

Film News: Terrence Malick's 'The Tree of Life' Leads 2011 Chicago Film Critics Association Nominees

Submitted by [BrianTT](#) [1] on December 16, 2011 - 8:03am

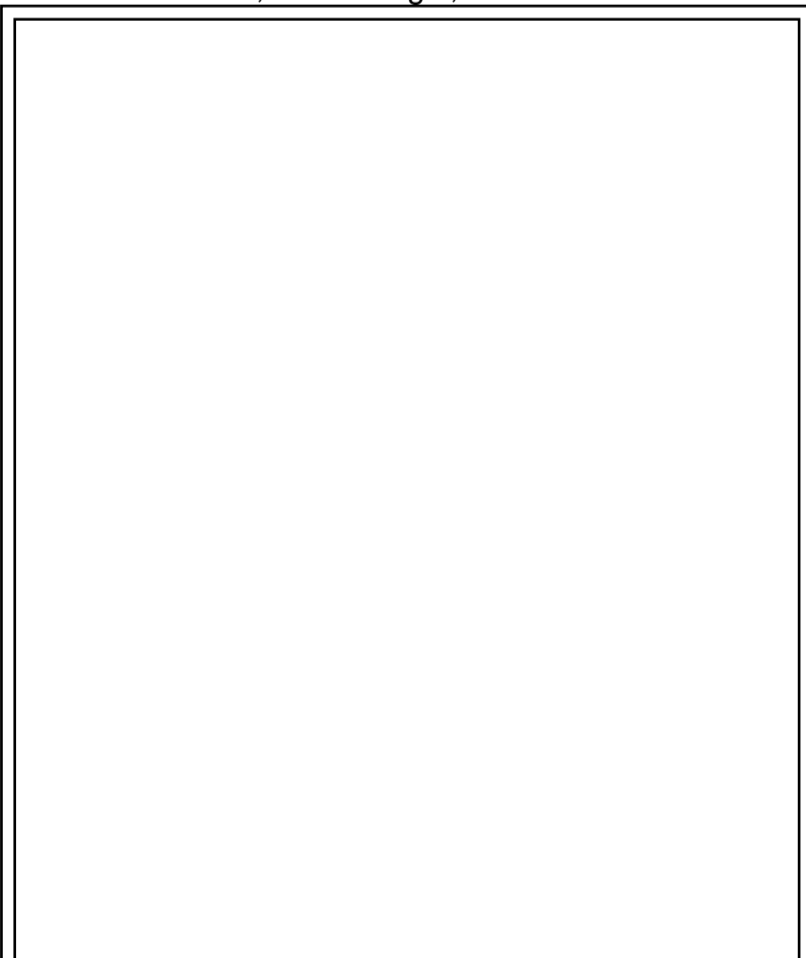
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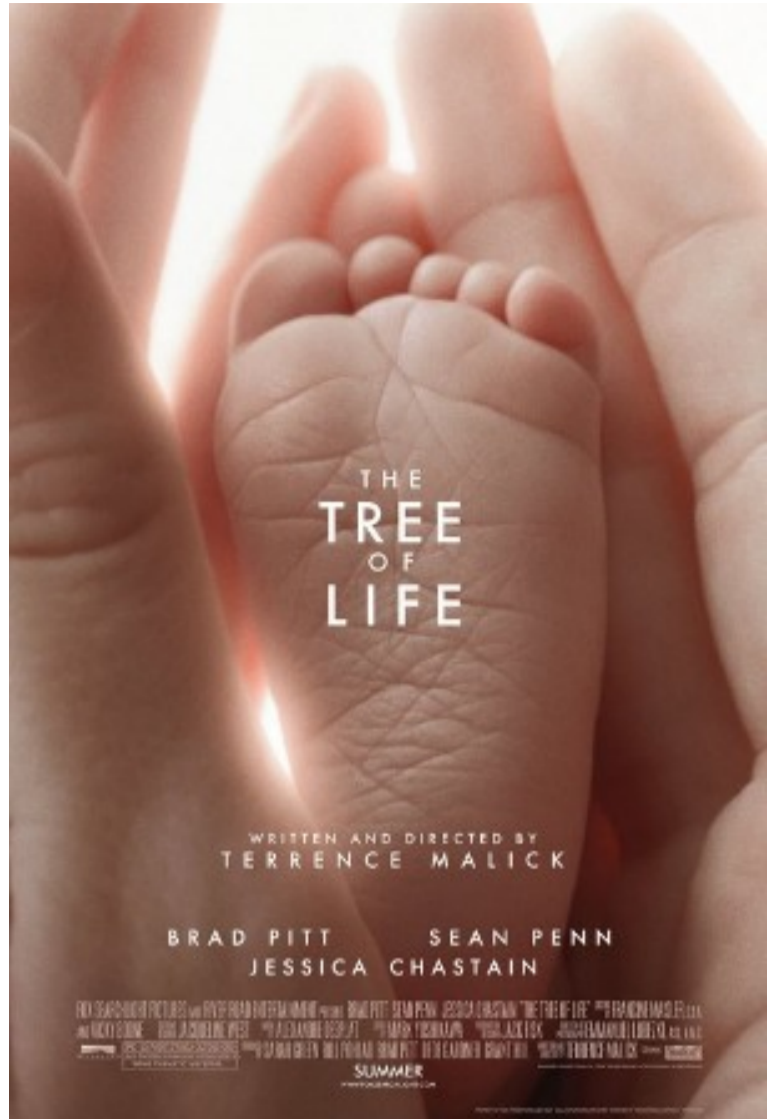
CHICAGO – It may have had a controversial journey to the big screen, but the Chicago Film Critics Association thought that Terrence Malick's "The Tree of Life" was worth the wait, nominating it today for a leading seven awards, including Best Picture, Supporting Actor (Brad Pitt), Supporting Actress (Jessica Chastain), Director, Original Screenplay, Cinematography, and Promising Performer (Hunter McCracken). Joining "The Tree of Life" in the race for Best Picture is "The Descendants" and "Drive," each with six nominations total, and "The Artist" and "Hugo." each with five.

