

SILKSCREEN FILM SOCIETY

NEXT SEASON'S CLASSIC FILM - YOUR CHOICE

At last – your chance to have a say about the films we show!

Each season we usually show one classic (meaning both good and old) film. This time we're letting Silkscreen members choose which one we show.

Here, in alphabetical order, are 11 classic films that are between 30 and 90 years old. Each has been chosen by a member of the Silkscreen Committee. Please choose the one film on this list that you would most like to see on Silkscreen's programme next season. We will show whichever film gets the most votes. Bring your voting slip to the last film and AGM on 20 March, or fill in a voting slip on the day.

12 Angry Men

1957, USA, 96 minutes, directed by Sidney Lumet

A 1957 black and white film that takes place in one room may sound dull but not this one! Beginning with the summing up of a murder trial where a teenager is accused of murder and faces the death sentence, the jurors must come to a unanimous decision - but one juror throws doubt on the validity of the evidence. Stars Henry Fonda.

Annie Hall

1977, USA, 93 minutes, directed by Woody Allen.

A brilliant romantic comedy in which comedian Alvy Singer (Woody Allen) tries to understand why his relationship with gauche Annie Hall (played by Diane Keaton) ended a year ago. The film includes innovative use of split screens, thought subtitles, and speaking direct to camera to convey the story from both points of view. This masterpiece won 4 Oscars, 4 BAFTAs and a Golden Globe.

Don't Look Now

1973, UK/Italy, 110 minutes, directed by Nicolas Roeg.

An adaption of a Daphne du Maurier short story - a sinister thriller about the aftermath of the accidental death of a child, and the impact this has on the parents. It is atmospherically filmed in Venice with some supernatural elements and recurring themes. Stars Julie Christie and Donald Sutherland. Justly a classic. The Venetian councillors were afraid the film would scare away tourists – it didn't!

Duel

1972, USA, 89 minutes, directed by Steven Spielberg.

A thriller based on a short story by Richard Matheson, this was Spielberg's first feature film. He was aged 27. The conflict is between man and machine: a juggernaut gas tanker, whose driver is not seen, violently stalks a car driver (Dennis Weaver) following a low level road rage incident. As a seemingly endless journey unfolds along Californian canyon roads, the menace and the suspense grows step by step. The film's success established Spielberg's reputation as a director.

Educating Rita

1983, UK, 110 minutes, directed by Lewis Gilbert

A film based on Willy Russell's stage play which explores a young woman's dream of independence. Working class Rita (Julie Walters) is unhappy and decides to better herself through an Open University course in English Literature. Her tutor Dr Frank Bryant (Michael Caine) uses alcohol to mask personal problems in his life. Can Frank help Rita to achieve her ambition, and can Rita help Frank to regain his love of teaching?

Grave of the Fireflies

1988, Japan, 89mins, directed by Isao Takahata

Semi-autobiographical story of a 14yr old brother and 4yr old sister who have to rely on each other during the fire bombings of Kobe during World War II. An emotional, deeply touching anti-war film that highlights the suffering of the innocent due to war. Brilliantly animated, award winning, powerful, sad, and unforgettable.

Man with a Movie Camera

1929, Soviet Russia, 68 minutes, directed by Dziga Vertov.

An experimental silent documentary film showing urban life from dawn to dusk in the cities of Kiev, Kharkov, Moscow and Odessa. With no actors or sets it shows soviet citizens at work and at play. Famous for its use of a wide range of cinematic techniques. In the British Film Institute's 2012 Sight & Sound poll it was voted as the eighth greatest film ever made, and in 2014 as the best documentary of all time.

My Beautiful Laundrette

1985, UK, 97 minutes, directed by Stephen Frears

Reflects the complex and often comical relationship between the Pakistani and English communities in London in the Thatcher years. Omar (Gordon Warnecke) faces many challenges in managing his uncle's run-down laundrette. He encounters Johnny (Daniel Day-Lewis) once his childhood friend, who is now a street punk, and together they run the laundrette and develop a relationship.

The Apartment

1960, USA, 125 minutes, directed by Billy Wilder

Starring Jack Lemmon and Shirley MaLaine. Not very PC, but very funny! A put upon clerk lets the executives in his company use his apartment for their extra marital affairs. Despite its humour, *The Apartment* is also a strong attack on the basic corruption of the capitalist system, in which anyone with a little influence is capable of feeding off someone else. It starts as a satire, transforms into a drama, and finishes as a romantic comedy.

Witness

1985, USA, 112 minutes, directed by Peter Weir.

John Book (a young Harrison Ford) is a tough-minded detective in Philadelphia. When a brutal murder is witnessed by a young Amish boy Book offers the boy and his mother Rachel (Kelly McGillis) protection until the trial. They go into hiding and return to their rural Amish community in Pennsylvania. John Book finds himself attracted both to Rachel and to her simple way of life, but the threat of violence is never far away. This is a beautifully acted film which is both a tender love story and an absorbing thriller.

Yojimbo

1961, Japan, 110 minutes, directed by Akira Kurosawa

Yojimbo is a classic samurai action film set in 1860 but told with a good deal of dry humour and spectacular fight sequences. *Yojimbo* tells the story of Sanjuro, a wandering samurai, who plays off the warring sides of a divided village against each other to catastrophic ends. Stars Toshiro Mifune. This was the film that inspired Sergio Leone's series of spaghetti westerns starting with 'A Fistful of Dollars' in 1964.

CLASSIC FILM – VOTING SLIP

Tick the classic film that you would
most like Silkscreen to show next season

FILM TITLE	TICK ONE
12 Angry Men	
Annie Hall	
Don't Look Now	
Duel	
Educating Rita	
Grave of the Fireflies	
Man with a Movie Camera	
My Beautiful Laundrette	
The Apartment	
Witness	
Yojimbo	