The crime genre has evolved over the years from a niche film filled with stereotypes to being a key genre in film with many subgenres to branch out into. Over time the crime genre has evolved into a larger aspect of media. This is due to the advancements in technology, Audiences expectations and cultural influences. These have shaped the genre into something much bigger than its former self allowing for directors to branch out and go in new directions.

Technological advancements have had a significant impact on the crime genre. Particularly in the ways the films are produced and made. These technological advancements can be clearly seen in films like Oceans 11, where the latest technology plays a crucial role in enhancing postproduction and allowing for enhanced special effects. Development of technology like CGI has improved the quality of visual storytelling in films and allowed for more creation with less limitations. This allows filmmakers to create more immersive scenes to captivate audiences. Furthermore, the production of CGI has made it possible for the creation of stunning effects allowing the creation of scenes that were previously unimaginable of exorbitantly expensive. This has given directors a larger scope of what they can do in films. This allows for more complex action scenes, heists and more detailed environments all for a fraction of the price. Moreover, the introduction of green screen technology has been a revolution for the film industry allowing filmmakers to shoot scenes in virtually any environment without the limitations of a physical setting. As a result of these innovations, crime film directors are no longer constrained by budget or practical effects that once defined the genre. With new technologies they are now able to focus on creating more immersive experiences for viewers without the worry of budget constraints. This has led to more creative film making and forever changed the genre.

Secondly, as audience's preferences of media have evolved, their opinions on the crime genre have also changed. One notable change is the inclusion of an overarching story. This has become more commonplace as the genre has progressed as stories that were once about breaking into banks have expanded into many other genres including action adventure and romance. These genres add extra immersion for the viewer giving them a better experience. This evolution in the crime genre has led to many films featuring an overarching story. This has become a key plot line in the genre as it explores a character's morals as well as giving a social commentary on our society. These films aim to evoke empathy in the viewer, making them feel for the protagonist even when they engage in immoral actions. By bringing these elements together filmmakers have been able to create more richer meaningful stories for their audiences as they also explore the societal factors that lead individuals down a criminal past.

Lastly a key socio-cultural influence on this genre is the diversification of cast. There are a variety of socio-cultural influences on this genre. This influence can be seen in the film Pulp Fiction where the cast are of a wide variety of ethnicities and cultures. As society has changed people now expect the cast to be a diverse group of genders, ethnicities and backgrounds and this has influenced the genre by audiences putting more pressure on film producers that don’t adhere to these standards. It is important for industry to respond to changing cultures because otherwise the audience may not watch their newest film. Therefore, it has become crucial for film companies to address diversity in fear of alienating their audience. Thereby preventing profit loss and cultural relevance.

A good example of a recent film which has culminated from the genre's evolution is Baby Driver using elements of crime, action and romance to improve immersion in the world and storytelling. Using the advancements in technology and culture the film has managed to blend the traditional heist film features with overarching themes of morality and redemption. A standout feature of the movie is its choreography with everything being times to the main characters music. Baby driver is a key example in how the crime genre has changed over time offering a richer cinematic experience.

In conclusion the crime genre has diversified and changed from its roots in murder mystery films to extravagant displays of technology and storytelling. The genre's growth has also allowed for deeper connection to the characters, seeing their ambitions and morals. With the continued evolution of technology, higher audience expectations and the push for diversity, crime films are going to remain a significant genre of film in cinema.

References:

Baby Driver IMDB Page : <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt3890160/>

Blog Post : <https://www.davidbordwell.net/blog/2017/10/12/one-last-big-job-how-heist-movies-tell-their-stories/>

Festival de Cannes : <https://www.festival-cannes.com/en/cannes-focus/technology-in-cinema-8-major-developments-that-have-marked-the-history-of-cannes/>

Medium Article : <https://medium.com/@TheRewindZone/the-evolution-of-movie-genres-examining-shifts-in-popularity-and-diversity-from-the-90s-to-today-ca1ffd1ca445>