

By C. W. Heiser

It's nearly Academy Award time. I'm not going to attempt to predict the award winners--I have no idea what twenty thousand out of work actors think about as they vote. But, because "Best Of" frenzy is in the air, I have been thinking about movies I've really liked over the years.

What I offer here for your perusal, in no particular order, are ten of my favorite movies. The list could be longer, but, because of space, I've stopped at ten. This isn't an achievement list, I may do that at another time, unless you consider the ability to keep me up until three in the morning an achievement.

**King Kong:**

Something about this movie resonates with little boys. A being of massive, incoherent power who wouldn't know what to do with a fine blonde even if he had her in his hands--kind of the way all us guys used to dream as kids. Back in the transistor radio days, the Japanese tried to copy it, allegedly grafting on social commentary about the bomb. The remake was like that, with some useless tripe about ecology. Leave it be. This movie is primal.

**Some Like It Hot:**

Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis are two musicians on the lam from the mob, so they disguise themselves as women and join an all female band heading for Florida. They meet Sugar, played by Marilyn Monroe--another little boy's dream come true. This comedy is so gentle and so sweet, director Billy Wilder has no axes to grind, and yet the insights into gender relationships are so telling.

**THE JADED EYE:  
MOVIE AND TELEVISION  
REVIEWS**



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**It Happened One Night:**

The template for all screwball comedies. All of the ingredients are here: A reporter, an heiress, and a huge wedding to disrupt. Compared to this, movies like Blind Date are romper-stomper-boo. This movie justifiably propelled Clark Gable to stardom. I'd marry Claudette Colbert.

**The Quiet Man:**

There was a time in my life when the ideal woman began and ended with Maureen O'Hara: Strong, intelligent, self-contained, and yet able to share with the right man. (I still admire those qualities, but now I see them everywhere.) On one level, this has to be one of the most sexist movies ever made. "Duke" Wayne does drag his women across the Irish countryside, but he does it at her implicit behest--not because of her relative weakness or strength, but because of cultural imperative. At the end of the movie, there is no doubt in my mind that if this couple were to have a daughter, that girl would grow to be a woman submissive to no one.

**The Wizard of Oz:**

This movie is mystical. It isn't the dream acted out, it is the dream. . . Once upon a time, movies weren't made with specific ratings or demographics in mind, certainly not for arbitrary age groups. Movies were made of a kind, for different tastes. The Wizard of Oz is a kind all its own. I won't recapitulate, if you haven't seen Oz you're lacking some basic vocabulary of American cultural expression. I know people who still cover their eyes when the monkeys fly, and those people are not a small minority. This movie is the Blues and Rock And Roll. This is about going home.

I'm out of space. In the next issue I'll finish the last five of this list.

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**Final Examination Schedule**

Time	May 2 Mon.	May 3 Tues.	May 4 Wed.	May Thurs.	May 6 Fri.	May 7 Sat.
8-10:30 am	4	5	12	common/ conflict	6	common/ conflict
11-1:30 pm	common/ conflict	13	1	2	14	common/ conflict
2-4:30 pm	7	8	3	11	10/15	
5-7:30 pm	16,17, MW 16A,17A	16,17 TTh 16A,17A	16A,17A W	16A,17A Th	9	
8-10:30 pm	M 20,21 MW 18A,19A M	T 18,19 TTh 18A,19A T	18,19 MW 18A,19A W	20,21 TTh 18A,19A Th		

**Don't Forget the last edition of the Capital Times will be April 27. Deadline for submissions is April 20.**

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