

## Hollywood: Her Story October 2019 ENewsletter Oscar-Nominated Directors

The Best Director Oscar was awarded for the first time at the inaugural Oscars in 1929. Since that time, only five women have been nominated for Best Director, with just one win. The first woman wasn't nominated for Best Director until almost fifty years after the Academy Awards began – in 1977. That was Lina Wertmuller. The first woman to win the Best Director Oscar was Kathryn Bigelow in 2010. Let's learn more about these five amazing directors.



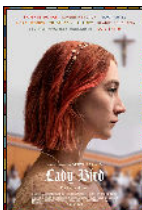
Italian director and writer **Lina Wertmuller** became the first woman nominated for the Best Director Oscar in 1977 for *Pasqualino Settebellezze* (*Seven Beauties*). She was also nominated for the Best Writing, Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen Oscar. Wertmuller said, "What would make me really sad would be the realization that my success is due to being a woman."

New Zealand writer, director and producer **Jane Campion** was nominated in 1994 for Best Director for *The Piano*. She received the Best Writing, Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen Oscar for the same movie. She said, "I would love to see more women directors because they represent half of the population – and gave birth to the whole world. Without them writing and being directors, the rest of us are not going to know the whole story."



Screenwriter, actress, director and producer **Sofia Coppola** received nominations for both the 2004 Best Director and Best Picture Oscars for *Lost in Translation* and won the Best Writing, Original Screenplay Oscar for that same movie. The daughter of Francis Ford Coppola, she said, "I never get myself in a situation where I don't have creative freedom. I learned that from my dad; you put your heart into something, you have to protect it, what you're making. I always like to keep the budget as small as possible just to have the most freedom."

In 2010, director, writer and producer **Kathryn Bigelow** broke through and won the Best Director Oscar for *The Hurt Locker*. She also won the Best Picture Oscar for the movie. Bigelow was nominated again for Best Picture in 2013 for *Zero Dark Thirty*. She said, "If there's specific resistance to women making movies, I just choose to ignore that as an obstacle for two reasons: I can't change my gender and I refuse to stop making movies."



Actress, writer and director **Greta Gerwig** was nominated for the Best Director Oscar in 2018 in her directorial debut, *Lady Bird*. She also was nominated for the Best Original Screenplay Oscar for the same movie. Her next film, a new adaptation of *Little Women*, will be released in December 2019.

Women in front of and behind the camera make the movies that we all welcome into our hearts and homes. Women across all the areas of movie-making from actress to animator, editor to stuntwoman, costume designer to screenwriter, producer to director have contributed to the success of the movie industry since its founding in the 1890s. Help us celebrate these women who are written into movie history in *Hollywood: Her Story*.

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