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'Oppenheimer' Cast on Christopher Nolan's Vision, The Tr...



ALL CHRISTOPHER NOLAN MOVIES RANKED BY TOMATOMETER

Christopher Nolan had such a perfect outsider journey into Hollywood filmmaking, he makes transforming into one of the world's foremost A-list directors look simple. First, you make your requisite black-and-white feature debut for less than a half-million dollars (*Following*) in England. Then you come over to America, put together an inventive, almost revolutionary indie (*Memento*), which gets you invited into the big studio system for *Insomnia*, where two seasoned pros like Robin Williams and Al Pacino can recognize an up-and-coming talent and agree to star. Then, boom: You're good to go in your new career as a rising director.

For Nolan, the next step up was a surprising move at the time: Resurrecting Bruce Wayne for *Batman Begins*, whose big-screen reputation had been trashed by *Batman & Robin*. With *The Prestige*, he really began to establish himself as a brand and icon whose pictures you can rely on to feature slick-as-ice style, heavy dollops of science fiction, mind-warping concepts and resolutions, and a growing repertoire of actors to fulfill his vision. *Inception* and *Interstellar* certainly fit this mold, while *The Dark Knight* (and its *Rises* sequel, to an extent) revolutionized comic book movies and pop culture fandom. And lest we think he forgot his roots, *Dunkirk* was a worthy movie monument to the WWII military evacuation's inspirational stature within British society.

2020's *Tenet* was a bellwether to test the lockdown winds. Its release was controversial and helped sever Nolan's working relationship with Warner Bros. Now, he has his *Oppenheimer* biopic at Universal, which currently is his top film. And now we rank all Christopher Nolan movies by Tomatometer! —Alex Vo (https://editorial.rottentomatoes.com/author/alex-vo/)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/oppenheimer 2023)

OPPENHEIMER (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/OPPENHEIMER_2023) (2023) 93%

Critics Consensus: *Oppenheimer* marks another engrossing achievement from Christopher Nolan that benefits from Murphy's tour-de-force performance and stunning visuals.

Synopsis: During World War II, Lt. Gen. Leslie Groves Jr. appoints physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer to work on the top-secret Manhattan... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/oppenheimer_2023)

Starring: Cillian Murphy (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/cillian_murphy), Emily Blunt

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/1163951-emily_blunt), Robert Downey Jr.

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/robert_downey_ir), Matt Damon

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/matt_damon)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/the_dark_knight)

THE DARK KNIGHT (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/THE_DARK_KNIGHT) (2008) 94%

Critics Consensus: Dark, complex, and unforgettable, *The Dark Knight* succeeds not just as an entertaining comic book film, but as a richly thrilling crime saga.

Synopsis: With the help of allies Lt. Jim Gordon (Gary Oldman) and DA Harvey Dent (Aaron Eckhart), Batman (Christian Bale) has... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/the_dark_knight)

Starring: Christian Bale (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christian_bale), Heath Ledger

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/heath_ledger), Aaron Eckhart

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/aaron_eckhart), Michael Caine

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/michael caine)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/memento)

MEMENTO (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/MEMENTO) (2000) 93%

Critics Consensus: Christopher Nolan skillfully guides the audience through Memento's fractured narrative, seeping his film in existential dread.

Synopsis: Leonard (Guy Pearce) is tracking down the man who raped and murdered his wife. The difficulty, however, of locating his... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/memento)

Starring: Guy Pearce (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/guy_pearce), Carrie-Anne Moss

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/carrie_anne_moss), Joe Pantoliano

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/joe_pantoliano), Mark Boone Junior

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/mark_boone_ir)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

#4



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/dunkirk_2017)

DUNKIRK (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/DUNKIRK_2017) (2017) 92%

Critics Consensus: *Dunkirk* serves up emotionally satisfying spectacle, delivered by a writer-director in full command of his craft and brought to life by a gifted ensemble cast that honors the fact-based story.

Synopsis: In May 1940, Germany advanced into France, trapping Allied troops on the beaches of Dunkirk. Under air and ground cover... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/dunkirk_2017)

Starring: Fionn Whitehead (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/fionn_whitehead), Tom Glynn-Carney

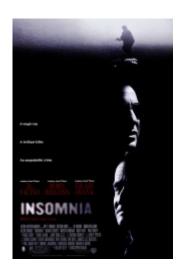
(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/tom_glynn_carney), Jack Lowden

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/jack_lowden), Harry Styles

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/harry_styles)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/1114154-insomnia)

INSOMNIA (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/1114154-INSOMNIA) (2002) 92%

Critics Consensus: Driven by Al Pacino and Robin Williams' performances, *Insomnia* is a smart and riveting psychological drama.

