

Getting Around

By ETHEL SIMMONS

Being opinionated is being Rex Reed

Rex Reed, bad boy of the movie critics, came to Pontiac-Oakland Town Hall last week and set the pace of his lively talk when he exclaimed, "I think I came out of the womb opinionated."

In print, Reed's words may roll sonorously and often have a viper's sting. Speaking to the town hall audience, however, he talked in a comfortable fashion and his humor had simplicity and warmth.

Mostly Reed talked about his own meteoric rise to success. He said he thinks you need a little chutzpah to get ahead and that although he really isn't the type, he did attend the Venice Film Festival and get interviews with Buster Keaton and Jean-Paul Belmondo by claiming he was from the New York Times.

He did steal festival stationery and send off articles to the Times and to the New York Herald Tribune. And chutzpah paid off when this boy wonder's articles were both accepted, printed on the same weekend and he became famous overnight.

"PEOPLE WERE aware of me when I got back," he said. "I had lots of job offers and it's been that way ever since."

Rex Reed writes for Cosmopolitan (meeting Helen Gurley Brown for the first time was a traumatic experience described hilariously by him), for Esquire (Reed admires the writings of Gay Talese and his style was greatly influenced by Talese), and for other major magazines and newspapers.

His syndicated column runs in 400 newspapers, although it is not presently running in any Detroit paper, and Reed claims, "I now have 70 million readers, they tell me."

The in-person Rex Reed looks much like photographs and television appearances show him, with smoldering eyes, a touch of decadence—or is it innocence? in his manner.

Raised in the south, Reed said he was a precocious child who went to the movies every afternoon and could recognize every single person who came on stage in a walk-on.

HE STUDIED journalism at Louisiana State University. "But I was not content to stay down south and cover the fires. I really wanted to write about movies and movie stars."

He went to New York, where he worked briefly for 20th-Century Fox before going to Europe and landing in Venice.

"I've been in the position I always wanted to be," he lamented, "and today there is no movie industry. It's very depressing to be a movie critic."

He named some of his favorite flicks, as well as the worst of last year. Reed also complained that "liberated women are nowhere in sight" in today's movies.

Elsewhere in his talk, the critic attributed his success to a combination of "this jazzy writing style and simple name." He also said, "I try to get to the heart of what these people (the celebrities) are really like."

REX REED will be one of the per-

sonalities interviewed by Valerie Hillson Wednesday morning on her "As You Like It" show on WID-AM (1090). The show runs 11 a.m.-noon.

I'll also be a guest on the show, in an interview Valerie taped with me last week. Valerie asked me what it was like to interview uncooperative celebrities, and that's one of the things we will talk about on the air.

ARCHIBALD'S RESTAURANT in Birmingham will be the restaurant of the month featured in the first issue of the Gourmet Guide.

The guide's February issue, which will be out this month, goes to members of the Vincent Price Dining Association. First offered to the public last September, membership in the metropolitan Detroit group now stands at several thousand members.

According to Les Taubman of Southfield, executive director of American Dining Adventures, Detroit is the first city in the dining association. He said he expects association membership for the metropolitan Detroit area to grow to 25,000 persons within the next four or five months.

Association membership costs \$25, and for this you receive a membership card that entitles you to one free dinner when two persons dine at participating restaurants.

THE CARD ALSO is good for a one-third discount when three diners are purchased per member, a one-quarter discount for four and so on.

The membership card, which looks like a plastic credit card, may be used twice at one restaurant, as long as the card does not exceed 12 punches.

Restaurants taking part in the plan include, besides Archibald's, several in South Oakland County. These are Merrick's and the VIP Palace, both in Southfield; Pacifico's Pasta Village and Bonaventure, both in Troy; and New King Lim's in Auburn Heights.

Others participating are Paradise Cafe and La Place, both in Detroit; Boars Head and Crabtree Joe's, both in Dearborn; Pat O'Grady's in St. Clair Shores; Old German in Ann Arbor; Sir George's in Taylor; and Old Fish Market in Windsor.

