

## Comedy

**The Awful Truth** (1937, Columbia) Directed by Leo McCarey, starring Cary Grant, Irene Dunne and Ralph Bellamy

**Some Like It Hot** (1959, MGM) Directed by Billy Wilder, starring Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon and Marilyn Monroe

**Soapdish** (1991, Paramount) Directed by Michael Hoffman, starring Sally Field, Kevin Kline, Robert Downey Jr., Cathy Moriarty, Elisabeth Shue, Whoopi Goldberg and Teri Hatcher

**Shaun of the Dead** (2004, Universal) Directed by Edgar Wright starring Simon Pegg and Nick Frost

**Kiss Kiss Bang Bang** (2005, Warner Brothers) Directed by Shane Black starring Robert Downey Jr. and Val Kilmer

## Drama

**Captains Courageous** (1937, MGM) Directed by Victor Fleming, starring Spencer Tracy, Freddie Bartholomew, Lionel Barrymore, Melvyn Douglas, Mickey Rooney

**The Best Years Of Our Lives** (1946, MGM) Directed by William Wyler, starring Fredric March, Dana Andrews, Myrna Loy, Harold Russell.

**Touch of Evil** (1958, Universal Pictures) Directed by Orson Welles, starring Orson Welles, Charlton Heston, Janet Leigh.

**Doctor Zhivago** (1965, MGM) David Lean, starring Omar Sharif, Julie Christie, Alec Guinness, Rod Steiger.

**One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest** (1975, United Artists) Milos Foreman, starring Jack Nicholson, Louise Fletcher, Danny DeVito and Christopher Lloyd.

**GoodFellas** (1990, Warner Brothers) Directed by Martin Scorsese, starring Ray Liotta, Robert DeNiro, Joe Pesci.

## Musicals

**42<sup>nd</sup> Street** (1933, Warner Brothers) Directed by Lloyd Bacon with choreography by Busby Berkley, starring Warner Baxter, Ruby Keeler, BeBe Daniels and George Brent

**Bells are Ringing** (1960, MGM) Directed by Vincente Minnelli, starring Judy Holiday and Dean Martin

**Music Man** (1962, Warner Brothers) Directed by Morton DeCosta with music and book by Meredith Wilson, starring Robert Preston and Shirley Jones

**Cabaret** (1972, ABC Pictures) Directed by Bob Fosse with music by Kandor and Ebb, starring Liza Minnelli, Michael York and Joel Grey

**Moulin Rouge** (2001, Twentieth Century Fox) Directed by Baz Luhrmann, starring Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor

### Westerns

**Stagecoach** (1939, United Artists) Directed by John Ford, starring Claire Trevor and John Wayne.

**High Noon** (1952, United Artists) Directed by Fred Zinnemann, *starring* Gary Cooper and Grace Kelly.

**The Naked Spur** (1953, MGM) Directed by Anthony Mann, starring Jimmy Stewart, Robert Ryan, Janet Leigh, Millard Mitchell and Ralph Meeker.

**The Searchers** (1956, Warner Bros) Directed by John Ford, starring John Wayne, Jeffery Hunter, Ward Bond and Natalie Wood.

**The Wild Bunch** (1969, Warner Bros) Directed by Sam Peckinpah, starring William Holden, Ernest Borgnine and Ben Johnson.

**Unforgiven** (1992, Warner Bros) Directed by Clint Eastwood, starring Clint Eastwood, Morgan Freeman and Gene Hackman.

**Spaghetti Westerns: A Fistful of Dollars** (1964, Sergio Leone), **For a Few Dollars More** (1965, Sergio Leone), **The Good, the Bad and the Ugly** (1966, Sergio Leone).

**Lonesome Dove** ((1989, TV mini-series) Directed by Simon Wincer. Starring Tommy Lee Jones and Robert Duvall

### Science Fiction

**La Voyage Dans La Lune** (1902, Star Film) Directed by Georges Mielies, starring Georges Mielies (Available on the DVD **Landmarks of Early Film** 1999 Image Entertainment)

**Metropolis** (1927, UFA) Directed by Fritz Lang, starring Brigitte Helm, Alfred Abel, Gustav Fröhlich and Rudolf Klein-Rogge

**Robot Monster** (1953, Three Dimension Pictures) Directed by Phil Tucker starring George Nader, Claudia Barrett and George Barrows

**The Day the Earth Stood Still** (1951, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox) Directed by Robert Wise starring Patricia Neal and Michael Rennie (Remade in 2008)

**Invasion of the Body Snatchers** (1956, Allied Artist Pictures) Directed by Don Siegel starring Kevin McCarthy and Dana Wynter (Remade in 1978 and also in 2007 as “The Invasion”)

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**Soylent Green** (1973 MGM) Directed by Richard Fleischer starring Charlton Heston and Edward G. Robinson

**On the Beach** (1959 Stanley Kramer Productions) Directed by Stanley Kramer starring Gregory Peck and Ava Gardner (Remade for Australian TV in 2000)

