

OSCAR[®] A to Z

A Complete Guide to
More Than 2,400 Movies
Nominated For
Academy Awards[®]

charles matthews

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lost to a very different kind of music from a film from another universe: Isaac Hayes' "Theme from *Shaft*." The scoring Oscar was won by John Williams for *Fiddler on the Roof*.

Lycett: 4, 219, 1284. Lee: 219. Mansbridge: 1022. Ellenshaw: 219, 1022, 1284. Kuri: 4, 363, 629, 894, 1284, 1823, 2155. Gausman: 4, 1022, 1284, 2185. R. M. Sherman: 396, 1238, 1284, 1842, 2107. R. B. Sherman: 396, 1238, 1284, 1842, 2107. Kostal: 1284, 1557, 1881, 2244. Thomas: 116, 254, 866, 883, 1003, 1789, 1812, 1886, 2128.

166.5 • BEETHOVEN'S 2ND

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRODUCTION; UNIVERSAL. 1993.

NOMINATION Song: "The Day I Fall in Love," music and lyrics by Carole Bayer Sager, James Ingram, and Clif Magness.

Beethoven, a St. Bernard dog owned by a suburban family headed by Charles Grodin, fathers a litter of puppies that then become the focus of a dognaping plot. Saggy sequel to *Beethoven*, a hugely successful family comedy in 1992. Grodin's finely tuned comic work as the reluctant dog owner and the comic villainy of Debi Mazar and Chris Penn are all the movie has to offer—except, of course, countless stupid pet tricks. Directed by Rod Daniel. The nominated song, which accompanies the wooing of Beethoven and another St. Bernard named Missy, lost to Bruce Springsteen's "Streets of Philadelphia," from *Philadelphia*.

Sager: 103, 977, 1071.3, 1898. Ingram: 1071.3.

167 • BEETLEJUICE

GEFFEN FILM COMPANY PRODUCTION; GEFFEN/WARNER BROS. 1988.

AWARD Makeup: Ve Neill, Steve LaPorte, and Robert Short.

Geena Davis [6 . . .] and Alec Baldwin die in an accident and come back as ghosts, only to discover that the home they loved has been taken over by an arty couple (Catherine O'Hara and Jeffrey Jones) with atrocious taste. To oust them, Davis and Baldwin enlist the aid of Michael Keaton, who plays a malicious ghost named Betelgeuse, but discover that he's more than they can handle. Some very funny special

effects, a hilariously manic performance by Keaton, witty acting by Winona Ryder [27.5 . . .] as the usurping couple's gloom-haunted teenage daughter, and self-mocking cameos by Robert Goulet and Dick Cavett make all this nonsense work. It doesn't amount to much, but it's less pretentious and ultimately more enjoyable than director Tim Burton's more elaborate and expensive *Batman* movies.

Neill: 153.5, 595.8, 600, 924.5, 1370.5.

167.5 • BEFORE THE RAIN

AIM PRODUCTION/NOE PRODUCTIONS/VARDAR FILMS PRODUCTION; GRAMERCY PICTURES (THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA). 1994.

NOMINATION Foreign Language Film.

Three interrelated episodes—two of them set in Macedonia, the middle one in London—dramatize the cultural conflicts that have torn apart the countries that used to be Yugoslavia, in this case the animosity between Macedonians and Albanians. Writer-director Milcho Manchevski has noted that the wholesale bloodletting seen in Bosnia has not yet come to Macedonia, though the title of his absorbing, well-acted film may be an ironic prediction. The conflicts of the film, in fact, had an echo even at the Oscar ceremony. The Academy, which had first cited *Before the Rain* as an entry from "Macedonia," changed the citation to read "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia." The government of Greece has protested the name adopted by the country after its separation from Yugoslavia in 1991 on the grounds that Macedonia is a Greek province—one with potentially separatist aims of its own. The U.N. and the U.S. Government have adopted the longer name for the country as a provisional compromise, and the Academy, after protests from Greeks, followed suit. But Manchevski announced that he would boycott the awards ceremony if the longer name were used: "In the larger picture, the name is a small thing," Manchevski said. "But it would be like calling the U.S. 'the former British colony of America.' It's an insult to the people back there." The protest was made moot when the foreign-language film Oscar went to the Russian *Burnt by the Sun*.