

Telephone Operators On Skates?

Last Friday, I watched one of last year's most talked about movies (at least in my circles). I must say that the Clint Eastwood helmed/Angelina Jolie-starring film *Changeling* was well worth the months I have been endeavoring to watch it. The story itself was harrowing made even more dramatic by the fact that is factually based.

Since [taylhis](#) has already given an excellent synop, I will mention the pains taken in the creating of late 1920-early 1930s Los Angeles. Costuming, set design, the music, everything put you right there. The only building that is still standing in the greater LA locale is the City Hall itself which has been seen in numerous television series and movies (I can think of two immediately: *The Naked Gun* and the watchable if laughable updated *Dragnet* starring Tom Hanks and Dan Aykroyd). Eastwood even resurrected the LA streetcar (which have been out of service since 1961). The multi-talented director also composed the musical score for the film which he has done in many of his efforts... primarily with his passion for jazz. The costume design was totally period. Did telephone switchboard operators really move along on roller skates... complete with key?

And here is my extreme geek topic of the day. The fact that *(The) Changeling* is a title of a TOS episode was not lost on me. In fact, some theatres received the film under the name *Nomad* which was the name of the space probe from the 1967 season two episode. Not a total geek, I had to cheat on the year the episode premiered.

A truly memorable viewing experience. Again, totally robbed at Oscar time (and Clint was not even nominated).