

CINEMA

Review: Falling in Love

Directed by Ulu Grosbard; written by Michael Christofer; starring Meryl Streep, Robert DeNiro, Harvey Keitel, David Clennon, Jane Kaczmarek.

They are contented couples. Perhaps lacking the passion of Romeo and Juliet, but satisfied nonetheless. They have stable, long-term, comfortable relationships. He has a good wife—homemaker, mother, nurturer of their lives and his career. Smart and pretty, she even has a sense of humor.

She married the doctor. A bit serious, well yes, but understandable for one who deals daily in matters of life and death. He is a good provider. She has a big brick house, a New York city wardrobe, and time to develop her talent.

Neither Robert DeNiro nor Meryl Streep is looking for an extra-marital affair. They bump into each other. They meet again. And again. There is laughter and play, fear and tension, and always the sense of "we can't do this."

What is it like to fall, stumble, slip, spill into love that is unsanctioned, love for which life holds no place. Or does it? At what cost? This is love built on time borrowed from others, based partly on lies. Forbidden fruit is sweeter, they say. "Ah, yes, but we never tasted it," these two lie to themselves.

When Robert De Niro is finally confronted by his wife (Jane Kaczmarek, she's good) who knows, as wives always seem to know, he hangs his head and nearly whispers with guilt, "There was this woman. Ah. Um. We didn't do anything. I mean, we didn't. It was nothing like that." "No," her voice drives at him angrily, "it's worse, isn't it?"

It is. We know it is. We watch

his discovery of his infidelity. Damn. They kept out of the sheets, and for what? It's just as bad. They are in love, all the way, without going all the way. The chemicals have collided, mixed and exploded in spite of their carefully maintained physical distance.

The thing that refreshes has happened to them (not Coke, sillies). The thing that puts pink in the cheek, twinkle in the eye, makes breathing difficult at best. The thing that's nobody's idea and nobody's fault. The thing that makes child support checks and weird lonely Christmases. They've got it bad.

In general, critics seem to be panning this film. They call it superficial and romantically contrived. They say all Meryl Streep does is brush her hair from her face. So what? Who cares what they say? Audiences seem to like this film, and I think it's because the subject matter is *always* timely. We like to watch this stuff, we get to act it out vicariously, talk about it, wonder and remember. What is so illuminating about the dramas we watch, as opposed to the dramas we play in, is that we can identify with *all* of the characters, not just ourselves. The dialogue isn't profound. It doesn't need to be. In a sense these are ordinary people (affluent-ordinary).

The film doesn't quite deal with it all. The considerable damage the affair does to spouses and children is treated lightly, almost brushed aside. Of course, to touch that one with a 10-foot pole would change the entire tone of the film. Maybe that is the one Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Michael Christofer wants us to take home and work out for ourselves.

This film is about what the title says—falling in love, the process. It's about how a simple attraction between two people, if honored and indulged, can rapidly develop into a consuming, life-altering event.

—Sharon Rose

NOW SHOWING

2010: In the near future, a small group of Russians and Americans set out on a great adventure to find life beyond the stars. Cinema World (342-6536).

Aguirre, The Wrath of God: Klaus Kinski is the mad conquistador, out of his mind, trying to find the famed El Dorado. Directed by Werner Herzog. West Germany, 1973. Cinema 7 (687-0733).

All of Me: Lily Tomlin, a wealthy spinster who doesn't want to die, hires a mystic to transplant her soul to the body of a beautiful young woman. Her inept lawyer (Steve Martin) bumbles into the ceremony, the mystic's aim is off, and Martin and Tomlin are zapped into one body. Carl Reiner directs, screenplay by Alden Robinson. Shows with *Oh God, You Devil*. Oakway (342-5351).

Amadeus: Mozart's music becomes a character in this lavishly filmed adaptation of Peter Schaffer's acclaimed modern stage play. Directed by Milos Forman (*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*), the conflict is between the exuberantly brash and brazen child-man Mozart (Tom Hulce), and his mediocre musical rival Antonio Sallieri (F. Murray Abraham), whose jealousy (the play suggests) caused the maestro's murder. Cinema World (342-6536).

Attila: Based on the true-life story of George Attila. This entertaining film set in the snowy out-back of Alaska details the life of an Indian boy caught between old and new worlds who overcame tuberculosis and grew up to be a champion dogsled racer. Cinema World (342-6536).

