



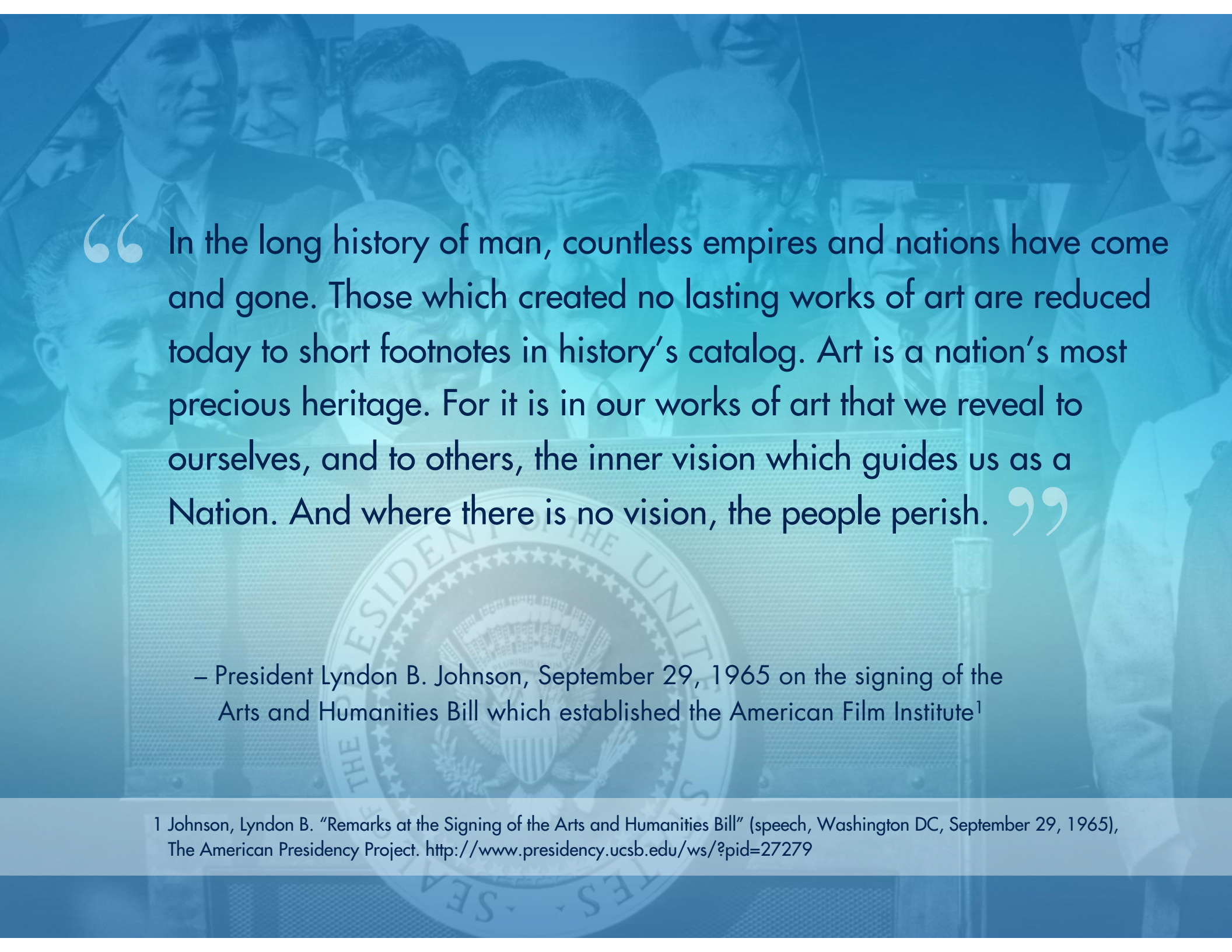
METADATA CHALLENGES
AND AGENT DISAMBIGUATION IN
RE-ARCHITECTING THE

AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS

SARAH BLANKFORT CLOTHIER
SCOTT BLY

OVERVIEW

- *AFI Catalog* history and overview
- Migration of data to SQL server
- Back end user experience
- Current applications
- *AFI Catalog* redesign project
- Metadata challenges
- Agent disambiguation
- Special look & invitation



“ In the long history of man, countless empires and nations have come and gone. Those which created no lasting works of art are reduced today to short footnotes in history’s catalog. Art is a nation’s most precious heritage. For it is in our works of art that we reveal to ourselves, and to others, the inner vision which guides us as a Nation. And where there is no vision, the people perish. ”

– President Lyndon B. Johnson, September 29, 1965 on the signing of the Arts and Humanities Bill which established the American Film Institute¹

¹ Johnson, Lyndon B. “Remarks at the Signing of the Arts and Humanities Bill” (speech, Washington DC, September 29, 1965), The American Presidency Project. <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=27279>



AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: ENCYCLOPEDIC VOLUMES

- First published in 1971
- First decade researched was 1921–1930
- University of California Press

AFI CATALOG PUBLICATIONS

Film Beginnings, 1893–1910 (2-volume set)

Compiled by Elias Savada, University Presses of America, 1995

ISBN # 0-8108-3021-3

1,761 pages
17,752 entries

AFI Catalog of Feature Films, 1911–1920 (2-volume set)

