



Fall 2003 Film Series

The American Science Fiction Film

All films are free and open to the public and will show at the OSU-Tulsa Auditorium.

Aug. 28, 7:20 p.m. - *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968)
 When colonists on the moon discover an artificial black monolith, they decide there must be intelligent life in space and set off in search of the monolith's origins and message. During the voyage, their spaceship's on-board computer, HAL, goes haywire and kills all but one of the crewmen, who must destroy HAL to save himself.



Sept. 25, 7:20 p.m. - *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956)
 Described as "the ultimate comment on the subtly coercive conformity of the 1950s," *Body Snatchers* tells the story of a small town slowly taken over by pod beings who cannot be distinguished from regular Americans.

Nov. 6, 7:20 p.m. - *Born in Flames* (1984)
 Director Lizzie Bordon's independent classic about a dystopian future where the white male establishment has consolidated its hold, and minorities, gays and lesbians, and women have all been deprived of their rights. A group of female freedom fighters decides to take back their society by toppling the "media estate."



Double Feature

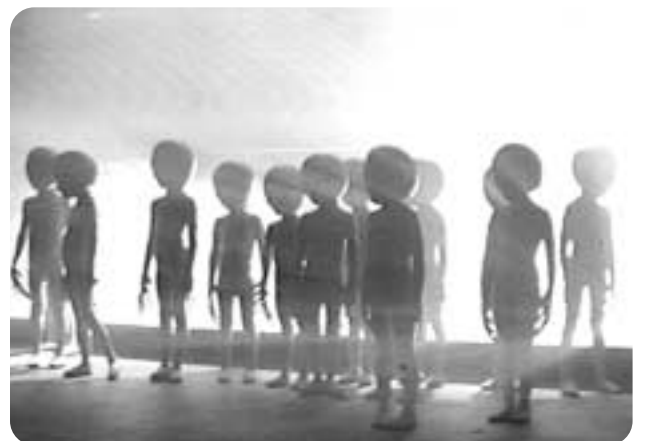
Sept. 11, 7:20 p.m. - *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951) and *It Came From Outer Space* (1953)
 Both of these films deal with alien visitations. Released in the early 1950s, they reflect anxieties about the threat of nuclear war with the Soviet Union. In *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, an alien visitor named Klaatu warns earthlings to make peace among themselves or face annihilation from the superior beings who run the galaxy. In *It Came From Outer Space*, a crash landing leaves a couple of aliens stranded in small town America. Though the aliens look like regular Americans, their true identities are eventually exposed and panic ensues.



Oct. 2, 7:20 p.m. - *Dr. Strangelove, or How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb* (1964)
 A biting satire about what Eisenhower called the "military industrial complex" and its technocratic (ir)rationality. Gen. Jack D. Ripper dispatches a nuclear bomb to destroy the USSR when he suspects that fluoridation is a Soviet plot to pollute the "precious bodily fluids" of Americans. The Soviets have a doomsday device that will destroy the whole world in the event of such an attack. Will our fearless leaders find a way to stop the bombing?



Nov. 20, 7:20 p.m. - *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* (1977)
 The first of Steven Spielberg's science fiction epics, *Close Encounters* details one man's quasi-religious quest to make contact with alien life. Hearing that the government has crafted an experimental airstrip in the desert to try to attract a UFO, Roy Neary ditches his wife and kids and heads off in search of an alien encounter. Why? Because his regular encounters are highly unsatisfying. The pseudo-reality of postmodern, consumer existence interposes itself between Roy and his family to the detriment of their personal relations.



Double Feature
Oct. 23, 7:20 p.m. - *The Incredible Shrinking Woman* (1980) and *Soylent Green* (1973)
 Fears about over-population, materialism and consumerism are addressed in vastly different ways in these two films. *The Incredible Shrinking Woman* features Lily Tomlin as Pat Kramer, a woman who begins to shrink as a result of her over-use of household chemicals. Antics ensue when the World Management corporation tries to use Pat's blood to shrink the world's population . . . literally. *Soylent Green* offers a more gruesome solution to the problems of starvation and over-population, as a detective stumbles upon a conspiracy to lace the ultimate "Frankenfood"—soylent green—with some extra-special protein.



Dec. 11, 7:20 p.m. - *Gattaca* (1997)
 In the future, genetic engineering makes it possible to craft a superior human being in the laboratory. Those born the old-fashioned way are labeled "de-gene-erates" and consigned to low-scale, low-wage labor. Vincent aspires to be a pilot but is genetically "flawed," so he buys himself the perfect cover—the blood, urine, and skin samples of a "valid" but paralyzed athlete. When Vincent's boss is murdered, the investigator suspects a de-gene-erate is in their midst. Will he discover Vincent's secret?

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These films will show in the OSU-Tulsa Auditorium, 700 N. Greenwood Avenue, Tulsa, OK. For information, call 594-8331. Brought to you by the Oklahoma State University American Studies Program with the generous support of the OSU-Tulsa Library. Photos MPTV and Sciflicks.

