

# GLIMPSES

## NEW RELEASES

**BUGSY MALONE (PG)** Gargantuan musical starring all kid cast. They sing, they dance, they act like the best of them and their average age is 12. A novel idea some people find amusing.

**CARRIERS (R)** Steve Spack plays Carrie, a teen-age girl with the power of telekinesis—the ability to move objects by psychic power. She exacts a terrifying revenge on those who offend her.

**CAR WASH (PG)** A day in the life of a car wash with a spirited cast, a disco beat and anal jokes. The large ensemble includes Richard Pryor, the Pointer Sisters, George Carlin and Irwin Corey.

**THE CLOCKMAKER (PG)** Character study of conscientious father struggling to understand violent actions of his son and remain loyal to him while presided by divorce, media and politicians.

**COUSIN, COUSINE (R)** A delightful romantic comedy enacted by a French actor and his French wife. The mature lovers conduct their romance against a lively background of family action.

**THE FRONT (PG)** Woody Allen and an excellent cast including Gene Hackman, Hershel Bernard and Andrea Marcovici recreate the styles and tastes of the flackering era of the 1920s.

**MARATHON MAN (R)** A spy thriller which overwhelms a terrific cast with a surfeit of blood and violence. Laurence Olivier, Dustin Hoffman, William Devane and Holly Hunter give it their best.

**THE NEXT MAN (R)** A suspense thriller of political intrigue with Sean Connery as an Arabian diplomat and Cornelia Sharpe as a member of the plot. An assassin after Connery and he's after Connery.

**OBSESSION (PG)** Suspenseful romance with Cliff Robertson as a man who falls in love with a woman who has just lost her dead wife. Some kinship connections are the result.

**SHOOT AT THE DEVIL (PG)** Lee Marvin, Roger Moore and Barbra Streisand in the most massive about a group of swindlers who plot to destroy the most powerful German battleship of World War II.

**SONG REMAINS THE SAME (PG)** Film of the 1973 Led Zepplin. Make an album. Garden concert in stone and stone. Rock concert performance is interspersed with scenes of bandmembers' other activities and personal lives.

**TWO-MINUTE WARNING (R)** An all-out effort at the line of suspense when a mad per starts poking off the crowd at a packed stadium. Clint Eastwood in match takes command of the situation.

## BACK AGAIN

**RETURN OF A MAN CALLED HORSE (PG)** Richard Harris as an English lord who saves the Indians from their fate. If you French thriller. Action, fire and beautiful photography.

## MOVIE RATING GUIDE

- G: General audiences admitted.
- PG: Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
- R: Restricted. Adult material. Some persons under 18.
- X: No one under 18 admitted.

# The Movies



Movie directors don't usually concern themselves with the lives of children. The scale of events is too small for us to reckon with seriously. Their joys and sorrows seem so trivial and temporal with us. So when a scheme is hatched to steal a child, it's not only a plot, it's a crime. That is why French director Francois Truffaut's new movie "Small Change" (PG) is unique.

I rarely recall seeing any other movie that takes such a genuine and concentrated look at that part of humanity known as children. Truffaut isn't a detached observer. He is partisan. He likes children. His treatment is candid, without relying on unnecessary ostentatious or sentimental special effects.

Two qualities distinguish his treatment of children: a feeling of warm affection which permeates the movie and enables the audience to empathize with the children; and a real concern for children as individuals whose rights and freedoms must be respected.

They live among adults, but in a very special way. As Madame Hubert, the strict teachers who says "children live" in a state of grace. "They happen to them which would devastate an adult but they just stumble fall and bounce back again."

Don't look for any violence in "Small Change." The sexiest scene consists of a pleasant boy and girl peeking at the movie. As if to show there is a hidden world, but the above is not shown. His condition is discovered during a routine school medical examination.

As for the boy on the screen? Well, two boys and a third boy out of his natural blues and give him an impromptu home out. A toddler falls off a balcony but lands in some bushes which break his fall. He picks himself up, smiles at the assembled street crowd and says, "Gregory is born." His mother faints.

The great wonder of this movie is the fresh, energetic performances. If you'd like to capture the natural behavior and speech, he must indeed have shared the children's lives and respect. In his own comments on "Small Change," Truffaut said, "It is impossible to write dialogue for children without their collaboration." In one scene a young boy is crawling up with laughter as he tries to tell a "dirty" joke to his schoolmate. Truffaut obviously won their confidence.