Edited by Patricia King Hanson, University of California Press, 1988

ISBN # 0-520-06301-5

1,557 pages
5,189 entries

AFI Catalog of Feature Films, 1921–1930 (2-volume set)

Edited by Kenneth Mundin, University of California Press, 1998 (reprinted from 1971 edition)

ISBN # 0-0520-20969-9

1,653 pages
6,606 entries

AFI Catalog of Feature Films, 1931–1940 (3-volume set)

Edited by Patricia King Hanson, University of California Press, 1993

ISBN # 0-0520-07908-6

3,887 pages
5,525 entries

AFI Catalog of Feature Films, 1941–1950 (3-volume set)

Edited by Patricia King Hanson, University of California Press, 1999

ISBN # 0-0520-21521-4

3,982 pages
4,315 entries

AFI Catalog of Feature Films, 1961–1970 (2-volume set)

Edited by Richard Krafur, University of California Press, 1997

ISBN # 0-0520-20970-2

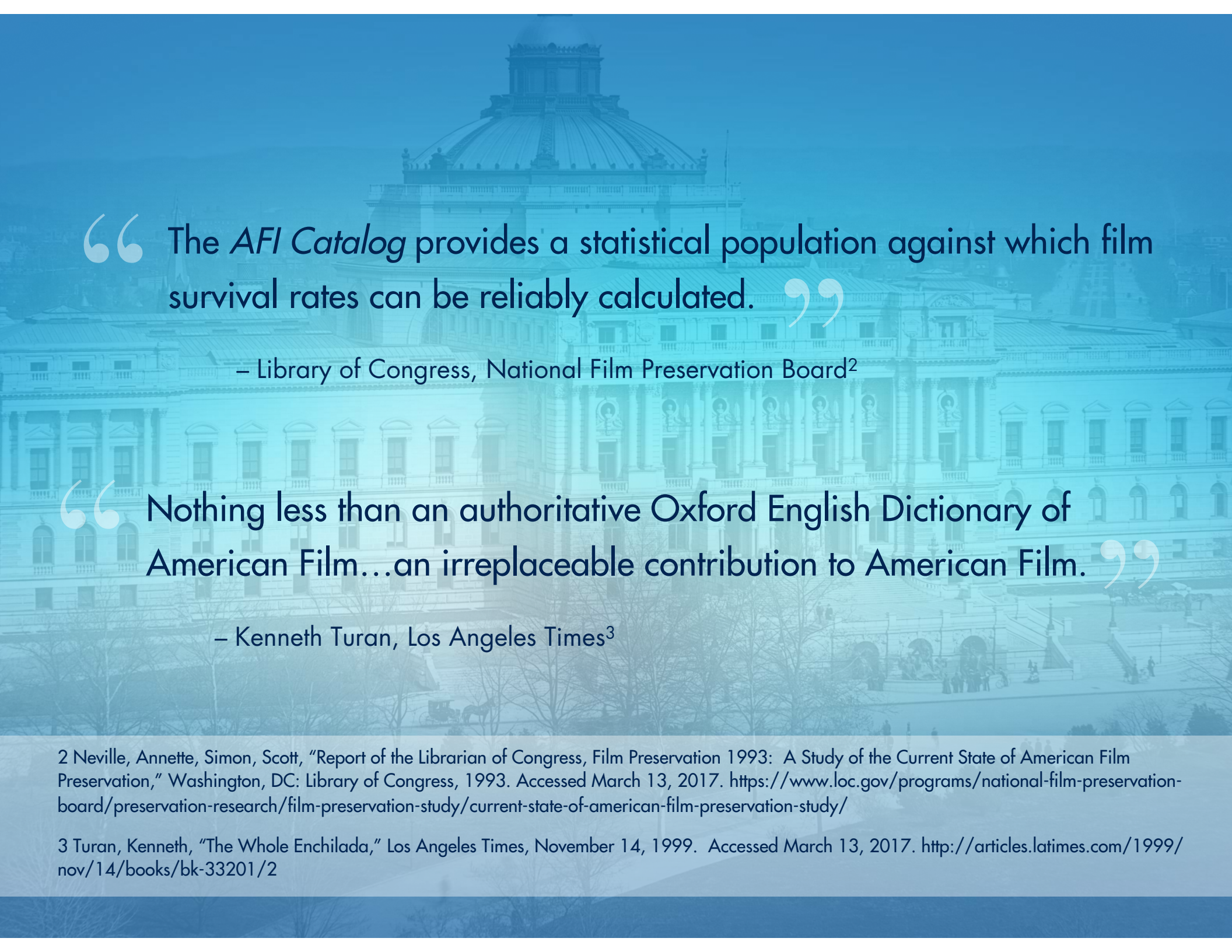
2,244 pages
5,774 entries

Within Our Gates: Ethnicity in American Feature Films, 1911–1960

Edited by Alan Gevinson, University of California Press, 1997

ISBN # 0-0520-20964-8

1,571 pages
2,464 entries



“ The *AFI Catalog* provides a statistical population against which film survival rates can be reliably calculated. ”

– Library of Congress, National Film Preservation Board²

“ Nothing less than an authoritative Oxford English Dictionary of American Film...an irreplaceable contribution to American Film. ”

