

"Shaft" (1971)

"Gordon Parks' next film is the one he's most remembered for, and it shows. "Shaft" may be a B-movie at its heart, but what Parks managed to do, with the aid of Isaac Hayes' iconic Oscar-winning theme song, is to create a black action hero for the times that wasn't a caricature, but a living, breathing idol that people could look up to, someone driven by justice over revenge, and in that alone, audiences responded with huge box office returns, enough to, as some have alluded, save MGM from bankruptcy. Imagine that."

Source: Yard Barker

Link:

https://www.yardbarker.com/entertainment/articles/black_history_month_the_25_greatest_films_by_black_directors_that_resaped_cinema/s1_25697855#slide_1