

August 29, 2012

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Michael Giltz

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Freelance writer

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Movies: The Top 100 Films of All Time and the Best of 2011

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The IRA Film Awards are the most prestigious, mysterious and exclusive movie awards in the world. Long after the frenzy of "awards season" has passed, the members of the IRAs meet to soberly discuss, debate, argue, bicker, fight, and mock each other as they decide what truly are the best films, performances and technical achievements of the previous year. They also shine a light on some of the worst achievements in cinema.

The IRAs were founded in the 1970s with one very simple thought: we've got better taste than those other award shows; let's do our own. And thus the IRAs were born. Its ranks have contained future Oscar winners, acclaimed and best-selling authors of both fiction and nonfiction (especially movie history), power players in the studio system, influential members of the media, hardcore cineastes and the team behind *Inside Oscar: The Unofficial History of the Academy Awards*, the most acclaimed (really, the ONLY acclaimed) awards book in history and the template for all the ones that followed in its wake. Usually composed of 10-20 members, the IRAs spend their year watching and debating the movies that really matter, the ones they hope will last and then share their judgment with the rest of the world.

This year the IRAs voted on both the best films of 2011 and the best films of all time, a laborious and fun process that involved catching up with classic movies, debating and arguing them and multiple rounds of voting. The result? A list none of us are truly happy with, naturally. I bemoan the lack of animated films and just one documentary that made the cut. Others are embarrassed by the omission of Bollywood. And so on. But it's a good list: watch all 100 films and you will have a good grounding in some classic cinema. It happened for me. I somehow had never caught director Max Ophuls. Now *The Earrings Of Madame De...* is high on my personal list of the best movies of all time. Same with the ground-breaking, revelatory Jeanne Dielman. So debate and mock the list, but do watch the movies you've never seen before. Enjoy! And tell me, how many of the movies on this list of 100 have you seen? (I had to see 20 of them for the first time before the final vote and I see a lot of movies!)

THE 2011 IRA FILM AWARD WINNERS

Best Picture: *The Tree Of Life*

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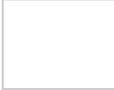
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Best Director: Terrence Malick - *The Tree Of Life*
 Best Actor: Peyman Moadi - *A Separation*
 Best Actress: Leila Hatami - *A Separation*
 Best Supporting Actor: Hunter McCracken - *The Tree Of Life*
 Best Supporting Actress: Sareh Bayet - *A Separation*
 Best Screenplay: Ashgar Farhadi - *A Separation*
 Best Cinematography: Emmanuel Lubezki - *The Tree Of Life*
 Best Production Design: Dante Ferretti - *Hugo*
 Best Score: Alberto Iglesias - *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy* and *The Skin I Live In*
 Best Editing: Hank Corwin, Jay Rabinowitz, Daniel Rezende, Billy Weber, Mark Yoshikawa - *The Tree Of Life*
 Best Costumes: Jacqueline Durran - *Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy*
 Sominex Award (The Movie That Put Us To Sleep): *Midnight In Paris*
 Dramamine Award (The Movie That Made Us Sick): *The Help*
 Mechanical Actress: Meryl Streep - *The Iron Lady*
 Mechanical Actor: Owen Wilson - *Midnight In Paris*

[Go here to read all the finalists in every category and a list of past IRA winners](#) from 1975 to the present.

