



Goldberg, nominated for best actress, with Spielberg. Courtesy of Warner Bros.

'Color Purple,' 'Out of Africa' glean most Oscar nominations

By the Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — "The Color Purple," the drama of a rural black woman's struggle for independence, and "Out of Africa," a romantic adventure set in a British colony, scored 11 nominations apiece Wednesday for the 58th Academy Awards. "Prizzi's Honor," the bitter comedy of a husband-and-wife Mafia hit team, and "Witness," a police chase against a backdrop of Amish farm country, followed with eight nominations apiece.

Nominees for best actor of 1985 were Harrison Ford of "Witness," Jack Nicholson of "Prizzi's Honor," James Garner of "Murphy's Romance," William Hurt of "Kiss of the Spider Woman," and Jon Voight of "Runaway Train."

Whoopi Goldberg, the standup comic making her film debut, was nominated for best actress in "The Color Purple." Also nominated were previous Oscar winners Anne Bancroft for "Agnes of God," Jessica Lange for "Sweet Dreams," Meryl Streep for "Out of Africa" and Geraldine Page for "The Trip to Bountiful." Page, 61, has been nominated eight times and has never won.

Don Ameche, whose film career began in 1936, finally made the Oscar race as supporting actor in "Cocoon" at the age of 79. Also nominated were Klaus Maria Brandauer for "Out of Africa," William Hickey for "Prizzi's Honor," Robert Loggia for "Jagged Edge," and Eric Roberts for "Runaway Train."

Margaret Avery and Oprah Winfrey, both of "The Color Purple," appeared among the nominees for supporting

actress along with Anjelica Huston, who was directed by her father, John Huston, in "Prizzi's Honor." Also in the race were Amy Madigan for "Twice in a Lifetime" and Meg Tilly for "Agnes of God." All five are first-time nominees.

In race for best direction were two classic filmmakers: Huston, 79, for "Prizzi's Honor," and Akira Kurosawa for "Ran." The Academy voters also nominated Argentinian Hector Babenco for "Kiss of the Spider Woman," Australian Peter Weir for "Witness," and American Sydney Pollack for "Out of Africa."

The best direction category offered a surprise: Steven Spielberg, the all-time money-making director, was not named for his most ambitious drama, "The Color Purple."

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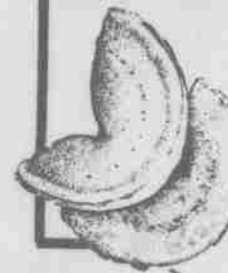


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