

DUCK AMUCK (1953, Warner Bros. Directed by Chuck Jones) Daffy Duck appears to star in a swashbuckler extravaganza but things begin to change immediately, to Daffy's frustration, as he struggles with his unseen animator. A brilliant commentary on animation itself and one of three Jones cartoons listed on the National Register.



DR. JEKYLL AND MR. MOUSE (1947, MGM. Directed by Bill Hanna and Joseph Barbera) Many animated shorts adapted Robert Lewis Stevenson's classic Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde novella as a starting point. In this Academy Award nominated version, Tom makes the potion and Jerry drinks it, with disastrous results--for Tom!



MOTHER GOOSE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY (1950, Terrytoons / 20th Century Fox. Directed by Connie Rasinski) It is never easy to find 35mm prints of Mighty Mouse cartoons, but we've got a good one here. The Big Bad Wolf takes revenge on scores of nursery rhyme characters when he is not invited to Mother Goose's birthday soiree. Who will save the day? This one features some of Jim Tyler's wonderfully strange animation.



POPEYE THE SAILOR MEETS ALI BABA'S FORTY THIEVES (1937, Paramount. Directed by Dave Fleischer) One of three special Technicolor "two reelers" that the Fleisher Studios produced featuring Popeye, Olive Oyl and Wimpy pitted against Arabian Night villains, usually portrayed by Bluto. This short also employed extensive use of the studio's "tabletop" rig, which combined 2D animation with three-dimensional sets, giving a great impression of depth.



POPEYE MEETS ALI BABA is listed on the National register and was nominated for an Oscar.

GERALD McBOING BOING (1951, UPA/Columbia. Directed by Robert "Bobo" Cannon) Written by Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel) this is the story of a boy who speaks in sounds instead of English. Told in Seussian rhyme and with the groundbreaking UPA studio style of bold colors and jazzy design, **GERALD MCBOING BOING** won an Oscar for best animated short.



LONESOME GHOSTS (1937, Disney/RKO. Directed by Bert Gillett) Decades before Bill Murray and crew, Mickey, Donald and Goofy were the original "ghostbusters" in this beautifully animated gem from Disney. The studio was at the top of its game with their classic characters and the pairing of our three reluctant heroes was never better than in this short.



WOODY WOODPECKER (AKA: THE CRACKED NUT. 1941, Universal. Directed by Walter Lantz) Though Woody had appeared as a secondary character in a prior Andy Panda short, this was his very first starring cartoon. It features the original nutball woodpecker design, voices by Mel Blanc, the original "Everyone Thinks I'm Crazy" song and, most especially, Woody's maniacal personality.



WHAT'S OPERA, DOC? (1957, Warner Bros. Directed by Chuck Jones) Perhaps the most famous short cartoon of all time and another of Jones' films listed on the National Register, this seven-minute short combines musical motifs from Richard Wagner's operas, beautifully arranged by the legendary Carl Stalling, and recasts Elmer and Bugs into iconic opera types, Siegfried and Brunhilde in a truly magnificent send up of stagecraft and musical storytelling. With layouts by Maurice Noble, story and lyrics by Michael Maltese, and great voice work by Mel Blanc and Robert Q. Brian. Make sure to watch for the horse and feel free to sing along too..." Kill the Wabbit! Kill the Wabbit!"



The Alex Film Society would like to extend our appreciation to Warner Bros., Universal Pictures, Walt Disney Animation, Holland Releasing, the Kausler Collection and Sony Repertory for prints and permissions for "The Greatest Cartoons...Ever!"

www.AlexFilmSociety.org see our calendar of events on-line and join our email list.

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Coming Events in 2012

Saturday, **February 11** at 2 & 8 pm only

Jame Dean

Rebel Without A Cause

Warner Bros. 1955

Check the website for more info.



Saturday, **April 28** at 2 & 8 pm only



DUCK AND COVER!!

Come April 28th, watch the skies, but do NOT stay home! You'll want to hide out at the Alex Theatre for this special screening of Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds* (1963) starring Tippi Hedren, Rod Taylor, Suzanne Pleshette and Jessica Tandy.

A modern thriller based on true events, *The Birds* was Hitchcock's first film for Universal.

In addition to the film and a cartoon, we'll be offering our usual assortment of unique props, guests and ancillary materials. Check the website for more info.

Note: *Due to anticipated construction at the Alex Theatre in the Summer of 2012, our schedule of events is still being settled. Please visit our website alexfilmsociety.org for details on our summer events.*

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