

2013 noms: As odd, funky and irrelevant as ever

Nicole Kidman gets nominated for 'The Paperboy' and more head-scratchers

By Steve Pond
TheWrap

Many insiders have called the Motion Picture Academy's decision to move its own nominations to Jan. 10 an attempt to hurt the Golden Globes, but it's hard to imagine many Oscar voters using Thursday's nominations as a guide to their own decisions.

Case in point: The exhilarating, scrappy independent film "Beasts of the Southern Wild" wasn't eligible for this year's Screen Actors Guild Awards, because its amateur cast didn't work under union contracts. But it might as well have not been eligible for the Golden Globes, either -- not because of any guild rules, but because the 80-odd voters in the Hollywood Foreign Press Association only like their scrappy indies if they've got big stars in them.

How else to explain the way the Globes voters ignored "Beasts" but nominated Nicole Kidman for the laughably trashy "The Paperboy?"

And not only did they go for Kidman in that potboiler, but they gave her a second nomination for her performance in the TV movie "Hemingway & Gellhorn."

Then they threw in a nom for her husband, Keith Urban, who wrote the song "For You" for the little-seen movie "Act of Valor."

Congratulations, HFPA members -- you've probably guaranteed that Mr. and Mrs. Kidman will attend your shindig on Jan. 13.

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You've also guaranteed that your awards show will continue to be what it has always been: odd, peripheral, usually by-the-numbers, occasionally perplexing and entirely irrelevant to the real business of honoring the best in cinema.

Yes, the Globes get lots of stars to show up, and they draw decent ratings, and they're an obligatory campaign stop on the road to Oscar.

And on Thursday morning, their voters rubber-stamped almost all of the usual suspects: "Lincoln," "Les Misérables," "Silver Linings Playbook," "Zero Dark Thirty," "Argo," "Life of Pi" and the other films expected to dominate the awards picture.