

# Welcome to Cinexxus

Contributed by Neil Flowers, Editor-in-Chief  
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"Airplanes and antibiotics," said a Hopi Friend. "are the White man's magic." He could have easily turned that remarkable duo into a definitive trio by adding "and the movies". Since he is a Hopi who makes films, he probably meant to. Cinexxus cares passionately about this magic. We have touchstones from the entire history of cinema that we call up sometimes in order to remind ourselves what a great movie really is. These films come from all over the world.

It was Roger Conley who expressed to us the notion that the Web needs a site that is literate about film. From this notion Cinexxus arose. Consequently, at Cinexxus there exists no "intelligence ceiling," as the writer George Saunders recently described this pathetic dumbing down of American media (i.e., corporate) discourse. Does this mean that we put *The Sacrifice* or *La Règle du jeu* in our list of top movies ever? Who that loves all that's best in film would not? Would we sit through all 200+ minutes of *Seven Samurai* again? Tell us where it's playing on a big screen, and we'll meet you there. Do we want to see *Kieslowski's Dekalog* one more time? Absolutely. Have we read and reread *Laura Mulvey's* essay "Visual Pleasure and Narrative Cinema?" Sure. Does this mean we're academic effete snobs who coin bon mots and razor aperçus only for art-house fare and assume that flicks doing boffo B.O. biz must be junk food *McMovies*? Not. So did we howl with crazed laughter at *Ace Ventura, Pet Detective*; did *Collateral* and *Hard Boiled* have our pulses racing; do we think *What's Opera, Doc* and *The Wrong Trousers* are triumphs; did our flesh crawl while watching *The Exorcist*? Do we marvel at the latest f/x? You bet. Films. Movies. Cinema. The flicks. Whatever the word, the reality is story, dramatic narrative: tales of conflict, tales of love, tales of culture heroes, tales of family, tales of survival, tales of redemption. Myths. Which were once local, and still are—*Nanabush*, *White Buffalo Woman*, *Johnny Canuck*, *Count Dracula*, *Kwee-Kwee*, *Tzonokwa*, *Paul Bunyan*, *The Blind Samurai*, *The Man With No Name*, *Coyote*, *Maria Chapdelaine*, *Sedna*, *Natty Bumppo*, *Batman*, *The Knights of the Round Table*, *Oedipus*, *Asterix*, *Beowulf*. But a hundred years ago, by way of a light bulb and steel gears, myths became planetary en masse: A Japanese film of a few years ago featured *Billy The Kid*—in drugstore cowboy fast-draw drag—wandering the streets of modern Tokyo. And because they contribute to how the world works, because the media is omnipresent, movie myths are important to us all. Whether we consume them or not, they effect us by their social presence. So literate about films, yes. We will offer essays, short reviews, and longer reviews of films and books on film. The Editor-in-Chief will write a monthly column on screenwriting—and other movie things that interest him. We will solicit work from different writers with different perspectives on film matters because we promote as many cultural POVs as we can get. We'll post a review each month of a niche film you may have overlooked, and even an academic article if we think it's readable and relevant to our audience. We will also trumpet films our audience might miss because such films (U.S. indie, Iranian, Korean, Canadian) tend to be screened only in large urban centers. We'll use Cinexxus so that our members—from Addis Ababa, to Temiskaming; Wichita to Tierra del Fuego—may have the pleasure of seeing such films through the wonder of DVDs by mail. But that's not all. Since the spark of its original idea, Cinexxus has grown in concept beyond being only about films. As our designer/programmer put it, "Cinexxus should fully encompass all that is the film industry. So everyone is welcome to take part in the site." There you have it: Why we decided to include hands-on user features, and have Cinexxus be a boulevard rather than a one-way street. If you are in the market, you can read a script and buy it through Cinexxus. You can buy camera equipment, if someone puts it up for sale (and please do if you have any). You can invest in a film that's complete or in post. You can connect with producers, casting directors, gaffers, directors, second assistant directors, animators; in short, anybody in the film business who registers on our site. Becoming a Registered User is free. We will also use the site to alert readers to the best current film contests, the sleaziest film scams, and any other matter we think you should know about or our users think you should know about regarding film. So come one, come all. We want to hear from you. We want to make Cinexxus the best cinema online commonwealth on Earth. Finally, we said above that we had certain touchstone films. By this we mean that we have watched these films twice or more and still find them fresh and interesting; or else we have seen them once and would do so again because they linger in memory. Anyone can produce such a list, of course; maybe you'll find a fave-rave here, or maybe you'll say, "Get out! That film reeked!" Anyway, here's our list, in no particular order: *The House of Mirth*, *The Death of Mr. Lazarescu*, *Babel*, *The Third Man*, *Spring Summer Fall Winter...and Spring*, *Bringing Up Baby*, *Sherlock Jr*, *Rashomon*, *Collateral*, *Quai des brumes*, *Ace Ventura Pet Detective*, *Man with a Movie Camera*, *Pan's Labyrinth*, *Letters From Iwo Jima*, *La Règle du jeu*, *Runaway Train*, *Chloe in the Afternoon*, *What's Opera, Doc?*, *Ratatouille*, *The Miracle of Morgan's Creek*, *After Life*, *Hail The Conquering Hero*, *Paths of Glory*, *Goin' Down The Road*, *The Exterminating Angel*, *Atanarjuat*, *Body Heat*, *Yojimbo*, *Pandora's Box*, *In the Realm of the Senses*, *Je Tu Il Elle*, *Aguirre The Wrath of God*, *The Terminator*, *Va Savoir*, *Mulholland Drive*, *Oedipus Rex (1957)*, *Nashville*, *Citizen Kane*, *Celine et Julie vont en bateau*, *The Maltese Falcon*, *Casablanca*, *Seven Samurai*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Days of Heaven*, *The Thin Red Line*, *Dancer in the Dark*, *Casualties of War*, *Gadjo Dilo*, *32 Short Films about Glenn Gould*, *McCabe and Mrs. Miller*, *La Vie rêvée des anges*, *Wings of Desire*, *The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith*, *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, *Waking The Dead*, *The Band Wagon*, *Bande à part*, *Blade Runner*, *The Sacrifice*, *Andrei Rublev*, *Fly Away Home*, *Les Amants du Pont-Neuf*, *Ride The High Country*, *L'Armée des ombres*, *I Love a Man in Uniform*, *Ten Canoes*, *Strangers on a Train*, *Flirting*, *Y Tu Mama También*, *Time of the Gypsies*, *Duck Soup*, *A Boy and his Dog*, *Annie Hall*, *2001*, *Meshes in the Afternoon*, *The Gunfighter (1950)*, *Un Chien andalou*, *The Phantom of Liberty*, *Away From Her*, *The Pirates of Penzance (1983)*, *Pierrot le fou*, *Brazil*, *Go*, *The Wrong Trousers*, *Code inconnu*, *Wild Bill*, *Duel*, *La Cité des enfants perdus*, *The Tunnel*, *Boogie-Doodle/Neighbours/Pas de deux (Norman McLaren)*, *La Traviata*, *Throne of Blood*, *Five Days of the Condor*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *The Corporation*, *Clueless*, *Schindler's List*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956)*, *Night of the Living Dead*, *Enron*, *État de siège*, *The Wild Bunch*, *Bloody Sunday*, *Syd & Nancy*,

