

# A steamy, sensual love story

Review by Lois Wadsworth

## A Man In Love

Diane Kurys' latest film is a steamy romance between a narcissistic movie actor (Peter Coyote) and his exquisite leading lady (Greta Scacchi). On-camera love scenes fuel passionate, consuming private moments, "moments out of time," says Kurys, [that] "are also part of the legend of movie making."

American movie star Steve Elliot (Peter Coyote) has come to Rome to make an unusual movie with a temperamental Italian film director. The picture they're shooting is about Cesar Pavese, an Italian poet and novelist who killed himself in 1950. In his suicide note, Pavese wrote of love that "reveals us in all our nakedness, our misery, our vulnerability, our void. . . ." As a man, Steve is fascinated with the poet's philosophy. As an actor, his obsession with Pavese's suicide adds a darker, less stable dimension to his performance on the set.

He's very keyed up the first time he sees Jane (Greta Scacchi), who is to play Pavese's final lover in the film, struck by how much she looks the part. From the beginning, they burn up the space between them with naked sexual interest.

They both have other claims on their affections. Steve's wife Susan (Jamie Lee Curtis) is a dynamic, jealous woman who isn't happy about his being so far away while she raises the children alone. His friend and personal assistant Michael (Peter Riegert) isn't happy about anything that destabilizes



Scene from *A Man In Love*.

Steve's life. Jane's Parisian boyfriend Bruno (Vincent Lindon) continues to hope she'll come back to him. Additionally, Susan has a strong connection to her parents; her eccentric father Harry (John Berry) follows her to Rome while her mother Julia (Claudia Cardinale), who is very ill, remains in the country.

In spite of the obstacles (or because of them) Steve and Jane fall in love—way in, over their heads, crazy in love—a state which is hard on everyone else in their universe, but glorious for them. And their standing up, first time, sex scene is great voyeuristic cinema.

Diane Kurys says she wanted to show what happens "in the mind

and heart of an actor in love . . . within the strange world of a film studio . . . (where) everything is more intense, more fragile." American audiences have liked Kurys' other films (*Peppermint Soda*, 1977, *Cocktail Molotov*, 1980, *Entre Nous*, 1983). *A Man in Love* is a fitting next-step in her development as a filmmaker.

The movie plays for one week only at Cinema 7. It is the final (as in last, ultimate, closing, concluding) week-long film the cinema will run (see related essay in this issue). Pay your last respects this week to a community resource that has brought hundreds of wonderful films to Eugene for 13 years, and catch a good flick while you're at it.

## now showing

### A FOND FAREWELL...

**The Man Who Would Be King:** Steve Bove and crew close the doors of Cinema 7 next Thursday with a single screening of this modern-day parable by John Huston. See letter from Steve in today's *WH*, and review/farewell by Lois Wadsworth. Also, see *A Man in Love* and *The Hero's Journey* below.

### NEW TO TOWN

**Death Wish 4: The Crackdown:** Charles Bronson again goes on the warpath, this time as an architect whose girlfriend's teen-age daughter is murdered. With Kay Lenz. MovieLand (342-4142).

**Hiding Out:** Suspense/comedy. In Boston, Jon Cryer (*Pretty in Pink*'s "Ducky") plays a stockbroker who poses as a high school student to shake off some hired thugs. PG-13. MovieLand (342-4142) and Springfield Quad (726-9073).

**Less Than Zero:** Brett Easton Ellis's novel by the same name is the source of this movie about an Ivy Leaguer (Andrew McCarthy) who comes back home to Beverly Hills. With Jami Gertz (*The Lost Boys*) and Robert Downey, Jr. (*The Pick-up Artist*). MovieLand (342-4142) and Springfield Quad (726-9073).

**Made in Heaven:** Timothy Hutton and Kelly McGillis play souls who meet in heaven. The problem: He's just died, she was just born. Fantasy/drama with Maureen Stapleton. Look for uncredited appearance by Debra Winger. Hutton's real-life wife, as a man. PG. MovieLand (342-4142) and Cinema World (342-6536).

**A Man In Love:** Set in Rome, Peter Coyote plays a self-centered American actor and Greta Scacchi (*Good Morning, Babylon*) a HOT Italian actress who are consumed with passion for each other, during the making of a film about Italian poet Cesare Pavese. With Jamie Lee Curtis, directed by Diane Kurys (*Entre Nous*). It's the last regular booking at Cinema 7 (687-0733).

**Tampopo:** Food, gangsters, sex and the movies are basic elements in this Japanese comedy that Gene Siskel gave 3½ stars. A tongue-in-cheek satire on the zen of, yes, noodles, directed by Juzo Itami. The Bijou (686-2458).

