

St. Stephens Film Society Summary of Movies Discussed

Film	Group Rating	Capsule Review	Category	Recommended in Category
<i>A Man Escaped</i>	★★★★★	<i>A man transcends his physical and spiritual prison. Mysterious and miraculous film.</i>	Transcendental Style in Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pather Panchani</i> • <i>Day of Wrath</i> • <i>Lourdes</i> (all challenging movies)
<i>Tokyo Story</i>	★★★★★	<i>A family disperses, time passes imperceptibly, tragically</i>	Transcendental Style in Film	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Late Spring</i> • <i>Ugetsu</i>
<i>Cleo from 5 to 7</i>	★★★★★	<i>A woman grows on the threshold of fame, cancer and war</i>	French New Wave/Female Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Le Rayon Vert</i> • <i>Jeanne Dielman</i>
<i>Chinatown</i>	★★★★★	<i>What evil lies under the sunny Los Angeles?</i>	Film Noir/70s American	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Out of the Past</i> • <i>Point Blank</i>
<i>Andrei Rublev</i>	★★★★★	<i>Portrait of an artist as a suffering monk in medieval Russia</i>	Russian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Hamlet</i> (Kozintsev)
<i>Journey to Italy</i>	★★★★★	<i>Marriage disintegrates, miraculously recovers</i>	Italian Neorealism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bicycle Thieves</i> • <i>Il Posto</i> (1961)
<i>The Battle of Algiers</i>	★★★★★	<i>The logic, ruthlessness of oppression and insurgency</i>	Political Mock Documentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Z</i> (Costa Gavras)
<i>Leon Morin, Priest</i>	★★★★★	<i>Suffering widow and young priest in WWII France, in love and in faith</i>	Early French New Wave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Army of Shadows</i> • <i>Bob Le Flambeur</i>
<i>Ida</i>	★★★★★	<i>Teen novitiate discovers her past, and Poland's</i>	New Polish Cinema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cold War</i> (Amazon Prime) • <i>The Double Life of Veronique</i>
<i>Kind Hearts and Coronets</i>	★★★★★	<i>Ambition and cruelty overcome social hierarchy, death to the 1%!</i>	Ealing Comedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Lady Killers</i> • <i>The Lavender Hill Mob</i>
<i>Notorious</i>	★★★★★	<i>The manipulations and cruelties of glamorous lovers</i>	Hitchcock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rear Window</i> • <i>Vertigo</i>
<i>I Confess</i>	★★★★★	<i>Thriller about a Catholic priest accused of murder, man vs. seal of confession</i>	Hitchcock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Rope</i> • <i>Shadow of Doubt</i>
<i>Wild Strawberries</i>	★★★★★	<i>Movie about aging, regrets and redemption</i>	Bergman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Fanny and Alexander</i>
<i>Ashes and Diamonds</i>	★★★★	<i>Origins and traumas of Polish nation, seen</i>	Polish Cinema	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Knife in the Water</i>

		<i>through a Polish James Dean</i>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Man of Marble</i>
<i>The Searchers</i>	★ ★ ★	<i>Myth of the archetypal cowboy and frontiersman, debunked</i>	Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>My Darling Clementine</i>
<i>The Lady Eve</i>	★ ★ ★	<i>A woman transcends... through her brains and resolve</i>	Screwball Comedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>His Girl Friday</i> • <i>Bringing Up Baby</i>
<i>Comanche Station</i>	★ ★ ★	<i>A man transcends... through his dignity and resolve</i>	B-Western	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>High Noon</i> • <i>One-Eyed Jacks</i>
<i>Alphaville</i>	★ ★	<i>Sci fi without special effects, slavery by technology</i>	French New Wave/ Sci Fi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Contempt</i> • <i>Blade Runner</i>
Other Films Discussed				
<i>The Sound of Music</i>	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	<i>Still grossly underrated, a movie for all seasons and all audiences, except for Joan Didion</i>	Musical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Umbrellas of Cherbourg</i> • <i>Singing in the Rain</i> • <i>The Young Girls of Rochefort</i>
<i>When Harry Met Sally</i>	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	<i>Underneath the cutesy face of the modern rom-com lie uneasy truths about male/female friendship</i>	Rom-com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Annie Hall</i> • <i>Groundhog Day</i>
<i>A Room with a View</i>	★ ★ ★ ★ ★	<i>Suffused with soul-lifting Italian sunshine, stuffy Victorians fall in love!</i>	Merchant-Ivory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Howard's End</i> • <i>The Remains of the Day</i>