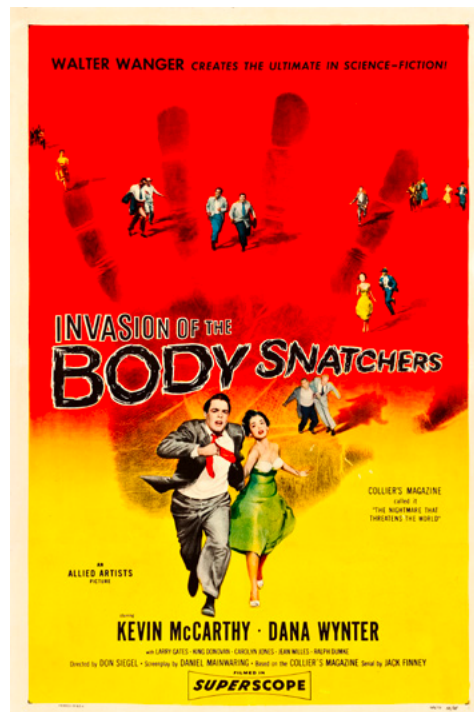


Cultivate Cinema Circle presents:

# INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS [1956]

Directed by Don Siegel  
OCTOBER 23RD, 2021 - 1:00PM



Original Theatrical Poster

Finney's Miles calls a story that is 'full of loose ends and unanswered questions.'"  
- Rashna Wadia Richards, *The Cine-Files* (2015)

## SHORT CUTS

"One of the films that has generated the most heated and long-running debates about its political intentions, in Siegel's oeuvre and in cinema at large, is *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*...As in much first-class science fiction, the narrative insinuates its potential to be read as a metaphor for issues rooted in contemporary civilisation. To interpret this metaphor has proved an irresistible challenge for swathes of critics and audiences...Perhaps the most useful analysis has been provided by Tracy Knight, who argues that the most captivating fictions, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* amongst them, have "Rorschach plots", fictional inkblots that playfully interact with us and our beliefs. Their ambiguity invites us to project our own interests and biases upon the story in order to wrest meaning from their tantalising lack of explicitness'. The idea of a

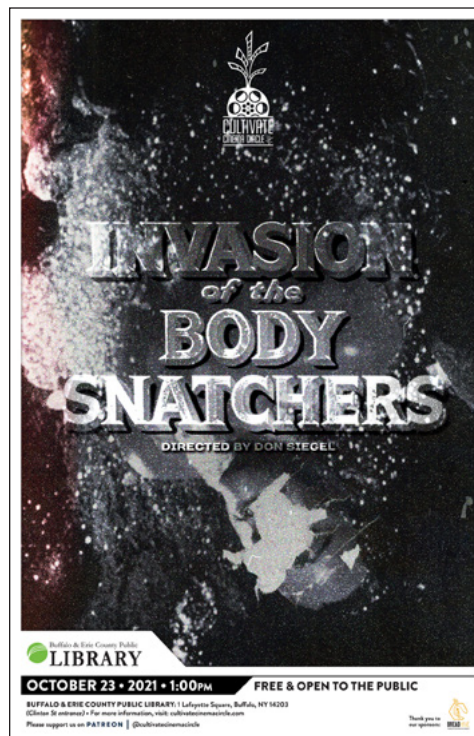
'Rorschach plot' is of far greater importance in understanding this film, and Siegel's wider oeuvre, than pinning down the truth of one interpretation over another."

- Deborah Allison, *Senses of Cinema* (2004)

"We conclude...by reflecting on what it means that *Invasion's* us-versus-them scenario—in Miles's terms, 'They're after all of us!'—is undermined in so many ways. Unlike films whose Others are distinct, like the Rhedosaurus in Eugène Lourie's *The Beast from 20,000 Fathoms* (1953) or the gigantic ants in Gordon Douglas's *Them!* (1954), Siegel's aliens are both human and posthuman, us and them, all at once. That's why we can have multiple, opposing allegorical readings at the same time. Because film analysis is not a question of choosing the correct interpretation but discovering how a film is complex enough to make them all possible—and reveling in what

"Based on Jack Finney's novel, Don Siegel's original black-and-white thriller about aliens taking over unsuspecting humans was a parable of Cold War paranoia. It teases out a pervasive feeling (stoked by right wing

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propaganda) that the Russians weren't just coming to take over the United States and grind capitalism into dust, but were already living among unsuspecting patriots, absorbing more of them by the hour."

