

Hadouken! “Street Fighter” continues franchise legacy with new movie

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WARNING: SPOILERS AHEAD

Retro video game fans rejoice because the new “Street Fighter” movie is surprisingly fantastic. Premiering Friday, Oct. 16, the movie broke the box office record for the franchise.

The movie creates its own unique plot while still staying true to the game’s original storyline. Ryu, played by Andrew Koji and Ken Masters, played by Noah Centineo, are still the main characters of the movie and fight in the the iconic World Warrior Tournament.

For a little background, Ryu and Ken are best friends trained under Master Gouken in the non-lethal martial arts style of Ansatsuken. The danger is that this fighting is tied to Satsui no Hado, a dark, murderous and envious intent that can consume fighters in

their search for power. Master Gouken’s brother, Akuma, was consumed by this intent and turned into a demon who taunts Ryu, who also wrestles with this struggle.

The movie takes place in 1993, six years after Ryu defeats Sagat, his main rival, in the first World Warriors Tournament.

Ryu has disappeared and Ken is a celebrity fighter that no one takes seriously. Ryu and Ken are no longer close after Akuma killed Master Gouken and Ryu did not defeat Akuma because that would mean giving in to the evil side of himself.

M. Bison, played by David Dastmalchian, plans a second World Warriors Tournament to trick Ryu into participating in the tournament so he can steal Ryu’s “Psycho Power” for himself.

And thus, an epic movie is born.

Ryu returns to stop Ken from competing, Ken is determined to prove himself and Chun-Li, an undercover Interpol agent, seeks revenge

against M. Bison for killing her father.

“Street Fighter” was exactly what I wanted from a movie based on a video game. It had excellent action, a fast pace and was also hilarious.

My favorite aspect was that the intro and flashbacks of the movie were completely animated. It helped distinguish the scenes and was just a cool addition. I could have watched

the entire movie animated.

Each character was expertly written and the character design was incredible. Guile, played by Cody Rhodes, stole the show with clever quips and funny interactions with other characters.

The casting of this movie was great as well. Noah Centineo as Ken Masters was a unique choice and it could have gone terribly wrong, but

Centineo played into Ken’s silliness and desire to prove himself perfectly. Even if his bleached blonde hair looked a little funky.

Callina Liang was great as Chun-Li and made the character into the powerhouse she truly is. Fans complained at the casting, claiming Liang’s thighs “weren’t thick enough” to look the part, which is an outrageous claim to make, in my opinion. But I think she did a great job.

“Street Fighter” also had several celebrities play characters, including 50 Cent as Balrog, Roman Reigns as Akuma and Jason Momoa as Blanka. Watching Momoa CGI’d into a giant green beast and scratching his armpit, smelling his hand and saying, “Smells like hotdogs,” was not on my bingo card but it was certainly a welcome laugh.

Perhaps the highest praise this movie can receive is that it made my dad laugh so hard he almost cried when Ryu fought E. Honda, a sumo wrestler and fighter in the tournament, in a

sauna and literally whipped his butt with a rolled up towel.

The movie is a perfect example of the fact that movies don’t always have to be deep and meaningful to be good. “Street Fighter” was moving and had reminders of brotherhood and fighting for what’s right, but it was also simply ridiculous.

And it was awesome.

Sometimes I want to watch a movie that’s just for fun. I want to buy grossly overpriced movie theater candy and lemonade and watch a movie that makes me laugh. I want to walk out of the theater and repeat the funniest lines of the film, like Ken’s manager saying “Let my people go!” to a man fighting Ryu and Ken.

Don’t get me wrong, deep and reflective movies are great, but maybe not all the time. There’s nothing wrong with having a little fun.



That’s what you missed on “Glee (2026)”

ALLIE CARSON

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In 2009, the most unhinged high school drama show was released. “Glee” ran six seasons and over 100 episodes, ending in 2015. But creator Ryan Murphy recently announced a finished script for a revival, with 10 original members slated to potentially return for a continuation.

Somehow, Murphy and co. thought bringing back the world of “Glee” is just what fans wanted.

Since 2009, three of the main cast members have tragically passed away, two of which were beloved characters within the show, Cory Monteith as Finn Hudson, the idiotic star quarterback and Naya Rivera as Santana, the bitchy cheerleader.

Fans of the show enjoyed the first three seasons with the main

focus being Rachel Berry, played by Lea Michelle, being psychotic about her place in Glee Club, Quinn Fabray giving birth during Regionals while an opposing glee club sang “Bohemian Rhapsody”.

However, once the main cast graduated and moved away, drifting to a new generation of the glee club, fans drifted away from caring about the show’s insane plot lines and covers that were sometimes better than the originals. Following Rachel Berry and the rest of the older members of the club towards the real world wasn’t as enjoyable as watching them all together in Ohio.

And that’s the problem with the reboot.

