

VIDEO VIEWING

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dating of the Faust legend turns to ashes in "Shock'em Dead" with ex-porn star Traci Lords keeping her clothes on while a number of unknown young ladies take off some of theirs. Certainly, it's nothing more — in fact, less — than what many B-rated films contain.

Terrible acting and weak rock music is no bargain either in this expensive loaded with vomit, snakes and casual murder played out as if it were a bunch of teenage hijinks. Besides all that disgusting behavior, the film is poor in every production category.

On the other side of the world, literally as well as in terms of production values, several foreign films debuted on the video racks Jan. 31.

Although different, both are finely

textured, very European and extremely political. "Love" is a 100-minute, 1978, black-and-white Hungarian film starring Lili Darvas, the noted Hungarian actress. "Roads South," also from 1978, is 92 minutes, color and in French with English subtitles.

"LOVE" ALSO has English subtitles. Both are well-done titles outlined in black for easy reading.

"Roads," directed by noted American director, Joseph Losey, stars Yves Montand as a screenwriter haunted by his Spanish background and involvement in the anti-Franco movement. If this film reminds viewers of Alain Resnais' 1966 film "La Guerre Est Finie," also starring Yves Montand but in black and white, well, it should for it's essentially the same film but well enough

done to deserve your attention.

It dissects the complex emotions of family love, political obligations and individual self-image with fine acting and good sensibility.

"Love" is much less conventional with a surrealistic, mental overtones as the question of personal impact of political imprisonment is investigated at length.

The film centers on Darvas as the mother of a political prisoner who is fooled by her housekeeper and daughter-in-law into believing that her son is making a film in America. They do this to soothe the aged, dying woman.

Both "Love" and "Roads to the South" are well-done, worthwhile and interesting. Certainly miles ahead of the trashy video-cassette racks.

SCREEN SCENE

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Graham Greene story about political intrigue in Haiti. Kicking off a month-long tribute to Taylor.

MAPLE THEATRE, 4135 W. Maple, Birmingham. Call 855-9090 for information (\$5, \$3.50 (twilight)). "Vincent and Theo" (USA — 1991), call for show times. Robert Altman directed this rehash of the life of Vincent Van Gogh and his supportive brother Theo. While it often provides some new insights, it's more often long, pretentious and far from a masterpiece.

MICHIGAN THEATRE, 16301 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 669-8397 for information (\$4.50, \$3.50 students and senior citizens). "Wild Strawberries" (Sweden — 1957), 7 p.m. Feb. 5-6. On the way to receive an honorary degree, a distinguished professor recalls the regrets of his long life. One of Ingmar Bergman's earliest and best known films is still powerful today.

"Metropolitan" (USA — 1990), 9

p.m. Feb. 5-6 and 7:30 p.m. Feb. 7. This low-budget portrait of teenage aristocrats in New York City, where deb parties and trust funds are the main topics of conversation, almost grows on you. The characters are so pretentious and doomed to snobishness that they're extremely funny.

"C'est La Vie" (France — 1990), through Feb. 10 (call for show times). The latest film from Diane Kurys traces the devastating effects of divorce has on a pair of young girls during summer vacation by the sea. Full of witty and insightful moments only the French seem able to capture.

Frank's Drive-In Movie Night — "Hallucination Generation" (USA — 1966) and "Gildred, the Three-headed Monster" (Japan — 1965), starting at 8:45 p.m. Feb. 8. Projectionist Frank Uhle screens a pair of psychotronic films along with trailers from his personal collection. The first feature starts in black and white as American hippies head for Spain, but when they trip out on LSD, psychedelic color fills the screen. "Gild-

red," meanwhile, plots the little creature against Godzilla, Mothra and Rodan. Big Fun.

REDFORD THEATRE, 17360 Lahser, Detroit. Call 537-2560 for information (\$2.50).