- Matt Zoller Seitz, *RogerEbert.com* (2018)

## CAST & CREW

Director..... Don Siegel  
 Writer..... Daniel Mainwaring  
 Source..... Jack Finney

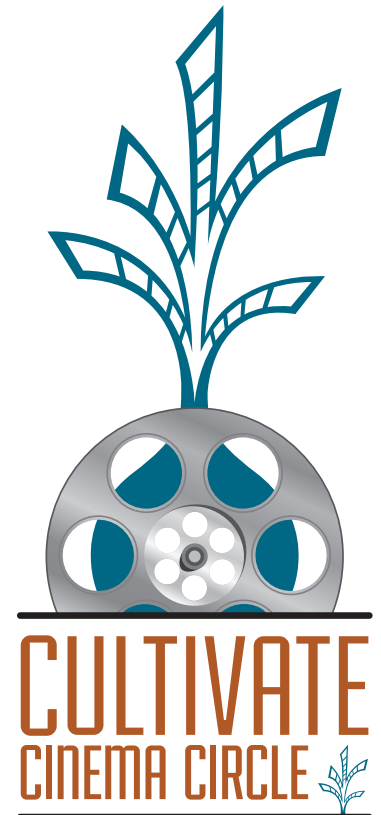
Dr. Miles J. Bennell..... Kevin McCarthy  
 Becky Driscoll..... Dana Wynter  
 Dr. Dan 'Danny' Kauffman..... Larry Gates  
 Jack Belicec..... King Donovan  
 Theodora 'Teddy' Belicec..... Carolyn Jones  
 Nurse Sally Withers..... Jean Willes  
 Police Chief Nick Grivett..... Ralph Dumke  
 Wilma Lentz..... Virginia Christine  
 Uncle Ira Lentz..... Tom Fadden  
 Stanley Driscoll..... Kenneth Patterson  
 Officer Sam Janzek..... Guy Way  
 Anne Grimaldi..... Eileen Stevens  
 Grandma Grimaldi..... Beatrice Maude  
 Eleda Lentz..... Jean Andren  
 Jimmy Grimaldi..... Bobby Clark  
 Dr. Ed Pursey..... Everett Glass  
 Mac Lomax..... Dabbs Greer  
 Baggage Man..... Pat O'Malley

Restaurant Owner..... Guy Rennie  
 Martha Lomax..... Marie Selland  
 Charlie..... Sam Peckinpah  
 Pod Carrier in Miles' Office..... Harry J. Vejar

## DIRECTOR FILMOGRAPHY

- Jinxed! (1982)
- Rough Cut (1980)
- Escape From Alcatraz (1979)
- Telefon (1977)
- The Shootist (1976)
- The Black Windmill (1974)
- Charley Varrick (1973)
- Dirty Harry (1971)
- The Beguiled (1971)
- Two Mules for Sister Sara (1970)
- Madigan (1968)
- Coogan's Bluff (1968)
- The Killers (1964)
- Hell Is for Heroes (1962)
- Flaming Star (1960)
- Edge of Eternity (1959)
- Hound-Dog Man (1959)
- The Lineup (1958)
- The Gun Runners (1958)
- Spanish Affair (1958)
- Baby Face Nelson (1957)
- Invasion of the Body Snatchers (1956)
- Crime in the Streets (1956)
- An Annapolis Story (1955)

- Riot in Cell Block 11 (1954)
- Private Hell 36 (1954)
- No Time for Flowers (1953)
- Count the Hours (1953)
- China Venture (1953)
- The Duel at Silver Creek (1952)
- Night unto Night (1949)
- The Big Steal (1949)
- The Verdict (1946)



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## UPCOMING SCHEDULE:

### MOROCCO [1930]

Sat, November 6th, 2021 | 1:00pm

### DISHONORED [1931]

Sat, November 20th, 2021 | 1:00pm

### SHANGHAI EXPRESS [1932]

Sat, December 4th, 2021 | 1:00pm

### THE SCARLETT EMPRESS [1934]

Sat, December 18th, 2021 | 1:00pm

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