# Fresh' offers yet another view of ghetto life

## BY JOHN MONAGHAN

Freah" has arrived with a lot "Freah" has arrived with a lot going for it: a high-profile prem-iere at the Detroit Film Theatre, some strong reviews, and the dis-tributing muscle of Miramaz, which has opened it on almost 20

which has opened it on almost 20 the accreate. The sector of the audience 1 aw it with is any indication of the mov-ie's word-of-mouth success, then "Fresh" should look to a very short run. The low-key story of a streets of Brooklyn doesn't look much like other movies about the bood, which is both its salvation and downfall. There is no booming rep music,

bood, which is both its salvation and downful. There's no booming rap music, no quick-cut burnts of violence, and nothing at all to cheer about. It's here, known as Fresh by the dealers who use him for drug de-liveries, abows absolutely no emo-tion. Whether it's because of the insymptet it's up to be the individual viewer. individual viewer.

Individual viewer. You see pretty early on the du ality in this boy's life. Backpack alung over his shoulder, Fresh conducts his early morning pick-ups of drug packages, but he wor-ries about being late for school a second time that week. He hangs out with buddies,

who spend most of their time braging about things they obvi-ting the theory obvi-ting the theory obvi-ting the theory theory obvi-ting the theory theory obvi-ting the theory theory obvi-ting the theory theory obvi-ting theory that the base theory of the theory that the base theory of the theory theory obvi-ting theory that the base theory of the theory of theory of the theory well for this of the theory well for this of the theory of the of the theory of the theory of the theory of the theory of the of the theory of the theory of the theory of the theory of the of the theory of the of the theory of the theory of the theory of the theory of the of the theory of the theory of the theory of the theory of the of the theory of the theory of the theory of the theory of the of the theory of the theory

MOVIES

performers (including star Nel-son) make their acting debuts and it shows, especially when you'ro trying to decipher the slang. Writer/director Boas Yakin (he penned the Clint Eastwood/Char-lie Sheen actioner "The Rookis") ian't immune to cliches. His slow pacing oven translates to the mu-sic, with cool jars are blasts rem-iniscent of the queter moments in Spike Lee's movies. One or two moments hit you

Initiation of the quister moments in Spite Les's movies. The or two moments hit you of the les's movies. The or wo moments hit you of the less movies and street devoid even of buildings the spite street lights, mailboxes, and inally the trash and graffitt. This coat city. Ultimately, however, the fresh for an internal spite service of the spite street lights, movies the spite service of the service of the spite service of the service of the spite service of the service of solar spite service of solar service of solar spite service of solar service of solar spite service science of service service science sectorice neurospite, 36251 sector service of service science of selvice sector service of service science of selvice sector service science of service science of sector service science of selvice service science of service of sector service science of selvice service science of sector service science of selvice service science of sector service science of selvice service science of selvice service science of service science of selvice service science of service scie

"Fresh": Samuel L. Jackson (left) and Sean Nelson (right) star in Boaz Yakin's "Fresh."

### **SCREEN SCENE**

Mother torn between daughter, culture



Voice Mail Mes-sage: I have a prob-lem that I am deeply confused about. Possibly, you or one of your readers can tell me some-thing that will leasen my confun my confu sion. First, I want to

SCHIFF tell you some-thing of who I I am the mother of aix chil-

an. I am the mother of air chil-dran. I are a strong ethnic back-pround, and I am immersed in the milieu of my future, which is stricter about race and religion than the American culture. My children accurse me of "caring too much about what other people think." Sorestimes, I think all children say that, and sometimes I think they are right I my cul-ture, women are responsible for the children and how they turn out." I move I am sensitive to my bushand's criticisms of me expe-cisify when our children fail. My problem is that my oldest dwayther moved in with a man who is not of our race or religion.

This year just might be the year Scottish popstere Wet Wet Wet beesk in wich U.S. audiences. The film "Jour Weddings & A Proseral "festured the band's sim-pla yet irrestilble balled "Love Is All Around," which is now finding its way not the radio. To remind audiences that they're more than a coss-bit worder, Wet Wet has refeased their greatest hits cullection "Part One" (Lodon Records). The idea of a "greatest hits collection" might seem a lit-tie odd on this side of the ocean, best in the U.K. the band has sold more than II million alkuma. Ta the United States, however,

Dettween datug Now I feel like I must discow her so that my other children will not follow in her footsteps. I feel that if I don't discow her then I will be setting a bad example for my other children. This is very pain-tul to my whole family, and espe-daughters who was like a daugh-ter to her. Der Caller: Thank you for your voice mail message. It depicts a kind of di-for. You cannot continue your without the disapproval of your very connot continue your without the disapproval of your without the disapproval of your or will set a bad example for port of ther children, your hu-bandomment by your frends. I in all these matters. You do not mention it but, to make matters who there are many who would or thick your your doughters who there are many who would or the port of the must be taken

STREET BEATS

into consideration. What you leave out, however, is how you feel about this situation? What will make you feel beat about yourself? This is the cornerators of any such decision. We need to know who you are and what you can or cannot live with. This is a true Catch-22; no choices is a good choice. The beat anyone can do is to decide the beat for him or herself, of the bad choices available.