– Kenneth Turan, Los Angeles Times³

² Neville, Annette, Simon, Scott, “Report of the Librarian of Congress, Film Preservation 1993: A Study of the Current State of American Film Preservation,” Washington, DC: Library of Congress, 1993. Accessed March 13, 2017. <https://www.loc.gov/programs/national-film-preservation-board/preservation-research/film-preservation-study/current-state-of-american-film-preservation-study/>

³ Turan, Kenneth, “The Whole Enchilada,” Los Angeles Times, November 14, 1999. Accessed March 13, 2017. <http://articles.latimes.com/1999/nov/14/books/bk-33201/2>

AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: ACCESS

AFI.com

AFI | CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS

THE AUTHORITY ON AMERICAN FILM

1890s 1900s 1910s 1920s 1930s 1940s 1950s 1960s 1970s 1980s 1990s 2000s 2010s

ABOUT THE AFI CATALOG ABOUT THE ACADEMIC NETWORK FAQs SEARCH GO

About the AFI Catalog of Feature Films

"No other source of information is as complete and accurate, and no other source is produced with the scrupulous level of attention to scholarship and research as the AFI Catalog."

Martin Scorsese

The AFI Catalog of Feature Films, the most authoritative filmographic database on the web, includes entries on nearly 60,000 American feature-length films and 17,000 short films produced from 1893-2011. It also includes [AFI AWARDS](#) honorees from 2000 through 2014.

The AFI Catalog is a unique filmographic resource providing an unmatched level of comprehensiveness and detail on every feature-length film produced in America or financed by American production companies. Detailed information on cast, crew, plot summaries, subjects, genres and historical notes are included for each film.

[Search Features](#) will help you find basic details for all of the films in the database, by searches utilizing movie title, personal or company name, subject, genre, song and literary source. The [Advanced Search](#) will further help you to narrow your search, including searches for multiple criteria.

The AFI Catalog contains both fully detailed records and basic records, with some films remaining only partially cataloged due to limited resources. Your support will help us to accelerate completion of the Catalog and fulfill AFI's promise to create the most reliable index to America's film heritage.

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AFI PRESERVATION PROJECT
HELP AFI PRESERVE FILM HISTORY.
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AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Login Page

The screenshot shows the login page for the AFI Catalog of Feature Films backend. The page has a black header with the AFI logo and 'KPMG Consulting' on the left, and 'THE AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS' on the right. A red navigation bar contains links for 'FAQ', 'ABOUT US', and 'PRESERVATION'. The main content area is titled 'Login' and features a welcome message: 'Welcome to AFI Please Login to Begin'. Below this are input fields for 'User ID' and 'Password', and a 'Log In' button. The footer contains the copyright notice: '© American Film Institute all rights reserved worldwide'.

AFI
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THE **AFI** CATALOG
OF **FEATURE FILMS**

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Login

Welcome to AFI
Please Login to Begin

User ID

Password

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AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Browse By Title
Sample search for THE GODFATHER

The screenshot displays the AFI Catalog of Feature Films backend search interface. At the top left is the AFI logo with 'KPMG Consulting' below it. The top right features the text 'THE AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS' and navigation links for 'FAQ', 'ABOUT US', and 'PRESERVATION'. The main search area is titled 'Browse By Title' and contains a red alphabet index from 'A' to 'Z'. A search sidebar on the left includes a search box with 'The Godfather' entered, a dropdown for 'Search In:' set to 'Title', and a dropdown for 'Using:' set to 'All of the Words'. A 'GO' button and a 'Print Selected' button are also present. A 'User Menu' is located at the bottom left of the sidebar, listing various administrative actions. The user is logged in as 'sclotier' and a 'Log Out' link is provided. The footer contains the copyright notice: '© American Film Institute all rights reserved worldwide'.

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SEARCH ▶

Search For:

Search In:

Using:

GO ▶

[Advanced Search](#)

User Menu

- [Browse By Title](#)
- [Add New Movie](#)
- [Print Movie](#)
- [Change Password](#)
- [Flagged Movies](#)
- [Index Maintenance](#)
- [Admin Maintenance](#)

Logged in as
sclotier
[Log Out](#)

Browse By Title

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Page 1 of 1

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AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Title and Physical Properties

AFI
KPMG Consulting

THE **AFI** CATALOG
OF FEATURE FILMS

FAQ ABOUT US PRESERVATION

SEARCH ▶

Search For:

Search In:

Using:

Exact Phrase

GO ▶

Advanced Search

User Menu

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Logged in as **sclouthier**

[Log Out](#)

Go To Page:

- Title
- Physical Properties
- PCO/Alt Title
- Pers/Co Names Index
- Production Credits
- Literary Sources
- Literary Authors
- Cast
- Summary
- Genre
- Subject
- Note
- Note Credit
- Source Citations
- Internal Notes

"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Title and Release

REQUIRED FIELDS

Status: VERIFIED

Title: The Godfather

Sort Title: Godfather

Release Date: 24 Mar 1972

Premiere Information: World premiere in New York City: 14 Mar 1972; New York opening: 15 Mar 1972

Production Dates: 24 Mar and 29 Mar--early Jul 1971 in New York City; early Aug 1971 in Sicily

Duration (in mins): 175-177

Length (in reels):

Length (in feet):

