



Marie-Christine Barrault and Woody Allen appear in a scene from "Stardust Memories."



the movies

Louise Snider

Film continues inward journey of Woody Allen

Artists frequently paint self-portraits. Sometimes, it's because they can't afford models — this was especially true in previous centuries and early in our own. Often, it's because they want to externalize their own feelings about themselves.

The latter reason seems to apply to Woody Allen. In "Stardust Memories" (PG), he continues the inward journey made visible that became important in "Annie Hall" and continued with "Manhattan."

Even "Interiors," the serious drama he wrote and directed, suggests by its title persisting interest in introspection.

"Stardust Memories," however, is both more personal and more elusive than his other films. Like Fellini's "8½" or Truffaut's "Day for Night," it's an account of movie making and a comment on the art of illusion, as well as a sad but funny self-portrait.

ALLEN'S UNIQUE viewpoint assures us a film that is self-critical and humorous, punctuated with devastating one-liners. His ethnic background provides a few thousand years of tradition in the art of self-deprecating jokes.

Sandy Bates is the protagonist in "Stardust Memories." He is so thinly disguised an alter ego of Allen's that you could watch the entire film without catching his name.

Bates is a film writer, actor and director. He is generally on the receiving end of backhanded compliments. "I love your movies, especially the early, funny ones."

He is caught in the middle of Allen's usual anxiety-ridden situation. He questions the value of his work; he is trying to straighten out his love life; he is ambivalent about making commitments; he is worried that all matter in the universe is decaying and he's pondering the meaning of existence.

Consequently, jokes bounce back and forth between the ethnic and the cosmic. On suicide: "It's not a middle-class alternative. My mother was too busy running the boiled chicken through the de-flavorizing machine" (to think of it). On God: "To you, I'm an atheist. To God, I'm the loyal opposition."

"STARDUST MEMORIES" belongs to the unstructured, episodic type of film. Sometimes you have to wonder if Allen writes his one-liners on file cards and when he has a sufficient quantity builds a movie around them. There is no strong narrative. The continuity is on the tone.

What persists is an onslaught of people who bombard Bates with their criticism, fawning praise or requests. He's not funny anymore. He's great. Will he do a cancer benefit? Will he donate his truss for an auction? "I don't wear a truss" is the courteous reply.

"I'm just lucky," he acknowledges. If he were born in a society that didn't value laughter, he wouldn't be successful. Being lucky is an ambiguous state, a toss of the dice, thus this sad but funny movie.

Bates can end his film with a kiss and a clinch. Allen settles for a disgruntled patron muttering, "From this he makes a living?"

what's at the movies

NEW RELEASES

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

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

CARNEY (R). Jodie Foster runs off to join a carnival and gets involved with the clown and his partner. A film for those who like to get hustled.

COAST TO COAST (PG). Romantic comedy with trucker and hitchhiker, who has just escaped from mental institution, sharing transcontinental adventure.

DIVINE MADNESS (R). Energetic and electrifying Bette Midler in film version of the Broadway show.

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

THE GREAT SANTINI (PG). Robert Duvall as Air Force pilot and dominating father in strong story of family conflict and love.

HOPSCOTCH (R). Chemistry of Matthau/Jackson pairing works again, but we don't see them together often enough in this halfway humorous (first half) film.

IN GOD WE TRUST (PG). Marty Feldman in slapstick fable about innocent monk's initiation into worldly ways.

MY BODYGUARD (PG). Humorous, low-key film about two teenage boys of different backgrounds who join forces to put down school bully.

OIL, GOD! BOOK II (PG). George Burns returns as the Almighty with a new messenger, Luanna, as "Tracey" to deliver his words.

ORDINARY PEOPLE (R). Robert Redford's directorial debut is a smash in this extraordinarily well-acted, moving film about a "perfect" family trying to cope with a son's mental illness.

PRIVATE BENJAMIN (R). Goldie Hawn joins the army to escape and find herself.

