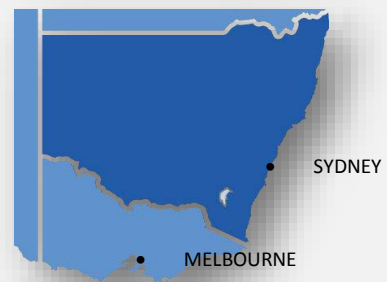


SYDNEY IN 35MM – Part 1

1958 – 1974



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SYDNEY IN 35MM

1958 to 1974 – 70MM SUMMARY

Since the publication on 70mm exhibition in Sydney, a number of readers have asked whether there were differences in the release dates of films screened in 70mm in Sydney and Melbourne. A related question is “whether there were instances where a particular film screened in one city in 70mm and the other in 35mm.”

The table below seeks to address these questions. Listed in order of the Sydney release date [70mm reissues excluded] are the 70mm titles between 1958 and 1974. Where exhibition was in 70mm in both cities, the cells are left uncoloured. Cells coloured blue indicate the use of 35mm prints in at least one (or both) of the cities. The Brown cell denotes where the 70mm season in Melbourne preceded Sydney.

FILM	SYDNEY				MELBOURNE			
	OPENED	CLOSED	WKS	THEATRE	OPENED	CLOSED	WKS	THEATRE
South Pacific	26/12/58	05/06/62	179	Mayfair	05/02/59	22/11/61	152	Esquire
Solomon and Sheba	09/12/59	14/04/60	18	Paris	23/11/61	14/02/62	12	Esquire
Can-Can	16/04/60	08/11/61	82	Paris	15/02/62	28/11/62	40	Esquire
Porgy and Bess	23/06/60	07/12/60	24	Forum	10/06/60	07/12/60	26	Chelsea
Spartacus	08/12/60	22/02/62	63	Forum	09/12/60	03/08/61	34	Chelsea
Oklahoma! – First time in 70mm	09/11/61	25/04/62	24	Paris	29/11/62	03/04/63	18	Esquire
Black Tights	23/02/62	19/04/62	8	Forum	04/08/61	05/10/61	9	Chelsea
The Savage Innocents	28/03/64	09/04/64	2	Victory	22/12/61	29/03/62	14	Chelsea
El Cid	21/04/62	21/03/63	47	Forum	29/03/62	20/12/62	38	Chelsea
The Alamo	26/04/62	10/07/62	11	Paris	04/04/63	29/05/63	8	Esquire
West Side Story	06/06/62	18/09/63	67	Mayfair	07/11/63	28/10/64	50	Esquire
Exodus	11/07/62	05/06/63	47	Paris	31/05/63	06/11/63	23	Esquire
55 Days at Peking	26/07/63	09/07/64	50	Forum	16/08/63	04/06/64	42	Chelsea
Around the World in 80 Days – First time in 70mm	15/08/63	09/10/63	8	Paris	25/07/68	02/10/68	12	Plaza
Barabbas	16/08/63	31/10/63	11	Barclay	06/03/64	21/05/64	11	Forum
The King and I – First time in 70mm	10/10/63	10/12/63	9	Paris	22/10/64	18/11/64	4	Esquire
Lawrence of Arabia	31/10/63	24/12/64	60	Barclay	05/06/64	10/06/65	53	Chelsea
Cleopatra	05/12/63	03/02/65	61	Mayfair	28/02/64	12/04/65	59	Cleopatra
The Fall of the Roman Empire	10/07/64	03/06/65	47	Forum	11/06/65	25/11/65	24	Chelsea
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World	03/12/64	06/04/66	70	Plaza	03/06/65	27/07/66	60	Plaza
The Long Ships	26/12/64	11/03/65	11	Barclay	30/07/65	30/09/65	9	Forum
The Sound of Music	17/04/65	02/10/68	180	Mayfair	17/04/65	11/09/68	178	Paris
Circus World	04/06/65	15/09/65	15	Forum	18/12/64	18/03/65	14	Forum
Lord Jim	10/06/65	09/12/65	26	Barclay	26/11/65	24/03/66	17	Chelsea
My Fair Lady	28/07/65	31/05/67	96	Century	09/12/64	15/09/66	92	My Fair Lady
In Harms Way - First 70mm Panavision Sydney	16/09/65	28/10/65	6	Forum	18/02/66	03/03/66	2	Barclay
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	14/10/65	16/11/66	57	Paris	18/11/65	02/11/66	50	Esquire
Genghis Khan	10/12/65	10/03/66	13	Barclay	25/03/66	09/06/66	11	Chelsea
The Great Race - First 70mm Panavision Melbourne	16/12/65	17/11/66	48	Forum	17/12/65	24/10/66	45	Capitol
The Heroes of Telemark	11/03/66	09/06/66	13	Barclay	10/06/66	18/08/66	10	Chelsea
The Greatest Story Ever Told	06/04/66	14/09/66	23	Plaza	28/07/66	08/02/67	28	Plaza
The Hallelujah Trail	15/09/66	09/11/66	8	Plaza	09/02/67	03/05/67	12	Plaza
Uncle Tom's Cabin	Not Released in Sydney				04/11/66	08/12/66	5	Chelsea
Battle of the Bulge	10/11/66	08/03/67	17	Plaza	04/05/67	26/07/67	12	Plaza
The Agony and the Ecstasy	17/11/66	21/03/67	18	Paris	10/11/66	08/03/67	17	Esquire
Cheyenne Autumn	18/11/66	22/12/66	5	Forum	31/03/67	27/04/67	4	Capitol
Lost Command	23/12/66	02/03/67	10	Forum	19/08/66	06/10/66	7	Chelsea
The Professionals	23/12/66	20/04/67	17	Barclay	23/12/66	23/03/67	13	Chelsea
Is Paris Burning	03/03/67	08/06/67	14	Forum	10/03/67	30/03/67	4	Barclay
Khartoum	09/03/67	12/07/67	18	Plaza	27/07/67	15/11/67	16	Plaza
Gone with the Wind - First time in 70mm	25/03/67	13/09/67	25	Ascot	25/03/67	09/08/67	20	Palladium
The Bible ... In the Beginning	01/06/67	01/11/67	22	Century	26/05/67	01/11/67	23	Capitol
Casino Royale	08/06/67	02/11/67	21	Barclay	09/06/67	19/10/67	19	Chelsea
Grand Prix	13/07/67	27/03/68	37	Plaza	16/11/67	02/05/68	24	Plaza
The Sand Pebbles	01/09/67	25/10/67	8	Paris	13/07/67	01/11/67	16	Esquire
The Dirty Dozen	13/09/67	13/12/67	13	St James	15/12/67	30/08/68	37	Capitol
Camelot	20/12/67	23/10/68	44	Century	21/12/67	06/11/68	47	Palladium
Doctor Dolittle	21/12/67	26/06/68	27	Mayfair	21/12/67	12/06/68	25	Paris
Doctor Zhivago - First time in 70mm	21/12/67	21/02/68	9	Ascot	10/03/69	10/05/69	9	Dendy Brighton
Far From the Madding Crowd	21/02/68	10/07/68	20	Ascot	20/09/68	19/03/69	26	Capitol
2001: A Space Odyssey	01/05/68	24/07/68	12	Plaza	02/05/68	24/07/68	12	Plaza
Guns for San Sebastian	10/05/68	06/06/68	4	Forum	07/06/68	27/06/68	3	Chelsea
Zulu – First time in 70mm	12/07/68	22/08/68	6	Forum	28/04/67	11/05/67	2	Dendy Brighton