While nothing has been revealed for the pilot or the show’s plot, the inclusion of part of the original cast gives the impression they’ll be the teachers in the new

show. Or, it’ll follow their lives as adults. It’ll basically just be a continuation of the show 11 years after the fact if that’s the case.

Now, the original show did have a future scene as part of the finale episode so, the character’s trajectories have already been spelled out which should have made writing a reboot script easier if anything.

It’s Ryan Murphy, though, so nothing will make sense I assume.

Not all the Day One New Directioners have been contacted for this reboot, however, as Chris Colfer, who played Kurt Hummel has not been reached out to. Colfer was one of the cast members to receive one of their 10 awards during the show’s original run, so leaving him off the callback sheet wasn’t the best choice by production.

Murphy didn’t leave the

original show with many friends from the cast as it’s publicly known that he and Dianna Agron, the actress who played Queen Bee Quinn Fabray, didn’t get along. During the show’s run, Agron only had six solos throughout her six seasons, four of which came in season one.

To put that into perspective, Lea Michelle had 46 solos during the run and Darren Criss, who played Blaine Anderson from season two until the end of the show’s run, had 30.

Unless Murphy can make amends with a majority of the cast, this show will be a dumpster fire, much like all the other “older” rebooted shows, like the rebooted “Victorious” show, “Hollywood Arts.”

Granted, there are some people who are, for whatever reason, overjoyed with this reboot in the works. I, however, can only see this as being a trainwreck and a disgrace to the original source material.

With how different the world is since the original aired, there won’t be a way to make it as funny and insensitive as it once was. The f-slur was outwardly used multiple times in the show, namely by Finn Hudson and there were so many insensitive and out-of-left-field insults by both cheer coaches, namely Jane Lynch’s Sue Sylvester.

As long as they don’t screw up the iconic and banterous relationship between Matthew Morrison’s Will Schuester, the glee club coach, and Sue Sylvester, the cheer coach, I’ll refrain from sending Murphy to an (inactive) crack house.

And that’s how Allie C’s it!



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRITANNICA

The original cast of Glee (2009) pose together in a cast photo.

The Amazing, Ultimate, Spectacular Spider-Man Rankings

With Howl-Verse approaching and Spider-Man: Beyond the Spider-Verse on the horizon, the age-old question of who did Spider-Man best has returned. Here are my top picks.

BENJAMIN MORRIS
SPECIAL TO THE HERALD

5: Spider-Man: Far From Home

Far From Home solidifies Tom Holland’s Peter Parker, who might just be my favorite live-action Spider-Man. The film follows Peter stepping out of Tony Stark’s shadow and becoming his own hero. Mysterio, backed by a crew of angry former Stark employees, makes the perfect opponent for that journey. The villains, conflict, and performances are all excellent. Peter and MJ’s romance also feels convincing, helped by the real life chemistry between Tom Holland and Zendaya.

4: Spider-Man

It pains me to rank the original Spider-Man this low, but I have to take off the nostalgia glasses. This movie helped establish the modern superhero blockbuster and laid the groundwork for what followed. Everyone felt Uncle Ben’s death, Willem Dafoe was incredible as the Green Goblin, and we all laughed at a high school full of people who looked 30. Unfortunately, Peter and MJ’s romance is one of the film’s weakest elements, despite driving much of the plot. Still, the movie had a kind of magic that’s hard to find in today’s superhero-saturated world.

3: Spider-Man: Brand New Day

The latest Spider-Man movie is helping revive an MCU that’s been on life support since Endgame. Peter’s emotional struggle feels real, and while making mental health the main conflict is getting a little tired, it works here. After No Way Home, Peter rebuilds his life without getting everything back. The movie also takes a newer approach to villains. Jean Grey and Damage Control serve as antagonists, but neither fills the traditional villain role. The V-Max twist was my favorite thing to come out of post-Endgame Marvel.

2: Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse

Into the Spider-Verse is Miles Morales’ origin story, with Peter Parker variants in supporting roles. It also gives the best answer to the question of what makes Spider-Man: it’s not getting powers, but who you become afterward. Combined with incredible visuals, animation, and an excellent soundtrack, it’s one of the best Spider-Man movies ever made.

1: Spider-Man: No Way Home

OK, I didn’t take the nostalgia glasses all the way off, but I grew up with all the different Spider-Men, so bringing them together gives No Way Home an edge. But nostalgia isn’t the only reason it takes the top spot. Like Into the Spider-Verse, it explores what makes someone Spider-Man, but shows rather than tells. Spider-Man refuses to let villains die when he believes they can be saved. Maguire’s Peter stops Holland’s Peter from killing the Green Goblin by taking the hit himself, while Garfield’s Peter gets a second chance to save someone he loves by saving MJ. Finally, Holland’s Peter makes the ultimate sacrifice -- he saves the world, even if it means the world forgets he ever existed.