[Template:About](/wiki/Template:About" \o "Template:About) [Template:Use mdy dates](/wiki/Template:Use_mdy_dates) [Template:Infobox film](/wiki/Template:Infobox_film) ***Ghostbusters*** is a 1984 American [supernatural](/wiki/Supernatural_fiction) [horror comedy film](/wiki/Horror_comedy_film) directed and produced by [Ivan Reitman](/wiki/Ivan_Reitman) and written by [Dan Aykroyd](/wiki/Dan_Aykroyd) and [Harold Ramis](/wiki/Harold_Ramis). The film stars [Bill Murray](/wiki/Bill_Murray), Aykroyd, and Ramis as three eccentric [parapsychologists](/wiki/Parapsychology) who start a [ghost-catching](/wiki/Ghost_hunting) business in New York City. [Sigourney Weaver](/wiki/Sigourney_Weaver) and [Rick Moranis](/wiki/Rick_Moranis) co-star as a client and her neighbor, and [Ernie Hudson](/wiki/Ernie_Hudson) as the Ghostbusters' first recruit.

Aykroyd conceived the film as a project for himself and fellow [*Saturday Night Live*](/wiki/Saturday_Night_Live) alumnus [John Belushi](/wiki/John_Belushi), with the "Ghostmashers" travelling through time and space in the future with magic wands. He and Ramis dramatically rewrote the script following Belushi's death and after Reitman deemed Aykroyd's initial vision financially impractical.

*Ghostbusters* was released in the United States on June 8, 1984, to critical and commercial success, receiving a positive response from critics and audiences and grossing US$242 million in the United States and more than $295 million worldwide. It was nominated for two [Oscars](/wiki/Academy_Awards) at the [57th Academy Awards](/wiki/57th_Academy_Awards) for [Best Visual Effects](/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Visual_Effects) and [Best Original Song](/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Original_Song) (for the [eponymous theme song](/wiki/Ghostbusters_(song))), but lost to [*Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*](/wiki/Indiana_Jones_and_the_Temple_of_Doom) and [*The Woman in Red*](/wiki/The_Woman_in_Red_(1984_film)) respectively. The [American Film Institute](/wiki/American_Film_Institute) ranked *Ghostbusters* 28th in its [*AFI's 100 Years...100 Laughs*](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Laughs) list of film comedies. In 2015, the United States [Library of Congress](/wiki/Library_of_Congress) selected the film for preservation in the [National Film Registry](/wiki/National_Film_Registry), finding it "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant".[[1]](#cite_note-1) The film launched the [*Ghostbusters* media franchise](/wiki/Ghostbusters_(franchise)), which includes a 1989 [sequel](/wiki/Sequel), [*Ghostbusters II*](/wiki/Ghostbusters_II); two animated television series, [*The Real Ghostbusters*](/wiki/The_Real_Ghostbusters) and [*Extreme Ghostbusters*](/wiki/Extreme_Ghostbusters); and several [video games](/wiki/List_of_Ghostbusters_video_games). [A reboot](/wiki/Ghostbusters_(2016_film)) is set for a July 15, 2016, release by [Columbia Pictures](/wiki/Columbia_Pictures).

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## Plot[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=1)]

[Parapsychologists](/wiki/Parapsychology) [Peter Venkman](/wiki/Peter_Venkman), [Raymond Stantz](/wiki/Ray_Stantz), and [Egon Spengler](/wiki/Egon_Spengler) are called to the [New York Public Library](/wiki/New_York_Public_Library) to investigate recent paranormal activity. They encounter the ghost of a dead librarian but are frightened away when she transforms into a horrifying monster. After losing their jobs at [Columbia University](/wiki/Columbia_University), the trio establish a [paranormal investigation and extermination](/wiki/Ghost_hunting) service known as "Ghostbusters". They develop high-tech equipment capable of capturing ghosts and open their business in a [disused, run-down firehouse](/wiki/Firehouse,_Hook_&_Ladder_Company_8). Egon warns them never to cross the energy streams of their [proton pack](/wiki/Proton_packs) weapons, as this could cause a catastrophic explosion. They capture their first ghost, [Slimer](/wiki/Slimer), at a hotel and deposit it in a specially built containment unit in the firehouse basement. As paranormal activity increases in New York City, they hire a fourth member, [Winston Zeddemore](/wiki/Winston_Zeddemore), to cope with demand.

