The Observer/ THURSDAY, MAY 27, 1993

CUTTO TO THE MOL

(F) *78





she's the spitting image of the woman who leaped from the balcony of that ry same unit. This

tan high-rise. A neighbor finally fills her in -

is particular brand of para-This particular brand of para-noia, especially involving a wom-an, has served Ira Lavin weil. The popular mystery writer, who perned "Rosemary's Baby" and "The Stepford Wives" 20 years ago, also wrote the novel on which "Sliver" is based. While these angles books made

ago, also wrote the novel on which "Silver" its based. While those earlier books made entertaining movies, "Silver" is almost a total washout. The trashiness of this mucho-hyped acx thriller overshadows any cred-ibility the story might have had. Sharon Stone plays Carly, a book editor, recently divorced and looking for a new relationship, She has a couple of prospects right in her apartment building— an egotistical novellst, Jack (Tom Berenger), and the young comput-er wiz Zeke (William Baldwin). To get an edgo, Jack fills Car-ly's head full of rumors about his rigad all the rooms of the apart-

rigged all the rooms of the apart-ment building with hidden video

ERT SEAN LEONARD

WASHINGTON

Tenants, door-men and janitors openly stare when she moves into her Manhat-REVIEW

emeras. But who is it? In its better moments, "Sliver" does keep you guessing, experily Ping-Ponging back and forth while trying to figure out who the paycho really is. Stone, a red-hot Hollywood property after "Basic Instinct," here through the lens of cinema-tographer Vilmos Zsigmond. Not since the days of Garbo and Dietrich has the camera lingered so long and lovingly on a face. You would expect better from Phillip Noyce, whose classy direc-tion of "Particle Games" made it one of last summer's best. He movie whose prime goal is getting the most out of Stone's estronom-ical selary. Nove sementedly timmed some

less other young actors, would have brought to the role.

have brought to the role. In a perfect world, a movie as stupid as "Sliver" would bomb due to bad word of mouth. Don't count on it. The provestive sub-ject matter and sexy scenes with Stone, no matter how badly han-dled, will make it a bundle at the box office.

Now showing at these suburban theaters: AMC Abbey, AMC Am-ericana West, AMC Wonderland, AMC Southfield City, Quo Vadis, Showcase Auburn Hülls, Star Ro-chester. WIM CLIPS

Nove reportedly trimmed some ical salary. Nover reportedly trimmed some of the steamler scenes as the mov-le could get an R instead of an NC-17 raing. A lot of sex still re-mains, including an embarrassing bit with Stone alone in her bath-tub, watched by the all-sceing eye of the totally hidden video. The movie's message tells us that high-tech voyeurism is slok and immoral, pretty hyporitical since this movie's aole purpose is ub titlate. There's nothing of substance here that wasn't han-dled a hundred times batter in "Rear Window" or "Peoping Tom," both of which "Sliver"

AMC EXCLUSIVE "A RAVISHING ENTERTAINMENT!

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Julieur.

At the sperm-bank,

she asked for

a tall, intelligent, black man.

One out of three ain't bad.

RDAY MAY 28H AMC OUTHFIELD CITY AMC S ACON EAST BI YOVI TOWN CTR. ME NAISSANCE SHOWCA

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SHOWCASE .

An exhibit and the second seco pays homago to. Tom Berenger, usually an un-convincing, thick-necked, gravelly voiced tough guy, has learned to lighten up a bit. Looking here like a young Albert Finney, his Jack is painfully insecure, completely full of himself and unsettlingly funny. William Baldwin, a smaller, paler version of older brother Alec, is a dead fish in "Silver." He doesn't have the mysterious charm that Alec, or one of count-less other young actors, would

