

ARTS COUNCIL

CLASSICS ON FILM - FALL AND WINTER 2018 MOVIE SERIES

“Survivors: A Desert Island Selection on Mercer Island” in the Fall and “Best Picture Oscar-Winning Musicals” which presents the last eight winners in the spring. Presented by The Mercer Island Arts Council, with additional support from The Mercer Island Sister City Association on selected Fridays at Aljoya on Mercer Island. Free and open to the public, with refreshments provided courtesy of Aljoya. Screenings begin with introductions by film historian Lance Rhoades at 7:30pm (unless otherwise noted) and Q&A follows each film. All films are presented with English subtitles unless otherwise indicated.

Day: Fri (dates and movie description below)

Fee: FREE and open to the public

Time: 7:30pm (except as noted)

Location: Aljoya - Theater 2430 76th Ave SE, Mercer Island

The Adventures of Robinson Crusoe (1952)

Fri, Sep 29, 7:30pm

Dan O'Herlihy stars as Crusoe, a 17th-Century Englishman who sets out to sea to make his fortune only to be shipwrecked on a desert island. For the next 28 years, he perseveres – and even thrives – mastering the art of survival by learning about his environs and himself. An affectionate adaptation of the classic Daniel Defoe novel by master filmmaker Luis Buñuel.

Timbuktu (2014)

Fri, Oct 6, 7:30pm

Inspired by the dogged and sometimes clever resistance to an occupying extremist Islamic militia in Mali in 2012, this French and Mauritanian film was nominated for a Best Foreign Language Film Academy Award. Presented in French, Arabic, Bambara, and Tamasheq with English subtitles. Sponsored in partnership with the Mercer Island Sister City Association. Wine and cheese served, courtesy of Aljoya, starting at 6:30pm.

Lord of the Flies (1963)

Fri, Oct 13, 7:30pm

In this compelling adaptation of William Golding's 1954 novel, a group of schoolboys being evacuated from England during wartime is stranded on an uninhabited island after their plane goes down. In the absence of adult supervision their abilities to cooperate, to behave in a civilized manner, and to stay alive are put to the test.

Cast Away (2000)

Fri, Oct 20, 7:30pm

Tom Hanks is FedEx employee Chuck Noland, whose plane crashes near a South Pacific island. He keeps himself alive by making ingenious use of items he finds in the parcels washed ashore and he keeps up his courage with thoughts of Kelly Frears (Helen Hunt), the woman he wants to marry.

Touching the Void (2003)

Fri, Oct 27, 7:30pm

A powerful documentary of the astonishing true survival story of British climbers Simon Yates and Joe Simpson and their ill-fated attempt to ascend a never before reached peak in the Peruvian Andes. The film is narrated by the climbers, with dramatic on-location reenactments and impressive cinematography.

La loi du marché (The Measure of a Man) (2015)

Fri, Nov 3, 7:30pm

After going nowhere with job-retraining programs, an unemployed, middle-aged man trying to provide for his wife and special-needs son takes a job as a department store security guard. Vincent Lindon's intense but understated performance won him a Best Actor Award at Cannes Film Festival. Presented in French with English subtitles. Sponsored in partnership with the Mercer Island Sister City Association. Wine and cheese served, courtesy of Aljoya, starting at 6:30pm.

All Is Lost (2013)

Fri, Nov 17, 7:30pm

The cast of this remarkable film is comprised solely of Robert Redford, The Indian Ocean, and an errant cargo container that breaches his boat. Things go from bad to worse, but the mostly stoic Redford does his best to face the situation with pragmatic resourcefulness.

Tracks (2013)

Fri, Dec 1, 7:30pm

The true story of Robyn Davidson's trek through the biggest desert island of them all - Australia! She undertook her 1700-mile journey from Alice Springs to the Indian Ocean with only a dog and some camels as companions, determined to get away from it all. But along with the hazards of the harsh desert she has to contend with journalists and tourists eager to follow her story. Starring Mia Wasikowska and Adam Driver.

Room (2015)

Fri, Dec 8, 7:30pm

A moving fictional drama about Joy Newsome, a woman abducted and held for seven years who now has a five-year old son, Jack. Despite their confinement, she tries to protect and raise him, and to plot their escape. The film was nominated for four Academy Awards - including Best Picture - and Brie Larson won the Oscar for Best Actress. She shares a terrific on-screen chemistry with child actor Jacob Tremblay, and Joan Allen and William H. Macy play Joy's parents. Emma Donoghue adapted the screenplay from her Man Booker Prize-winning bestseller.

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The Martian (2015)

Fri, Dec 15, 7:30pm

Matt Damon (Golden Globe, Best Actor) stars as stranded astronaut/botanist Mark Watney in a “Robinson Crusoe on Mars” variation, this time with the whole world watching and working to bring him home. Veteran director Ridley Scott brings computer scientist-turned novelist Andy Weir’s witty bestseller to the screen. Also stars Jessica Chastain, Kristin Wiig, Jeff Daniels, Sean Bean, and Chiwetel Ejiofor.