THE IRA TOP 100 MOVIES OF ALL TIME

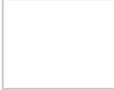
1. The Rules Of The Game
2. The Magnificent Ambersons
3. Citizen Kane
4. Vertigo
5. The Searchers
6. Letter From An Unknown Woman
7. The Big Sleep
8. Psycho
9. The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance
10. The Apartment
11. Shoah
12. The Earrings Of Madame de...
13. The Shop Around The Corner
14. Tokyo Story
15. Rear Window
16. Notorious
17. Touch Of Evil
18. North By Northwest
19. The Palm Beach Story
20. The General (1926)
21. Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce, 1080 Bruxelles
22. The Big Heat
23. Sunset Blvd.
24. Red River
25. Chinatown
26. Sunrise
27. Double Indemnity
28. Laura
29. His Girl Friday
30. Ugetsu
31. Rio Bravo
32. Anatomy Of A Murder
33. The Miracle Of Morgan's Creek
34. Chimes At Midnight
35. All About Eve
36. The Decalogue
37. The Awful Truth
38. Some Like It Hot
39. Danton
40. Imitation Of Life
41. McCabe & Mrs. Miller
42. Sherlock Jr.
43. Once Upon A Time In The West
44. 2001: A Space Odyssey
45. Ordet

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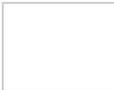
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46. A Man Escaped
47. Man With A Movie Camera
48. Written On The Wind
49. The Philadelphia Story
50. Kiss Me Deadly
51. Out Of The Past
52. Force Of Evil
53. Advise & Consent
54. Home From The Hill
55. Sweet Smell Of Success
56. The Lady Eve
57. Make Way For Tomorrow
58. Breathless
59. The Third Man
60. Cluny Brown
61. Pickup On South Street
62. Shanghai Express
63. The Passion Of Joan Of Arc
64. The Naked Spur
65. White Heat
66. The Crowd
67. The Crime Of Monsieur Lange
68. Night Of The Hunter
69. The Band Wagon
70. The Scarlet Empress
71. Red
72. All That Heaven Allows
73. Victor/Victoria
74. Band Of Outsiders
75. Day Of Wrath
76. Rebel Without A Cause
77. In A Lonely Place
78. The Marriage Of Maria Braun
79. It's A Wonderful Life
80. The 400 Blows
81. Metropolis
82. Diary Of A Country Priest
83. Casablanca
84. Lola Montes
85. Raging Bull
86. The Last Picture Show
87. Shock Corridor
88. Meet Me In St. Louis
89. Fanny & Alexander
90. A Star Is Born (1954)
91. Ali: Fear Eats The Soul
92. The Leopard
93. Play Time
94. A Matter Of Life And Death
95. How Green Was My Valley
96. Mildred Pierce
97. What Ever Happened To Baby Jane
98. Travels With My Aunt
99. Days Of Heaven
100. In The Mood For Love

Sight & Sound polls critics every decade. [Here's their top 10 list from 2002.](#) (They should come out with their new list around August.)

1. Citizen Kane
2. Vertigo
3. Rules Of The Game
4. The Godfather and The Godfather Part II
5. Tokyo Story



thatkevinsmith
 My daughter was born out of wedlock. In Senate candidate Tom Smith's mind, this is somehow akin (or Akin) to rape...
<http://t.co/yIWstbn>
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feliciaday
 Think on it: Cambridge scientists say all mammals, birds, many others including octopi, have human-like consciousness.
<http://t.co/aF6W2ZQh>
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6. 2001: A Space Odyssey
7. Battleship Potemkin
8. Sunrise
9. 8 1/2
10. Singin' In The Rain

Before the final vote, I'd only seen 80 of the movies that made our final list. How many have you seen? (And yes, *The Godfather* movies and *Battleship Potemkin* and Fellini were on my personal ballot. Don't yell at me.)

Thanks for reading. Michael Giltz is the cohost of [Showbiz Sandbox](#), a weekly pop culture podcast that reveals the industry take on entertainment news of the day and features top journalists and opinion makers as guests. It's [available](#) for free on iTunes. Visit Michael Giltz at his [website](#) and his [daily blog](#). Download his podcast of celebrity interviews and his radio show, also called [Popsurfing](#) and also [available](#) for free on iTunes. Link to him on [Netflix](#) and [gain](#) access to thousands of ratings and reviews.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

[Steamboater](#)

Forget hope. Agitate.

[3106 Fans](#)

11:25 PM on 03/28/2012

Don't forget Warren Beatty's "Reds". So well done, with part of it done in documentary/interview fashion. "Young Tom Edison" with Mickey Rooney is a delight too and so is Rooney.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

[Steamboater](#)

Forget hope. Agitate.

