

ON THE TOWN



Cinema Alfresco

This summer, enjoy the silver screen by the light of the silvery moon.

LOS ANGELES

Spending a warm summer evening at the legendary **HOLLYWOOD BOWL** is a popular pastime in Los Angeles, with music lovers from far and wide flocking to performances by the city's philharmonic and other musical headliners. Thanks to the recent \$25 million renovation of the venue's distinctive shell, the Bowl has also become the ultimate alfresco film setting. With four large projection screens and newly designed and relocated speakers delivering a more even sound across the 17,500-seat amphitheater, the overhaul ensures that whether you are watching from a bench (\$1) or a Garden box (\$111), you'll find that there's not a bad seat in the house. And for our money, we'll take a night under the stars over an evening at the multiplex anytime.

Edited by *Thomas P. Farley*

Last year, the popular sing-along to *The Sound of Music* (complete with follow-the-bouncing-ball subtitled lyrics and a spirited audience arriving in costume) featured an onstage reunion of the seven actors who played the von Trapp children in the movie. Crowd-pleasing classics such as *Ben-Hur* (above), *The King and I* and *Singin' in the Rain* were accompanied by the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra, conducted by John Mauceri. He and his musicians have been delighting Angelenos with lively pop fare since 1991; this summer's big treats will be "The Great American Concert: Walt Disney's *Fantasia* With Fireworks" (August 18 and 19) and "The Big Picture: American Film Institute's Greatest Movie Musicals" (September 3). 2301 North Highland Avenue; 323-850-2000; hollywoodbowl.com.

SALLY HORCHOW