

# Annie Hall 1977

Friday, June 27 - Thursday, July 3, 2008



## Film Information

**Directed by**  
Woody Allen

**Language**  
English

**Running Time**  
93 minutes

## Film Notes

In 1977, the year of STAR WARS, the Academy Award for Best Picture went to an almost entirely conversation-based romantic comedy employing highly literate humor, extremely long takes, a relatively free-form structure, a variety of narrative exploits, and Paul Simon as a sleazebag.

Much of what would come to be considered the style of Woody Allen was either born or perfected in ANNIE HALL, and it says a lot about where Allen was in his career that for all the brilliant one-liners and hilarious moments, he considered this one to be more serious. Many observers have openly wondered how autobiographical the film was, considering that Allen and co-star Diane Keaton had been a couple. The director denied the personal connection, though he allowed that the role was written specifically for Keaton (real name: Diane Hall).

ANNIE HALL is filled with iconic scenes and bits of dialogue, but perhaps its most famous moment is the one that takes place in line at a cinema, when Allen breaks the fourth wall and engages

in a debate with a theater-goer who professes to be an expert on the work of media scholar Marshal McLuhan, who himself shows up to take Allen's side.

"My first choice was [director Federico] Fellini, because it would be more natural if people were standing in line talking about movies, that they would be talking about Fellini," Allen said several years later. "But Fellini didn't want to come over to the United States to do this, which is OK. So I got Marshal McLuhan."

—Casey



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“A relationship, I think, is like a shark. You know? It has to constantly move forward or it dies. And I think what we got on our hands is a dead shark.”

**More Information**

**Screenplay by**

Woody Allen  
Marshall Brickman

**Featuring**

Woody Allen  
Diane Keaton  
Tony Roberts  
Carol Kane  
Paul Simon  
Shelley Duvall  
Janet Margolin  
Colleen Dewhurst  
Christopher Walken

**Cinematography by**

Gordon Willis

**Film Editing by**

Wendy Greene Bricmont  
Ralph Rosenblum

**Distributor**

United Artists

**Country of Origin**

USA

“I really feel [ANNIE HALL] was a major turning point for me. I had the courage to abandon... just clowning around and the safety of complete broad comedy. I said to myself, ‘I think I will try and make some deeper film and not be as funny in the same way. And maybe there will be other values that will emerge, that will be interesting or nourishing for the audience. And it worked out very well.’”

—Woody Allen

**Also Recommended, by Woody Allen**

Play It Again Sam 1972  
Manhattan 1979  
Stardust Memories 1980  
Broadway Danny Rose 1984  
Purple Rose of Cairo 1985  
Hannah and Her Sisters 1986  
Radio Days 1987  
Crimes and Misdemeanors 1989  
Husbands and Wives 1992  
Sweet and Lowdown 1999