



## NEWS RELEASE

# THE AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE CROWNS TOP 10 FILMS IN 10 CLASSIC GENRES

**2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY, CITY LIGHTS, THE GODFATHER,  
LAWRENCE OF ARABIA, RAGING BULL,  
THE SEARCHERS, SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS,  
TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD, VERTIGO and THE WIZARD OF OZ  
All Named #1 in Their Genre**

LOS ANGELES (Adv-For Release TUES, June 17, 2008)—The American Film Institute (AFI) tonight revealed the 10 greatest movies in 10 classic American film genres in **AFI's 10 TOP 10**, a three-hour special television event on the CBS Television Network. A jury of 1,500 film artists, critics and historians named the following films as the very best in the following genres: 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (Science Fiction), CITY LIGHTS (Romantic Comedy), THE GODFATHER (Gangster), LAWRENCE OF ARABIA (Epic), RAGING BULL (Sports), THE SEARCHERS (Western), SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS (Animation), TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD (Courtroom Drama), VERTIGO (Mystery) and THE WIZARD OF OZ (Fantasy).

**AFI's 10 TOP 10** enlisted hosts for each genre including: Jessica Alba for Romantic Comedy; Sean Astin for Fantasy; Gabriel Byrne for Mystery; Kirk Douglas for Epic; Clint Eastwood for Westerns; Cuba Gooding, Jr. for Sports; Jennifer Love Hewitt for Animation; Quentin Tarantino for Gangster; Sigourney Weaver for Sci-Fi; and James Woods for Courtroom Drama.

"This year's celebration of the art form is ten times the fun for movie lovers," said AFI President and CEO Bob Gazzale. "And another chapter in our mandate to drive audiences to discover and rediscover the classics of American film."

### **AFI's 10 TOP 10 honorees are:**

#### **ANIMATION**

1	SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS	1937
2	PINOCCHIO	1940
3	BAMBI	1942
4	THE LION KING	1994

5	FANTASIA	1940
6	TOY STORY	1995
7	BEAUTY AND THE BEAST	1991
8	SHREK	2001
9	CINDERELLA	1950
10	FINDING NEMO	2003

## **FANTASY**

1	THE WIZARD OF OZ	1939
2	THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING	2001
3	IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	1946
4	KING KONG	1933
5	MIRACLE ON 34th STREET	1947
6	FIELD OF DREAMS	1989
7	HARVEY	1950
8	GROUNDHOG DAY	1993
9	THE THIEF OF BAGDAD	1924
10	BIG	1988

## **GANGSTER**

1	THE GODFATHER	1972
2	GOODFELLAS	1990
3	THE GODFATHER PART II	1974
4	WHITE HEAT	1949
5	BONNIE AND CLYDE	1967
6	SCARFACE: THE SHAME OF A NATION	1932
7	PULP FICTION	1994
8	THE PUBLIC ENEMY	1931
9	LITTLE CAESAR	1930
10	SCARFACE	1983

## **SCIENCE FICTION**

1	2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY	1968
2	STAR WARS: EPISODE IV- A NEW HOPE	1977
3	E.T. - THE EXTRA TERRESTRIAL	1982
4	A CLOCKWORK ORANGE	1971
5	THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL	1951
6	BLADE RUNNER	1982
7	ALIEN	1979
8	TERMINATOR 2: JUDGMENT DAY	1991
9	INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS	1956
10	BACK TO THE FUTURE	1985

## **WESTERN**

1	THE SEARCHERS	1956
2	HIGH NOON	1952
3	SHANE	1953
4	UNFORGIVEN	1992
5	RED RIVER	1948
6	THE WILD BUNCH	1969

7	BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID	1969
8	McCABE & MRS. MILLER	1971
9	STAGECOACH	1939
10	CAT BALLOU	1965

### **SPORTS**

1	RAGING BULL	1980
2	ROCKY	1976
3	THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES	1942
4	HOOSIERS	1986
5	BULL DURHAM	1988
6	THE HUSTLER	1961
7	CADDYSHACK	1980
8	BREAKING AWAY	1979
9	NATIONAL VELVET	1944
10	JERRY MAGUIRE	1996

### **MYSTERY**

1	VERTIGO	1958
2	CHINATOWN	1974
3	REAR WINDOW	1954
4	LAURA	1944
5	THE THIRD MAN	1949
6	THE MALTESE FALCON	1941
7	NORTH BY NORTHWEST	1959
8	BLUE VELVET	1986
9	DIAL M FOR MURDER	1954
10	THE USUAL SUSPECTS	1995

### **ROMANTIC COMEDY**

1	CITY LIGHTS	1931
2	ANNIE HALL	1977
3	IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT	1934
4	ROMAN HOLIDAY	1953
5	THE PHILADELPHIA STORY	1940
6	WHEN HARRY MET SALLY...	1989
7	ADAM'S RIB	1949
8	MOONSTRUCK	1987
9	HAROLD AND MAUDE	1971
10	SLEEPLESS IN SEATTLE	1993