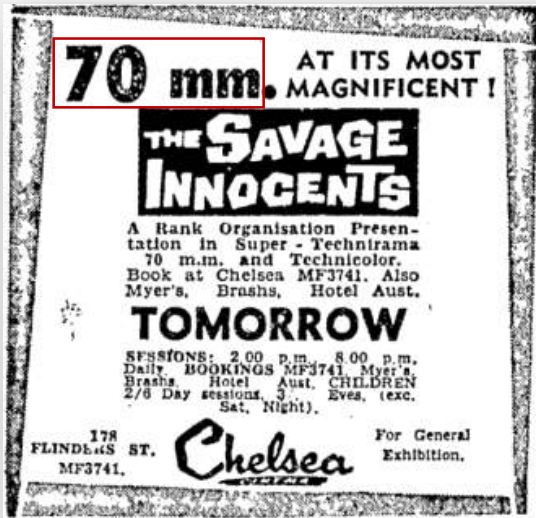
Valley of the Dolls	25/07/68	30/10/68	14	Plaza	13/06/68	25/09/68	15	Paris
Becket – First time in 70mm	04/10/68	31/10/68	4	Forum	13/02/69	08/03/69	4	Dendy Brighton
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers – First time in 70mm	01/11/68	12/12/68	6	Forum	17/10/69	30/10/69	2	Capitol
Hellfighters	13/12/68	24/12/68	2	Ascot	13/12/68	24/12/68	2	Embassy
Ben Hur – First time in 70mm	13/12/68	20/02/69	10	Forum	20/12/68	20/02/69	9	Chelsea
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	19/12/68	04/06/69	24	Paris	19/12/68	12/03/69	12	Regent
Finian's Rainbow	19/12/68	05/03/69	11	Century	27/03/69	21/05/69	8	Paris
<u>Where Eagles Dare</u>	23/01/69	07/05/69	15	St James and Liberty	20/03/69	16/10/69	30	Capitol
Custer of the West	20/02/69	02/04/69	6	Plaza	20/02/69	02/04/69	6	Plaza
Funny Girl	20/03/69	05/03/70	50	Barclay	20/03/69	12/03/70	51	Bercy
Ice Station Zebra	03/04/69	18/06/69	11	Plaza	03/04/69	18/06/69	11	Plaza
Mackenna's Gold	05/04/69	19/06/69	11	Forum	05/04/69	22/09/69	7	Chelsea
Star!	22/05/69	08/10/69	20	Mayfair	24/10/68	26/03/69	22	Paris
The Longest Day - First time in 70mm	05/06/69	02/07/69	4	Paris	05/06/69	25/05/69	3	Regent
Sweet Charity	14/08/69	15/04/70	35	Ascot	23/05/69	07/08/69	11	Chelsea
The Lion in Winter	20/08/69	06/05/70	37	Century	06/08/69	18/02/70	28	Cinema Centre
Those Daring Young Men in their Jaunty Jalopies	02/10/69	19/02/70	20	Forum	07/08/69	06/11/69	13	Chelsea
<u>Alfred the Great</u>	16/10/69	13/11/69	4	St James	04/12/69	24/12/69	3	Capitol
<u>Winning</u>	18/12/69	16/04/70	17	Lyceum	05/12/69	19/03/70	15	Chelsea
Hello, Dolly!	18/12/69	27/05/70	23	Mayfair	18/12/69	24/06/70	27	Cinema Centre
<u>Goodbye Mr Chips</u>	14/01/70	29/04/70	15	St James	15/01/70	26/03/70	10	Capitol
Castle Keep	20/02/70	19/03/70	4	Forum	07/11/69	04/12/69	4	Chelsea
Paint Your Wagon	05/03/70	24/12/70	42	Barclay	15/05/70	23/12/71	84	Barclay
The Wild Bunch	20/03/70	09/07/70	16	Forum	27/11/69	25/05/70	25	Australia
<u>How the West Was Won</u> - First time in 70mm	Not Released in Sydney				27/03/70	08/04/70	2	Capitol
The Jolson Story - First time in 70mm	02/07/70	15/07/70	2	Astra	26/12/69	14/01/70	3	Rivoli
Airport	15/04/70	21/01/71	39	Ascot	16/04/70	22/10/70	27	Chelsea
Marooned	27/05/70	08/07/70	6	Mayfair	25/06/70	05/08/70	6	Cinema Centre
Patton	08/07/70	19/08/70	6	Mayfair	19/03/70	29/04/70	6	Cinema Centre
Cromwell	19/08/70	23/12/70	18	Mayfair	05/11/70	03/03/71	17	Cinema Centre
Waterloo	18/11/70	07/04/71	20	Paris	25/02/71	09/06/71	15	Mid City
Song of Norway	24/12/70	23/06/71	26	Mayfair	03/12/70	23/06/71	29	Cinema Centre
Darling Lili	26/12/70	10/06/71	24	Barclay	26/12/70	08/04/71	15	Chelsea
Ryan's Daughter	21/01/71	23/08/72	83	Ascot	15/01/71	11/10/72	91	Capitol
Too Late the Hero	08/04/71	05/05/71	4	Paris	26/08/71	15/09/71	3	Cinema Centre
Le Mans	21/07/71	28/10/71	14	Barclay	16/07/71	07/10/71	12	Chelsea
Tora! Tora! Tora!	29/07/71	27/10/71	13	Plaza	26/11/70	24/02/71	13	Mid City
The Last Valley	30/09/71	20/10/71	3	Mayfair	30/09/71	20/10/71	3	Mid City
The Great Battle	28/10/71	08/12/71	6	Plaza	10/06/71	14/07/71	5	Palladium
Raid on Rommel	29/10/71	18/11/71	3	Barclay	08/10/71	21/10/71	3	Chelsea
Wild Rovers	19/11/71	09/12/71	3	Barclay	29/10/71	11/11/71	2	Chelsea
<u>El Condor</u>	03/12/71	16/12/71	2	Liberty	31/12/70	03/03/71	9	Australia
Nicholas and Alexandra	07/12/71	14/06/72	27	Paris	09/12/71	12/07/72	31	Cinema Centre
Krakatoa, East of Java	16/12/71	26/01/72	6	Astra	18/12/69	04/02/70	8	Plaza
The Boy Friend	22/12/71	02/03/72	10	Barclay	24/12/71	17/02/72	8	Chelsea
The Cowboys	20/07/72	13/09/72	8	Mayfair	03/08/72	13/09/72	6	Mid City
The Andromeda Strain	25/08/72	21/09/72	4	Ascot	08/03/73	04/04/73	4	Trak
The Poem of Dance	14/09/72	27/09/72	2	Mayfair	25/11/71	15/12/71	3	Trak
Scrooge	17/11/72	30/11/72	2	Forum	11/12/70	28/01/71	7	Odeon
Young Winston	06/12/72	02/05/73	21	Century	14/12/72	14/03/73	13	Cinema Centre
Never Give An Inch	09/02/73	01/03/73	3	Ascot	16/03/73	05/04/73	3	Bryson
The Poseidon Adventure	01/03/73	06/03/74	53	Plaza	22/02/73	20/03/74	56	Cinema Centre
<u>The Great Waltz</u>	08/06/73	13/09/73	14	Liberty	15/12/72	01/03/73	11	Chelsea
<u>Julius Caesar</u> - First time in 70mm	15/08/73	15/08/73	1 Day	Double Bay	27/05/71	09/06/71	2	Trak
Lost Horizon	15/08/73	07/11/73	12	Paris	16/08/73	28/11/73	15	Mid City
The Bridge on the River Kwai - First time in 70mm	11/10/73	31/10/73	3	Mayfair	15/03/73	04/04/73	4	Cinema Centre
The Ten Commandments - First time in 70mm	23/11/73	20/12/73	4	Paramount	31/05/74	08/08/74	10	Chelsea
Tom Sawyer	12/12/73	13/02/74	9	Paris	20/12/73	20/02/74	9	Mid City
Jesus Christ Superstar	21/12/73	04/04/74	15	Paramount	21/12/73	04/04/74	15	Barclay
<u>The Great Caruso</u> - First time in 70mm	17/05/74	17/05/74	1 Day	Opera House	Not Released in Melbourne			
The Three Musketeers	25/07/74	16/10/74	12	Mayfair	29/08/74	13/11/74	11	Mid City
Earthquake	20/12/74	13/11/75	47	Forum	19/12/74	12/11/75	47	East End
That's Entertainment	20/12/74	03/04/75	15	Barclay	06/12/74	10/04/75	18	Forum

The following eleven pages document the films that opened in Melbourne in 70mm and which only played in 35mm in Sydney between 1958 and 1974. Also included at the bottom of each of these eleven pages in order of the 70mm opening, is a brief summary of the Melbourne key city theatres which presented 70mm during the period of the Reserved Seating Engagement. Please note reference is made to **The Heroes of Telemark** on page 5. The film title has been included as a 70mm presentation based on Trevor Walters chronological listing of films that played at the Chelsea cinema in Melbourne. The extract from Trevor's book denoting 70mm exhibition of this film has been added on the same page.

THE SAVAGE INNOCENTS

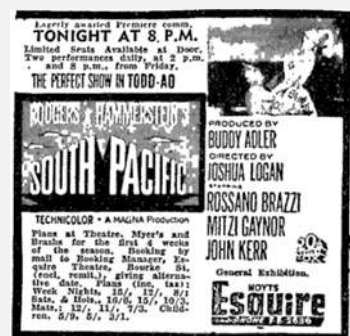
Melbourne – 22nd December 1961 to 29th March 1962 – Season 13 weeks and 6 days ✓

Sydney – 28th March 1964 to 9th April 1964 – Season 1 week and 5 days ✓



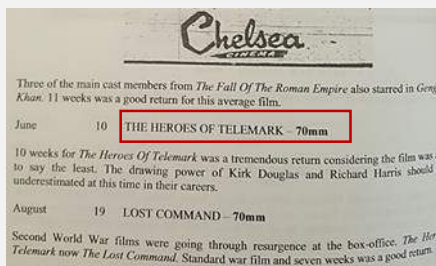
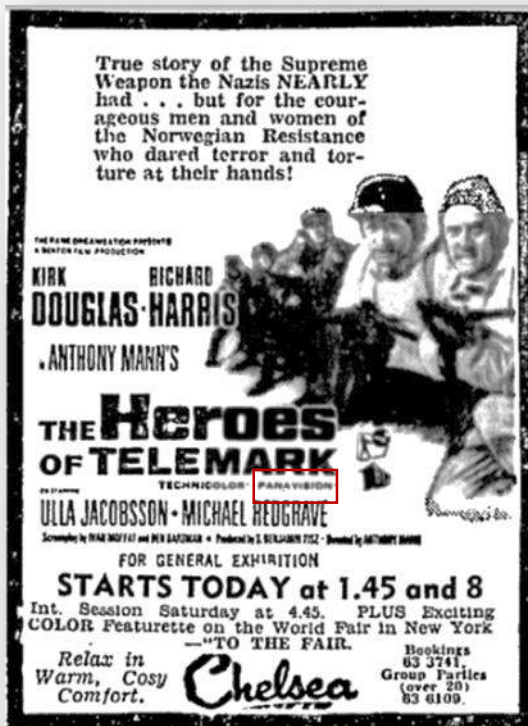
THE SAVAGE INNOCENTS was advertised in 70mm at the Chelsea Cinema and in Technirama at the 35mm equipped Victory theatre in Sydney [renamed the Rapallo on the 16th December 1966].

HOYTS ESQUIRE THEATRE – The Hoyts De Luxe, formally known as St Georges Hall, was located at 238 Bourke Street in Melbourne and opened on the 27th March 1915. The theatre was renamed the Esquire on the 15th November 1946 with *The Spanish Main* as its first attraction. The Esquire presented *Bwana Devil* in 3D on the 14th May 1953 and the first CinemaScope presentation was *Track of the Cat*, which opened on the 23rd November 1955. A gala premiere of the film, *Around the World in 80 Days*, took place at the Esquire on the 30th October, 1957. A 66-week long, 35mm Cinestage season followed at the theatre, which ended on the 31st January 1959. The theatre then closed for four-days, to facilitate the installation of Todd-AO 70mm DP70 projectors for *South Pacific*; the premiere of which took place on the 5th February 1959. The Esquire's longest 35mm season was *Around the World in 80 Days* (66-weeks) followed by *The Graduate* (64-weeks), which commenced on 12th September, 1968. Hoyts flagship cinema sadly closed on the 31st March, 1976; ending with the double feature, *White Line Fever* and *Chosen Survivors*.



