

Film Feature: The 10 Best Films of 2019, By Patrick McDonald

Submitted by [PatrickMcD](#) [1] on December 31, 2019 - 5:20pm

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CHICAGO – An entire decade is biting the dust in the switch from 2019 to 2020, with an America that can experience the anarchy of our current times reflected in the movies. What better time to unleash the 10 BEST FILMS of 2019, as selected by Über Critic Patrick McDonald of HollywoodChicago.com.

I begin (switching now to first person), by ranking the 25th best film through the 11th, with the option to click on the highlighted titles for reviews or associated interviews... 25th - [MIDWAY](#) [23] (A WW2 film that was inside the cockpit), 24th - [THE KINGMAKER](#) [25] (a cautionary tale of power), 22nd - [GLORIA BELL](#) [28] (Julianne Moore is a national treasure), 14th - PAIN AND GLORY (a movie in a movie in an addict), 13th - [THE BEACH BUM](#) [30] (all right, all right, all right), and 11th - [DIANE](#) [32] (a life-defining film). Below each film description in the 10 BEST will be a link to full reviews and/or interviews, when applicable. And away we go...



ONCE UPON A TIME IN HOLLYWOOD



Once Upon a Time in Hollywood
Photo credit: Universal Pictures

When a good old fashioned war movie evolves to an exemplary anti-war statement, then an extraordinary cinema experience has been achieved. 1917 is one of those creations, centered around Two World War One British soldiers, Schofield (George MacKay) and Blake (Dean-Charles Chapman), who have the impossible mission of delivering a message to the front lines to call off an attack, when it is found out that the Germans have laid a trap for 1600 Brit soldiers. Filled with the frustration, utter waste and the tragedy of war, it never blinks nor makes apologies ... even at its most romantic. Co-writer/director Sam Mendes (AMERICAN BEAUTY) dedicated this one to his grandfather, who told him the stories. Magnificent, and brought to light by now-legendary cinematographer Roger Deakins. **In theaters now, available thru digital/DVD in March 2020 (estimated).**

HIGHLIGHT: A cameo by the great Benedict Cumberbatch, who finds new meaning for the word "f**k."

