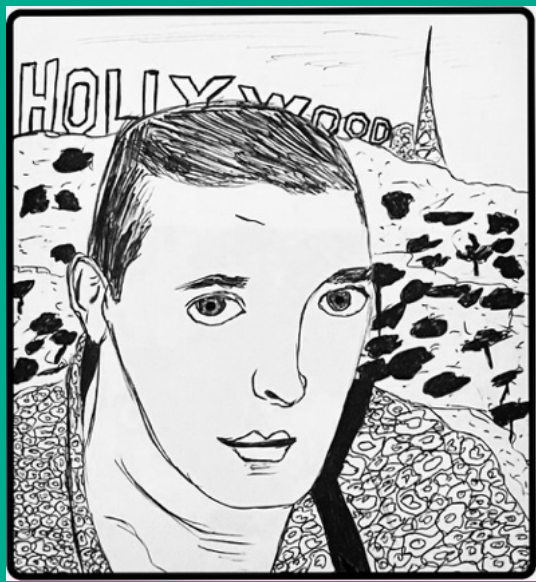


Secondhand Scorsese

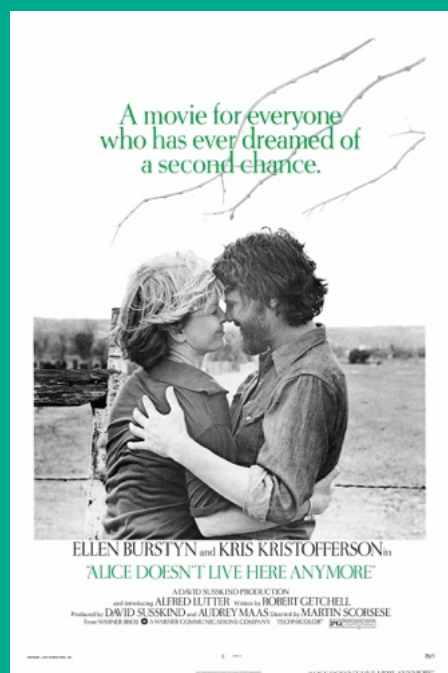
Selections by Vince LePlayv

You talkin' to me?

When it comes to crafting a film that's as hard-hitting as it is meaningful, not many can compare to Martin Scorsese. At 80 years old and with the release of his latest film *Killers of the Flower Moon*, BAFS celebrates the director's prolific career that spans over a remarkable 50-year period. Many people know him for his masterworks (*Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*, *Goodfellas*) but so many of his lesser-known films are worthy of equal recognition. Here are five underrated choices from each decade of Scorsese's filmography that showcase his skill and unbridled knack for branching out and telling unconventionally memorable stories.



Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore (1974)



In the wake of her husband's death, Alice Hyatt (Ellen Burstyn in an Oscar-winning performance) heads for California with the hopes of becoming a successful singer. When funds get low, she stops off in Arizona and picks up a waitressing job in a small-town diner. Things get even more complicated when she begins to fall for local rancher David (Kris Kristofferson). Burstyn personally picked Scorsese to direct upon recommendation from Francis Ford Coppola and in the process helped him forge a collaborative style of filmmaking that would become his trademark for years to come.



Afterhours (1985)



Paul Hackett (Griffin Dunne) is stuck in a dead-end job at a word processing firm in New York. On a fateful night in the SoHo district he meets the mysterious and charming Marcy (Rosanna Arquette) and quickly finds himself at the center of a bizarre string of occurrences that include papier-mâché sculptures, mohawk punk clubs and a band of misinformed neighborhood vigilantes. All the while he tries to make it back uptown before the night is over. A feverish mix of noirish thrills and screwball set-ups make this low profile gem one of Scorsese's most entertaining entries simply for the fact that not another single movie in his entire body of work is quite like it in any way.



Cape Fear (1991)



When the murderous Max Cady (Robert De Niro) comes home from prison after a 14-year stint, he makes it his purpose in life to torment the lawyer (Nick Nolte) who locked him away while targeting his unsuspecting family. Scorsese blurs the line between morality and complicity by delving deeper into the darker aspects of the two men and in turn spawned a sinister remake that some say not only matches but betters the 1962 original starring Gregory Peck and Robert Mitchum. De Niro goes no-holds-barred here in one of the scariest performances of all time.



The Aviator (2004)



An epic depiction of the life of aviation magnate and filmmaker Howard Hughes. Scorsese not only focuses on Hughes' achievements as a technological pioneer but also his deep-seeded mental neuroses which DiCaprio expertly conveys in every frame. Stunning colors, grandiose art production and an Oscar-winning performance from Cate Blanchett as Katherine Hepburn only add to the saga of this American giant.



Silence (2016)



When a Jesuit priest goes missing in 17th century Japan, two of his pupils set out to find him while spreading the Catholic faith along the way. This was a passion project for Scorsese that went through numerous difficulties and setbacks over the course of two decades. Andrew Garfield, Adam Driver and Liam Neeson all bring their A-game to an extremely patient and visually splendid film that explores themes of faith, religion and persecution that were previously touched upon in Scorsese's earlier works (*The Last Temptation of Christ*, *Kundun*).



Thank You, Marty!

