



amherst cinema

28 Amity Street, Amherst, MA 01002
www.amherstcinema.org (413) 253-2547

Summer
2024
Special Event Screenings



2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

BIG SCREEN CLASSICS JULY 14 - SEPTEMBER 17



SUNSET BOULEVARD

2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY

dir. Stanley Kubrick | 1968 | 154 min | G

Sunday, July 14 @ 1:30PM

Tuesday, July 16 @ 7:00PM

Stanley Kubrick's dazzling, Oscar®-winning science fiction is a millennia-spanning drama of man vs. machine, and a brilliant meld of music and motion.

JOHNNY GUITAR

dir. Nicholas Ray | 1954 | 110 min | NR

Sunday, July 21 @ 1:30PM

Tuesday, July 23 @ 7:00PM

In this intensely stylized Western, Vienna (Joan Crawford), a savvy saloon owner in frontier Arizona, partners with retired gunslinger Johnny Guitar (Sterling Hayden) to fight off angry locals.

MALCOLM X

dir. Spike Lee | 1992 | 202 min | PG-13

Sunday, July 28 @ 1:30PM

Tuesday, July 30 @ 7:00PM

Built around an extraordinary performance from Denzel Washington, one of the most electrifying heroes of the 20th century receives a sweeping screen biopic from visionary director Spike Lee.

AMÉLIE

dir. Jean-Pierre Jeunet | 2001 | 122 min | R | French w/subs

Sunday, Aug 4 @ 1:30PM

Tuesday, Aug 6 @ 7:00PM

This feel-good charmer that charts the escapades of Parisian good samaritan Amélie Poulain (Audrey Tautou) remains the highest-grossing French language film ever released in North America.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND

dir. Steven Spielberg | 1977 | 138 min | PG

Sunday, Aug 11 at 1:30PM

Tuesday, Aug 13 at 7:00PM

Reuniting with Richard Dreyfuss in their follow-up to JAWS, Spielberg deftly blends family drama and extra-terrestrial thrills to stunning effect.

SHAFT

dir. Gordon Parks | 1971 | 100 min | R

Sunday, Aug 18 at 1:30PM

Tuesday, Aug 20 at 7:00PM

A vivid time capsule of gritty '70s Manhattan, this detective story is studded with indelible elements, from the late Richard Roundtree's sleek leather fashions to the iconic funk score by Isaac Hayes.

SUNSET BOULEVARD

dir. Billy Wilder | 1950 | 110 min | NR

Sunday, Aug 25 at 1:30PM

Tuesday, Aug 27 at 7:00PM

In this delicious Hollywood meta-commentary, an aging silent-film queen (Gloria Swanson) ensnares a struggling young screenwriter (William Holden) who is held in thrall by her madness.

CHUNGKING EXPRESS

dir. Wong Kar Wai | 1994 | 102 min | PG-13 | Cantonese w/subs

Sunday, Sept 1 at 1:30PM

Tuesday, Sept 3 at 7:00PM

Two heartsick Hong Kong cops cross paths at the restaurant stand where ethereal waitress Faye works, in this dreamy and defining work of '90s cinema.



SHAFT

BIG SCREEN CLASSICS CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE...

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FROM BEHIND THE SCREEN

Yasmin Chin Eisenhauer, Executive Director

Dear film friends,

In curating this summer's lineup, I challenged my programming colleagues, George and Alex, to select films that centered joy. But this idea was met with some pushback. *Are you looking for a comedy lineup? You know, Yasmin, one person's joy can be another's tragedy.* Fair point. Within the arthouse context, joy is certainly relative, and at times, nuanced. In complex, narrative storytelling, our heroes don't always win. And a tense thriller, while nerve-wracking, can be an exhilarating moviegoing experience. *But we will try!*, they said.

Off we went to find films, the results of which unfold across these six pages. There's a throughline in our summer program that speaks to what brings the programming team joy. Hint: George curates our Sound & Vision series and is also a professional DJ (aka DJ Snack Attack). Alex curated the Scored by Sakamoto series and is also an avid record collector and sometimes-keyboardist. And I'm a second-generation Jamaican immigrant. When I need to remember who I am and unlock my earliest (and fondest) core memories, I open up my roots, reggae, and soca playlists. Growing up, my parents hosted legendary parties. On weekends, our basement transformed into a dancehall outfitted with a bona fide disco ball.

Music is firmly rooted to filmic storytelling. Sound and picture converge to create cinematic encounters that are not only visually powerful, but rich and immersive multi-sensory experiences.

