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Movies!

by
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Movies! They're Americana....right up there with the flag, motherhood, and apple pie. We grew up with them; we have our favorites; we watch for new ones to come out. There are few categories you could think of that are more nostalgic than Movies. To some extent, at least, we even measure our past in terms of Movie events...

A look at 100 years of movies:

Dec. 28, 1895: Auguste and Louis Lumiere exhibit short films in a theater set up in the basement of the Grand Cafe in Paris.

April 23, 1896: The first official public screening of a motion picture in the U.S. takes place in NY.

1903: "The Great Train Robbery" becomes a national hit.

1905: Nickelodeon theaters open across America.

1907: Filmmakers begin to settle in Southern Calif.

1915: First fan magazines appear.

1918: Charlie Chaplin's salary hits \$1 million a year.

1927: "The Jazz Singer" brings sound to movies.

1927: The first Academy Awards.



1934: Hollywood adopts a morality code controlling the content of movies.

1939: “Wizard of Oz;” “Gone With the Wind.”

Pre-WW II: Production hits 550 films a year.

1941: “Citizen Kane.”

1946: \$1.7 billion in box-office receipts; The decline of movie studios begins.

1949: Supreme Court rules that studios can’t own their own theater chains.

1950s: TV begins assault on movies.

Mid-’50s: 3-D, Cinerama, Smell-O-Vision.

1962: \$900 million in receipts.

1969: Less than 175 US films are made.

1980: Av. produc-tion cost: \$9.4 million.

1995: Av. production cost: \$50 million; \$5.42 billion in receipts.



I wouldn’t hold my breath for new Movie covers to come out these days, but the older covers go back to the 1920s-1930s, so there’s quite a spread available. The late Jim Moffett had close to 400 Movie covers at the height of his collection, so they’re out there!

But what can you expect to run across? Here’s a sampling..

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|----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| -48 Hours | -Delirium | You | -Run of the Arrow |
| -2001 | -Doctor Zhivago | -Kansas City Bomber | -Samson and Delilah |
| -A Voice in the Night | -Dragonslayer | -Lawrence of Arabia | -Slaughterhouse Five |
| -Airplane | -The Egg and I | -Life With Father | -Song of the Flame |
| -Airplane II | -Family Plot | -The Lords of Discipline | -South Sea Adventure |
| -Alien | -Fire, Ice & Dynamite | -M*A*S*H | -Star Trek |
| -American Graffiti | -Frenzy | -Making Love | -Star Trek II |
| -Batman | -The Girl of the Golden West | -The Odd Couple | -The Sting |
| -Bells of Rosarito | -Gone With the Wind | -Outland | -Sunset Boulevard |
| -Beverly Hills Cop II | -Goodbye Mr. Chips | -Portrait of Jennie | -Take This Job and Shove it |
| -Big Blue Marble | -Gorky Park | -The Private Affairs of Bel Ami | -To Hell and Back |
| -Blithe Spirit | -Hands of the Ripper | -Pirates | -Twilight Zone |
| -Brazil | -The Hindenburg | -The Rocky Horror Picture Show | -Up In Smoke |
| -The Carpetbaggers | -Hollywood Cowboy | -Rooster Cogburn | -Urban Cowboy |
| -The Cotton Club | -Ice Station Zebra | | -Vanities |
| -A Date With a Lonely Girl | -I’ve Always Loved | | -Waldo Pepper |