

Three Seasons

A Film by Tony Bui

In the early hours of the New Vietnam, four strangers in Saigon find themselves suddenly expatriates in their own country, passed over by the "improvements" of Western progress. As the hauntingly beautiful old city of Saigon fades into the shadows of neon lights, Coca Cola signs, plastic lotus flowers and other symbols of the Western invasion, these character's paths begin to cross.

The young Kien An (Ngoc Hiep) is hired to pick white lotuses for a reclusive master, Teacher Dao (Manh Cuong). While picking her flowers, her singing attracts not only the jealous disapproval of the older women workers, but the heart of the master himself. A formerly handsome poet who has lost his face and fingers to leprosy, Dao has hidden in shame for years in his dark temple. None of the women who pick the lotuses have ever seen him. When Dao hears Kien An singing a song from his youth, he finds the inspiration to write again. He seeks out Kien An for more songs, and as she is in love with his words, she offers her fingers in place of his own.

In the center of the city, Hai (Don Duong), a cyclo driver falls for a proud young prostitute, Lan (Zoe Bui), with lofty ambitions who frequents the new marble hotels. After he saves her from the wrath of two angry clients, she grudgingly lets him chauffeur her around, though it's clear she doesn't consider him to be in her league. Knowing what Lan values, he enters a cyclo race with the hope of winning the fifty dollars that would afford him the opportunity to spend a night with her.

Meanwhile, a young boy, Woody (Nguyen Huu Duoc), walks the rainy streets, sneaking into hotels lobbies and dive bars determined to sell some of the watches, gum, lighters and other trinkets he carries in a suitcase around his neck. At the Apocalypse Now Bar, Woody meets G.I. James Hager (Harvey Keitel)



who is searching for the daughter he left behind in the war. Lulled to sleep by Hager's story as well as a few sips of his first beer, Woody wakes to find his suitcase gone and must survive on the streets, knowing he can't return home until he gets it back. He tries to track Hager, convinced he's stolen the case, but Hager has moved on, consumed by his own mission of making peace with the past.

These stories merge to paint a portrait of a country in transition, the last moments of a culture which, through a second invasion by its former enemy, will never be the same again: Kien An is a living memory of the old ways, living a life seemingly unchanged by the passage of time; Lan has reinvented herself as someone who can survive in the cold-hearted capitalist world; Hai bridges the two worlds on his cyclo; James Hager is a reminder of the country's ravaged past; and young Woody is a symbol of its future.

An unidentified Vietnamese actress (left) and James Hager (HARVEY KEITEL) (right). The G.I. returns to Vietnam in search of his daughter.

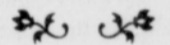


The film, **THREE SEASONS** is playing at the Movie House. Unidentified Vietnamese actors and "Kien An" (NGUTEN NGOC HIEP) (center) in a scene from the film.

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ROSELAND THEATER (CONCERT CALENDAR)

Gus KINK Presents Free Show	Wed., May 26 th - 8 PM 21 & over	Pros & Cons Direct Productions Presents	Friday, June 11 th - 9 PM All Ages
John Shipe Band CD Release Party Richard Leo Johnson	Friday, May 28 th - 9 PM 21 & over	Candlebox KUFO Welcomes RESCHEDULED DATE • ALL TICKETS HONORED	Saturday, June 12 th - 9 PM
Old 97's Monqui Presents	Sunday, May 30 th - 9:30PM	Hakim & Laveil	Thursday, June 17 th - 9 PM
Coolio Monqui Presents Dy' verse, Society, Krazy Khrome, Rukus, Rated R	Wednesday, June 2 nd All Ages	Rammstein Produced in Association with Monique Presents Soufly, Mindless Self Indulgence	Friday, June 18 th - 8 PM All Ages
The Verve Pipe Papa Vegas, Gus	Friday, June 4 th - 9 PM All Ages	Ottmar Liebert AN EVENING WITH Y Luna Negra XL Featuring an 8 piece Rhumba Dance Band	Saturday, June 19 th - 9 PM 21 & over
Grindstone Thrasher Presents Mel, Liquid	Saturday, June 5 th - 9 PM All Ages	Cibo Matto Monique Presents Imperial Teen	Monday, June 21 st - 9 PM All Ages
Zebrahead In Association with P.C.I. Signified Monkey KNRK Welcomes	Wednesday, June 9 th - 8 PM All Ages	Rahzel (from The Roots) Direct Productions Presents	Thursday, June 24 th - 9 PM All Ages
Jonny Lang Patty Griffin	Thrsday, June 10 th - 8 PM 21 & over	Three Fish David Garza	Saturday, June 26 th - 9 PM

'STAR WARS' MOVIE FALLS SHORT OF WEEKEND RECORD

The new "Star Wars" movie pulled in millions of fans to North American movie theaters, but it failed to break the weekend record set by "The Lost World: Jurassic Park" two years ago, according to studio estimates issued Sunday. "Star Wars: Episode 1 - The Phantom Menace", one of the most widely anticipated movies in history, grossed about \$61.8 million for the Friday-to-Sunday period, said its distributor.

