

Time for the International Film Festival Again!

by Lois Wadsworth

Every year for the past seven, Steve Bove has sought to find the most interesting American and foreign films released during the year for Cinema 7's eight-week-long summer movie madness. The whole process of booking films is complex; only one or two prints of a film may exist; shipping costs are outrageous. Every year there are films he wants to show that are unobtainable or too expensive. This year he even called the executor of Orson Welles' estate trying to find a print of the 1952 *Othello*, but to no avail; for distribution purposes, the film no longer exists. Likewise, it proved impossible to locate an uncut print of Bob Dylan's four-and-a-half-hour *Renaldo and Clara*. Too bad; apparently, only the man himself knows where it is. In spite of the hassles and disappointments that go with running a small festival, Bove revels in the idea of seeing these 26 films from Great Britain, Italy, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Africa, South America, Australia, Czechoslovakia, Russia, Poland, Japan, and the USA in Eugene. Financially, Bove's hopes are modest—he just wants to break even.

The highlight of the festival for some moviegoers is the chance to see early, rare works by masters like Akira Kurosawa, Orson Welles, Jean Renoir, and Jean-Luc Goddard, all of whom are represented this year. A new print of Kurosawa's 1946 film about a young woman, *No Regrets For Our Youth* (Sept. 1-3), is billed as his "first personal film" and promises to be a real treat. The heavy favorite to replace Welles' unavailable *Othello* is *Chimes At Midnight* (Sept. 15-17), with a very hefty Welles playing Falstaff. Renoir's *La Vie Est a Nous* (Life Is Ours) (Aug. 25-27), a 1936 documentary made for the French Communist Party, was not shown in this country for 50 years. Goddard's *Une Femme est une Femme* (A Woman is a Woman) (Sept. 15-17) is a new wide-screen print of his 1962 spoof of the Hollywood musical.

Brand-new American releases include another of Robert Altman's Broadway plays-into-film (*Beyond Therapy*, Aug. 18-20) and Alex Cox's first film since *Sid and Nancy*. Cox's spaghetti western homage to Sergio Leone, *Straight To Hell* (Sept. 4-7),

is described by Courtney Love who co-stars in the picture as being "about manliness, sweat, sexual tension, guns and coffee. It's the B movie of all B movies. That's what's promised, and that's what's delivered." Just for comparison, Bove has booked Leone's wide-screen all-time-top-of-the-genre 1966 hit, *The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly* to play the same three nights. I loved seeing Leone's 1968 *Once Upon a Time in the West* on the wide screen in June and wouldn't miss this double bill.

Other landmarks include a new film by Dutch director Marleen Gorris whose explosively feminist *A Question of Silence* stirred up a firestorm of controversy a few years back. The new film is called *Broken Mirrors* (Aug. 21-24); it's a thriller set in a brothel in Amsterdam. Sharing the bill is French director Agnes Varda's highly acclaimed *Vagabond*. *Tangos*, *The Exile of Gardel* (Aug. 14-17) and *Nineteen Nineteen* (Aug. 18-20) are reviewed in this issue.

Australian director Paul Cox (*Man of Flowers*) has Isabelle Huppert to star in *Cactus* (Sept. 1-3), a love story between a woman who loses her sight after an accident and a very independent blind man she meets. From Italy, Ermanno Olmi's *Camina, Camina* (Aug. 25-27) promises to be a simple and innocent film about the birth of Christ that "nourishes the spirit." An animation retrospective of the works of American cartoonist George Pal and some stunning puppet animation from Czechoslovakia make a double bill all the big kids in the family can enjoy August 28-31.

One of the shows Steve wanted for last year's festival makes it this year—Polish film director Andrzej Wajda's *The Orchestra Conductor* (Sept. 8-10). Wajda, living in self-imposed exile following his excellent Solidarity films, *Man of Steel* and *Man of Marble*, directs John Gielgud in this story of a Polish conductor returning to his native land after 50 years. On the bill with Wajda is Russian director Alexi Gherman's *My Friend Ivan Lapshin* about the ordinary beauties and struggles of life in a provincial town in 1935 before the terrible war.

Andy Warhol (Sept. 11-14) is an hour-long biography of the late, great with film clips from some of his films

and comments from friends and admirers. Hopes run high that British director Peter Greenaway's new film, *A Zed and Two Noughts* (Sept. 11-14), will be as bonkers as his first hit, *The Draughtsman's Contract*.

The African film in the series is from the Ivory Coast. Titled *Faces of Women* (Sept. 18-21), these three stories of women "pieced together over 12 years by a film-maker who doesn't have a single dull thought in his head" sounds like pure delight. Sharing the bill is a film from Great Britain, *Black Joy* about West Indians in London.

