
**LS PICK**

# Oscar fever

The 87th annual Academy Awards took place on the 22nd of February. In honour of the Oscars, Star Lifestyle has compiled a list of the most memorable best picture winners throughout history of the Academy Awards.

**1. The Departed (2006)** - Last decade's Oscar winners were on a whole quite disappointing. The Departed is one of the exceptions. It's truly a wonder how Leonardo Di Caprio has yet to win an Oscar. Martin Scorsese proves that he's still got it, in style.

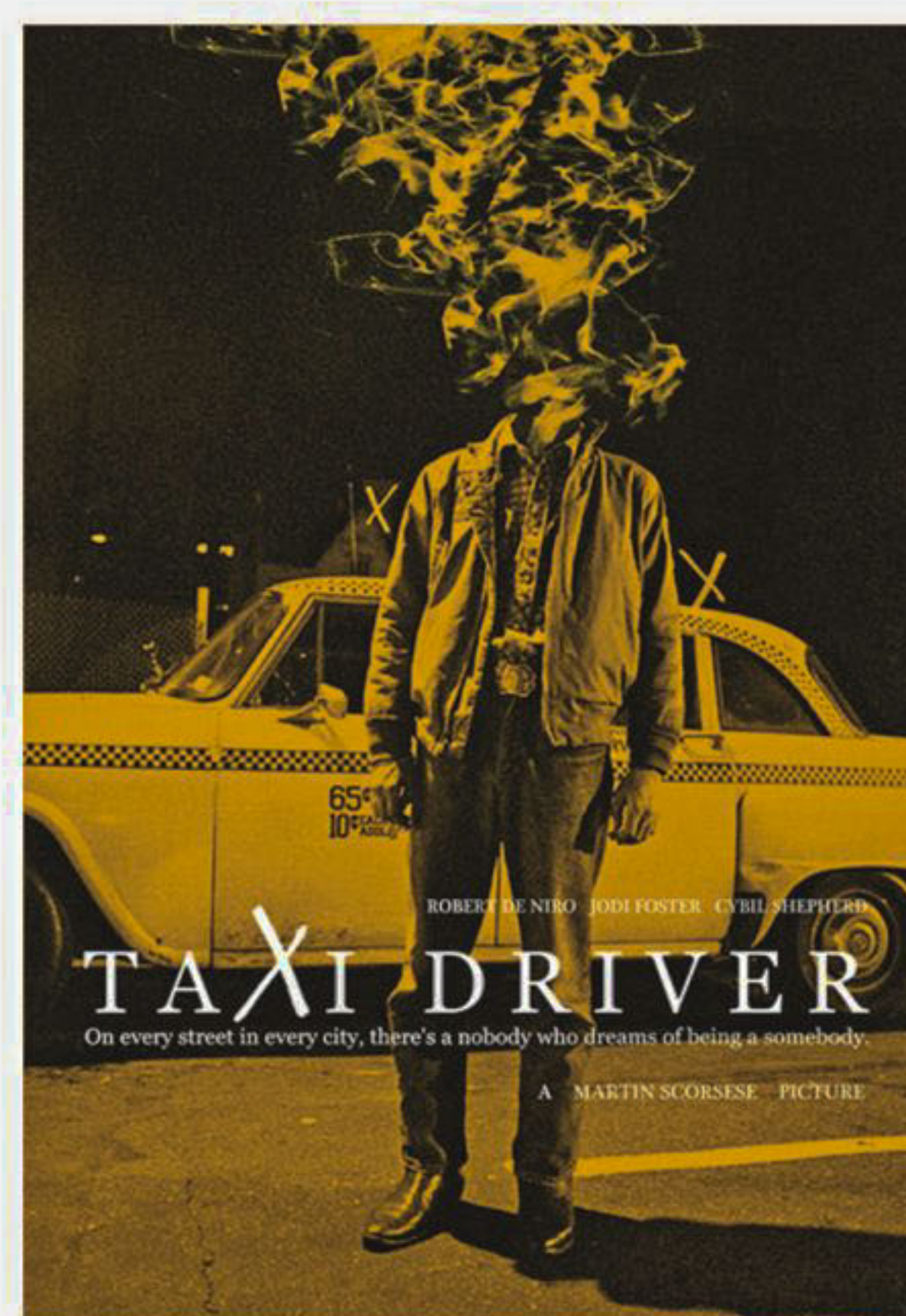
**2. Forrest Gump (1994), Pulp Fiction, The Shawshank Redemption (1995)** - 1995 was perhaps one of the best years for movies. Forrest Gump ended up taking home the big prize but it was a close race with The Pulp Fiction and The Shawshank Redemption hot on its trail. Both Forrest Gump and Shawshank Redemption are guaranteed to tug on your heartstrings. They are both beautifully directed and written but it's the acting that truly makes them stand apart from their peers. Pulp Fiction is personally my favourite. It's Quentin Tarantino's masterpiece. Nothing is more satisfying than watching all three parts of this story tie together at the end. Everything from the directing to the acting to the music is top notch.

**3. Schindler's List (1993)** - Steven Spielberg has an impressive filmography but nothing stands out quite like Schindler's List. It's horrifying and brutal but it is one of the most rewarding film experiences you will ever have. Ralph Fiennes' piercing eyes will haunt you for days to come but it's the image of the little girl in the red dress that will stay with you forever. Watch it and you'll know what I mean.



**4. Silence Of The Lambs (1991)** - Okay forget about Ralph Fiennes' eyes, everything about Anthony Hopkins in this movie is nightmare fodder. I'm not going to say anymore about this movie. Just don't have dinner with Anthony Hopkins.

**5. Taxi Driver (1976)** - I confess Taxi Driver didn't win that year. Rocky won. You don't even have to watch Taxi Driver to know that it was robbed big time. It's a crime that the Academy has been systematically snubbing Martin Scorsese for generations. Taxi Driver is a brilliant film. I still find myself quoting



Robert De Niro every time I'm standing in front of the mirror.

**6. One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest (1975)** - This is the movie that shaped Jack Nicholson into the fine actor he is today. It is an emotional rollercoaster. Beware though you might just end up hating nurses by the end of the film.

**7. The Godfather (1972)** - The Godfather is widely considered to be one of the best films ever made. Marlon Brando despite having a small screen time dominates and shows once again why he is the greatest

actor of all time. His performance will send shivers down your spine. This was Al Pacino's breakout film. And what a way to announce yourself to the industry. For those who haven't seen it yet DO IT NOW!

**8. The Godfather Part II (1974)** - No movie list is complete without the Godfather series. Sequels rarely live up to their predecessors but The Godfather Part II does it masterfully. In fact most don't even consider it a sequel. Al Pacino, who spent most of Part I in Marlon Brando's shadow, is exceptional as Michael who's become a husk of the man he was before. Robert De Niro is as usual excellent.

**9. On The Waterfront (1954)** - While not as well known as the rest of the films on this list, most consider it to be the defining point in cinema history. Brando declared himself a powerhouse with his incredible performance and introduced the art of method acting, thus changing the standards of acting itself. It's a must see for every film lover.

**10. Casablanca (1942)** - "Here's looking at you kid." Casablanca is a timeless classic and perhaps Hollywood's finest moment. The chemistry shared between Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart is one of a kind. It doesn't matter if you're not into movies because it is so much more than a wartime romance. It's an art.

**By Daneesha Khan**