Overall, a remarkable 43 films were chosen as some of the best of 2011, with other multiple nominees including "Martha Marcy May Marlene" with four nods, and six diverse films granted a pair of nominations — "A Separation," "Melancholia," "My Week With Marilyn," "Shame," "The Help," and "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy."

As they often do, the CFCA made some inspired choices, including several unexpected picks. Brad Pitt missed out on a lead nomination for "Moneyball," but popped up in Best Supporting Actor for "The Tree of Life." After a remarkable critical campaign that allowed the film another appraisal, Anna Paquin was chosen as a finalist for her work in "Margaret." And while some have selected the notable supporting performances by Jessica Chastain in "Take Shelter" and "The Help," the CFCA selected "The Tree of Life" as her best. Finally, the great Werner Herzog will compete with himself with two entries for Best Documentary, but face a challenge from the Chicago-based "The Interrupters."

The winners of the 2011 Chicago Film Critics Awards will be announced on Monday, December 19th, 2011. Come back for all the news and stay tuned for more details about the first awards ceremony to be held by the group since 2001, including appearances by Shirley MacLaine, James Earl Jones, Jason Segel, and more.





The Tree of Life
Photo credit: Fox Searchlight

BEST PICTURE

The Artist
The Descendants
Drive
Hugo
The Tree of Life

BEST ACTOR

George Clooney, The Descendants
Jean Dujardin, The Artist
Michael Fassbender, Shame
Gary Oldman, Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy
Michael Shannon, Take Shelter

BEST ACTRESS

Kirsten Dunst, Melancholia
Elizabeth Olsen, Martha Marcy May Marlene
Anna Paquin, Margaret
Meryl Streep, The Iron Lady
Michelle Williams, My Week With Marilyn

