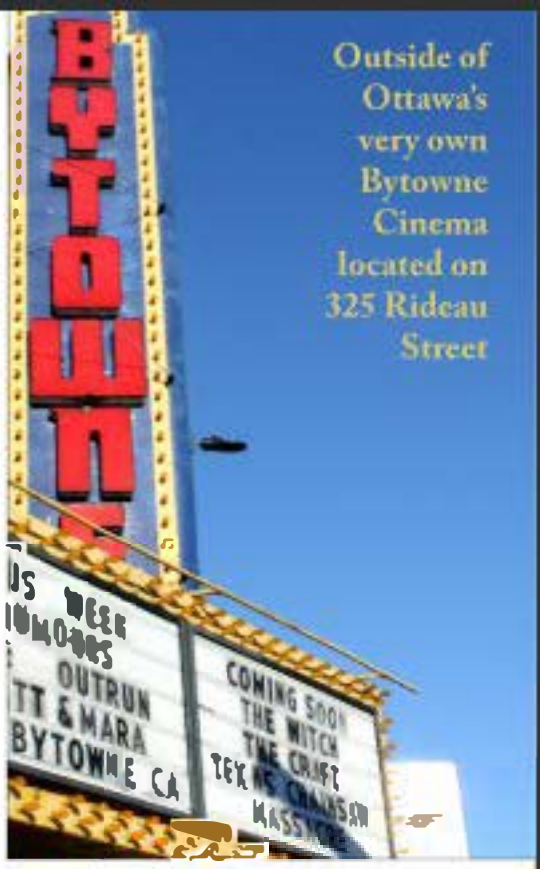
BACK AT THE BOX OFFICE



Outside of Ottawa's very own Bytowne Cinema located on 325 Rideau Street

An almost cinematic focus on Ottawa's best independant cinemas to visit this November!

Lights! Camera! Action! Do you ever feel like November is lacking all of those things? It gets dark early, very little pleasant scenery, and not a lot to do... yeah, safe to say November is a bit of an unnecessary scene. With its cold and bitter rain and frosty temperatures, it may seem easy to want to skip ahead. Before you try and fast forward to the end of it, kick back, relax, and drown out the rain with the melodic sound of your favourite film. (You know you want to.) Then comes the question: *where to watch it?*

There's a million movies out there, and everyone has varying tastes ranging from gorey horror to a cheeky rom-com. You'll rarely find two people with the exact same views on film, and that's what makes watching a movie such a special and different experience for everyone. A good example of this is with Canterbury's very own students. "I really love the *Saw* series, the plot twists at the end are really good and it's always a cliffhanger at the end so you have to watch all of them," says Grade 10 Dance student Maeve Ponesse. "There's so many different types of torture in them, it's crazy!"



The bright and capturing sign outside of the Mayfair Theatre (1074 Bank St)

This is a much different view than somebody like Suda Sivakumar in Lit, who says, "*To All The Boys I've Loved Before* is my favourite movie! It's such an accurate depiction of teenage romance, while also being adorable and entertaining."

Whether you're more like Maeve or Suda, or even somewhere in between, the question remains the same - is there anywhere else you can watch your favourite movies besides your living rooms or a standard Cineplex?

Good news, there is! A good place to start is the Mayfair Theatre in Old Ottawa South. Opened in 1932, the Mayfair is Ottawa's oldest theatre - and one of the oldest theatres in the world! "It's always been a single screen independently-owned cinema," says owner Josh Stafford. "What I really take pride in with the Mayfair is we kind of joke that some people see us as a high brow art house cinema that plays weird old drive in horror movies as well, and the other side of that is we play weird old drive in movies, and we also play high brow stuff."

"We're trying to keep the tradition of independant cinema alive." — *Daniel Demois, Bytowne Cinema*

The Mayfair is a sight to see - a retro style theatre preserved from the 30s, it definitely fits the comfortable atmosphere you strive to feel when watching an indie film or a cult classic. "I know there are cinemas out there that purely have an Art House, or cinemas what you would consider a 'Grind House' - more of drive-in type movies, but we really have a bit for everybody I think," Stafford says. If you don't believe him, then you'll have to stop by sometime and see for yourself!

If the Mayfair Theatre doesn't pique your interest, then Bytowne Cinema might! The cinema has been around since the 40s, originally being known as "The Nelson."

"What we're trying to do here is keep the tradition of independent cinema alive," says one of the theatre's owners, Daniel Demois.

"We really have a bit for everybody I think."
— *Josh Stafford, Mayfair Theatre*

The Bytowne is known for playing a variety of films that you'd rarely be able to see on the big screen today, which might be more accustomed to your tastes. "There's a lot of movies that we play at the Bytowne that don't play anywhere else in Canada," Demois says. "There aren't a lot of theatres that can do well with some of these smaller films, and the Bytowne has always had a good reputation for being a place that plays a different class of film and people come here expecting to see something good, even if it's not something they've heard of before I think they kind of trust the theatre to a point." Bytowne's busiest time of the year is during Oscar season, so try and get tickets to your favourite film quickly before January rolls around!

If you crave something more on the adventurous side, or if you want to watch a movie while feeling like you're *in* a movie, then Capital Pop Up might be your new favourite place to be! "Capital Pop Up has been around for quite a few years at this point, I think 2015 was when we first started," says concessions worker Georgina Dunn. "We put on movies throughout the city and pop up all over the place, we partner with local businesses to be able to provide the movies for free!"

The business appears in various parking lots, fields, parks, and even cemeteries. "We'll show a lot of movies from the 80s or from the 90s, like *Back to the Future* or *Indiana Jones*, that kind of stuff. Every October we'll do a really old 1930s horror movie in a cemetery. It's very cool. It's spooky because you're in the cemetery with a scary movie playing," says Georgina. Capital Pop Up runs from summer to fall, so don't miss out!

Whether you choose to watch your next movie in the cozy vintage atmosphere of the Mayfair, the magnificent independent theatre that is Bytowne Cinema, in a field with Capital Pop Up, or even somewhere new, you're bound to have a unique and unforgettable movie experience. So, next time, before you decide to hit 'cut!' on the month of November, stop by one of these magnificent theatres - you will have wished you could click that rewind button a million times over!