THE HEREOS OF TELEMAR

Sydney – 11th March 1966 to 9th June 1966 – Season 12 weeks and 6 days ✓
 Melbourne – 10th June 1966 to 18th August 1966 – Season 9 weeks and 6 days ✓



THE HEREOS OF TELEMAR was advertised in Panavision at the Chelsea and Barclay Cinemas. However, it was noted the film screened in 70mm [see Trevor Walters' book Greater Unions Chelsea Theatre Melbourne 1960-1979] The film preceded the release of **Lost Command** also in 70mm at the Chelsea on the 19th August 1966.

GREATER UNION CHELSEA CINEMA – The Majestic Theatre was located at 178 Flinders Street in Melbourne and opened on the 31st August 1915. The theatre was renovated in 1936 with a Gala Opening Performance of **The Tunnel** starring Leslie Banks on the 24th April 1936. With the State theatre presenting the majority of CinemaScope films for the exhibitor Greater Union [first at the State was **Sign of the Pagan** 25th March 1955], the first CinemaScope presentation at the Majestic was **The Long Gray Line** on the 25th April 1956. The Majestic closed on the 25th February 1960 for the installation of 70mm and reopened on the 10th June 1960 as the Chelsea Cinema with the season of **Porgy and Bess** in 70mm. The Chelsea's longest 35mm season was **The Guns of Navarone** (34 weeks). The Chelsea closed on the 15th November 1979 with the Clint Eastwood double feature, **The Enforcer** plus **The Gauntlet**.



THE DIRTY DOZEN

Sydney – 13th September 1967 to 13th December 1967 – Season 13 weeks and 0 days ✓

Melbourne – 15th December 1967 to 30th August 1968 – Season 37 weeks and 0 days ✓

BOX PLANS NOW OPEN!
EVERYONE is waiting for this excitement-charged, electrifying dramatic triumph!

TOUGH, TREMENDOUS!

New crumming U.S. Theatres and ALL outstanding records!
Dam them or praise them — you'll never forget them!
Explosive drama!

The Dirty Dozen Based on the exciting best-seller

CAST: MARVIN BORGKINE, BRONSON BROWN, CASSAVETES, JAECKEL, KENNEDY, LOPEZ, MEIKER, RYAN, SAVALAS, WALKER, WEBBER

NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

Simultaneous, Simultaneous Openings at 11 CITY & SUBURBAN THEATRES ON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14
ST. JAMES, LIBERTY & METROS

ST. JAMES (28-1451), Castlereagh; St. Box Office: LIBERTY (61-6008), METRO; BOND JUNCTION (18-1253), CROWS NEST (43-1680), METRO; (07-4851), ROSELANDS (759-0649) AND AT METRO TWIN DRIVE-IN CHULLORA

Also at EARLWOOD, HORNSEA, THORNTON, DRIVE-IN PENRITH AND AT KATOONAH.

COMMENCING TOMORROW
SESSIONS — 10.15, 1.30, 4.50 & 8.15

**DAMN THEM OR PRAISE THEM
YOU'LL NEVER FORGET THEM!**

The Dirty Dozen in 70 mm.

METRO GOLDWIN MAYER presents A KONRAD HOFFMAN PRODUCTION

CAST: MARVIN BORGKINE, BRONSON BROWN, CASSAVETES, JAECKEL, KENNEDY, LOPEZ, MEIKER, RYAN, SAVALAS, WALKER, WEBBER

METROCOLOR NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

SATURDAY, 1.30, 4.50 & 8.15 p.m.

SUNDAY AT 8.30 p.m.

MON.-THUR. 10.15, 1.30 & 8.00.
FRI. 10.15, 1.30, 4.50 & 8.15.
BOOKINGS PHONE 63 4756.

CAPITOL 63 4756 SWANSTON STREET

GENEROUS THEATRE PARTY CONCESSIONS (over 20) 63 4756

THE DIRTY DOZEN premiered at the 35mm Sydney St James on the 13th September 1967. Advertised in Metrocolor at the St James and Liberty, **THE DIRTY DOZEN** opened in 70mm at the Capitol theatre in Melbourne.

HOYTS PARIS THEATRE – The Paramount Theatre was located at 243 Bourke Street in Melbourne and opened on the 27th December 1915 with **Rags** starring Mary Pickford. The theatre was renamed the Hoyts Lyceum on the 30th April 1932 with Gary Cooper starring in **His Woman**. Between 1936 and 1944, the Lyceum was operated by the independent exhibitor Snider and Dean and returned to the Hoyts Theatres tabloid advertisements from January 1942. The Lyceum was a late entry into CinemaScope, with **The Black Whip** the cinemas first on the 25th September 1957. The theatre closed on the 5th November 1963 for refurbishment, including the installation of Todd-AO DP70 projectors. The theatre reopened on the 28th February 1964 as the Cleopatra Theatre, with **Cleopatra** screening in 70mm. At the end of the 59 week season of **Cleopatra**, the theatre's name was changed to the Hoyts Paris Theatre for the season of **The Sound of Music** opening on the 17th April 1965 (following a gala premiere on the 14th). There were no long seasons of 35mm during the period the Paris was screening 70mm films. The theatre finally closed on the 28th January 1970 with the reissue of **Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines** in 35mm.

LYCEUM THEATRE
Late Paramount Theatres
2 FIRST RELEASE ATTRACTIONS.
GARY COOPER in
"HIS WOMAN."
Also LORETTA YOUNG in
"TAXI."
(Children 6-18 Not Admitted.)
The EUCHARISTIC FESTIVAL at SUNBURY.
Sessions Continuous from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Evenings at 7.50. Plans at Theatre. Cent.
3025.

LYCEUM MF 1556
'THE BLACK WHIP'
RegalScope. Hugh Marlowe. Colleen Gray. Plus Thrills with Bulldog Drummond in "The Challenge." Tom Conway.
10.45, 1.40, 4.35, 7.45.

ELIZABETH TAYLOR
RICHARD BURTON, REX HARRISON,
in JOSEPH L. MANKIEWICZ
CLEOPATRA
The Ultimate Grand Spectacle
In TODD-AO • Color by Deluxe
COMM. TODAY! 1.30 & 7.45

HOYTS CITY THEATRES
New 4 bookings (10 & 11.30) 13 JULY

REGENT
"GOLDFINGER" (X)
Sean Connery vs JAMES BOND. Hugo Blackman, Shirley Eaton. Plus Features.
10.45, 1.40, 4.45, 8.00.

PIAZZA
"The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm"
An 80 ft and CinemaScope production. 35mm. in Todd-AO.
2.00, 8.15, 11.00, 11.30, 2.00, 8.00, 8.15.

AMESQUIRE
"TOM JONES" (X)
Color
Albert Finney, Susannah York. Todd-AO. 8.00, 10.30, 1.30, 5.00, 8.00, 11.00, 11.30, 2.00, 8.00.

ATHENAEUM
"HOW TO MAKE A FRENCH DISH"
Adults Only. Plus Features.
11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00

THE SOUND OF MUSIC
Todd-AO Color by MELUET
Comm. SATURDAY!
PARIS 10.15, 1.30, 4.50 & 8.15

The Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines COLOR
Daily: 11.00, 2.00, 5.00, 8.00
PARIS
BOURKE ST. 63 1556

WHERE EAGLES DARE

Sydney St James – 23rd January 1969 to 26th March 1969 – Season 8 weeks and 6 days ✓

Sydney Liberty – 27th March 1969 to 7th May 1969 – Season 5 weeks and 6 days ✓

Melbourne – 20th March 1969 to 16th October 1969 – Season 30 weeks and 0 days ✓



WHERE EAGLES DARE was advertised in Metrocolor at the 35mm equipped Sydney St James and Liberty theatres and in 70mm at the Capitol theatre in Melbourne.



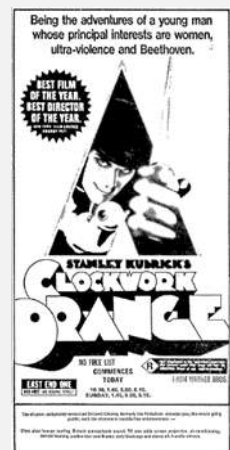
PALLADIUM THEATRE – Out of all the Melbourne city theatres that were refurbished and fitted out for the 70mm presentation, the **My Fair Lady** theatre presents a particular interesting story: from life as a single auditorium to cinema multiplex, presented Sensurround and its association with the growth of the cinema exhibitor Village Cinemas. Located at 100 Bourke Street in Melbourne, the new Palladium Entertainment Centre which was built from a converted department store, consisted of two theatres the My Fair Lady and the Embassy. Operated by Stardawn Investments, **My Fair Lady** premiered on the 9th December 1964. The Warner film concluded its 93 week season on the 14th September 1966. After the season of **My Fair Lady**, the theatre was renamed the Palladium on the 15th September 1966 with the release of **Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf**. Other 35mm openings followed with notable seasons of **Romeo and Juliet** [27 weeks] and **Woodstock** [26 weeks]. There were two other 70mm openings at the Palladium. **The Great Battle** which opened on the 10th June 1971 for a 5 week season and **Camelot** which was initially advertised in Panavision, appeared as a 70mm presentation from the 23rd May 1968 for the balance of its 47 week season.



The Palladium closed on the 17th May 1972 and under the partnership of Stardawn Investments and Village Theatres, the entertainment centre was converted into a multiplex comprising

three theatres which reopened on the 9th June 1972 as East End 1 [the original Palladium theatre] with **Clockwork Orange**, East End 2 [the original Embassy theatre] with **Ulysses** and the East End 3 [built within the foyer of East End 1] opened on the 30th June 1972 with **Some of My Best Friends are ...**

From the 5th April 1973, East End appeared under the banner of Village Cinemas with the last appearance within the exhibitor's tabloid advertising on the 18th June 1986. East End 1 also presented Sensurround in Melbourne with **Earthquake** in 70mm on 19th December 1974, **The Battle of Midway** on 5th August 1976, **Rollercoaster** on 11th August 1977, **Battlestar Galatica** on 7th December 1978 and **Mission Galatica: The Cylon Attack** on 23rd August 1979.



