

STREET SENSE

Go, if it feels right to you

Dear Barbara,
I received the enclosed invitation yesterday as did several of my officemates. As I had never heard of a "miscellaneous, personal, just want to have fun shower," I asked some of those who also received invitations their thoughts.



Barbara Schiff

One individual was absolutely enraged — way beyond indignant — and lambasted the "perpetrator" of this "abomination" (I believe that was the word she used). Some were confused/harried and others were glad "because we need a party."
In an attempt (and it's feeble, at best) to make this somewhat clearer, the party is being given to cheer up/bring the spirits up of the honoree. She has been having some family and other problems, but the main reason for the party (originally) was to be a "grandmother" shower and then turned into this. (Don't ask me; it isn't getting any better.)
I have mixed feelings about this affair. On one hand, I think it's a wonderful gesture and wish someone would do something like that for me when I'm on that out-of-control roller coaster. But on the other hand, I say, "So what. You've brought this mess on yourself and I don't have time to feel sorry for you and don't feel I have to coddle you so you'll feel better because nothing's going to change."
I guess what I'm asking is have you or any of your other readers heard of/been invited to this kind of

"shower." And if so (and even if not), what are/were your thoughts and/or feelings and WHAT KIND OF GIFT DO YOU BRING?

Wondering

Dear Wondering,
I have not heard of this type of shower. If readers of this column have, I encourage them to write in with similar stories and their reactions.

My feeling is that if you like this person, go to the shower and be gracious in your attitude. Don't be angry or critical. Attend the party in a way that will make you feel good about yourself — like a lady.
If you don't like the woman, don't be a hypocrite. Don't go.
Any present that you guess might put a smile on her face is appropriate. How about lottery tickets or a Bill Cosby recording on families.

Barbara

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

ALTERNATIVE MOVIE

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featured List.
SOME OF the performances seem out of place. While Davis, even after a dozen popular pictures, still comes off as a brilliant unknown. Bernadette Peters and Mandy Patinkin are too recognizable and don't measure up to the caliber of the other actors.

The casting undoubtedly stems from director James Lapine, previously a stage director on such musicals as "A Little Night Music." He doesn't miss a beat, however, with the tone of the screenplay by Sarah Kernochan.
"Impromptu" places its historic personages into perspective. Sand, remembered more for her wild life

than for her writing, admits that Chopin is an "eternal" who will exist long after she and her trendy cronies pass on.
Spread out beneath his piano, drinking in each note Chopin strikes on the piano, Sand is in heaven. It's the only time in the film when she gives into anything aside from her own all-consuming passion.

VIDEO VIEWING

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combat and his son's accidental death. Macaulay Culkin of "Home Alone" fame plays his son while Danny Aiello appears as Jacob's friend and chauffeur.
The excellent cast is rounded out by Elizabeth Pena as Jezzle, a co-worker at the post office, with whom Jacob lives.

as a doctor of philosophy to live downtown with Jezzle and work at the post office.

The film is not for the weak-minded. Rubin described it appropriately and quite succinctly as "the dark side of 'Ghost'" and many of its images reflect the bleak and hopeless depths of human despair.

Adrian Lyne's direction, the entire cast's performance, editing, photography, writing — all the crafts of filmmaking reach heights of excellence in this production — but the

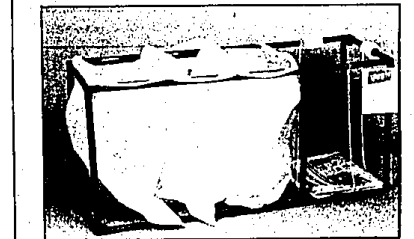
greatest attraction of "Jacob's Ladder" is its mystery.

No, I'm not going to give it away because a good deal of the pleasure in such a film is figuring it out for yourself. One hint plus the consolation prize: There is an excellent, short French film, "Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge" (1962). It's a Civil War story and has the same structural concept as "Jacob's Ladder."

Everybody's consolation prize, Variety's reviewer didn't understand what was going on in "Jacob's Ladder."

STREET SEEN
Denise 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 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 591-2300, Ext. 2131.



Environmentally speaking

Did you know the energy saved from recycling one glass bottle will light a 100-watt bulb for four hours? Put organization and convenience into recycling aluminum, plastic and glass as well as newspapers. The triple recycling center comes with a 44-by-14-by-21-inch frame that holds reusable, washable, leakproof bags or, if you prefer, 13-gallon trash bags. Two rolls of twine attach to the frame to make bundling papers a pleasant job. Available at Sharper Image in Novi and Troy. Priced at \$45.