**Vigil:** "A poignant, humid, enigmatic drama," said the Oregonian. Gorgeously filmed story of a widow and her daughter dealing with a new man on the scene in a remote part of New Zealand. The Bijou (686-2458).

### CONTINUING/RETURNING

**Baby Boom:** Comedy. Manhattan business professional Diane Keaton suddenly inherits a toddler, which puts strains on her career and love life. Sam Shepard plays a small-town vet. Cinema World (342-6536).

**Can't Buy Me Love:** High school nerd Patrick Dempsey tries to buy the favor of cheerleader Amanda Peterson. Comedy. Late-night feature at the Bijou (686-2458).

**Dirty Dancing:** Being compared to *Saturday Night Fever* and *Flashdance*, this musical/romance takes place in 1963 in upstate New York. Young Jennifer Grey falls for older man Patrick Swayze. Double feature with *Like Father, Like Son* at MovieLand (342-4142).

**Fatal Attraction:** A one-night stand turns into a nightmare for a lawyer (Michael Douglas) and his family. Glenn Close plays the obsessed woman who pursues him. Thriller. Cinema World (342-6536).

**Fatal Beauty:** Whoopi Goldberg plays a tough undercover narcotics detective in L.A. An R-rated comedy with Sam Elliott. MovieLand (342-4142) and Springfield Quad (726-9073).

**Full Metal Jacket:** The long-awaited Stanley (2001) Kubrick film, it never lets up revealing the mindlessness and brutality of war, climaxing at the 1968 Tet Offensive of the Vietnam War. Double feature with *Robocop* at Springfield Fine Arts (747-2201).

**The Hero's Journey: The World of Joseph Campbell:** An L.A. Weekly pick last spring, this documentary explores the spirit, humor and wisdom of Campbell, a man deeply involved in the study of mythology. Film includes analysis of Campbell's effect on George Lucas and *Star Wars*. Special additional showings at 3 pm November 7 & 8 at Cinema 7 (687-0733).

**Like Father, Like Son:** Teen-age live wire (Kirk Cameron of TV's *Growing Pains*) and his straight-laced dad (Dudley Moore) accidentally trade brain parts connected to intelligence and personality, but not memory. Confusion reigns. Comedy. Double feature with *Dirty Dancing* at MovieLand (342-4142) and Springfield Quad (726-9073).

**Matewan:** Re-creates an ugly incident in the 1920's in coal country, at Matewan (pronounced mate-one), West Virginia. Striking coal miners clash with their bosses through immigrant and Black scabs. Chris Cooper plays a union organizer, John Slayes (*The Brother From Another Planet*) directs. Valley River Twin (686-8633).

**Prince of Darkness:** A teacher tricks his graduate science students into a new project: keep the Devil down below. John Carpenter wrote/directed. R. Springfield Quad (726-9073).

**The Princess Bride:** Rob Reiner (*Stand By Me*) directed this fantasy based on William Goldman's popular book. True love will out—and villains have punch lines. Cinema World (342-6536).

**Robocop:** Sci-fi thriller about a cyborg employed to clean up on Detroit lowlife. With Peter Weller, it's graphically violent, satirizes TV newscasts, and is more than comix brought to life. Late-night feature at the Bijou (686-2458) and double feature with *Full Metal Jacket* at Springfield Fine Arts (747-2201).

**The Sicilian:** A Michael Cimino-directed drama, based on a Mario (*The Godfather*) Puzo novel about a southern Italian folk hero. With Christopher Lambert, Terence Stamp, Barbara Sukowa. Double feature with *Surrender* at Valley River Twin (686-8633).

**Surrender:** Artist Sally Fields falls for novelist Michael Caine. With Steve Guttenberg and Peter Boyle. Double feature with *The Sicilian* at Valley River Twin (686-8633).

**Suspect:** Cher (*Mask*, *Witches of Eastwick*) takes on another leading-lady role. Here she's a D.C. attorney representing a Vietnam vet in a murder case. Dennis Quaid (*The Big Easy*) plays a juror. Suspense. McDonald (344-4343).

Thursday, November 5 is the last showing for: *The Lost Boys* and *Untouchables* late-night at the Bijou. A Prayer for the Dying and *The Whistle Blower* at the Bijou. La Bamba, Three O'Clock High, *Enemy Territory* and *Stakeout* at Springfield Quad. Someone to Watch Over Me, *Nightflyers* and *Slam Dance* at MovieLand. Movie bookings change quickly—call theater to verify listing.

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*a man in love*  
FROM DIANE KURYS

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We invite you to come celebrate the last thirteen years with us at Cinema 7. On Thursday, Nov. 12 we will close our doors with John Huston's Masterpiece "The Man Who Would Be King." All seats \$2, EFS Members Free! The fun begins at 9:30 pm or you're welcome to just stop in and say goodbye.

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