

FAVORITE THINGS

# Flicks fix

## The movies that brokers just can't get enough of

By MAGGIE HAWRYLUK

The great escape: what's better than grabbing a comfortable seat, a tasty snack and great flick and being transported to another world for a few hours? And, with the busy schedule of a broker, who has time for a book?

This week we asked readers about their favorite movies that have made them laugh, cry and become inspired.

William Vilkelis, vice president at BARAK Realty, said *A Clockwork Orange* is a classic with a continually entertaining storyline.

"It all seems to make sense somehow," he said. "And in the end, the bad guy gets his comeuppance, but he does leave the question: Was it worth it to be like that along the way and have to pay the piper in the end? And we do get to see some great U.K. real estate along the way — if only I bought then!"

Adina Azarian, founder and CEO of Adina Equities, likes a movie to really work her emotions.

"My favorite movie is *Terms of Endearment*," she said. "I love Jack Nicholson in that movie, it always makes me cry — and ultimately it's a movie about hope and a great love story."

Stephanie Olivero, vice president, associate broker at Corcoran, also enjoys movies that really put human dynamics on display.

"My favorite of all time is *Annie Hall* for the film's style, humor and portrayal of human vulnerability," she said. "While riding through 1970s New York, it tells the classic love story between a city and its cast of beautifully flawed characters."

Stefani Pace, associate broker at Prudential Douglas Elliman, also opted for a New York City-based movie to top her list.

"My favorite movie is *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. It's so funny how no matter what is going on in a New York City



Michelle A. Peters, CEO of Weichert Realtors - Peters Associates, turns to the action of *Braveheart*.

movie, real estate is involved," she said. "The leading man was paid for his services by an apartment; showing what you will do to live in Manhattan. Holly shows no matter whom your friends might be, no matter how you dress or how much you get paid to go to the bathroom, most Manhattanites go back to their little walk up, that you always think you are getting out of."

"The obvious was the funny relationship Holly had with her super and how many times — just like me — she has forgotten her keys."

Mary Cucci, of Weichert, Realtors - Peters Associates, also chose the Audrey Hepburn classic.

"I have so many favorites, but I will say *Breakfast at Tiffany's*," she said. "The movie is timeless. I believe there is a little Holly Golightly in all of us."

BARAK Realty's Marni Laboz, a senior sales associate, is worldlier with her film choices. She said her favorite is *Amelie* with Audrey Tatou, the first foreign film she'd ever seen.

"This movie was the most engaging film I've seen in a long time — the acting was superb, the story was fun and original and the cinematography was flawless," she said. "This film is about the simplistic pleasures of life, those few precious moments that make life a joy. This is a movie for dreamers and romantics."

"I love how *Amelie* tries to help the people around her, mostly ignoring herself," she added. "The characters, the plot, the look and feel of the movie is very whimsical and childish, yet is laced throughout with strong adult themes. I found Audrey Tautou to be absolutely enchanting and infinitely adorable."

Lauren Caputo, associate broker at Century21 NY Metro, said she loves the theme of perseverance in her favorite pick.

"One of my favorite movies is *Working Girl*. I was young when it came out and the ambition and drive was always inspiring how she made it to the top," she said.

Jeff Goodman, sales associate at BARAK Re-



alty, chose the 1968 film *The Lion in Winter* for its historical accuracy, political intrigue and all-star cast including Katherine Hepburn, Peter O'Toole and Anthony Hopkins.

"One thing that I love is about the film is that it doesn't romanticize anything about the Middle Ages; the verisimilitude in the film is poignant. The action mostly taking place over a 24-hour period, with all the detailed intrigue, is a real spellbinder for me," he said. "And let's not forget the humor, including Kate Hepburn's famous line, when her sons pull out knives to confront and challenge their father, King Henry II. When the king — played by Peter O'Toole — is surprised when his son Prince John is the first to pull out

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- Stefani Pace, Prudential Douglas Elliman

his knife against his father, his wife, Eleanor of Aquitaine, chimes in "Of course he has a knife, he always has a knife, we all have knives! It's 1183 and we are all barbarians."

"For anyone who hasn't seen it, it ought to be a 'must see' on your list."

Darren Sukenik, executive vice president at Prudential Douglas Elliman, couldn't choose just one favorite.

"Anything John Cassavetes," he said. "Gritty, organic, raw and real . . . I don't think anyone makes a movie like John Cassavetes."

Michele A. Peters, Esq., CEO of Weichert, Realtors - Peters Associates, looks for some action in her flicks.

"One of my favorites is *Braveheart* because it's about — among many things — belief in what is right and the willingness to die for it."