

Renaissance Live jazz series opens

Tickets for individual Renaissance Live '80 concerts are on sale at the Detroit Plaza Hotel front desk and Nemo's restaurant in Renaissance Center.

This jazz series starts Tuesday with Ramsey Lewis. Other favorite jazz entertainers on the series are Yusuf La Teef, Gil Scott Heron, Angela Bofill and Freddie Hubbard.

Renaissance Live '80 is held every

Tuesday (except July 15) on the Ontario Level Deck of the Detroit Plaza Hotel. Doors open at 5 p.m. Drinks and barbeque fare are available.

Seats are available to all on a first-come, first-served basis.

Free parking is available in Lot M at the corner of St. Antoine and Atwater.

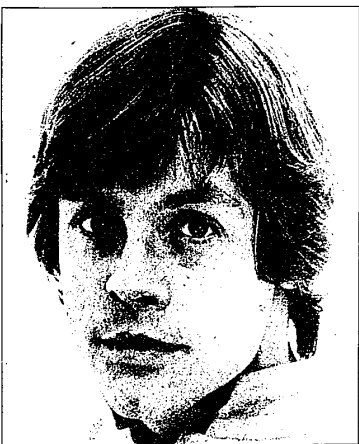
Food & Beverage ticket books may be purchased in advance at the Front Desk of the hotel and at Nemo's. Ad-

mission and Food & Beverage tickets also will be sold at the door, located on the east bridge of the center on Street Level, the evening of the performance.

The complete schedule follows.

June 3 — Ramsey Lewis
June 10 — Noel Pointer
June 17 — Gil Scott Heron
June 24 — Mark Colby and Lenore

Paxton
July 1 — Stephane Grappelli
July 8 — Roy Ayres
July 22 — Yusuf LaTeef
July 29 — Jeff Lorber Fusion
Aug. 5 — Angela Bofill
Aug. 12 — To be announced
Aug. 19 — Freddie Hubbard
Aug. 29 — Dizzy Gillespie



Mark Hamill returns as Luke Skywalker, a farm boy who becomes a hero of the rebellion, in "The Empire Strikes Back."



the movies
Louise Snider

Saga continues with 'Empire,' series part 5

George Lucas must be the Richard Wagner of films, at least in terms of grandiose ambition. "Star Wars," which he wrote and directed, came to us as an epic, became a phenomenon, and now we find it is part of a saga.

Its sequel, or continuation, "The Empire Strikes Back" (PG), is part five of a projected nine-film sequence encompassed in three trilogies.

All of this makes the space adventure even longer than the Nibelungen cycle, not to mention more packed with heroes, action and special effects.

The only thing "The Empire" lacks is a Teutonic soprano, although, come to think of it, Carrie Fisher as Princess Leia does have a few braids in her hair, not unlike a Rhinemaiden.

WITH MS. FISHER are the other principals of "Star Wars" continuing the roles they've made their own: Mark Hamill as Luke Skywalker, Harrison Ford as Han Solo, Anthony Daniels as C-3PO, Kenny Baker as R2-D2, David Prowse as Darth Vader, Peter Mayhew as Chewbacca, and Alec Guinness, appearing briefly as Ben (Obi-wan) Kenobi.

Two new characters are introduced, Billy Dee Williams as Lando Calrissian, boss of a mining colony in space, and Frank Oz as Yoda, the Jedi master.

If you didn't see "Star Wars," it would be difficult to get oriented to "The Empire Strikes Back." However, box office receipts indicate everyone past the age of 3 and not institutionalized has seen "Star Wars" (some people have seen it 178 times, they say), so perhaps this isn't a problem.

"The Empire" races along from one action-packed sequence and adventure to another... from the ice-cold planet Hoth (filmed in Norway) to the swampy planet Dagobah and the streamlined Cloud City complex of Bespin with its awesome carbon-freezing chamber. Accompanying the action is a dynamic sound track, always whooshing and zapping.

Although the overall story and conception are Lucas' — he was the executive producer — this film was not directed by him but by Irvin Kershner. Kershner keeps everything going at a feverish pace that doesn't allow for any change of tempo and, therefore, very little accentuation and emphasis.

"The Empire" is full throttle all the way.

IT BEGINS with the Rebels on Hoth where they are hiding from The Empire. They are detected and attacked by what appear to be mechanized metal camels, a strange weapon in an era of starships, but a potent one.

The Empire's forces overrun the Rebel stronghold, Princess Leia, Han and Chewbacca speed off together and try various maneuvers to evade their pursuer. Luke whips off to Dagobah to find the Jedi master Yoda.

Here, he receives instruction in a Taoist-like philosophy that teaches self-actualization. Before he completes his training, he dashes off to help his friends who've been captured by Vader.

"The Empire" lacks the freshness of "Star Wars" and the humor and playfulness. This is a much more somber film. The heroes begin to look a little tarnished.

Han and Princess Leia, attracted to each other, both prove to be stubborn and short-tempered. Luke is impatient and impetuous.

ALL THIS LEADS to an ending which is decidedly downbeat, but it also points toward a confrontation of Luke and Darth Vader in part six, the final film of this middle trilogy.

By then, having built up an equity in three films, who could afford to forego the other six? And who would want to? Not anyone who wants to stay in touch with what everyone else is seeing and talking about in the '80s.



Carrie Fisher again is the strong-willed and beautiful Princess Leia Organa.

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