

MOVIES

SCREEN SCENE

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

Main Art Theatre, 118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (248-542-0180 for information and show times. (\$6.50; \$4 students, seniors and matinee; \$3 twilight)
"Broken English" (New Zealand - 1997). A Croatian-born woman flees her war-torn homeland with her family to settle in New Zealand.
"Brassed Off" (USA - 1997). Pete Postlethwaite and Tim Fitzgerald star in this offbeat sleeper about a company brass band trying to win a national competition while their local coal mine is being shut down.
"Love! Valour! Compassion!" (USA - 1997). Jason Alexander (George on

TV's "Seinfeld") is one of eight gay men who meet over three summer holiday weekends at a beach house. Based on a play by Terrence McNally.
"Ulee's Gold" (USA - 1997). Peter Fonda provides the understated performance as a Florida barkeeper called upon to save a family member from thugs while trying to protect his own life. From Victor Nunez, the writer/director of the surprise independent hit "Ruby in Paradise."
"Magic Bag Theatre, 22920 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (248-544-3030 for information. (\$2)
"Pink Flamingos" (USA - 1972). 9:30 p.m. June 26. A 25th anniversary re-release of director John Waters' legendary film debut. The story involves Divine's attempt to become the filthiest person on earth, but most remember it for its shocking closing scene, still among the most repulsive on film.

Redford Theatre, 13671 Lahar at Grand River, Detroit. Call (313-637-2560 for information. (\$2.50)
"Yankee Doodle Dandy" (USA - 1942). 8 p.m. June 27; 2, 8 p.m. June 28 (organ overture begins a half hour before show-time) James Cagney lends his trademark energy to the role of theatrical legend George M. Cohan. Joan Leslie, Walter Huston and Cagney's sister Jean co-star.
Southfield Public Library, 26000 Evergreen, Southfield. Call (248-948-0470 for information.
"The Hellfire" (USA - 1949). 7 p.m. July 1. Oliver DeHavilland copped an Oscar for her portrayal of a spinster wooed by a fortune hunter (Montgomery Clift) in 19th century New York City. Shown on big-screen video.
State Theatre, 2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call (313-981-6460 for information. (\$2)

"Natural Born Killers" (USA - 1994). 9 p.m. June 30. Quentin Tarantino wrote the script and Oliver Stone directed this ultraviolent homicidal-lovers-on-the-run story starring Woody Harrelson and Juliet Lewis.
Top of the Park Ann Arbor Summer Fest, atop the Power Center parking structure, 121 Fletcher, Ann Arbor. Call (313-763-3333 for information. (Free)
Some of the best nights of summer moviegoing are these free screenings, all beginning at dusk with a vintage cartoon.
June 26: Christopher Reeve, Jane Seymour and Mackenzie Island star in "Somewhere in Time" (1980). June 30: Mel Brooks' Western spoof

"Blazing Saddles" (1974). July 1: Japanese sci-fi with "Mothra" (1982). July 2: The Steven Spielberg-directed "Always" (1989).
Windsor Film Theatre, 2135 Wyandotte Street West, Wyandotte, Canada. Call (519) 264-2114 for information. (\$5.25; \$4 US)
"When We Were Kings" (USA - 1996). 7 p.m. June 26-29. For years footage of the Muhammad Ali-George Foreman 1974 heavyweight championship fight sat in the basement of director Leon Gast. His Oscar-winning documentary not only relives this historic "Rumble in the Jungle," but provides recently shot interviews with people

like James Brown, Spike Lee, Don King, and Norman Mailer to put it all in perspective.
"Hype" (USA - 1996). 9:15 p.m. June 26-29. The Seattle music scene is chronicled in this documentary, which includes rare concert footage of Nirvana and other famous "grunge" bands.
"Films by George Kuchar," 9 p.m. June 30-July 1. A trio of films from the director sometimes called "the mocking, younger brother of American independent film." His films, including including "Corruption of the Damned" (USA - 1986), look at such subjects as sex, violence, loneliness, and tragedy.

SCREEN SCENE

Scheduled to open Friday, June 27
"HERCULES"
Animation feature: Denny DelVito, Bobcat Goldthwait, Rip Torn, James Woods and Matt Frewer provide the voices for Disney's 35th full-length animated musical comedy.
"FACE/OFF"
Action thriller: John Travolta and Nicolas Cage star in this thriller centering around a federal agent who surgically swaps faces with a terrorist so he can go undercover and expose his villainous plot.
ALL OVER ME
Drama about three teenagers coming of age and coming out in New York City's Hell's Kitchen.
"LOVE SERENADE"
Black comedy about two sisters in rural Australia who find themselves in a stormy battle for the affection of the new man in town.
Scheduled to open Wednesday, July 2
"WHEN IN BLACK"
They are the best kept secret in the universe. Working for a highly-funded yet unofficial government agency, Men in Black are providers of immigration services and regulators of all things