The Ghostbusters are retained by cellist Dana Barrett, whose apartment is haunted by a demonic spirit, Zuul, a [demigod](/wiki/Demigod) worshiped as a servant to [Gozer the Gozerian](/wiki/List_of_Ghostbusters_characters#Gozer), a [Sumerian](/wiki/Sumerian_religion) [shape-shifting](/wiki/Shapeshifting) god of destruction. Venkman takes a particular interest in the case, and competes with Dana's neighbor, accountant Louis Tully, for her affection. As the Ghostbusters investigate, Dana is [demonically possessed](/wiki/Demonic_possession) by Zuul, which declares itself the "Gatekeeper", and Louis by a similar demon, Vinz Clortho, the "Keymaster". Both demons speak of the coming of the destructive Gozer and the release of the imprisoned ghosts, and the Ghostbusters take steps to keep the two apart.

Walter Peck, a lawyer representing the [Environmental Protection Agency](/wiki/United_States_Environmental_Protection_Agency), has the Ghostbusters arrested for operating unlicensed waste handlers and orders their ghost containment system deactivated, causing an explosion that releases hundreds of ghosts. The ghosts wreak havoc throughout the city while Louis/Vinz advances toward Dana/Zuul's apartment. Their romantic encounter opens the gate and transforms them into supernatural hounds. Consulting blueprints of Dana's apartment building, the Ghostbusters learn that mad doctor and cult leader Ivo Shandor, claiming humanity was too sick to survive after [World War I](/wiki/World_War_I), designed the building as a gateway to summon Gozer and bring about the end of the world.

The Ghostbusters are released from custody to combat the supernatural crisis, but after reaching the roof of Dana's building, they are unable to prevent the arrival of Gozer, who appears in the form of a woman. Briefly subdued by the team, Gozer disappears, but her voice echoes that the "destructor" will follow, taking a form chosen by the team. Ray inadvertently recalls a beloved corporate mascot from his childhood—"something that could never, ever possibly destroy us"— and the destructor arrives in the form of a giant [Stay Puft Marshmallow Man](/wiki/Stay_Puft_Marshmallow_Man) and attacks the city. The Ghostbusters cross their proton pack energy streams (reversing the particle flow) and fire them against Gozer's portal; the explosion defeats Gozer and the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man and frees Dana and Louis from their possessor demons. As thousands of New Yorkers wipe themselves free of marshmallow, the Ghostbusters are welcomed on the street as heroes.

## Cast[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=2)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main)

* [Bill Murray](/wiki/Bill_Murray) as [Peter Venkman](/wiki/Peter_Venkman)
* [Dan Aykroyd](/wiki/Dan_Aykroyd) as [Raymond "Ray" Stantz](/wiki/Ray_Stantz)
* [Harold Ramis](/wiki/Harold_Ramis) as [Egon Spengler](/wiki/Egon_Spengler)
* [Ernie Hudson](/wiki/Ernie_Hudson) as [Winston Zeddemore](/wiki/Winston_Zeddemore)
* [Annie Potts](/wiki/Annie_Potts) as [Janine Melnitz](/wiki/Janine_Melnitz)
* [Sigourney Weaver](/wiki/Sigourney_Weaver) as Dana Barrett
* [Rick Moranis](/wiki/Rick_Moranis) as [Louis Tully](/wiki/List_of_Ghostbusters_characters#Louis_Tully)
* [William Atherton](/wiki/William_Atherton) as Walter Peck
* [David Margulies](/wiki/David_Margulies) as Lenny Clotch, Mayor of City of New York
* [Slavitza Jovan](/wiki/Slavitza_Jovan) as Gozer
  + [Paddi Edwards](/wiki/Paddi_Edwards) as Gozer (voice)

