

Document Citation

Title	2001: a space odyssey
Author(s)	Robert Smith
Source	<i>Surf Theatres</i>
Date	
Type	program note
Language	English
Pagination	
No. of Pages	1
Subjects	
Film Subjects	2001: a space odyssey, Kubrick, Stanley, 1968

"2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY" RETURNS IN FESTIVAL OF MOVIE GREATS

When Stanley Kubrick's "2001: A Space Odyssey" first exploded on the screen, critics reached for words they seldom used. "Hypnotic." "Staggering." "Miraculous." "An unprecedented psychedelic roller coaster."

"2001: A Space Odyssey," often termed "the ultimate trip," returns to motion picture theatres as part of "MGM's Fabulous Four," a special quartet of memorable Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer classics scheduled for consecutive one-week engagements. Also included in the unique film festival are "Gone With The Wind," "Doctor Zhivago" and "Ryan's Daughter."

While three of the epics take audiences back in time, "2001: A Space Odyssey" magically spans the entire history of the human race, thrusting through immense star-clusters and embryonic suns into incomprehensible space and time to finally meet powers that watched over the birth of Man.

After Stanley Kubrick made the iconoclastic "Dr. Strangelove, Or How I Learned To Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb," the producer-director became fascinated by the theme of extra-terrestrial life and how its challenge could be translated to film. Confering with the top contemporary writer on science themes, Arthur C. Clarke, the pair ultimately created a screenplay in concert with the filmmakers' goal of an exciting, scrupulously accurate picture as beautiful as cinematic art could make it.

To prepare the most technically complex film project ever attempted, a team of 36 technical designers from 12 countries assembled to anticipate and visualize in sets and props the startling technological progress of coming years. More than 40 industrial and scientific concerns from the United States and Europe supported the film with design construction while leading aeronautical companies assisted in developing the most advanced space vehicles yet seen on or off the screen. A team of 35 designers and draftsmen created the 18 spectacular and awesome sets that represent a motion picture peak. One of the functional props stood 36 feet tall and weighed 38 tons. Truckloads of machinery had to be installed at the British studio to power the unit. Kubrick worked in close cooperation with NASA and leading international industrial, research

and academic organizations. Among their rewards was an Academy Award for special effects achievement.

On a more intimate, yet equally important level, experts toiled around the clock projecting how food, furnishings, pens, watches, hairstyles and literally a thousand other items would appear in the future.

But "2001: A Space Odyssey" is about Man. Keir Dullea and Gary Lockwood star as astronauts on a spellbinding adventure. What Stanley Kubrick produced, directed and, with Arthur C. Clarke, wrote is not science fiction. Nor does science fact prove an appropriate label. Perhaps the most important reason the motion picture has become a see-again favorite is that it marks visual extension of overwhelming questions which have forever occupied Mankind.

A space-suited Gary Lockwood, as he appears in his role as Astronaut Poole in "2001: A Space Odyssey," Stanley Kubrick production for MGM, an epic drama of adventure and exploration taking you to the Moon, the planets and the stars — in the year 2001.

2001: A Space Odyssey Mat 1-A