PCA No: 23101 Passed by NBR

MPAA Rating: R

Country: United States

Language: English

Series:

Research Articles: No file on record

SAVE **NEXT** ▶

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AFI
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THE **AFI** CATALOG
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FAQ ABOUT US PRESERVATION

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Search For:

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Using:

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Logged in as **sclouthier**

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Go To Page:

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- Production Credits
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- Literary Authors
- Cast
- Summary
- Genre
- Subject
- Note
- Note Credit
- Source Citations
- Internal Notes

"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Physical Properties

REQUIRED FIELDS

Property Type	Property Description	Action
Sd		DELETE
col	Technicolor	DELETE

Add New Property

Copyright Information

Copyright Claimant	Copyright Date	Copyright Number	Action
Paramount Pictures Corp.	23 Feb 1972	LP40553	DELETE

Add New Copyright

Retail Availability


Add New Retail Product

SAVE **BACK** **NEXT** ▶

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AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Alternate Title & Personal and Company Name Index



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SEARCH ▶

Search For:

Search In:

Title

Using:

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Go To Page:

Title

GO ▶

"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Alternate Title

Alternate Title	Alternate Sort Title	Action
<input type="text" value="Mario Puzo's The Godfather"/>	<input type="text" value="Mario Puzos The Godfather"/>	DELETE
<p><small>REQUIRED FIELDS</small></p>		
<p><input type="button" value="Add New Alternate Title"/></p>		

Production Company

Production Company	Parent Company	Action
<input type="text" value="Alfran Productions, Inc."/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	DELETE
<input type="text" value="Paramount Pictures Corp."/>	<input type="text" value="Gulf & Western Industries,"/>	DELETE
<p><input type="button" value="Add New Company"/></p>		


Production Qualifier

Production Text	Brand Name	Action
<input type="text" value="An Albert S. Ruddy Production"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	DELETE
<p><small>REQUIRED FIELDS</small></p>		
<p><input type="button" value="Add New Production Qualifier"/></p>		

Distribution Company

Distribution Company	Parent Company	Action
<input type="text" value="Paramount Pictures Corp."/>	<input type="text" value="Gulf & Western Industries,"/>	DELETE
<p><input type="button" value="Add New Company"/></p>		

SAVE **BACK** **NEXT** ▶



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Go To Page:

Title

GO ▶

"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Personal and Company Name Index

Select Row	Name
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
<p><input type="button" value="ADD"/></p>	

Additional Companies Index


Select Row	Name
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Filmways Studios
<input type="radio"/>	Oaktree Productions
<p>ADD EDIT DELETE</p>	

BACK **NEXT** ▶

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AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Production Screen Credits and Literary Sources



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SEARCH

Search For:

Search In:

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GO


"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Production Screen Credits

† Name Occurs Before Title OS: Offscreen Credit


Select	Sequence No	Credit Type	Introductory Notes	Name	Comments After	Icons	Delete
PRODUCER							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Exec prod		Robert Evans		OS:†	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Prod		Albert S. Ruddy			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Assoc prod		Gray Frederickson			<input type="checkbox"/>
DIRECTOR							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Dir		Francis Ford Coppola			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Asst dir, Oaktree Productions		Fred Gallo			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Asst dir, Sicilian unit		Tony Brandt			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	4	Asst dir		Steve Kesten		OS:†	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	5	Asst dir		Steve Skloot		OS:†	<input type="checkbox"/>
WRITER							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Scr		Mario Puzo			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Scr		Francis Ford Coppola			<input type="checkbox"/>
PHOTOGRAPHY							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Dir of photog		Gordon Willis			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Cam op		Michael Chapman			<input type="checkbox"/>
ART_DIRECTOR							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Prod des		Dean Tavoularis			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Art dir		Warren Clymer			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Asst art dir, Sicilian unit		Samuel Verts			<input type="checkbox"/>
FILM_EDITOR							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Ed		William Reynolds			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Ed		Peter Zinner			<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Addl ed		Marc Laub		OS:†	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	4	Addl ed		Murray Solomon		OS:†	<input type="checkbox"/>
SET_DECORATOR							
<input type="radio"/>	1	Set dec		Philip Smith			<input type="checkbox"/>
COSTUMES							

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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Literary Sources

Based on the novel "The Godfather" by Mario Puzo (New York, 1969).

Music Sources

"Mall Wedding Sequence" by Carmine Coppola; "Manhattan Serenade" by Louis Alter; "Baptism Sequence" (Passacaglia and Fugue in C minor) by Johann Sebastian Bach.

Song Sources


"I Have but One Heart," music and lyrics by Johnny Farrow and Marty Symes; "Luna mezz' o mare," music and lyrics by Paolo Citarella; "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas," music and lyrics by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane; "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town," music and lyrics by Haven Gillespie and J. Fred Coots; "The Bells of St. Mary's," music and lyrics by A. E. Adams and Douglas Furber; "All of My Life," music and lyrics by Irving Berlin; "Mona Lisa," music and lyrics by Jay Livingston and Ray Evans.

