a screen showing *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*. At the end of an adaptation of a novel by this author, the title character’s daughter uses a camcorder to film a singing cherub wearing a foil dress; that film features title cards like “Death,” “Politics,” “Sex,” and “Birth.” Eileen Atkins’s expertise on this author informed her script for a 2018 Chanya Button film about this author’s love life. The cancelled 2020 Met Gala was themed around a film adaptation of a novel by this author in which a (\*)** gown magically changes into 1950s attire while the title character runs through a maze. For that adaptation of a novel by this author, Sally Potter cast Tilda Swinton as the title character for her ability to express male body language. Reviewers disparaged the prosthetic nose Nicole Kidman wore to portray this author in *The Hours*. For 10 points, name this author of *Orlando*.

ANSWER: Virginia **Woolf** [or Adeline Virginia **Woolf**; prompt on *Vita & Virginia*]

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2. **Early in this film, the protagonist adds a crossbar to the number 1 on a box of chocolates to fake its price as 4 dollars. This film’s opening describes a man who tries to defy an old proverb about trying two things at once. This film’s lead actor prepared for acing an unedited shot by using talcum powder to meticulously study the motion of billiard balls. This film ends with the bemused protagonist wondering what to do when a woman responds coldly to his advances, because he had just been copying the hero of a romance (\*)** movie he’s watching. Reversed footage was used to create a shot from this film in which a man unwittingly sitting on a driverless motorcycle avoids an oncoming train. A trick shot in which the protagonist runs head first into a cinema screen kicks off this 1924 film’s second half, in which his dream self ingeniously recovers a stolen pearl necklace. For 10 points, name this Buster Keaton comedy about a projectionist who fancies himself a sleuth.

ANSWER: ***Sherlock Jr.***

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3. **A director with this first name was inspired by the friendship of James Joyce and Samuel Beckett to make a film about a garbageman who writes a pornographic “great American poem.” A director with this first name referenced his editing job on Norman Jewison’s *The Thomas Crown Affair* in a scene in which a married woman fails to seduce a man by re-enacting that movie’s “chess kiss” scene. A director with this first name used deadpan dialogue in 90s indie films like *Amateur*, *Trust*, and *Henry Fool*. In a film by a director with this first name, a man leaves his apartment for the first time in (\*)** decades as the soundtrack plays a funk remix of “Thus Spake Zarathustra.” A lifelong gardener carries a remote around Washington, D.C. in a satire by a director with this first name, who had Cat Stevens score a rom-com whose title lovers have a 60-year age gap. For 10 points, the director of *Being There* and *Harold and Maude* had what first name and the surname Ashby?

ANSWER: **Hal** [or **Hal** Hartley; or **Hal** Ashby; accept William **Hal** Ashby; prompt on William by asking “what was the first name of his stage name?”]

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4. **A character in this film wonders, “why do they always say ‘I love you?’ Why can’t one say ‘egg?’” This film’s color-changing shots include a sped-up sequence filmed from a train’s rear car and one of a chandelier falling in slow motion onto a table. Green apples and model butterflies are among the objects depicted in quickfire montages in this film, which opens and closes with footage of exploding bombs. A man in this film professes his love over the phone to a woman while she uses scissors to cut up (\*)** phallic objects like a banana and a sausage. This film’s protagonists stage a “fashion show” by trampling on the leftovers of a banquet after gluttonously sampling each of its dishes. A bedroom covered in collages of magazine cutouts is home to this film’s two protagonists, “Marie I” and “Marie II.” For 10 points, what surrealist Věra Chytilová (“hee-TEE-loh-vah”) film from the Czechoslovak New Wave is titled for flowers?

ANSWER: ***Daisies*** [or ***Sedmikrásky***]

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5. **A homeless man in this city quotes Boethius’s *Consolation of Philosophy* to a film’s protagonist, who himself quotes *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance* after finding his wife cheating on him in a bathroom. The protagonist of a film set in this city buys a red table for 30 grand and sees a vision of God who resembles himself with a beard. That film set in this city plays helicopter sounds and “Ride of the Valkyries” in a scene in which 3,000 pigeons are poisoned. A poet from this metro area recites a profane poem called “Evidently Chickentown” in a 2007 Anton Corbijn (“kor-BANE”) film inspired by the memoir *Touching from a* (\*)** *Distance*. A musician from this city hung himself while watching Werner Herzog’s *Stroszek*. In a 2002 Michael Winterbottom film, Tony Wilson breaks the fourth wall in a slow-motion scene set in this city’s Haçienda (“hah-see-EN-duh”) nightclub. For 10 points, *24 Hour Party People* and *Control* depict Factory Records bands in what city’s 1980s “mad” music scene, like Joy Division?

ANSWER: **Manchester** [accept **Madchester** until “mad” is read; prompt on Salford] (The musician is Ian Curtis.)

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6. **In a sequence whose left half features clip art, this director’s name appears four times: backwards, upside down, mirrored, and melting beside a fur smiley face. For a sequence in a film by this director, German artist Thorstein Fleisch shocked metal cutouts with 30,000 volts; that sequence co-designed by Japanese artist Tom Kan was plagiarized by Hype Williams in his music video for a Kanye song. Midway through this director’s debut feature, a deafening noise introduces countdown text telling the audience they have 30 seconds to quit watching it. A bird’s-eye shot of a bloody woman staggering through (\*)** snow precedes the ending credits of a film by this director, despite it being the film’s opening shot. In that film, this director of *I Stand Alone* placed text in Futura reading “a French film and proud of it” over the Tricolore behind a DJ in a dance hall. For 10 points, what director of *Enter the Void* placed opening credits 45 minutes into his film *Climax*?

