

Sights and Sounds

Repo Man (1984)



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It is likely that if I mentioned the name of Mike Nesmith most of us would think of the 1960's band The Monkees. Some of us might think to recall him for his work with the First National Band, or some of his solo musical works. You might even remember him as one of the pioneers of the modern music video. It might come as a surprise to you that he was the executive producer of a film that the magazine Entertainment Weekly named #7 on its list of the "Top 50 Cult Films of All-Time." The film is *Repo Man* starring Emilio Estevez as Otto, a street punk having a bad day, who is tricked by Bud (Harry Dean Stanton) into becoming a repo man and brings him into the strange and dangerous world surrounding the repossession of automobiles.

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Posted by Keith C. on April 12, 2016

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Somewhere In Time



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Love knows no reason, no boundaries, no distance. It has a sole intention of bringing people together to a time called forever.

-- Unknown

Perhaps the quote above was in the mind of Richard Matheson, the author of the book *Somewhere in Time?* or in the thoughts of the writers of the screenplay for the film; perhaps not. It could easily be applied to this story of Playwright Richard Collier (Christopher Reeve) and

Actress Elise McKenna (Jane Seymour) and the love that lasted both their lives. The difficult question posed by the story is understanding just when their love began? Did it begin at the moment Richard first saw her, after the 1972 opening performance of his play when she presses a watch into his hands; or when Elise first meets him at the elegant hotel where he eventually returns the watch to her sixty years earlier? Theirs is truly a love that transcends time itself. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on March 30, 2016

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Casablanca



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I would like to play a game of pretend. Let's pretend that you are one of the most in-demand actors of your time and your contract with the studio says you have to perform in any film they choose. The studio you are working for takes an unknown, unproduced and previously refused play and begins adapting the play for the screen. They are in such a rush to start production and don't wait for the first draft of the screenplay to be finished before they begin filming. At one point the director calls you on the set and tells you to just stand still and give a short nod of your head towards the camera. You don't know why you are nodding or where the nod will occur in the movie, you are just told to nod. Every day the script changes. Not just the little daily changes common to movies, but massive story changes take place. No one at the start of filming, not even the director, knows exactly how the movie is going to end. The film is half-way through production before the ending is finally settled upon. Can you imagine how unhappy you would be and how horrible you believe the final product would turn out? This is what happened to actors Humphrey Bogart and Actress Ingrid Bergman when they starred in a film that when finished won the Best Picture, Best Screen Play, Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor Academy Awards. Since its production in 1942, it has continued to win honors and awards. The play was called 'Everyone Comes to Ricks', the movie, *Casablanca*. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on March 15, 2016

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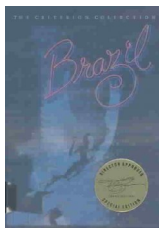
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Brazil



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I remember the first time I became aware of the movie *Brazil*. I was reading through *Variety* magazine in an effort to keep up with the films of the day when I suddenly came across a strange full-page advertisement. It didn't say much. It was a full page sheet bordered in black with the question, 'Dear Sid Sheinberg, when are you going to release my film Brazil? Terry Gilliam.' At the time, I had not heard of the film *Brazil* and did not know the controversy surrounding its release in the United States. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on March 3, 2016

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Little Big Man



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First Line: 'I am, beyond a doubt, the last of the old-timers. My name is Jack Crabb. And I am the sole white survivor of the Battle of Little Big Horn, uh, uh, popularly known as Custer's Last Stand.'

Even though *Little Big Man* is a comedy it was one of the first movie westerns to portray Native

American? in a positive light and our treatment of them as the horror it often was. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on February 18, 2016

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Glory



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Civil War Colonel Robert Gould Shaw of the Union Army is not a man most of us would think of as having an important role in the history of African Americans in the United States, but he did. Col. Shaw was chosen to lead the Massachusetts 54th Regiment of the Union Army. With the exception of himself and his second in command this regiment was made up entirely of African Americans and was one of the first to actually be allowed to carry arms into battle. [Read more](#)

Posted by Keith C. on February 3, 2016

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