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Song Text


AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Literary Authors and Cast



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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Literary Sources

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Logged in as **sclothier**

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Go To Page:

Title

GO

Select Row	Name
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Mario Puzo

ADD EDIT DELETE

Music Sources


Select Row	Name
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Johnny Farrow
<input type="radio"/>	Marty Symes
<input type="radio"/>	Paolo Citarella
<input type="radio"/>	Louis Alter
<input type="radio"/>	Hugh Martin
<input type="radio"/>	Ralph Blane
<input type="radio"/>	Haven Gillespie
<input type="radio"/>	J. Fred Coots
<input type="radio"/>	A. E. Adams
<input type="radio"/>	Douglas Furber
<input type="radio"/>	Irving Berlin [film ed]
<input type="radio"/>	Jay Livingston
<input type="radio"/>	Ray Evans
<input type="radio"/>	Johann Sebastian Bach
<input type="radio"/>	Carmine Coppola

ADD EDIT DELETE

Song Sources


Performed By

Select Row	Name
------------	------



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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Cast Display

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Logged in as **sclothier**

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Go To Page:

Title


GO

† Name Occurs Before Title OS† Offscreen Credit

Select Row	Seq. No	Statement Before	Name	Comment After	Character Name	Icons	Delete
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1		Marlon Brando		Don Vito Corleone		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2		Al Pacino		Michael [Corleone]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3		James Caan		[Santino] Sonny [Corleone]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	4		Richard Castellano		Clemenza		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	5		Robert Duvall		Tom Hagen		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	6		Sterling Hayden		Capt. McCluskey		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	7		John Marley		Jack Woltz		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	8		Richard Conte		[Don Emilio] Barzini		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	9		Al Lettieri		Sollozzo ["The Turk"]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	10		Diane Keaton		Kay Adams [Corleone]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	11		Abe Vigoda		[Salvatore] Tessio		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	12		Talia Shire		Connie [Corleone Rizzo]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	13		Gianni Russo		Carlo [Rizzo]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	14		John Cazale		Fredo [Corleone]		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	15		Rudy Bond		Cuneo		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	16		Al Martino		Johnny Fontane		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	17		Morgana King		Mama Corleone		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	18		Lenny Montana		Luca Brasi		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	19		John Martino		Paulie Gatto		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	20		Salvatore Corsitto		Bonasera		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	21		Richard Bright		Neri		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	22		Alex Rocco		Moe Greene		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	23		Tony Giorgio		Bruno Tattaglia		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	24		Vito Scotti		Nazorine		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	25		Tere Livrano		Theresa Hagen		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	26		Victor Rendina		Philip Tattaglia		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	27		Jeannie Linero		Lucy Mancini		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	28		Julie Gregg		Sandra Corleone		<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	29		Ardell Sheridan		Mrs. Clemenza		<input type="checkbox"/>

AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Genre and Subject Headings



**THE AFI CATALOG
OF FEATURE FILMS**

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SEARCH ▶

Search For:

"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Genre Entry

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REQUIRED FIELDS

Descriptive Genre

Gangster

with songs

Add New Genre

Stand Alone Genre

Drama

Drama


Action

DELETE

DELETE

SAVE ◀ BACKNEXT ▶

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SEARCH ▶

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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Subject Major

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Logged in as
sclouthier

Log Out

Go To Page:

Title

GO ▶

Select Row	Sequence No	Subject	Suggested	Verified
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1	Brothers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Family relationships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Gangsters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	4	Godparents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	5	Italian Americans	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	6	Murder	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	7	New York City	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	8	Revenge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

ADD INSERT EDIT DELETE

Select Row	Sequence No	Subject	Suggested	Verified
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	1	Bakers and bakeries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	2	Baptism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	3	Battered women	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	4	Betrayal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	5	Bodyguards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	6	Christmas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	7	Cooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	8	Dancing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	9	Explosions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	10	Food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	11	Foster children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	12	Fruit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	13	Gambling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	14	Gang wars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	15	Gunfights	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	16	Heart disease	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="radio"/>	17	Horses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

AFI CATALOG OF FEATURE FILMS: BACKEND UX

Summary and Note



FAQ | ABOUT US | PRESERVATION

SEARCH [SAVE] [BACK] [NEXT]

Search For:

Search In:

Using:

Exact Phrase

GO

Advanced Search

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- Browse By Title
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"The Godfather" ID# 54023



Summary

In August 1945, during the lavish wedding reception of his daughter Connie, Don Vito Corleone, head of a large New York crime family and "godfather" to the Italian-American community, listens to requests for favors, honoring a long-standing Sicilian tradition that a father cannot refuse a request on his daughter's wedding day. While FBI agents jot down license plate numbers of the guests, and hundreds of celebrants dance, eat and gossip in the Corleone family's Long Beach compound, Don Vito, assisted by his foster son and [^]A consigliere

