

# The Night Of A Thousand Dreams

*Inside the Oscars* By Adrienne Papp

*The recent Academy Awards celebrated Oscar's 80th anniversary with a combination of international award winners, unexpected emotions, and some genuinely spontaneous and heartfelt moments.*

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*Actor in a Leading Role  
There Will be Blood  
As Daniel Plainview, Daniel Day-Lewis plays  
a ruthless California oilman who will stop at  
nothing to achieve wealth and power.*

*Best Picture - Directing  
No Country for Old Men  
Ethan Coen and Joel Coen, Producers*

Any Oscar show is bound to have a surprise or two, an unpredicted win that claims one of the coveted statuettes. But often, some of the most surprising and funniest moments occur offstage, behind the scenes where the cameras aren't switched on. Like the shape-shifters in other cultures, our movie stars transpose themselves to take us to previously unseen places. The Academy Awards gives us an opportunity to catch a glimpse of them as they really are, providing some of the show's most unforgettable highlights.



*Cameron Diaz in a Dior by John  
Galliano blush pink silk tulle  
gown with drape details and  
Bulgari jewels.*

*Jennifer Garner on the red carpet in Oscar  
de la Renta and Van Cleef & Arpels vintage  
necklace, earrings, bracelet and rings.*



*Actress in a Leading Role  
Marion Cotillard plays Edith Piaf,  
the legendary French singer who rose  
to international fame from her  
beginnings on the streets of Paris.  
Style: in a Jean Paul Gaultier  
mermaid-inspired gown with  
Chopard jewelry, including a  
champagne necklace layered with  
brown diamond bead necklaces and a  
square-cut yellow diamond ring. She  
selected Sergio Rossi evening shoes.*

Whilst host Jon Stewart kept the official proceedings rolling smoothly, it was the unscripted moments backstage that helped make for a lively, more spontaneous evening. Like presenter Katherine Heigl, reminiscent of the gorgeous Marilyn Monroe in a stunning red dress, asking for a cigarette from a stagehand to help fend off a case of nerves.

Before his trip to the stage, Tom Hanks, one of America's most honored actors and the man who stormed Omaha Beach in Saving Private Ryan, commented on the irony of being confronted backstage by a makeup artist with a powderpuff.

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*Onstage, Daniel Day-Lewis, winner for Best Actor, accepted his Oscar from Helen Mirren on one knee, the closest thing to a knighting the entertainment industry will probably ever see.*

Current queen of Hollywood hipness Diablo Cody showed a touch of vulnerability, thanking her family for loving her just the way she is as she accepted her Best Original Screenplay award for her role in Juno.

*Katherine Heigl in a red silk georgette Escada column gown with one-shoulder design and draped and pleated bodice.*



*Actor in a Supporting Role As Anton Chigurh, Javier Bardem portrays a sociopathic killer on the trail of a young man who has stolen a bag of drug money*

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*Nominee George Clooney on the red carpet in a one-button shawl collar tuxedo*



*Steve Carrell and Anne Hathaway presented the "Best Animated Film" award.*

*Anne Hathaway (right) in a red Marchesa gown with rose detailed one-shoulder strap. Diamonds from Harry Winston.*

*Steve Carrell (left) in a custom-made tuxedo by Domenico Vacca*

Marion Cotillard, one of the night's numerous European award winners, which included Javier Bardem's win for Best Supporting Actor, was trembling almost uncontrollably with emotion when she was announced as the winner for Best Actress, declaring that there are indeed angels in this city. In one of the evening's most touching and honest moments, Jon Stewart brought Marketa Irglove back to the microphone after she had been played off during her acceptance speech for Best Song Oscar with Glen Hansard. Afterwards, Marketa commented, "They just said they were sorry to cut me off and that they wanted me to go back out there. So I did."

All in all, these were a handful of memorably classic moments in a night that could have featured, had the writer's strike continued, things like "An Oscar Tribute to Binoculars and Periscopes", a spoof the production staff had quickly assembled as a back-up plan...and that actually turned out to be very funny.



*Actress in a Supporting Role As Karen Crowder, Tilda Swinton plays a ruthless corporate attorney acting on behalf of a company engaged in a multimillion dollar lawsuit. Style: in a black washed silk draped evening gown by Alber Elbaz for Lanvin.*