
Subject: Ghost in the Shell

Posted by [brain_states](#) on Thu, 01 Sep 2005 17:25:46 GMT

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Usually I'm not a big cartoon fan, though I got introduced into this anime craze by this movie. It is a mind boggler about the possibilities of A.I. and defines them. It has all the elements of the matrix and was out way before the matrix ever was. It caused much anger towards the creators of the matrix after viewing, because they blatantly ripped them off. Blatantly I say....

Subject: Re: Ghost in the Shell

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 02 Sep 2005 08:25:29 GMT

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That's interesting. I remember you telling me about the controversy. Might have to check that one out sometime.

Subject: Re: Ghost in the Shell

Posted by [lon](#) on Fri, 02 Sep 2005 19:21:49 GMT

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if you get into this stuff at all, find Last Exile by the Gonzogroup. Stylistically it's altogether different than GitS (either 1 or 2) but it is superior in most ways. IIRC, Ghost In The Shell did some spectacular things with 'holographic computers' like they used (and maybe ripped off) for Tom Cruise film Minority Report. Unfortunately the graphic at IMDb is not very good. But this is a music and movies forum, so I'll conclude by saying that the opening music has haunted me ever since watching the whole 7 disc series: it opens with a chord of traditional bagpipe picked up by a technobeat with vocal. Other Celtic musics are heard during this film as well. It's these elements of surprise that make Last Exile a superior product to some of the more well-known animes. Also seek out Grave of the Fireflies.

Last Exile

Subject: Re: Ghost in the Shell

Posted by [brain_states](#) on Fri, 09 Sep 2005 02:22:37 GMT

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Akira is another that those wachoski or however you spell it stole from that is excellent...

Subject: Re: Ghost in the Shell

Posted by [lon](#) on Mon, 12 Sep 2005 04:12:59 GMT

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I enjoy talking anime and have seen Akira a couple times. Not my favorite. I like Last Exile because I'm fascinated by the Steam Punk genre and the classic "Grave Of The Fireflies" takes the animated art to a place I really didn't think was possible. And I'm not talking about _hentai_ either. When possible I try to tie these film remarks to the speaker stuff we usually discuss. Last Exile has some very good and strange tuneage in it. The score uses bagpipe, Celtic dances and some techno in the theme. But I like to try to see the film in its context of a tv show. In the world of Last Exile, 14 and 15 year olds are on their own. They have independent lives and jobs and are self sufficient. I think this is an important message in what we have come to see as a world of infantilization and prolonged childhood: not achieving or wanting adulthood well past 30 these days. OTOH a lot of anime is just cartoons without much significance. But that rare find like Grave Of The Fireflies or Last Exile keeps me looking for more of that quality. Armatige comes to mind as being pretty good. Do you know Kaena? I've seen that in the stores.
