



For most of us cowboy movies were a highlight of our childhood years, often leading to days and weeks of playing Cowboys and Crooks, or Cowboys and Indians. Hordes of small boys and girls, dressed up in a great variety of costumes rampaged through streets and parks, wildly firing cap guns and arrows at all and sundry. The fortunate few sporting proper outfits, being either twin six-guns slung low on the hips and a silver sheriff's badge, or a gaudy Indian headdress, were always either the sheriff or Sitting Bull, the rest of us consigned to be crooks with dirty hankies tied over our faces, weedy Apache warriors or perhaps a group of squaws, huddling in a tepee constructed with Ma's favourite blanket. No small wonder that the Western became an irresistible force and constant companion in most cultures, and has stubbornly remained as such.

We've decided that May will be the Odeon's Western month and have put together four titles that should please even the most demanding of fans. Four weeks, four titles, spanning sixty years. Tickets can be bought for individual films, or you can watch all four for the price of three.

May tickets go on sale Thursday 29 April at the KWV.

Wednesday 5 May - The Searchers

The Searchers dates back to 1956, and is still rated by many as one of the best Westerns ever. Directed by John Ford and starring John Wayne in one of his most difficult roles, this is a mature, dark, ambivalent piece that helped pave the way for the modern western.

In this revered Western, Ethan Edwards (John Wayne) returns home to Texas after the Civil War. When members of his brother's family are killed or abducted by Comanches, he vows to track down his surviving relatives and bring them home. Eventually, Edwards gets word that his niece Debbie (Natalie Wood) is alive, and, along with her adopted brother, Martin Pawley (Jeffrey Hunter), he embarks on a dangerous mission to find her, journeying deep into Comanche territory. (RT)

Full review: <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/great-movie-the-searchers-1956>

Western ART MOVIE night

he had to find her... he had to find her...

WARNER BROS. PRESENT THE C.V. WHITNEY PICTURE STARRING

JOHN WAYNE

THE SEARCHERS

VISTAVISION
TECHNICOLOR

ETHEAN
Whoever
is out
- he'll
find her!

DEBBIE
Somehow
out there
- she was
captured!

LAURIE
She has
wanted to
see - and
couldn't!

MARTIN
He searched
the world
as a boy, and
now it's a man!

CLAYTON
The Good Book
is my friend
- and a gun
in the other!

19.00 FOR 19.30
WED 5 MAY

ODEON
KWV BUILDING

R50 PER MOVIE
4 FOR THE PRICE OF 3
R150 FOR 4

BOOKING AT KWV
FOR ALL MAY MOVIES
FROM THURSDAY 29 APRIL

HUNTER MILES BOND WOOD
FRANK S. KUGLER NEWMAN C. COOPER PATRICK POSEY JOHN FORD WARNER BROS.

Wednesday 12 May - A Fistful of Dollars

A mere 8 years separate this movie and The Searchers, but a world of difference. It took an Italian director, Sergio Leone, to change the face of the Western forever with this production. Gone are the characters who all appeared to have stepped out of the laundrette by way of the barber that very morning, replaced by grizzled, dirty and morally ambiguous personalities.

The Man With No Name (Clint Eastwood) enters the Mexican village of San Miguel in the midst of a power struggle among the three Rojo brothers (Antonio Prieto, Benny Reeves, Sieghardt Rupp) and sheriff John Baxter (Wolfgang Lukschy). When a regiment of Mexican soldiers bearing gold intended to pay for new weapons is waylaid by the Rojo brothers, the stranger inserts himself into the middle of the

long-simmering battle, selling false information to both sides for his own benefit.
(RT)

Full review: <https://www.theguardian.com/film/2018/apr/13/a-fistful-of-dollars-review->



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This is the man with no name. In his own way he is, perhaps, the most dangerous man who ever lived!

A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS

is the first motion picture of its kind.
It won't be the last!

CLINT EASTWOOD A FISTFUL OF DOLLARS. MARIANNE KOCH

JOHN WELLS / W. LINDSAY / S. RUPP / AX. EIDER / SERGIO LEONE / HARRY COLUMBO and GEORGE PAPEL / TECHNICAL COLOR / UNITED ARTISTS

Wednesday 19 May - The Homesman

Many, if not most Westerns tend to focus on the gunslingers and desperadoes, forgetting about the toll the westward expansion took on the majority of settlers, who lived hard lives in unforgiving circumstances. This film reverses that trend, literally reversing course to peek at the abandoned ruins of lives lost to the frontier. The American frontier could be especially hard on women, and it's this predicament that confronts a loose community of Nebraska settlers in *The Homesman*. The Nebraska territory where these folk settled is harsh, bleak and grim, making our own Tankwa Karoo appear lush by comparison.

Three women who have been driven mad by pioneer life are to be transported across the country to safety by covered wagon by the pious, independent-minded Mary Bee Cuddy (Hilary Swank), who in turn employs low-life drifter George Briggs (Tommy Lee Jones) to assist her.

Full review: <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/the-homesman-2014>



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TOMMY LEE JONES HILARY SWANK
THE HOMESMAN

Wednesday 26 May - No Country for Old Men

In the final movie for May, the characters have all traded in their horses for Ford F150s, but a Western it remains, with themes that resonate and characters that won't let you forget them.

Based on the novel by Cormac McCarthy, this is a masterpiece in almost every right, No Country for Old Men is a grim, dark and introspective look into the ideas of fate, coincidence and greed - all of which are brought beautifully to the screen by the astonishing direction of the Coen brothers.

While out hunting, Llewelyn Moss (Josh Brolin) finds the grisly aftermath of a drug deal. Though he knows better, he cannot resist the cash left behind and takes it with him. The hunter becomes the hunted when a merciless killer named Chigurh (Javier Bardem) picks up his trail. Also looking for Moss is Sheriff Bell (Tommy Lee Jones), an ageing lawman who reflects on a changing world and a dark secret of his own, as he tries to find and protect Moss. (RT)

Full review: <https://www.rogerebert.com/reviews/no-country-for-old-men-2007>



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