There is no leading character, although some children are seen more often than others. And there are a few adults in the movie: parents and teachers. In this "objective" chronicle of events for childhood, Truffaut concentrates on a group of schoolchildren and those others who live near them or are associated with them.

Within this loose scheme there is, nevertheless, a sense of coherence. The episode of Gregory going "boom" at the beginning of the movie acquaints the viewer with Truffaut's philosophy. The rest of the movie then demonstrates it with scenes of the scrapes, accidents and mischief that imperil children's lives and delight their souls.

At the end, the teacher addresses his class before they leave for summer vacation. It is the one outright instance of polemic in the movie. The teacher (presumably speaking for Truffaut) addresses his class as children and as future adults. He tells them how beautiful and precious childhood is, how important it is to protect children's rights and how they are denied power in an adult world. "If children voted, we would have more playgrounds," he says.

To support his thesis Truffaut uses all the elements which constitute a movie—sound, light, color, editing—to complement each other and present a unified effect. The lighting is clear, the colors are warm, the editing is generally conservative and slow paced, so as not to hurry or artificially restrict the action. The photography is well done but not showy. The sound track includes Charles Trenet singing a Maurice Jaubert song about children being bored on Sundays while the camera tracks the events of the day. The dialogue is in French with English subtitles.

Altogether, "Small Change" is more than its modest title suggests. It is a pure celebration of childhood.

**SUBURBAN DETROIT THEATRES, INC.**

**ARBEY 16 2 3** 588-0881  
16 Mile Rd. & I-75

**FAIRLANE** LO 1-7200  
Ford Rd. at Telegraph

**KINGSWOOD** 338-7111  
Woodward at Square Lake

**NORTHLAND 1 & 2** 559-3366  
J.L. Hudson Dr. - Northland

**OLD ORCHARD 1&2** 477-0010  
Orchard La. Rd. N. of I-24 Mile

**RADIO CITY** 543-5800  
Woodward at 9 Mile

**TERRACE 1 & 2** GA 7-1200  
30400 Plymouth, near McCorkle

**TOWNE 182** 988-8790  
Greenfield Rd. N. of I-24 Mile

**VILLAGE** 643-8888  
Maple (15 Mile) at Coolidge

**CALL THEATRES FOR FEATURES AND TIMES!**

## THE PLYMOUTH HILTON INN... AN INVITING PLACE FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

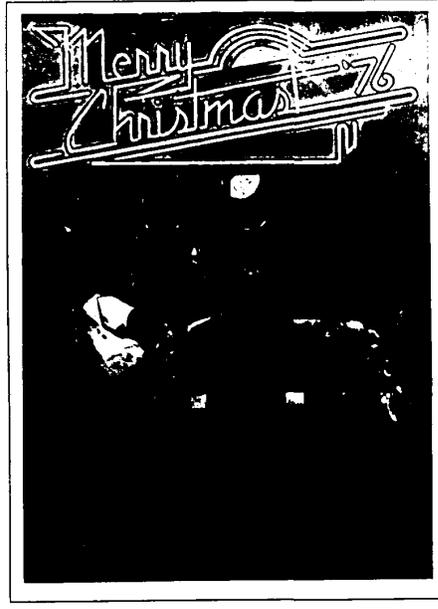
Special planning services available for food and refreshments including Holiday punch, egg nog, Tom & Jerry's, hors d'oeuvres

December dates available: noon, afternoons or evenings for cocktails, dinner or both

Plymouth Hilton Ballroom facilities can be adapted to the size of your party from 10 to 1000 guests. We can even help you with the decorations.

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW**  
**CALL FOR DETAILS & PRICES**

**Plymouth Hilton Inn**  
5 MILE & NORTHVILLE ROADS,  
PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN 48170  
call (313) 459-4500



## Visions of Sugar Plums . . .

Christmas lives in the hearts of children, and in the fantasy-land to which young eyes awaken Christmas morning, Santa is very real. But, we know that Santa needs a little help from you. And here is where Santa's #1 Helper turns for ideas! Christmas 1976, a gift guide published in all our newspapers, Wednesday, November 24th.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers