

## **"Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song" (1971)**

"Many look at "Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song" as the genesis of the blaxploitation genre, but this is black cinema verite at it's finest. The film opens with Sweetback as a child (played by Melvin's son Mario) losing his virginity to a prostitute which in turn makes him into some sort of sex freak show oddity as he grows to be a man. One night, he's falsely arrested for the murder but goes on the run after beating up a couple of cops. The point here is a modern rebellion, and Melvin Van Peebles, who turned down a three-picture contract, made "Sweetback" his line in the sand."

Source: Yard Barker

Link:

[https://www.yarbarker.com/entertainment/articles/black\\_history\\_month\\_the\\_25\\_greatest\\_films\\_by\\_black\\_directors\\_that\\_reshaped\\_cinema/s1\\_25697855#slide\\_1](https://www.yarbarker.com/entertainment/articles/black_history_month_the_25_greatest_films_by_black_directors_that_reshaped_cinema/s1_25697855#slide_1)