



The Greater Union Majestic Melbourne and the Lyric Sydney were refurbished around the same time in the Autumn of 1960. With both cinemas to be equipped for 70mm and a 6-channel stereophonic sound, it was the Majestic which reopened first renamed the Chelsea followed by the Lyric renamed the Forum Cinema. The Majestic Theatre was located at 178 Flinders Street in Melbourne and opened on the 31<sup>st</sup> August 1912. The theatre was renovated in 1936 with a Gala reopening of *The Tunnel* on the 24<sup>th</sup> April 1936. The Majestic closed on the 25<sup>th</sup> February 1960 for the installation of Cinemecanica Victoria X dual-

gauge 70/35mm projectors and a 6-channel sound system, reopening on the 10th June 1960 as the **Chelsea Cinema** with the Todd-AO 70mm season of *Porgy and Bess*. The Chelsea presented thirty eight [38] 70mm presentations. Five of these 70mm films, did not open in 70mm in Sydney. These were *The Savage Innocents*, *The Heroes of Telemark*, *Russian Adventure*, *Winning* and *The Great Waltz*. From these five films, only *Russian Adventure* was later reissued in 70mm at Dave's Encore Forum Cinema in Sydney on the 25<sup>th</sup> August 1980 for a one week season. The Victoria X projectors were removed in 1974 and transferred to the Forum, Melbourne for the 70mm release of *That's Entertainment* (which opened on the 6<sup>th</sup> December, 1974). Dual Victoria 8 35/70 projectors, which were intended for the new Russell Street complex, were installed at the Chelsea for the 1978 70mm reissue of *2001: a Space Odyssey*. These were subsequently relocated to the Russell Street prior to its opening in November 1978. The Chelsea eventually closed on the 15th November 1979 with the double feature, *The Enforcer* plus *The Gauntlet*.

70MM OPENINGS	FORMAT	OPENED	CLOSED	WKS
Porgy and Bess	Todd-AO	10/06/60	07/12/60	26
Spartacus	Super Technirama 70	09/12/60	03/08/61	34
Black Tights	Super Technirama 70	04/08/61	05/10/61	9
The Savage Innocents	Super Technirama 70	22/12/61	29/03/62	14
EL CID	Super Technirama 70	30/03/62	20/12/62	38
55 Days at Peking	Super Technirama 70	16/08/63	04/06/64	42
Lawrence of Arabia	Super Panavision 70	05/06/64	10/06/65	53
The Fall of the Roman Empire	Ultra Panavision 70	11/06/65	24/11/65	24
Lord Jim	Super Panavision 70	26/11/65	24/03/66	17
Genghis Khan	70mm Panavision	25/03/66	09/06/66	11
The Heroes of Telemark	70mm Panavision	10/06/66	18/08/66	10
Lost Command	70mm Panavision	19/08/66	06/10/66	7
Russian Adventure	70mm Kinopanorama	07/10/66	03/11/66	4
EL CID – reissue	Super Technirama 70	09/12/66	22/12/66	2
Guns for San Sebastian	70mm Franscope	07/06/68	27/06/68	3
Ben-Hur - <i>First time in 70mm</i>	MGM Camera 65	20/12/68	20/02/69	9
55 Days at Peking – reissue	Super Technirama 70	21/02/69	03/04/69	6
Mackenna's Gold	Super Panavision 70	05/04/69	22/05/69	7
Sweet Charity	70mm Panavision	23/05/69	07/08/69	11
Those Daring Young Men in their Jaunty Jalopies	70mm Panavision	08/08/69	06/11/69	13
Castle Keep	70mm Panavision	07/11/69	04/12/69	4
Winning	70mm Panavision	05/12/69	19/03/70	15
Spartacus – reissue	Super Technirama 70	20/03/70	16/04/70	4
Airport	Todd-AO	17/04/70	22/10/70	27
Darling Lili	70mm Panavision	26/12/70	08/04/71	15
Raid on Rommel	70mm Techniscope	08/10/71	28/10/71	3
Wild Rovers	70mm Panavision	29/10/71	11/11/71	2
Gone with the Wind – reissue	70mm Spherical	12/11/71	18/11/71	1
Ben-Hur – reissue	MGM Camera 65	19/11/71	25/11/71	1
2001: A Space Odyssey – reissue	Super Panavision 70	26/11/71	02/12/71	1
Doctor Zhivago – reissue	70mm Panavision	03/12/71	23/12/71	3
The Boy Friend	70mm Panavision	24/12/71	17/02/72	8
Camelot – reissue	70mm Panavision	03/03/72	09/03/72	1
Spartacus – reissue	Super Technirama 70	01/12/72	14/12/72	2
The Great Waltz	70mm Panavision	15/12/72	01/03/73	11
Ryan's Daughter – reissue	Super Panavision 70	23/11/73	06/12/73	2
The Ten Commandments – <i>First time in 70mm</i>	70mm VistaVision	31/05/74	08/08/74	10
2001: A Space Odyssey – reissue	Super Panavision 70	16/06/78	24/08/78	10

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## CHELSEA, MELBOURNE WIDESCREEN TIMELINE

### CINEMASCOPE THE LONG GRAY LINE 26<sup>th</sup> April 1956



### PREMIERED 70MM PORGY AND BESS 10<sup>th</sup> June 1960



CHELSEA CINEMA  
178 Flinders Street, Melbourne

OPENED  
31<sup>st</sup> August 1912  
as the, Majestic Theatre