



Press Release

Musical Month

This Spring Day e.tv launches a month of spectacular musicals including some of the world's most loved films since almost five decades ago.

We start with *The Sound of Music*, which at the time of its release (1965) surpassed "Gone With the Wind" as the number one box office hit of all time. Arguably, the high-point of Hollywood musicals, *The Sound of Music* features lush background locations, a talented cast and a sentimental storyline, making it the ultimate feel good movie.

The festival ends with music legend Mariah Carey's debut film *Glitter*, a drama with music set against the backdrop of New York's club scene in the early 1980s.

Musical month movies on e this September:

- *The Sound of Music* – Friday 1 September at 1.25pm.
- *Footloose* – Saturday 2 September at 2.45pm.
- *Paint Your Wagon* – Monday 4 September at 10.20pm.
- *Dance With Me* – Thursday 7 September at 8pm.
- *Annie* – Friday 8 September at 8pm.
- *Salsa* – Saturday 9 September at 2.55pm.
- *Nashville* – Monday 11 September at 10.25pm.

- *Center Stage* – Thursday 14 September at 8pm.
- *The Frog Prince* – Friday 15 September at 2.30pm.
- *Double Platinum* – Saturday 16 September at 3.05pm
- *Flashdance* – Monday 18 September at 10.20pm
- *Coyote Ugly* – Thursday 21 September 8pm.
- *Pocahontas II: Journey to a New World* – Friday 22 September at 2.30pm.
- *Carmen: A Hip Hopera* – Saturday 23 September at 3.10pm.
- *Moulin Rouge* – Monday 25 September at 10.15pm.
- *Save the Last Dance* – Thursday 28 September at 8pm.
- *Rogers & Hammerstein's Cinderella* – Friday 29 September at 2.30pm
- *Glitter* – Saturday 30 September at 2.50pm.

- *The Sound of Music* - 1965

The Sound of Music opens as Captain Georg Von Trapp, a strict ex-naval officer and widower, writes to the Mother Superior requesting a governess for his seven children. She sends him Frauline Maria, a floundering nun from a nearby Salzburg abbey. Maria arrives to discover she's merely the latest in a long line of governesses the children have scared away, but she quickly wins them over. She teaches them to sing and dance through the hills and to find joy in life's many small and wonderful offerings. With a renewed passion inspired by Maria's arrival, the Captain throws a party to introduce his new fiancé. It is only then that Maria realises that not only does she not want to be a nun, but that she is in love with the Captain. And it is then that the Captain realises he is in love with her! Maria and Captain Von Trapp marry, but the new family is threatened when Austria's new Nazi rulers demand that the Captain accept a position in the German Navy. Starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plumber.

- *Footloose* – 1984

A city boy comes to a small town where rock music and dancing have been banned. Starring Kevin Bacon and Dianne Wiest.

- *Paint Your Wagon* – 1970

A Michigan farmer and a prospector form a partnership in the California gold country. Their adventures include buying and sharing a wife, hijacking a stage, kidnapping six prostitutes, and turning their mining camp into a boomtown. Along the way there is plenty of drinking, gambling, and singing. They even find time to do some creative gold mining. Starring Clint Eastwood and Lee Marvin.

- *Dance With Me* – 1998

Following the death of his mother, Rafael Infante leaves for Houston and meets his father, John Burnett, for the very first time. Unaware that he's his son, Burnett employs him as a handy man at the Excelsior Dance Studio. At the studio, tension runs high as dancers prepare for the World Open Dance competition in Las Vegas. Rafael soon shows signs of being a talented dancer, but Ruby has her heart set on walking away with the prize. Starring Vanessa Williams and Kris Kristofferson.

