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SURFING THE WAVES OF POPULAR CULTURE
BY MICHAEL GILTZ & FRIENDS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 02, 2006

Is "Airplane" A Classic Film?

Every year, the National Film Registry adds to the list of American works of art in movies/cartoons/documentary footage etc. singled out as the best and most significant. The list is 425 titles strong and includes everything from "Abbott & Costello Meet Frankenstein" (certainly THEIR greatest work outside of "Who's On First") to the Zapruder film. [The complete list is here](#). But did you know you can vote? The public doesn't have a direct say, but our voice does hold sway: the more people campaigning for a particular title, the more the actual voters might put it in. [Here's a very short list of some movies that have been nominated](#) but still aren't on the registry. Send an email with your votes to sleg@loc.gov. [Here's a link to the nomination page](#). You can include up to 50 titles, but the fewer the better, I'm sure. And I'm sure priv8pete will join me in urging everyone to vote for "Airplane." It's a very funny movie, of course, but it's also very influential. Sure, "Kentucky Fried Movie" and others were precursors to it, but "Airplane" helped popularize a very distinctive form of comedy that inspired sequels, knock-offs, TV shows and more. It's rare that any movie can epitomize an entire genre of films and that's exactly what "Airplane" does. Is it a classic film? I say yes. Surely, you agree.

POSTED BY MICHAEL IN NEW YORK AT 2:12 PM



6 COMMENTS:

[priv8pete](#) said...

I agree. And I can't believe how short that list is. It'll take some time to pick out which ones I want to email for recommendation. It looks like I picked the wrong week to stop sniffing glue...

And don't call me Shirley!

4:39 PM

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