This summer, we're delighted to offer you a smorgasbord of music-driven films across our lineup. Whether you prefer a great documentary (INDIGO GIRLS, ONE HAND DON'T CLAP), a musical (THE SOUND OF MUSIC, WEST INDIES), or an iconic soundtrack (2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY, SHAFT), consider this your personal invitation to a rhapsody of sound and vision.



Yasmin

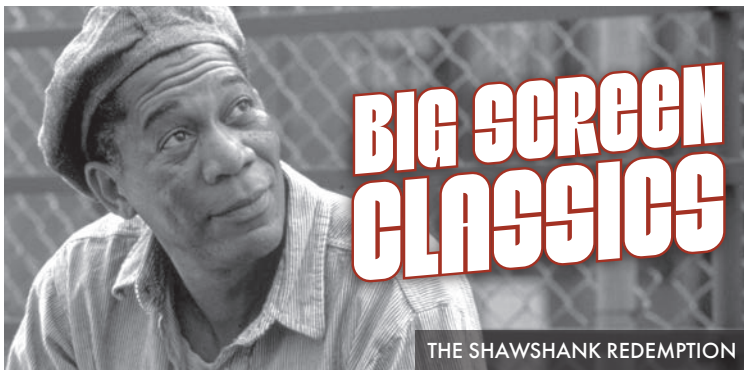
Joyfully,



George



Alex



BIG SCREEN CLASSICS

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION

SORCERER dir. William Friedkin | 1977 | 121 min | PG

Sunday, Sept 8 at 1:30PM & Tuesday, Sept 10 at 7:00PM

Roy Scheider plays a getaway driver who leads a team transporting two trucks of nitroglycerin across dangerous Latin American jungle. William Friedkin's follow-up to THE FRENCH CONNECTION (1971) and THE EXORCIST (1973) was a critical and commercial dud on release, but has since been embraced as a thrilling feat of on-location filmmaking.

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION

dir. Frank Darabont | 1994 | 142 min | R

Sunday, Sept 15 at 1:30PM & Tuesday, Sept 17 at 7:00PM

Tim Robbins and Morgan Freeman star in a compelling drama of hope, friendship and atonement behind the walls of a maximum-security prison. Based on a story by Stephen King, THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION has emerged as one of the most beloved films of the 1990s.



\$5 Family Films

THE SOUND OF MUSIC

THE LEGO MOVIE dir. Phil Lord, Christopher Miller | 2014 | 100 min | PG

Saturday, June 22 at 12:45PM

An ordinary Lego minifigure must stop a tyrant from gluing the universe together.

CARS dir. John Lasseter, Joe Ranft | 2006 | 116 min | G

Saturday, July 27 at 12:45PM

A hotshot rookie race car gets stranded in the rundown town of Radiator Springs.

THE SOUND OF MUSIC SING-ALONG

dir. Robert Wise | 1965 | 172 min | G

Saturday, Aug 24 at 12:45PM

Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer star in one of the most beloved movie musicals of all time, presented here with on-screen lyrics.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Amherst Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

This summer, Amherst Cinema is thrilled to welcome back Nina Kleinberg, film expert and industry veteran, for two Cinema Seminars. These programs offer participants the opportunity to explore, engage, and foster new understandings of the film form within historical and cultural contexts, with film screenings following Kleinberg's presentations. Curious learners of all levels are welcome!

"Film School in 90 Minutes: The Making of CASABLANCA"

CASABLANCA

dir. Michael Curtiz | 1942 | 102 min | PG

Monday, June 10: Seminar at 6:30PM, film to follow

If you don't know a pan from a dolly, or an over-the-shoulder from a two-shot, this seminar is for you! Learn how the Warner Brothers' team took "the worst play ever written" and turned it into a Best Picture Oscar®-winner. Using raw footage, clips, and production stills with expertise and humor, Kleinberg reveals how suspense is "manufactured" from raw materials, how continuity errors end up in the final film, how three lights define a face, how the filmmakers worked around the censors from the Hays Commission—and more!

"Out of this World! Classic '50s Sci-Fi"

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

dir. Robert Wise | 1951 | 92 min | G

Monday, Aug 12: Seminar at 6:30PM, film to follow

In this seminar, Kleinberg explores the stories behind THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (screening after the seminar), FORBIDDEN PLANET, and INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS. Learn about the history and legacy of 1950s sci-fi, the culture and politics of Cold War America that influenced these films, the groundbreaking special effects of the era, and more. Who were the filmmakers who brought these thrilling stories to life? What role did studios and censors have in shaping the final products? How do these films impact the science fiction of today?

a Joyous June

Join us in June as we as we observe Pride Month and Juneteenth with films celebrating and centering queer joy and Black love.



THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT



QUEER FUTURES

INDIGO GIRLS: IT'S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL

dir. Alexandria Bombach | 2024 | 123 min | NR

Wednesday, June 5 @ 7:00PM

With humor and heart-warming earnestness, this documentary brings us into conversation with Amy and Emily of iconic folk rock band Indigo Girls, alongside decades of the band's home movies and intimate present-day verité.

THE ADVENTURES OF PRISCILLA, QUEEN OF THE DESERT

dir. Stephan Elliott | 1994 | 104 min | R

Sunday, June 9 @ 1:30PM & Monday, June 24 @ 7:00PM

With a contract to perform a drag show way out in the Australian desert, Tick, Adam, and Bernadette journey across the Australian Outback in their battered, pink tour bus, "Priscilla."

QUEER FUTURES

Various directors | 2024 | 63 min | NR

Monday, June 17 @ 7:00PM

Radically imagining future visions of queer life, this program spotlights four short films exploring fat beauty and liberation, gender-affirming healthcare, nonbinary siblinghood in ballroom culture, and the anonymous connections of a decades-old LGBTQ hotline.

LOVE & BASKETBALL

dir. Gina Prince-Bythewood | 2000 | 124 min | PG-13

Wednesday, June 19 @ 7:00PM

Sanaa Lathan and Omar Epps star as basketball-obsessed next-door neighbors who find love over flirtatious pickup games, fall apart under the strain of high-pressure college hoops and families, and drift in and out of each other's lives as they pursue their twin aspirations of playing professionally. *This program is supported in part by a grant from the Amherst Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.* **This Juneteenth screening is free to the general public!**



LOVE & BASKETBALL

Free for Juneteenth

Featuring fresh approaches to fiction, non-fiction, and experimental works, the Bellwether series welcomes artists to the Amherst Cinema stage, bringing filmmakers and filmgoers together in conversation. **Bellwether screenings are free to Amherst Cinema Members!**



THE MOTHER OF ALL LIES

dir. Asmae El Moudir | 2023 | 96 min | NR | Arabic w/subs
Thursday, June 13 @ 7:00PM

A Moroccan filmmaker tries to learn more about her family and unravels both truths about her loved ones and the history behind the deadly 1981 Bread Riots. Winner of the Golden Eye Documentary Award at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival. **Post-film Zoom Q&A with filmmaker Asmae El Moudir.**

FLYING LESSONS dir. Elizabeth Nichols | 2024 | 84 min | NR
Thursday, July 25 @ 7:00PM

When their Manhattan building comes under siege by a predatory landlord, a young filmmaker and an aging punk artist forge an unlikely friendship, collaborating on a portrait of creative life and discovering what it means to be neighbors. **Post-film Q&A with filmmaker Elizabeth Nichols.**

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT for the **ARTS**
arts.gov

Curated by Amherst Cinema programmer George Myers and filmmaker Luke Meyer. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Summer MEMBERSHIP Drive

Join the party! It's the season for movies, music, and Members.

Summer at Amherst Cinema is the best time to become a new Member or renew your Membership.

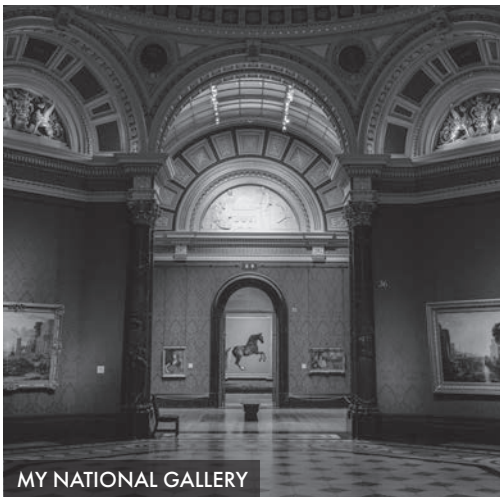
In addition to ticket discounts, free popcorns, Member of the Month drawings, and free-to-Members events, **if you sign up (or re-up) in June, July, or August, we'll give you a FREE movie pass!**

To become a Member, you can:

- Scan the QR code below to visit our website
- Return the enclosed envelope
- Sign up at our box office next time you see a movie
- Call us: (413) 253-2547, M-F, 10-5



Thank you.
You make the difference!



