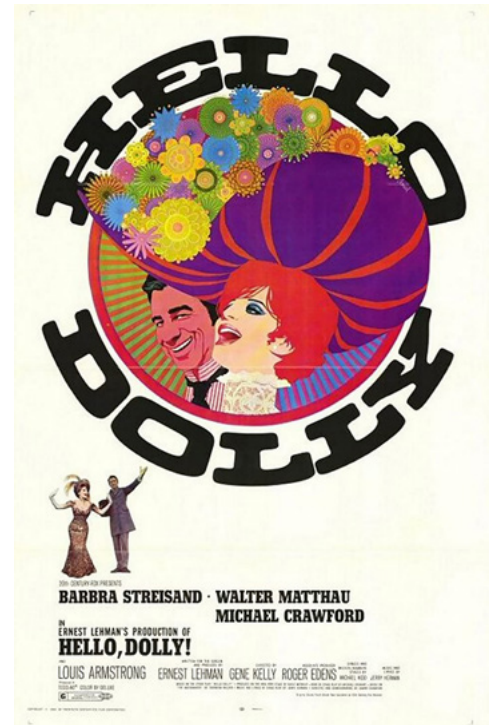


Cultivate Cinema Circle presents:
HELLO, DOLLY! [1969]

Directed by Gene Kelly
FEBRUARY 19TH, 2022 - 1:00PM



Original Theatrical Poster

SHORT CUTS

“If the echoes sometimes blend into a solid chorus, credit must be divided between Director Gene Kelly and his choreographer, Michael Kidd. Ernest Lehman’s script is based on the Broadway musical (which was based on Thornton Wilder’s farce *The Matchmaker*). It is woven from a solitary yarn. Matchmaker Dolly Levi sets great store by Horace Vandergelder’s feed and grain store and decides to snare him for her own. She does. Curtain. In between their coy runaround, tiny complications arise. None of them matter, but several are the premises for blithe and sumptuous dance numbers. The most kinetic, Dancing, is happily reminiscent of the old MGM musical *It’s Always Fair Weather*, starring a couple of guys named Gene Kelly and Michael Kidd. *Hello, Dolly!* could have used those personalities on screen. Instead, it relies almost exclusively on the celebrated

eyes, ears, nose and throat of Streisand. Her musicianship remains irreproachable. But her mannerisms are so arch and calculated that one half expects to find a key implanted in her back. Still, the Widow Levi is by way of becoming a classic repertory role.”

—Richard Schickel, *Time Magazine* [1969]

“More infamous for bringing Fox financially to its knees than for being the last major musical directed by Gene Kelly, *Hello, Dolly!* is one big-assed bull in a china shop. The film cost nearly as much to produce as *Cleopatra* and made far less at the box office, thus earning the film its reputation as one of Hollywood’s foremost turkeys. The role of Dolly Levi, made immortal on Broadway by Carol Channing, was given to Barbra Streisand in one of the most glaring cases of flagrant miscasting. But that’s all in the past. How does *Hello, Dolly!*, an update of *The Matchmaker*, look today? In a word: campy. Kelly, as a dancer and an

actor, was never one to ask “Is this a bit over the top?” The choreography, the performances, the set decoration, the dialogue, everything about *Hello, Dolly!* is played directly to the back row of the theater, which would be fine on the stage, but on anamorphic widescreen close-ups tends to be more frightening than mirthful (thankfully, home viewing cuts down a bit on the mugging factor). As the

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youthful dancer-in-training Barnaby Tucker, Danny Lockin looks more like a gymnast doing a floor routine. Still, other aspects of *Hello, Dolly!* read a lot better with age. La Streisand's rapid-fire delivery recalls such chatter-heavy early talkies as *His Girl Friday*. The unabated feel-good attitude and emphasis on underhanded plottiness makes the film not that far removed from *Singin' in the Rain*.”
—Eric Henderson, *Slant* [2003]

“The most cinephiliac text I have experienced in the cinema lately—one that has had film critics rhapsodizing—is actually about rewatching a single sequence on video. In *Wall-E*, a robot cleaning up the messes of a post-human Earth cherishes a centuries-old videotape of *Hello Dolly!* and plays Michael Crawford's musical numbers each night. A movie has filled this little robot, like so many of us cinephiles, with romantic fantasies. *Wall-E* loves his video-tape because its content makes him feel full of love even though he's alone.”

—Lucas Hilderbrand, *Framework* [2009]



CAST & CREW

Director..... Gene Kelly
Screenplay..... Ernest Lehman
Book..... Michael Stewart
Play *The Matchmaker* Thornton Wilder

Barbra Streisand..... Dolly Levi
Walter Matthau..... Norman Maine
Michael Crawford..... Cornelius Hackl
Marianne McAndrew..... Irene Molloy
Danny Lockin..... Barnaby Tucker
E.J. Peaker..... Minnie Fay
Joyce Ames..... Ermengarde
Tommy Tune..... Ambrose Kemper
Judy Knaiz..... Gussie Granger
David Hurst..... Rudolph Reisenweber
Fritz Feld..... Rudolph's Assistant
Richard Collier..... Vandergelder's Barber
J. Pat O'Malley..... Policeman in Park
Louis Armstrong..... Orchestra Leader

DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

- That's Entertainment! II (1976)
- The Cheyenne Social Club (1970)

- Hello, Dolly! (1969)
- A Guide for the Married Man (1967)
- Jack and the Beanstalk (1967)
- Gigot (1962)
- The Tunnel of Love (1958)
- The Happy Road (1957)
- Invitation to the Dance (1956)
- It's Always Fair Weather (1955)
- Singin' in the Rain (1952)
- On the Town (1949)



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CINEMA CIRCLE

UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

SWING TIME [1936]

Sat, January 8th, 2022 | 1:00pm

YANKEE DOODLE DANDY [1942]

Sat, January 22nd, 2022 | 1:00pm

A STAR IS BORN [1954]

Sat, February 5th, 2022 | 1:00pm

CABARET [1972]

Sat, March 5th, 2022 | 1:00pm

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS [1986]

Sat, March 19th, 2022 | 1:00pm

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