

Heroes in Action

Heroes
Superheroes

Search for Heroes

- After 9-11, Hollywood needs to heroes for America
- Turn to superheroes, often defending a city (New York) under attack
- A few realistic heroes from recent events
 - *Blackhawk Down* (2001) incident in Somalia
 - *The Hurt Locker* (2008) story set in Iraq
 - *Argo* (2012) incident in Iran hostage crisis
- Last 2 films won Best Picture Oscars

Argo



- Based on true story
 - Several embassy workers escaped from capture; hid at Canadian embassy
 - Escape plan: fake shooting a Hollywood movie (*Argo*) and take them out as the crew
- Nominated Best Music: Marco Beltrami and Buck Sanders
- Reading Scripts: Viewer Guide 30.1
 - Hollywood glitz with rock music (Van Halen)
 - Crosscuts with world events; minimalistic music creates somber mood
 - Points up superficiality of Hollywood

Super Spies and Sleuths

- James Bond: 5 movies in 21st century
- *Skyfall* is no. 23 of 24
 - Thomas Newman Best Song Oscar and nominated for Best Score
 - Action Opening: music mixes Bond themes; ethnic; rock; minimalism
 - Song “Skyfall” wins Oscar
 - Song melody used in the score
 - Opening Scene: Viewer Guide 30.2

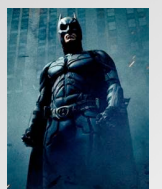


Super Spies and Sleuths

- Sherlock Holmes: 2 new films
 - Reinvented duo; martial arts experts
 - *Sherlock Holmes* (2009); nomination for Zimmer
- *A Game of Shadows* (2011)
 - A Night at the Opera: Viewer Guide 30.3
 - Moriarty has planted a bomb
 - Holmes deduces its at the opera house
 - *Don Giovanni* as Source Music and in score
 - Mixes with action music



D.C. Superheroes



- Superman
 - *Superman Returns* (2006) retells story; uses Williams themes
 - *Man of Steel* (2013) score by Zimmer
- Batman
 - *Batman Begins* (2005), *The Dark Knight* (2008), *Dark Knight Rises* (2012)
 - Music for all 3 by Zimmer; dark, minimal scores
 - Opening to *Dark Knight* typical action minimalism

Joker 2019



- Dark psychological thriller
- Arthur Fleck
 - Wants to be a standup comedian
 - Works as a clown
 - Can have fits of uncontrollable laughter
 - Descends into madness and becomes the Joker
- 11 Oscar nominations, 2 wins
 - Best Actor for Joaquin Phoenix
 - Best Score for Hildur Guonadottir
 - From Iceland
 - Solo cellist; often incorporates cello into her scores

Marvel Superheroes



- Spider-Man Trilogy
 - *Spider-Man* (2002), Elfman
 - *Spider-Man 2* (2004), Elfman
 - *Spider-Man 3* (2007), Young
- A new series
 - *The Amazing Spider-Man* (2012), Horner
 - *The Amazing Spider-Man 2* (2014), Zimmer
- *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse* (2018) animated, Pemberton

The Avengers



- Ensemble of heroes, including: Iron Man, Thor, Captain America, the Incredible Hulk
- *The Avengers* 2012, Silvestri
 - Third highest grossing film of all time
 - Alan Silvestri composed the score

Black Panther 2018



- Based on Marvel Comics character
 - Vibranium lands in Africa
 - Used vibranium to build an advanced secret nation called Wakanda
 - Vibranium gives supernatural powers to one leader called the Black Panther
 - Leader has died; T'Challa comes to claim the crown
- Composer: Ludwig Göransson
 - Mixes western, African, and popular styles
 - Arriving in Wakanda;

Guardians of the Galaxy 2014 and 2017



- Ensemble of heroes from Marvel
 - Peter Quill, human
 - Rocket, genetically-engineered raccoon
 - Groot, human-like tree
- Music created by Tyler Bates
 - Good action and other mood cues
 - 70s rock music introduced as source music
 - Rock music energizes numerous scenes