

Sunday Pops Series announced



A drained Jack Lemmon is devastated by life-or-death decisions he must make in his pivotal role as power-plant engineer in "The China Syndrome."



'China Syndrome' gives warning of nuclear accident

Whatever the situation at the gas pump, there is no shortage of fuel to heat up the controversy between the opponents and advocates of nuclear power plants. Throwing more coal on this fire is the film, "The China Syndrome" (PG).

"The China Syndrome" is a doomsday thriller that picks up the action with a cover up of an accident in a nuclear power plant and drives from there to an emotional climax.

The title refers to the possibility of an accident in which the exposed core of a reactor melted down through the earth, drilling a path to China. However, before it could get very far, it would vaporize subterranean water and the compressed steam would then burst upward through the crust, spreading a cloud of radioactive steam over a vast area.

There is no doubt about the position taken in this film. Human error, human greed and simple defects in a complex system could blow us all to kingdom come, and then some.

THE VEHICLE for revealing this viewpoint is the operation of a television newscast. The "backstage reality" of the newscast involves the audience as witnesses to events.

This sense of realism and immediacy is maintained by sharp directing, crisp editing and a convincing cast headed by Jane Fonda, Jack Lemmon and Michael Douglas.

Fonda is a television newscaster assigned with a crew to cover a nuclear power plant for a, "Wow, isn't this something?" kind of story. While they are in a containment area viewing the operation, an accident occurs which they surreptitiously film.

Shown to experts, their film reveals that this "event" nearly proved fatal for the whole state of California, yet company reports and a government investigation sloughed it off as an incident of not much consequence.

Fonda becomes the investigative reporter, determined to expose the cover up and the danger, but still trying to play by the rule. Douglas is her hot-headed, anti-establishment cameraman skeptical of the station's motives in not showing the film. Lemmon is the chief engineer responsible for the plant's operation.

CAUGHT BETWEEN loyalty and conscience, his deterioration under threats, pressure and his own self doubts makes a memorable performance and leads to an emotional climax.

While the newscaster is fighting an internal battle with the conservative station manager, hearings are being conducted regarding the licensing of another nuclear plant by the same utility company.

The weakest part of the film is the depiction of the board chairman (Richard Herd) of the utility company as such an arch-villain, he becomes a cartoon character.

Tension and suspense mount as the plant prepares to go back on line after a brief shutdown. Can it safely operate at full capacity? Will the welds, whose records were falsified, hold?

"The China Syndrome" is a gripping film. No one can see it without being frightened by its implications. What makes it so effective is that it focuses on what everyone can understand — an elaborate system that malfunctions because of minor human failings. The film doesn't answer any questions, but it certainly raises them.

Glimpses

NEW RELEASES

AGATHA (PG). Sketchy characters but intriguing story and fine acting by Vanessa Redgrave and Dustin Hoffman carry film based on Kathleen Tynan's speculations about the 11-day disappearance of Agatha Christie.

THE BRINK'S JOB (PG). William Friedkin directed this comic adventure about the big heist with Peter Falk, Peter Boyle, Warren Oates and Gene Rowlands.

CALIFORNIA SUITE (PG). Neil Simon's comedy of four episodes about guests at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Starry cast includes Jane Fonda and Walter Matthau.

EVERY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE (PG). Country-western-style action comedy with Clint Eastwood, Sandra Locke and Clyde, the orangutan.

FAST BREAK (PG). Gabriel Kaplan is a N.Y. deli clerk named to coach a motley crew of basketball players at an obscure college.

GET OUT YOUR HANDKERCHIEFS (R). Eccentric view of male-female relations as woman's husband and lover work toward her happiness in unconventional way.

THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY (PG). Adventure caper in 1855 as three attractive crooks plan the first robbery of a moving train.

HARDCORE (R). George C. Scott is a religious, midwestern businessman who searches the underworld for his missing teenage daughter.

MOVIE, MOVIE (PG). Expert and entertaining spoof of past double bill movies with George C. Scott in fight movie and Busby Berkeley-type musical.

MURDER BY DECREE (PG). Christopher Plummer and James Mason play Holmes and organizing activities in southern textile mills.

NORMA RAE (PG). Sally Field is outstanding in contemporary story of union organizing activities in southern textile mills.

QUINTET (R). Paul Newman and Burt Reynolds play deadly game of survival in Robert Altman's icy, bizarre film.

SAME TIME, NEXT YEAR (PG). Alan Alda and a radiant Ellen Burstyn in warm, witty tale of an extramarital affair that persists for 26 years.

SUPERMAN (PG). Christopher Reeve plays Big S. Marlon Brando is father and Gene Hackman the villain in this humorous fantasy.

THE WARRIORS (R). Police and street gangs hunt down teenage gang from Coney Island as they fight their way out of Manhattan.

Meadow Brook Music Festival has announced its nine-week Sunday Pops Series, which will feature the Detroit Symphony Orchestra performing five concerts and a variety of popular conductors and performers on the other four Sunday evenings this summer.

Stuart Hyke, managing director of the Meadow Brook Music Festival, explained the focus of the 1979 Pops Concerts programming:

"We've designed this year's Sunday Pops Series as ideal family fare. Our programs will offer a wide range of entertainment — music, magic and much more."

"We're hoping that families will pack up their picnic suppers and come out to the festival grounds on Sunday evenings to relax and enjoy our concerts."

The season will begin Sunday, June 24 with Michael Tilson Thomas conducting the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in an all-Gershwin concert entitled "That's Music, by George!"

Selections will range from Gershwin's Broadway hits to his symphonic compositions.

FEATURED PIANIST will be Earl Wild, who is well known for his numerous Gershwin recordings.

