The Color Purple' will make your heart sing



Two devoted sisters are kept spart in "The Color Pur-ple." Akosua Busia (loft) is Nettie, Danny Glover is Mis-ter, and Desreta Jackson is Colle as a young girl.

Everyone is raving about "The Color Purple" (PG-13) and for good reason. It is a superp film that will stir—and sadden—you while it rekindles your belief in love and your faith in the strength of the human spirit.

Based on Allee Walker's Pulltzer-Prize-winning work, "The Color Purple" is unusual in its frank depiction of the black experience in America, something network television ignores. For most viewers then, this picture of another kind of black slavery, by blacks, will provide unusual insight. For most viewers then, this picture of another kind of black in the provide unusual insight.

Anarow view of black life in America, based on "Boots" and its sequels plus "The Jeffersons" and numerous other fictional portrayals of southern blacks oppressed by bigoted whites after Reconstruction.

It is a lesser-known fact that southern blacks held property, even black slaves, and subjected their own to other kinds of slavery. In the case of "The Color Purple," the oppression is of black women by their men.

ULTIMATELY that oppression shames and degrades the black men who have power by virtue of economic circumstance. It is to the film's great credit that we know those men understand their sins before the film's

story ends.

Celle (played by Whoopl Goldberg, with Desreta Jackson as Young Celle) is closely and affectionately bound to her younger sister, Nettle (Akosua Busia), Her Pat (Leonard Jackson) fathers her two children which are taken from her at Birth, Pa then "gives her her two children which are the property of the

ried, simil he singing in the juke-joints.

Although Shug is damaged psycho-logically by her father's rejection, she has Mister completely under her thumb. He, who is so abusive of Celle, is himself a slave to Shug's every whim and wile.

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Greenberg

UNDER SHUG'S tutelage. Celle begins to assert her long-repressed feminality and individuality. Together
they explore life, and Mister's house,
where ultimately they discover Nettile's letters, which Mister with unparaileled depravity has hidden from
Celle for many years.
"The Color Purple' is magnificient
in all regards — acting, directing,
staging, mucie and photography. For
nearly three hours, its 40-year span of
southern black history in the first half
of this century holds audiences spellbound.

of this century holds audiences specimend.

From a directorial point of view,
the film is a departure from the adventure fantasies with which Spici-berg Is associated. But if there was any question as to his ability to stage and direct magnificent celluloid moments, this film dispets all doubt.

The performances Stellberg cilcuis.

The performances Spielberg elicits from an extremely talented east

touch the hardest if hearts with a tenderness and strength of spirit that is beautiful to comprehend.

Goldberg matures over the 40-year span, growing from a frightened, abused girl to a woman of spirit and sensitivity, in itself a performance worth the whole show.

worth the whole show. There are far too many excellent performances for the space here allowed. Margaret Avery's juke-joint singer, Danny Glover's abustive Mister Albert, and Oprah Winflery, as his daughter-in-law who runs afoul of the white establishment, combine with many other characterizations in a marvelous display of ensemble acting and individual performance.

and individual performance.

Quincy Jones' music, from jukejoint to gospel, and the touchingly soft and evocative cinematography of Al-len Daviau round out an absolutely magnificent movie.

upcoming

things to do

• 'ANGEL STREET'
Meadow Brook Theate will open a four-week run of Angel Street' at 1 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 2, on the Oakland University campus in Rochester Hills. The Gothic thriller is better known to classic movie buffs as "Gaslight." Bethany Carpenter plays the terror-filled wife. George Gitto portrays the diabolical husband who conspires to drive his wealthy bride mad. For ticket information call 377-3300.
• "HARVEY COMING

bride mad. For ticket information call 377-3300.

HARVEY COMING

The Birmingham Village Players will present
Harvey** Friday, Jan. 31; Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 12, and Friday-Saturday. Feb. 7-8. Curtain time is
330 pm. except for Sunday matinee at 2 pm. only.
A comedy classic by Mary Chase, "Harvey" is the
story of Elwood Dowd and his imaginary rabbit
friend. Gene Ewald stars as Elwood P. Dowd. Appearing with Ewald will be his wife, Jo, and his
daughter, Amy Duchesneau. Other cast members

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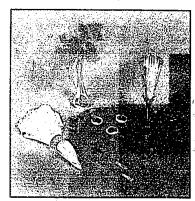




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