



Two carnie, played by Gary Busey (left) and Robbie Robertson (right), find their friendship is tested when they meet Donna, played by Jodie Foster. It's a movie you may want to miss.

Like the real thing, 'Carny' is sleazy, but that's about all

There is a sleaziness about carnivals, a garishness about midway, that periodically seems to attract the interest of moviemakers. Somehow, capturing the atmosphere is supposed to be enough to make up for an inadequate theme. It never is.

"Carny" (rated R) is the proof of the pudding, if proof is needed. Jodie Foster plays a sweet, almost innocent young thing who leaves home to join the low-life set. She also leaves her job as a waitress and her job boyfriend who likes to settle arguments with his knuckles. Maybe that's why she leaves; the reason is never clear.

She moves in with the clown (Gary Busey) and his partner (Robbie Robertson). If you think this is a setup for the eternal triangle, you're right.

WHAT'S IN store for Jodie but a tawdry life? She begins her new career as a dancer in a girlie show, but this side of show biz proves more than she bargained for. She then gets job retraining and learns how to pull strings for a midway game.

Since no one seems to have an inkling of where the plot is going or what to do next, the filmmakers try to simulate interest by throwing in some real carnies and freaks to add to the local color. They provide a briefly engaging view of the inside of carnival life — the slang, the customs, the details. However, like the rides, they don't hold one's attention for long.

Intrigue, violence, freaks, sex — in shotgun fashion, the script goes after them all. Unfortunately, nothing hits the target.

It looks as if some talented actors and a fine cinematographer put some time into "Carny" and got hustled.

what's at the movies

NEW RELEASES

AIRPLANE (PG). A picture that takes off. This spoof of all those "Airport" movies is one of the zaniest films around.

THE BLUE LAGOON (R). Lush photography but silly story of two shipwrecked youngsters who grow up uninhibited on tropic isle.

THE BLUES BROTHERS (R). A film that's as unoriginal and dreary as it is expensive (very) with one meatball scene after another and enough car crashes to make AAA go belly up.

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

CADDYSHACK (R). Chevy Chase and other comics in misadventures of caddies at a stuffy country club.

CLOSE ENCOUNTERS OF THE THIRD KIND (PG). Added footage and some judicious editing improve an already good product, Spielberg's sci-fi adventure of aliens contacting Earth.

DRESSED TO KILL (R). Horny murder mystery with more than a passing resemblance to Hitchcock's "Psycho."

THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (PG). "Star Wars" sequel unites original cast in continuation of battle against the evil empire.

FAME (R). Lots of young talent in vibrant musical about students at New York's School of Performing Arts.

THE FIENDISH PLOT OF DR. FU MANCHU (PG). Not very funny or very fiendish, but Peter Sellers' last film does include an occasional flash of comic genius that reminds us of what a gifted actor he was.

THE FINAL COUNTDOWN (PG). Kirk Douglas in action drama of a warship that goes through a time warp to the hour before Pearl Harbor.

HERBIE GOES BANANAS (G). Herbie, the Volkswagen bug, returns to the screen in a new adventure.

HONEYSUCKLE ROSE (PG). Willie Nelson is the center of attention in story about a country-western star who forgets he's married whenever he's on tour, which is most of the time.

THE HUNTER (PG). Steve McQueen returns to the screen again as a modern-day bounty hunter in pursuit of fugitives.

MOUNTAIN MEN (R). Charlton Heston and Brian Keith in violent story of hunters in the Rockies in the early 1800s.

RAISE THE TITANIC (PG). Adventure as American special operations team tries to recover vital mineral from the ship while interested Russians have their own plan.

SMOKEY AND THE BANDIT II (PG). Most of original cast plus Dom DeLuise appear in sequel that is chockful of crude jokes and action as the Bandit transports a pregnant elephant from Florida to Texas.

XANADU (PG). Inspired characters inhabit trivial musical about muse who descends to earth to help open up a disco, or something like that.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

- G General audiences admitted.
- PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
- R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
- X No one under 18 admitted.

Mime featured at coffeehouse

O.J. Anderson, who grew up in Southfield, and often played to sold out houses at the Raven Gallery, will perform at the new Hinge Coffeehouse, downstairs at Marcy's lounge on Wednesday, Oct. 1.

Marcy's is at 19151 Plymouth in Detroit.

The Hinge, formerly on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus recently relocated there.

Anderson is a mime, though not a pure mime. His comic acts, including Pay Toilet, The Pervert, Superman and Evelyn Wood's Speed Reading, are aimed at old fashioned belly laughs.

His serious works are aimed at bringing thought, understanding and love to viewers of Boy Meets Girl, Factory or When the Dance is Over.

Owen Anderson is a Southfield High School graduate and has a bachelor of fine arts degree in theater from the University of Detroit.

He has performed at the Ponchartrain and the Renaissance Center and the Cranbrook School of Arts as well as the Michigan Opera Theatre. Anderson has done radio and television and conducted mime workshops in schools.

His parents are Loraine and James Anderson of Southfield.

About four years ago, he became involved with the renovation of the Black Sheep Theatre in Manchester.

For Anderson, mime was a side interest that gradually became more than that. He calls his mime "new wave."

"It's not technically pure. I try to get the audience involved. And I kind of cheat because I use gibberish in my act.



O. J. ANDERSON

"In the near future," he said, "I will start singing songs acapella, and doing mime to the lyrics."

He has other talents including acting, singing, dancing, and puppetry. He also does commercials.

Anderson plays the Hinge, where he started out a number of years ago, because he likes the coffeehouse.

The Hinge will offer food and drink during the performance. The underground accommodations at Marcy's are donated, and the coffeehouse remains a non-profit venture, said Hinge director Tim Joy.

For more information, call him at 531-9394 or 835-3084.

Zoo, hay ride event offered

The Detroit Zoo is again offering hay rides as a special fall/winter event. Reservations for groups of 25 or more persons are being accepted.

The hay rides will begin Nov. 1 and

will end March 16. The cost for adults 13 years old and older is \$5; the cost for children between the ages of 6-12 years is \$4; for children 5 years old and under the cost is \$3.

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