

Here are some contributions. Thanks to all who have sent some memories through!

From Leila:-

The three films that stick in my mind were from the past!

1) A film called '**The Spanish Gardener**' **1956**. I was 8 years old and with my Mum seeing this film in the cinema. **Dirk Bogart** was the Spanish Gardener; he was the gardener of a wealthy family in Spain with beautiful views. He struck up a conversation with the youngest boy of the family into staying out in the fresh air, the boys father said he was too ill and fragile to go outside but in time the boy ended up helping the gardener and began getting stronger and feeling much better, the gardener became his friend. The boy's Father became jealous of their close relationship...

2) A film called **Whistle Down the Wind 1961** with **Hayley Mills and Alan Bates**. This family lived in the Country and Hayley played a young girl with 3 younger siblings, she discovered a man (Alan Bates) in their barn! She crept in the barn and found him huddled amongst the hay, she asked if he wanted some food and what was his name, and he was so shocked at seeing her he just stared at her and said 'Jesus Christ' before passing out! With that she gathered all her friends from the village and her siblings together, telling them that she really did have Jesus Christ in their barn! Little did they know they were harbouring an escaped criminal which the Police were after!...

The story and the music in this film were so captivating it stayed with me all through the years!

3) The **original** film called '**The Parent Trap**' **USA 1961** with **Hayley Mills**. Identical twins, which were separated at birth when their parents divorced and each parent taking a Twin. Years later the two girls reunite at Summer Camp and realise they are Twin sisters. Wanting to know what the other Parent is like to live with, they hatch a plan to switch parents after their vacation, one goes with their Father and the other twin goes home with their Mother and put their plan into action to arrange for to their parents to get back together again!...

Although this film has been re-released a couple of times with different actors, I will never forget how entranced I was with the very first production with Hayley Mills and it was very clever how they filmed Hayley side by side with herself, I was intrigued at the time. I was 13 years old.

My Mum was on her own, so she always took me to the pictures for company when I was growing up, hence me seeing these lovely old films with her.

From Pippa:-

1. The Jersey Boys

Great stage sets and musical memories.

2. Waiting for Godot, Theatre Royal, York. Fabulous grand little theatre all plush and decorous. Back in the day

The sense of time lost and mystery, has a resonance with today.

3. Any film by Pedro Almodovar, preferably with Antonio Banderas for a bit of eye candy.

Usually entertaining, funny with great sets, plots and scene setting.

From Sandy:-

I have thought long and hard about these but I have such a love of theatre that I have all but found it impossible to choose. As I have a lot of performers in my family history I think it is something genetic but every time I hear the orchestra begin playing the overture (or even warming up) something stirs in my blood - I just love it! Anyway here goes:

1) The local amateur productions by Littlehampton Musical Comedy Society (Sussex) like 'The Desert Song' (written by Sigmund Romberg) which were performed in a local Church Hall. Still, these were so well done that I was inspired to join when my favourite was:

Summer Song based on the music from Dvorak's New World
Symphony performed at Windmill Theatre, Littlehampton,

2) Sound of Music Rogers and Hammerstein 1965 film

I know it's considered naff but I loved all the opening cinematography of all those mountains as I love mountains as well!

3) Les Miserable & Miss Saigon Alain Boubil & Claude
Michel

I have seen both in London & Theatre Royal, Plymouth I think I just love all the drama in the music with these which gives an added dimension

Sandy Capelin