[^]AR, Tom Hagen, listens to a plea by the undertaker Bonasera, who seeks justice for two American boys who mercilessly beat his daughter. After mildly chastising Bonasera for refusing his friendship in the past, Don Vito agrees to help in exchange for some future service. Next, Don Vito greets the amiable baker Nazorine, who seeks help in preventing the deportation of Enzo, a young apprentice baker who wants to marry Nazorine's daughter. Outside, as the family welcomes guests such as crime boss Don Emilio Barzini and Don Vito's godson, popular singer Johnny Fontane, Michael Corleone arrives at his sister's wedding with his American girl friend, Kay Adams. Michael, college educated and a decorated soldier during World War II, relates stories about Luca Brasi, a large, violent man who is unquestioningly loyal to Don Vito, but tells her "It's my family, Kay, not me." In Don Vito's study, the final supplicant is Johnny, who cries that powerful studio head Jack Woltz refuses to give him an important part in a new war movie, even though it would be a perfect, career-saving role for him. After slapping Johnny like a child and admonishing him to be a man instead of a "Hollywood finocchio," Don Vito comforts him and promises to help. Just before his father-daughter dance with Connie, Don Vito talks with his son Santino, nicknamed Sonny, and Tom, telling them that Connie's new husband, Carlo Rizzi, may have a job, but should never be privy to the family's business. Don Vito also instructs Tom to fly to Los Angeles to speak with Woltz. At Woltz's studio, when Tom politely suggests that Johnny be cast in the war film, Woltz

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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Note Entry

The film's opening title card reads: "Mario Puzo's [^]AThe Godfather[^]AR." While the first strains of a trumpet solo of Nino Rota's "Godfather" theme are heard on the soundtrack, the screen goes black, after which the action opens in the study of "Don Vito Corleone" (Marlon Brando). The opening shot is of the character "Bonasera" (Salvatore Corsitto), who also speaks the first few lines of dialogue, beginning with the words "I believe in America." The final shots of the film show the face of "Kay Adams Corleone" (Diane Keaton) as she watches an underling of "Michael Corleone" (Al Pacino) shut the door to the study after his lieutenant, "Clemenza" (Richard Castellano), kisses Michael's hand and addresses him as "Don Corleone." The screen then returns to black, after which the cast and crew credits begin.

[^]TFilm rights to Mario Puzo's best-selling novel [^]AThe Godfather[^]AR were first optioned by Paramount in late 1968, prior to its publication, according to a 14 Oct 1968 [^]APublishers Weekly[^]AR news item. According to a 30 Sep 1970 [^]IDV[^]AR article, variously recounted through the years by then Paramount vice-president Robert Evans, Puzo initially brought a twenty-page treatment of the novel to him that was entitled [^]AMafia[^]AR. A [^]AHR[^]AR news item on 24 Jan 1969 announced that Paramount subsequently secured the rights to the novel, which by that time was listed as number one on the [^]AINYT[^]AR bestseller list. Various 1969 news items added that Paramount had purchased the book for a "bargain price" that would be spread out, based on the number of copies of sold, to a maximum of \$80,000.


[^]TAAlthough the film was relatively faithful to Puzo's novel, which has sold millions of copies, in dozens of languages throughout the world, large segments of the book were not adapted for the film, most notably the early life of Don Vito, which eventually encompassed a major segment of director Francis Ford Coppola's 1974 sequel, [^]AThe Godfather Part II[^]AR. In addition, much of the book's lengthy descriptions of the day-to-day lives of the characters was eliminated. To further reduce the story to fit the film's almost three-hour

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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Note Credits

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<input type="radio"/>	General (mod)	Anthony Quinn
<input type="radio"/>	General (mod)	Laurence Olivier
<input type="radio"/>	General (mod)	Ernest Borgnine
<input type="radio"/>	General (mod)	George C. Scott
<input type="radio"/>	General (mod)	Robert DeNiro
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"The Godfather" ID# 54023

Internal Notes

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Cataloger's Note

Notes to Cataloger

Al Viola, who did the mandolin solo for The Godfather theme, died on 21 Feb 2007, per LAT obit on 23 Feb 2007, Section B, p. 8. (1919--2007); he began as a member of the Page Cavanaugh Trio. pkh Feb 2007

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Status: VERIFIED

Title: The Godfather

Sort Title: Godfather

Alternate Title: [Mario Puzo's The Godfather \(Mario Puzos The Godfather\)](#)

Production Company: [Alfran Productions, Inc.](#) (Gulf & Western Industries, Inc.)

[Paramount Pictures Corp.](#)

Production Text: An Albert S. Ruddy Production

Distribution Company: [Paramount Pictures Corp.](#) (Gulf & Western Industries, Inc.)

Copyright Claimant	Copyright Date	Copyright Number
Paramount Pictures Corp.	23 Feb 1972	LP40553

Additional Companies Index: [Filmways Studios](#)
[Oaktree Productions](#)

Release Date: [24 Mar 1972](#)

Premiere Information: World premiere in New York City: 14 Mar 1972; New York opening: 15 Mar 1972
24 Mar and 29 Mar--early Jul 1971 in New York City; early Aug 1971 in Sicily

Production Date: [175-177](#)

Duration (in mins): 23101

PCA NO: 23101

MPAA Rating: [R](#)

Country: [United States](#)

Language: [English](#)

Physical Properties: [Sd:](#)
[col:](#) [Technicolor](#)

Producer: [Robert Evans \(Prod, actor\)](#) OS: (Exec prod)
[Albert S. Ruddy](#) (Prod)
[Gray Frederickson](#) (Assoc prod)

Director: [Francis Ford Coppola](#) (Dir)
[Fred Gallo](#) (Asst dir, Oaktree Productions)
[Tony Brandt](#) (Asst dir, Sicilian unit)
[Steve Koster OS:](#) (Asst dir)