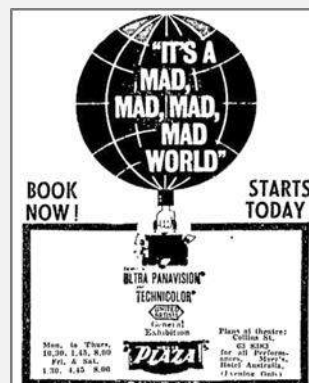
ALFRED THE GREAT

Sydney – 16TH October 1969 to 13TH November 1969 – Season 3 weeks and 6 days ✓
 Melbourne – 4th December 1969 to 24th December 1969 – Season 2 weeks and 6 days ✓



ALFRED THE GREAT was advertised in Metrocolor at the Sydney St James theatre and opened in 70mm at the Capitol theatre in Melbourne.

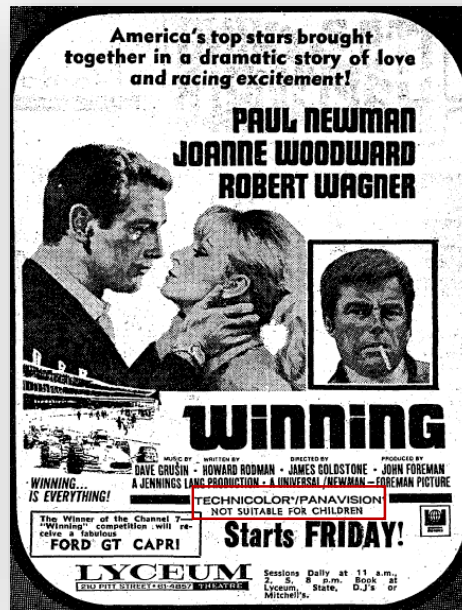
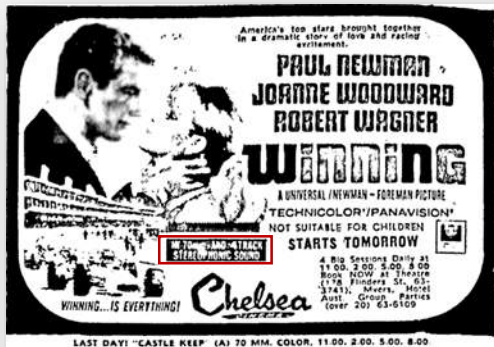
HOYTS PLAZA THEATRE – Opened on the 10th May 1929 with *Alias Jimmy Valentine*. Located at 191 Collins Street in Melbourne, the Plaza was built under the Regent Theatre. On the 29th of April 1945 a fire destroyed the Regent theatre with water used to fight the fire, damaging the Plaza theatre. *Now Voyager* had been screening at the Plaza prior to the fire. The Plaza reopened on the 15th November 1945 with *Roughly Speaking* and its first CinemaScope presentation was *Beneath the Twelve Mile Reef* which commenced on the 17th February 1954. The Plaza closed on the 22nd October 1958 for the installation of three strip Cinerama with *This Is Cinerama* opening on the 26th December 1958. The first single strip 70mm Cinerama presentation was *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World* on the 3rd June 1965. At the time of closure, the Plaza was screening *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* which had opened on the 26th February 1970. The film closed on the 4th November 1970 after a 38 week season and was moved to the Hoyts Cinema Centre when the Plaza theatre closed.



WINNING

Melbourne - 5th December 1969 to 19th March 1970 – Season 14 weeks and 6 days ✓

Sydney - 18th December 1969 to 16th April 1970 – Season 17 weeks and 0 days ✓



WINNING was advertised in 70mm and 4 track stereophonic sound at the Melbourne Chelsea Cinema and in Panavision at the 35mm equipped Lyceum theatre. During the season at the Sydney Lyceum, **Winning** was incorrectly advertised, [as depicted left from the Daily Mirror on the 14th January 1970] in 70mm and 4 Track stereophonic sound. The Lyceum was not equipped for 70mm until the release of **Young Sherlock Holmes** on the 19th December 1985.

CAPITOL THEATRE – Located at 113 Swanston Street in Melbourne, the Capitol theatre was leased to Paramount Pictures with **The Ten Commandments** as the opening attraction on the 7th November 1924. Hoyts acquired the Capitol from Paramount Pictures from the 26th December 1940 with **Irene** as its first attraction. The Capitol's first CinemaScope presentation was **Violent Saturday** which opened as a midnight screening on the 10th June 1955. After Hoyts Theatres ended their lease on the Capitol, the theatre closed on the 5th February 1964 and was refurbished into a single level auditorium incorporating the original circle, stage and proscenium. The stalls area was converted into a retail arcade. With a reduced seating capacity of 791, the new auditorium included 70mm capability with Victoria 8 projectors installed. The Capitol was subsequently reopened by the independent exhibitor, Prudential Theatres on the 12th December 1965 with **The Great Race** screening in 70mm. The Capitol still under the control of Prudential, was included in the Metro cinemas advertising block from the 20th March 1969. This coincided with the 70mm release of **Where Eagles Dare** and the theatre continued under the Metro adverts until the season end of **Ryan's Daughter** on 11th October 1972. Village Cinemas then acquired a controlling interest in the theatre with the Capitol appearing in the Village advertising with **Ash Wednesday** on the 4th July 1974. The Capitol continued to appear under Village adverts until the 16th July 1987; **Flight of the Navigator** and **The Mission** as their last films under the Village banner. The theatre reverted to leasing by independent exhibitors - with a shift in product to art house and Chinese films. The Capitol finally closed in 1997.



GOODBYE, MR CHIPS

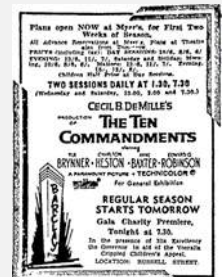
Sydney – 14th January 1970 to 29th April 1970 – Season 15 weeks and 0 days ✓
 Melbourne – 15th January 1970 to 26th March 1970 – Season 9 weeks and 6 days ✓



GOODBYE, MR CHIPS was advertised in 70mm at the Capitol theatre in Melbourne and had a Gala Charity Preview at the 35mm equipped St James theatre in Sydney on the 14th January at 8.15pm.



GREATER UNION BARCLAY – Located at 131 Russell Street in Melbourne on the former site of the Kings theatre [opened in 1908], the *Kings* live theatre venue was remodelled into a cinema opening on the 2nd April 1942 with *Skylark* and *Never Say Die*. The Kings theatre was further remodelled in 1958 and reopened as the Barclay premiering *The Ten Commandments* on the 11th December 1958. To increase its key city hardtop theatre 70mm capability, Greater Union installed Victoria 8 projectors into the Barclay Theatre – which had reopened on the 15th May 1970 after an 8-week long refurbishment programme - with *Paint Your Wagon* in 70mm; the film eventually running an incredible 84-weeks at this venue. Prior to the Barclay closure on the 3rd June 1976 for the construction of the Russell cinemas, the Barclay presented *Jesus Christ Superstar* in 70mm and *The Sting* in 35mm on the 5th April 1974 for a 67 week season. The Russell cinemas opened on the 24th November 1978 with *Death on the Nile*, *International Velvet*, *Pretty Baby*, *The Irishman*, *Candlehoe* and *Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* was presented in 70mm.



GREATER UNION FORUM – The State theatre was located at 154 Flinders Street in Melbourne and opened on the 23rd February 1929. As the flagship venue for Greater Union, the first scope film was *Sign of the Pagan* opening on the 25th March 1955. The State closed on the 1st March 1962 with the theatre split into two theatres. The Forum was built within the stalls and opened on the 23rd April 1964. The upstairs circle was converted into the Rapallo opening on the 20th December 1963. Only the Forum was equipped for 70mm with the installation of the Vic 10 projectors from the Chelsea cinema for the release of *That's Entertainment* on the 5th December 1974. In 1981 the two cinemas were renamed to the Forum 1 and 2 and closed in 1986 with *Back to the Future*, *Plenty* and *The Black Cauldron*.



JULIUS CAESAR

Melbourne – 27th May 1971 to 9th June 1971 – Season 1 week and 6 days ✓

Sydney – 15th August 1973 – Season 0 week and 1 day ✓



Sydney Morning Herald, Monday, August 06, 1973
FESTIVAL OF CLASSICS
 August 9: "ROMEO AND JULIET" (Zeffirelli) (G).
 August 10 and 11: "UNDER MILK WOOD" (Dylan Thomas) (M).
 August 12: "KING LEAR" (Kozintsev) (NR).
 August 13 and 14: "MAN OF ALL SEASONS" (Paul Scofield) (G).
 August 15: "JULIUS CAESAR" (Marlon Brando) (G).
 Sessions each day 2.00, 5.00 and 8 p.m.
 Usual Student Concessions plus special school group party concessions.
BOOK NOW, VILLAGE TWIN, 377 New South Head Road, Double Bay
 Or Phone for further details, 36 1003.

JULIUS CAESAR was reissue in 70mm at the TRAK cinema in Melbourne and presented in 35mm in Sydney within a Festival of Classics at Cinema 1 at Village Twin Double Bay.



HOYTS REGENT THEATRE – Located at 191 Collins Street in Melbourne, the theatre opened on the 15th March 1929 with *Two Lovers* and the first ‘talkies’ at the Regent was the Fox Movietone drama, *The Air Circus*. The Regent was destroyed by a fire on Sunday the 29th April 1945 during the season of *Since You Went Away*. After the theatre was rebuilt to its former glory, the Regent reopened on the 19th December 1947 with *The Homestretch*. On the 16th December 1953, the Hoyts Regent showcased CinemaScope with the premiere of *The Robe*. [The table below lists the first year of CinemaScope at the Regent Melbourne]. The Regent Melbourne was reequipped with Victoria 8 projectors and presented *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* in 70mm on the 19th December 1968. Two other 70mm presentations followed. *The Longest Day* on the 5th June 1969 and *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* was reissued on the 27th August 1969. After the opening of Hoyts Theatres new three screen multiplex, The Cinema Centre on the 4th June 1969, Hoyts Regent in Melbourne closed on the 1st July 1970 with the double feature *The Desparados* plus *Desert Raven*.



