

## Outstanding Performance by a Male Actor in a Leading Role

### King Richard

WILL SMITH: Wow. Yes. Yes. Thank you, all. That may have been one of the greatest moments of my career just now because my name was called for King Richard, sitting next to Venus Williams, her sister Isha.

Richard -- Richard Williams is a -- a dreamer like no one you've ever known. He has a power of belief that borders on insanity and sometimes tips over the border, which is absolutely necessary to take something from impossible to possible.

Aunjanue, you -- you pushed every single day. You -- you demanded authenticity, and you did it in such a beautiful and -- and quiet, powerful way, and you did Miss Auresy wonderful justice. Saniyya and Demi, these two young ladies, it was such a great honor for me to -- to -- I know. I'm sorry. I'm supposed to wrap up. I'm going to do this real fast.

But -- you -- you guys are actors, so you know how sometimes your -- your on-screen characters kind of bleed into real life. And to walk you around this room tonight, to parent you on this film, to deliver you into this business has been one of the greatest pleasures of my life.

Venus, Serena, the Williams family -- you entrusted me and our group with your story. You didn't agree to put your name on it until you saw the final project. I agree. That's -- I get that. I get that. You know, it's cool. That's real. That's real, because we be messing stuff up sometimes.

But when I got the call and you watched the movie and you said you loved it, I just want to say thank you very much. It was -- it was my deepest pleasure to honor your family and to tell your story to the world.

Thank you, all. I know I'm thanking too much. Thank you, all. Thank you.