Confidential to Merrily: Your

Confidential to Merrily: Your voice mail measage regarding car-bohydrates and alcoha addiction was inadvertently erased. I am very interested in your commenta Plesse call me back. If you have a question or com-ment for Barbard Schiff, a trained heropist and experienced coun-selor, send it to Street Scene, Ob-server & Ecentric Neusoppers, 36251 Schooleraft, Liuonia, MI 49150, You can also leave a mes-eage by calling (313) 953-2047, mailbax 1877, on a Touch-Tone phone.

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

RI MAQIC BAQ THEATRE 22918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (810) 544-1991 for information.

 (610) 544-1991 for international
(\$3)
"Harold and Maude" (USA -1972), 8 p.m. Sept. 8 - 10. Hal Ashby's cult favorite about a death-obsessed teenager (Bud Contract the accentric old work) Cort) and the eccentric old wom-an (Ruth Gordon) he fails in love with. Full of quirky moments and memorable Cat Stevens songs.

## back to the movies. The story finds a pair of preppy suburban Chicago cousins dealing with fashionable American-bashing in 1980s Spain

19008 Spain. B AMPLE THEATRE 4135 W. Maple, Bloomfield. All titles play through at least next information. (\$6; \$2.95 twilligh) "Eat Drink Man Woman" (USA/Thailand 1994). A comedy from the director of "The Wed. fatherhood, and family tics. A fa-mous acher mysteriously loses his sense of taste, but with three daughters, that's the least of his troubles.

troubles. "The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert" (Australia -1994). What could have been a one-joke movie — a trio of drag



wouldn t own up to them. **Batchttan HitkATRI** 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call (313) 668- 8397 for information. (35; 34 students/seniors) "Eat Drink Man Woman" (USA/Thailand - 1994). Through Sept. 6. See Maple listing above.

E REDFORD THEATRE

H FEDFORD THEATER 17360 Lahser, Detroit. Call (313) 557-2560 for information. (\$250) "High Noon" (USA. 1952). Jun. Sept. 92, 8 p.m. Sept. 10 (organ overture begins a balf hour before showrime). Gary Cooper plays a retiring sheriff who takes one last stand against a gang of outlawe. Grace Kelly co-stars.







CONTRAL CLARTS The Ritz, 175801 (\$10) 775-5404

Cess, Detroit, (fur



3

15

. . . وأحدد وعدمانك والمعيش

In Concert from page 9A atre Cale, 22918 Vi dale. (alternation) Lounge, 38730 Harp Common, pock W Massi BLAT With Outrageous Charry at Bind Pig. 205-208 S. First SL, Ann Abor. (attained/re Water's on the Bo nest, Detroit, Church (213) 441-6190 ter, 20116 W. Wa 1000) (2) 39 996-8555

1001 8 M 40

ELOJ 435-4752 

Q 234 678 NS 6. 63735 8. W e e de e

-431 E. Congress, Doan tril an

at The In

ne one-nme teen hearthrobe have had more of an underground following scoring just one hit here, "Winhing I Was Lucky," in 1988, More than half of the scorg on "Part One" wree written in the inter 1980s, but the lush vocation and instrumentation make the scorg timeless. Wet Wet also has a broad appeal. "I Can Give You Everything" fits in with the current disco craze. Wet Wet above their southil side with "Lip Service." The balled "Goodinght Crossover hit for wet twet wet. With a little undog, "Part One" should abow U.S. andiences what the one-time teen heartthroin have had more of an undergroup

With Station Nets at Finney's P.b. 2005 Withoutsaid Ave., Detroit, (alexandre rock) (213) 631-6070

36730 Harper

NA MEAT 7. 11007

#10 277-8458

ais  most underrated U.n. ...... this side of the ocean. --Christina Fuoco

1962 3 67 98 Terfs Pub, 35 5. Main St., Ci (SAMA) (\$10) 435-4755

nick Sillen. The Ark, 6371/2 S. Main St., Ann Ar

n**nerv** Room, 201 W. Michigan Ave., Ypa

e State Thesian, 2115 W

Bright Block of

3005

GID CAL 49 N. 8

(1000) (313) 781-1800

012

an

422-5320

Oct. 2312

B MANN ART THEATRE 118 N. Main St. (at 11 Mile), Roy-al Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted oth-erwise. Call (610) 642-0180 for in-formation and showlines. (83.50; \$4 students and matines; \$3 crulich)

\$4 students and maunes, --twilight) "MI Vida Loca" (USA - 1994). Los Angeles gang life from a wom-an's perspective, directed by Alli-son Anders ("Gas, Food, Lodg-

son Anders ( Gas, .... 'Barcelona'' (USA - 1994). Whit Stillman, who made such a splash with 'Metropolitan'' a few years back, brings droll humor

Attic Bar, 11667 Jos. Campau, Ham-tramot, Diues) (313) 365-4194

CONTAP INITIAL 2 Flockers, 1481 H. Peny, Pontiec, (cod) dl (0:377-5838

With Paule Cole at AMM's, 5758 Case Ave., Device, (accustc) (2) 3) 532-2365

431 E. Congre

ne at Attle Bar, 11067

K. 11067 JOP

lay, Sept. 11

SOLAS Vizionia Hall

inchered s

Ins. Campall, Ha

1-7 p.m. st. 94 Company, (400000 (213) 348-4184

.....

-----

et Poese at AMin's, 5756 Linky rock)