On July 1, the festival offers a patriotic Independence Day program as Leonard B. Smith and the Detroit Con-

cert Band present "An Evening With John Philip Sousa." All musicians will dress in authentic Sousa-era band costumes.

An added attraction is the performance of the Meadow Brook Estate, a group of Oakland University singers and dancers. In traditional 4th of July style, a gigantic fireworks display will follow the concert.

Richard Hayman, a favorite pops conductor among Meadow Brook audiences, will return July 8 to lead the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in a concert entitled "Duelin' Harmonics."

Hayman, well known for his talents on the harmonica, will be joined by world renowned harmonica player Larry Adler. The two will play several selections together, as well as performing individually.

ON JULY 15, Ethel Merman, star of stage, screen and television, will make her first Meadow Brook appearance. In her distinctive style, Miss Merman will sing an extensive medley of her greatest hits. She will be accompanied by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Eric Knight.

The mood changes to ragtime July 22 as the popular New England Conservatory Ragtime Ensemble performs "A Salute to Ragtime."

The ensemble will be led by its

founder, Gunther Schuller, who is a noted interpreter of ragtime music and a highly respected contemporary composer.

On July 29, Meadow Brook hosts world famous soprano, Anna Moffo. Miss Moffo's performance will include a wide variety of selections ranging from Viennese operettas to Broadway hits by Rogers and Hammerstein.

Renowned European conductor Franz Allers will lead the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in accompaniment.

The festival will depart from its usual offerings Aug. 5 when it presents the Blackstone Magic Show. Magician Harry Blackstone, Jr., recognized as one of the modern-day masters of magic, will perform with the assistance of an unusual, multi-talented cast including an elephant, tiger, donkey and a chorus of singers and dancers.

ON AUG. 12, the Meadow Brook spotlight will shine on Barbara Cook, one of the outstanding Broadway singers of all time. Her concert, "The Great Songs," will include many of her most famous Broadway hits. Wally Harper, Miss Cook's music director will conduct.

The Promenade concerts, or Proms, are the English equivalent of our Pops concerts, and one of the highlights of their season is the final concert.

This year, Meadow Brook will celebrate its own grand finale Aug. 19 with "Last Night at the (Meadow Brook) Proms."

English conductor Neville Marriner, the festival's artistic director, will conduct the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in a concert which will include works by Rossini, Rachmaninoff and Haydn. Featured soloists will be world-renowned pianist Gary Graffman and Donald Green, principle trumpet of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

Free carnations will be presented to women at the Proms concert, as Meadow Brook ends its 1979 season.

All Sunday evening concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held in the outdoor Baldwin Pavilion on the Oakland University campus near Rochester.

For further program or ticket information, call the Meadow Brook Music Festival Box Office at 377-2010.

Sally Ames plays Dewey's

Sally Ames is appearing at Dewey's in Southfield's Michigan Inn through May 12.

Ms. Ames accompanied by her male quartet, has a diversified repertoire of songs, featuring nostalgic numbers and contemporary hits.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE ON THE TOWN

梅MOY'S RESTAURANT
1825 MIDDLEBELT AVE. N.W., LANSING
Cantonese & American Food
Japanese Steakhouse
• Exotic Cocktails •
CARRY-OUTS ON CHINESE FOOD
Chinese Dinner 5:30-9:30
Chinese Dinner 9:30-11:30
For Reservations
Call 377-1979 Closed Monday

BY POPULAR DEMAND
Now Serving Our
CHINESE BUFFET
Daily from 4:00 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 Showplace Cinema 335-8060

Pearl's Garden
Serving the finest in
Chinese & American Cuisine
• Lunches • Dinners • Carry Out Orders
Chinatown Style Welcomed
Open 7 days a week
Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Fri. 11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Sat. 12:11 p.m. Sun. 12:10 p.m.
469 S. Woodward, Birmingham
644-2913

American Youth Hostels Presents
SAILING MOVIE
"SAILWARD BOUND"
Featuring: Outward Bound School Bermuda Race,
Antique Sailing Week
FRIDAY—APRIL 6, 1979 at 8:30 P.M.
FORD AUDITORIUM
Tickets: \$4.50 Adults - \$3.50 Youth
Available at
American Youth Hostels - 3024 Collidge, Berkley
Ford Auditorium, Hudson's & Local Boat Shops

HURLEY'S
Exotic and talented featuring Top-Forty
Disco music through 4:00 for your listening
and dancing pleasure.
Monday through Thursday from 8:30 p.m.
Friday and Saturday from 9 p.m.
Happy Hour Monday through
Friday from 3 to 7 p.m.
NORTHERN EDITIONS, INC.
5000 ROCKS RD. at E-7
Box, Michigan 48063
(313) 879-2100

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

Meadow Brook Theatre
NOW THRU APRIL 22
"A Rollicking Farce"
MOULIERE'S **The Adventures of Scapin**
Adapted and Directed by John Ulmer
Best Seats for
Weekend Performances
377-3300 HUDSONS
ON CAMPUS OF OAKLAND UNIVERSITY, ROCHESTER

INTRODUCING THE INFLATION FIGHTER:

WATERGATE

DINNER FOR \$4.95

Prime Rib • Fresh Fish • Teriyaki Chicken
Dinners include salad, bread and your choice of baked potato, rice or french fries.

Sunday, Noon to 4 pm. Monday thru Thursday, 5 to 7 pm.
Phone today for reservations.

STAG & HOUND Warren, 574-1040
the Dry Dock Southfield, 557-0570
MOUNTAIN JACKS Troy, 689-7920
Joe Ross Drowns Farmington Hills, 476-5333