The cast also includes [Alice Drummond](/wiki/Alice_Drummond) as a librarian, [Jennifer Runyon](/wiki/Jennifer_Runyon) as an ESP volunteer, [Michael Ensign](/wiki/Michael_Ensign) as hotel manager, [Jordan Charney](/wiki/Jordan_Charney) as Dean Yager, and [Reginald VelJohnson](/wiki/Reginald_VelJohnson) as a jail guard. Director [Ivan Reitman](/wiki/Ivan_Reitman) provides the voices of Zuul and [Slimer](/wiki/Slimer). [Roger Grimsby](/wiki/Roger_Grimsby), [Ron Jeremy](/wiki/Ron_Jeremy), [Casey Kasem](/wiki/Casey_Kasem), [Larry King](/wiki/Larry_King), [Joe Franklin](/wiki/Joe_Franklin), and [Bill Walton](/wiki/Bill_Walton) made cameo appearances; plus, a young [Debbie Gibson](/wiki/Debbie_Gibson) appears as an uncredited extra. In the deleted scene, Kym Herein plays a ghost woman in a dream.

## Production[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=3)]

### Development[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=4)]

[thumb|](/wiki/File:Ghostbusters_Firehouse.jpg)[Firehouse, Hook & Ladder Company 8](/wiki/Firehouse,_Hook_&_Ladder_Company_8), the New York City firehouse used as the exterior of the Ghostbusters headquarters The movie's concept was inspired by Aykroyd's fascination with the paranormal. Aykroyd conceived it as a vehicle for himself and his friend and fellow [*Saturday Night Live*](/wiki/Saturday_Night_Live) alumnus [John Belushi](/wiki/John_Belushi).[[2]](#cite_note-2) The original story, as written by Aykroyd, was very different from what was eventually filmed. In the original version, a group of "Ghostsmashers" traveled through time, [space](/wiki/Space), and other [dimensions](/wiki/Dimension) combating huge [ghosts](/wiki/Ghost) (of which the Stay-Puft Marshmallow Man was one of many). They wore [SWAT](/wiki/SWAT)-like outfits and used [wands](/wiki/Wand) instead of proton packs to fight the ghosts. (Original storyboards show them wearing riotsquad-type helmets with movable transparent visors.)[[3]](#cite_note-3) In addition to a similar title, the movie shares the premise of professional "exterminators" on a paranormal mission with [The Bowery Boys](/wiki/The_Bowery_Boys) slapstick comedy [*Spook Busters*](/wiki/Spook_Busters) (1946, directed by [William Beaudine](/wiki/William_Beaudine)) as well as with the 1937 Disney short [*Lonesome Ghosts*](/wiki/Lonesome_Ghosts). *Lonesome Ghosts* includes the line "I ain't scared of no ghost".

Aykroyd pitched his story to director/producer [Ivan Reitman](/wiki/Ivan_Reitman), who liked the basic idea but immediately saw the budgetary impracticality of Aykroyd's first draft.[[4]](#cite_note-4) At Reitman's suggestion, Aykroyd and Ramis gave the story a major overhaul, writing the final screenplay during a three-week stay in a [Martha's Vineyard](/wiki/Martha's_Vineyard) [bomb shelter](/wiki/Bomb_shelter) in May–June 1982.[[5]](#cite_note-5)

### Casting[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=5)]

Aykroyd and Ramis initially wrote roles especially for Belushi and [John Candy](/wiki/John_Candy). However, Belushi died before the screenplay was completed, and Candy would not commit to the project, so Aykroyd and Ramis made further changes that were reflected in the film's production.[[4]](#cite_note-4) Candy would later appear in the music video for the film's theme song.

Louis Tully was originally conceived as a [conservative](/wiki/Conservatism) man in a business suit to be played by comedian Candy; but Rick Moranis instead portrayed Louis as a [geek](/wiki/Geek).[[4]](#cite_note-4) Gozer was originally to appear in the form of Ivo Shandor, a slender, unremarkable man in a suit, played by [Paul Reubens](/wiki/Paul_Reubens);[[6]](#cite_note-6) but the role was played by Yugoslav model [Slavitza Jovan](/wiki/Slavitza_Jovan). The demonic voice of Gozer was provided by [Paddi Edwards](/wiki/Paddi_Edwards).