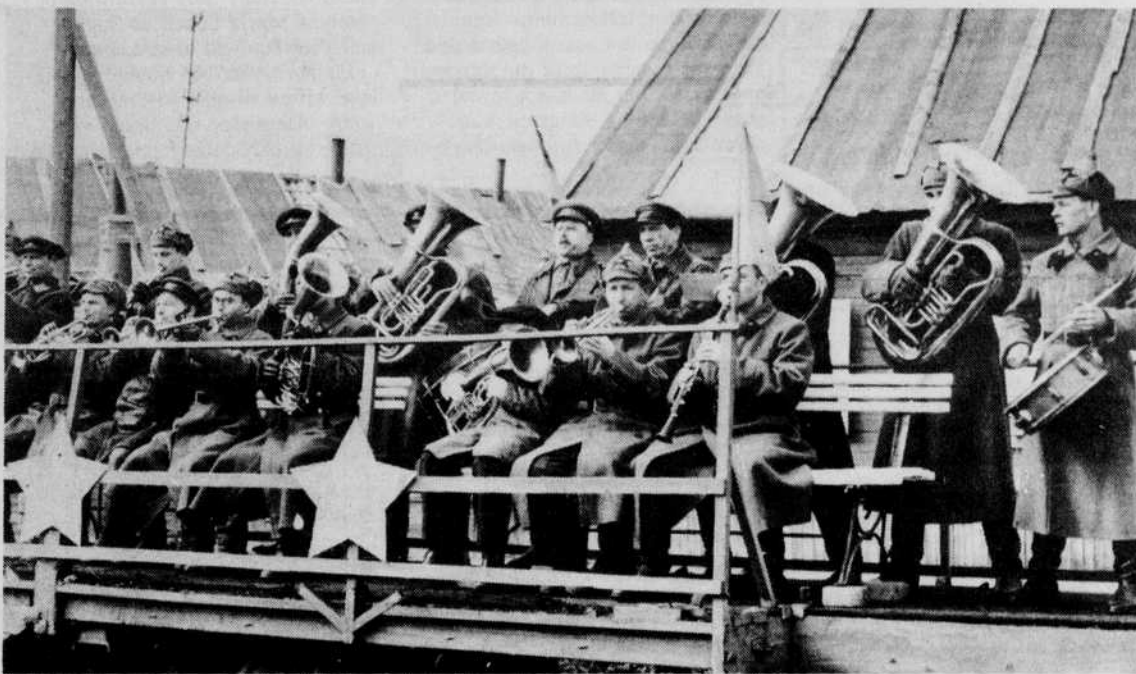
Winding up the festival in late September is *Police* (Sept. 22-24), French director Maurice Pialat's neo-realistic cops-and-drug-mafia thriller starring Gerard Depardieu. *The Good Father* (Sept. 22-24) from Great Britain's Mike Newell (*Dance With a Stranger*) stars Anthony Hopkins as a father separated from his son when his marriage falls apart. The last film, *Law of Desire* (Sept. 25-Oct. 1), is from Spain, and advance billing suggests that Pedro Almodovar has taken love and lust to new hilarious heights.



ABOVE: *Cactus* is by Australian director Paul Cox and plays September 1-3.

BELOW: *Straight To Hell*, another of Cox' films, pays homage to Sergio Leone's "Spaghetti Westerns."

BOTTOM: *My Friend Ivan Lapshin* is a very personal account of life in Stalinist Russia.



Summer Sale!!

Southern comfort

at Folkways

Hammocks, straw hats, natural fibre clothing, jewelry and folk art from around the world!

Fifth St. Public Market
downstairs
683-2204

762 E. 13th Ave.
next to the Excelsior
343-8667

FOLKWAYS IMPORTS

Park Street

CAFÉ

Serving Continental breakfast, seasonal salads, soups, quiche, sandwiches with chemical-free meats, espresso and more.

Early Bird Special Continues

95¢ for coffee & choice of:

- Croissant
- Bagel and cream cheese
- Cinnamon Roll

7:30-10:30 am

Now Open Saturday 8-2

Outdoor Seating
Open M-F 7:30 am-4 pm
776 West Park St.
(One block East of Willamette
between 7th & 8th Avenues)

485-2089
Call ahead for take-out

STU'S Eugene Bicycles

Mountain Bike Special

Introducing: **Index Shifting**

The derailleur control clicks into each gear for precise and effortless gear shifting.

Montagna X.I.S.
Sale \$339.95 (reg. \$370.00)

18-speed Mountain Bike with oversize, double-butted Crome-Moly frame. Suntour XC-Sport 7000 index shifting system. Oval chainrings for easier, more efficient pedal stroke. Five frame sizes, including women's.

Also, Montagna S.E. \$299.95

Fuji "Absolute" 12-speed
5 red-tagged bikes
Sale \$199.95 (reg. \$229.95)

Red Tag SALE

8th & Monroe at Blair • 344-2175