

# SIGHT AND SOUND UPDATE

(No. 74 May 2020)

## FILM MORPHS INTO TV

Hoyts have now installed at their Entertainment Cinema complex in Moore Park Sydney, Australia's first giant screen TV set.

Using Samsung Electronics Onyx LED 14 metre TV screen the Australian picture going public will now be paying to watch a TV set in a cinema. First they did away with film and changed to digital projection, now its giant TV sets.

Hoyts had also planned to install a 10 metre TV set at their Highpoint complex in Melbourne in March.



The cinema as we once knew it is fast becoming just a memory

## PERTH CINEMA HISTORY—THE AMBASSADORS

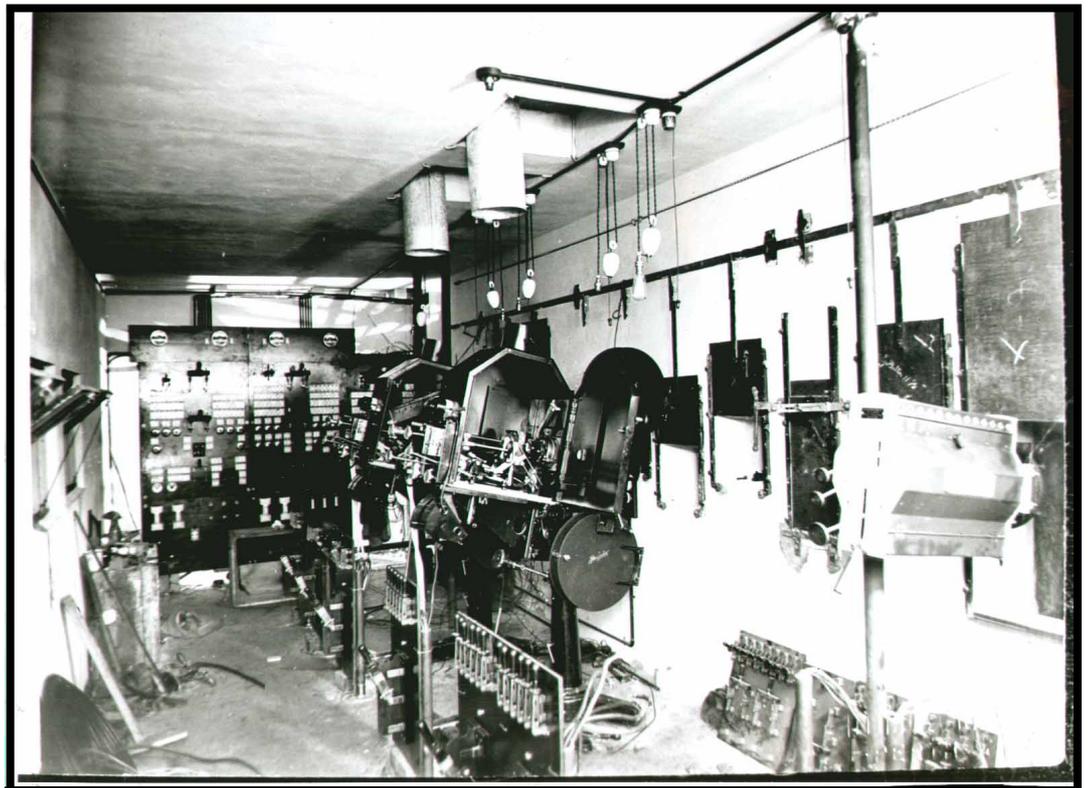
The Ambassadors Theatre in Hay Street Perth was a Union Theatre and opened on the 28<sup>th</sup> of September 1928.

The first film shown was “Glorious Betsy” starring Dolores Costello and the photo shows the Simplex silent projectors being installed for opening night. Later, Western Electric Universal Bases were installed for sound movies.

In the late 1940s Australian made Centrex projectors and Westrex soundheads were used and for “The Robe” in 1954 a Westrex four channel magnetic sound system was installed.

The Ambassadors closed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1972 with the final film

“Diamonds Are Forever”. The theatre was demolished soon after.



## SUN PICTURE GARDENS, BROOME

Originally a store opened by the Yamasaki family in 1903, it was purchased by Master Pearler Ted Hunter in 1913 and converted it into a picture theatre that would seat up to 500 people. Sun Pictures officially opened on December 9th 1916.

In 1924 it was purchased by Messrs W.H. Milner (Harry) and L.R. Knight (Leonard). In 1948, it was bought by Mr and Mrs Walter James Anderson, and in 1953 by Alf Morgan, who leased the premises to Jean and Peter Haynes.



In July 1981, the cinema closed until bought by Lord Alistair McAlpine in 1982, and re-opened in 1983.

The theatre gained its National Trust Classification in 1983.

In 1988 current owner Marisa Ferraz and then business partner Tony Hutchinson purchased the theatre. Husband Ross de Wit joined the business in January 2000.

In 1996, the building was placed on the State Register of Heritage Places as a Permanent Entry.

2004 - Sun Pictures was officially recognised by the Guinness World Records as being the "World's Oldest Open Air Cinema in Operation".

On 9th December 2016, Sun Pictures celebrated 100 years.

For the full story go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/563836451045179/permalink/692096554885834/>

### CAN YOU HELP?

This month's mystery photo has been incorrectly labelled as being the Theatre Royal, which it is not.

Does anybody know what theatre it is and who the people featured are? It is not a city theatre but most likely a suburban one. If you recognize the theatre please let the editor know at [rmudge@bigpond.net.au](mailto:rmudge@bigpond.net.au)