"The Catin Mutiny" (USA — 1954), 8 p.m. Feb. 8-9 (organ overture at 7:30 p.m.). Humphrey Bogart is the neurotic Captain Queeg whose officers rebel against him and are later court-martialed. Adapted from Herman Wouk's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and co-starring Fred MacMurray, Jose Ferrer, Van Johnson and Lee Marvin.

TELE-ARTS THEATRE, 1540 Woodward, Detroit. 963-8590. (ticket prices vary). "Killer of Sheep" (USA — 1988), Feb. 8-17 (call for show times). From Charles Burnett, the director of "To Sleep With Anger," comes this grueling portrait of a young black man employed in a Los Angeles slaughterhouse. — John Monaghan

ALTERNATIVE VIEWING

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of this stuff, but they just won't cut it in a theater as big as the Michigan," the projectionist admitted.

Uhle said the rarity rather than expense makes booking the films so difficult.

"We needed to get ahold of a

35mm print of "Revenge of the Nerds" for some reason and couldn't find one," Uhle said. "Students just don't like to devote storage space for movies that rent maybe once a year."

Uhle doesn't know what to expect from the second half of the double bill, "Hallucination Generation."


Outside of its original — and probably extremely brief — release in 1966, few people have actually seen this intriguingly titled exploitation flick.

In it, a group of hippie expatriates head for an island off the coast of Spain. Here the movie is shot in black and white. When they start taking LSD, however, psychedelic freak-out scenes fill the screen. Uhle is crossing his fingers in hopes of a decent color print.

FOR INTERMISSION, in an attempt to recreate a mid-1960s feel, Uhle has collected coming attractions trailers for gems like "The Trip," "Mondo Mod," "Clambake," "Psych-Out" and announcing "Greetings from the Ypo-Ain Drive-In."

"Frank's Drive-In Movie Night" have done well financially, attracting an average of 200 people per show. Uhle also has shown his trailers for film societies on the University of Michigan campus, but they haven't drawn nearly as well.

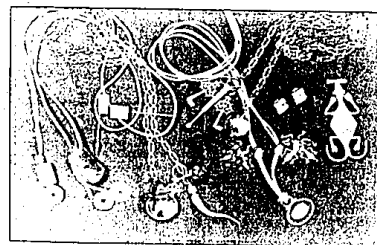
The soft-spoken Uhle doesn't get philosophical or morose about the demise of the drive-in movie. He knows there's one or two still around but, like most of us, he said, "Some friends and I kept meaning to go last summer but never got around to it."



STREET SEEN

Denis Susan Lucas

Our intrepid Street Scene reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoedcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 301.



Museum find

The Detroit Institute of Art Museum Shop is a marvelous place to find extraordinary gifts. Highlighting the Museum Shop's assortment of jewelry are designs from local artist Shalagh Burke whose "culture collection" is on display at Saks Fifth Avenue Troy.

Burke's "museum collection" features several larial designs to loop at the neck or tie as a belt. The silver chain and rope lariats are adorned with exotic trinkets including turquoise, coral, silver perfume falcons, silver growing tools, antique silver keys, antique nephrite jade, brass coins, agate drop, bronze African fetich and tiger eye all found during her worldwide travel adventures. Priced \$25-85.

Child's play

It's the Sharper Image. Tupperware and Toys R Us all follow one. Discovery Toys distinct catalog of unusual toys from all over the world will amuse your child from cradle through childhood and is available only through a Discovery Toy representative.

Whether you chose a Baby Bugle from Hong Kong, Adventure Floor Puzzle from Spain or encourage physical, emotional and intellectual growth in children. Featured here is a Marbleworks Construction Toy for ages 5 and up. Children can build their own exciting marble run, send marbles through tunnels, into hoppers, over bridges and around circular chutes for hours of fun. Set includes 39 building pieces plus marbles. Priced \$24.95. For more information, call Leslie Fruman, 737-9674.



STREET SENSE

Group helps sex addicts

Dear Barbara,

I am writing you in response to a letter that was printed Jan. 7 about a man who masturbated frequently. My husband is sexually addicted and has had the same problem that this man had for many years. The fantasizing is part of the high they get. My husband is also addicted to pornography, which helps him fantasize.

