

The best films of the 2000s

Notes & Cues:	Article: <p>"No Country for Old Men" (2007)</p> <p>With this adaptation of the Cormac McCarthy novel, Joel and Ethan Coen created a technically perfect movie, a one-film master class in every element of cinematic style, from writing and acting to cinematography, editing and sound design.</p> <p>Viewers can be skeptical of the film's moral universe—conditioned by McCarthy's weary pessimism and overworked moral rhetoric—and still appreciate the Coens' impeccable control of the material.</p> <p>A scene when Josh Brolin's protagonist listens to an approaching foe in a hotel hallway is a tutorial in the use of sound to tell a story with excruciating tension and suspense.</p> <p>"Dunkirk" (2017)</p> <p>Since his breakout indie hit "Memento," Christopher Nolan has played with notions of time, scrambling his movies' chronology and creating densely layered narratives that barely skirt utter incomprehensibility.</p> <p>With this interpretive history of the World War II evacuation of Allied forces, Nolan deconstructs the time frame, doing away with linear narrative in favor of a sensory experience that is immersive and empathic.</p> <p>As an exercise in sound and image, "Dunkirk" achieved a purity rarely seen in contemporary commercial cinema, simultaneously returning movies to their roots and pushing them forward.</p>
Summary:	