

Mr. Reed's Metaphysical Neighborhood

"The Top 23"

(I just can't narrow it down anymore)

as of February 24, 2008

These are the best of the films that have stood the test of time for me - that remain engaging, no matter how many times I watch them, and that represent, for me, right now, the pinnacle of visual storytelling craftsmanship. There are plenty of films *not* on here that I think extremely highly of (and maybe could have replace some of these films without making me sad), but I chose these 23 (again, for now). I chose them without regard to where they are from, or who made them, but based on how well they still play, for me.

All you have to do is check out the *complete* "Mr. Reed's Metaphysical Neighborhood" to see how many other films I actually adore, as well (and there are many).

Casablanca (Michael Curtiz, 1942)
Citizen Kane (Orson Welles, 1941)
Cranes are Flying, The (USSR, Mikhail Kalatozov, 1957)
Dr. Strangelove (Stanley Kubrick, 1964)
Forbidden Games (France, René Clément, 1952)
400 Blows, The (France, François Truffaut, 1959)
Godfather, The (Francis Ford Coppola, 1972)
Graduate, The (Mike Nichols, 1967)
Hannah and Her Sisters (Woody Allen, 1986)
High Noon (Fred Zinnemann, 1952)
It's a Wonderful Life (Frank Capra, 1946)
North by Northwest (Alfred Hitchcock, 1959)
Raiders of the Lost Ark (Steven Spielberg, 1981)
Seventh Seal, The (Sweden, Ingmar Bergman, 1956)
Shane (George Stevens, 1953)
Singin' in the Rain (Stanley Donen & Gene Kelly, 1952)
Some Like It Hot (Billy Wilder, 1959)
Strada, La (Italy, Federico Fellini, 1954)
Sullivan's Travels (Preston Sturges, 1941)
Taxi Driver (Martin Scorsese, 1976)
Ugetsu Monogatari (Kenji Mizoguchi, 1953)
When Harry Met Sally (Rob Reiner, 1989)
Wild Bunch, The (Sam Pekinpah, 1969)