

## Document Citation

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# Weekday Matinees



Thu 1 Jan  
4.00/  
Fri 2 Jan  
2.30  
**M\*A\*S\*H**

We begin a month of Altman matinees with this savagely funny, surrealistic look at the work of an Army medical unit in the Korean War, which made major stars of Elliott Gould and Donald Sutherland as well as boosting Altman into the rank of top American directors. Ring Lardner Jr won an Oscar for the screenplay and Fox gained a major financial as well as artistic success that led to one of the best of the television spin-off series. *USA 1969/Dir Robert Altman.*



Mon-Fri 5-9 Jan  
2.30 daily  
**The Long Goodbye**

Although this updating of Chandler angered many purists, its daring formal departures (unorthodox and virtually continuous camera movements, ingenious permutations and fragmentations of the title tune) and hallucinatory performances (Mark Rydell, Sterling Hayden, Henry Gibson) make this one of Altman's most remarkable achievements to date. It is also the definitive LA movie, reproducing the experience of that city structurally in its nightmarish labyrinth of dislocations. *USA 1973/Dir Robert Altman.*



Mon-Fri 12-16 Jan  
2.00 daily  
**Nashville**

Working from a Joan Tewkesbury blueprint, Altman's first epic distributes his inter-actions among two dozen talented actors whom he shuffles and deals like playing cards, using a country music milieu as an imaginary meeting ground for show business and politics. Once again, instincts are greater than ideas...but a thousand-odd effects are still orchestrated into a contemporary panorama that is never less than dazzling. *USA 1975/Dir Robert Altman. 161 mins.*



Mon-Fri 19-23 Jan  
2.30 daily  
**3 Women**

*3 Women* retains a dreamlike quality even while criticising many aspects of contemporary American life. Its meaning? Perhaps 'a dissertation on role-playing, role-transference and how the games we start frequently become too real for us' (*The Guardian*). Anyway, there are excellent performances from Shelley Duvall as Millie, struggling for the image dictated by women's magazines, and Sissy Spacek as her flat-mate. *USA 1977/Dir Robert Altman.*



Mon-Fri 26-30 Jan  
2.30 daily  
**A Wedding**

*A Wedding* is a small-scale *Nashville* — the setting is a society wedding, not a whole town, but there is the same panoramic view, episodic structure and wry comment on American foibles. In a star-studded cast, Carol Burnett shines as the bride's mother who enjoys a brief flirtation with a wedding guest, Geraldine Chaplin as the wedding organiser and veteran director John Cromwell as the bumbling bishop performing the ceremony. *USA 1978/Dir Robert Altman.*