EOS EXHIBITION ON SCREEN

MY NATIONAL GALLERY

dir. Phil Grabsky, Ali Ray | 2024 | 90 min | NR
Tuesday, June 4 at 7:00PM
Saturday, July 13 at 1:30PM

This film gives voice to those whose lives have been touched by the renowned National Gallery in London—from security guard to curator, from everyday visitor to celebrity. Interviewees each identify the one artwork that means the most to them and why, providing a fascinating lens through which to explore the gallery's 200-year history.

JOHN SINGER SARGENT: FASHION & SWAGGER

dir. David Bickerstaff | 2024 | 90 min | NR
Saturday, June 1 at 1:30PM

Filmed at the MFA Boston and Tate Britain, London, step into the glittering world of fashion, scandal, and shameless self-promotion that made John Singer Sargent the painter who defined an era.

PAINTING THE MODERN GARDEN: MONET TO MATISSE (Encore)

dir. David Bickerstaff | 2016 | 93 min | NR
Saturday, June 15 at 1:30PM

This remarkable collection of 19th and early 20th century paintings reveals the rise of the modern garden in popular culture.



Join us for the best of British theatre, captured live from the London stage.

NYE dir. Rufus Norris | 2024 | 160 min
Saturday, June 8 @ 12:30PM

Michael Sheen plays Nye Bevan in a spectacular journey through the life of the man who led the battle to create Britain's National Health Service.

VANYA dir. Sam Yates | 2024 | 110 min
Saturday, Aug 17 @ 12:30PM

Andrew Scott (ALL OF US STRANGERS) brings multiple characters to life in this radical new version of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*.

SOUND & VISION

It's summer at Amherst Cinema—that means it's time to shake a tail feather with Sound & Vision, our annual series celebrating music culture through film!



RYUICHI SAKAMOTO | OPUS dir. Neo Sora | 2023 | 103 min | NR **Wednesday, July 17 @ 7:00PM & Saturday, July 20 @ 1:30PM**

In late 2022, Ryuichi Sakamoto gifted the world one final performance: an intimate concert film featuring just him and his piano. Curated by Sakamoto himself, the twenty pieces played here wordlessly tell the story of his life and his wide-ranging oeuvre. **On July 17, Michael Sakamoto, UMass Fine Arts Center Performing Arts Curator, introduces the film.**

GETTING IT BACK: THE STORY OF CYMANDE

dir. Tim MacKenzie-Smith | 2024 | 93 min | NR
Wednesday, July 24 @ 7:00PM

Emerging from the Afro-Caribbean diaspora community of 1971 London, funk band Cymande's message of peace and love sailed beyond Britain's shores and helped shape music for five decades. **Presented in partnership with Peace & Rhythm. Afterparty at White Lion Taproom with DJs Bongohead and Snack Attack spinning vinyl.**

LOST ANGEL: THE GENIUS OF JUDEE SILL

dir. Andy Brown, Brian Lindstrom | 2024 | 91 min | NR
Wednesday, July 31 @ 7:00PM

This doc shares the never-before-told story of folk-rock icon Judee Sill, who, in just two years, went from living in a car to appearing on the cover of Rolling Stone. The film features Linda Ronstadt, Fleet Foxes, Weyes Blood, and more.

NEW WAVE dir. Elizabeth Ai | 2024 | 88 min | NR | Vietnamese w/subs, English **Wednesday, Aug 7 @ 7:00PM**

Mile-high hair. Synthesized music. Underground parties. Elizabeth Ai was on a mission to excavate an untold story of the Vietnamese American punk scene in 1980s Orange County, California—until she rediscovered a hidden past, revealing broken dreams and unfulfilled expectations that shaped her community and her family.

HEAD dir. Bob Rafelson | 1968 | 86 min | G **Wednesday, Aug 14 @ 7:00PM**

Jack Nicholson co-wrote this kaleidoscopic satire, which is oh-so-more than just a vehicle for The Monkees. Media send-up, concert movie, and antiwar rallying cry all at once, this surreal, late-'60s spectacle is a total trip.



