

Wednesday 25 September 2024  
Studio 609, 7.30pm

## All the President's Men

US, 1976, 15, 2h 13m

Dir: Alan J Pakula

Writer: William Goldman

Producer: Walter Coblenz

*Thriller, Political Drama*

*The Washington Post* reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein uncover the details of the Watergate scandal that leads to President Richard Nixon's resignation.

### Cast includes:

**Robert Redford**

Bob Woodward

**Dustin Hoffmann**

Carl Bernstein

**Jack Warden**

Harry M Rosenfeld

**Martin Balsam**

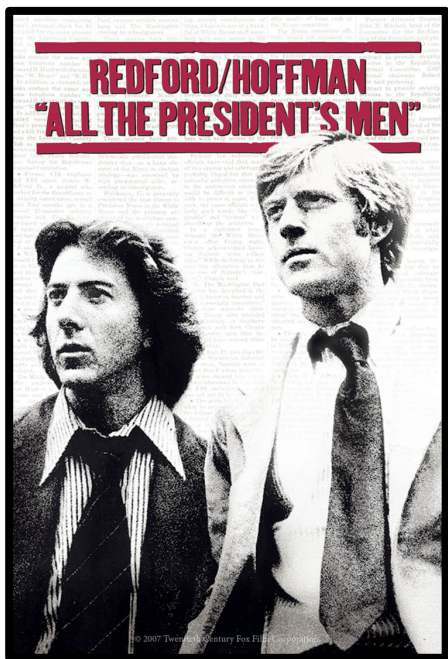
Howard Simons

**Hal Holson**

"Deep Throat"

**Jason Robards**

Ben Bradlee



### Film Notes by David Fowler

In June 1972, in the run-up to that year's US presidential election, five men were arrested breaking into offices in the Watergate complex in Washington DC. The offices were the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee, the party's main organisational body. What followed has been a byword for political scandals ever since.

**All the President's Men** tells the story of how two reporters from *The Washington Post*, Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, linked the burglary to the Republican Committee to re-elect the President, and doggedly pursued the story to uncover involvement in the highest echelons of the party. It would lead to investigations and hearings in both the House of the US Congress, and ultimately to Nixon's impeachment and resignation.

The film, based on Bernstein and Woodward's own account of the scandal, has been celebrated for its authenticity and painstaking re-creation of the journalists' quest. Robert Redford, who plays Bernstein, bought the rights to their book in 1974 to be adapted by his production company. He initially wanted Al Pacino to play Woodward, before deciding Dustin Hoffman was a better choice.

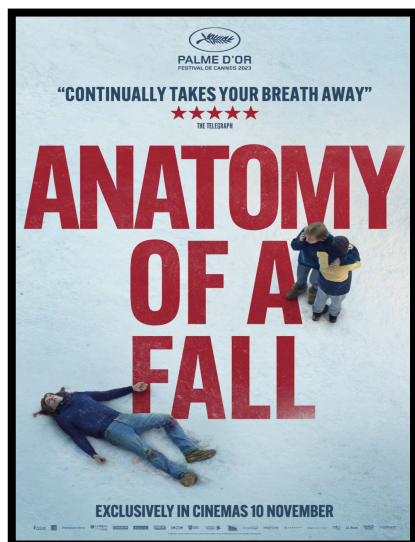
Novelist turned screenwriter William Goldman, who wrote the screenplay for **Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid** and the novel **Marathon Man**, was brought in to produce a script. Neither Redford or Bernstein and Woodward were happy with Goldman's first draft and re-writes continued throughout production. Goldman has said that he had never written as many versions of a screenplay.

The production went to great lengths to ensure accuracy. Hoffmann and Redford spent considerable time at the *Post's* offices, researching and attending news conferences. As filming was not allowed in the actual newsroom, set designers re-created it in Hollywood's Burbank studios at a cost of \$200,000. Boxes of waste paper were transported from the *Post's* offices to the studio, replicas of old phone books were made and almost 200 desks were bought from the company that had supplied the *Post*.

Director Alan J Pakula allows the investigation to unfold with the tension of a classic mystery story – the fact that audiences know the outcome not proving to be a drawback.

**All the President's Men** won wide acclaim from release. The *Chicago Sun-Times* said: "It provides the most observant study of working journalists we're ever likely to see in a feature film. And it succeeds brilliantly in suggesting the mixture of exhilaration, paranoia, self-doubt, and courage that permeated The Washington Post as its two young reporters went after a presidency."

# Our Next Presentations



**Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

In Studio 609 at 7.15 pm

## Anatomy of a Fall

Fr, 2023, 15, 2 hr 32 mins, French (with subtitles)

Dir: Justine Triet

Crime, Drama, Thriller

After a man falls to his death in mysterious circumstances, his wife becomes the prime suspect. The couple's half-blind son is the only witness in a complex and slow-burning drama, featuring emotionally intense courtroom sequences. Oscar winner 2024 Best Original Screenplay.

**Thursday, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

In the Performance Hall at 7.15pm

## Poor Things

UK, Ireland, US, 2023, 18, 2 hr 21 mins

Dir: Yorgos Lanthimos

Comedy, Drama, Romance, Fantasy

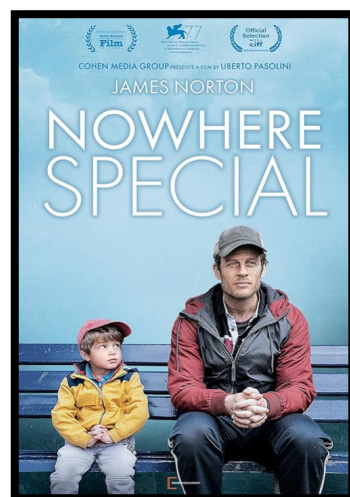
In Studio 609 at 7.30pm

## Nowhere Special

Italy, France, 2020, 12, 1 hr 32 mins

Dir: Uberto Pasolini

Drama



## Latest Audience Film Ratings

How did you like our recent offerings? % voting "Excellent" or "Good"