According to [Ernie Hudson](/wiki/Ernie_Hudson), an earlier version of the script had his character, Winston, in a larger role with an elaborate backstory as an Air Force demolitions expert. Excited by the part, he agreed to the job for half his usual salary. The night before shooting began, he was given a new script with a greatly reduced role; Reitman told him the studio had wanted to expand Murray's role. In a 2015 article for [*Entertainment Weekly*](/wiki/Entertainment_Weekly), Hudson wrote: "I love the character and he’s got some great lines, but I felt the guy was just kind of there. I love the movie, I love the guys. I’m very thankful to Ivan for casting me. I’m very thankful that fans appreciate the Winston character. But it’s always been very frustrating—kind of a love/hate thing, I guess."[[7]](#cite_note-7)

## Release[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=6)]

### Box office[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=7)]

*Ghostbusters* was released on June 8, 1984 in 1,339 theaters. It grossed $13.6 million on its opening weekend[[8]](#cite_note-8) and $23 million in its first week, setting studio records at the time.[[9]](#cite_note-9) The film was number one at the box office for five consecutive weeks, grossing $99.8 million.[[10]](#cite_note-10) After seven weeks, it was finally knocked to the number-two position by [Prince's](/wiki/Prince_(musician)) film [*Purple Rain*](/wiki/Purple_Rain_(film)), at which point it had grossed $142.6 million, second only to [*Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*](/wiki/Indiana_Jones_and_the_Temple_of_Doom) as the year's top moneymaker.[[11]](#cite_note-11) Remarkably, *Ghostbusters* then regained the top spot the next week, and again six weeks later.[[12]](#cite_note-12) It went on to gross $229.2 million, making it the second highest-grossing film of 1984, behind only [*Beverly Hills Cop*](/wiki/Beverly_Hills_Cop).[[13]](#cite_note-13) Adjusted for inflation, these figures put it within the top 40 highest-grossing films of all time.[[14]](#cite_note-14) [Box Office Mojo](/wiki/Box_Office_Mojo) estimates that the film sold over 68 million tickets in the US in its initial theatrical run.[[15]](#cite_note-15) A 1985 re-release raised the film's United States gross to $238.6 million ($[Template:Formatprice](/wiki/Template:Formatprice) in today's dollars[Template:Inflation-fn](/wiki/Template:Inflation-fn)<ref name=autogenerated1>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref>), surpassing *Beverly Hills Cop*[[16]](#cite_note-16) and making it the most successful comedy of the 1980s.

### Critical response[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=8)]

*Ghostbusters* received overwhelming acclaim from both critics and audiences and is considered by many as the best film of 1984.[[17]](#cite_note-17)[[18]](#cite_note-18)[[19]](#cite_note-19)[[20]](#cite_note-20) It holds a 97% "Certified Fresh" approval rating on review aggregation website [Rotten Tomatoes](/wiki/Rotten_Tomatoes), based on 67 reviews; the site's consensus called the film "an infectiously fun blend of special effects and comedy, with Bill Murray's hilarious deadpan performance leading a cast of great comic turns".[[21]](#cite_note-21) On [Metacritic](/wiki/Metacritic), the film has a score of 67 out of 100, based on 7 critics, indicating "generally favorable reviews".[[22]](#cite_note-22) Film critic [Roger Ebert](/wiki/Roger_Ebert) gave the film three and a half stars out of four and wrote, "This movie is an exception to the general rule that big special effects can wreck a comedy ... rarely has a movie this expensive provided so many quotable lines."[[23]](#cite_note-23) [*Newsweek*](/wiki/Newsweek) magazine's [David Ansen](/wiki/David_Ansen) wrote, "Everyone seems to be working toward the same goal of relaxed insanity. *Ghostbusters* is wonderful summer nonsense."[[24]](#cite_note-24) In his review for *TIME*, [Richard Schickel](/wiki/Richard_Schickel) praised the three lead actors: "Of the ghost wranglers, the pair played by writers Aykroyd and Ramis are sweetly earnest about their calling, and gracious about giving the picture to their co-star Bill Murray. He obviously (and wisely) regards Dr. Peter Venkman as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to develop fully his patented comic character."[[25]](#cite_note-25) [Pauline Kael](/wiki/Pauline_Kael) had problems with the chemistry among the three lead actors: "Murray is the film's comic mechanism ... but nobody else has much in the way of material, and since there's almost no give-and-take among the three men, Murray's lines fall on dead air."[[26]](#cite_note-26) In her review for [*The New York Times*](/wiki/The_New_York_Times), [Janet Maslin](/wiki/Janet_Maslin) wrote, "Its jokes, characters and story line are as wispy as the ghosts themselves, and a good deal less substantial."[[27]](#cite_note-27)

