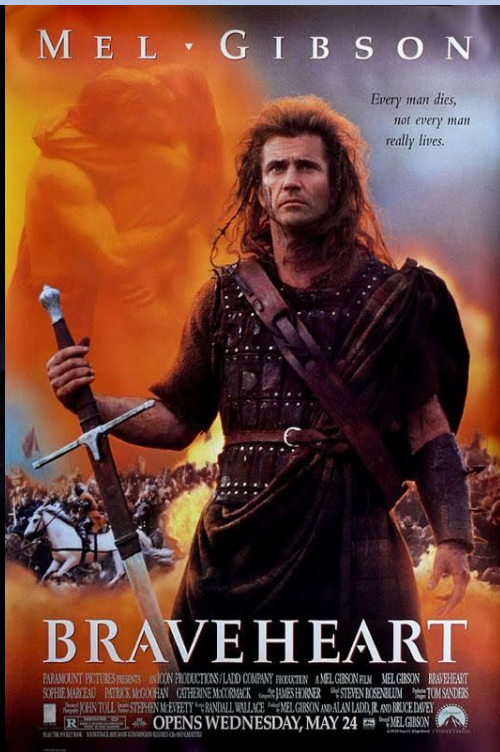
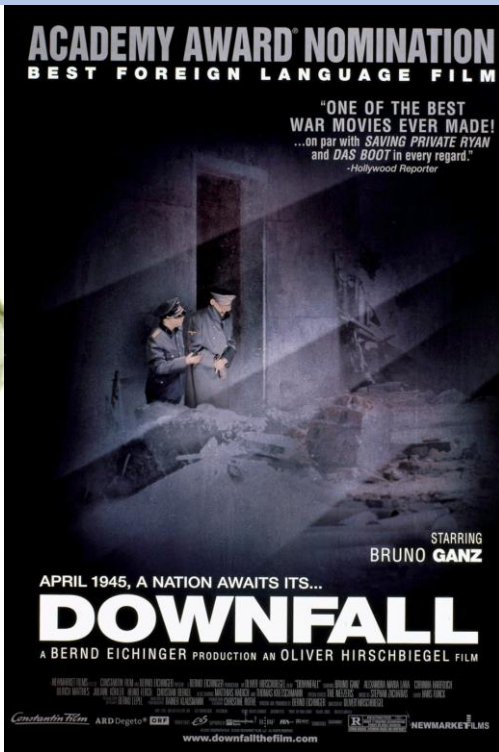


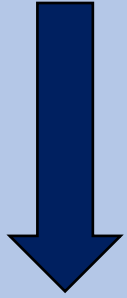
History in Films

How do secondary sources present History?

LO: to assess modern interpretations of different historical events



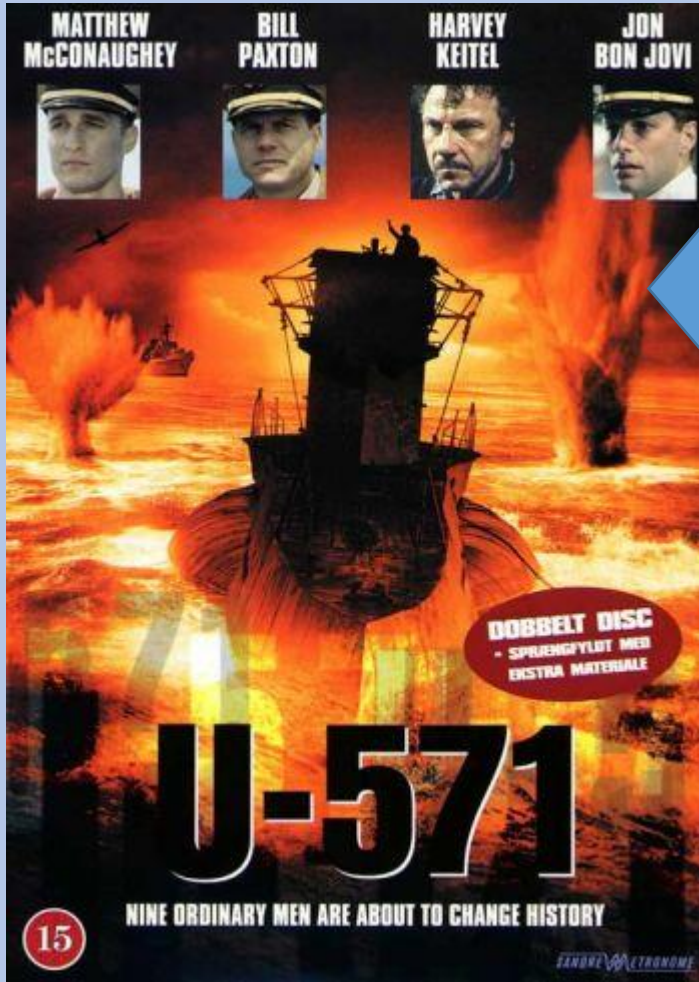
What is a director's purpose in making a historical film?