[3106 Fans](#)

05:18 PM on 03/28/2012

Since the anniversary of the sinking is upon us, the best film and a terrific one about the Titanic was the British version, "A Night To Remember". Done in stark black and white, it's brilliantly effective with fine performances all around.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

[Michael Giltz](#)

freelance writer

[127 Fans](#)

09:32 PM on 03/28/2012

Oh, I agree. It's just come out in a new edition on Criterion which I'll be reviewing this week or next. A Night To Remember is a very fine drama and certainly the best film based on Titanic.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

11:12 PM on 03/28/2012

I want to get it but it's pricey. I'll wait until Amazon has it for less later on.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

05:13 PM on 03/28/2012

Anything directed by David Lean should be at the top of anyone's list.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

09:33 PM on 03/28/2012

Marvelous director. I have Lawrence Of Arabia and Great Expectations on my short list and this week I'm reviewing his collaborations with David Lean. (I've never seen In Which We Serve and am looking forward to it.) Have you ever seen Hobson's Choice? Another delightful Lean film (one of his best) and yet it slips through the cracks even for fans.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

10:46 PM on 03/28/2012

Seen "Hobson's Choice". "A Passage To India" was wonderful too, even if Lean did Alec Guinness a favor and casted him in a role he was unsuited for, just as Lean cast Guinness as Zhivago's brother. he was too old for the part and miscast. Judy Davis made it well worthwhile though.

"Doctor Zhivago" is really a film a I watch over and over. i saw it on my new TV set which is LED instead of the plasma I had and you really get a different perspective on films with that. That glossy film aspect isn't there so it looks as if you're seeing it live in some scenes. Lean really had to edit that one down because in the book Yuri Zhivago is involved with three women, not two. In the book, he becomes a street person, lost in the chaos of Russia and is picked up by a woman who he has an affair with. Lean cut that out because he believed American audiences wouldn't believe a man could be involved with three women when married to one and having an affair with another. As with all Lean films, the cinematography is just superb.

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bayldons

1 Fans

02:05 PM on 03/28/2012

Instead of listing movies that should be here, I'm just going to whine about the ones that are. Rules of the Game? Really? I found it dull to the point of throwing my head on my desk in agony. And The Searchers? What? What movie were these people watching?! I wanted to shoot myself to avoid the pain. It was ridiculous and good for a laugh- not laughing with it, laughing at it. I know this is being very dramatic, but oh my god. At least the second group here gave Singin In The Rain some well deserved love.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

03:50 PM on 03/28/2012

Well, thanks for swimming against the tide and pointing out the movies you didn't like on the list. Of course, one would be hard pressed to find any list of the Top 100 movies of all time from any critics or directors poll that didn't include *The Searchers* or *The Rules of the Game*. But you're ahead of my mom, who had never even heard of *Rules*. How many films on the list have you not seen? And how about sharing your full list of the 100 best movies of all time?

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FirstGame72

The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters

563 Fans

12:56 PM on 03/28/2012

I saw "The Tree of Life" and it deserves every award it received above including, if not especially cinematography. It was the kind of film Stanley Kubrick would have made if he were still alive and on top of his game. For me, that's the highest compliment.

But attempting to decide the top 100 films of all time are amongst thousands over the course of a century is a fools errand that will always end up being completely subjective.

Simply glancing through the above list points this out as the titles near the top seem to be older films and yet as a new art form cinema is still advancing/evolving to this day. Many people romanticize older films but pre 1960 movies are often technically and artistically inferior to more recent ones.

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NHBill

673 Fans

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02:07 PM on 03/28/2012

clearly never seen Kane!