Out of the Past, Manufacturing Consent, Dances With Wolves, Powwow Highway, Lone Star, Toute Une Nuit, Election, To Be Or Not To Be (1942), Bubba Ho-Tep, Amarcord, 8 1/2, Hustle & Flow, Evil Dead II, Easy Rider, The Big Lebowski, Mon Oncle Antoine, Le Fils, The Killing (Kubrick), Ponette, Lord of War, La Grande Illusion, Salt of the Earth, Man Bites Dog, Bram Stoker's Dracula, Tears of the Black Tiger, Double Indemnity, Adaptation. No End In Sight, The Life of Oharu, His Girl Friday, Les Demoiselles de Rochefort, The Grey Fox, The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant. Carmen (Carlos Saura), The Last Seduction, O Thiasos, The Sweet Hereafter, Guinevere, Apocalypse Now Redux, Un Condamne a mort s'est echappe, Au Hazard Balthazar, Pickpocket, The Fifth Element, Angel-A, Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind, La Strada, Sideways, I Have Heard The Mermaids Singing, Jean de Florette, Irreversible, The Cameraman, The Marriage of Maria Braun, Being John Malkovich, Manon's Spring, Magnolia, Ridicule, M, Twentieth Century, Ladies and Gentlemen Mr. Leonard Cohen, The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner, Chariots of Fire, As Good As It Gets, Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon, Exotica, Bowling for Columbine, Psycho, High Noon, Some Like It Hot, United 93, Noriko's Dinner Table, Matewan, Alien, 3:10 to Yuma (1957), The Last Waltz, The Manchurian Candidate (1962), The Shining, Fitzcarraldo, My Best Fiend, Modern Times, La Promesse, The Exorcist, Roma Città Aperta, Fun With Dick and Jane, Dirty Pretty Things, Lovely & Amazing, A Very Long Engagement, The King of Marvin Gardens, Fort Apache, Don't Look Back, Catch-22, Videodrome, Sur mes lèvres, The Road Warrior, Babe, Them (1954, and 2006).