2024 Untitled Film Set

Questions by Ani Perumalla

Packet 10

Tossups

1. **This director wrote the word “melancholy” on a picture of Peter Lorre to prepare an actor for a scene in which the camera revolves around him, while he breaks the fourth wall and conducts an orchestra. Rita Mitsouko composed the theme of a film by this director, in which a man hobbling on a crutch and a woman wearing an eyepatch sprint through a subway after hearing cello music. In tracking shots from two films by this director, the camera follows the same actor dancing to “Strong Girl” by Iggy Pop under fireworks and “Modern Love” by (\*)** David Bowie. The interlude of a film by this director tracks a troupe of musicians walking through a church playing accordions. A stand-up comedian and a soprano have a marionette daughter in a musical by this director written by Sparks. This director cast Kylie Minogue in a surreal film about an actor who dresses as “Mister Shit” in a limousine. For 10 points, name this French director of *Annette* and *Holy Motors*.

ANSWER: Leos **Carax** [or Alex Christophe **Dupont**] (The unnamed films mentioned are *The Lovers on the Bridge* / *Les Amants sur Pont-Neuf* and *Bad Blood* / *Mauvais Sang*, which both star Juliette Binoche and Denis Lavant.)

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2. **A bus in this city is the setting of an opening scene in which the director recounts a dream about lunch with Tolstoy. In that film, an old man reminisces about fighting in the Spanish Civil War, while the background shows the location of a real crime depicted in a 2016 rotoscoped documentary financed on Indiegogo. A 1990 film ends with footage from a Super 8 camera tumbling down this city’s highest point. This city has held both a film festival for screenwriters and QT-Fest, themed around (\*)** Tarantino’s favorite films. A wall in this city, which now features a mural depicting “Jeremiah the Innocent Frog” asking “Hi, how are you” on a street nicknamed the “Drag,” is shown in a film in which a woman peddles Madonna’s pap smear. This city’s Top Notch Hamburgers was where an actor first delivered his catchphrase, “alright, alright, alright.” For 10 points, Richard Linklater’s *Slacker* and *Dazed and Confused* are set in what city home to the original Alamo Drafthouse?

ANSWER: **Austin** (The real-life crime referenced in *Slacker* and *Tower* is the University of Texas tower shooting.)

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3. **An actress’s pet monkey stole her jewels while shooting an adaptation of a work by this author that replaced its eight-word title with the catchier *Boom!* On her first day shooting a film based on a work by this author, that actress suffered survivor’s guilt after a plane crash killed her husband Mike Todd. Joanne Woodward delivered the first mainstream film use of “son of a bitch” in a film written by this author, who waited until Anna Magnani (“mahn-YAH-nee”) learned English to write a screenplay about a seamstress. In a film written by this author, Carroll Baker popularized a style of (\*)** nightgown. Richard Brooks insisted on filming a 1959 adaptation of a work by this author in color in admiration of the blue and violet irises of Paul Newman and Elizabeth Taylor. Manuela replaces a stoned actress in a performance of a play by this author in *All About My Mother*. For 10 points, name this playwright who wrote Vivien Leigh’s line “I have always depended upon the kindness of strangers.”

ANSWER: Tennessee **Williams** [or Thomas Lanier **Williams** III] (The unnamed films are *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *The Fugitive Kind*, *The Rose Tattoo*, *Baby Doll*, and *A Streetcar Named Desire*.)

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4. **This film’s sound designer ran around Niagara Falls holding a canvas bag to record strong winds for a storm sequence. This film’s production designer took inspiration from sea lions’ skin and the architectural designs of Santiago Calatrava for the environment of a sequence in which its protagonist rides a monorail. Roger Deakins suggested practical rope lighting for a romantic scene in this film in which the protagonist’s eyes reflect a love interest’s (\*)** lighter. A visual gag in this film depicts a keyboard composed of the numbers 0 and 1. A Peter Gabriel song featuring the Soweto Gospel Choir plays over this film’s end credits montage, which transitions in style from cave art to pointillism. “Put On Your Sunday Clothes” from *Hello Dolly* plays over this film’s opening. An artist and this film inspired the portmanteau name of a series of OpenAI text-to-image models. For 10 points, what first Pixar film in the Criterion Collection centers on a robot?

ANSWER: **WALL·E** [or **WALL-E**; prompt on DALL-E] (The Spanish artist is Salvador Dalí.)

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5. **In a long tracking shot from the 1993 film *Dear Diary*, the protagonist drives his scooter to the location where this event occurred, as the soundtrack plays a song from Keith Jarrett’s Köln Concert. The second of a series of novels published under the collective title *Literal Madness* concerns this event, which the title character discusses with Romeo, Juliet, and the Brontë sisters. Kathy Acker wrote a surreal novel about this event. Due to its similarity to an event involving a researcher for a Palme d’Or-winning film, some theorize that this event was related to a plane crash that killed an oil magnate 13 years prior. This event occurred the day after a meeting in Stockholm with (\*)** Ingmar Bergman, as depicted in a 2014 biopic by Abel Ferrara starring Willem Dafoe. This event, which took place at a beach in Ostia, was likely motivated by its homosexual subject’s Marxist activism. For 10 points, name this unsolved 1975 event that ended the life of the director of *Salò*.

