#### Classic 90s

Crime Films History Minimalism Fresh Sounds

## The Silence of the Lambs

- Best Picture, 1991
- Principal Characters
  - Clarice Starling-AFI Greatest Hero No. 6
  - Hannibal Lecter-AFI Greatest Villain No. 1
- · Music composed by Howard Shore
  - Modest score; low register frequent
  - Following trend of brilliant killers, Hannibal prefers Bach to rock

## **Pulp Fiction**

- Winner Palm d'Or 1994
- Director Quentin Tarantino masterpiece
  - Intermixes 2 principal threads and 1 subsidiary thread (the frames)
  - Non-linear (not chronological)
- Music
  - Largely surfer rock
  - Mostly heard as source music
  - Often runs counter to action

### **Minimalism**



- Musical qualities
  - Long sustained pitches or chords
  - Short repetitive figures
- Contrasts for relief
  - Source music in a different style
  - Build to a climax

# The Shawshank Redemption,

- Music by Thomas Newman
- Minimalism
  - Repetitive quality suggests main character's coldness, calculating mind, and being trapped in a situation
  - Contrasts with source music and a few climactic moments



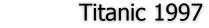
## Run Lola Run

- German film 1998
  - Postmodern style
  - Music is by director Tom Tykwer
  - Synthesized rock pulse, lacks obvious changes
- Source music includes
  - "What a Difference a Day Makes" sung by Dinah Washington
  - "The Unanswered Question" composed by Charles Ives
  - Robbing a Store: Viewer Guide 28.3



### Minimal Efforts

- American Beauty 1999
  - Best Picture Winner
  - Thomas Newman Oscar nominated minimalist score
- The Matrix 1999
  - Composer: Don Davis
  - Eclectic score, largely popular and minimalist
  - Introduces action minimalism





- Winner of 11 Oscars
- Composer: James Horner 2 Oscars
- Mixes traditional symphonic and popular
- International hit song
  - Song appears in the closing credits
  - Melody is integrated into the score as a leitmotif
- Fore and Aft: Viewer Guide 25.3

### Schindler's List 1993



- Best Picture Winner: AFI #9
- Director: Steven Spielberg
  - Focuses on the transformation of a single man who witnesses the horrific events of the Holocaust
  - Daring black-and-white cinematography suggests the 1930s and 40s and a documentary style
- · Music: John Williams
  - Haunting musical score; does not change moods
  - Prominent solo violin throughout
- Farewell: Viewer Guide 25.2