### **COURTROOM DRAMA**

1	TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD	1962
2	12 ANGRY MEN	1957
3	KRAMER VS. KRAMER	1979
4	THE VERDICT	1982
5	A FEW GOOD MEN	1992
6	WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION	1957

7	ANATOMY OF A MURDER	1959
8	IN COLD BLOOD	1967
9	A CRY IN THE DARK	1988
10	JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG	1961

## EPIC

1	LAWRENCE OF ARABIA	1962
2	BEN-HUR	1959
3	SCHINDLER'S LIST	1993
4	GONE WITH THE WIND	1939
5	SPARTACUS	1960
6	TITANIC	1997
7	ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT	1930
8	SAVING PRIVATE RYAN	1998
9	REDS	1981
10	THE TEN COMMANDMENTS	1956

Interesting facts about the list include:

- The earliest entry on the list is THE THIEF OF BAGDAD (Fantasy) from 1924; with the most recent being FINDING NEMO (Animated) from 2003.
- Alfred Hitchcock is the most represented director with 4 films; Steven Spielberg and Stanley Kubrick follow with 3 entries each.
- James Stewart is the most represented actor with 6 entries; Tom Hanks is next with 4; Warren Beatty, Robert De Niro, Gene Hackman, James Earl Jones, Paul Newman, Jack Nicholson, Al Pacino and John Wayne all have 3 films each.
- Diane Keaton is the most represented actress with 4 films on the list; Grace Kelly and Talia Shire each have 3 entries.

To compile the final list, AFI distributed a ballot with 500 nominated movies (50 per genre) to a jury of over 1,500 leaders from the creative community, including film artists (directors, screenwriters, actors, editors, cinematographers), critics and historians.

AFI asks jurors to consider the following criteria in their selection process:

### FEATURE-LENGTH FICTION FILMS

Narrative format, typically over 60 minutes in length.

### AMERICAN FILM

English-language film with significant creative and/or production elements from the United States. Additionally, only films released before January 1, 2008 will be considered.

### GENRE:

#### **ANIMATED**

AFI defines "animated" as a genre in which the film's images are primarily created by computer or hand and the characters are voiced by actors.

#### **FANTASY**

AFI defines “fantasy” as a genre where live-action characters inhabit imagined settings and/or experience situations that transcend the rules of the natural world.

### **GANGSTER**

AFI defines the “gangster film” as a genre that centers on organized crime or maverick criminals in a twentieth century setting.

### **SCIENCE FICTION**

AFI defines “science fiction” as a genre that marries a scientific or technological premise with imaginative speculation.

### **WESTERN**

AFI defines “western” as a genre of films set in the American West that embodies the spirit, the struggle and the demise of the new frontier.

### **SPORTS**

AFI defines “sports” as a genre of films with protagonists who play athletics or other games of competition.

### **MYSTERY**

AFI defines “mystery” as a genre that revolves around the solution of a crime.

### **ROMANTIC COMEDY**

AFI defines “romantic comedy” as a genre in which the development of a romance leads to comic situations.

### **COURTROOM DRAMA**

AFI defines “courtroom drama” as a genre of film in which a system of justice plays a critical role in the film’s narrative.

### **EPIC**

AFI defines “epic” as a genre of large-scale films set in a cinematic interpretation of the past. Their scope defies and demands—either in the mode in which they are presented or their range across time.

### CRITICAL RECOGNITION

Formal commendation in print, television and digital media.

### MAJOR AWARD WINNER

Recognition from competitive events including awards from peer groups, critics, guilds and major film festivals.

### POPULARITY OVER TIME

Including success at the box office, television and cable airing, and DVD/VHS sales and rentals.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

A film’s mark on the history of moving images through visionary narrative devices, technical innovation, or other ground breaking achievements.

### CULTURAL IMPACT

A film’s mark on American society in matters of style and substance.

AFI allows one write-in vote per genre.

At the conclusion of **AFI's 10 TOP 10** special at 11:00 p.m. EDT, AFI will premiere a companion web site at [www.AFI.com](http://www.AFI.com) that will feature over 400 video clips about all 100 movies within the 10 genres. The site will also feature movie trailers and interview clips, AFI Catalog entries, movie stills and posters. Users can also download all of AFI's popular movie lists, and can comment about their favorite movies on the site. The site will also feature a new edition of 'AFI's 10 TOP 10 Movie Quiz' that tests players' knowledge of the movies from the 10 genres.

The primetime special was executive produced and directed by Gary Smith; executive produced for AFI by former AFI Board Chair Emeritus Frederick S. Pierce; and produced by Dann Netter. SFM Entertainment LLC is the distributor of the program. Sponsors of the series have included Pepsi, Best Buy, Breyers, ConAgra, Procter & Gamble, Anheuser-Busch, Colgate-Palmolive, Sony and all major motion picture companies.

### **About the American Film Institute**

AFI is a national institute providing leadership in screen education and the recognition and celebration of excellence in the art of film, television and digital media. Additional information about AFI is available at [AFI.com](http://AFI.com).

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