

David Walsh names his favorite films of the year and the decade

23 December 1999

Favorite films of 1999

Asian, European and African films

1. *The Wind Will Carry Us* Abbas Kiarostami (Iran)
2. *Darkness and Light* Chang Tso-chi (Taiwan)
3. *So Close to Paradise* Wang Xiaoshuai (China)
4. *Xiao Wu** Jia Zhang Ke (China)
5. *The Power of Kangwon Province** Hong Sang-Soo (South Korea)
6. *The Wet Nurse* Marco Bellocchio (Italy)
7. *The Other* Youssef Chahine (Egypt)
8. *Shadows in the Dark* Pankaj Butalia (India)
9. *Aksuat** Serik Apyrmov (Kazakhstan)
10. *Dreamlife of Angels** (and *The Little Thief*) Erick Zonca (France)

*Released earlier, I only saw them this year

US films

1. *The Thin Red Line* Terrence Malick
2. *The Insider* Michael Mann
3. *Election* Alexander Payne
4. *A Simple Plan* Sam Raimi
5. *Rushmore* Wes Anderson
6. *Boys Don't Cry* Kimberly Pierce
7. *True Crime* Clint Eastwood
8. *Eyes Wide Shut* Stanley Kubrick
9. *The Limey* Steven Soderbergh
10. *Being John Malkovich* Spike Jonze

Favorite films of the 1990s

1. *Through the Olive Trees* Abbas Kiarostami, 1994 (Iran)
2. *Close up* Abbas Kiarostami, 1990 (Iran)
3. *Goodbye South, Goodbye* Hou Hsiao-hsien, 1996 (Taiwan)
4. *Postman* He Jianjun, 1995 (China)
5. *Dr. Akagi* Shohei Imamura, 1997 (Japan)
6. *A Borrowed Life* Wu Nien-jen, 1994 (Taiwan)
7. *Salaam Cinema* Mohsen Makhmalbaf, 1995 (Iran)
8. *Naked* Mike Leigh, 1993 (Britain)

9. *Slacker* Richard Linklater, 1991 (US)
10. *Buffalo '66* Vincent Gallo, 1998 (US)

Honorable mention: Heartbreak Island (Hsu Hsiao-ming, 1995); *Darkness and Light* (Chang Tso-chi, 1999); *Schizopolis* (Steven Soderbergh, 1996) *Van Gogh* (Maurice Pialat, 1991); *For Ever Mozart* (Jean-Luc Godard, 1996); *Safe* (Todd Haynes, 1995); *The Thin Red Line* (Terrence Malick, 1999); *The Neo-Fascist Trilogy* (Amos Gitai, 1994); *Xiao Wu* (Jia Zhang Ke, 1997); *Tired Companions* (Zoran Solomun, 1996)



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