Best Film Acceptance

16 February 2014

Winner: 12 Years A Slave

STEVE MCQUEEN: Wow, wow. Okay. One more time, hm? What was the song, what was that song? What is that song we sang at the end of the movie? Help me, people. Roll Jordan Roll. Roll Jordan, that's for sure. I would like to thank BAFTA, thank you so much for this award. I would like to thank my wife, Bianca, for giving us this award. I would like to thank Sean Bobbitt, who has been my cinematographer for 13 years. I love you, Sean.

I would like to thank the actors. Lupita Nyong'o: a star is born. Michael Fassbender, the genius. And, the one and only Chiwetel Ejiofor for the humanity in this film. I would like to thank E1, Plan B. I would like to thank Brad, I'd like to thank Jeremy Kleiner, I'd like to thank Dede Gardner. New Regency. Arnold. Brad Weston, Bill Pohlad, Channel 4 and Tessa Ross, the genius. Patrick at Lionsgate and Fox Searchlight.

And, of course, my one and only mother. Thank you for mum. Thank you for having the faith. Never give up, mummy. Thank you.

Finally, right now there are 21 million people in slavery as we sit here. 21 million people. I just hope that 150 years from now our ambivalence will not allow another filmmaker to make this film.
Thank you so much for this trophy. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

DEDE GARDNER: First of all, to Mr McQueen, without whom none of us would be here. This is for the descendants of Solomon Northup who all live and breathe and strive today but for a very, very abhorrent reason. Hopefully with time we can crack that.

To my children, and all of our children, Miles and Teddy who remind me of my freedom, every single day. Thank you.

JEREMY KLEINER: I would like to thank the support of the audiences around the world for demonstrating the true universality of this story and of this film. Thank you so much.