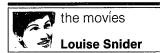


Jack Nicholson overacts outrageously as man driven mad in Stanley Kubrick's horror film "The Shining."



## Jack Nicholson hams up screen in 'The Shining'

Sometimes the specters walk at noon — in bright light, in spacious rooms. That's how Stanley Kubrick has shaped "The Shining" (R).

He's taken Stephen King's novel of suspense and the supernatural and given it a powerful visual form.

Kubrick, who masterminded "2001" and "Clockwork Orange," as the specific visual form. With the supernatural content of the supernat

THE MOST STRIKING of these sets is the Overlook, conceived as a hotel of vast proportions on an isolated site in the Colorado Rockies.

Rockies

Jack Torrance (Jack Nicholson) has come to the hotel as winter
caretaker and brought his wife Wendy (Shelley Duvall) and 7-yearold son Danny (Danny Lloyd) with him. Torrance smiles when the
manager tells him that a previous caretaker went berserk and
chopped up his wife and children, then killed himself.
No danger of that happening to him, Torrance affirms. After all,
he's looking forward to the isolation so he can concentrate on his
writing.

he's looking forward to the isolation so he can concentrate on his writing.

Initially, the threesome seem quite normal as they settle in to their winter retreat. But the Overlook is a place where strange things happen, and people change. Every color, every piece of furniture, every lighting effect has been meticulously selected to contribute toward an atmosphere that becomes more and more ominate.

nous.
"It's just the story of one man's family quietly going insane together," Kubrick told an interviewer. And that's just how Kubrick develops the story and builds suspense.

UNHURRIEDLY, piece by piece, a course of action is set into motion that seems inevitable. Torrance becomes short tempered, starts to drink, sees visions. Then a walloping blizzard takes hold and knocks down phone lines.

Finally, Torrance completely isolates his family by cutting off all communications with the outside world. He disables the CB radio and the snowmobile, and the stage is set for the chilling

all communications are readed and the stage is set for the common radio and the snowmbile, and the stage is set for the colimax. People who have read King's novel say they couldn't put it down; it was so engrossing. Kubrick's film has the same quality, yet it is not entirely satisfying.

For one thing, there are logical inconsistencies which are puzzling, even in a film that deals with the supernatural. Torrance's escape from the hotel's bolied meat locker is one of these puzzles, have we to assume that a spirit released him, since the only people there, his wife and child, didn't?

The most disturbing quality about the film, however, is Jack Nicholson's performance. The exaggerated facial expressions resemble the overacting of silent screen stars.

AS THE MALEVOLENT psychotic, he's marvelous — a comic, demonic Lucifer. But as Jack Torrance before and during his distintegration, all that mugging and leering add up to an outragenty hammy performance that, at times, makes a serious film seem

For these reasons, "The Shining" is not "the ultimate horror film" as touted, but it's certainly a darn good one.

### what's at the movies

BRONCO BILLY (PG). Clint Eastwood stars as rowdy, brawling owner of Wild West show.

BRUBAKER (R). Serious drama with Robert Redford as reform warden fighting corruption on state prison farm.

THE SUMPLY SHOULERS BACK, (PG). Side evil empire.

PAME (R). Lots of young taleat in wibrant musical about students at New York's School of Performing Arts.

FRIDAY THE ISTH (R). A case of overkill as counselors reopen camp closed since a series of vicious murders.

THE HOLLYWOOD KNIGHTS (R). Comedy about young men fighting to save their hangout from the wrecker's ball.

THE ISLAND (R). Butchery galore as Michael Caine investigates ship disappearances and finds modern-day piracy in Caribbean.

ROUGH CUT (R). Diamond thef Burt Reynolds falls for Scotland Yard (seoy Leslie-Anne Down.

THE SHINING (R). Stanleys with the scotland prince ordinary becomes ominous, and Jack Nicholson's psycholic evokes both fear and laughter. both fear and laughter.

## 'Side by Side' isn't together

By ETHEL SIMMONS

"Side by Side by Sondheim" at the Birmingham Theatre is a musical re-vue with some fine voices including Peggy Lee's, yet it leaves a lot to be desired.

desired.

This all-new version of the Broadway hit features Ms. Lee singing about a dozen of Stephen Sondheim's hit arid a dozen of Stephen Sondheim's hit arid a foursome — two men and two women — sharing the stage for most of the many other musical selections.

The pre-Broadway run continues through July 20.

This is the first stage production for blonde, sultry Peggy Lee, and her performance comes across with the supper club styling and pop-jazz vocalizing she is known for.

THE SPRIGHTLY singers, Teri Ralson, George Lee Andrews, Marti Morris and Eric Gillett, have that slick Broadway, upbeat rhythm, and they deliver the Sondheim lyrics distinctly, with mellow voices on the melodies. Cast in the role of narrator, Ms. Lee sits at one side of the stage during most of the production, reading background material on the life of Stephen Sondheim to the audience.

Her speaking voice is not particular-ly strong and expressive. The lights

#### review

platinum hair, leaving MS. Lee Moralter glostly.
Her sensual, pulsated energy on the numbers she does is in marked tonirast with the kind of energy used by the other performers. It seems like we're watching two slows together here, and the difference is not necessarily in MS. 1-20-f saum

Lee's favor.

Her stage movements are not as natural looking as those of the four singers. With arm and body movement keyed to her songs, Ms. Lee looks the professional she is, but her performance lacks real choreography.

ONE NUMBER she does with a feather boa is painfully exaggerated. Another number, where the two other women singers unwind from a boa, seems overly coy.

But, as is pointed out in the show, the song's the thing. And there is little distraction from the tunes presented, although we would have welcomed a few more clever touches in a show billed as a revue.

Sondheim fans will have their fill, with numbers from "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," Gypsy," Company, "A Little Night Music," "Follies," "Evening Primse," "Anyone Can Whistle," "Do I Hear a Waltz," "Pacific Overtures," Many of the names of Sondheim's Mroakway to make the most sondheim's Many of the names of Sondheim's Mroakway to hackdropping the finale. A ring of collights and circle of lights overhead winks throughout this lively closing number, in which the entire cast participates.

Even the musicians playing the twin planos and the bass come down from heir perch on stage, startingly, to join the singing and dancing in "Everybody tought to Have a Maid."

THE AUDIENCE appeared to be quite amused by this, and it does have a unmorous surprise quality, yet seems amateurish.

Peggy Lee turns poignant with "I' Remember Sky," a tender ballad with an edge (that most Sondheim songs and edge that most Sondheim songs. The most-applauded number was "I'm roblies," "The Song underscores the presence of this longtime star, who has stayed on you this Perceiva and the post in the second act.

The song underscores the presence of the long time star, who has stayed on you the remusical ability. Svathed in a gown with long, flowing, fur-edged in a gown with long, flowing, fur-edged in some warped up in the finale. The song underscore the presence of the song with the most songs repredient the proposed part of the song with the most songs repredient is "Company". "Another Hundred People" about the rigors of life in the song with a presence of the many good songs by blonde Teri Ralston. Brunette is "Company". "Another Hundred People" about the rigors of life in the song with a presence of the many good songs by blonde Teri Ralston. Brunette is "Company". "Another Hundred People" about the rigors of life in the song with a presence of the many good songs by blonde Teri Ralston. Brunette is "Company". "Another Hundred People" about the rigors of life in the song with a proposed part of the song with a proposed p



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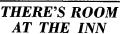
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