Synopsis: From acclaimed director Chris Nolan ("Memento") comes the story of a veteran police detective (Al Pacino) who is sent to... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/1114154-insomnia)

Starring: Al Pacino (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/al_pacino), Robin Williams

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/robin williams), Hilary Swank

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/hilary_swank), Maura Tierney

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/maura tierney)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

#6



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/the_dark_knight_rises)

THE DARK KNIGHT RISES (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/THE_DARK_KNIGHT_RISES) (2012) 87%

Critics Consensus: The Dark Knight Rises is an ambitious, thoughtful, and potent action film that concludes Christopher Nolan's franchise in spectacular fashion.

Synopsis: It has been eight years since Batman (Christian Bale), in collusion with Commissioner Gordon (Gary Oldman), vanished into the night.... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/the_dark_knight_rises)

Starring: Christian Bale (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christian_bale), Anne Hathaway

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/anne_hathaway), Tom Hardy

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/tom_hardy), Marion Cotillard

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/marion_cotillard)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

#7



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/inception)

INCEPTION (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/INCEPTION) (2010) 87%

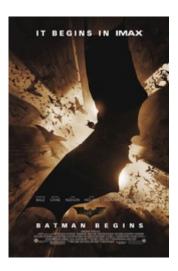
Critics Consensus: Smart, innovative, and thrilling, *Inception* is that rare summer blockbuster that succeeds viscerally as well as intellectually.

Synopsis: Dom Cobb (Leonardo DiCaprio) is a thief with the rare ability to enter people's dreams and steal their secrets from... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/inception)

Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/leonardo_di_caprio), Joseph Gordon-Levitt (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/joseph_gordonlevitt), Elliot Page (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/elliot_page), Tom Hardy (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/tom_hardy)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/batman_begins)

BATMAN BEGINS (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/BATMAN_BEGINS) (2005) 84%

Critics Consensus: Brooding and dark, but also exciting and smart, *Batman Begins* is a film that understands the essence of one of the definitive superheroes.

Synopsis: A young Bruce Wayne (Christian Bale) travels to the Far East, where he's trained in the martial arts by Henri... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/batman_begins)

Starring: Christian Bale (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christian_bale), Michael Caine

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/michael_caine), Liam Neeson

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/liam_neeson), Katie Holmes

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/katie_holmes)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/prestige)

THE PRESTIGE (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/PRESTIGE) (2006) 76%

Critics Consensus: Full of twists and turns, *The Prestige* is a dazzling period piece that never stops challenging the audience.

Synopsis: An illusion gone horribly wrong pits two 19th-century magicians, Alfred Borden (Christian Bale) and Rupert Angier (Hugh Jackman), against each... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/prestige)

Starring: Hugh Jackman (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/hugh_jackman), Christian Bale

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christian bale), Michael Caine

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/michael caine), Scarlett Johansson

(//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/scarlett_johansson)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

#10



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/interstellar_2014)

INTERSTELLAR (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/INTERSTELLAR_2014) (2014) 73%

Critics Consensus: *Interstellar* represents more of the thrilling, thought-provoking, and visually resplendent filmmaking moviegoers have come to expect from writer-director Christopher Nolan, even if its intellectual reach somewhat exceeds its grasp.

Synopsis: In Earth's future, a global crop blight and second Dust Bowl are slowly rendering the planet uninhabitable. Professor Brand (Michael... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/interstellar_2014)

Starring: Matthew McConaughey (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/mathew_mcconaughey), Anne Hathaway (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/anne_hathaway), Jessica Chastain (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/jessica-chastain), Michael Caine (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/michael_caine)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

#11



(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/following)

FOLLOWING (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/FOLLOWING) (1998) 83%

Critics Consensus: Super brief but efficient, *Following* represents director Christopher Nolan's burgeoning talent in tight filmmaking and hard-edge noir.

Synopsis: Lacking prospects, a writer (Jeremy Theobald) begins tailing strangers, until he encounters a voyeuristic thief (Alex Haw).... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/following)

Starring: Jeremy Theobald (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/jeremy_theobald), Alex Haw (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/alex-haw), Lucy Russell (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/lucy-russell), John Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/john_nolan_2)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)





(https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/tenet)

TENET (HTTPS://WWW.ROTTENTOMATOES.COM/M/TENET) (2020) 69%

Critics Consensus: A visually dazzling puzzle for film lovers to unlock, *Tenet* serves up all the cerebral spectacle audiences expect from a Christopher Nolan production.

Synopsis: A secret agent embarks on a dangerous, time-bending mission to prevent the start of World War III.... [More] (https://www.rottentomatoes.com/m/tenet)

Starring: John David Washington (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/john_david_washington), Robert Pattinson (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/robert_pattinson), Elizabeth Debicki (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/elizabeth_debicki), Kenneth Branagh (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/kenneth_branagh)

Directed By: Christopher Nolan (//www.rottentomatoes.com/celebrity/christopher_nolan)

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