



American Film Institute Catalog

The cornerstone of academic film research

Produced in collaboration with the American Film Institute, the AFI Catalog is the premier, authoritative resource of American film information and covers the history of American cinema comprehensively from 1893 to 1975, with full or short records for films from 1976 to present. Every film produced on American soil or by American production companies is indexed from the birth of cinema to the present day with entries on films ranging from the biggest blockbusters to obscure, once lost films.

The film experts at AFI are continually updating and revising their more than 48,000 records so as to reflect the very latest in scholarship and research. Each of the twice annual releases includes not only new film records, but revised and updated records.

The catalog is an unmatched tool for film research and preservation activities – recording the development of the moving image as a unique means of artistic and cultural expression in the 20th century.

“No other source of information is as complete and accurate, and no other source is produced with the scrupulous level of attention to scholarship and research as the AFI Catalog.”

– Martin Scorsese

Fields Indexed:

- Keywords will search all fields
- Film Title browse a list (also searches alternative, foreign titles)
- Character Names browse a list (can search non-inverted names)
- Cast and Crew browse a list
- Production browse a list
- Based On browse a list of source information
- Release browse a list
- Release Year
- Subject browse a list
- Genre browse a list
- Songs browse a list

In recent years there has been a conscious effort to shine new light on female filmmakers at the beginning of cinema history. A combination of work by Columbia University's Women Film Pioneers Project (WFPP) and AFI's Women They Talk About (WTTA) initiative has resulted in over 800 names of women who were working behind the camera in the silent era being added to the index.

The AFI benefits from the project by the inclusion of more women who were working behind the camera during the silent film era. This expansion was made possible through a combination of work by Columbia University's Women Film Pioneers Project (WFPP) and AFI's Women They Talk About (WTTA) initiative.



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