SAM MARLOW, PRIVATE EYE (PG). Contemporary mystery-comedy that draws upon the '40s and the Bogart tradition.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

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



Blue Champagne stars (from left) Jayne Lewis, Deirdre Van Winkle and Bill Cole.

Musical recalls airwaves

Producer Henry K. Martin of Bloomfield Hills is presenting the hit musical "Blue Champagne" as his first offering of the new theater season in Windsor's Cleary Auditorium.

Performances are Oct. 30-31 and Nov. 1.

Martin said he is bringing the show from Toronto, where it played most recently on the national tour.

"Blue Champagne" combines comedy and song with nostalgia. The audience will appear to be a radio show audience, as the performers recreate the sounds of radio's heyday.

For ticket information, contact the Cleary box office at 252-8311.

Martin recently returned from Des Moines, Iowa, where he staged the "Ford Tractor Show." The live presentation of Ford Tractor's new line ran for three days.

This Week's Specialty
JUMBO SHRIMP DINNER
1 lb. live shrimp, deep fried in a fresh batter
2 sides, choice of rice or baked potato, vegetable
and dessert. Served up bread! \$7.95
Served 11:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m., October 19th

Meriwether's
Telegraph North of 10 Mile Van Dyke South of 12 Mile
Southfield Warren
358-4700 578-9678

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE ON THE TOWN

Check your chances of getting colorectal cancer.



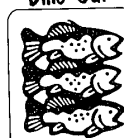
Cancer can attack anyone. But some people live with a higher risk of developing cancer than others. If you check any of the boxes, see your doctor. Discuss with him your risks of getting cancer.

Warning about cancer is a first step in curing it.

- ☐ Have a history of polyps
- ☐ Have blood in the stool
- ☐ Have ulcerative colitis

American Cancer Society
100 EAST WILSON AVENUE, SUITE 200
ANN ARBOR, MI 48106

Dine Out



Tonight



3315 Auburn Road
Between Adams & Opdyke Rd.

梅MOY'S RESTAURANT
1005 WOODLAWN BLVD. N.W. LANSING
Cantonese & American Food
Japanese Steakhouse
• Exotic Cocktails •
CARRY OUTS ON CHINESE FOOD

Chinese Lunch \$1.50
Chinese Dinner \$3.50
Japanese Lunch \$1.50
Japanese Dinner \$3.50
\$4.95 a la carte
Open Monday

For Reservations Phone 427-3101

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

Tuesday Night is
Inflation Fighter
Night
At The
Shalea Inn
\$6.91
per person
Featuring Prime Rib, Beef, Off cuts, and
served with Cream Gravy and
Crispers. Soup, Salad, French
Fries, Roll and Butter
852-3410

3315 Auburn Road
Between Adams & Opdyke Rd.

WHAT'S MERRICK'S...



You may have heard about Merrick's Restaurant. But can you find us?

Tuesday through Thursday discover Merrick's Night. Anyone who finds their way to us between now and Oct. 31, 1980 is invited to enjoy one complimentary entree when a second entree of equal or greater value is purchased. This coupon is good Tues.-Thursday evenings, from 5:30-9:30 pm only.

Located at American Center in Southfield
for easy to follow directions & reservations
CALL US AT
353-8144

DISCOVER BRIAN MINARD



Brian is our new Maitre d' who'll make your evening out a pleasurable experience. If you wish, this "gent" from Liverpool, England, will carve a delicious Chateaubriand right at your table and suggest an appropriate wine. Or, perhaps you'd like to ask him about our excellent Seaford Wellington, Prime Rib and Veal Florentine. If you're in the mood for a lighter repast Brian will introduce you to our famous 25-foot Wicker Works Salad Bar. How long since you've had a Spanish Coffee flamed by an entrepreneur such as Brian? Discover Brian's hospitality and rediscover the charm of Wicker Works.

REDISCOVER



WICKERWORKS
NORTHFIELD HILTON
5500 Crooks Rd. at I-75
Troy, Michigan 48098
(313) 879-2100

TODAY'S BEAUTIFUL MUSIC