Going My Way (1944)

Fri, Jan 5, 7:30pm

1944’s Best Picture Oscar-winner (one of 7 total wins) was also the year’s highest-grossing film. Bing Crosby stars as young Father “Chuck” O’Malley sent to revitalize a New York City parish. His rather unorthodox approach wins over the neighborhood gang, who commit to forming a talented boys’ choir. Barry Fitzgerald and Risë Stevens also star.

Les parapluies de Cherbourg (The Umbrellas of Cherbourg) (1964)

Fri, Jan 12, 6:30pm

Geneviève (Catherine Deneuve), runs an umbrella shop with her mother and is in love with a mechanic named Guy (Nino Castelnuovo). They intend to marry, but can their love withstand separation when he is called away to war? Music by Michel Legrand. **Sponsored in partnership with the Mercer Island Sister City Association. Wine and cheese served, courtesy of Aljoja, starting at 6:30pm.**

An American in Paris (1951)

Fri, Jan 19, 7:30pm

Inspired by George Gershwin’s orchestral work by the same name, this visually sumptuous musical stars Gene Kelly as Jerry, a veteran who falls in love with Paris, and then, while trying to make it as a painter there, falls in love with a Parisian named Lise (Leslie Caron, in her film debut). This winner of 6 Academy Awards - plus an Honorary Oscar for Kelly - also stars Nina Foch, Georges Guétary, and Oscar Levant. Features lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner. S’Wonderful!

Gigi (1958)

Fri, Jan 26, 7:30pm

Gilberte “Gigi” (Leslie Caron) resists her mother’s and aunt’s efforts to turn her into a courtesan, as well as the attempts by womanizer Gaston (Louis Jourdan) to treat her like one, and wins the respect and love of all. Winner of 9 Oscars - the most for any film up to that time - in every category for which it was nominated. Features the songs of Alan Lerner and Frederick Loewe, with whimsical appearances by Maurice Chevalier as Gaston’s uncle.

West Side Story (1961)

Fri, Feb 2, 7:30pm

Will rivalry between New York gangs The Sharks and The Jets keep Maria and Tony from finding everlasting love? This modern musical retelling of “Romeo and Juliet,” with music by Leonard Bernstein, won 10 Oscars - the most ever for a movie musical - of its 11 Oscar nominations. The cast includes Natalie Wood, Rita Moreno, George Chakiris, Russ Tamblyn, and Richard Beymer.

Les demoiselles de Rochefort (The Young Girls of Rochefort) (1967)

Fri, Mar 9, 6:30pm

A companion piece to writer-director Jacques Demy’s The Umbrellas of Cherbourg, but now the setting is the sunny South. Catherine Deneuve is back, this time joined by her sister Françoise Dorleac and Gene Kelly! **Sponsored in partnership with the Mercer Island Sister City Association. Wine and cheese served, courtesy of Aljoja, starting at 6:30pm.**

My Fair Lady (1964)

Fri, Mar 16, 7:00pm

After Professor Henry Higgins teaches poor florist Eliza Doolittle how to speak properly in high society, she teaches him how to be a nicer person. A Lerner and Loewe adaptation of a 1913 George Bernard Shaw play, featuring the numbers “I Could Have Danced All Night,” “With a Little Bit of Luck,” “On the Street Where You Live,” and “Wouldn’t It Be Lovely?” Starring Rex Harrison and Audrey Hepburn, with Robert Coote and Stanley Holloway. SPECIAL START TIME: 7:00pm

The Sound of Music (1965)

Fri, Mar 23, 7:00pm

Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer star in the story of the real-life von Trapp family and their daring escape from Austria in 1938. The film became the most commercially successful movie musical of all time. Includes classic numbers “My Favorite Things,” “Edelweiss,” “Do-Re-Mi,” and, of course, the title song. SPECIAL START TIME: 7:00pm

Oliver! (1968)

Fri, Apr 6, 7:30pm

Carol Reed’s critically-acclaimed film adaptation of the stage musical and Charles Dickens’ novel brought in 6 Oscars on 11 nominations. With Mark Lester as Oliver, an orphan who runs away from Mr. Bumble (Harry Secombe) and meets a colorful cast of characters, including Fagin (Ron Moody), The Artful Dodger (Jack Wild), Nancy (Shani Wallis), and Bill Sikes (Oliver Reed).

Chicago (2002)

Fri, Apr 13, 7:30pm

The only musical to win a Best Picture Oscar in the past 50 years is set during the Al Capone-era, during which sensationalized trials of women charged with murdering their lovers turn their celebrity into a stage act. Stars Renée Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones as rivals Roxie Hart and Velma Kelly, and Richard Gere as slick lawyer Billy Flynn. Songs by John Kander and Fred Ebb. A winner of a total of 6 Oscars with 13 nominations.