alien on earth. They are our best, last and only line of defense. Stars Tommy Lee Jones.
"OUT TO SEA"
Walter Matthau and Jack Lemmon are teamed up again on screen, this time as uneasy brothers-in-law who wind up as "dance hosts" aboard a cruise ship in the Caribbean. The comedy also stars Dyan Cannon, Gloria DeHaven, Hal Linden.
"WILD AMERICA"
Based on the true story of the daredevil Stouffer brothers, "Wild America," follows three brothers as they travel cross country with their camera and have a remarkable series of encounters with the animals that inspire them to become wildlife documentarians. Stars Jonathan Taylor Thomas.
Scheduled to open Friday, July 2
"CONTACT"
A visionary drama based on Carl Sagan's novel about humankind's first encounter with extraterrestrial life. Stars Jodie Foster.
"SHALL WE DANCE?"
Exclusively at the Main Art Theatre. An ordinary 42-year-old businessman and a former competitive dancer find each

other and together discover the joy of dance.
NOTHING TO LOSE
Martin Lawrence and Tim Robbins star in this action comedy about a desolate corporate executive who kidnaps a would-be carjacker.
A SIMPLE WISH
Martin Short, Kathleen Turner and Maria Wilson star in this fantasy adventure about a 7-year-old girl who wishes for a fairy godmother only to get an inept spellcaster who accidentally turns her father to stone.
Scheduled to open Wednesday, July 16
"GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE"
Brendan Fraser and Leslie Mann star in this live-action feature based on the popular cartoon series about a jungle dweller whose similarities to Tarzan are overshadowed by his ineptitude.
Scheduled to open Friday, July 25
"GOOD BURGER"
Kel Mitchell, Keanu Thomson and Maria Wilson star in this teen comedy based on the character "Ed" from the popular sketch on Nickelodeon's "All That."
"HAIR FORCE ONE"
Harison Ford, Gary Oldman and Glenn Close star in this action thriller about the First Family being hijacked on Air Force One.
Scheduled to open Wednesday, July 30
"ST"
Urban drama set among "gangsters" in an inner-city school with Samuel L. Jackson.

GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

Table with columns for General Cinemas, CON AIR (R), CALL FOR SATURDAY SHOWINGS, SPRING (R) NY, VOLCANO (PG), MY BEST FRIEND'S WEDDING (PG-13), BATMAN AND ROBIN (PG-13), THE DEVIL'S OWN (R), THE SNAKE (PG), NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS, SHOWCASE CINEMAS, STAR THEATRES, and other theater listings with showtimes and prices.

"SPECTACULAR!" BATMAN & ROBIN. ABSOLUTELY ABSOLUTELY THE BEST BATMAN EVER! Includes promotional text and movie poster image.

"A Sparkler Of A Romantic Comedy." JULIA ROBERTS MY BEST FRIEND'S Wedding. Includes promotional text and photo of Julia Roberts.

Scheduled to open Friday Aug. 1
"SPAWN"
Action adventure based on comic book character who is a tragic, tormented avenger; from beyond the grave with Michael Jai White, John Leguizamo and Martin Sheen.
PICTURE PERFECT
Jennifer Aniston and Kevin Bacon team up for a romantic comedy about a single woman who uses a random photo to invent a fictional boyfriend, before actually meeting the man in the picture.

BOOKSTORE HAPPENINGS

Book Happenings features various happenings at suburban bookstores. Send notes to: Hugh Gallagher, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150, or fax them to (313) 591-7279.
BORDERS (BIRMINGHAM)
Journey Through American History with folk musician Bob Miller in a lively show for kids 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 2; Cylinder seals, learn how to make the ancient Egyptian proof of ownership seals, 3 p.m. Wednesday, July 17 at the store, 31150 Southfield Road, Birmingham. (810) 644-1515.
BARNES AND NOBLE BOOK SELLERS (WEST BLOOMFIELD)
Story time reading of "The Bears Vacation," 10 a.m., Monday, June 30 and 7 p.m., Tuesday, July 1; Rabbi Tamara Kotson discusses "The Jewish Enlightenment," 7 p.m. Monday, June 30; Stress Management with Dr. Laurie Mastrogiovanni 4:30 a.m. Thursday, July 10 at the store, 6800 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. (810) 626-6804.
BARNES & NOBLE (NORTHVILLE)
at the store 1711 Haggerty Road, 810-348-0696.
BORDERS BOOKS AND MUSIC (DEARBORN)
at the store, 5601 Mercury Dr., Dearborn. (313) 271-4441.
HALFWAY DOWN THE STAIRS
"American Girl Event: Samantha's Summer Adventure at Piney Pointe," celebrating a Victorian girlhood 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, July 9. Attendance is limited. Free tickets available 10 a.m. Saturday, June 28. For ages 7-10.