

This Faith-Based Film Just Shocked Hollywood With 3 Golden Globe Nods

Mel Gibson is back in Hollywood's awards race with three Golden Globe nominations for World War II drama *Hacksaw Ridge* for best director, best drama and best actor for Andrew Garfield.

The trio of nominations comes a decade after Gibson was arrested in 2006 for drunk driving and was caught on tape making anti-Semitic remarks to his arresting officer. He subsequently apologized following his arrest but was shunned during the awards season that year for his film *Apocalypto* and had not directed another movie until taking on *Hacksaw Ridge* in 2014.

"Hacksaw Ridge" centers on the story of Desmond T. Doss, the only conscientious objector to ever be awarded a congressional Medal of Honor for heroism. Portrayed by Garfield, Doss was a Seventh-day Adventist who became a medic while adhering to his religious convictions of not carrying a weapon. He saved 75 men during the Battle of Okinawa in World War II.

Gibson won the Golden Globes director trophy in 1995 for *Braveheart*, then went on to win the Academy Awards for Best Picture and Best Director. He also received actor nominations for *Ransom* in 1997 and *What Women Want* in 2001.

Hacksaw Ridge is Gibson's fifth directorial effort, following *The Man Without a Face*, *Braveheart*, *The Passion of the Christ* and *Apocalypto*. He told *Variety* at the Los Angeles premiere last month that he came on to the project after reading the screenplay by Andrew Knight and Robert Schenkkan: "I read the script and was crying."

The WWII drama has performed solidly at the U.S. box office for Lionsgate with \$60 million after six weeks plus another \$23 million overseas.

Gibson was a presenter at last January's Golden Globes, which resulted in awkwardness after host Ricky Gervais joked in his introduction that "I'd rather have a drink with him in his hotel room tonight than with Bill Cosby."

Gibson said in response, "I love seeing Ricky every three years, because it reminds me to get a colonoscopy."

Both Gervais and Gibson later insisted that there were no hard feelings between them. {eo}

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