**Planet of the Apes** (1968 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox) Directed by Franklin J. Schaffner starring Charlton Heston & Roddy McDowell (Followed by 4 sequels from 1971-1974, 1974 TV series, 1981 cartoon TV series, 2001 re-make and 2011 sequel to the remake)

**Serenity** (2005, Universal) Directed by Joss Whedon, starring Nathan Fillion, Gina Torres, Alan Tudyk, Adam Baldwin, Jewel Staite, Summer Glau and Chiwetel Ejiofor

**PK Dick films: Screeners** (1995), **Impostor** (2001), **Paycheck** (2003), **Next** (2007)

**Adjustment Bureau** (2011 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Nolfi, starring Matt Damon, Emily Blunt and Terence Stamp

**Blade Runner** (1982, Warner Brothers) Directed by Ridley Scott, starring Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer, Sean Young and Edward James Olmos

**Total Recall** (1990, TriStar) Directed by Paul Verhoeven, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger, Rachel Ticotin and Sharon Stone

**Minority Report** (2002, DreamWorks SKG) Directed by Steven Spielberg, starring Tom Cruise, Max von Sydow and Samantha Morton

**A Scanner Darkly** (2006, Warner Independent) Directed by Richard Linklater, starring Keanu Reeves, Robert Downey Jr. and Winona Ryder

**The Adjustment Bureau** (2011 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Nolfi, starring Matt Damon and Emily Blunt

## **Horror**

**Dracula** (1931, Universal Pictures) Directed by Tod Browning, starring Béla Lugosi, Helen Chandler and David Manners

**Frankenstein** (1931, Universal Pictures) Directed by James Whale, starring Boris Karloff and Colin Clive

**Bride of Frankenstein** (1935, Universal Pictures) Directed by James Whale, starring Boris Karloff and Colin Clive

**The Mummy** (1932, Universal Pictures) Directed by Karl Freund, starring Boris Karloff

**The Wolfman** (1941 Universal Pictures) Directed by George Waggner, starring Lon Chaney, Jr. and Claude Rains

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**Bud Abbott and Lou Costello Meet Frankenstein** (1948) Directed by Charles Barton, starring Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Lon Chaney Jr. and Bela Lugosi

**Hammer Horror: The Curse of Frankenstein** (1957), **Dracula** (1958), **The Mummy** (1959), **The Revenge of Frankenstein** (1959), **The Brides of Dracula** (1960), **The Evil of Frankenstein** (1964), **Dracula: Prince of Darkness** (1966), **Frankenstein Created Woman** (1967), **Dracula Has Risen from the Grave** (1968), **Taste the Blood of Dracula** (1969), **Frankenstein Must Be Destroyed** (1969), **Scars of Dracula** (1970), **Dracula AD 1972** (1972), **The Satanic Rites of Dracula** (1973), **The Horror of Frankenstein** (1970), **Frankenstein and the Monster from Hell** (1974), **The Legend of the 7 Golden Vampires** (1974)

**American International/Roger Corman/Vincent Price/Edgar Allen Poe Productions: House of Usher** (1960), **The Pit and the Pendulum** (1961), **The Premature Burial** (1962), **Tales of Terror** (1962), **The Raven** (1963), **The Haunted Palace** (1963), **The Masque of the Red Death** (1964), **The Tomb of Ligeia** (1964)

**Psycho** (1960, Paramount) Directed by Alfred Hitchcock, starring Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh and Martin Balsam.

**White Zombie** (1932, ) Directed by Victor Halperin, starring Bela Lugosi and Madge Bellamy.

**Night of the Living Dead** (1968, Image Ten) Directed by George Romero, starring Duane Jones, Judith O'Dea.

**Zombie Films: 28 Days Later** (2003, Danny Boyle), **Shaun of the Dead** (2004, Edgar Wright), **Dead Snow** (2008, Tommy Wirkola), **Zombieland** (2009, Ruben Fleischer), **Zombies of Mass Destruction** (2009, Kevin Hamedani), **The Walking Dead** (2010, Developed for cable TV channel AMC by Frank Darabont and based on the graphic novels of the same name by Robert Kirkman, Tony Moore and Charlie Adlard).

**The Exorcist** (1973, Warner Brothers) Directed by William Friedkin, starring Ellen Burstyn, Linda Blair, Max von Sydow.