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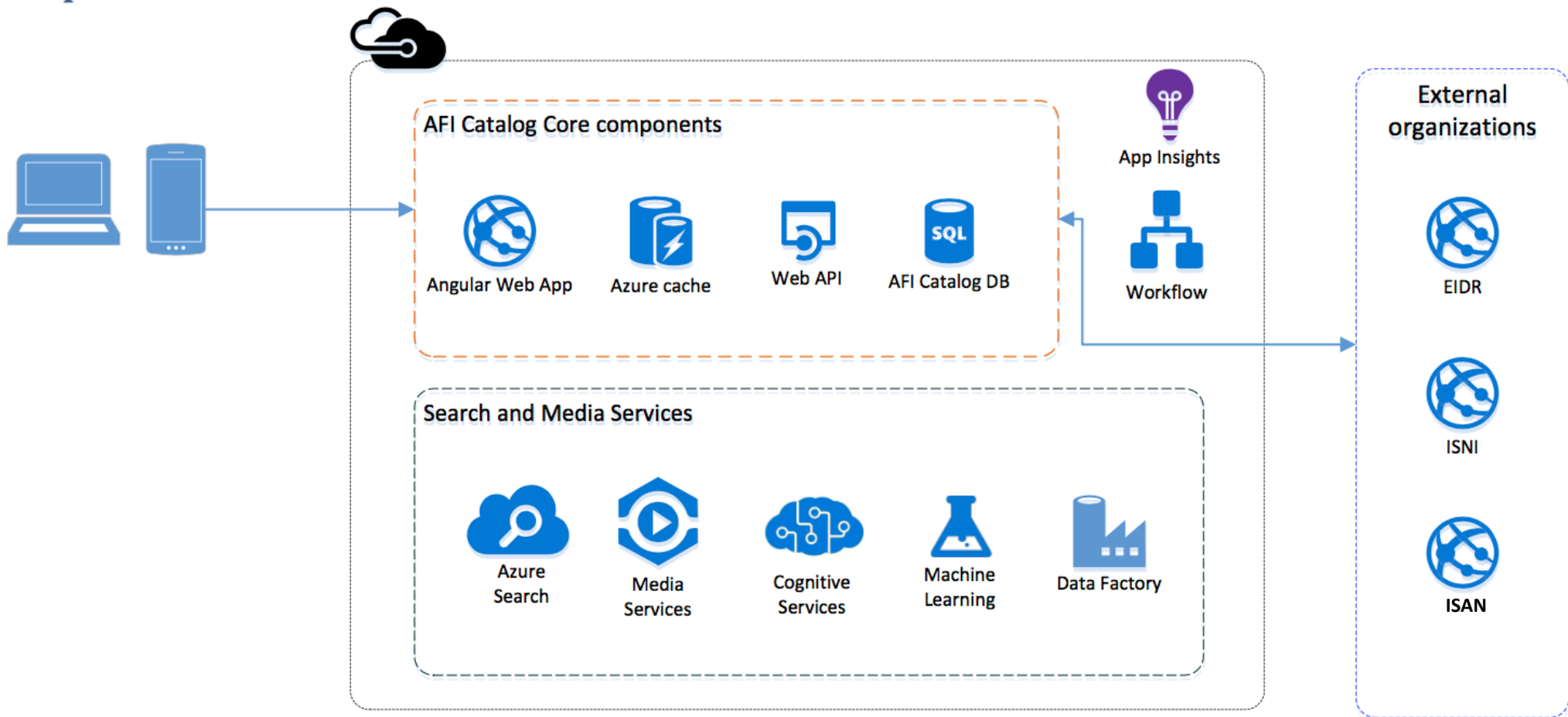
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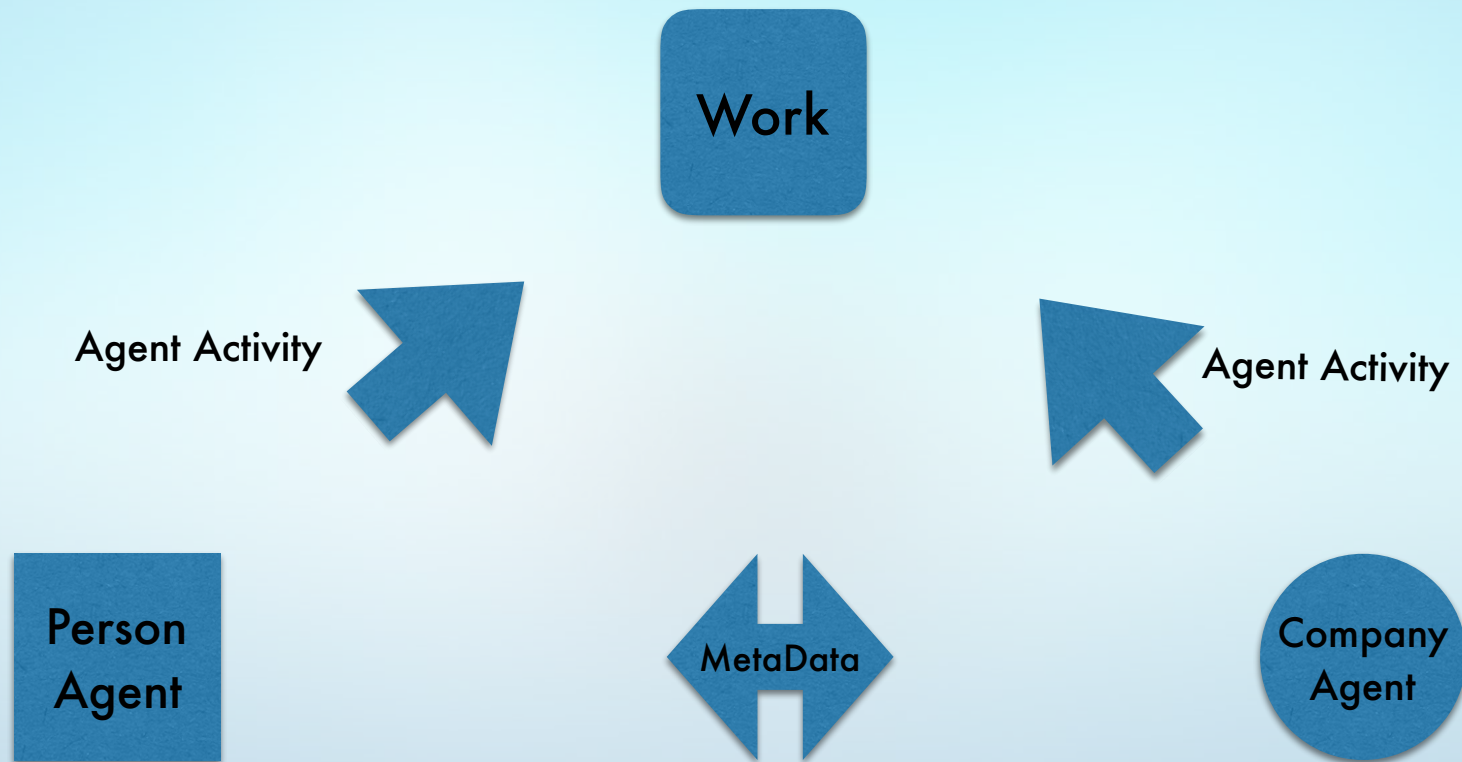
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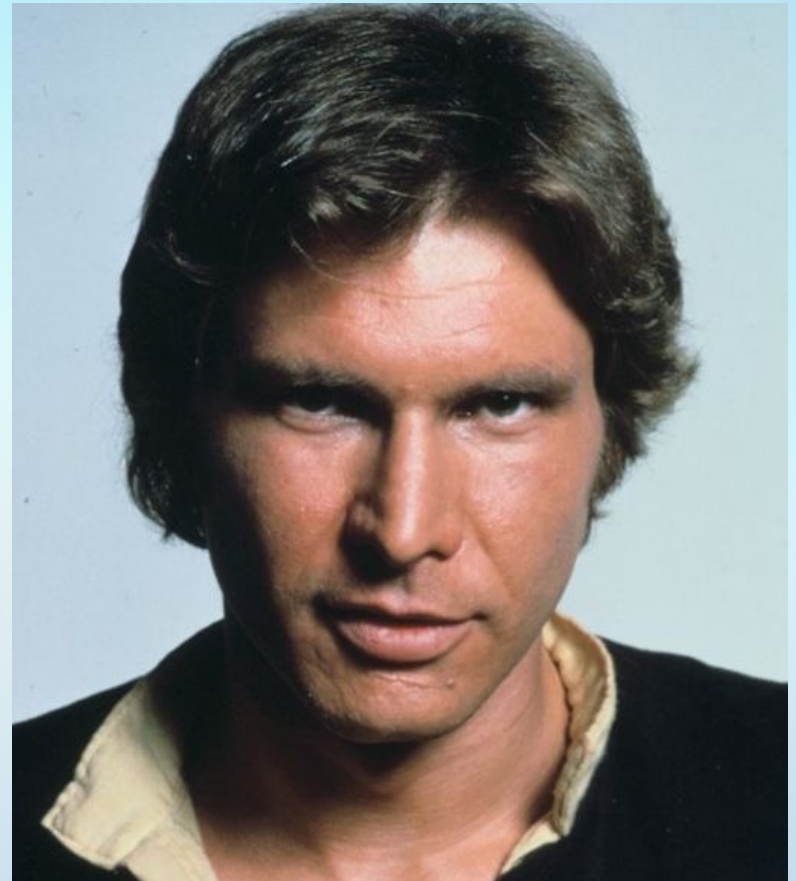
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AGENT DISAMBIGUATION: RICHARD BURTON

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- [Richard Burton](#) {Still photog}

Director (2)

- [Richard Burton](#) {1925-1984}
- [Richard Halliburton](#)

Photography (5)

- [Richard Brooks Burton](#)
- [Richard Burton](#) {1925-1984}
- [Richard Burton](#) {Sd ed}
- [Richard Burton](#)
- [Richard Burton](#) {Still photog}

Film Editor (1)

- [Richard Burton](#)

Sound (2)

- [Richard Burton](#) {Sd ed}
- [Richard Burton](#)

Production Misc (3)

- [Richard Brooks Burton](#)
- [Richard Burton](#)
- [Richard Halliburton](#)

Animation (1)

- [Richard Kent Burton](#)

Cast (5)

- [Richard Burton](#) {1925-1984}
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- [Richard Burton Brown](#)
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