



**TEN**

**The 70 best films  
of all time**

As the recent runaway success of films like *Joker* and *Parasite* have proven, cinema has a uniquely powerful ability to take audiences by surprise, tap into our deepest psychological fears, excite political debate - and still turn a huge profit at the box office. The 70 big-screen titles listed here follow a non-linear plot through the greatest movie milestones of the last 100 years, covering the full spectrum from multiplex space operas to art-house gems, screwball comedies to epic tragedies, Hollywood blockbusters to subtitled cult classics.

Most of these films are available on Sky Store and you can enjoy a 20% discount without being a Sky Customer – get in touch with concierge for full details and to claim your unique code.

#### About the writer

Stephen Dalton first began writing about music, films and books way back in analogue times when the legendary *New Musical Express* was still an inky printed weekly. He is now a regular contributor to *The Times*, *The Hollywood Reporter*, *Uncut*, *Classic Rock* and more. His work has also been published in *The Guardian*, *The Quietus*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Huffington Post*, *Wallpaper* and other august publications.



## 70

### Star Wars (1977)

George Lucas spawned a multi-billion-dollar industry, and a screen-age religion, with his inspired fusion of space opera, Biblical allegory and hippie mysticism.

## 69

### Lawrence of Arabia (1962)

A dashing young Peter O'Toole plays T.E. Lawrence in David Lean's multiple Oscar-winning epic, which blends heavily fictionalised biography with ravishing visual spectacle.

## 67

### Pather Panchali (1955)

Director Satyajit Ray put Indian art-house cinema on the global map with his lyrical debut feature, a poetic snapshot of an impoverished family in a Bengali village.

## 65

### Alien (1979)

Set in deep space, this cult sci-fi horror classic transformed director Ridley Scott and co-star Sigourney Weaver into household names, spawning multiple sequels and prequels.

## 63

### The Wild Bunch (1969)

William Holden's ageing outlaw boss leads his gang on one last brutal spree in legendary cult director Sam Peckinpah's harshly poetic epitaph for the bloodthirsty Old West.

## 68

### The Searchers (1956)

The finest in a long run of collaborations between John Wayne and director John Ford, *The Searchers* is a classic revenge western with a dark racial and sexual subtext.

## 66

### All About Eve (1950)

Rightly famous for its acerbic script, Joseph Mankiewicz's multi-Oscar-winning farce revolves around a bitchy backstage feud between haughty Broadway diva Bette Davis and back-stabbing starlet Anne Baxter.

## 64

### Breaking the Waves (1996)

Emily Watson stars in Lars Von Trier's visually arresting, emotionally gruelling melodrama about religious intolerance and sexual hypocrisy in early 1970s Scotland.

## 62

### Edward Scissorhands (1990)

In the first and best of their many collaborations, director Tim Burton casts Johnny Depp in this semi-autobiographical fairy tale about a Frankenstein-style orphan looking for love in brightly painted suburbia.