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FirstGame72

The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters

563 Fans

02:35 PM on 03/28/2012

Many times but alas never till the end because I always fall asleep first.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

11:22 PM on 03/28/2012

Technically and artistically inferior to modern film? Hardly so, unless you love those CGI FX which often look like CGI FX. Take a highly popular classic like "The Charge of the Light Brigade" with Errol Flynn. If anything, the charge at the end is worth it. It was shot so well that you're riveted to the screen and can almost hear the raging thunder of horse hoofs. Flynn actually rode that horse too. The studios then put out more intelligent scripts than we get today too. They catered to a more mature audience, unlike today where the studios cater predominately to a teen crowd.

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FirstGame72

The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters

563 Fans

07:40 AM on 03/29/2012

Simply by the fact that film was still in its infancy as an art form even into the 1940's and 50's means the aesthetic was completely different than more modern cinema. The acting and dialogue of those older films seems stiff and stilted by today's standard so even a beautifully shot film by Greg Toland like "The Grapes of Wrath" seems inhabited by cartoonish characters.

Comparing films pre and post 1960 (just to pick one cutoff point) is like comparing apples to oranges, it just doesn't work.

Also your comparing the top 5% of films made in the "studio era" to ALL films made now is not fair. Of course classic films seem better now as we only review the cream of the crop, not the hundreds of dreck pics (or "b" pictures) churned out by the studios.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz
freelance writer
127 Fans

12:51 PM on 03/28/2012

Thanks for commenting everyone. I'd be the first person to start naming all the movies that are NOT on the list. That's half the fun. But not one of you named how many of the movies on the list you had seen or more to the point how many movies you hadn't seen! I had to watch 20 of the movies once they made it onto the final list and saw a lot of great films I'd never seen before, like Dreyer's Ordet and Day Of Wrath and Chantal Ackerman's Jeanne Dielman and the terrifically entertaining noir Out Of The Past. I hope instead of falling back on your old favorites like we all do, that you'll use the list to explore some great films you've never seen before.. If you do, you might just discover that some of them make it onto your all time best list as well.

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HUFFPOST COMMUNITY MODERATOR

alsm9
Bombshell
386 Fans

12:41 PM on 03/28/2012

West Side Story is a superior musical and film to Meet Me In St. Louis. I've never heard of the IRA awards...seems like it's one guy with a blog??

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz
freelance writer
127 Fans

03:55 PM on 03/28/2012

West Side Story is a great musical though the IRA voters are not keen on Robert Wise in general. they're auteursists through and through. It's a very casual collective that began in the 1970s among Columbia film buffs, as I detailed in my intro. It's no formal group a la NYFC or an established poll a la Sight & Sound. It's no more or less "real" than you and your friends doing the same thing every year. But they've been doing it for decades (I joined in 1991) and their ranks have produced people with the accomplishments I've mentioned. You can go to the link above and check out their awards over the years, some of which I vehemently object to (but they've gotten better since I joined :).

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HUFFPOST COMMUNITY MODERATOR

alsm9
Bombshell
386 Fans

07:47 PM on 03/28/2012

To me it's a work of art. The staging of the dance scenes is so fantastic and the set design and art direction, perfect to me, particularly the colour palette they chose with the purples, reds and mustard yellows. The music I LOVE and other than casting Natalie Wood (who was great, but the pitch of her voice was too different from Marnie Nixon's who sang for the role of Maria), I thought the cast was amazing. Rita Moreno and George Chakiris were wonderful!! Robert Wise was only a co-director, Jerome Robbins is credited as directing as well. I like Meet Me in St. Louis, it's a sweet film...but top 100? Not to me.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater
Forget hope. Agitate.
3106 Fans

04:57 PM on 03/28/2012

A white bread and mayonnaise actor with dark make-up playing Tony is not my idea of Tony in "West Side Story". "Meet me In St. Louis" had everything and that special Minnelli touch.. The sets, color and songs and the simple yet very powerful story worked all around to perfection. The film was a picture of not what actually was how we perceive nostalgia. Brilliant.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

05:12 PM on 03/28/2012

The film was a picture of not what actually was **BUT** how we perceive nostalgia. Brilliant.

