



NEWS RELEASE

***YOU MUST REMEMBER THIS...***

**CASABLANCA TOPS THE AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE'S LIST OF THE  
100 GREATEST LOVE STORIES OF ALL TIME**

*AFI's 100 YEARS... 100 PASSIONS AFFIRMS 'A KISS IS STILL A KISS' WITH  
GONE WITH THE WIND, WEST SIDE STORY, ROMAN HOLIDAY AND  
AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER IGNITING THE TOP OF THE LIST*

The American Film Institute (AFI) revealed the 100 greatest love stories of all time last night during **AFI's 100 Years... 100 Passions**, a three-hour special television event. Of all the films, **CASABLANCA** walked in the joint at number one. The 1942 classic starring Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman was followed by **GONE WITH THE WIND** (#2), **WEST SIDE STORY** (#3), **ROMAN HOLIDAY** (#4), **AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER** (#5), **THE WAY WE WERE** (#6), **DOCTOR ZHIVAGO** (#7), **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** (#8), **LOVE STORY** (#9) and **CITY LIGHTS** (#10).

"Last year, **AFI's 100 Years... 100 Thrills** counted down America's most heart-pounding films and focused on how those films viscerally effect an audience," stated AFI Director and CEO Jean Picker Firstenberg. "This year, **AFI's 100 Years... 100 Passions** celebrates matters of the heart in a whole different way—more heartbreaks, heartaches and hearts bursting with love, rather than heart attacks and hearts in the throat. It's a wonderful and broad list of films and I hope this fifth installment of AFI's centennial celebration of cinema will prompt people to watch these classics, either for the first time or the fortieth."

The 100 most passionate films of all time were selected by a blue-ribbon panel of leaders from the film community, including film artists (directors, screenwriters, actors, editors, cinematographers, etc.), critics, historians and film executives.

And the winners are...

1	CASABLANCA	1942
2	GONE WITH THE WIND	1939
3	WEST SIDE STORY	1961
4	ROMAN HOLIDAY	1953
5	AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER	1957
6	THE WAY WE WERE	1973
7	DOCTOR ZHIVAGO	1965
8	IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	1946
9	LOVE STORY	1970
10	CITY LIGHTS	1931

11	ANNIE HALL	1977
12	MY FAIR LADY	1964
13	OUT OF AFRICA	1985
14	THE AFRICAN QUEEN	1951
15	WUTHERING HEIGHTS	1939
16	SINGIN' IN THE RAIN	1952
17	MOONSTRUCK	1987
18	VERTIGO	1958
19	GHOST	1990
20	FROM HERE TO ETERNITY	1953
21	PRETTY WOMAN	1990
22	ON GOLDEN POND	1981
23	NOW, VOYAGER	1942
24	KING KONG	1933
25	WHEN HARRY MET SALLY...	1989
26	THE LADY EVE	1941
27	THE SOUND OF MUSIC	1965
28	THE SHOP AROUND THE CORNER	1940
29	AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN	1982
30	SWING TIME	1936
31	THE KING AND I	1956
32	DARK VICTORY	1939
33	CAMILLE	1937
34	BEAUTY AND THE BEAST	1991
35	GIGI	1958
36	RANDOM HARVEST	1942
37	TITANIC	1997
38	IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT	1934
39	AN AMERICAN IN PARIS	1951
40	NINOTCHKA	1939
41	FUNNY GIRL	1968
42	ANNA KARENINA	1935
43	A STAR IS BORN	1954
44	THE PHILADELPHIA STORY	1940
45	SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE	1993
46	TO CATCH A THIEF	1955
47	SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS	1961
48	LAST TANGO IN PARIS	1972
49	THE POSTMAN ALWAYS RINGS TWICE	1946
50	SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE	1998
51	BRINGING UP BABY	1938
52	THE GRADUATE	1967

53	A PLACE IN THE SUN	1951
54	SABRINA	1954
55	REDS	1981
56	THE ENGLISH PATIENT	1996
57	TWO FOR THE ROAD	1967
58	GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER	1967
59	PICNIC	1955
60	TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT	1944
61	BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S	1961
62	THE APARTMENT	1960
63	SUNRISE	1927
64	MARTY	1955
65	BONNIE AND CLYDE	1967
66	MANHATTAN	1979
67	A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE	1951
68	WHAT'S UP, DOC?	1972
69	HAROLD AND MAUDE	1971
70	SENSE AND SENSIBILITY	1995
71	WAY DOWN EAST	1920
72	ROXANNE	1987
73	THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR	1947
74	WOMAN OF THE YEAR	1942
75	THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT	1995
76	THE QUIET MAN	1952
77	THE AWFUL TRUTH	1937
78	COMING HOME	1978
79	JEZEBEL	1939
80	THE SHEIK	1921
81	THE GOODBYE GIRL	1977
82	WITNESS	1985
83	MOROCCO	1930
84	DOUBLE INDEMNITY	1944
85	LOVE IS A MANY-SPLENDORED THING	1955
86	NOTORIOUS	1946
87	THE UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING	1988
88	THE PRINCESS BRIDE	1987
89	WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?	1966
90	THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY	1995
91	WORKING GIRL	1988
92	PORGY AND BESS	1959
93	DIRTY DANCING	1987
94	BODY HEAT	1981
95	LADY AND THE TRAMP	1955

