

A5297 AMERICAN GANGSTER (USA, 2007)

Credits: director, Ridley Scott ; writer, Steven Zaillian ; original article “The return of Superfly,” Mark Jacobson.

Cast: Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Cuba Gooding, Jr., Josh Brolin, Ted Levine, Armand Assante.

Summary: Crime/melodrama set in the early 1970s in New York. Following the death of his employer and mentor, Bumpy Johnson, Frank Lucas (Washington) establishes himself as the number one importer of heroin in Harlem. He does so by buying heroin directly from a source in South East Asia, and he comes up with a unique way of importing the drugs into the United States (in the coffins of American soldiers killed in Vietnam). As a result, his product is superior and his prices are lower. His alliance with the New York Mafia ensures his position. Richie Roberts (Crowe) is a dedicated and honest policeman who heads up a joint narcotics task force with the Federal government and is determined to bring down Lucas’ drug empire. Based on a true story

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