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Orson Welles starred with Ruth Warrick in the former's controversial "Citizen Kane," about yellow journalist William Randolph Hearst.

SCREEN SCENE

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tackled the legend of yellow journalist William Randolph Hearst and did so with controversy and style to spare.

"Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" (Italy — 1964, 9:30 p.m. May

22 and 7 p.m. May 23. A trio of comic tales starring Sophia Loren and Marcello Mastroianni, directed by Vittorio De Sica. As part of a tribute to Loren.

"My Twentieth Century" (Hungary — 1988, through May 30 (call

for show times). This first film from Lidiko Eryedi opens with Thomas Edison's discovery of electricity and then follows the story of twin girls, separated at birth. One becomes a bomb-toting anarchist, the other a femme fatale.

— John Monaghan

MOVING PICTURES

Continued from Page 2

slow, repetitive tour footage, endless pre-show prayer sessions, plus backstage preparations and the tomfoolery that is part of every production. Home movies are only fun when it's your home.

Only a monumental ego could have convinced Madonna that all this pretentious drive-in means anything, has any significance or is worth watching. Two hours of pompous pronouncements on artistic integrity, human emotion, life and her personal whims are totally irrelevant and very annoying.

But at least Madonna has a certain rhythmic sexual attraction and her musical numbers are entertaining. Not so for Clay's crass and offensive blithering.

Star Theatres John R announced an exclusive summer series which opened Friday with Carlos Saura's "Ay Carmela" (A, no rating, 105 minutes). It's a sensational film about a traveling theatrical troupe, Carmela (Carmen Maura); her husband, Paulino (Andres Pajares) and her helper, Gustavete (Gabino Diego) who are entertaining Republican troops in 1938 during the Span-

ish Civil War.

"Ay Carmela" entertains with its comic satire about human conduct and with its music hall routines. Much of its appeal, as well, comes from its atmosphere, reminiscent of

"Cinema Paradiso" and of the very best of Fellini and Truffaut.

"What About Bob?" (B, PG, 97 minutes). He's "human crazy glue" and he's driving his psychiatrist crazy.

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clarification

In the Monday, April 22, edition of Street Scene, Alkanef, "Sonya" Nematalahi should have been identified as a systems engineer for the Ford Motor Co.

CONCERTS

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2048 Caniff, off I-75. For information, call 345-3829.

● BUSHMASTERS
Bushmasters will perform with guest, Spinal 69, Saturday, May 25, at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit. Cover is \$4. For information, call 831-8070.

● CHEAP TRICK
Cheap Trick will perform Sunday, May 26, at River Rock Cafe, 837 Franklin, Detroit. For information, call 259-8202.

● CAC MUSIC FACTORY
CAC Music Factory will perform with Salt-n-Pepa, Another Bad Creation and Downtown Julie Brown Sunday, May 26, at The New Pine Knob in Clarkston. Tickets are \$5.95. For information, call 377-8600.

● SECOND SELF
Second Self will perform Sunday, May 26, at Saint Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. For information, call 961-MELT.

Zeppelin: Airborne parodies

Continued from Page 3

Jah Paul Jo said the band has patched up any misunderstandings with members of The Estate, showing them the lyrics and artwork of latest release "5,000,000." With the saturation of Elvis impersonators, though, Dread Zeppelin antics would seem to be singled out.

"I think it's a touchy thing. I guess they frown upon it when you're actually making money off his image."

ACTUALLY, ROBERT Plant and Jimmy Page might have more of a gripe. Their Led Zeppelin collaborations, most notably "The Song Remains the Same" and "Stairway to Heaven," are parodied to hilarious lengths on "5,000,000."

"Stairway to Heaven" features a stirring duet between the Caribbean-flavored vocals of Ed Zeppelin and the Telemundo soul of Tortellis. (Unfortunately, WRIF-FM and WLLZ-FM haven't thought to put this on heavy rotation.)

One of the highlights, though, is the reggae treatment laid on "Train Kept A-Rollin'" — a tune made famous by Aerosmith.

Such numbers are interspersed with Dread Zeppelin's own material, including a rather curious reggae-free techno-mix called "Forgetting About Business Part I."

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THANK YOU FOR ENTERING!