She was an erperienced climb, er, she trusted him to rescue her, but something west wong high above the valley floor . . . and Gabe Walker (Sylvester Stallono) has been blaming himself for her death ever since. Unable to deal with the tragedy, Gabe quit his job with the Focky Mountain Rescue Team and fled from his one-cheriabed moun-tains, leaving bohind his self-es-teem, his friends and the woman he loves. It's been nearly a year since the accident and Gabe (Stallone) has returned to the Rockies to per-aude his griffriend, Jeasie Diejdan (Janine Turner), to leave the mountains with him. She Diejdan (Janine Turner), to leave the mountains with him. She home and a job as helicopter pilot for the Rescue Team. Discouraged, Gabe is about to leave when Jeasie asks him to help a group of stranded blices. A bilizard has grounded ber heli-copter, so rescuers will have to reach them by foot. Gabe refuses, until shame makes him reconsider. For the first time since the acci-

er. For the first time since the acci-dent, Gabe starts scaling the mountains for a rendezvous with his former partner, Hal Tucker (Michael Rooker). Their meeting is bitter, the woman who fell to her death was Tucker's girlfriend, and Hal blames Gabe for failing to save her life.

Their own lives, however, are suddenly jeopardized when they reach the stranded "hikkers" and are trapped in a desperate battle against ruthless criminals and nforgiving nature. The hikers are really a vivious



as expert mountain climbers fighting a desperate battle against both man and nature in "Cliffhanger," a TriStar Pictures release. Action thriller: Sylvester Stallone and Janine Turner star

PREVIEW

gang of thieves led by Erick Qualen (John Lithgow) whose own airplane crash-landed in the mountains after they bljacked, in mid-air, a Treasury Department cargo jet carrying \$100 million in currency. The gang has lost the money somewhere in the peaks, and they need Gabe's and Hal's knowledge of the mountains to find it.

Stallone fights emotion, shame

lense. When asked what makes "Cliffhanger" a special kind of

film, producer Alan Marshall re-flects: "This is a story about a man who has spont his career sav-ing other people's lives. Now, he must spend the next two days risking his own to save bis love and his best friend from deadly villatina who have a hundred mil-lion reasons to want him dead." "This film is totally unique – it's an original – what I call a vertical film. You've seen all kinda of action pictures, but you've never seen anything like this before, said Stallone. Even though the action thriller is set in the mountains of Colora-do, "Cliffhanger" was shot in the spectacular Bolonite mountain range of the Italian Alps and at the Clinecita Stulos in Rome. The movis is rated R (Restrict-od: no one under 18 admitted without accompanying parent or juardian).

Opens Friday at these suburban theaters: AMC Americana West, AMC Laurel Park, AMC South field City, GCC Canton Cinema, Showcase Auburn Hills, Showcase Westland, Star Rochester, United Artists Oakland.

"ASTONISHING! requires an accompanying parent or guardian.) Running time: One hour, 59 minuta MUCH Rating (out of a possible four): **ADOABOUT** • NOTHING STARTS FRIDAY. MAY 28TH CINC MAPLE 3^{W. Maple Rd. W. of Telegr} 'FUNNY! LOTS OF LAUGHS! An uplifting comedy with a lot of heart and soul." WHOOPI GOLDBERG TED DANSON

'SUVER'

Released by: Paramount Pictur Staring: Sharon Stone, William Baldwin, Tom Berenger Directed by: Phillip Noyce Produced by: Robert Evans

creenplay by: Joe Essterhas, based on the novel by Ira Levin Rated: R (Restricted: Under 18



and they need Gabe's and Hal's knowledge of the mountains to find it. Directed by Renny Hailin and a team of distinguished filmmak-ers, "Cliffinnger" is produced by Alan Marshall and Hatlin, with a screenplay by Michael France and Stellone and a screen story by France based on a premise by France based on a premise by Gane the starting are John Lithgow, Michael Rooker, Janine Turner, Res Linn, Caroline Goodal, Ucon, Paul Winfield and Raiph Weitke Mario Kassar is the execu-tive producer of the film from Carolco, a ThStar Pictures re-lease.