- 1. Story telling
- 2. Presenting history
- 3. Entertainment
- 4. Argue a view e.g. Oscar Schindler was a hero for saving so many Jews from the Holocaust in Schindler's List



False claims in History films



The film U571 claims the Americans captured the Nazi enigma machine when it was in fact the British

The film Amadeus shows Mozart as a spoilt brat murdered by a rival composer Saliari. They Historical evidence argues against this.

FRAMED, THE CINEMA BLUNDERERS

■ Elizabeth (1998) – Queen Elizabeth I (Cate Blanchett, pictured) is shown forcing her adviser William Cecil into retirement with a peerage, when really he stayed with her until his death

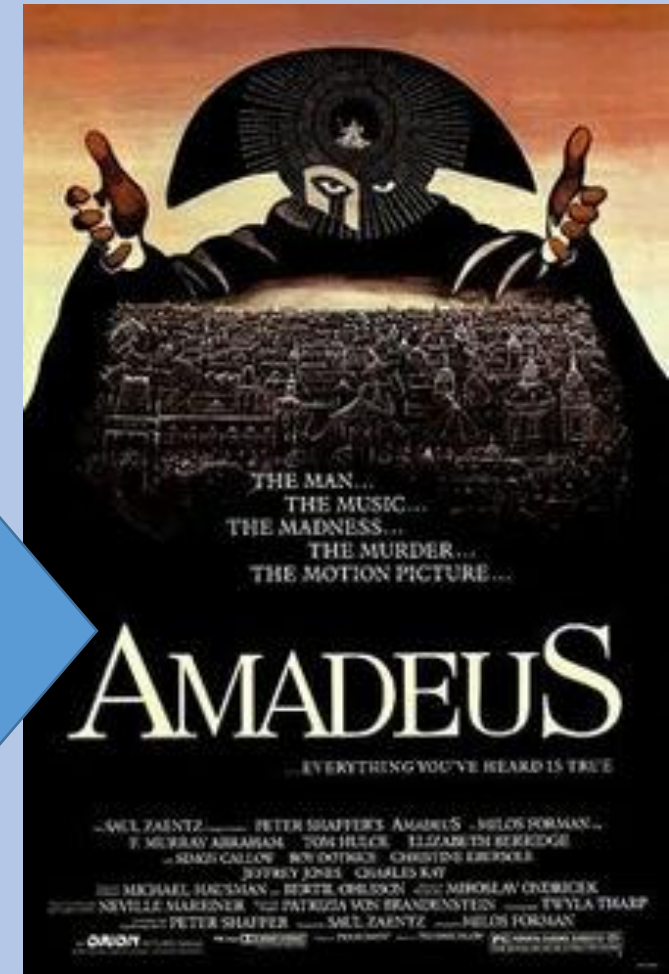
■ Last Samurai (2003) – U.S. soldiers are brought in to train the Japanese Imperial Army against a 19th century rebellion. Actually it was the French who trained them

■ Marie Antoinette (2006) – As the mob attacks Versailles, the French queen goes on to the balcony and they fall quiet out of respect. This didn't happen and never would have, as the people hated her

■ Amadeus (1984) – In the story of Mozart and his rival Salieri, Mozart is depicted as vulgar and childish, when records show he was professional, polite and well mannered

■ U-571 (2000) – American troops retrieve a Nazi Enigma code machine by boarding a German submarine in disguise. In fact, the British captured the Enigma and broke the code

■ Amistad (1997) – The African slave who led a mutiny aboard the Spanish ship Amistad is shown in a U.S. court in shackles, when he was actually held in a cell in another state during his trial



King John in Disney's Robin hood (1973 cartoon film)

- Watch these clips from Disney's Robin Hood.
- How do they present King John? Is it fair?
- Does it match what you know about him?
- What was the director's aim in showing John like this?



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Questions to answer:

- What event or person it portrays
- What opinion does it present?
- Do you feel it is a reliable representation? Why?
- Is the film useful in learning about the even or person?

Film Recommendations