**WALE October 2010**

**Two Thumbs Up: Genres, Directors and Films to Know for Great Viewer's Advisory**

**The Comedy Glossary or How to Take All the Fun Out of It!**

Almost all comedic films can fit into one of the categories below, but most use multiple elements (Black Comedy and Satire, for example)

**Black Comedy** – uses humor to examine a dark or taboo subject. Intent is usually to cause both amusement and discomfort in the audience. (*Fargo, Dr. Strangelove*)

**Buddy Picture** – Any film (not always comedy) that features the relationship of two men (or two women) as the focal point. Comedies often feature the “mismatched” pair (Laurel & Hardy, Oscar Madison & Felix Unger). The term has lately expanded to include films about groups of male friends and, as director Berry Levinson says, “how different things are when guys are with guys then when guys are with women”. (*48 Hours, The 40 Year Old Virgin*)

**Caper Films** – Caper films feature crime or illicit activity but with elements of humor, audacity and unusual amounts of cleverness from the main character. Crimes are usually successful and punishment rarely meted out. Often feature a supporting group of offbeat characters who help commit the crime. (*Oceans 11, To Catch A Thief*)

**Comedy of Errors** – farce driven by mistakes made by foolish characters and the resulting chaos. (Most sitcoms, *The Secret of My Success*)

**Comedy of Manners** – satirizes the manners and affectations of a social class, often using biting wit. Also known as Drawing Room Comedy (*You Can't Take It With You, My Man Godfrey*)

**Farce** – features extravagant and improbable situations, disguise and mistaken identity. Fast paced plots featuring verbal humor, occasionally laced with sexual innuendo, physical humor, and a deliberate use of the absurd. (*The Pink Panther, Monty Python and the Holy Grail*)

**Noir Comedy** – a subcategory of Film Noir, stylized crime dramas which emphasize moral ambiguity and sexual motivations. Also includes Stoner Noir, which has additional motivation provided by drugs or alcohol. (*Arsenic and Old Lace, The Big Lebowski*)

**Parody** – (see also Satire) imitates another work or person or thing to make fun of it or simply to get laughs. (*Airplane, Young Frankenstein*)

**Romantic Comedy** – (see also Screwball Comedy) The prototypical “Boy Meets Girl, Boy Loses Girl, Boy Wins Girl Back” plot, which lately has expanded to include Boy Meets Boy (or Girl Meets Girl) plots as well. (*When Harry Met Sally, Scott Pilgrim vs The World*)

**Satire** – Uses humor and ridicule, often expressed as sarcasm, to express anger or frustration with the status quo. (*MASH, Idiocracy*)

**Screwball Comedy** – features farcical situations, slapstick, fast paced repartee and a plot involving marriage or romantic pairing. Plots often involve class disparities, “meet cute” situations and mistaken identities. Many of Shakespeare's comedies, such as *Much Ado About Nothing* and *As You Like It*, have elements of the screwball comedy.

**Slapstick** – (see also Farce) broad comedy featuring boisterous action, “pain with no consequences”, farcical situations and silly jokes. (*The Three Stooges, Old School*)

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## **Resources For Film**

### Awards

Academy Awards Searchable DB

[http://awardsdatabase.oscars.org/ampas\\_awards/BasicSearchInput.jsp](http://awardsdatabase.oscars.org/ampas_awards/BasicSearchInput.jsp)

Cannes Film Festival <http://www.festival-cannes.fr/default4.php>

Directors Guild <http://www.dga.org/index2.php3?chg=>

Golden Globe/Hollywood Foreign Press <http://www.goldenglobes.org/>

Screen Actors Guild <http://www.sagawards.org/>

Seattle Int'l Film Festival <http://www.siff.net/index.aspx>

Sundance Film Festival <http://www.sundance.org/festival/>

### Books to Film

<http://www.mymcpl.org/books-movies-music/based-book>

<http://www.oclc.org/research/top1000/film.htm>

### Box Office

<http://boxofficemojo.com/>

<http://www.the-numbers.com/>

### Film Lists +

British Film Institutes Best Films <http://www.bfi.org.uk/sightandsound/topten/index.html>

Film Site (AMC) <http://www.filmsite.org/>

Jeeem's CinePad: Interesting compilation of the "best" films

[http://www.cinepad.com/awards/awards\\_1-50.htm](http://www.cinepad.com/awards/awards_1-50.htm)

Library of Congress National Film Registry <http://www.loc.gov/film/titles.html>

### Film Encyclopedias: Technical, Cast/Crew, Awards, Trivia, Reviews

All Movie Guide <http://www.allmovie.com/>

Internet Movie Database <http://www.imdb.com/>

Metacritic: One stop place for movie reviews with composite score <http://www.metacritic.com/>

Movie Review Query Engine: Great source for reviews of older movies <http://www.mrqe.com/>

Rotten Tomatoes: One stop place for movie reviews with composite score

<http://www.rottentomatoes.com/>

Video Librarian: Great source for NF reviews <http://www.videolibrarian.com/>

### Foreign Films:

Good resource for the beginner and novice <http://www.foreignfilms.com/>

Hand selected foreign and indies from the planet <http://www.filmmovement.com/>

### Screen for Content

Catholic News Service Media Review Office <http://www.usccb.org/movies/>

Kids In Mind: Aid to find kid friendly movies <http://www.kidsinmind.com/>

Screen It: Aid to find kid friendly movies, free version <http://www.screenit.com/index1.html>

### Misc

Seattle Film Office: Information about films made in Seattle <http://www.seattle.gov/film/>

Fandango: Film/Theater Search by Zip Code <http://www.fandango.com/>

Video ETA: Release dates for film on DVD <http://videoeta.com/index.html>

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