FILM	REGENT MELBOURNE	REGENT SYDNEY
The Robe	17/12/53	09/12/53
How to Marry a Millionaire	08/04/54	21/01/54
The Royal Tour of our Queen	20/05/54	13/05/54
King of the Khyber Rifles	03/06/54	08/04/54
Night People	01/07/54	03/06/54
3 Coins in the Fountain	29/07/54	23/12/54
River of No Return	21/10/54	22/07/54
Lucky Me	11/11/54	26/08/54
Garden of Evil	25/11/54	14/10/54
The Egyptian	16/12/54	24/02/55



(*) Green cells are the films which opened in CinemaScope at the Hoyts Plaza Sydney

EL CONDOR

Melbourne – 31st December 1970 to 3rd March 1971 – Season 8 weeks and 6 days ✓

Sydney – 3rd December 1971 to 16th December 1971 – Season 1 week and 6 days ✓



EL CONDOR was advertised in 70mm and Metrocolor at the Australia One in Melbourne and in Metrocolor at the 35mm equipped Sydney Liberty theatre.



HOYTS CINEMA CENTRE – Located at 140 Bourke Street in Melbourne, the new three screen multiplex with Victoria 8 projectors and 70mm capability for all screens, opened on the 4th June 1969 with *Joanna*, *The Thomas Crown Affair* and *For Love of Ivy*. Built on the site of Tye's Furniture store, the Cinema Centre replaced three of the

Hoyts key city hardtops being, the Plaza, Paris and Regent which all closed in 1970. The Cinema Centre presented fifteen [15] 70mm films between 1969 and 1974 surpassing the total number of 70mm presentations at the Hoyts Esquire [see table below]. In 1970 Hoyts Theatres opened the twin cinema *Mid City* in Melbourne on the 26th November 1970 named Cinemas 4 and 5 in keeping with Cinemas 1, 2 and 3 of the Cinema Centre. The longest season 70mm presentation at the Cinema Centre from 1969 to 1974 was *The Poseidon Adventure* for 56 weeks and *Cabaret* the longest 35mm season for 54 weeks.

YEAR	ESQUIRE	PLAZA	PARIS	REGENT	CINEMA CENTRE	MID CITY
1958						
1959	1					
1960	0					
1961	1					
1962	2					
1963	3					
1964	1		1			
1965	1	1	1			
1966	1	1	0			
1967	2	4	1			
1968	0	2	2	1		
1969	1	4	2	2	2	
1970	0	Closed	Closed	Closed	4	1
1971	0				4	3
1972	0				1	1
1973	0				1	3
1974	0				3	1
TOTAL	13	12	7	3	15	9

70mm presentations at Cinema Centre and Mid City from 1975 will be described in *Sydney in 35mm – Part 2*



THE GREAT WALTZ

Melbourne – 15th December 1972 to 1st March 1973 – Season 10 weeks and 6 day ✓

Sydney – 8th June 1973 to 13th September 1973 – Season 13 weeks and 6 days ✓



THE GREAT WALTZ premiered at the Chelsea Cinema Melbourne in 70mm and opened in Sydney at the 35mm equipped Liberty Theatre, **THE GREAT WALTZ** was not reissued in 70mm in Sydney.



HOYTS MID CITY – After the closure of their Regent, Plaza and Paris theatres, the exhibitor Hoyts Theatres had two city hardtops still operational in the Melbourne CBD; these being the Athenaeum and Esquire, as well as their recently opened three screen Hoyts Cinema Centre. In 1970 Hoyts added a new twin cinema which opened on the 26th November as Cinemas 4 and 5 in tandem with Cinemas 1, 2 and 3 of the Cinema Centre. Located at 200 Bourke Street in Melbourne, the 70mm equipped **Mid City** opened with the films **Tora! Tora! Tora!** presented in 70mm and **Women In Love**. A third auditorium, cinema 6 and not equipped for

70mm, was added to **Mid City** on the 11th December 1975 with **The Coming of Seymour**. Interesting with the development of the small and intimate auditoriums in Melbourne, Cinema 6 [confirmed by David Kilderry] was built within the **Mid City** spacious cinema foyer and was serviced by a periscope projection system one floor below in a shopping arcade. Between 1970 and 1974, the longest 70mm seasons were **Waterloo** and **Lost Horizon** for 15 weeks and the longest 35mm season was **A Touch of Class** for 39 weeks.



HOW THE WEST WAS WON

Melbourne Cinerama – 1st January 1963 to 9th December 1964 – Season 101 weeks and 1 day ✓

Melbourne Reissue – 27th March 1970 to 8th April 1970 – Season 1 week and 6 days ✓

Sydney Cinerama - 26th December 1962 to 18th March 1964 – Season 64 weeks and 0 days ✓

Sydney Reissue – 2nd September 1965 to 8th September 1965 – Season 0 weeks and 6 days ✓



HOW THE WEST WAS WON was reissued in 70mm in Melbourne at the Capitol theatre. The film was not reissued in 70mm in Sydney. The first reissue in Sydney comprised a 35mm suburban release to three Metro suburban hard top theatres and the Chullora Twin Drive-in on the 2nd September 1965. **How the West Was Won** was later reissued in a **Festival of Westerns** also in 35mm at the Sydney Capitol theatre on the 9th April 1976.



AUSTRALIA CINEMA – opened in 1939 and was located at 272 Collins Street, Melbourne in the basement of the Australia Hotel. The Australia was operated by Capacity Theatres essentially presenting arthouse cinema and move overs until the cinema closed on Sunday the 10th July, 1966 for a major alterations which included the installation of DP70 projectors for the 70mm presentation. The theatre re-opened on Thursday the 1st September, 1966 with **Marriage, Italian Style**. Its first 70mm feature was a re-issue of **Can-Can**, which opened on the 18th November, 1966 and the notable exclusive 70mm season of **The Wild Bunch** opened on the 27 November, 1969 for 25 weeks. The adjacent Curzon theatre and the Australia was renamed to Australia Twin on the 24th August, 1968 and the longest 35mm season at the Australia Twin was **Deliverance** for 34-weeks in **Australia One** followed by a 5-week move-over to **Australia Two**, before returning to **Australia One** for a further 6-weeks – for a season length of 45-weeks. The Australia Twin appeared under the Village Cinemas banner from the 5th April 1973 and the Australia closed as a Village cinema on the 27th June 1984 with the film **Lassiter**.





SYDNEY IN 35MM

1958 to 1974 – THEATRES SUMMARY

From the listing of 70mm openings in Sydney and Melbourne on pages 2 and 3, the tables below have been compiled to show the total number of 70mm titles by theatre and year between 1958 and 1974. Both of these tables do not include 70mm reissues.

Reading the tables left to right, the first column is the theatre name [the theatre name highlighted in **BLUE** represents a suburban 70mm opening], the second column is the date of the theatres first 70mm opening, the columns 58 to 74 represents the span of years 1958 to 1974 [numbers in each **BROWN** cell are the total of 70mm openings for the theatre / year] and the last column are the total of 70mm openings for each theatre.

MELBOURNE SUMMARY – During the seventeen year period between 1958 and 1974, there were one hundred and six [106] 70mm openings in Melbourne and a total of sixteen [16] theatres which presented a 70mm opening. From these sixteen theatres, the Chelsea theatre had the greater number of 70mm openings with six [6] in 1966 and overall, thirty one [31] 70mm openings over the seventeen year period.

THEATRE NAME	DATE	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	TOTAL	
Esquire	05/02/59		1		1	2	3	1	1	1	1								11	
Chelsea	10/06/60			2	2	1	1	1	2	6	1	2	5	2	4	1		1	31	
Cleopatra / Paris	28/02/64							1	1		1	2	1						6	
My Fair Lady / Palladium / East End 1	10/12/64							1			2				1			1	5	
Plaza	03/05/65								1	1	4	2	3						11	
Capitol	16/12/65								1		3	1	2	1	1				9	
Barclay	10/03/67										1			1			1		3	
Brighton	29/04/67										1		2						3	
Regent	19/12/68											1	1						2	
Cinema Centre	06/08/69												2	4	2	1	2		11	
Australia	27/11/69												1	1					2	
Rivoli	26/12/69												1						1	
Mid City	25/02/71													1	2	1	2	1	7	
TRAK	27/05/71														2				2	
Bryson	16/03/73																	1	1	
Forum	05/12/74																	1	1	
TOTAL THEATRES = 16	13	3		1	2	3	3	4	4	6	8	14	8	18	10	12	3	6	4	106

SYDNEY SUMMARY – During the seventeen year period between 1958 and 1974, there were one hundred and seven [107] 70mm openings in Sydney and a total of ten [10] theatres which presented a 70mm opening. From these ten theatres, the Forum cinema had the greater number of 70mm openings with five [5] in 1968 and overall, twenty three [23] 70mm openings over the seventeen year period.

THEATRE NAME	DATE	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	TOTAL	
Mayfair	26/12/58	1				1	1		1	1	1		2	4	1	2	1	1	16	
Paris	09/12/59		1	1	1	2	2		1	1	1	1	1	1	2		2		17	
Forum	23/06/60			2		2	1	1	3	2	1	5	2	2		1		1	23	
Barclay	16/08/63						2	1	2	1	1		1	2	4			1	15	
Plaza	03/12/64							1	3	2	2	2	2		2		1		15	
Century	28/07/65								1		2	1	1			1			6	
Ascot	25/03/67										2	2	1	2	1	1	1		10	
Astra	02/07/70													1	1				2	
Paramount	23/11/73																2		2	
Sydney Opera House	17/05/74																	1	1	
TOTAL THEATRES = 10	9	1	1	1	3	1	5	6	3	11	6	10	11	10	12	11	5	7	4	107

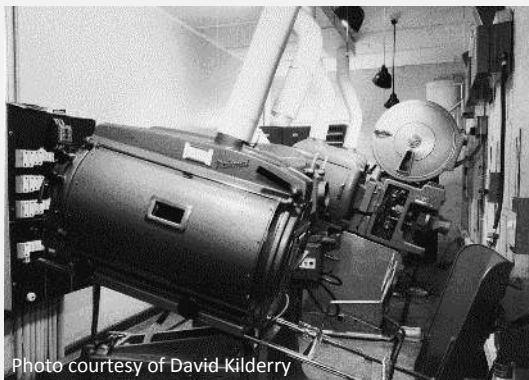


Photo courtesy of David Kilderry

TRIBUTE TO THE CHELSEA, MELBOURNE

With the Sydney Forum cinema and Melbourne Chelsea, the Chelsea was the greater of the two key city theatres with the number of 70mm openings. The photo left is of the 70mm plant at the Chelsea with the Victoria 10 projectors. Both projectors were removed after the 70mm reissue of *The Ten Commandments* which concluded on 8th August 1974 and were installed into the Forum cinema in Melbourne for the season of



That's Entertainment on 5th December 1974. The Chelsea cinema had one further 70mm presentation on the 16th June 1978 with *2001: A Space Odyssey*. For this presentation, the Victoria 8 projectors allocated for the Russell Street cinemas were installed and removed when the Chelsea closed.