Beverly Hills Cop: Eddie Murphy is a Detroit cop who comes to Beverly Hills to solve the murder of his best friend. Directed by Martin Brest (*Going in Style*). Murphy is the funniest thing on screen for the Christmas film season. National (344-3431).

Careful, He Might Hear You: A young boy is torn in a custody battle between two aunts, one cold and neurotic (Wendy Hughes), the other warm and caring (Robin Nevin). Based on the novel by Sumner Locke Elliot, directed by Carl Schultz, winner of 8 Australian academy awards. Scenery evokes 1930's Australia. Bijou (686-2458).

City Heat: Detective story starring Clint Eastwood and Burt Reynolds. McDonald (344-4343).

Cotton Club: Francis Ford Coppola's lavish music, dance, gang war extravaganza. Co-written with Pulitzer-prize winning novelist Wm. Kennedy, the story is said to be as good as the images. The stories are drawn from *The Cotton Club*, a New York prohibition-era speakeasy. Stars Richard Gere, Gregory Hines, Dianne Lane, Lonette McKee. Showing at Valley River Twin in both theaters (686-8633).

Dune: David Lynch (*The Elephant Man*, *Eraserhead*) directs this expensive adaptation of Frank Herbert's popular science-fiction novel. West 11th Tri Cinema (342-4142).

Falling in Love: An extra-marital affair develops between Meryl Streep and Robert DeNiro as they ride the commuter trains in New York. Cinema World (342-6536).

Ghost Busters: Springfield Quad (726-9073).

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom: Springfield Quad (726-9073).

Live Matinee Comedy: Fri. night and Sat. afternoon. Dec. 7 & 8, 14 & 15. Cinema 7 (687-0733).

The Man Who Would Be King: Sean Connery and Michael Caine star in John Huston's adaptation of Kipling's novel of old-fashioned adventure in remote Kafiristan. Cinema 7 (687-0733).

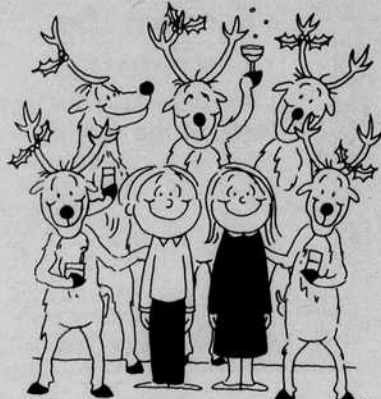
CINEMA 7 Attn: Bldg 687-0733
DECEMBER 15-20

AGUIRRE, THE WRATH OF GOD
Director: Werner Herzog (W. Germany 1973)
35 mm, 94 min.
Shows: Sat. 8:00 pm
Sun.-Thurs. 7:00 pm
Sun. Matinee 2:00 pm

WITH Sean Connery, Michael Caine
The Man Who Would Be King
Sat. 9:45 pm
Sun.-Thurs. 8:45 pm
Sun. Matinee 3:45 pm

Gift Ideas for the Holidays

Share the Holidays with your deer ones



© RPP, Inc.

Dale

with cards and gifts and all the trimmings from

W.H.

PAPER TRADERS

Annex

Present this
ad for a **FREE**
ornament.

5th St. Public Market

Balcony Level 343-3622

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

from

**PRINCE
PUCKLERS**



Holiday Ice
Cream Flavors

Gift Certificates

Rich Eggnog
Drink

Coffee and
Coffee Gifts

Candy

861 WILLAMETTE 13th & HILYARD
343-2621 484-6448

**SILVER
CONSPIRACY**

Eugene's
Most Unique
Gold & Silver
Jewelry
at affordable prices!!

Still taking custom orders, too!!
466 Willamette 343-8019
(5th at Willamette, around back,
in the Lane Bldg.)

This year the Red Barn is giving away our own Christmas present!



a **FREE** Bianchi Sport
BICYCLE!!

A drawing will be held on December 20, 1984. We will give away this beautiful Italian bicycle which retails for \$205.00! Beginning Nov. 15th you may ask the Cashier for an entry blank. No purchase necessary.

Participants must be 18 years or over.

The Bianchi Sport is available at Pedal Power Bike Shop located at 6th and High, Eugene. They feature a full range of quality bicycles and biking accessories.