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HUFFPOST COMMUNITY MODERATOR

alsm9

Bombshell

386 Fans

07:33 PM on 03/28/2012

Tony was Polish.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Karl Hildebrand

The GOP Is Organized Hypocrisy

302 Fans

12:07 PM on 03/28/2012

This list is a real head scratcher. Roughly ten post-1970 movies on the list? As mentioned below, no Coppola? No Coen brothers? No Spielberg? Lucas? Hell, I'd put The Breakfast Club well ahead of The Searchers and neither of those films would make my top 100. That's 40+ years of movie making and industry innovation that's being ignored. There are some classics on the list, but Victor/Victoria, The Palm Beach Story, Kiss Me Deadly, ? Hell, Once Upon A Time In The West wasn't even one of the top three best Sergio Leone films. No David Lean? No Peckinpah? For shame!!

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

09:38 PM on 03/28/2012

The bias on the list was def towards movies that had stood the test of time. A very liberal group in some matters but very conservative in others. I certainly have Raiders and ET and Close Encounters (which gets better and better in my estimation every time I revisit it) and Empire among my very favorites, along with the two Godfathers and Miller's Crossing. But I understand the desire to go slow and letting movies from the recent past prove themselves over time first. And tell me, how many movies on the list have you not seen yet? I'll bet your list of your 100 favorite films would point me towards some movies I'd love. Hopefully ours can do the same for you.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Karl Hildebrand

The GOP Is Organized Hypocrisy

302 Fans

09:49 AM on 03/29/2012

Michael, thanks for your reply. I've always intended to compile a list of my top 100 films of all time. I have about 50 right now. A daunting, fluid, subjective prospect. Quite honestly, there are plenty of films on your list that I have not seen (The Earrings of Madame de, Jeanne Dielman, The Decalogue among others). So, thank you. I'm excited to spend upcoming nights watching the movies on your list that I've not seen.

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NYC07

Ceci n'est pas un micro-bio

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1219 Fans

10:13 AM on 03/28/2012

Where is "The Wizard of Oz" or "Ben Hur" or "Lawrence of Arabia"?

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

12:19 PM on 03/28/2012

Wizard and Lawrence are on my personal list.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

12:21 PM on 03/28/2012

Oh and you won't find The Wizard Of Oz or Ben Hur on the Sight & Sound poll of critics all over the world -- the most respected list of its kind. Not on their top ten list and not on their expanded list of every movie that got multiple votes. I agree with you on Wizard but just want to point out this list isn't the only one that lacks your favorites.

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3fingerbrown

601 Fans

09:53 AM on 03/28/2012

I'd be tempted to replace "The Crime of Monsieur Lange" with the woefully underrated "Dude, Where's My Car?" Otherwise, a perfect list.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

03:56 PM on 03/28/2012

Def on the short list of greatest film titles of all time.

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paujah

8 Fans

09:43 AM on 03/28/2012

I understand lists such as these always make for some fun debates and the criteria can vary wildly at times. Not every movie aficionado is going to be happy with them. And there are some damn great movies here. But seriously, not one Coppola movie. The man is responsible for three of the greatest movies of all time (The Godfather I & II, The Conversation) and possibly a fourth (Apocalypse Now). Lang's Metropolis is obvious but no M? I have no problem with controversy so to speak, but not if it's just for the sake of it. Really, as the other posters have asked, and if you'll allow me to quote another great movie ignored here (Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid) "Who are these guys?" and what is their criteria. It seems to me that "What we have here is a failure to communicate" (Yes, Cool Hand Luke is another pretty big miss here too.). Ah well, time to pull out one of my Coen brothers DVDs (I'll be happy to send a copy as they seem unfamiliar with them also), make some popcorn, and be content with my own personal best collection. Long live the cinema.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

12:24 PM on 03/28/2012

The Coen Brothers' Miller's Crossing (a great spin on The Glass Key) and the Godfathers

and BUtch Cassidy are all on my list of 250 best films of all time. As is The Conversation but not Apocalypse Now. (Not every movie can be on a list.) With 100,000+ movies released in the past century, you'd be surprised how quickly the list fills up and great films like Cool Hand Luke are reluctantly set aside. This group has its biases -- they love Dreyer but ignore Bergman, for example. So does every other group which might include three Coppolas but ignore Ozu or Dreyer. But tell me: how many movies on the list have you seen?

