

# Rolling Roadshow 2006

For more information on the Netflix/Alamo Drafthouse Rolling Roadshow - admission is free, as if you needed convincing should you be in the neighborhood - see the official Web site at [www.netflix.com/Roadshow?hnjr=8&lnkctr=nmfr\\_roadshow](http://www.netflix.com/Roadshow?hnjr=8&lnkctr=nmfr_roadshow). The remaining summer schedule is as follows:

Friday, Aug. 11 <i>Field of Dreams</i> in Dyersville, Iowa	Aug. 18 <i>The Searchers</i> in Monument Valley	Aug. 24 <i>Poseidon Adventure</i> in Long Beach, Calif.
Aug. 16 <i>The Shining</i> in Estes Park, Colo.	Aug. 20 <i>Raising Arizona</i> in Apache Junction, Ariz.	Aug. 26 <i>Escape From Alcatraz</i> , San Francisco

included was a panorama of Monument Valley. When the Alamo Drafthouse announced their plans to take the Rolling Roadshow to Monument Valley in 2005, it was the summer before the 20th anniversary of Ed's death. There seemed no better way to commune with his memory than to finally make the trip we had so long ago planned. I came for a movie and left with a new reverence for this deeply spiritual locale.

Death has been particularly harsh to the *Chronicle's* Film department, claiming a disproportionate number of its members over the years. Another beloved film writer and teacher, George Morris, died in June 1989, also of AIDS. He wrote mostly on older films for the *Chronicle*, and the films he loved knew no greater champion. He taught film at Austin Community College. He was also a friend of Richard Linklater's (*Slacker* is dedicated to his memory) and a driving force behind the formation of the Austin Film Society. George requested that his friends gather after his death for a screening of *The Searchers*. A screening was held at the Dobie Theatre, and his friends came together afterward at the old Austin Media Arts Center (the forerunner of AFS) on the Drag to celebrate his memory. From that point on, *The Searchers* has assumed for me a personal meaning that represents a commitment to and continuity within the Austin film community. I will be in Monument Valley next week as the 50th anniversary print unfurls.

□

Although my journey is something of a personal pilgrimage, each attendee will be drawn to the Rolling Roadshow by something differ-

ent. The Leagues' initial idea for the Rolling Roadshow was for a fantastic summer getaway. People could come on the whole journey or join them in locations along the way. It is a way to bring their ideas about participatory cinema to the country at large. In Austin we're familiar with the Alamo Drafthouse's unique programming that features live music, sing-alongs, costume contests, thematic menu items, and such, as part of their daily offerings. Last summer, they took their show on the road.

Netflix, the nation's leading outfit to rent film by mail, is along for the ride this year as the Roadshow's sponsor. Throughout August, the tour will cross the country, having begun on Aug. 2 with a screening of *The Warriors* in Coney Island and winding up Aug. 26 with *Escape From Alcatraz*, on Alcatraz Island. Screenings are free, and many guest stars will be on hand, one highlight being the Aug. 11 appearance of Kevin Costner at the screening of *Field of Dreams* in Dyersville, Iowa. The whole tour offers new meaning to the "breath-taking panorama of VistaVision." ■

## Also ...

For photos and reports from the 2005 Rolling Roadshow, see [www.originalalamo.com/RRS/frames.asp](http://www.originalalamo.com/RRS/frames.asp).

To read Ed Lowry on *The Searchers*, see [www.cinematexasnotes.com](http://www.cinematexasnotes.com).

To read work by and about George Morris in the *Chronicle*, see [austinchronicle.com/issues/vol18/issue39/screens.morris.html](http://austinchronicle.com/issues/vol18/issue39/screens.morris.html).

Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Devils Tower, Wyo.



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