

Program 2008

February 27	Cocoon (1985) A group of retirement villagers, played by appropriately by former screen stars, find an out of bounds swimming pool which seems to have magical powers. Great fun to watch Don Ameche, Maureen Stapleton, Jessica Tandy & Hume Cronyn enjoying the limelight in the twilight of their careers.
March 26	Chinatown (1974) Jack Nicholson is J.J. Gittes, an LA Private Eye in 1937 and a simple adultery case (is there ever any such thing) leads to murder and large scale corruption. Also starring Faye Dunaway and John Huston. Directed by Roman Polanski. 10 Oscar nominations for one win – Robert Town for original screenplay.
April 30	Breaker Morant (1980) "The barbarities of war are seldom committed by abnormal men. The tragedy of war is that these horrors are committed by normal men in abnormal situations." The Boer war. A war crimes trial. "Shoot straight you bastards. Don't make a mess of it!" – Harry 'Breaker' Morant.
May 28	The Canterbury Tales (1971) Pier Paolo Pasolini's film of some of Chaucer's most erotic tales – artistic, sometimes violent, always cinematic. Rated R. Pasolini won the Golden Bear at Berlin film festival for this movie.
June 25	L'avventura (1959) Winning the Special Jury Prize at Cannes in 1960 established director Antonioni's reputation. His focus more on an exploring the depths of feelings and the breakdown of relationships, unsettled audiences expecting a more conventional plot, as a group of jaded socialites setting off on a yachting trip.
July 12 Special Event	War & Peace (1956) — Part 1 — Dinner — Part 2 Tolstoy's literary classic retold in true Hollywood co-production style. Carlo Ponti & Dino De Laurentiis combined forces to bring it all together. King Vidor directed Audrey Hepburn, Henry Fonda and Mel Ferrer and thousands of Russian soldiers as extras. Dinner at the Morning Star Hotel was appropriately Russian themed.
July 30	Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (2000) The legendary Green Destiny Sword changes hands leading to high adventure in Qing dynasty China. This sumptuous production was Directed by Ang Lee and stars Michelle Yeow and Yun-Fat Chow. Nominated for 6 Oscars, winning 4 including Best Foreign Language film.
August 27	Last of the Mohicans (1921) & Hopalong Cassidy(1936) The daughters of a British officer, in the wilderness of New York State, are captured by Indians. The film explores miscegenation, further complicated when Cora, one of the sisters, attracts the love of two natives. A silent masterpiece. Instalment seven of the HC series. An example of standard westerns of the era that eventually moved to TV to prolong their creative life.
September 24	Blood Wedding (1981) A dance film by a master of the form, Spanish director, Calos Saura. Virtually a documentary of a dress rehearsal in a bare hall, ensuring that dance is the only element at the centre. Screened with – 3 Dances: Gilpilil
October 29	Wild Strawberries (1957) Ingmar Bergman's classic about a former doctor and professor, a cold and distant person, who shares a road trip with his daughter-in law, providing time and opportunity to re-assess his life. Regularly appears on greatest of all time lists.
November 26	That's Entertainment: Part 1 (1974) A compilation film released by MGM to celebrate its 50 th anniversary. As its title indicates it was followed by two sequels and another related film called <i>That's Dancing</i> .