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FirstGame72

The Sleep of Reason Produces Monsters

563 Fans

01:02 PM on 03/28/2012

100,000 people would come up with 100,000 different lists. To complete the task with any real objectivity is impossible.

The "best of" film list(s) I've never seen but would be very interesting would be the top 10 or even 20 films of each decade. Now that's a series of best of's that at least could approach some consensus among critics and film fans alike.

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paujah

8 Fans

07:27 PM on 03/29/2012

55

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

americacolonyinhell

419 Fans

09:24 AM on 03/28/2012

Not that it matters, but the Illuminati seem awfully biased in favor of Hitchcock, Welles, etc. How is Psycho a better movie than Annie Hall or Manhattan or Taxi Driver?

[Permalink](#) | [Share it](#)

HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

12:27 PM on 03/28/2012

The Scorsese of choice was Raging Bull with a strong contingent for GoodFellas and yet another pushing for The Age Of Innocent. Hence no Taxi Driver, which I believe would be on almost everyone's list for one of the best films of the year it came out. Just because a movie doesn't make the final list doesn't mean they don't think it's great. 100 movies is a very small list. Try it! Clearly, this group considers Hltchcock one of the all-time greats. It's why he and Welles and Ford among others have three or four movies on the list. Woody Allen has fallen out of favor with the group with so many bad movies in the past 20 years making them downgrade his work in retrospect. Hannah and Purple Rose are on my short list.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

05:15 PM on 03/28/2012

"Goodfellas" is just brilliant. I can watch that over and over and it's as if seeing it for the first time every time.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater
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08:37 AM on 03/28/2012

Some of the films on the list of 100 really don't belong there. "Written On The Wind" was pure low rent Hollywood melodrama. "Travels With My Aunt" didn't live up to the book and Maggie Smith was miscast; Rosiland Russell should have played the part, and "Advise and Consent" doesn't even hold up today. Gore Vidal's "The Best Man" is much better.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER
Michael Giltz
freelance writer
127 Fans

12:32 PM on 03/28/2012

I agree completely on all counts, especially Travels With My Aunt, which is one of the few movies on the list I wouldn't even put on a best of the year list. I much prefer Anatomy Of A Murder to Advise & Consent in the Preminger canon. I'm seeing The Best Man on Broadway Friday night and looking forward to it. As for Douglas Sirk, he is unquestionably a technical master; his movies are brilliantly shot and edited, with every single element (other than the acting) masterful and on a par with the greats like Hitchcock. That personally can't elevate the movies past the bad acting endemic to many of them or the silly plot twists (the funeral for a housekeeper in Imitation Of Life is as grand as a state funeral, for example). But his stock has risen a great deal over the years and many other critics groups. His three biggies -- Written On The Wind, All That Heaven Allows and Imitation Of Life -- all received votes in the Sight & Sound poll of critics all over the world. So the IRAs are not alone on this. But I agree with you.

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NHBill
673 Fans

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02:12 PM on 03/28/2012

So true.
I just re-watched "Advise and Consent" last week and was amused by it's naivety and less the good acting.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER
Michael Giltz
freelance writer
127 Fans

09:41 PM on 03/28/2012

Yes. It's still a good "process" movie for showing how Washington "really" works and interesting for showing that the politicians were less concerned with details like a member being closeted than the fact that someone had broken the boys club rules they abide by. But not a patch on Anatomy.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER
Steamboater
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3106 Fans

08:30 AM on 03/28/2012

The Lana Turner/John Garfield version of "The Postman Always Rings Twice" should have been on that list of 100.

