



The Hoyts Paris Theatre was located on the corner of Liverpool Street and Wentworth Avenue and opposite the SE corner of Hyde Park in Sydney. The theatre started out as the **Australian Picture Palace**, which opened on the 19th February 1916. The theatre and shops were designed by the American architect and town planner, Walter Burley Griffin, in association with Burcham Clapp. It was renamed the **Tatler** in 1935, then as the **Park** in 1951 and, finally, the **Paris** on the 30th September 1954. In 1957 Hoyts refurbished the theatre to present **Around the World in 80 Days** in a special Michael Todd devised 35mm anamorphic process known

- but not advertised - as 'Cinestage'. The film held the record for the longest run of any film screened at the theatre - the 112 week long season opening with a gala premiere on Wednesday, 2nd October, 1957 and ending on the 25th November, 1959. The following day the theatre closed its doors for 11 days – to allow installation of Todd-AO DP70 projectors and a 6-channel stereophonic sound system. The first film to be screened in 70mm at the Paris Theatre was **Solomon and Sheba**. The longest 70mm season at the Paris was **Can-Can**, which opened on Saturday, 16th April, 1960 and ran for 82-weeks. The Paris also enjoyed long 70mm seasons for **Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines**, **Exodus** and a 41-week move-over season of **The Sound of Music** (which had already completed 140-weeks at Hoyts Mayfair). It also screened **Oklahoma! 80 Days**, **The King and I** and **The Longest Day** "for the first time in 70mm" in Sydney. The Paris also enjoyed remarkably long runs for **Tom Jones** (73-weeks) and **Midnight Cowboy** (50-weeks) – both screening in 35mm. Hoyts Theatres closed the Paris on the 12th February, 1977 with the uncut version of **The Good, the Bad and the Ugly**. The Paris continued to show films under independent exhibitors, with a reissue of **West Side Story** the last 70mm presented, until 1980 when the theatre reverted to live performances of **Pandora's Cross**, **Visions**, **Boy's Own McBeth** and a season of **Circus Oz**, which opened on the 8th April 1980. Its final live show was Robyn Archer's musical, **Songs from Sideshow Alley**, starring Nancy Hayes and Maggie Kirkpatrick. The Paris was eventually demolished in 1981 - to make way for a residential apartment building - the 28-storey Connaught building.

Please Note - It has not been possible to confirm whether **Logan's Run** and **The Andromeda Strain** screened in 70mm at the Paris as part of a University of Sydney student-organized Science Fiction and Fantasy Film Festival in 1978. Accordingly, the film titles and season details will remain highlighted in BLUE cells until confirmed either way.

70MM OPENINGS	OPENED	CLOSED	WKS
Solomon and Sheba	10/12/59	14/04/60	18
Can-Can	16/04/60	08/11/61	82
Oklahoma! – First time in 70mm	09/11/61	25/04/62	24
The Alamo	26/04/62	11/07/62	11
Exodus	12/07/62	05/06/63	47
Around the World in 80 Days – First time in 70mm	15/08/63	09/10/63	8
The King and I – First time in 70mm	10/10/63	10/12/63	9
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines	14/10/65	16/11/66	57
The Agony and the Ecstasy	17/11/66	21/03/67	18
The Sand Pebbles	01/09/67	25/10/67	8
Those Magnificent Men in their Flying Machines- reissue	30/11/67	19/12/67	3
The Sound of Music – move over from the Mayfair	20/12/67	02/10/68	41
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	19/12/68	04/06/69	24
The Longest Day – First time in 70mm	05/06/69	02/07/69	4
Waterloo	19/11/70	07/04/71	20
Too Late the Hero	08/04/71	05/05/71	4
Nicholas and Alexandra	08/12/71	14/06/72	27
Lost Horizon	16/08/73	07/11/73	12
Tom Sawyer	13/12/73	13/02/74	9
My Fair Lady - reissue	19/09/74	23/10/74	5
The Sound of Music <i>plus</i> Hello, Dolly! - reissue	19/12/74	01/01/75	2
Camelot - reissue	06/03/75	21/05/75	11
The Lion in Winter – reissue plus A Touch of Class	09/10/75	15/10/75	1
Rollerball – move over from the Mayfair	16/10/75	12/11/75	4
My Fair Lady - reissue	12/03/77	12/03/77	1 Day
My Fair Lady - reissue	15/03/77	16/03/77	2 Day
West Side Story - reissue	20/03/77	20/03/77	1 Day
West Side Story - reissue	27/03/77	27/03/77	1 Day
Logan's Run <i>and</i> The Andromeda Strain - reissue	31/03/78	02/04/78	3 Day

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS – Tabloid advertisements for **Around the World in 80 Days** and **Solomon and Sheba** sourced from tabloid microfiche at the New South Wales state library.



**PARIS, SYDNEY
WIDESCREEN TIMELINE**

**PREMIERED CINESTAGE
AROUND THE WORLD IN
80 DAYS**

2nd October 1957



**PREMIERED 70MM
SOLOMON AND SHEBA
10th December 1959**



PARIS SYDNEY
205-207 Liverpool Street, Sydney

OPENED
19th February 1916
as the, Australian Picture Palace