96	BAREFOOT IN THE PARK	1967
97	GREASE	1978
98	THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME	1939
99	PILLOW TALK	1959
100	JERRY MAGUIRE	1996

The jurors were asked to consider the following criteria while making their selections:

- Feature-Length Fiction Film: The film must be in narrative format, typically more than 60 minutes in length.
- American Film: The film must be in the English language with significant creative and/or financial production elements from the United States.
- Love Story: Regardless of genre, a romantic bond between two or more characters, whose actions and/or intentions provide the heart of the film's narrative.
- Legacy: Films whose "passion" have enriched America's film and cultural heritage while continuing to inspire contemporary artists and audiences.

The final list of passionate films produced some interesting facts:

Cary Grant is the most celebrated actor, starring in the following six films in the top 100: AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER, THE AWFUL TRUTH, BRINGING UP BABY, NOTORIOUS, THE PHILADELPHIA STORY, TO CATCH A THIEF. Humphrey Bogart is next with THE AFRICAN QUEEN, CASABLANCA, DARK VICTORY, SABRINA, TO HAVE AND HAVE NOT.

Hepburns make up 11% of America's Greatest Love Stories. Katharine stars in GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER, ON GOLDEN POND, BRINGING UP BABY, THE PHILADELPHIA STORY, WOMAN OF THE YEAR, THE AFRICAN QUEEN, while Audrey graces TWO FOR THE ROAD, ROMAN HOLIDAY, SABRINA, BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S, MY FAIR LADY.

Marni Nixon's singing voice sang for Eliza Doolittle in MY FAIR LADY, Maria in WEST SIDE STORY, Terry McKay in AN AFFAIR TO REMEMBER and Anna in THE KIND AND I. Marni accompanies her voice while playing Sister Sophia in THE SOUND OF MUSIC.

William Wyler (ROMAN HOLIDAY, FUNNY GIRL, JEZEBEL, WUTHERING HEIGHTS) and George Cukor (A STAR IS BORN, MY FAIR LADY, CAMILLE, THE PHILADELPHIA STORY) were the most represented directors. Mike Nichols, Rob Reiner, George Stevens and Billy Wilder helmed three love stories respectively.

Seven of AFI's top 10 greatest love stories feature couples that do not end up together in the end.

The AFI countdown contains approximately 187 fights and 260 kissing scenes, proving that lovers quarrel, but more often than not, they make up.

The special is the fifth installment in AFI's centennial celebration of American cinema, following the four critically-acclaimed Network specials—**AFI's 100 Years...100 Movies**, **AFI's 100 Years...100 Stars**, **AFI's 100 Years...100 Laughs** and **AFI's 100 Years...100 Thrills**—which, each year, spark a national discussion of America's film history among movie lovers across the nation. The last four AFI specials were watched by an average of more than 11 million people.

Saturn, Blockbuster, Warner Home Video, Capital One, Johnson & Johnson, Southwest Airlines, Pepsi, Anheuser-Busch, Regal Cinemas and AOL are sponsors of this year's program.

Multi Emmy Award-winner Gary Smith (THE TONY AWARDS) is the executive producer and director of **AFI's 100 Years...100 Passions** for Smith-Hemion Productions. Former AFI Board Chair Frederick S. Pierce is the executive producer for AFI. Dann Netter (THE MARY TYLER MOORE REUNION, 50 YEARS OF TELEVISION), Fred A. Rappoport ("THE KENNEDY CENTER'S 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION, THE COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY) and Bob Gazzale (AFI LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD, A TRIBUTE TO BARBRA STREISAND) are the producers, with Gazzale also serving as writer. Multiple Emmy Award-winner Candice Bergen (MURPHY BROWN, MISS CONGENIALITY) hosted the special. SFM Entertainment LLC is the distributor of the program.

AFI is the preeminent national organization dedicated to advancing and preserving the art of film, television and other forms of the moving image. AFI trains the next generation of filmmakers, coordinates nationwide film preservation efforts and explores new technologies in movie-making. AFI also presents the best of film through AFI Los Angeles International Film Festival (AFI FEST), the AFI National Theater at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the AFI Silver Theatre and Culture Center in Silver Spring, Maryland (opening in 2003) and the annual AFI Life Achievement Award, the highest honor given for a career in film. More information can be found by visiting its Website, located at [www.AFI.com](http://www.AFI.com)

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