



Wed
7 Feb

Moonlight

USA – Drama – 115 mins – M

Moonlight is the much-acclaimed drama which picked up Best Picture at the Oscars and multiple other awards. Based on an unproduced play called *In Moonlight Black Men Look Blue*, the movie traces three chapters in the life of a young black man growing up in Miami called Chiron (nicknamed 'Little' and 'Black') played by three actors: from early tough times to criminality and full-on drug dealing, then on to redemption and discovery of his sexuality and his own resilience. Script and direction by Barry Jenkins. Naomi Harris plays Chiron's mother Paula.



Wed
7 Mar

Don't Tell

Australia – Drama – 110 minutes – PG

Filed in Queensland this compelling drama is based on lawyer, Stephen Roche's book of the same name. The film is inspired by true events at Toowoomba Prep School that changed Australian law. With help from a local lawyer a young 22-year-old child sexual abuse survivor finds the courage to speak out. A strong Australian cast includes Jack Thompson, Rachel Griffiths, Sara West, Susie Porter, Martin Sachs and Gyton Grantly. West's heart-breaking performance as Lyndal, the victim, is exceptional. Director: Tori Garrett - Producer: Scott Corfield (*Luke's Story*)



Wed
4 Apr

La Dolce Vita

Italy – 174 min – drama – R

Fellini's groundbreaking satire *La Dolce Vita* won the Palme D'Or in 1960. An intelligent film full of metaphors and visual extravaganzas, it is a tale of hedonistic excess in an Italy emerging from post-war poverty, and a cautionary tale of a man without a centre. At the time it created a storm, dividing audiences and critics, and was banned in many countries for its explicit sexual images. Its influence on future cinematography and society in general cannot be underestimated, even coining the word 'paparazzi', after one of the main characters. How will we view it today, and have its messages stood the test of time?



Wed
2 May

Jean de Florette

France – 2hrs – drama – PG

Set in the Provence in the 1920s, the film contrasts the peace and beauty of the countryside with the devious selfishness of human nature. When a farmer dies, two local farmers intend to buy his land, but their plan is thwarted when it is inherited by a city-dweller (played by the famous Gerard Depardieu) who decides to relocate and work the land himself. Aware that there is a spring supplying the land, the farmers block it up, hoping to force him out when drought comes. Other locals realise what is happening but decide not to intervene. A hugely successful film in 1987, the spectacular visuals and flawless acting enhance this film as it explores the complexity of human actions and interactions.



Wed
6 Jun

My Brilliant Career (1979)

Australia – Drama/Romance – 95 mins – G

Debut director Gillian Armstrong brings just the right feminist touch to this adaptation of the 1901 semi-autobiographical novel by Miles Franklin. Judy Davis plays 16-year-old Sybylla Melvyn, a born romantic, who dreams of being a writer, even though everything is against it — her family's poverty, her need to work as a servant, provincial society's hostility to her seemingly "unwomanly" ways. The film charts the developing self-awareness of Sybylla. When she falls in love with the handsome and socially upmarket Harry Beecham (Sam Neill), it tests her resolve. A romantic and highly observant drama of personal dilemma and free-spirited conviction, *My Brilliant Career* is a seminal part of Australian cinema.

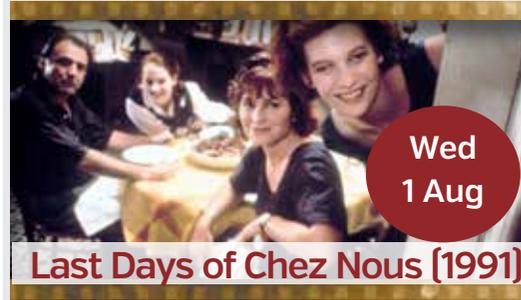


Wed
4 Jul

Innocence

Australia – Drama – 94 mins – M

Paul Cox (Lonely Hearts, Man of Flowers etc.) writes and directs another little gem about love rekindled with stellar Australian actors Julia Blake, Bud Tingwell, Terry Norris and Marta Dusseldorp amongst others. Widowed musician Andreas decides to get in contact with his lover of fifty years ago Claire, who is still married to her first husband, John. Andreas and Claire rekindle their love as they realise their strong connection is still present. Cox does this deftly by cutting between the past and the present. This raises issues around infidelity, health and ageing, mortality and is handled with Cox's inimitable sensitivity. This is a tender and passionate story about love - timeless, true, accepting and undefeated. *Innocence* received great acclaim both in Australia and overseas.



Wed
1 Aug

Last Days of Chez Nous (1991)

AU – Com/Drama/Rom – 105 mins – PG

Women are at the heart of this Gillian Armstrong film. At *Chez Nous*, the Sydney house of author Beth, she is the calm in a storm created by her discontented French husband, J.P., her teen daughter, Annie (Miranda Otto), and her pregnant and unmarried sister home from Europe with a thinly veiled resentment toward her successful sibling. When Beth takes off for two weeks to get closer to her father (Bill Hunter), *Chez Nous* becomes the setting for a series of emotional eruptions. The film shows how our most cherished relationships can wither from neglect, misunderstandings and a thousand little betrayals. "*Last Days*" strengths are its realistic feel and fine acting performances.

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Just the job? This short series of 3 classic films provides opportunities to look at a pressing social issue, unemployment, through the very different lenses of outstanding directors from Italy, the UK and the USA over seven decades.



Sica's Bicycle Thieves (1948)

Vittoria de Sica's *Bicycle Thieves* (1948) follows a poor father searching post-World War II Rome for his stolen bicycle, without which he will lose the job which allows him to support his young family. *Bicycle Thieves* is a classic drama of Italian neorealist film making, received an Academy Honorary Award in 1950 and in 1952 was deemed the greatest film of all time by Sight & Sound magazine's poll of filmmakers and critics. Fifty years later the same poll ranked it sixth among the greatest-ever films.



It's a Free World (2007)

Ken Loach's "It's a Free World..." (2007) follows Angie who, after being made redundant teams up with her flat mate to find employment for immigrants. What could possibly go wrong? Loach has directed more than 50 films for cinema and television including: *I, Daniel Blake* (2016); *Looking for Eric* (2009); *The Navigators* (2001); *Raining Stones* (1993); *Riff-Raff* (1991) and *Kes* (1969), which was voted the seventh greatest British film of the 20th century by the British Film Institute. Loach is one of only 9 film makers to win the Palme d'Or twice at the Cannes Film Festival. The drama, "It's a Free World..." (2007), won the Golden Osella at the 2007 Venice Film Festival.



The Big Lebowski (1998)

The Coen brothers' *The Big Lebowski* (1998) follows 'the Dude', who is unemployed, does not aspire to employment but whose life is anything but uneventful! The Coen brothers have written, directed, produced and edited many of the best US independent films of the last 30 years, including: *Fargo* (1996); *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (2000); *True Grit* (2010). They have been nominated for 13 Academy Awards. *The Big Lebowski* (1998) was selected in 2014 for preservation in the National Film Registry (US). Hard to pigeon hole, *The Big Lebowski* is at one and the same time a hilarious surreal comedy and a crime drama."



Annie Hall US – Comedy/Drama – 93 min – M

In *Annie Hall*, Woody Allen plays a neurotic stand-up comic Alvy singer, and recreates his spent love affair with the ditzy Annie Hall (Diane Keaton). Both delight in repartee, sometimes sad, and sometimes hysterically funny. Arguably Woody Allen's best (and certainly his most popular) film, it has been said to 'contain more intellectual wit and cultural references than any other movie ever to win the Oscar for best picture, and in winning the award in 1977 it edged out *Star Wars*'. Forty years on, this remains a classic, reminding us that the course of love never did run smooth, but can be amusing from sufficient distance.

members only program 2018



screening exclusively for MFS members
no entry charge - 6:45 pm for 7pm
a film discussion follows the screening
bringing a supper table contribution is optional

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First Wednesday of each month.
This year we are trying various venues so
please check the website & email notification for
the venue location, just prior to the screening.
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