ANSWER: Gaspar **Noé** (“noh-AY”) (The lead-in refers to the opening credits of *Climax*. The second sentence refers to the end of the opening credits of *Enter the Void*. The third line refers to a scene from *I Stand Alone*. The Kanye song is “All of the Lights.”)

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7. **The physicist Samuel T. Cohen saw this film a dozen times. Two characters in this film stop at a diner that displays a sign reading “plate o’ shrimp $2.95.” This film’s director came up with words like “melon-farmer” to substitute profanity on its TV edit. A “code” in this film references Asimov’s First Law of Robotics. After burning a book parodying L. Ron Hubbard as “X. Rum-Bubba,” a man in this film describes his theory that the Dirty War’s desaparecidos actually went back in time to become the first humans. It’s not *They Live*, but this film’s characters consume products with absurdly minimalist branding like (\*)** “cookies,” “cigarette,” “food,” and “drink.” Musicians involved with this film include producer Michael Nesmith, the Circle Jerks, and Iggy Pop, who wrote its theme. In this film’s opening scene, a policeman is vaporized upon opening a car’s glowing trunk. For 10 points, name this Alex Cox sci-fi film about a punk’s pursuit of an otherworldly Chevy Malibu.

ANSWER: ***Repo Man*** [reject “*Repo Men*”]

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8. **This film was cited by most critics as the primary influence on David Mackenzie’s erotic film *Young Adam*. This film’s director included a set of cats in it as an homage to his birth in an attic and his murdered father, an anarchist who used a pen name anagrammatic to the phrase “there’s shit.” An alcoholic in this film who keeps a jar of his dead friend’s pickled hands was the inspiration for Ludwig’s tattoos in *The Grand Budapest Hotel*. Boris Kaufman shot this film’s erotic montage of close-ups on the two leads’ faces in different beds, as they rub their bodies in longing. That scene from this film is followed by a shot of the female lead in a (\*)** wedding dress superimposed over a shot of the male lead swimming. This film, whose director died at age 29 from tuberculosis just months after its release, opens with the shaggy Père Jules (“pair zhool”) welcoming his captain’s bride. For 10 points, a barge named for a Greek heroine titles what 1934 romance directed by Jean Vigo?

ANSWER: *L’****Atalante*** (“lah-tah-LONT”) [or *Le* ***Chaland qui passe***; accept ***Atalanta***] (Vigo’s father Eugène Vigo used the pen name Miguel Almereyda, which is anagrammatic with “y’a la merde!”)

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9. **A film series about this city features the violent priest “Lethal Weapon” and a gang including “Smartie” and “Chicken.” In the finale of a film set in this city, a man’s son watches him barbarically kill a companion with a rock on a fishing trip. The series *Young and Dangerous* is set in this city. The Mexican standoff that ends a 1987 film whose title refers to this city as “on fire” was copied by Quentin Tarantino for *Reservoir Dogs*. In another film, a flashback to a religious blood oath for brotherhood sworn by a gang’s kingpins contrasts with their war for a (\*)** baton to become their leader. Scriptural verses about “continuous hells” bookend a film set in this city in which a man says “I’m not afraid of light” while handcuffing his enemy at gunpoint on a rooftop. This city was replaced with Boston as the setting of that film’s remake by Martin Scorsese, *The Departed*. For 10 points, Johnnie To’s *Election* and Andrew Lau’s *Infernal Affairs* trilogy are about what city’s triads?

ANSWER: **Hong Kong** [or **HK**; or **Hong Kong** Special Administrative Region; or **HKSAR**] (The unnamed films are Johnnie To’s *Election* and Ringo Lam’s *City on Fire*.)

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10. ***Note to players: You should name the sort of building and the film in which it appears, like “the space station from* 2001*” or “the office from* The Apartment*.”* In a shot in this building, the camera slowly zooms out from a woman screaming at a phone operator as she tries to make a call to Italy. To make actors’ breath visible for scenes in this building, a refrigeration system cooled it to minus 20 degrees Fahrenheit, so cold that snow once fell inside it. Due to the success of the film in which it appears, locals stopped using the nickname “Hitchcock” for an architectural feature near this building, which is still located at 3600 Prospect Street NW. The extreme zoom from wide that introduces this building fades in from a shot of a (\*)** sunrise over which the sound of dogs growling is mixed with Penderecki’s (“pen-deh-RET-skee’s”) *Polymorphia*. René Magritte’s painting *Empire of Light* inspired a shot in which a streetlight cloaked in mist shines on a man holding a briefcase, who looks up at light emanating from this building’s window. For 10 points, name this Georgetown building where Regan MacNeil is possessed in a William Friedkin horror film.

ANSWER: the **house** from *The* ***Exorcist*** [accept synonyms like **residence**, **apartment**, or **flat** in place of “house”; accept specific rooms like the **bedroom** or **attic** from *The* ***Exorcist***; accept the **MacNeil house**; accept the “***Exorcist*** **step**s”] (The “Exorcist steps” were previously called the “Hitchcock steps.”)

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