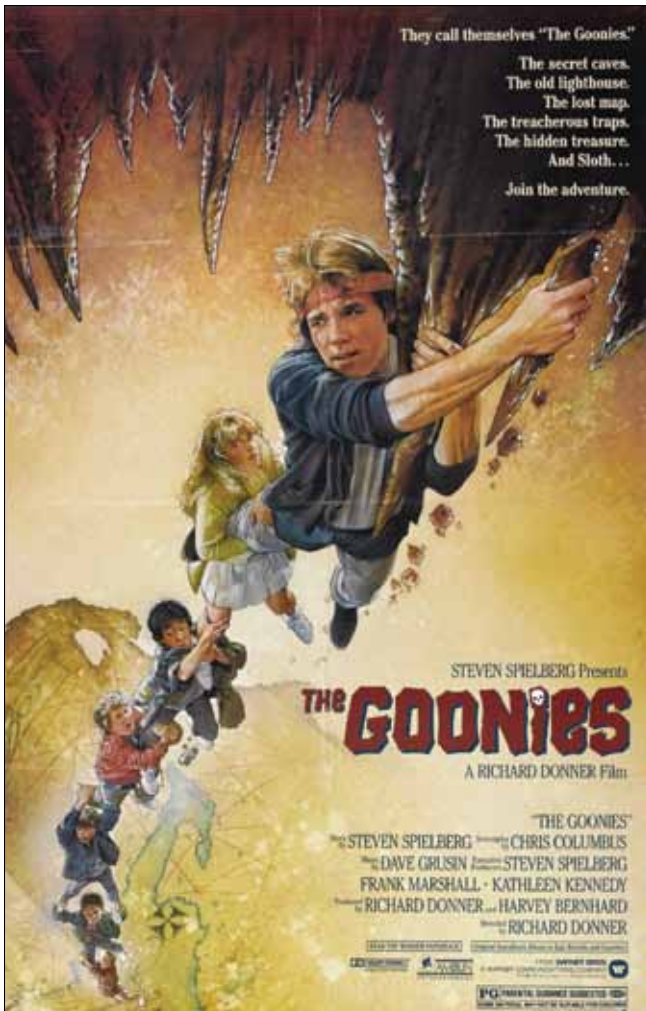


# Goonies Never Say Die!

Saturday, February 5, 2 & 8 pm only



Take an idea from Stephen Spielberg, hand it over to the writer of *Gremlins* and *Young Sherlock Holmes*, add the brilliance of the director of *Ladyhawke*, *Superman* and *Lethal Weapon* and the acting talents of groups of both solid character actors and young newcomers (that have since gone on to impressive heights themselves) and the result is *The Goonies*! While a modest hit when originally released, the film has joined other film classics, like *The Wizard of Oz*, *Fantasia* and *A Christmas Story*, that, while they may not have broken box office records upon their initial release in theatres, have gone on to win a special place in the hearts of American audiences.

*The Goonies* was released on June 7, 1985 and opened to mostly good reviews. Roger Ebert, of the [Chicago Sun Times](#), wrote that the film was both "exhilarating" and "manipulative", but that it also "shows that Spielberg and his directors are absolute masters of how to excite and

involve an audience." The film grossed \$9 million in its opening weekend (then a most respectable number!) and went on to earn over \$61 million by the end of the year, placing it alongside *Back To The Future*, *Cocoon*, *Out of Africa* and *Witness* in the top ten highest grossing films of 1985.

In the Spring of 1986, the film was released on VHS tape for the growing home video market. Since then, it has been re-released many times, in many different formats, most recently last November, in a 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary DVD/Blu Ray set. *The Goonies* has also become a staple on cable TV, regularly screening on TNT & TBS. While there is no question that the film was popular and successful upon its initial release, it is this accessibility on both home video and cable TV that seems to have increased its popularity over the years.

*The Goonies* seems to have become part of our cultural consciousness too. There have been two cast reunions, in 2005 & 2010, when fans met with cast and crew in Astoria, Oregon. In 2007, Mezco Toys partnered with Warner Bros to release a set of Goonies action figures. The set included figures of Mikey, Data, Chunk, Mouth and Sloth. And, in 2010, Varèse Sarabande released a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the soundtrack, never previously available, in a limited edition of 5000 copies. The edition sold out shortly after going on sale. Also in 2010, Los Angeles' Gallery 1988 hosted an exhibition called "The 3G Show" featuring original artwork inspired by *Gremlins*, *Ghostbusters* and *The Goonies*.

All of this seems to indicate that interest in *The Goonies* is strong enough to support a sequel and, with the recent release of *Tron Legacy* twenty-eight years after the original *Tron*, who's to say 25 years is too late to start! Scuttlebutt regarding a sequel to *The Goonies* has been circulating for years, with both cast-members and director, Richard Donner, confirming and/or denying the rumors. In 2007, the Cartoon Network investigated the possibility of producing an animated series, but the idea never progressed beyond the exploration stage. More recently, Donner has been reported to have met with producers and lawyers about the idea of adapting the movie into a Broadway musical.

The only thing that seems certain is that *The Goonies* are here to stay! While it would be great to see a new story involving Mikey, Brand, Data, Mouth, Andy, Stef, Chunk and Sloth, it's doubtful that anything will ever replace their original adventures. *The Goonies* 'R' truly good enough for you and me! ■

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**Coming Events in 2011**

Saturday, **April 9** at 2 & 8 pm only

Sing-A-Long!

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In January 1995, Alex Film Society presented their second event: **The Wizard of Oz** on the Big Screen at the Alex. Over the last 100 events, we have only repeated one until now.

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but Ann-Margret drives him wild!**



The sizzling combination of Elvis Presley and vixen Ann-Margret is enough to carry **Viva Las Vegas** over the top, even with several flashy musical numbers, a glamorous locale and one electrifying auto race sequence. Cast also includes Cesare Danova, William Demarest, Nicky Blair and Jack Carter. Produced and Directed by George Sidney. (M-G-M 1964)

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**Alex Film Society**

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