

MET Gala Glamour

The iconic event brought about many memorable outfits.



Graphic by ANNIE LIU

Why you should watch your next movie in the theaters

BY Sanjoli Gupta

There's something so comforting about sitting in bed and watching a movie at 2 a.m., knowing that you still have math homework to complete and a quiz the next day. Or, when you're not up at ungodly hours, friends can always come over and watch a movie with you in the comfort and convenience of your house — without a lengthy trip to the theater, hefty ticket prices or the need to look presentable.

However, despite these advantages, watching movies at home lacks the key characteristics that make the traditional movie-going experience so special. In a theater, you're completely immersed in the movie-watching experience: There are no distractions, no parents walking in to check on you and no screaming of a sibling in the background; it's just the big screen, the dialogue, and the food.

Attending a theater provides a truly immersive experience with the big screen, loud music and overpriced popcorn that you just can't get at home.

As the entire theater collectively experiences the movie at the same time, shocking reveals during a mystery movie or a jump scare during a thriller are felt among watchers, and you can hear the reactions of those around you, adding to the shock or fear factor. Such reactions are just as essential to the movie-watching experience as the movie itself; a jump scare set at 20% volume on your TV at home as dishes are being washed in the background just isn't the same.

Sharing buttery popcorn is another staple. Call it placebo, but that overpriced, steaming theater popcorn somehow feels more fulfilling than the microwaved kind at home — it adds to the feeling of watching a movie being a special experience rather than just a way to pass time.

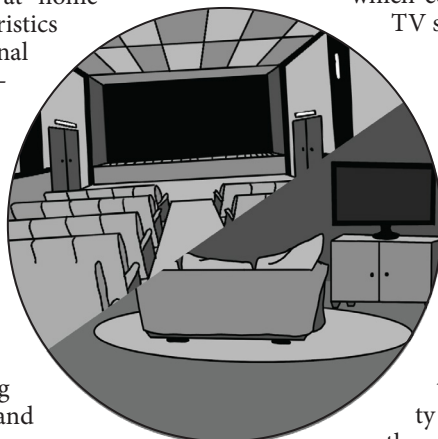
However, one big drawback with the theater experience is the ever-growing price. While a single ticket at AMC costs \$14 to \$18 per person, a month of online streaming can cost from \$4.99 with Apple TV+ to \$15.49 for Netflix, each of which comes with hundreds of TV shows and movies.

Of course, there can also be minor annoyances in theaters. Viewers may forget to turn off their phones or talk loudly during the movie. Then there is the overactive AC that is often at full blast, making for a freezing experience throughout the entirety of the movie. Despite these issues, the large screen and loud dialogue makes the experience special.

As for me, I primarily go to the theaters for long-anticipated movies and ones I certainly don't want spoilers for, such as murder mysteries, in order to keep my wallet from running dry.

While watching at home saves more of your hard-earned money, theaters provide a better, more immersive watching experience and act as a fun social activity with friends.

The next time you find yourself jumping to watch a new movie, consider paying that extra sum for a better experience in theaters. ♦



Graphic by ARIEL ZHOU

King Charles's coronation needed a comedy slot on SNL

BY William Norwood

On May 6, The United Kingdom crowned its new monarch, King Charles III, and welcomed Queen Consort Diana — sorry, I meant Camilla — as well. The coronation was one of the most organized and thoroughly planned events of the 21st century, with public figures such as Emmanuel Macron, Stella McCartney and Katy Perry flying in from all over the world to witness the ceremony.

The glamor of the event has caused it to be the subject of much reverence from the older generation, but in the eyes of the younger generation, it has instead become the subject of humorous memes and belittlement — evidenced by its reception on social media platforms like TikTok, where it went viral for the wrong reasons.

The event involved one of the most complex security operations in U.K. history — though security seemed to have missed one thing.

A TikTok clip of a grim reaper at the coronation surfaced, garnering millions of views in a couple of hours. This ominous figure was later identified by Westminster Abbey as a member of the Abbey community who assists with religious services, but nonetheless caught the attention of

many on the internet.

To Gen Z viewers, the service also feels like a hilariously outdated affair, remaining in line with the rest of the British monarchy's odd traditions.

For example, Prince William, King Charles III's son, had to pledge his loyalty to his father and then kiss him on the cheek.

To me, it seems odd to have to look your father in the eye and say, "I, (insert your name here), Prince of Wales, pledge my loyalty to you and faith and truth I will bear unto you, as your liege man of life and limb. So help me God," and then proceed to kiss him on the cheek in front of billions of people.

It seems slightly incestuous, but what can you expect from a family whose motto has historically been "keep it in the family"?

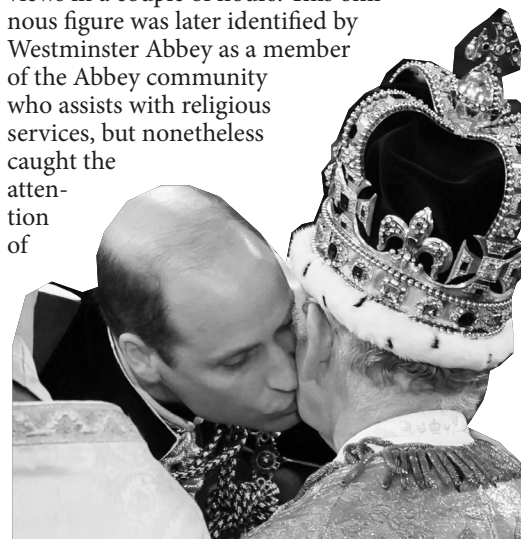
After the crowning of both the king and queen consort, Camilla walked down the aisle while a children's choir sang what many thought sounded like "why not retire, Camilla" or "I want Diana, Camilla."

The choir was apparently singing "Vivat Regina Camilla," though it is my belief that "I want Diana, Camilla" is the clear right answer.

Clearly, people in the younger generation — like myself — are starting to lose more respect for the monarchy and continue to make fun of what it stands for.

The next time a coronation comes around — it might be very soon considering the looming threat of the grim reaper — I urge others to turn on the TV, grab a bucket of popcorn and watch the spectacle that is the British coronation.

I guarantee that although you won't go in with the intent to laugh, you'll be going down a TikTok rabbit hole of jokes as I did by the end. ♦



Courtesy of GETTY IMAGES