- *Annie* - 1982

In the depths of the 1930s, Annie is a fiery young orphan girl who must live in a miserable orphanage run by the tyrannical Miss Hannigan. Her seemingly hopeless situation changes dramatically when she is selected to spend a short time at the residence of the wealthy munitions industrialist, Oliver Warbucks. Quickly, she charms the hearts of the household staff and even the seemingly cold-hearted Warbucks cannot help but learn to love this wonderful girl. He decides to help Annie find her long lost parents by offering a reward if they would come to him and prove their identity. However, Miss Hannigan, her evil brother, Rooster, and a female accomplice, plan to

impersonate those people to get the reward for themselves which put Annie in great danger. Starring Albert Finney and Ann Reinking.

- Salsa – 1988

A torrid tale choreographed by Dirty Dancing's Kenny Ortega. Salsa ignites the screen with pulsating rhythm and culture as vibrant as the fiery music and dance it loves. To be crowned King of Salsa is indeed an honour. It's a title that promises a very bright future as a dancer and both Rico, and his best friend Ken, desire it with all their hearts. Consumed by his passion for dance, Rico practices night after night with his girlfriend Vicki. However, when another passion makes Rico eye's wander, so does Vicki, leaving him without a partner for the contest. Ken has also been practicing with Rico's younger sister, Rita. To the tradition-minded Rico, this is an intolerable clash of age and ethnic backgrounds, and he forbids the lovers to be together. Emotions run high as the contest draws near. Ken and Rita show up together and Rico pairs with Vicki's rival. Now the sparks really begin to fly! Who will be the next King of Salsa and who will be his Queen? The answers are decided on the dance floor, in an explosion of electrifying music and Salsa. Starring Robby Rosa and Rodney Harvey.

- Nashville – 1975

Robert Altman's brilliant, sprawling masterpiece paints a detailed portrait of the people and music industry of Nashville, Tennessee. Altman's roaming camera follows a group of disparate individuals as the city prepares for an upcoming political rally for "Replacement" party candidate Hal Philip Walker. They include a ditzy Californian who's visiting her dying aunt and downtrodden uncle, a philandering rock star and his band mates, a country singer on the verge of a nervous breakdown, a tone deaf waitress with dreams of superstardom, a mother with two deaf children, and a British journalist who is out to capture the "true" Nashville. The characters intersect at the beginning of the film after a highway accident, and

again at the end when an act of violence tarnishes the political rally. Starring Keith Carradine and Lily Tomlin.

- Center Stage – 2000

What's art without sacrifice? That's what a dozen gifted ballet dancers, who have been admitted to the esteemed American Ballet Academy, are about to find out. They have to sacrifice personal pleasures and train religiously in preparation for a recital to determine which of them will be asked to join the very select and prestigious American Ballet Academy. Starring Peter Gallagher and Amanda Schull.

- The Frog Prince – 1988

The Frog Prince is a Classic fairytale of a prince who has been turned into a frog by a wicked enchantress. In order to break the spell he must be kissed by a princess. Charming a princess when you're only a frog can't be easy - but it certainly can be rewarding. Starring Helen Hunt and John Paragon.

- Double Platinum – 1999

Olivia King is an aspiring vocalist who gives up her only child in the pursuit of her singing career. Years later, Olivia is a major star, and the daughter she left behind, Kayla, is a talented young singer on the rise. Can she win back the daughter she left behind years ago, and can Kayla find it in her heart to forgive her mother? Starring Diana Ross and Brandy Norwood.

- Flashdance – 1983

Alex Owens is a female dynamo: steel worker by day and exotic dancer by night. Her dream is to get into a real dance company, and

with encouragement from her boss-cum-boyfriend, she may get her chance. Starring Jennifer Beals and Michael Nouri.

- *Coyote Ugly* – 2000

Aspiring songwriter Violet Sanford leaves her home and father for the better life New York has to offer. But all she finds there is rejection. She hears one of a group of beautiful women is leaving her job in a bar called Coyote Ugly. Violet persuades the bar owner, Lil, to give her a chance. When she arrives, the bouncer tells her it's a quiet night but she proceeds. A wall of noise hits her - throbbing music, howling men. Two women are atop the bar, pulling a customer back over it, pulling up his shirt and pouring beer on his chest. Just how will Violet deal with this bar? More importantly, how will it deal with her? Starring Tyra Banks and Piper Perabo.

