

Art of Nancy Travers

One-woman collection presented in Pauling

The many-fold talents of Ceramics Instructor Nancy Travers will be featured in the Pauling Science Center lobby, through October.

The collection, including works of painting, pottery and weaving, will go on display at 7 p.m. tomorrow, Thursday, with a lecture at 8 p.m. on her sabbatical in Mexico.

Travers applied for, and received, a sabbatical for Spring term of last year. She spent three weeks of that time at an artistic center in Oaxaca, Mexico, near the southern border of that country.

"This show is a presentation to the College, in appreciation of my sabbatical," she said.

Travers teaches ceramics and uses the other art forms,

weaving, drawing and painting, as changes of pace. "Ceramics is done indoors," she said. "Drawing and painting can get done outside. That's part of why I do them."

She also uses her talent at drawing to enhance her other works. "You have to draw in order to . . . keep your awareness alive," Travers said. "It forces me to see things in different ways."

Travers said she often draws pottery before she actually begins to create it. "I draw before potting, but don't stay absolutely true," she said. "Pottery is three dimensional. The art just gives me an idea of what it will eventually look like."

Besides ceramics, Travers

also teaches humanities, which she enjoys. "It ties in because humanities is a new way of looking at things. It's a way of getting one's self to the highest level possible."

Nature is a prevalent theme of her work, Travers said. "I'm a native Oregonian and I think that affects my work. It tends to be about nature."

Her training included art courses at the University of Oregon and Portland State University, as well as studies at the Institute de Allende, in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico in 1977.

Travers' show in the Pauling Center will feature 38 pieces, representing the last six months of her work. It will run through Oct. 31.

Reviews

"Brainstorm" worth wait

By J. Dana Haynes

Of The Print

Imagine a machine that records sights . . . sounds . . . sensations . . . thoughts . . . feelings . . . emotion . . . even your dreams and nightmares.

Then, at the touch of a button, transfers these personal experiences from one mind to another.

Any person. Any experience. Anything you can image.

The above is the cut line for the new Douglas Trumbull movie "Brainstorm," starring Christopher Walken, Natalie Wood, Louise Fletcher and Cliff Robertson. And the movie is, as promised, just about anything you could imagine.

"Brainstorm" premiered last week, although it was filmed a year ago. The delay was caused by the mysterious and tragic death of Natalie Wood, who died while boating with her husband Robert Wagner and co-star Walken.

Wood died before the shooting was complete and for a while most people thought "Brainstorm" would never be distributed. Not so producer/director Trumbull, who dug up the extra money required, re-edited the ending, and kept the project moving after many others gave up hope.

The effort was well worth it. "Brainstorm" is the story of two brilliant, young inventors, played by Walken ("The Deer Hunter" and "Pennies From Heaven") and Fletcher (best know for her smashing performance in "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"). Walken and Fletcher, in the character's of Drs. Michael Brace and Lillian Reynolds, invent a device that looks like a space-age football helmet. The device taps into brainwaves, storing the sights, sounds, smells and general environment of the wearer, as well as the emotions that go along. Then, when the helmet is worn by someone else, that person relives the experiences and reactions of the first wearer.

Artificial ESP, if you will.

Unfortunately, what the research personnel doesn't know is the entire project has been financed by the Pentagon. Now that the machine works, the military wants it.

Halfway through the movie, one of the researchers suffers a major heart attack. Realizing death is near, the scientist dons the helmet and records the sensations of death. It is the ultimate answer to the ultimate question: What happens when you die? Is there life after death?

Thanks to the helmet, the answer is there. Unfortunately, Walken and Wood are fired and declared *persona non grata* at the facility and the death-tape is locked away, to be used by the military for whatever macabre purposes it wants.

And so the driving force of the movie: For Brace: to play the tape and thus answer the ultimate philosophical question. For the military: to keep the renegade scientist away from the ultimate weapon.

"Brainstorm" is as exciting a science fiction movie as one will ever see. The characters are believable, the special effects wonderful and the acting, directing and script first rate. However, this is not a great movie. It should be, with a plot like that and actors of that calibre. Unfortunately, it is flawed.

Walken does a fine job, in his usual, low key, method-actor way. But this is not a low key role. Brace is a young maverick scientist, undergoing a divorce, the death of more than one co-worker and the invention of the decade.

So why then does Walken walk around throughout the movie talking softly and never making eye contact with any other actor? Because that's his style and he's very good at it. He just wasn't right for this role.

Louise Fletcher, on the other hand, is dynamic and alive. She's a brilliant, chain-smoking dervish who talks at 90 miles an hour and has no time for paper-shufflers and Pentagon brass. She is, of course a fine actress whom we see far too seldom. In "Brainstorm" she's an absolute joy to watch.

Wood gives a fine performance. She was never a fantastic actress and this job isn't fantastic. But she was always good and consistent. For some reason, Wood was always appealing and enjoyable and while I can't think of any truly breathtaking acting she ever did, I also cannot think of any poor performance in her career.

Douglas Trumbull is a good director and does some very exciting things with this plot. Unfortunately, the show degenerates into a special effects vehicle near the end, in part (I suspect) due to the re-editing made necessary by Wood's death.

In the final analysis then, "Brainstorm" is well worth seeing. If you like science fiction, and I do, then by all means see it. If you don't, but enjoy philosophy, mystery or love stories, then consider seeing it anyway. "Brainstorm" is scary, invocative, fascinating and most importantly, fun.



ASG presents scheduled festivities for October

Jeff Smith, activities director for the College's Associated Student Government, announced a full slate of events for October.

The second in a series of Movie Nights will feature Sylvester Stallone in "First Blood." It will be presented in the Community Center Mall at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 7. Admission is \$1 for people 12 years of age and older, 50 cents for seven to 12 year olds, and seven-and-under's admitted free. The ASG will provide free popcorn.

On Wednesday, Oct. 19, the ASG will host a Lip Sync/Air Guitar contest. In past terms, anyone interested was encouraged to participate. The contest consists of mimed performances of rock groups with appropriate, taped background music.

People wishing to par-

ticipate should sign up at the ASG office, in the Community Center. The ASG must have a copy of the chosen music in advance, Smith said.

Halloween week will host three events. First, the annual Pumpkin Carving Contest will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 26, in the Mall. The competition is based on speed, skill and the final look of the pumpkin.

Another movie, John Landis' "An American Werewolf in London" will be shown on the following night, Thursday, Oct. 27, at 7:30 p.m.

On Friday of that week, the College will host a Halloween dance in the Mall, from 9 to midnight. The featured band will be Mr. Nice Guy, a Portland-based group.

For further information, contact the ASG, ext. 245.

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SPRING 1983 VOL. II NO. 3



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