### Awards[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=9)]

The film received two [Academy Award](/wiki/Academy_Award) nominations, including [Best Original Song](/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Original_Song) (for the hit song "[Ghostbusters](/wiki/Ghostbusters_(song))") and [Best Visual Effects](/wiki/Academy_Award_for_Best_Visual_Effects) ([John Bruno](/wiki/John_Bruno_(special_effects)), [Richard Edlund](/wiki/Richard_Edlund), [Chuck Gaspar](/wiki/Chuck_Gaspar) and [Mark Vargo](/wiki/Mark_Vargo)). The film was nominated for two Golden Globes: [Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy](/wiki/Golden_Globe_Award_for_Best_Motion_Picture_–_Musical_or_Comedy) and [Best Actor – Motion Picture Musical or Comedy](/wiki/Golden_Globe_Award_for_Best_Actor_–_Motion_Picture_Musical_or_Comedy) (Bill Murray).

### Home media[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=10)]

*Ghostbusters* was released on VHS and [Betamax](/wiki/Betamax) in 1985 months after the film was rereleased in theatres. The stereo soundtrack for the VHS transfer was reversed from right to left; the soundtrack was corrected in future editions of the film. In 1989, [Criterion Collection](/wiki/Criterion_Collection) released a [LaserDisc](/wiki/LaserDisc) version of the film, in a one-disc [CLV](/wiki/Constant_linear_velocity) version and a two-disc [special edition](/wiki/Special_edition) [CAV](/wiki/Constant_angular_velocity) version. The latter included [deleted scenes](/wiki/Deleted_scene), a split-screen demonstration of the film's effects, the screenplay, and other special features.[[28]](#cite_note-28) Director Ivan Reitman was not happy with the LaserDisc release of the film because "it pumped up the light level so much you saw all the [matte](/wiki/Matte_(filmmaking)) lines. I was embarrassed about it all these years."<ref name=ew1999>[Template:Cite web](/wiki/Template:Cite_web)</ref> The DVD version of the movie was released on June 29, 1999,<ref name=ew1999/> at a time when an estimated four million U.S. households had DVD players, and became one of [Reel.com's](/wiki/Reel.com) fastest selling products.[[29]](#cite_note-29) Sony announced at [Comic-Con](/wiki/San_Diego_Comic-Con_International) 2008 that the Blu-ray version of the film would be released on October 21, 2008. Sony initially made it available through their promotional website [Ghostbustersishiring.com](http://www.ghostbustersishiring.com/). The movie was released on Blu-ray on June 16, 2009, to coincide with the film's 25th Anniversary. *Ghostbusters* was the first film ever officially released on a [USB flash drive](/wiki/USB_flash_drive).[[30]](#cite_note-30) A second Blu-ray version, released on May 14, 2013, was marketed as "Mastered in 4k".[[31]](#cite_note-31)

### Re-releases[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=11)]

[Sony Pictures](/wiki/Sony_Pictures) [re-released](/wiki/Re-release) the film in nearly 500 theaters in the United States on October 13, 2011, and the following two Thursdays before Halloween of that year.[[32]](#cite_note-32) Sony reissued a [remaster](/wiki/Remaster) in [4K](/wiki/4K_resolution) version for its 30th anniversary on August 29, 2014. Originally a one-week re-release for the [U.S. Labor Day](/wiki/Labor_Day), it ran for three weeks ending on September 18.[[33]](#cite_note-33) The film was again re-released on June 8 and 12, 2016, to generate publicity for the 2016 remake of the film. It was shown in over 800 theatres and included footage from the remake.[[34]](#cite_note-34) In autumn of 1984, singer and songwriter [Huey Lewis](/wiki/Huey_Lewis) sued Ray Parker, Jr. for [plagiarism](/wiki/Plagiarism), claiming that Parker copied the melody from his 1984 song "[I Want a New Drug](/wiki/I_Want_a_New_Drug)". Lewis had been approached to compose the main theme song for the movie, but declined due to his work on the soundtrack for [*Back to the Future*](/wiki/Back_to_the_Future). The two musicians settled out of court. It was reported in 2001 that Lewis allegedly breached an agreement not to mention the original suit, doing so on [VH1's](/wiki/VH1) [*Behind the Music*](/wiki/Behind_the_Music).[[35]](#cite_note-35)[Template:Anchor](/wiki/Template:Anchor)