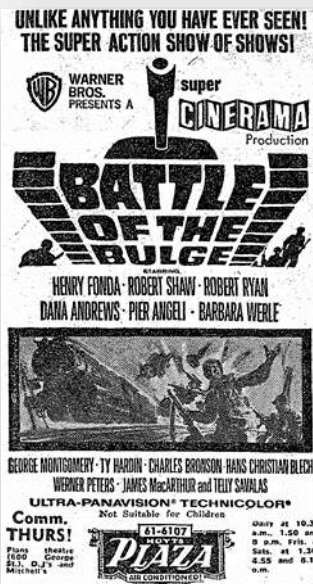
SYDNEY IN 35MM

1958 to 1974 – CINERAMA SUMMARY

During my (DL) research into **SYDNEY IN 70MM**, there were a number of film titles and release dates that I never knew took place in the key city theatres in Sydney. Similarly, with this document which covers film titles released in Sydney and Melbourne and, those which may have screened in 35mm at least one of those cities, I was unaware that **Krakatoa East of Java**, which was released in 70mm at the Astra Theatre in Parramatta, was advertised as screening in Super Cinerama at the Plaza in Melbourne.

The table below summarises the release dates of films advertised as being in both 3-strip and 70mm in Sydney and Melbourne; noting that (1) **The Best of Cinerama** did not screen in Melbourne, (2) **Seven Wonders of the World, Search For Paradise, Windjammer** and **Krakatoa East of Java** opened in Melbourne **PRIOR** to Sydney and (3) that **Battle of the Bulge** was advertised in **Super Cinerama** in both Sydney and Melbourne.

FILM	SYDNEY	CLOSED	THEATRE	MELBOURNE	THEATRE
This Is Cinerama	17/09/58	04/07/59	Plaza	26/12/58	Plaza
Cinerama Holiday	08/07/59	10/08/60	Plaza	21/10/59	Plaza
South Seas Adventure	11/08/60	05/07/61	Plaza	24/08/60	Plaza
Seven Wonders of the World	06/07/61	18/04/62	Plaza	01/06/61	Plaza
Search For Paradise	19/04/62	22/08/62	Plaza	05/04/62	Plaza
Windjammer	22/08/62	24/12/62	Plaza	26/07/62	Plaza
How the West Was Won	26/12/62	18/03/64	Plaza	01/01/63	Plaza
The Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm	19/03/64	09/09/64	Plaza	10/12/64	Plaza
The Best of Cinerama	10/09/64	02/12/64	Plaza	Did not screen in Melbourne	
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World	03/12/64	05/04/66	Plaza	03/06/65	Plaza
The Greatest Story Ever Told	06/04/66	14/09/66	Plaza	28/07/66	Plaza
The Hallelujah Trail	15/09/66	09/11/66	Plaza	09/02/67	Plaza
Battle of the Bulge	10/11/66	08/03/67	Plaza	04/05/67	Plaza
Khartoum	09/03/67	12/07/67	Plaza	27/07/67	Plaza
Grand Prix	13/07/67	23/03/68	Plaza	17/11/67	Plaza
2001: A Space Odyssey	01/05/68	24/07/68	Plaza	02/05/68	Plaza
Custer of the West	20/02/69	02/04/69	Plaza	20/02/69	Plaza
Ice Station Zebra	03/04/69	18/06/69	Plaza	03/04/69	Plaza
Krakatoa East of Java	16/12/71	26/01/72	Astra Parramatta	18/12/69	Plaza



PLEASE NOTE: The table below are the timeline dates and three strip screen size measured in feet at the Plaza theatres in Sydney, 600 George Street and Melbourne, 119 Collins Street.



HOYTS PLAZA THEATRE	SYDNEY	MELB
Plaza Opened	11/04/30	10/05/29
CinemaScope Opened	09/12/53	18/02/54
Cinerama Opened	17/09/58	26/12/58
First 70mm	03/12/64	03/06/65
Cinerama Seating	1030	865
Baker Projection Throw	101	128
Front Chord	58	53
Screen Curve Width	76	64
Screen Curve Depth	21	15
Screen Height	28	23
Screen Degree Curve	146	120
Plaza Closed	29/06/77	04/11/70



When **KRAKATOA EAST OF JAVA** opened in Melbourne on the 18th December 1969 in Super Cinerama, the Cinerama equipped Plaza Sydney was nine weeks into the twenty week season of **The Battle of Britain**. After the season of **KRAKATOA EAST OF JAVA** at the Plaza in Melbourne, the print was despatched to the Plaza Sydney and presented as a closed screening during the season of **The Battle of Britain** [the date of this screening cannot be confirmed by the surviving projectionists]. Due to distributors bookings at the Hoyts Plaza for **Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid** [35mm] followed by **Tora, Tora, Tora** [70mm] and **The Great Battle** [70mm], **KRAKATOA EAST OF JAVA** was not released in Sydney until ninety six weeks after the season in Melbourne at the Sydney suburban 70mm Todd-AO equipped [not in Cinerama] Hoyts Astra Parramatta.



SYDNEY IN 35MM - 35MM DEBUTS COMPARED WITH UK 70MM OPENINGS

The deployment of 35mm prints in Sydney and/or Melbourne was due, in part, to: (1) the non-availability of 70mm at certain Key CBD theatres and/or (2) the often lengthy seasons of films that were road-shown at theatres equipped for 70mm presentation, which, in turn, prevented or delayed the booking of other films at these theatres.

The table below lists the film title that were given a roadshow screening and/ or 70mm presentation in the UK, but which only opened in Sydney and Melbourne in 35mm. In addition as comparison with the UK release date, cells highlighted in **Brown** indicate the 70mm release and those in **Blue** were presented in 35mm.

FILM TITLE	UK OPEN
Ben-Hur	16/12/59
King of Kings	15/11/61
Mutiny on the Bounty	19/11/62
Flying Clipper (*)	04/03/63
Taras Bulba	04/04/63
Bye Bye Birdie	07/11/63
The Cardinal	20/12/63
First Men in the Moon	July 64
The Carpetbaggers	April 64
The Unsinkable Molly Brown	August 64
Operation Crossbow	19/05/65
Marriage on the Rocks	01/11/65
Born Free	14/03/66
Othello	02/05/66
The Blue Max	30/06/66
Hawaii	02/01/67
War and Peace	08/06/67
The Young Girls of Rochefort	06/07/67
Thoroughly Modern Millie	00/10/67
Half a Sixpence	21/12/67
The Comedians	18/01/68
The Charge of the Light Brigade	11/04/68
Playtime	14/07/68
Mayerling	05/10/68
Shalako	11/12/68
Anne of the Thousand Days	23/02/70
The Adventurers	16/04/70
Woodstock	07/05/70
Kelly's Heroes	17/09/70
Two Mules for Sister Sara	15/11/70
The Horsemen	22/07/71
The Devils	25/07/71
Brewster McCloud	August 1971
Fiddler on the Roof	08/12/71
Antony and Cleopatra	02/03/72
Mary, Queen of Scots	27/03/72
The Revengers	31/05/72
The Shoes of the Fisherman	08/06/72
The Concert for Bangladesh	01/07/72
Jeremiah Johnson	06/10/72
Silent Running	28/10/72
Light at the Edge of the World	December 1972
Man of La Mancha	20/12/72
The Taming of the Shrew	15/02/73
The Neptune Factor	12/07/73
Let the Good Times Roll	01/08/73
Papillon	11/03/74
The Trial of Billy Jack	December 1974

SYDNEY	THEATRE	MELBOURNE	THEATRE
06/05/60	St James	12/05/60	Bourke St
08/12/61	St James	08/12/61	Bourke St
18/01/63	St James	09/01/63	Bourke St
29/10/65	Forum	28/01/66	Rapallo
06/06/63	Paris	12/10/64	Regent
27/09/63	State	19/06/64	Rapallo
12/06/64	Lido	15/01/65	Rapallo
07/01/65	Capitol	26/12/64	Grosvenor
17/02/65	Prince Edward	18/03/65	Barclay
17/12/64	St James	18/12/64	Collins St
30/06/65	St James	01/07/65	Collins St
08/06/66	Ascot	01/07/66	Tivoli
22/07/66	Barclay	12/08/66	Bercy
14/04/67	Savoy	07/10/66	Grosvenor
22/12/66	Town	09/03/67	Esquire
23/03/67	Paris	15/12/66	Athenaeum
20/06/69	Forum	26/12/68	Rivoli
13/04/68	Kings Cross	09/09/68	Embassy
19/10/67	Lyceum	20/10/67	Chelsea
26/07/68	Lyceum	02/08/68	Chelsea
11/01/68	St James	31/10/68	Bourke St
31/10/68	Plaza	07/11/68	Plaza
01/08/69	Savoy	26/12/68	Australia
30/04/70	Embassy	13/03/70	Bercy
19/12/68	State	28/03/69	Rapallo
23/10/70	Lyceum	24/04/70	Bercy
25/06/70	Paramount	16/10/70	Bercy
21/08/70	Forum	21/08/70	Palladium
10/09/70	St James	10/09/70	Bourke St
23/10/70	State	22/01/71	Forum
04/11/71	Century	23/09/71	Esquire
03/03/72	Kings Cross	24/02/72	Australia
17/09/71	Liberty	09/09/71	Collins St
15/12/71	Century	16/12/71	Cinema Centre
20/04/77	New Arts Glebe	20/06/77	Trak
20/04/72	Lyceum	28/04/72	Bercy
28/07/72	Forum	14/07/72	Rapallo
27/03/69	St James	27/03/69	Bourke St
29/06/72	Regent	10/08/72	Esquire
22/09/72	Forum	15/09/72	Bercy
03/03/79	Walker St	03/11/72	Forum
14/04/72	Liberty	25/05/72	Collins St
14/12/72	Paris	14/12/72	Cinema Centre
03/11/67	Barclay	03/11/67	Bercy
26/12/74	Capitol	18/12/75	Camberwell
30/08/73	Town	16/08/73	Esquire
07/03/74	Plaza	04/04/74	Cinema Centre
28/03/75	Cinema City	27/03/75	Swanston

- Holiday in Spain
- La Fayette
- Run, Run, Joe!
- The Black Tulip
- The Flaming Years
- The Golden Head
- This is Cinerama [70mm]

A rigorous assessment of the availability of 70mm prints from overseas sources would, of necessity, include the United States. However, given that: (1) most 70mm prints in Australia came from the UK, and (2) the uncertainties concerning the availability of 70mm prints for initial reserved seat engagements in the United States between 1958 and 1974, the authors have decided to confine comparisons with London releases (only). The table to the left documents a number of foreign films, along with *This Is Cinerama*, that were exhibited in 70mm in London, but which were not released in 70mm or 35mm in Sydney or Melbourne. Three films *Bolshoi Ballet: Secret of Success*, *The Sleeping Beauty* and *Tchaikovsky* presented in 70mm in London, received limited 35mm engagements Sydney and Melbourne.



