

Cinema 7 Closing

To the Eugene Community:

Closing Cinema 7 was a very difficult decision to make. I believe in the arts and the art in cinema. Cinema 7 was dedicated to the arts and equally dedicated to the politics of human rights.

What glorious films have been shown at Cinema 7 over the last 13 years! Our priority has been to provide Eugeneans a showcase for films that rarely show outside major American cities. This will certainly be missed.

I will also miss the opportunity of providing a meeting place for Eugene's many human rights organizations. Half the struggle for human rights is simply to inform the citizens in our community of our responsibilities to humankind.

To those individuals and organizations who participated and supported Cinema 7, thank you.

Over the years Cinema 7 has become somewhat of an institution and with that arose an assumption that Cinema 7 would "always be around." Those assumptions, however well intended, cannot support the financial realities that an independent arts business must face every day. I have intensely worked since 1984 to grow with Cinema 7 in Eugene. I have invested thousands of hours in negotiations with over eight locations downtown and it still seems to me in 1987 that Eugene's business climate is not responsive to the business of art. Cinema 7 joins the ranks of Starflower, Northwest Working Press, The Truck Stop, The Zoo and a myriad of other small businesses that were once a vital part of Eugene and are no more.

Again I thank all of you who have made cinema and the years of Cinema 7 so fun, exciting and rewarding.

—Steve Bove
Owner, Cinema 7

Farewell to an old friend

by Lois Wadsworth

"...You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone..."

—Joni Mitchell

When Cinema 7 closes its doors on the night of November 12, a unique and special showcase for cinema art will cease to be available to our community. It is a sad event for me, both personally as a patron and professionally as a film reviewer. I feel that I have lost an old friend, a particular and irreplaceable companion with whom I have shared sublime and delicious moments.

Where else, I ask myself, could I have taken my little girl to see *Children of Paradise* 10 or 12 years ago? Or *La Strada*, one of the most influential films in my life? Was there another place to see two full days of Nadine Gordimer's surreptitiously-filmed-in-South Africa movies? Would my 76-year old mother have ever seen *Picasso* if we had not attended the Cinema's 1987 International Film Festival? Did any other theater bring Claude Lanzmann's

9½-hour epic *Shoah* to the big screen outside of New York and L.A.? What about hilarious, offbeat American pictures like *UFORIA* and *Heartbreakers* that sat on some studio shelf for years, lacking distribution—was there another place to see them? In what commercial house would the Greek glory of *Rembetiko* or the Chinese flavor of *Dim Sum* or *The Great Wall* have found an audience?

Over the years several non-profit organizations have been the recipients of the Cinema's very generous policy of benefit showings of films on significant human rights issues. In particular, I remember the Association for Retarded Citizens' benefit performance of *A Test of Love* and the Council for Human Rights in Latin America's *Las Madres*. I know there were many others.

Of course, Cinema 7 isn't just a place, it's a state of mind. Steve Bove is the prime mover behind creating an

environment in which so many of the latest and best foreign and home-grown independent films have had their Eugene premieres. It is a tribute to his artistic consciousness that we, as a community, have had the opportunity for the last 13 years to sample some of the finest films ever made.

Thanks, Steve, from the heart.

If you want to show your appreciation for the Cinema's years of community service, the final week shows *A Man in Love*. It's a new film by Diane Kurys starring Peter Coyote and Greta Scacchi, November 5-12. The very last night, November 12, the 9:30 show will be John Huston's *The Man Who Would Be King*.

Come celebrate Friday the 13th at the Cinema's Garage Sale and help these good folks get rid of furniture, lamps, projectors, posters and much, much more. Let's close this baby down with a little style, Eugene.

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Seniors and students: Half price tickets 1 hour before curtain, pending availability.

Funded in part by The Eugene Arts Foundation.