The music video produced for the song became a number-one video on [MTV](/wiki/MTV). Featuring actress Cindy Harrell, directed by Ivan Reitman, produced by Jeffrey Abelson, and conceptualized by Keith Williams, the video integrated footage of the film with a humorous performance by Parker. It also featured cameo appearances by celebrities who joined in the [call-and-response](/wiki/Call_and_response_(music)) chorus, including [Chevy Chase](/wiki/Chevy_Chase), [Irene Cara](/wiki/Irene_Cara), [John Candy](/wiki/John_Candy), [Melissa Gilbert](/wiki/Melissa_Gilbert), [Ollie E. Brown](/wiki/Ollie_E._Brown), [Jeffrey Tambor](/wiki/Jeffrey_Tambor), [George Wendt](/wiki/George_Wendt), [Al Franken](/wiki/Al_Franken), [Danny DeVito](/wiki/Danny_DeVito), [Carly Simon](/wiki/Carly_Simon), [Peter Falk](/wiki/Peter_Falk), and [Teri Garr](/wiki/Teri_Garr). The video concludes with Parker and the stars of the film, in full Ghostbuster costume, dancing and singing behind Parker in [Times Square](/wiki/Times_Square).

Sony gained rights to the film's soundtrack when its music division Sony Music Entertainment acquired the Arista catalog via 2004 [Bertelsmann Music Group](/wiki/Bertelsmann_Music_Group) joint venture and 2008 BMG buyout from Sony.

[Template:Track listing](/wiki/Template:Track_listing) [Template:Track listing](/wiki/Template:Track_listing)

### Personnel[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=14)]

* [Ray Parker, Jr.](/wiki/Ray_Parker,_Jr.) – [vocals](/wiki/Singing), [guitar](/wiki/Guitar), [bass](/wiki/Bass_guitar), [synthesizer](/wiki/Synthesizer), [drums](/wiki/Drums)
* [Kenny Loggins](/wiki/Kenny_Loggins) – background vocals
* [Sheena Easton](/wiki/Sheena_Easton) – background vocals
* [Irene Cara](/wiki/Irene_Cara) – background vocals
* [Steve Lukather](/wiki/Steve_Lukather) – guitar
* [James Newton Howard](/wiki/James_Newton_Howard) – [keyboards](/wiki/Keyboard_instrument)
* [David Paich](/wiki/David_Paich) – keyboards
* [Steve Porcaro](/wiki/Steve_Porcaro) – keyboards, [synthesizer](/wiki/Synthesizer)
* [David Foster](/wiki/David_Foster) – [piano](/wiki/Piano)
* [Nathan East](/wiki/Nathan_East) – [bass](/wiki/Bass_guitar)
* [Tris Imboden](/wiki/Tris_Imboden) – [drums](/wiki/Drum_kit)
* [Albhy Galuten](/wiki/Albhy_Galuten) – orchestral arrangement

### Score[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=15)]

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The film score was composed by [Elmer Bernstein](/wiki/Elmer_Bernstein), and is notable for its use of [ondes Martenot](/wiki/Ondes_Martenot) (a staple of Bernstein's 1980s work) and also the [Yamaha DX7](/wiki/Yamaha_DX7) synthesizer. Orchestrators contributing to the film were Peter Bernstein, David Spear and Patrick Russ. The score was commercially released in 2006 as *Ghostbusters: Original Motion Picture Score* by [Varèse Sarabande](/wiki/Varèse_Sarabande). It contains 39 tracks by Bernstein, including several cues that were replaced in whole or in part by songs, and the four pieces that Bernstein specially recorded for the soundtrack album ("Ghostbusters Theme," "Dana's Theme," and the previously unreleased "Magic" and "Zool"). Bernstein understood the decision to supplant his opening and some of the closing credit music with the [Ray Parker Jr.](/wiki/Ray_Parker_Jr.) song, but disliked that tactic being used with other parts of the score, particularly with "Ghosts!" (written for the scene where the ghosts are released) being replaced with Mick Smiley's "Magic."[[36]](#cite_note-36) [Template:Track listing](/wiki/Template:Track_listing)

### Critical reception[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=16)]

Reviewers at [AllMusic](/wiki/AllMusic) have awarded both the *Original Soundtrack Album* and the *Original Motion Picture Score* 4 out of a total 5 stars. Evan Cater describes the *Original Soundtrack Album* somewhat pejoratively as "a very disjointed, schizophrenic listen" that "does very little to conjure memories of the film". However, he notes that there are exceptions to this, namely Ray Parker Jr.'s title track "Ghostbusters", Mick Smiley's "Magic", and the two inclusions from Elmer Bernstein's score.[[37]](#cite_note-37)Jason Ankeny describes the *Original Motion Picture Score* as "epic in both sound and scale", noting that it "ranks among Bernstein's most dazzling and entertaining efforts, evoking the widescreen wonder of its source material", concluding that "his melodies beautifully complement the wit and creativity of the onscreen narrative."[[38]](#cite_note-38)

## Sequels[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=17)]

[Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) After the success of the first film and the animated series [*The Real Ghostbusters*](/wiki/The_Real_Ghostbusters), Columbia Pictures pressured the producers to make a sequel. However, Aykroyd, Ramis and Reitman were uncomfortable with this, as the original film was intended to be conclusive and they wished to work on other projects.[Template:Citation needed](/wiki/Template:Citation_needed) Eventually, they agreed and created a script. The second film, [*Ghostbusters II*](/wiki/Ghostbusters_II), was released in [1989](/wiki/1989_in_film).

A script for a potential third film was under development by [Gene Stupnitsky](/wiki/Gene_Stupnitsky) and [Lee Eisenberg](/wiki/Lee_Eisenberg), the writing team that worked with Ramis on the 2009 comedy [*Year One*](/wiki/Year_One_(film)); according to Ramis, the four main cast members from the original film were potentially to have minor on-screen roles: "The concept is that the old Ghostbusters would appear in the film in some mentor capacity."[[39]](#cite_note-39) Comments from Murray in August 2010, after *Year One*[Template:'s](/wiki/Template:') release suggested the latter's poor reception made a new *Ghostbuster* sequel unlikely.[[40]](#cite_note-40) Two months later, Aykroyd downplayed Murray's comments, saying Stupnitsky and Eisenberg "wrote Bill the comic role of a lifetime, and the new Ghostbusters and the old are all well represented in it"; they wrote a "strong first draft" that Aykroyd and Ramis would work on.[[41]](#cite_note-41) In February 2012, Aykroyd said, "The script must be perfect. We cannot release a film that is any less than that. We have more work to do." [[42]](#cite_note-42) On February 24, 2014, Ramis died, causing [Sony Pictures](/wiki/Sony_Pictures_Entertainment) to re-evaluate the script that they were writing for *Ghostbusters III*.[[43]](#cite_note-43) Sony was planning on starting production in New York early in 2015, but Reitman decided to pull out of directing the film in light of Ramis's death. Reitman, however, will help to find a new director.[[44]](#cite_note-44) It was revealed on March 20, 2014, that [Phil Lord and Chris Miller](/wiki/Phil_Lord_and_Chris_Miller) were in talks to direct the film, but by April 8, 2014, the duo had decided to pass on the project.[[45]](#cite_note-45) On May 30, 2014, The Wrap reported that [Ruben Fleischer](/wiki/Ruben_Fleischer) is being considered to direct the third film.[[46]](#cite_note-46) Weaver told [*Vanity Fair*](/wiki/Vanity_Fair_(magazine)) that her character's son, Oscar, would be a Ghostbuster in the film.[[47]](#cite_note-47) On August 2, 2014, [*The Hollywood Reporter*](/wiki/The_Hollywood_Reporter) revealed that the studio wanted [Paul Feig](/wiki/Paul_Feig) to direct the film and wants to make it an all female Ghostbusters team.[[48]](#cite_note-48) On September 17, 2014, Aykroyd told *The Hollywood Reporter* that he wants to do a Ghostbusters-style universe as what [Marvel](/wiki/Marvel_Comics) did with [their own universe](/wiki/Marvel_Cinematic_Universe).[[49]](#cite_note-49) On October 8, 2014, *The Hollywood Reporter* announced that screenwriter [Katie Dippold](/wiki/Katie_Dippold) and director Paul Feig would be writing the script.[[50]](#cite_note-50) On December 10, 2014, both [Rebel Wilson](/wiki/Rebel_Wilson) and [Jennifer Lawrence](/wiki/Jennifer_Lawrence) revealed they have been approached for a role in the reboot, while [Emma Stone](/wiki/Emma_Stone), [Melissa McCarthy](/wiki/Melissa_McCarthy), [Amy Schumer](/wiki/Amy_Schumer) and [Lizzy Caplan](/wiki/Lizzy_Caplan) were all interested in appearing.[[51]](#cite_note-51)[[52]](#cite_note-52) On December 15, 2014, leaked emails from Sony revealed [Channing Tatum](/wiki/Channing_Tatum) and [Chris Pratt](/wiki/Chris_Pratt)’s ultimate plan to team up for a different *Ghostbusters* film, with Tatum comparing it to [*Batman Begins*](/wiki/Batman_Begins).[[53]](#cite_note-53) In January 2015 the main cast members for the all-female lead film, were announced as McCarthy, [Kristen Wiig](/wiki/Kristen_Wiig), [Leslie Jones](/wiki/Leslie_Jones_(comedian)) and [Kate McKinnon](/wiki/Kate_McKinnon). The projected release date for Ghostbusters (2016) is July 15, 2016.[[54]](#cite_note-54) In a February 2015 interview on Ron Bennington's [Unmasked](/wiki/Unmasked_(radio_show)) radio show, Aykroyd stated that he would still like to see his idea for a sequel made.[[55]](#cite_note-55)

## Legacy[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=18)]

[upright|thumb|Film fans dressed as Ghostbusters, in 2011.](/wiki/File:10.27.11GhostbustersCosplayersByLuigiNovi.jpg) [Template:Main](/wiki/Template:Main) The [American Film Institute](/wiki/American_Film_Institute) ranked it 28th in its list of the top 100 comedies of all time (in their [*100 Years... 100 Laughs*](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years..._100_Laughs) list),[[56]](#cite_note-56) and nominated it for its lists of the 100 greatest movies in [1998](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Movies)[[57]](#cite_note-57) and [2007](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Movies_(10th_Anniversary_Edition))[[58]](#cite_note-58) and the 100 most heart-pounding movies (in [AFI's 100 Years...100 Thrills](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Thrills)).<ref name=AFIThrills>[Template:Cite press release](/wiki/Template:Cite_press_release)</ref>[[59]](#cite_note-59) The title song was nominated for [AFI's 100 Years...100 Songs](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Songs),[[60]](#cite_note-60) and two quotes were nominated for [AFI's 100 Years...100 Movie Quotes](/wiki/AFI's_100_Years...100_Movie_Quotes): "We came. We saw. We kicked its ass," and "He slimed me," both spoken by Venkman.[[61]](#cite_note-61) In 2005, [IGN](/wiki/IGN) voted *Ghostbusters* the greatest comedy ever.[[62]](#cite_note-62) In 2006, [Bravo](/wiki/Bravo_(US_TV_channel)) ranked *Ghostbusters* 76 on their *100 Funniest Movies* list.[[63]](#cite_note-63) [*Entertainment Weekly*](/wiki/Entertainment_Weekly) ranked it as the *Funniest Movie of the Past 25 Years*.<ref name=ewtop25>[Template:Cite news](/wiki/Template:Cite_news)</ref> In 2008, [*Empire*](/wiki/Empire_Magazine) magazine ranked the film #189 on its list of *The 500 Greatest Movies of All Time*.[[64]](#cite_note-64) In 2009, [National Review](/wiki/National_Review) magazine ranked *Ghostbusters* number 10 on its *25 Best Conservative Movies of the Last 25 Years* list.[[65]](#cite_note-65) In 2000, readers of [*Total Film*](/wiki/Total_Film) magazine voted *Ghostbusters* the 44th greatest comedy film of all time. [Template:Clear](/wiki/Template:Clear)

## See also[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=19)]

* [Ghost Sweeper Mikami](/wiki/Ghost_Sweeper_Mikami)
* [List of ghost films](/wiki/List_of_ghost_films)

## References[[edit](/index.php?title=(none)&action=edit&section=20)]

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