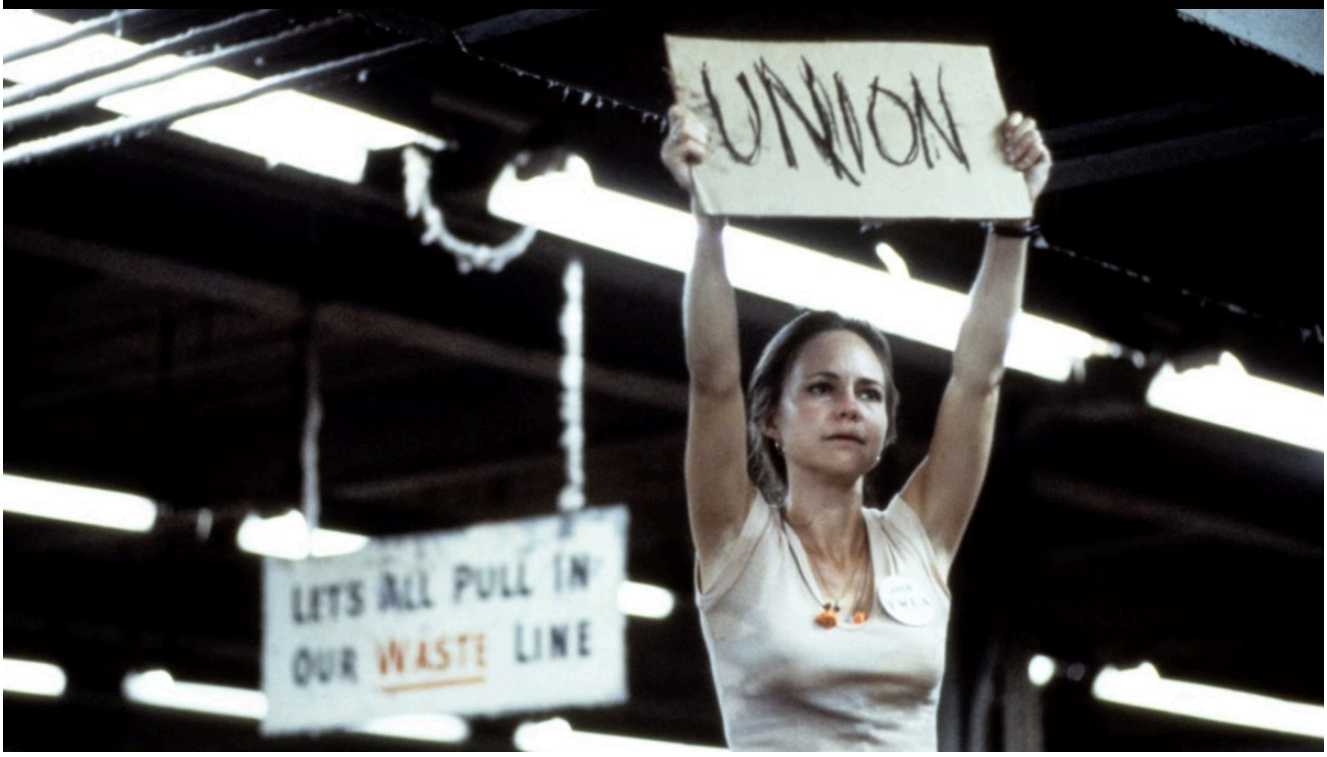
KINONIK

NORMA RAE (1979)

With Sally Fields

WEDNESDAY June 18th 7PM



Long, grueling hours of repetitive work. Snatching little joys where possible, even when it's inadvisable. A wage that barely stretches beyond basic living expenses, if it covers those at all. A company that doesn't care, as long as the profits keep rolling in. This is the life of Sally Field's character in **Norma Rae** (1979), the life her parents lived, and the life her children seem doomed to inherit. But like the real-life textile mill worker Crystal Lee Sutton, on whom the film is based, there comes a breaking point when it is better to risk losing everything than retain the security misery brings.

Martin Ritt, who was blacklisted during the McCarthy era, understood the costs of standing by one's convictions. He also recognized how much steeper those costs were for someone like Crystal Lee — working-class, without connections or resources, with everything to lose. Sutton's organizing helped launch a broader campaign against J.P. Stevens, one of the most notoriously anti-union companies in the United States. She spent her life fighting for fair treatment and better wages for the textile workers who were her family, friends, and neighbors. Norma Rae dramatizes the beginning of that fight — from first contact with union organizers to the personal sacrifices that followed.

Sally Fields delivers a career defining (as well as Academy Award and Golden Globe winning) performance, keeping Norma Rae utterly relatable and totally heroic. A timely reminder that the good fight has been, and can still be, fought and won by everyday people doing what they can...while still, of course, making for a great Movie Night experience. We're lucky enough to have an absolutely beautiful print that you don't want to miss: a feast for the eyes and the revolutionary spirit.