



Preston Sturges' screwball comedies play with big ideas and serious themes, and they are some of the funniest films ever made.

The Great McGinty

Sunday, 12 November 2017 at 7:00pm
Preston Sturges | USA 1940 | 82 min

In this sharp cynical satire, unscrupulous drifter Dan McGinty (Brian Donlevy) accepts work from a crooked Party boss and begins a meteoric rise through the ranks of Chicago politics. Preston Sturges' classic directorial debut follows McGinty's political ascent to become mayor of Chicago, where his career is threatened by a sudden attack of integrity.

"A wonderfully dry satire." (*Time Out*)

Sullivan's Travels

Sunday, 19 November 2017 at 7:00pm
Preston Sturges | USA 1941 | 90 min

"John Sullivan (Joel McCrea) is successful director of mainstream comedies who, much to the distress of his studio executives, decides to make a film of burning social significance called *O Brother Where Art Thou?* The first step is for the pretentious Sullivan to research ordinary suffering at first hand so, dressed as a tramp, he heads out on to the road. Quickly teaming up with a disenchanted actress (the alluring Veronica Lake), Sullivan embarks on a series of life-changing adventures. Sixty years on, its [*Sullivan's Travels*] vitality remains undiminished." (*Total Film*)

"It's a great comedy, with a message that works in context, the flophouses of life's downside contrasting with Hollywood's absurd hedonism." (*BBC*)



The Great McGinty



Sullivan's Travels



The Miracle Of Morgan's Creek

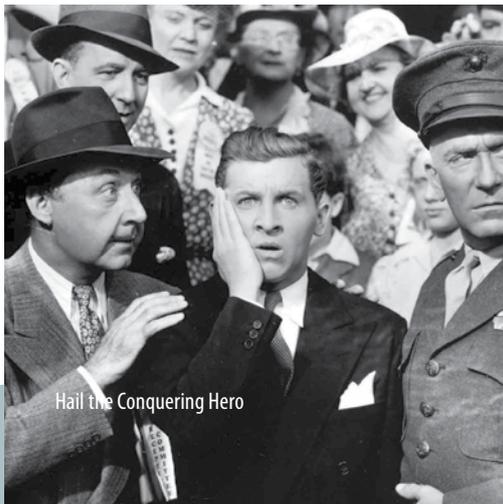
The Miracle Of Morgan's Creek

Sunday, 26 November 2017 at 7:00pm

Preston Sturges | USA 1944 | 99 min

After an all-night send-off party for the troops, a small-town girl wakes up to find herself married and pregnant, but with no memory of her husband's identity.

"How the hell did this get made? The story centers on goodtime gal Trudy Kockenlocker (Betty Hutton) who, in the interest of supporting the troops, gets impregnated and married while out on a wild night with a group of soldiers headed overseas. She lives in a picket-fence town that would frown on her condition and so, she tries to finagle schnook Norval Jones (Eddie Bracken), with whom she was supposedly at the movies on her fateful night, into marrying her. But he only ends up entangled in a variety of legal troubles, including bigamy." (*Pop Matters*)



Hail the Conquering Hero

Hail the Conquering Hero

Sunday, 3 December 2017 at 7:00pm

Preston Sturges | USA 1944 | 101 min

Woodrow Truesmith (Eddie Bracken) is the son of a WWI Marine hero who is the first in his small town to sign up for military service. When Woodrow is discharged from the Marines because of hay fever, he hasn't the nerve to go home and tell his mother.

"Wonderful satire on small-town jingoism, all the more remarkable in that it was made during World War II." (*Time Out*)



Unfaithfully Yours

Unfaithfully Yours

Sunday, 10 December 2017 at 7:00pm

Preston Sturges | USA 1948 | 105 min

Preston Sturges' *Unfaithfully Yours* is a witty and wild screwball comedy starring Rex Harrison as a symphony conductor named Alfred de Carter who is convinced his wife (Linda Darnell) is having an affair. During one of his concerts Alfred begins planning three different ways of solving the problem — including murder — setting each to a different classical piece. Sturges' script and direction are lively and the actors are perfectly cast, capable of wringing all the humour, both physical and verbal, out of the story.

"One of the most sophisticated slapstick comedies ever made." (Pauline Kael, *New Yorker*)