

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.
Birmingham Theatre, 211 S. Woodward, Birmingham. Call (810) 644-FILM for information. (\$6.50; \$4.25 matinees and seniors)

■ **"Secrets and Lies"** (Britain - 1996). Mike Leigh's unblinking account of a working class British family who come to grips with a daughter given up long ago to adoption. One of the year's best films, highlighted by a startlingly real performance from Brenda Blethyn.

■ **"Swingers"** (USA - 1996). A hip new low-budget comedy about the denizens of L.A.'s cocktail scene. Five guys, all looking for a break in Hollywood, meet women and talk trash. Starts Friday.

Detroit Film Theatre, 5200 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313) 832-2730 for information. (\$5.50; \$4.50 students/seniors)

■ **"Carpathi: 50 Miles, 50 Years"** (USA - 1996). 7 p.m. Nov. 4. The caretaker of a dwindling Jewish community in the Ukraine makes the 50-mile journey to his birthplace in the Carpathians. This powerful new documentary comes from the director of "The Last Klezmer," highlighted by a soundtrack that blends Jewish and Gypsy music.

Magic Bag Theatre, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (810) 544-3030 for information. (\$2)

■ **"Trainspotting"** (Britain - 1996). 9:30 p.m. Nov. 6. From Scottish director Danny Boyle, who made "Shallow Grave," comes the story of five losers, junkies, and thieves on the road.



BETTY RUBIN/WARNER BROS.

Artist at work: Pablo Picasso (Anthony Hopkins) at work in his studio in "Surviving Picasso" now showing at the Main Art Theatre.

to self-destruction. The smash hit in Britain has made its own splash here as one of the year's few true cult films.

Main Art Theatre, 118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (810) 642-0180 for information and showtimes. (\$6.50; \$4 students, seniors and matinee; \$3 twilight)

■ **"Big Night"** (USA - 1996). A pair of brothers try to run an authentic Italian restaurant in the 1950s but discover that most people want simple spaghetti and meatballs. An independent comedy co-directed by and starring Stanley Tucci.

■ **"Surviving Picasso"** (USA 1996). Anthony Hopkins stars in this account of the artist's amorous adventures, produced and directed by Merchant/Ivory, the team that brought you "A Room with a View" and "Howard's End."

■ **"Looking for Richard"** (USA - 1996). Al Pacino's stage performance of Shakespeare's historical drama is shown with scenes of him preparing for the role. The year's second unorthodox adaptation of this play for the screen, this time co-starring Kevin Spacey, Alec Baldwin, and Winona Ryder.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, Nov. 8

BET IT OFF

Action drama about a group of African-American women who, while trying to escape from the "hood," begin knocking off banks.

"TWELFTH NIGHT"

Exclusively at the Birmingham 8. The adaptation of Shakespeare's classic comedy. Stars Helena Bonham Carter, Nigel Hawthorne.

"RANSOM"

Remake of the 1956 film about a millionaire who turns the tables on his son's kidnappers by putting out a reward for the safe return of his boy.

"THE PROPRIETOR"

Exclusively at the Birmingham 8 Theatre. An intimate story of relationships and reminiscence set in New York and Paris.

Schedule

"JUDE"
Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre.
Based on Thomas Hardy's 1895 novel
about a church mason who is tortured
by the duality of an uncontrollable pas-
sion and his spiritual side. Stars Christo-
pher Eccleston and Kate Winslet.

"MOTHER NIGHT"

Exclusively at the AMC Maple and Birmingham 8. Film based on Kurt Vonnegut's classic novel of an American writer in pre-World War II Germany, who

is pressed into service by the U.S. Government to break into Hitler's hierarchy. Stars Nick Nolte, Sheryl Lee, Alan Arkin and John Goodman.

"THE MIRROR HAS TWO FACES"

Touching romantic comedy that explores the modern myths of beauty and sex and how they complicate relationships. Stars Barbara Streisand, Jeff Bridges, Pierce Brosnan, George Segal, Mimi Rogers, Lauren Bacall.

"SPACE JAM"

Michael Jordan

opposite the celluloid skills of Warner Bros.' Looney Tunes. Jordan must help the Tunes win a basketball game against a group of aliens who plan, if they win, to kidnap the Looney Tunes.

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