SYDNEY IN 35MM

REISSUES SUMMARY

The following three pages in order of the Sydney release date, lists the 70mm reissue between 1958 and 1974. The purpose for these pages is to highlight the extent of 70mm reissues in both cities key city and suburban theatres and where the 35mm print were substituted for reissues in either city. From the one hundred and seventy eight [178] reissues, there were eight [8] film titles which were not reissued in 70mm in Sydney. These films have been identified by the **Blue** cell colour.

Many thanks to Greg Beasley, Eric White and David Kilderry for their assistance in establishing these release dates sourced from The Age and Sydney Morning Herald.

FILM	SYDNEY REISSUES		MELBOURNE REISSUES	
Oklahoma! – First time in 70mm	09/11/61	Paris		
South Pacific	23/08/62	Astra		
Oklahoma!			29/11/62	Esquire
Around the World in 80 Days – First time in 70mm	15/08/63	Paris		
The King and I – First time in 70mm	10/10/63	Paris		
West Side Story	31/10/63	Astra		
South Pacific	14/11/63	Mayfair		
The King and I			22/10/64	Esquire
Cleopatra	20/05/65	Astra		
Can-Can			19/11/66	Australia
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	01/12/66	Astra		
Cleopatra			02/12/66	Australia
EL Cid			09/12/66	Chelsea
My Fair Lady			22/12/66	Palladium
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World			30/12/66	Brighton
The Greatest Story Ever Told	05/01/67	Astra		
Lawrence of Arabia			16/02/67	Palladium
The Great Race	23/03/67	Astra		
Gone with the Wind – First time in 70mm	25/03/67	Ascot	25/03/67	Paris
My Fair Lady			30/03/67	Rivoli
The Agony and the Ecstasy	20/04/67	Astra		
Zulu – First time in 70mm			28/04/67	Brighton
The Great Race			01/06/67	Rivoli
My Fair Lady	08/06/67	Astra		
South Pacific	09/06/67	Forum		
Battle of the Bulge	03/08/67	Astra		
Gone with the Wind			10/08/67	Rivoli
Cheyenne Autumn			21/09/67	Rivoli
Gone with the Wind	28/09/67	Astra		
Khartoum	02/11/67	Astra		
Russian Adventure – First time in 70mm			07/11/67	Brighton
The Bible In the Beginning	16/11/67	Astra		
My Fair Lady			23/11/67	Brighton
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World			23/11/67	Rivoli
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	30/11/67	Paris		
The Sand Pebbles	07/12/67	Astra		
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines			14/12/67	Brighton
Doctor Zhivago – First time in 70mm	21/12/67	Ascot		
Oklahoma!			28/12/67	Brighton
South Pacific			29/12/67	Australia
My Fair Lady			25/02/68	Rivoli
Oklahoma!			07/03/68	Rivoli
Doctor Zhivago	14/03/68	Astra		
Gone with the Wind	28/03/68	Plaza		
Oklahoma!	13/04/68	Forum		
South Pacific			02/05/68	Rivoli
Grand Prix	06/06/68	Astra		
Zulu	12/07/68	Forum		
Far From the Madding Crowd	18/07/68	Astra		
Around the World in 80 Days			25/07/68	Plaza
Doctor Dolittle	22/08/68	Astra		

Becket – First time in 70mm	04/10/68	Forum		
The Sound of Music	10/10/68	Astra		
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers – First time in 70mm	01/11/68	Forum		
Ben Hur – First time in 70mm	13/12/68	Forum	20/12/68	Chelsea
Spartacus	26/12/68	Ascot		
2001: A Space Odyssey			26/12/68	Brighton
Camelot	13/02/69	Astra		
Becket			13/02/69	Brighton
55 Days at Peking	21/02/69	Forum	21/02/69	Chelsea
Doctor Zhivago			10/03/69	Brighton
The Longest Day – First time in 70mm	05/06/69	Paris	05/06/69	Regent
West Side Story	19/06/69	Plaza		
West Side Story			31/07/69	Plaza
Around the World in 80 Days	14/08/69	Plaza		
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang			27/08/69	Regent
Valley of the Dolls plus Prudence and the Pill			11/09/69	Paris
Star!	16/10/69	Astra		
Mackenna's Gold	06/11/69	Astra		
Those Daring Young Men in their Jaunty Jalopies			06/11/69	Rivoli
Custer of the West	13/11/69	Astra		
West Side Story	20/11/69	Astra		
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	11/12/69	Astra		
Around the World in 80 Days	26/12/69	Astra		
Gone with the Wind			26/12/69	Capitol
The Jolson Story - First time in 70mm			26/12/69	Rivoli
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines			08/01/70	Paris
My Fair Lady			16/02/70	Palladium
Spartacus			20/03/70	Chelsea
How the West Was Won - First time in 70mm			28/03/70	Capitol
Funny Girl	02/04/70	Astra		
The Lion in Winter	11/06/70	Astra		
Zulu			25/06/70	Palladium
The Jolson Story	02/07/70	Astra		
Hello, Dolly!	16/07/70	Astra		
The Sand Pebbles			30/07/70	Capitol
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines			20/08/70	Capitol
Marooned	27/08/70	Astra		
The Great Race			27/08/70	Trak
Patton	17/09/70	Astra		
2001: A Space Odyssey			22/10/70	Trak
Cromwell	24/12/70	Astra		
Paint Your Wagon	25/03/71	Astra		
Waterloo	08/04/71	Astra		
My Fair Lady			29/04/71	Trak
Julius Caesar - First time in 70mm			27/05/71	Trak
2001: A Space Odyssey			10/06/71	Trak
Too Late the Hero	17/06/71	Astra		
Song of Norway	24/06/71	Astra		
2001: A Space Odyssey			08/07/71	Trak
Lawrence of Arabia	08/07/71	Mayfair	15/07/71	Mid City
Battle of the Bulge			15/07/71	Palladium
Gone with the Wind			16/07/71	Australia
Airport	19/08/71	Astra		
Gone with the Wind			09/09/71	Rivoli
2001: A Space Odyssey			09/09/71	Trak
Lawrence of Arabia	14/10/71	Astra		
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World	21/10/71	Mayfair	16/09/71	Cinema Centre
Tora! Tora! Tora!	28/10/71	Astra		
Gone with the Wind			12/11/71	Chelsea
The Last Valley	18/11/71	Astra		
Ben-Hur			19/11/71	Chelsea
2001: A Space Odyssey			26/11/71	Chelsea
The Sound of Music	02/12/71	Mayfair	09/12/71	Cinema Centre
Camelot			03/12/71	Palladium
Camelot			16/12/71	Trak
Paint Your Wagon			30/12/71	Trak

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World	27/01/72	Astra		
The Great Battle	17/02/72	Astra		
Camelot			03/03/72	Chelsea
The Sound of Music	23/03/72	Astra		
Nicholas & Alexandra	15/06/72	Astra		
2001: A Space Odyssey	11/08/72	Forum		
2001: A Space Odyssey	06/10/72	Forum		
2001: A Space Odyssey			02/11/72	Trak
Patton			30/11/72	Brighton
Gone with the Wind	01/12/72	Forum		
Spartacus			02/12/72	Chelsea
The Professionals	07/12/72	Plaza		
The Professionals			08/02/73	Mid City
Ryan's Daughter	08/03/73	Astra		
The Andromeda Strain			08/03/73	Trak
The Bridge on the River Kwai - <i>First time in 70mm</i>			15/03/73	Cinema Centre
2001: A Space Odyssey			18/04/73	Trak
Young Winston	03/05/73	Astra		
2001: A Space Odyssey			10/05/73	Trak
West Side Story			15/06/73	Capitol
2001: A Space Odyssey	30/09/73	Village Double Bay		
The Bridge on the River Kwai	11/10/73	Mayfair		
2001: A Space Odyssey			11/10/73	Trak
Paint Your Wagon			25/10/73	Capitol
West Side Story	15/11/73	Mayfair		
Ryan's Daughter			23/11/73	Chelsea
The Ten Commandments - <i>First time in 70mm</i>	23/11/73	Paramount		
Paint Your Wagon			06/12/73	Capitol
Ryan's Daughter	07/12/73	Forum		
2001: A Space Odyssey			13/12/73	Brighton
Lost Horizon	27/12/73	Astra		
The Great Caruso - <i>First time in 70mm</i>	17/05/74	Opera House		
The Ten Commandments			31/05/74	Chelsea
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	29/08/74	Astra		
My Fair Lady	19/09/74	Paris	03/10/74	Cinema Centre
The Wild Bunch			17/10/74	Capitol
Hello Dolly plus Star!	27/10/74	Village Cinema City		
The Great Caruso	03/11/74	Village Cinema City		
The Sound of Music	10/11/74	Village Cinema City		
The Sound of Music plus Hello, Dolly!	14/11/74	Mayfair	21/11/74	Cinema Centre
West Side Story	17/11/74	Village Cinema City		
My Fair Lady	21/11/74	Astra		
Sweet Charity	24/11/74	Village Cinema City		
2001: A Space Odyssey			28/11/74	Trak
Seven Brides For Seven Brothers	01/12/74	Village Cinema City		
2001: A Space Odyssey	05/12/74	Astra		
2001: A Space Odyssey	06/12/74	Village Cinema City		
2001: A Space Odyssey			14/12/74	Brighton
The Sound of Music plus Hello, Dolly!	19/12/74	Paris		



