

JudoKast Deep Dive

Episode No.1, James Cameron

On the debut episode of JudoKast, I want to talk about the Canadian filmmaker James Cameron and his impact on film

MUSIC: **Intro music**

JUDE D,

Welcome to Judocast: Deep Dive, I am your host as always, Jude D. In today's episode, I will be discussing the career and life of James Cameron, and why I think he is the greatest Canadian.

SOUND: **Segway music**

JUDE D,

It's crazy to see the evolution of film. From the now rudimentary colourless, black and white features of Charlie Chaplin to the huge digital rendered battlegrounds of the marvel movies today. Alongside the evolution, there are usually major figures who helped shape what it is, Steven Spielberg, Christopher Nolan, Martin Scorsese and James Cameron. Today I want to talk about how James Cameron helped shape cinema.

MUSIC: **segway music**

Story A: The narrative impact

JUDE D,

Ok, flashback to late October 1984, "I just called to say I love you", is the no.1 song. The hot new food is potato skins.

SOUND: **Ambient fades in**

JUDE D,

Big movie studios didn't know much of a direction to go into after the explosion with massive franchise hits such as Star Wars and Indiana Jones. Those franchises were deep-rooted in classic storytelling methods as Star Wars' major influence was the classic heroes journey.

SOUND: **Instrumental song fades in**

JUDE D,

Along comes a thirty-year-old, unknown Canadian filmmaker, James Cameron with his, feature-length debut, The Terminator. The film was a complete surprise and game-changer, landing as No. 27 on the box office list of 1984. Terminator's sequel, also helmed by Mr.Cameron grossed even more than that and is even on the list of Top Grossing R-Rated movies of all time. This is not even talking about the narrative leaps this film took were great. Being one of the greatest time travel plots in cinema, modernizing the unkillable killer storytelling concept which originated with John Carpenters Halloween and moving forward with feminism in action films, as Sarah Connor, the main character was complex and interesting, and a leap forward from Star Wars Princess Leia. All with it's one unique and unforgettable iconography.

SOUND: **Transitional music**

JUDE D,

I really wanted to confirm that James Cameron was an influential filmmaker, so I sat down with Sean Clancy, a High School film teacher, to discuss his impact.

INTERVIEW STARTS HERE

JUDE D,

So, can you start by stating your name, and what you do?

SEAN CLANCY

Sean Clancy, Teacher, Seycove Secondary School, I teach film and television as well.

JUDE D,

Ok, my first question is, who do you think are the best and most influential Canadian filmmakers?

SEAN CLANCY

I have difficult coming up with a lot of names, but I would say, Atom Egoyan, although thats just because of name recognition, Bruce McDonald, and I'm trying to think of... Robert Le Page is one of my favourites.

JUDE D,

ok, and so, my second question is, my episode is about James Cameron,so, how do you think he was influential as a film maker?

SEAN CLANCY

Well, I think he helped to maintain science fiction as a major genre as opposed to a sub-genre, so films such as Aliens, Terminator, I think he combined great acting with very good storylines to create great films that had a widespread appeal to not just sci-fi fans.

JUDE D,

Hmm, what do you think of the director? What are your thought on him?

SEAN CLANCY

Well, I'll tell ya, a lot more people know who James Cameron is then Sean Clancy is so lets leave it at that. While I don't neccarsaly love his work, its not my go-to for films, and I'm not rushing to thew theatre to see the new James Cameron film, I very much appreciate him for what he is and good for him man! He's doing it! He's living the Dream!

END OF INTERVIEW

Pt. 2 VFX Impact

MUSIC: [Play Transitional music](#)

JUDE D,

James Cameron has always described himself as an adventurer, from his small-town beginnings in Kapuskasing Ontario, he has always wanted to look into the unknown, from going deep-sea diving to the massive VFX influence avatar had.

SOUND: [segway music](#)

JUDE D,

It's easy to see the jump Avatar and Mr.Cameron created in VFX. They used motion capture stages six times a regular size to achieve the lighting system for the film. The motion capture was a critical part of the production, for the CGI, actors wore individually made skull caps fitted with a tiny camera positioned in front of the actors' faces; the information collected about their

facial expressions and eyes is then transmitted to computers. For the rendering of the film, Weta (the VFX studio) used a 930 m² (10,000 sq ft) server farm, or with 35,000 processor cores with 104 terabytes of RAM and three petabytes of network area storage.

MUSIC: [Play Ambience instrumental](#)

JUDE D,

You cannot deny the influence of James Cameron, from winning Best Director, picture and editing at the Oscars for his work on Titanic to To, two of his films landing next to each other on the list of highest-grossing films of all time, only behind Avengers: Endgame. In regards to Canada, he was the first Canadian to win the best director at The Oscars and Order of Canada, the second best Honor a citizen can achieve in Canada. But it all started with a drive to bring his vision of Science Fiction to life which he achieved with The Terminator, this drive for his goal helped create milestones in his career and in cinema overall. And that is why I think he is the greatest Canadian.

MUSIC: [Segway Music](#)

JUDE D,

Thank you for listening to Judocast: Deep Dive. This episode took a long time to create and I think that reflects onto the quality of the episode. With that I want to close out the podcast, with a quote from James Cameron If you set your goals ridiculously high and its a failure, you will fail above everyone else's success.