- *Pocahontas II: Journey to a New World* - 1998

Pocahontas: Journey To A New World is a magnificent, fun-filled adventure that finds Pocahontas and her trusty companions Flit, Meeko and Percy setting sail for an exciting new place - England. Upon hearing rumours of John Smith's death, and wishing to encourage the truce between her people and the English settlers, Pocahontas volunteers to serve as an ambassador for peace. Arriving in London, Pocahontas is swept away by this curious new land and enthusiastically attempts to fit in with all the strange customs. She also sweeps the handsome English diplomat, John Rolfe, off his feet. She soon uncovers a sinister plot by her old enemy, Ratcliffe, and the princess must courageously attempt to prevent war between England and her people. In the end Pocahontas must choose between the love of her past... and the path of her future.

- *Carmen: A Hip Hopera* - 2001

Carmen: A Hip Hopera retells Georges Bizet's classic opera Carmen in a contemporary, urban setting, where the drama plays out in verse

and the songs convey raw emotions. Sgt. Derek Hill, who after being ordered by his corrupt superior officer Frank Miller to arrest Carmen for her involvement in a bar fight, falls hopelessly and tragically in love with her. After leading Hill down the path to perdition, Carmen deserts him, not out of love for bullfighter Escamillo, but for a top-40 rap star named Blaze. Starring Beyoncé Knowles and Mekhi Phifer.

- *Moulin Rouge* – 1999

The setting is a sepia-coloured rooftop studio. A garrulous tribe of hand-coloured bohemians lead by Toulouse Lautrec are improvising a revolutionary musical due to open the Moulin Rouge nightclub - and not making much headway. Then, one of the Bohos trips over the cord of their synthesizer and they all pile through young wannabe Bohemian poet Christian's garret roof. A pop-prescient talent who spontaneously spouts the greatest love songs of the unborn century, Christian is the answer to their problems. So the idealistic Christian is drawn into the dark, fantastical underworld of Parisian nightclub, the Moulin Rouge. In this seedy but glamorous haven of sex, drugs and electricity, the poet-innocent finds himself plunged into a passionate but ultimately tragic love affair with the club's highest paid star and the city's most famous courtesan, Satine. Starring Nicole Kidman and Ewan McGregor.

- *Save The Last Dance* - 2001

Sarah Johnson's dream of becoming a professional ballerina is sidelined when her mother dies unexpectedly. She has to live with her father, who she hasn't seen in a while, in the Ghettos of Chicago. Different from the inner-city schooling she knew, Sarah battles to adjust to her new school, and being the only white person doesn't make her task of making new friends any less burdensome. But her troubles are cut short when she becomes friends with Derek, who has talent and street smarts but a checkered past. With Derek's serious hip-hop moves and Sarah's love for dance, the two embark on a rhythmic journey of friendship, which eventually leads to something much deeper. However, since they come from different racial backgrounds, they have more to contend with than the average high

school couple. Problems come their way in the form of Derek's former girlfriend and his best friend, who tries to sway him back into Chicago's thug life. Starring Julia Stiles and Sean Patrick Thomas.

- Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella – 1997

An updated version of the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical of the classic fairy-tale, Cinderella, with an all-star, multi-racial cast. Starring Whitney Houston and Brandy Norwood.

- Glitter – 2001

Glitter is the story of a young singer, Billie Frank, who overcomes a turbulent childhood and struggles to find her true family and her true voice. Abandoned as a child by her mother, Billie is remanded to an orphanage. Years later, Billie is discovered by Julian Dice, a charismatic, irresistible “bad boy” deejay who soon becomes her partner, producer and lover. With Dice, Billie begins an exciting but often volatile and precarious journey as she struggles through both her personal and professional life, riding the roller coaster to superstardom. Starring Mariah Carey and Max Beesley.

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