ONE HAND DON'T CLAP dir. Kavery Dutta Kaul | 1988 | 92 min | NR **Wednesday, Aug 21 @ 7:00PM**

ONE HAND DON'T CLAP captures the vibrant story of calypso music and the emergence of soca in 1970s Trinidad & Tobago. This history is shared through the eyes of two legendary artists: Lord Kitchener, the Grandmaster of the music, and Calypso Rose, the first woman to break through in a traditionally male arena. **Afterparty at White Lion Taproom with DJ Trends.**

ARTIE SHAW: TIME IS ALL YOU'VE GOT

dir. Brigitte Berman | 1985 | 114 min | NR
Wednesday, Aug 28 @ 7:00PM

Anchored by an incisive interview with 72-year-old clarinetist Artie Shaw, this documentary looks back on the bandleader's five-decade career, including interviews with Shaw's contemporaries and a wealth of photos and archival film. **Tom Reney, host of NEPM's Jazz à la Mode, introduces the film.**

THE ELEPHANT 6 RECORDING CO.

dir. Chad Stockfleth | 2022 | 93 min | NR
Wednesday, Sept 4 @ 7:00PM

This documentary provides an inside look at The Elephant 6 Recording Co., the '90s music collective that launched Neutral Milk Hotel, The Olivia Tremor Control, The Apples in Stereo, and other influential indie rock bands.

WEST INDIES: THE FUGITIVE SLAVES OF LIBERTY

dir. Med Hondo | 1979 | 116 min | NR | French w/subs
Wednesday, Sept 11 @ 7:00PM

One of African cinema's first musicals is a sui generis amalgam of historical epic, Broadway revue, Brechtian theater, and joyous agitprop, set on an enormous mock slave ship and interrogating more than three centuries of imperialist oppression. **New 4K restoration!**

LIVE-SCORED EXPERIMENTAL FILM SHORTS

Wednesday, Sept 18 @ 7:00PM

Guitarist Bill Nace, one half of the duo Body/Head with Kim Gordon, joins us to live score a program of experimental film shorts curated by Josh Guilford, Assistant Professor of English in Film and Media Studies at Amherst College. **Presented in partnership with Amherst College.**



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August 4 & 6: AMÉLIE

Summer 2024 NEWSLETTER

The programs in this newsletter are supported in part by a grant from the Leverett Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Scored by



Celebrating one of the world's great musicians, join us for three films scored by **Ryuichi Sakamoto**. After rising to fame with pioneering synth-pop band Yellow Magic Orchestra, he began scoring movies in the early 1980s, with over 40 features scored by Sakamoto before his death in March, 2023. This series leads up to **OPUS**, a concert film chronicling Sakamoto's final piano recitals, which kicks off Sound & Vision (page 5).

MERRY CHRISTMAS MR. LAWRENCE

dir. Nagisa Ōshima | 1983 | 123 min | R | Japanese w/subs, English

Sunday, June 16 @ 1:00PM & Tuesday, June 18 @ 7:00PM

With this enduring and affecting World War II drama, Sakamoto made not only his film scoring debut but his acting debut, starring with David Bowie in the story of a British soldier interned in a Japanese POW camp.

THE LAST EMPEROR

dir. Bernardo Bertolucci | 1987 | 163 min | PG-13 | Mandarin, Japanese & French w/subs, English

Sunday, June 23 @ 1:00PM & Tuesday, June 25 @ 7:00PM

This sweeping historical epic about Emperor Pu Yi, who took the Chinese throne in 1908 at age 3, won nine Academy Awards®—including Best Original Score by Sakamoto, Talking Heads' David Byrne, and Cong Su.

THE REVENANT

dir. Alejandro G. Iñárritu | 2015 | 156 min | R

Sunday, July 7 @ 1:00PM & Tuesday, July 9 @ 7:00PM

In an Oscar®-winning performance, Leonardo DiCaprio plays fur trapper Hugh Glass, whose harrowing tale of frontier survival is set to stunning cinematography by Emmanuel Lubezki and an experimental score by Sakamoto and Alva Noto.

COMMON GROUND dir. Josh & Rebecca Tickell | 2024 | 105 min | NR

Monday, Aug 5 @ 7:00PM

From the directors of the hit documentary **KISS THE GROUND**, this follow-up film, narrated by Jason Momoa, explores the solution-driven movement of regenerative agriculture across North America and beyond.

Presented in partnership with the Hitchcock Center for the Environment. Followed by a post-screening discussion.



In addition to the special events listed in this newsletter, Amherst Cinema shows new-release films on four screens every day of the year. Visit our website to discover our daily offerings and any newly added special events. Tickets are available online and at our physical box office.