



# THE ENTERTAINMENT SEEN

## Art and the Real (Reel) Thing

by Keedah Giannetti

As a parent of an artist and an artist parent, I find it necessary to ferret out the roles we play as actors. For instance, the part of a "beautiful thug" was sent my way during a financial crisis. No need for me to audition for that, or to weigh it out; it just doesn't belong on my scale. In determining what my son, Alan, portrays, it simply must be positive and meaningful, as we do have to live with the choices we make.



If we stay within a certain parameter, which means any of a set of physical properties whose values determine the characteristics or behavior of something, then we keep ourselves trained in exemplifying good moral judgement. Being that we may feel we are playing, others who are not a part of us, believe we are seriously being serious.

America is built on selling. Products we endorse sell us, sell them, sell souls. Money is too often the main factor for lowering standards, even though some people enjoy doing advertisement for no compensation, except for a free trip to Egotrip Land.

The bottom line for my family in balancing it all out is staying in the BLACK. When someone says, "See what I did. It bought me this luxury car. Looks like you walking," correct, they are, but I'm walking TALL, and the foundation I'm laying out for this manchild validates his walking TALL, as well. We know we won't go hungry, as a greater authority always intervenes.

With images being torn down all around us of what I know African American men are and can be, the best I could do is build some. Leaders, entrepreneurs, somebodies that are doing and not saying.

Sisters, let's help our sons know God, love, honor, strength, respect, and kindness. Pride that we share if there's never a February, because every month is our month, and we can enrich our history by making history.

Know that I don't mind a sister correcting my son, and I won't hesitate to

check yours. Remember folks laying down the law, and the children walking the chalk line? Our people and our peoples people taught us to straighten up and fly right. No, times aren't that different. We did not get a lot of choices and did not need them, nor do ours need too many choices. Our children need guidance.

If my nephew says, because of a commercial he saw, that he would like to see a Spielberg movie, I search for an alternative, and luckily I find Hollywood Shuffle, a movie that hits home. Being that the budget is limited and the media doesn't try terribly hard to sell it, I look forward to a clip before the movie opens. I've heard of a Superman kind of scene, but I'm somewhat anxious to see a brother with what I know will be style, but I'm told by a TV station that the particular clip was there but not "too clear or easy to see," as was the Rambo clip, they said. The object was to really not be effective in pushing the movie of a talented, young Black man by the name of Robert Townsend that was writing, producing, directing, flying through the air as a superhero, and rescuing P.O.W.s in Vietnam. Maybe they thought our hearts couldn't take it (maybe not), so they showed us the actor moonlighting to get him over, instead of him living his dream. It's not a coincidence; it was done a number of times; because too many children would have said they wanted to see the movie and want a doll like him and be like him. When I saw the brother flying (and it was well edited and clear to see, I might add), I could see my son, your son, soaring up higher and higher.

So I feel obligated to seek some type of reflections of family and friends, be it on film, stage, museums, libraries, churches, or wherever it is conducive to learning and growing.

This particular movie is past satire; it's more meaningful than that. Robert Townsend, and his friends that helped him with the project, designed a real (reel) piece of art.

I've been an artist in some form or another for over 20 years and I have seen a lot of nonsense. This brother makes sense with a few cents. I know about dreams remaining dreams forever. Films die in the cutting room, plays playing out on paper, sad images becoming sadder; but positive images keep on keeping on. Let's help keep this movie alive and do good things for people doing good things for us. Go see the movie and gas yourself. I see it as art and the real (reel) thing.

Early American colonists used milk in which berries had been boiled to paint their houses: gray, not purple.

### Summer Dance Experience

Come to Peninsula Park for a summer dance experience. Learn the rhythm dance routines based on Black Ethnic music choreographed by Laura Teverbaugh. A recent arrival in Portland, Laura has choreographed for dance groups in Texas and New Jersey. Classes will be held at Peninsula Park Community Center, 6400 N. Albina—located at N. Portland Blvd. and Albina Ave—July 11 to August 29, Saturdays from 2-5 p.m. Cost is \$10 for 8 weeks. Partial scholarships are available. Contact Lesley Unthank at 285-4222 for more information.

### Public Service Announcement

get your licks in at THE LICK, the Children's Museum's ice cream extravaganza on July 18th, 11 am to 4 p.m. In the shade of giant firs, listen to cool music, let your kids play with ice, try tastes of some of the best ice creams, frozen yogurts and gelatos in the state, and take your chance at winning 4 round-trip airfares and passes to Disneyland. To pick up a ticket for the drawing sooner, go to Bravo Italia at Yamhill Marketplace or City Kids downtown. So Lick your calendar for July 18th—the coolest, sweetest summer day in town.

THE LICK is sponsored by Friends of the Children's Museum, the Dairy Farmers of Oregon, Disneyland, and Alaska Airlines. Proceeds benefit the programs of the Children's Museum.

### KBOO to Hold Volunteer Orientation

KBOO 90.7FM is this area's only independent, listener-supported community radio station. KBOO is volunteer run and operated. If you are interested in getting involved with your community radio station, learn technical skills or put your creative energy to good use, come to the Volunteer Orientation, July 15th at 7:00 PM. The Orientation will take place at KBOO, 20 S.E. 8th.

### This Summer's Movie Hits

Scaled 1-10

#### Dragnet

This spoof of the popular no-nonsense television series is a great example of "all that glitters is not gold." Starring Dan Aykroyd as "Sgt. Joe Friday", this nostalgic comedy surprisingly comes up dry, and, as must as I hate to say, boring! Dan Aykroyd is right at home with the stern, monotone-voiced "Joe Friday", and, even though the script is corny, there are a few good laughs; but even more than a sweet trivial reminder of Dragnet, who can remember those not-so-good Saturday Night Live's? **5**

#### Predator

If what you are expecting is another "Rambo" full of muscle-bound machine-gun-carrying maniacs, then you will be surprised, because "Predator" offers a whole lot more.

Carl Weathers plays a C.I.A. agent who has the State Department engage his old army buddy Arnold Schwarzenegger and his rescue team to brave the South American jungles to rescue a U.S. official. What they don't know is an unseen enemy awaits them to engage in a battle of hide and seek that had me jumping and ducking in my seat. Lots and lots of good action. **8**

#### The Untouchables

Elliot Ness is back on his quest to crunch the mob, namely "Big Al Capone", played by Al Pacino, along with The Untouchables that include old 007 hero Sean Connery. This time they give Elliot a family and a conscience. This human side takes away the no-nonsense, shoot-em-up Elliot that we knew from TV days and makes him a little chicken, it seems to me; but his squad is still the bunch of sharp-shooting, law-and-order fellas we knew from days of old.

The whole cast and set design are sharp and save the lack-luster screenplay from being the sudden death turn-off that it really is. **5½**

#### Beverly Hills Cop II

"Have gun (and grin), will travel." Eddie Murphy returns as Axel Foley in one of the best sequels of summer '87. Axel returns to Hollywood to avenge the shooting of the old captain and turns Hollywood inside out. Lots of laughs, action and suspense. Never a dull moment, and a sure bet for a good evening's entertainment. **8½**

#### Hollywood Shuffle

Simply marvelous and another milestone in the saga of Black films. DO NOT MISS IT!!! Warning: Bring Kleenex or handkerchiefs, as you will laugh 'til you cry. **9**

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