"Several more, top-flight restaurants are expected to join us shortly," Taubman said. "The list is constantly being upgraded."

STAGE AND SCREEN actor Vincent Price, who is also known for his interest in art and fine foods, was enthusiastic when approached with the idea of becoming part of the new dining association.

And although Detroit is the first city, other major cities will participate soon.

SAID TAUBMAN, "The Gourmet Guide will carry lists of restaurants in the program in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York. You can present your card at any of these when traveling."

The guide also will carry such features as a recipe of the month from Vincent Price's cookbook.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE ON THE TOWN

PRIME RIB FIT FOR A KING!

We feature PRIME RIB DINNER every Friday and Saturday night only \$7.50

Or order from our wide selection of menu items.

Come visit our newly remodeled restaurant & bar.



Dance next door at THOMPERS DISCO

2086 Crooks Rd., N. of M-59

Rochester • 525-5225

THERE'S ROOM AT THE INN

A thoughtful way to welcome visitors or clients is a reservation at the Kingsley Inn. We are near all business, sports, and educational centers in Oakland County.



Kingsley Inn

Woodward and Long Lake Road
Bloomfield Hills

644-1400

564-5144

BY POPULAR DEMAND
Now Serving Our
CHINESE BUFFET
Daily from 4:30 p.m. Mon. through Sat.
Featuring all varieties of
Authentic Chinese Dishes
All you can enjoy

SHANGRI LA WEST

Chinese Restaurant & Cocktail Lounge
Miracle Mile Shopping Center
Across from Showcase Cinema
335-8060

Why the Old Mill is going to be your favorite restaurant.

Reason No. 9
Alaskan King Crab Legs.

A delicious delicacy from the frigid reaches of Alaska. One full pound of flaky white crab meat steamed to tenderness in the split shell, drenched with drawn butter and served surrounded in a steamy towel. And it's just \$8.45

Old Mill
5838 Dixie Hwy.
623-9300

Pearl's Garden

the Finest in Chinese & American Cuisine

469 S. Woodward, B'ham.
644-2913

Mon.-Thurs. 11-10 p.m. • Fri. 11-11 p.m.
Sat. 12-11 p.m. • Sun. 12-10 p.m.

SINGLE?

You say you don't have things to do, places to go, or new people to meet? So why haven't you joined People, Places and Things?

You'd like to meet new friends, have places to go and be with people who like the same things you do. People, Places & Things is an exciting concept for singles. We are your personal reservationist for events, activities and travel with people of similar interests. Meet others while participating in many interesting, exciting and enjoyable opportunities available monthly for your choosing. For more information call 559-5820 or mail this coupon.



23540 Southfield Rd.
Suite 100A
Southfield, Michigan
48076 (313) 559-5820

I want to know more about People, Places & Things. Please send brochure.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

WWJ NEWSRADIO 95: DETROIT'S TRAFFIC COMMAND

For a complete traffic report, you need TRAFFICOPTER 95. It's Detroit's only air-borne traffic report, constantly giving you news about tie-ups and alternate routes to take when winter traffic begins to jam. And to back up TRAFFICOPTER 95, you can count on the radio-phone equipped NEWSRADIO 95 Newscars. Our roving reporters will tell you what's causing the tie-ups and estimate drive time directly from their cars. Together with Michigan Emergency Patrol Reports and police reports, they comprise WWJ



NEWSRADIO 95's TRAFFIC COMMAND.

You can hear reports from TRAFFICOPTER 95 regularly, Monday through Friday during rush hours with additional reports whenever conditions warrant. And to keep you abreast of traffic situations around town and the suburbs, TRAFFIC COMMAND reports 24-hours a day. We've put a lot into making NEWSRADIO 95 Detroit's #1 news station. Take advantage of it. It's another reason why the news is getting better all the time on WWJ NEWSRADIO 95.



WWJ NEWSRADIO 95

Nattily dressed Rex Reed lounges against a classic column at Roma's of Bloomfield. (Staff photo by Stephen Cantrell)