

THE GARDEN THEATRE

Previews

2025 ISSUE #4

MAY – JUN



SUNSET BOULEVARD 1950

NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE

Dr. Strangelove

SUN MAY 4 12:30

BAFTA Award winner Steve Coogan (*Alan Partridge, The Trip*) plays four roles in the world premiere adaptation of Stanley Kubrick’s comedy masterpiece DR. STRANGELOVE. When a rogue U.S. general triggers a nuclear attack, a surreal race takes place as the Government and one eccentric scientist scramble to avert global destruction.

DEEP FOCUS ON SCREEN

How Green Was My Valley

WED MAY 7 7:00

John Ford’s working class drama tells the story of a Welsh coal mining family as they struggle through a period of societal change as they become divided over a miners’ strike. Meanwhile, the only daughter in the family pines after the new village preacher. **Deep Focus online seminar with Hannah Jack on Tue May 13.**

Borderline

THU MAY 8 7:00

Partnership with The Paul Robeson House of Princeton and post film discussion. BORDERLINE is a noteworthy entry in Paul Robeson’s filmography, showcasing Robeson and his wife Eslanda as lovers entangled in a complex web of interracial relationships. This silent film uniquely combines experimental techniques with elements of domestic melodrama.

MOTHER’S DAY

Hairspray

SUN MAY 11 1:00

John Waters’ campy brand of 1960’s nostalgia is fully realized in this 1988 musical comedy. Ricki Lake stars as Tracy Turnblad, a full figured teenager from Baltimore who uses her spot on a local dance show to rally against segregation. Charming, hilarious and featuring an all star cast including Divine, Debbie Harry and Sonny Bono!

KEEPING THE SCORE

Blade Runner

WED MAY 14 7:00

When four rogue androids escape, it is the job of blade runner Rick Deckard to eliminate them, but as he hunts them, he is forced to question what it is to be human. Fully embraced as a groundbreaking piece of filmmaking, BLADE RUNNER features breathtaking production design, memorable performances, and a dreamy synth score.

PROF PICKS

20,000 Species of Bees

THU MAY 15 7:00

Intro and Q&A with Princeton University’s Raquel Mattson–Prieto. Set in the Basque Country during the summer holiday, this is a moving story of an eight-year-old’s realization that she is transgender. Lucia and her family explore and struggle with identity and femininity as she begins to comprehend her true selfhood.

RETROGRADE

Escape from New York

FRI MAY 16 9:45 PM

John Carpenter, presents this dystopian cult classic starring an unforgettable Kurt Russell in their first big screen team-up. It’s 1997 and New York City is now a prison colony. Former soldier Snake Plissken is given 22 hours to rescue the President of the United States after Air Force One crashes in the heart of the city.

\$5 FAMILY MATINEES

The Land Before Time

SAT MAY 17 10:30 AM

Littlefoot, a plant-eating dinosaur, and his prehistoric pals embark on a quest to find the lush and legendary Great Valley. Along the way, they must learn the value of friendship and teamwork while overcoming challenges. A beautifully animated and endearing film that will please your dino-obsessed tykes! **Free for Members.**

KEEPING THE SCORE




1962

Lawrence of Arabia

SUN MAY 18 11:00 AM

LAWRENCE OF ARABIA is a sprawling epic about the adventures of British intelligence officer T.E. Lawrence in the Middle East during World War I. The film is exciting, spectacularly beautiful and, needless to say, was meant to be seen on the big screen. Peter O'Toole's blue eyes and commanding presence highlight one of the most memorable performances of movie history.

FREE FOR MEMBERS



Film is Dead. Long Live Film!

WED MAY 21 7:00

This documentary explores the vanishing world of private film collecting—an obsessive, secretive, often illicit world of basement film vaults, piled-high with forgotten reels, and inhabited by passionate cinephiles devoted to the rescue and preservation of film.




1999

A Beautiful Mind

THU MAY 22 7:00
FRI MAY 23 1:45

Presented by the MIT Alumni Club of Princeton, with 50% of proceeds benefitting the club. Shot on location at Princeton University, this Best Picture winner depicts John Nash's brilliant work and his struggles with mental health issues. A powerful performance from Russell Crowe with an incredible supporting cast.

KEEPING THE SCORE



1968

Planet of the Apes

WED MAY 28 7:00

Heston plays an astronaut whose crew crashes on a planet in the distant future where intelligent talking apes are the dominant species, and humans are oppressed and enslaved. The original PLANET OF THE APES boasts a brilliant script, amazing production design, impressive makeup effects, and one of the most memorable endings in film history.

HOLLYWOOD SUMMER NIGHTS



1941

The Maltese Falcon

THU MAY 29 7:00

Humphrey Bogart plays the hard-boiled Sam Spade who is investigating a missing jewel-encrusted falcon statuette. Some consider this John Huston masterpiece to be the movie that started the film noir genre, and everyone knows that the MALTESE FALCON is "the stuff that dreams are made of." Presented in a brand new restoration.

KEEPING THE SCORE




1940

Rebecca

WED JUN 4 7:00

Hitchcock's first Hollywood film is an elegant adaptation of Daphne du Maurier's thriller. Joan Fontaine stars as the new bride of an aristocratic widower, played by Laurence Olivier. Upon moving into his estate, she finds herself haunted by the memories of her husband's first wife and tormented by her housekeeper. **Deep Focus online seminar on Tue Jun 17.**

HOLLYWOOD SUMMER NIGHTS



1953

Gentlemen Prefer Blondes

THU JUN 5 7:00

Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell star in this classic musical comedy about two showgirls on their way to Paris. Blonde Lorelei is tracked by a private investigator who was hired by her future father-in-law, but the detective has eyes for her brunette friend, Dorothy.

HOLLYWOOD SUMMER NIGHTS



2000

O Brother, Where Art Thou?

WED JUN 11 7:00

Inspired by Homer's The Odyssey, the Coen Brothers craft a folk music fueled period comedy set in the rural South during the '30s. George Clooney, John Turturro, and Tim Blake Nelson play a trio of escaped convicts on the run searching for hidden treasure while encountering colorful characters.

KEEPING THE SCORE




1939

Wuthering Heights

THU JUN 12 7:00

Made during Hollywood's golden age, WUTHERING HEIGHTS is the first film adaptation of Emily Brontë's timeless novel. Set in 19th century England, a tortured love affair develops between Cathy and her impoverished childhood friend Heathcliff. Heathcliff is devastated and departs after Cathy decides to marry a wealthy man, later returning with a self-made fortune.

RETROGRADE



1980

Friday the 13th

FRI JUN 13 9:45

Celebrating its 45th anniversary, this seminal film in the horror genre centers around a group of summer camp counselors trying to reopen the defunct Camp Crystal Lake. When the fresh-faced teens ignore the superstitions of the locals and the camp's grisly past, they soon find themselves picked off by a brutal unseen killer.

HOLLYWOOD SUMMER NIGHTS



1950

Sunset Boulevard

TUE JUN 17 7:00

With in-person discussion by New York Times best selling author Michael Schulman. This film noir features Gloria Swanson as faded, delusional Hollywood actress Norma Desmond. William Holden co-stars as the struggling writer she hires to edit the screenplay she believes will usher in her comeback. Often considered the best film about Hollywood.

KEEPING THE SCORE




1942

Casablanca

WED JUN 18 7:00
SUN JUN 22 1:00

The Bogart film of all Bogart films, with nightclub owner Rick fighting his cynicism to choose between love and duty. Set in Morocco during WWII, this classic contains one memorable scene after another, only to be topped by one of the greatest endings ever. Co-star Ingrid Bergman simply glows on the screen.

HOLLYWOOD SUMMER NIGHTS



1975

Nashville

THU JUN 19 7:00

Set during the presidential campaign of a mysterious populist candidate, the musicians, promoters, and locals navigate the quirky cultural landscape in this love letter to Music City. With a massive cast of 24 characters, multiple storylines, and over an hour of musical performances, Robert Altman's NASHVILLE is a one-of-a-kind cinematic experience.

\$5 FAMILY MATINEES



1995

Toy Story

SAT JUN 21 10:00 AM

Featuring groundbreaking animation, this 1995 classic has become a multigenerational family hit. When Andy receives a shiny new space cadet action figure for his birthday, his old toys begin to question their standing with their kid — especially Andy's lifelong favorite, a cowboy figure named Woody. **Free for Members.**

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The Garden Theatre is a place where film comes to life. Help keep the theater healthy and vibrant into the future by being a member.

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PrincetonGarden.org/member



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