The new Canon: the best films of the 2000s

| Notes & Cues: | Article: |
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| | This list advances the modest proposal that, when it comes to the Canon, |
| | we expand our notions of permanence and connoisseurship to include films that |
| | are worthy of appreciation—even veneration—despite being so recent. (As for |
| | rankings, this collection is unnumbered, reflecting a loose, intuitive collection |
| | rather than a strict hierarchy.) No one is a prophet in their own hometown; |
| | sometimes we need reminding that many of the films we're seeing right now |
| | are genuinely timeless. |
| | "Spirited Away" (2001) Japanese anime director Hayao Miyazaki seems |
| | unable to make anything but masterpieces; still, this epic tale of a young girl separated from her parents and thrust into a magical world stands as |
| | his greatest—not only for its transporting visuals but also for its bracing |
| | sense of adventure, terror, resilience and heroism. Full of whimsy, fantasy |
| | and childlike wonder—elements that would otherwise feel overbearing or |
| | unforgivably ersatz—Miyazaki's vision is also earthy and profound, even at |
| | its most allegorical. |
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| Summary: | |
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