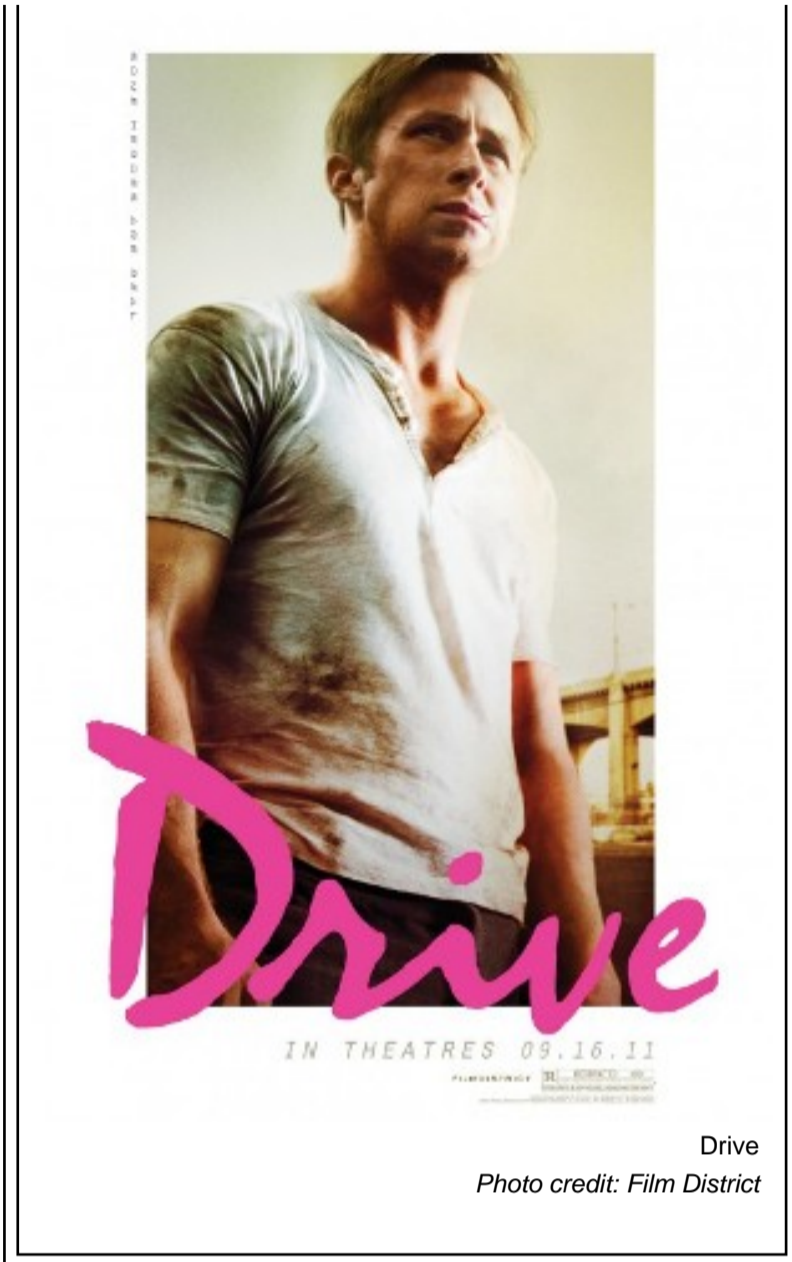
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR

Albert Brooks, Drive
Nick Nolte, Warrior
Patton Oswalt, Young Adult
Brad Pitt, The Tree of Life
Christopher Plummer, Beginners

BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS

Jessica Chastain, The Tree of Life
Melissa McCarthy, Bridesmaids
Carey Mulligan, Shame
Octavia Spencer, The Help
Shailene Woodley, The Descendants





BEST DIRECTOR

Michel Hazanavicius, *The Artist*
Terrence Malick, *The Tree of Life*
Alexander Payne, *The Descendants*
Nicolas Winding Refn, *Drive*
Martin Scorsese, *Hugo*

BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY

The Descendants by Alexander Payne, Nat Faxon, & Jim Rash
Drive by Hossein Amini
Hugo by John Logan
Moneyball by Steven Zaillian & Aaron Sorkin
Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy by Bridget O'Connor & Peter Straughan

BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY

The Artist by Michel Hazanavicius
Martha Marcy May Marlene by Sean Durkin
Midnight in Paris by Woody Allen
A Separation by Asghar Farhadi
The Tree of Life by Terrence Malick

BEST ANIMATED FILM

The Adventures of Tintin
Arthur Christmas
Puss in Boots
Rango
Winnie the Pooh

BEST DOCUMENTARY

Cave of Forgotten Dreams
The Interrupters
Into the Abyss
Pina
Project Nim
Tabloid



A Separation

Photo credit: Sony Pictures Classics

BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

- Incendies
- In a Better World
- A Separation
- The Skin I Live In
- Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives

BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY

- Newton Thomas Sigel, Drive
- Robert Richardson, Hugo
- Manuel Alberto Claro, Melancholia
- Emmanuel Lubezki, The Tree of Life
- Janusz Kaminski, War Horse

BEST SCORE

- Ludovic Bource, The Artist
- Cliff Martinez, Drive
- Trent Reznor & Atticus Ross, The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo
- The Chemical Brothers, Hanna
- Howard Shore, Hugo

MOST PROMISING PERFORMER

- Liana Liberato, Trust
- Brit Marling, Another Earth
- Hunter McCracken, The Tree of Life
- Elizabeth Olsen, Martha Marcy May Marlene
- Shailene Woodley, Descendants, The

MOST PROMISING FILMMAKER

- J.C. Chandor, Margin Call
- Simon Curtis, My Week With Marilyn
- Drake Doremus, Like Crazy
- Sean Durkin, Martha Marcy May Marlene
- Tate Taylor, The Help

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