Others:

"To Kill A Mockingbird"
"I Want To Live"
"Farewell, My Concubine" (Dickensian in scope)
"The Good Earth"
"Death In Venice"
"Georgy Girl"
"Harold Pinter's 'The Servant'"
"A Man For All Seasons"
"The Hunchback of Notre Dame " (Charles Laughton)
""The Girl With The Green Eyes" (Rita Tushingham)
"The Fixer" (Alan Bates)
"Zorba The Greek"
"The Letter" (Bette Davis)
"The Strange One" (Ben Gazzarra)

"Drums Along The Mohawk" (Claudette Colbert/Henry Fonda)
"Lawrence of Arabia"
"Gilda"
"Separate Tables"
"Shampoo"

SO many others....

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

09:43 PM on 03/28/2012

Some great movies, many of them on my personal list. More to the point, there are four I've never seen, including The Servant, The Fixer (clearly you're a Bogarde fan), The Strange One and Girl With Green Eyes (which I've never even heard of!). I look forward to checking them out. How many films on the IRA list do you need to check out? In other words, how many of them have you never seen? Unlike theater or the truly endless amount of great novels, thanks to DVD you can really tackle a lot of film history quite easily.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

Steamboater

Forget hope. Agitate.

3106 Fans

11:10 PM on 03/28/2012

Haven't seen:

The Earrings Of Madame de...

Ugetsu

Jeanne Dielman, 23 Quai du Commerce, 1080 Bruxelles

Shock Corridor

Ali: Fear Eats The Soul

Play Time

Band of Outsiders

I've watched everything with Dirk Bogarde. He was wonderful. Check the listings on TCM for "The Servant". It's coming up very soon. Starring Dirk Bogarde, Sarah Miles, Wendy Craig, and James Fox, it's a film before it's time. Audiences weren't ready for a psychological Gay S&M relationship back then. Absolutely brilliant with stunning performances by Bogarde and Fox who is the borther of actor Edward Fox. The film is really pent with tension from beginning to end with the master of the house become the servant.

Alan Bates is transfixing in "The Fixer" adapted from the book by Bernard Malamud about the Menahem Mendel Beilis case, a case of blood libel against a jew in Tsarist Russia. I didn't read the book so don't know if the film followed it closely but the end was slightly disappointing and only because I found it insulting; Bates is made to appear as a Christ figure.

"The Girl With The Green Eyes" also stars Lynn Redgrave., and "The Strange One" ws a breakout point for Ben Gazarra in film. He's just keeps you on edge throughout the entire film, about a military academy where Gazarra plays a bully to perfection. Made in the 50's.

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HUFFPOST SUPER USER

themightyabeard

screw the real world-I'm an artist!

349 Fans

06:07 PM on 03/27/2012

Lots of Howard Hawks-very good. Not noting which of three versions of 'A Star is Born' made the list-not so good. And unless I missed it-no Chaplin? WTF? Finally, yes: telling readers what IRA stands for would have been helpful.

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HUFFPOST BLOGGER

Michael Giltz

freelance writer

127 Fans

12:43 PM on 03/28/2012

My bad. It's the 1954 version starring Judy Garland and James Mason. I've made the clarification. Thanks! IRA oddly, stands for Ira, the name of one of the members. I've never received a straight answer as to how it came to be dubbed that. They also had an ever-changing series of names for the group, like the New York Independent Film Circle, the New York Circle Of Very Independent Film Goers and so on. As for Chaplin, it has two sources. One, Buster Keaton has enjoyed all the revival status in the past few years, so his movies have been showcased better in theaters (always the best place to see a film) and therefore fresher in the mind. Second, I think slowly critics have come around to the idea -- which I support -- that Chaplin's best work can be found in his shorts. Keaton always had the advantage that almost all attention once focused on The General. Now it's spreading out to Sherlock Jr. and (in my opinion) The Cameraman. That's the same lack of focus that Chaplin had where some love Gold Rush, others Modern Times, still others The Great Dictator and so on. It helps to have one great classic like The Night Of The Hunter rather than four or five great films because then no one agrees on them and suddenly Coppola is off the list.

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