

# Films 2011: A Strong Season

## The Best Movies Of Last Year Managed To Stir The Soul And The Imagination

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I am perhaps the last film lover to release a top 10 list for 2011. Of course, that's because I insist that the best be saved for last. Or it could be the fact that I live in a rural hub of the Midwest, where many of the year's best films don't begin to roll out until late December or January. That being said, 2011 was a banner year for film. I could have easily substituted a totally different list of films in my top 10 and been perfectly happy with the quality on display.

I just hope you got to a theater outside of Yankton or subscribe to Netflix, because only one of these films, "Drive," played here. It's hardly breaking news that many of the best movies never play outside the largest metropolitan areas. A point of light is that streaming services are making these smaller films more accessible than ever to people who don't happen to live in Chicago, Los Angeles or New York.

**10. Bellflower**  
It's a bit strange to include this film, because, as I watched it, I was fully aware of what I felt were flaws. The main character, played by director Evan Glodell, is a bit annoying, for example. On more than one occasion, I wanted to slap him for being kind of a doofus. But I loved the creative vision behind the film and the lore behind the making of it. "Bellflower" imagines the end of a relationship in apocalyptic terms, complete with a flamethrower and a car out of a "Mad Max" movie. Every scene has an oppressive yellow haze that makes the viewer imagine it must be hot and greasy in the California town where these characters reside. I'm very excited to see what Glodell does next, as this first effort was a major, uncompromising achievement.

**9. Putty Hill**  
One thing I've always loved about films is that it is a cheap way to travel. You can see things and experience cultures in the comfort of a theater or your home, even if you can't necessarily travel as much as you'd like. "Putty Hill" takes the viewer to a place we would probably never think to visit — a working class area of Baltimore. A young man, Cody, has just died of an overdose, and Matthew Porterfield's film explores the reactions of those who knew him in the days leading up to his wake. Sometimes the camera simply observes the characters going about their lives, drawing a tattoo, going for a swim or visiting with family. In other instances, a voice off-camera will ask a character if they knew Cody and what they thought of him. This world is fully-realized, but the film still has a dream-like quality. You suspect many of the characters try not to focus too hard on life because the lives they lead are full of a lot of pain.

**8. Certified Copy**  
What is real and what is a copy? And if you can't distinguish a copy from the original, is the original really any better? This film by Abbas Kiarostami starts off posing those questions about art. But as Elle (Juliette Binoche) and James (William Shimell) spend an afternoon together, we soon begin questioning the same about their relationship. Are they a couple? Or are they simply acting the part? Can we tell the difference, and does it matter? It's hard to believe that a film that consists mostly of two people talking while driving, sitting or strolling could be so invigorating, but it is. Chances are, you'll want to start watching the movie again right away to try to figure out what you just saw.

**7. Margin Call**  
Is this really how the financial collapse happened? Was it because a bunch of people making lots of money had no idea what they were really doing? From what I've read and also heard from a friend who worked on Wall Street, that is precisely what occurred in some cases. "Margin Call" manages to keep a tight grip on its audience from beginning to end as the employees of a Wall Street firm realize that the gravy train has



PHOTOS: FOX SEARCHLIGHT PICTURES  
George Clooney and Shailene Woodley played father and daughter in 2011's "The Descendants" directed by Nebraska native Alexander Payne. "The Tree Of Life" featured Brad Pitt and Laramie Eppler as father and son in 1950s Texas. Both films made Press & Dakotan film critic Nathan Johnson's list of the top 10 movies of 2011.