ANSWER: **murder** of Pier Paolo **Pasolini** [accept Pier Paolo **Pasolini**’s **death**, **killing**, **assassination**, or equivalents in place of **murder**; accept ***My Death, My Life, by Pier Paolo Pasolini***; prompt on murder, death, killing, or assassination by asking “of whom?”] (*Dear Diary*, or *Caro Diario*, was directed by Nanni Moretti. The researcher is Mauro de Mauro, a journalist who disappeared while investigating the death of Enrico Mattei for Francesco Rosi’s film *The Mattei Affair*, which won the 1972 Palme d’Or.)

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6. **Two screenwriters from this family made fun of talent agent Sam Cohn’s habit of eating paper in their script for *This is My Life*. For a play by an author from this family, Marvin Hamlisch composed a tap dance by “Frankie Fact” and “Dick Fiction,” a rag about a fig tree, and other songs by the lovers of Philip Rahv and Dashiell Hammett. This family’s parents, the screenwriting duo Henry and Phoebe, had a child who used the mantra “everything is copy.” An author from this family told a “true story” of being given a sex advice book by a (\*)** boyfriend’s mother in the *Esquire* essay “A Few Words About Breasts.” An author from this family wrote the plays *Lucky Guy* and *Imaginary Friends* and the novel *Heartburn*, based on her marriage to Carl Bernstein. Two authors from this family co-wrote the play *Love, Loss, and What I Wore* and a 1998 film updating *The Shop Around the Corner*. For 10 points, name this family of the screenwriter sisters of *You’ve Got Mail*.

ANSWER: **Ephron** family [or the **Ephron**s; or Nora **Ephron**; or Delia **Ephron**; or Henry **Ephron**; or Phoebe **Ephron**]

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7. **In this film, the banal discussion of two medics is heard over shots of screens depicting the protagonist’s body violently contorting. Lines from Richard Nixon speeches were used for some dialogue of a character in this film who hoards prism-shaped biscuits. Each time they open a medicine cabinet, this film’s characters hear a voice asking them questions like “are you now, or have you ever been?” and “what’s wrong?” This film’s making-of documentary depicts its female lead crying as she has her head shaved. In this film, a voice calmly stating “Buy more. Buy more now. Buy.” is heard over shots of a Hans Memling portrait of (\*)** Christ. Sound designer Walter Murch co-wrote this film, whose protagonist drives a jet-powered car to escape police with metal faces. This second American Zoetrope film was based on its director’s USC student film *Electronic Labyrinth*. For 10 points, the audio company that uses the Deep Note is named after what debut sci-fi film by George Lucas?

ANSWER: ***THX 1138*** [prompt on THX] (George Lucas has confirmed that for some reason, executive producer Francis Ford Coppola set the film’s budget at exactly $777,777, but I couldn’t find any source for why he did this.)

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8. **This director reprimanded a cameraman who had stopped filming a take because the two leads had left the set, reasoning that although that was true, “they might come back.” In a shot by this director, a man reads the *Beginner’s Guide to Toxicology* while in the background, his botanist wife teeters off the edge of a cliff trying to reach a fern. In a film by this director, a man grins while asking “do you have the time?” after smashing an heirloom wristwatch on the ground. In that film by this director, the same man repeatedly laughs over his childhood friend’s attempt at reciting Kaddish over his own mother’s gravestone. This filmmaker directed (\*)** Sanford Meisner in his final film role and wrote the screenplays for *Primary Colors* and *The Birdcage*. A 1976 film by this director follows two dysfunctional gangsters wandering in evasion of a hitman. For 10 points, *A New Leaf*, *Ishtar*, and *Mikey and Nicky* were directed by what comedy partner of Mike Nichols?

ANSWER: Elaine **May** [or Elaine Iva **May**; or Elaine Iva **Berlin**]

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9. **In a film by this director, a woman’s dying screams are heard over a shot of a painting of lips inside lips. Mert and Marcus’s photographs for Alessandro Michele’s 2022 Exquisite Gucci campaign reference Milena Canonero’s debut costume designs for films by this director. In a film by this director, four large circular bulbs light a room displaying a painting by his real-life wife. That film by this director features a set of four Christs dancing arm-in-arm and *Rocking* *Machine*, two sculptures by Herman Makkink. This director approved of a lead actor’s cricketing whites as a film costume, but recommended he wear the (\*)** groin protector on the outside rather than inside. This director tried to employ Allen Jones without pay as a set designer after viewing his artworks *Hatstand*, *Table*, and *Chair*, whose use of mannequins inspired the furniture in a bar plastered with the word “moloko,” the Russian for “milk.” For 10 points, name this director of *A Clockwork Orange*.

ANSWER: Stanley **Kubrick** (The painting in the lead-in is by Herman Makkink’s brother Cornelis. All the lines refer to *A Clockwork Orange*.)

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10. **In a shot from this film, a candle lights the face of a shivering Greek lawyer as he prays, “are You here? Let me not betray You.” A man in this film thinks “you’re in a box. They want you dead, or in their lie.” An upside-down shot in this film depicts a man’s flashback to his wife on a swing. Vampire Weekend’s song “Hold You Now” samples songs from this film, whose nominal lead actor’s role was notoriously cut to just two lines. Due to its ubiquity as temp music, the nickname “forbidden cue” was given to this film’s theme, which was the first to use a ticking clock motif by Hans (\*)** Zimmer. In this film, a man dies after drawing a grenade by the pin. This film, which often cuts away from the action to focus on fauna like fruit bats and parrots, features Melanesian choir music. This film’s multiple narrators, who ask existential questions like “who’s killin’ us?”, are infantry in the South Pacific. For 10 points, name this Terrence Malick film about the fight for Guadalcanal.

ANSWER: *The* ***Thin Red Line***

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