

1-3. Kurt Russell Film Festival

Brace yourself for one doozy of an announcement: Our company has finally, *finally* been renamed and we've decided to use a Kurt Russell film for its title. Below are some collected quotes from respected reviewers about his other works. If you recognize enough titles, you should be able to figure out our new name!

The higher level executives at your parent company wish to make a few changes. They should have no impact on your original puzzle. Nice company name-- the CEO loves Kurt so much, we're all using "Dark Blue" ink at board meetings!

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Small-town banker Robin Williams has never been able to live down the fact that he dropped an important pass during a crucial high-school football game. Likewise tainted for life is the team's star quarterback Kurt Russell, now a garage owner. Fed up with living his life under a cloud, Williams hits upon a brilliant idea: he will stage a rematch--13 years after the fact--with the members of the rival team. (1986)

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We know that the director, Ron Howard, can handle more truthful and complex plots, because he has made *Parenthood* and *Cocoon*. Maybe this time he deliberately chose to make a no-brainer. But then you have the scenes involving fire. They're so good they make me recommend the movie anyway, despite its brain-damaged screenplay. With special effects and pyrotechnics coordinated by Allen Hall, a battalion of stunt men and visual experts allow the camera to plunge into the center of roaring fires, so convincingly that there is never a moment's doubt that we are surrounded by flames. (1991)

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An attempt at a sequel some 15 years after a successful original is a clear cry for help; this sequel hits the skids early on and can never fully steer itself out. Kurt Russell attempts to breathe life into the picture with his rendering of a hip anti-establishment hero, but even with all the cult-camp provided by Peter Fonda, Steve Buscemi, and Pam Grier, he can't save this disappointing dud. (1996)

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After scripting *Blade Runner* and *Twelve Monkeys*, David Webb Peoples continued to traverse the science fiction landscape with this action-adventure directed by Paul Anderson. A prologue shows infants classified 1A and placed in an academy promoting violent militarism. Spawned in such an environment, Sgt. Todd (Kurt Russell) became a top-ranking interplanetary fighter. However, military upgrades in genetic engineering made Todd obsolete. (1998)

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This remake of the 1950s classic is primarily a showcase for the gory special effects of Rob Bottin. Dogs are ripped open by tentacled beasts, people's faces stretch to inhuman dimensions, and all sorts of bloody mayhem ensues, while the cast stands around covered with ice crystals and sniping at each other. There are a few creepy moments, but most of them result in another of Bottin's admittedly amazing creations. (1982)

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Picking up where his Snake Plissken left off in *Escape from New York*, Russell stars as a cocky, boisterous trucker wh gets caught up in the madness. While the fight scenes are sharply choreographed and exciting, Carpenter maintains a humorou, tongue-firmly-in-cheek mood that has as many funny gags as it does duds. The supporting cast -- led by Dennis Dun, James Hong, Victor Wong (also in Carpenter's *Prince of Darkness*), and Kim Cattrall -- also appears to be having a good time wit the material. (1986)

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Goldie Hawn, who als served as the film's produce, stars as Kay, a woman who takes a job on the line a a plant producing war plane after her husband goes off to fight in Europe. One of her coworkers is her best friend Hazel, played b Christine Lahti, whose performance earned an Oscar nomination and a New York Fil Critics award. (1984)

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The film does a good jo driving home just how difficult it was t bring peace to any region of the Old West. Even in "retirement," Earp became embroiled in one fracas after another, though his whole wil was directed toward avoiding violence. But even if it makes token gesture toward non-violent idealism, this movie is really about watching x bunch of ornery lawme mop the dusty streets with the ba guys. (1993)

For 9, please use your company name.