Internet resources for film and television

By Anthony J. Adam

Try out Alien Homepage or Professor Neon’s TV & Movie Mania

The proliferation of film and TV sites on the Internet reflects the high entertainment value of this resource. Many of the following sites should be popular with both academic and public users, especially the film review and television show homepages. However, a number of professional organizations have developed excellent sites which should be useful for serious researchers. This article includes only a small sample of the hundreds of current sites.

I focus on World Wide Web (WWW) sites primarily because they reflect the elegance and richness of the Internet as a public search tool, although I also include a few bulletin board (bbs)/mailing list sites for patrons with e-mail. As many of the following titles give little clue as to what the site holds, I have also briefly annotated each entry. In general, the studio sites are poor tools, with few coming attractions and almost nonexistent press information. Conversely, such academic sites as Cardiff and Screensite deserve special mention for their high quality and ease of use. Finally, a caveat: the majority of these sites require audiovisual software for full utilization; however, anyone who has tried to download even a one-minute film clip knows it normally isn’t worth the time and effort. It probably is not a good idea to have students tying up terminal time watching Jim Carrey highlights.

I’d like to thank Casey Hopkins of the Cabinet of Dr. Case for his input!

Ed. note: A few abbreviations are used throughout the article. FAQ means frequently asked questions; GIF means graphic interface file.

General link sites

- CinemaSpace. Includes the journal CinemaSpace, plus information on film studies resources, and a lecture on “Cinema and Beyond.” Access: http://remarque.berkeley.edu:8001/~xcohen.
- Screensite: Film & TV Studies. This site offers almost everything anyone would want to know about the field, including educational resources (syllabi, textbook samplings), school information, job postings, archives, studio information, and links to almost every other site. The starting point for film/TV studies (along with Yahoo). Access: http://www.sa.ua.edu/TCF/welcome.html.
- TV Net. Access to almost any network around the world, plus highlighted materials (e.g., the O. J. Simpson trial). This is an excellent starting point for TV programs. It claims

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- **Yahoo.** The central gathering point for all film and television related material, including all sites on this list. Access: http://www.yahoo.com/Entertainment.

**Organizations**

- **Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences.** Information on the Academy itself; also a prime Oscar site, along with http://guide.oscars.org. Access: http://www.ampas.org/ampas.

- **FCC.** Mostly gopher material, including speeches, the Daily Digest, fees, mass media materials; provides WAIS searcher. Access: http://fcc.gov.


- **National Student Television Association Homepage.** NaSTA is the parent organization for British student TV networks. The site includes links to Britain's Channel 4, the BBC, Scandinavian student TV sites, and Polish Public Television. Access: http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk:80/~amw/NaSTA.

**Individual films and genres**

- **Alien Homepage.** Unusual (and bloody) GIFs, FAQ lists, and Giger information for all three *Alien* films, plus rumors concerning *Alien 4*. Access: http://dutial.twi.tudelft.nl/~alien/alien.html.

- **Cabinet of Dr. Casey.** A prime source for horror movie information, past and present, with links to other nonhorror sites; some audio and video. Access: http://www.ee.pdx.edu:80/~casey/horror.

- **Brennon Rankin's Cult Movie Site.** Links to information on many new and old cult movies; see also the Cult Shop (http://www.public.iastate.edu/~abormann) for new cult movies and stars. Access: http://www.pub.utdallas.edu:80/~brankin.


- **Hong Kong Movies Homepage.** Everything you'd want to know about Hong Kong (e.g., John Woo) films. Access: http://www.mstdud.chalmers.se/hkmovie.

- **James Bond Homepage.** Excellent information on all Bond movies, actors, and plots, including some audio. Access: http://www.dur.ac.uk/~dcs3pj/b/jbhome.html.


- **Star Trek (Mr. Video Productions).** Handy information on films and TV series; great GIFs; many links to other sites. Access: http://www.fms.com/vidiot.

- **Star Wars Multimedia WWW Page.** Focuses on *Star Wars* films (including the upcoming *A New Hope*), some script information, and audiovisual; includes material on the *Star Wars* TV series. Access: http://bantha.pc.cc.emu.edu:1138/SW-HOME.html.

- **The VAMPYRES Film List.** Synopses and biographical information on almost every vampire film, series, and cartoon ever made. Access: http://ubu.hahnemann.edu/Misc/vampmov.html.

**Film directors**

- **Alfred Hitchcock's WWW.** A good example of what a personality site should be. It
lists all the films, performances, and cameos, and information on ice blondes and favorite actors. Access: http://nextdch.mty.itesm.mx/-plopezg/kaplan/hitchcock.html.


**Film reviews**

- **Cardiff Movie Database Browser (a.k.a. Internet Movie Database).** Perform title, actor, genre, production company, etc., searches on 40,000-plus movies, past and present. Users can add information as needed. Includes some TV information and links to other sites. Access: http://www.msstate.edu/movies.

- **Foresight Entertainments Centre.** A quick link to new movies. Access: http://www.foresight.co.uk/ents.


- **Professor Neon’s TV & Movie Mania.** A good site for audio and video clips from numerous movies, including bombs and foreign films. Access: http://www.vortex.com/ProfNeon.html.


- **Video: The Video and Movie Reviews Database.** User-posted reviews of movies primarily released since 1987. Access: gopher://isumvs.iastate.edu/1%7EDB.video.

**Film studios**


- **Paramount/Viacom.** Features only Star Trek: Voyager information; hear Kate Mulgrew, see episode clips, read Captain’s Log. Access: http://paramount.com or http://voyager.paramount.com.

**Television networks**

- **BBC.** Daily program schedules, job postings, online BBC magazines, and background information. Access: http://www.bbcnc.org.uk.


- **PBS.** Monthly program listings, news, and job postings with links to other PBS program homepages (e.g., Reading Rainbow). Access: http://www.pbs.org.

- **Sci-Fi Channel.** This site has primarily time and date show postings. Access: http://www.scifi.com.


Television news

Television shows
- Beavis and Butthead. Includes episode guide, GIFs, audio, and links to other BnB sites. Access: http://beavis.cba.uiuc.edu.
- Science Fiction TV Shows Upcoming Episodes. This site only lists episode titles, but is a good source for previews. Access: http://www.hyperion.com/ftp/pub/tv/sftv-sched.

Other material
- TV Censorship Archive. Brief annotated citations to various cases of TV censorship (e.g., the Roseanne lesbian kiss). Access: http://fileroom.aaup.uic.edu/FileRoom/documents/Mbroadcastmedia.html.

Discussion groups
- FILM-L: Popular/general discussion. listserv%vmtecno.bitnet@vm1.nodak.edu.
- SCREEN-L: Academic discussion. listserv@ua1vm.ua.edu.

Specific bulletin boards are devoted to many topics including: alt.arts.tv.soaps; alt.movies.silent; alt.sex.movies; alt.tv.simpsons; clari.news.movies (industry news); rec.art.movies.reviews.

These bulletin boards are devoted to the work of specific directors: alt.fan.quentintarantino; alt.fan.woody-allen; alt.movies.kubrick; alt.movies.scorsese; alt.movies.spielberg.