There is a place for this man to get help. My husband and I are both in a 12-step recovery program which has helped us a great deal. It is based on the same steps as AA. My group is Co-Dependent of Sex Addicts and my husband's group is Sex Addicts Anonymous.

My husband started out masturbating, but after years the addiction grew to even more devastating sexual activities. Not all sex addicts get worse over time, but many of them do.

Many people feel that masturbating is a perfectly normal behavior and for many people it is normal, but when it becomes compulsive behavior like my husband does, they can have a great deal of guilt and shame about it to the point of being suicidal. This is the only way for a sex addict to deal with their problems.

Our groups are very private about our meeting places because of the subject matter, and this man will have to go through the proper channels to get help, but it is there for him.

Please print this because when I read his letter, I heard the same pain my husband had when he told me his problem after 10 years of a very happy marriage. I can call Lansing (800) 752-5858 and ask for a list of addresses to write for information on a contact person or write and/or call Golden Valley Health Center for Sexual Addict at Twin City S.A., P.O. Box 3038 Minneapolis, Minn. 55403, or call (612) 339-0217.

A book called "Out of the Shadows" written by Patrick Carnes, Ph.D., will help him understand his addiction and probably why he became addicted.

Co-dependent to a Sex Addict

Dear Co-dependent to a Sex Addict, Thank you for your desire to be helpful to men who have such problems. It is good to hear that you and your husband have found a place where you could receive the needed help.

Because of this and though your letter is a long one, I am printing it



Barbara Schiff

completely. It gives our readers the opportunity to gain information and education.

Barbara

If you have a question and comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense, 36251 Schoedcraft, Livonia 48150.

Rap duo deals in parody



JIM JAGDELDISTAFF photographer

Rappers of dubious distinction, MC Sampler (Harry Artin Berberian) and Def Jam Black Eel (Skeeter Murry) have released a rap single — a kind of a quasi tribute to Rick James and MC Hammer.

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"Touch This" is Rick James' and not MC Hammer.

MC Sampler and Def Jam Black Eel have taken it upon themselves to enlighten the masses.

Already, the pair have put together several songs and continue to work on others. Some of the 70s hits to sample and rapify include "Afternoon Delight" by Starland Vocal Band and "Love Will Keep Us Together" by the Captain & Tennille.

"That one will be a challenge," MC Sampler said about Captain & Tennille chestnut.

Def Jam Black Eel believes the group's lyrics can reach people on an intellectual level while the beat appeals to others on an emotional plain.

"It's pure entertainment," Def Jam Black Eel said.

ALSO, PURELY SERIOUS. The duo has two videos in the works and an album in the making. The ultimate goal is to land a major record deal.

The idea for the rap collaboration came about after meeting at a Taste of Freeze. Both possess a sense of humor. Artin and Murry perform regularly around the area as stand-up comics.

On this endeavor, though, the duo wants to make a musical statement. "Which someone's going to probably steal from us," Def Jam Black Eel said.

For information, call Electric Red Records at 335-9252.

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League has fun making music

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"Back" features more focused material, revealing a group that has set together. At least Kushner thought so.

Otherwise, the guitarist and one of the founding members wouldn't have returned to League of Nations.

He left the group 2½ years ago, going to New York for awhile and working as a soundman for local radio. He and his band members have grown in the past few years.

"It's so tough to keep a band together," Kushner said. "You have five guys. It's like a marriage."

THE MARRIAGE includes the songwriting partners. Other members put their "two cents in." Canning added.

League of Nations includes bassist Tim Deas and guitarist Bob Humpaluk along with Kushner, Schor and Canning. The band formed in 1987 out of the remnants of outfits Gypsy Antique Shops and Tomorrow's Children. Members have slipped in and out during the period, but the original line-up is intact.

So, too, is the group's goal, which simply to play rock'n'roll. And not think too much about it.