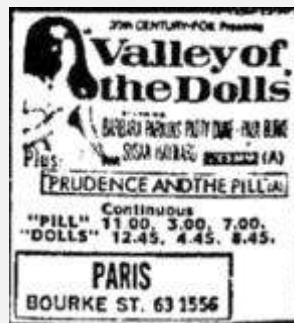
BRYSON CINEMA - Located at 184 Exhibition Street in Melbourne and on the first floor of the Bryson Hotel building, the Bryson which was equipped for 70mm with Victoria 8 projectors, opened on the 8th December 1972 with *Where Does it Hurt* starring Peter Sellers. The Bryson was the second cinema established as a joint venture project with Universal MCA, the first was with the Sydney Ascot theatre. The Melbourne JV was with Capacity Cinemas who at the time operated the Capitol theatre and the former Century newsreel, renamed Capitol 2. During this time only one film

was presented in 70mm, *Never Give an Inch* [aka Sometimes a Great Nation] opened on the 16th March 1973. The Bryson was advertised under the Village Group with *Hennessy* from the 4th December 1975 and reverted to an independent exhibitor in March 1983.

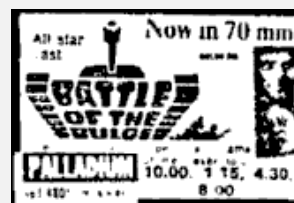
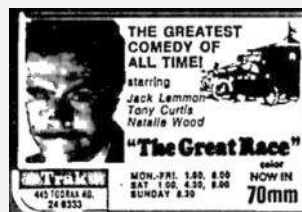


FILM	SYD	MELB	TOTAL
2001: A Space Odyssey	4	13	17
55 Days at Peking	1	1	2
Agony and the Ecstasy, The	1	0	1
Airport	1	0	1
Andromeda Strain, The	0	1	1
Around the World in 80 Days	3	1	4
Battle of the Bulge	1	1	2
Becket	1	1	2
Ben-Hur	1	2	3
Bible ... in the Beginning	1	0	1
Bridge on the River Kwai, The	1	1	2
Camelot	1	3	4
Can-Can	0	1	1
Cheyenne Autumn	0	1	1
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	1	1	2
Cleopatra	1	1	2
Cromwell	1	0	1
Custer of the West	1	0	1
Doctor Zhivago	2	1	3
El Cid	0	1	1
Far From the Madding Crowd	1	0	1
Funny Girl	1	0	1
Gone with the Wind	4	5	9
Grand Prix	1	0	1
Great Battle, The	1	0	1
Great Caruso, The	2	0	2
Greatest Story Ever Told, The	1	0	1
Great Race, The	1	2	3
Hello' Dolly!	4	1	5
How the West Was Won	0	1	1
It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World	2	3	5
Jolson Story, The	1	1	2
Julius Caesar	0	1	1
Khartoum	1	0	1
King and I, The	1	1	2
Lawrence of Arabia	2	2	4
Last Valley, The	1	0	1
Lion in Winter, The	1	0	1
Longest Day, The	1	1	2
Lost Horizon	1	0	1
Mackenna's Gold	1	0	1
Marooned	1	0	1
My Fair Lady	3	7	10
Nicholas and Alexandra	1	0	1
Oklahoma!	2	3	5
Paint Your Wagon	1	3	4
Patton	1	1	2
Professionals, The	1	1	2
Russian Adventure	0	1	1
Ryan's Daughter	1	1	2
Sand Pebbles, The	1	1	2
Seven Brides for Seven Brothers	2	0	2
Song of Norway	1	0	1
Sound of Music, The	6	2	8
South Pacific	3	2	5
Spartacus	1	2	3
Star!	2	0	2
Sweet Charity	1	0	1
Ten Commandments, The	1	1	2
Those Daring Young Men in their Jaunty Jalopies	0	1	1
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	3	3	6
Three Musketeers, The	1	0	1
Too Late the Hero	1	0	1
Tora! Tora! Tora	1	0	1
Valley of the Dolls	0	1	1
Waterloo	1	0	1
West Side Story	5	2	7
Wild Bunch, The	0	1	1
Young Winston	1	0	1
Zulu	1	2	3
TOTAL	95	83	178

The table above includes the total number of reissues for Sydney and Melbourne key city theatres.



FILM SUMMARY – The table to the left lists the 70mm film titles that were reissued between 1958 and 1974 in Sydney and in Melbourne at their key city theatres. The table has two columns representing the number of reissues for each film for Sydney and Melbourne. Both of these columns have been tallied to show the total number of reissues.



REISSUE SUMMARY - During the Reserved Seating Engagement period (1958 to 1974), *2001: A Space Odyssey* was reissued in 70mm on sixteen [16] occasions – 12 times in Melbourne and four in Sydney. After the initial, and essentially simultaneous, 12 week Cinerama seasons at the Sydney and Melbourne Plaza theatres, the film was first reissued in 70mm at the independently operated Dendy Brighton on the 26th December 1968. Of the 12 reissues in Melbourne, the Trak cinema in Toorak had the longest season on the 2nd November 1972 for a 10 week season.



THEATRE	EXHIBITOR	KEY CITY	TOTAL
Ascot	Independent	Sydney	3
Astra Parramatta	Hoyts	Sydney	50
Australia	Independent	Melbourne	4
Barclay	Greater Union	Sydney	0
Brighton	Independent	Melbourne	12
Capitol	Independent	Melbourne	8
Century	Hoyts	Sydney	0
Chelsea	Greater Union	Melbourne	11
Cinema Centre	Hoyts	Melbourne	5
Esquire	Hoyts	Melbourne	2
Forum	Greater Union	Sydney	10
Mayfair	Hoyts	Sydney	8
Mid City	Hoyts	Melbourne	2
Opera House	Independent	Sydney	1
Palladium	Independent	Melbourne	6
Paramount	Greater Union	Sydney	1
Paris	Hoyts	Melbourne	3
Paris	Hoyts	Sydney	8
Plaza	Hoyts	Melbourne	2
Plaza	Hoyts	Sydney	4
Regent	Hoyts	Melbourne	2
Rivoli	Independent	Melbourne	11
Trak	Village	Melbourne	15
Village Double Bay	Village	Sydney	2
Village Cinema City	Village	Sydney	8
TOTAL			178

THEATRES SUMMARY – This final page on the 70mm reissue lists the suburban and key city theatres respective exhibitors responsible for the 70mm reissues in Sydney and Melbourne. Of the twenty five [25] theatres listed, the **Hoyts Astra Theatre Parramatta** located in the western suburbs of Sydney, presented the greater number of reissues totalling fifty [50].

“SOUTH PACIFIC” IN TODD-AO!
 Don't miss the Gala Hollywood style opening night—brass bands—marching girls—the glamour and glitter of floodlights, etc.
ASTRA, P' MATTA, TOMORROW, 1.30 & 8 p.m.
 The only suburban theatre in Australia equipped to present South Pacific in Todd-AO. For an exclusive extended season. Phone 635-0620 for res. (Check class. cols. for session details.)



A wonderful cinema technician once told me, every projectionist who has worked in cinema has a story to tell and a book to write. And you know, Peter Williams was right and I am so grateful to my employers past and fellow projectionists who have taught me the appreciation and art of being a cinema projectionist. As Hoyts and Greater Union, Village, Dendy, Palace and the Independent were my employers, my appreciation of the content we presented remains as the era of the Reserved Seating Engagement of 1958 to 1974 in 70mm ... *Doug Loudon*

The publications on Sydney in 70mm and this chapter on Sydney in 35mm, has centred on the key city theatre hardtops of Sydney and Melbourne. When researching these documents, there was also the realisation and the importance of the key city suburban theatre, Hoyts Astra Parramatta which presented the marquee reissue of 70mm.

Hoyts Astra Parramatta opened on the 21st November 1935 and was located in the western suburb of Sydney at 32 Macquarie Street, Parramatta. The Astra Parramatta was refurbished for 70mm in 1962 with the reissue of **South Pacific** as its first 70mm attraction on the 23rd August 1962. Equipped for Todd-AO with Victoria 10 projectors, the Hoyts Astra Parramatta was a unique identity during the era of the Reserved Seating Engagement presenting an impressive listing of fifty [50] 70mm film titles which were reissued between 1962 and 1974.



During the era of the Reserved Seating Engagement, there was only one other key city suburban cinema in Sydney which presented 70mm. **Village Twin Double Bay**, formerly known as the Vogue Cinema in the Eastern Suburbs of Double Bay, the Village Twin opened on the 1st December 1972 with **Deliverance** and **The Emigrants**. Equipped with Bauer U3 projectors in their Cinema 1 auditorium, the first 70mm presentation was a Sunday screening of **2001: A Space Odyssey** on the 30th September 1973. This was followed by a 6-week long season (also in 70mm) later the same year.”

TODAY VILLAGE CINEMAS

What did happen on the Cahulawassee River?
 JON VOIGHT BURT REYNOLDS
Deliverance
 Today 4, 6.15, 8.30.
 (Feature entire programme.)

...a masterpiece and a classic...
 Sun-Herald
 Max von Sydow
 Liv Ullmann
The Emigrants
 Today 2, 5, 8.
 (Feature entire programme.)

COLOR **1** **VILLAGE TWIN** AIR-CONDITIONED - 377 NEW SOUTH HEAD RD. DOUBLE BAY. PHONE 36 1003 **2** COLOR

SANDY DENNIS KERR DULLEA ANNE HEYWOOD TULL L. WATKINSON
FOX
 the arrangement
 Today 6.30 pm. Nightly 7.30. (969 5186.)

CLASSIC
 9 SPIT ROAD
 MOSMAN

[RETURN TO PAGE 1](#)