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LIVING ROOM

Two Tone Sofa Groups

Faux Leather arms, microfiber cushions SOF44310

3 Piece Coffee & 2 End tables Wrought iron base & tile/wood top TBLSET3938

Decorative hand painted black with gold trim end table TBL1648

Small round black end table with removable tray TBL409296

4 Pc. Table set, sofa, 2 end, cocktail TBLSET6310

Round wood end table END8044

Large square nailhead detailed leather ottoman OTTO9810

Leather and fabric sofa SOF9810

X Leg Accent table with zebra print top TBL7510

Spindle leg square accent table TBL 5610

Square Cherry Cocktail Table TBL9118

Decorative carved Rectangular Cherry End Table END5508

Dark Brown Carved Square detailed wood end table END9258

Dark Brown Etched Glass and Wood Coffee Table COF408

Dark Brown Leather Sofa with Silver Nailhead Trim SOF7110

Dark Brown Leather Chair with Silver Nailhead Trim CHR77710

Black Round accent Table with Tiger Stripe Top TBL2528

3 Piece Square Coffee Table & End Table Set

with Glass Tops and Bamboo Legs TBLSET8178

Cream Leather Sofa SOF6309

Dark Brown Square Lift Top Cocktail Table COF1358

Dual Reclining Green Fabric Sofa with Drop Down Console SOF2810

Dark Brown Leather Sofa & Matching Loveseat SOF2511

Brown Glass Top Wood Square End Table END8099

Rectangular Wood Coffee Table with Black

Base and Brown Top and Storage Drawers TBL9988

Cream Fabric Queen Sleeper Sofa SLP3008

Cream Fabric Chair CHR1996

Brown Wood Triangular Lift Top Cocktail Table COF3139

Iron Base with Wood Top Sofa Table SOFTBL8510

Was

Clearance Price

\$630

\$585

\$525

\$599

\$269

\$216

\$999

\$255

\$1200

\$2224

\$359

\$449

\$858

\$320

\$389

\$330

\$2224

\$1440

\$194

\$1345

\$1852

\$525

\$1095

\$4408

\$474

\$851

\$1170

\$570

\$389

\$508

\$329

\$299

\$199

\$299

\$134

\$86

\$399

\$76

\$399

\$999

\$215

\$269

\$270

\$128

\$116

\$132

\$1112

\$720

\$126

\$672

\$926

\$210

\$599

\$1999

\$237

\$340

\$702

\$228

\$155

\$286

LIVING ROOM

Camel colored Microfiber Rocker Recliner RCL4304

Dark Green Dual Reclining Microfiber Sofa SOF5811

Burgundy Fabric Rocking Reclining Loveseat LST9311

Dark Brown Microfiber Reclining Loveseat with Center Console LST5640

Dark Brown Wood Dining Table with Leaf DRMTBL1288

Black Painted Chinese Accent Table ACC1455

DINING

Large White Oak Table with Leaves and 8 Chairs DRMSSET3411

Light Cherry Table with Leaf and 6 Chairs DRMSSET1108

Iron Pedestal Table with Wood Top and 4 Wicker Chairs DRMSSET8511

Small Rectangular Espresso Counter Height Table & 2 Stools DINSET5059

Rectangular 72" Oak Table Extends to 108" TBL6556

Large Round Natural Cherry Dining Table with 6 Fabric/wood Chairs DRMSSET5038

BEDROOM

4 Drawer White acrylic Kids Chest CHT0088

Green Patterned Fabric Swivel Rocker CHR3117

Birch Twin Headboard HDB5860

Black Bookcase Twin Headboard

Pearl Low Profile Encased Sleighbed BED1110

King Artisan Oak Bed, Chest & Nightstand, BED4826

Dark Brown Queen Sleigh Bed, Night Stand,

Dresser with Mirror & Chest of Drawers, BED8210

Wood Panel Bed, Chest of Drawers, Nightstand, Dresser & Mirror, BED3110

MISCELLANEOUS

5.6x8.6 Taupe area rug FLCRUG22033

Carved Antique black 2 door cabinet CAB8059

Large Iron Plant Stand ACCSTD8575

Console Table with shelves and 3 drawers

Modern rounded computer desk and hutch DSK9800

Light Cherry Tall Television Cart with Shelves ENT5459

Wood and Metal File Cabinet FILE5610

Dark Espresso Desk and Hutch DSKHUT3210

Dark Espresso 2 Drawer File Cabinet FILE3210

Mission Glass Top and Wood Desk DSK2219

Rubbed Black Wood and Tile Top Accent Chest with 3 Drawers CHT4737

Small Square Black with Tiger Print Magazine Stand RACK1628

Iron Cart with Wheels Rack7120

Rustic Pine 47" Server SERVER2910

Was

Clearance Price

\$1740

\$795

\$1170

\$1377

\$564

\$490

\$3900

\$6297

\$3834

\$476

\$1579

\$5477

\$8255

\$1405

\$143

\$165

\$2102

\$2622

\$3742

\$4920

\$299

\$393

\$57

\$82

\$420

\$1573

\$2244

\$2460

\$299

\$395

\$299

\$378

\$1323

\$221

\$187

\$779

\$150

\$217

\$434

\$143

\$251

\$750

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