

Zany predictions could come true for filmmakers

After interviewing several knowledgeable people and consulting the 'Ching,' I've put together my predictions of movies and events we can anticipate in '79.

The big trend will be for everyone to break the mold. Following the example of Woody Allen's successful swing from comedy to tragedy, actors, directors, writers and cinematographers will strike out in new directions.

Barbra Streisand will get into heavy drama when she works with Woody on his new film based on the writing of the German philosopher Martin Heidegger. The film will have no speaking parts. Instead, Barb, who is studying with Eleanor Powell, will present a unique tap-dancing interpretation of Heidegger's major work, "Sein und Zeit."

Another wow collaboration will be Neil Simon and Ingmar Bergman. Simon will write a comic screenplay about the 14th century based on Barbara Tuchman's best-selling book, "A Distant Mirror." Bergman says he has been waiting for a film like this every since "Through a Glass Darkly."

DON SIEGEL, renowned for his action movies, especially with Clint Eastwood, has signed to direct Benji in three new films.

Sam Peckinpah, another director recognized for his artistic way with violence, will direct the definitive film on peace. Marcel Marceau will narrate.

Three of the world's most outstanding cinematographers, Sven Nykvist, Vilmos Szigmond and Nestor Almendros, will give up shooting for directing. Coincidentally, the three also will change their names in the hope that critics will spell them correctly. Watch for films by Sven Smith, Vilmos Brown and Nestor Williams.

The biggest surprise of the year will be a musical extravaganza directed by Alfred Hitchcock. No details on this yet.

A trend which will continue is the release of more remakes, sequels and continuations of series. Every box office success of '78 will beget an offspring, test tube or otherwise.

OF COURSE, many filmmakers, commercially successful or not, will continue mining the vein they've been working. Irwin Allen will be responsible for another disaster movie, a documentary on Cleveland.

Andy Warhol will direct a four-hour long animated film that examines the contents of a filing cabinet.

Luis Bunuel ("That Obscure Object of Desire") will continue to hide the middle class. He's planning a social satire with strong Marxist overtones as he follows the emotional deterioration of a capitalist housewife who becomes obsessed with the search for a newspaper coupon that will enable her to buy a three-pound can of coffee at 1968 prices.

Aside from film releases, we can expect the following news about celebs in '79. Marlon Brando will announce an important stipulation to his salary requirements: \$1 million up front for looking at a script.

Tatum O'Neal will write her autobiography, thus adding her recollections to the popular market for star memoirs. McGraw-Hill or Scholastic Books will publish.

Finally, in the public relations coup of the year, a consortium of OPEC ministers, trying to gain a good-guy image, will find the proper incentives to reunite the Beatles for one last worldwide tour.

Glimpses

NEW RELEASES

AUTUMN SONATA (PG). Acting fireworks from Ingrid Bergman as concert pianist estranged from Liv Ullmann, her less talented daughter, as they meet and pour out their feelings. Ingmar Bergman directed.

BRASS TARGET (PG). Accident that killed General Patton was no accident, according to suspense film with George Kennedy and Sophia Loren.

CALIFORNIA SUITE (PG). Neil Simon's comedy of four episodes about guests at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Starry cast includes Jane Fonda and Walter Matthau.

EVERY WHICH WAY BUT LOOSE (PG). Country-western-style action comedy with Clint Eastwood, Sandra Locke and Clyde, the orangutan.

FORCE 10 FROM NAVARONE (PG). High-powered thriller with Edward Fox and the late Robert Shaw on a team whose target is a vital bridge.

INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS (PG). Remake of chilling sci-fi thriller about alien invasion in the form of plant pods.

KING OF THE GYPSIES (R). Three generations of gypsy life in America are chronicled in film of best-selling novel. Sterling Hayden is the patriarch and Shelley Winters the queen.

LORD OF THE RINGS (PG). Hobbits and the creatures of Middle Earth are energetically recreated in Ralph Bakshi's animated version of J.R.R. Tolkien's classic fantasy.

MOMENT BY MOMENT (R). Contemporary love story of young man (John Travolta) and older woman (Lily Tomlin).

OLIVER'S STORY (PG). Spongy sequel to "Love Story" with Ryan O'Neal and some new playmates, Candice Bergen and Nicola Pagetti.

SUPERMAN (PG). Christopher Reeve plays Big S, Marlon Brando is father and Gene Hackman the villain in this humorous fantasy.

WATERSHIP DOWN (PG). Animated adventures of a group of rabbits who leave their doomed warren to seek a safe home. Multi-leveled story of interest to adults and children.

THE WIZ (G). Lavish but lumbering version of the Broadway musical presenting Diana Ross in an updated black "The Wizard of Oz."

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

- G General audiences admitted.
- PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
- R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
- X No one under 18 admitted.



Clint Eastwood and Sandra Locke share a romantic scene in "Every Which Way But Loose."



Living history show tours area schools

Even though historic Fort Wayne is closed for the winter, its education program continues.

"Yesterday-on-Tour," a "hands-on" living history program, is being offered to schools and community groups throughout the metropolitan area.

The response has been overwhelming, according to William Phenix, curator of military history at the fort.

"Yesterday-on-Tour" has been seen by thousands of school children in the tri-county area. The four participants in the program have traveled to many Detroit schools as well as schools in such suburbs as Royal Oak, Troy, Union Lake, Grosse Pointe, Mt. Clemens, Grosse Ile, Plymouth, Rochester, Warren, Wyandotte, Birmingham, Highland Park, Oxford, and Utica.

"EVERYWHERE THEY have gone they have created a greater interest in local and national history and Fort Wayne as well," Phenix said.

Billed as a field trip without the cost, labor and expense of leaving school, "Yesterday-on-Tour" combines "Hard-tack and Coffee," last year's outreach program on the Civil War, with "Les Francois a Detroit," which deals with Detroit's 18th-century French period.

As last year's program, Michael Jones and Nora White of the fort's interpretive staff play the roles of Jacob Gerner, a Civil War soldier, and Lydia Hall, a woman of the 1860s, the two players demonstrate how people lived during that era of our history.

Their presentation includes discussions of Civil War army life, a typical soldier's uniform and equipment, and domestic life during the war (especially women's active contributions to the war effort).

This year two new characters have been added to the program, Dennis Charbonneau and Jeanne Godfroy, portrayed by Dennis Charbonneau (no need to adopt a French name when one has a perfectly good one already) and Jean LaViolette, both also from the interpretive staff.

Through artifacts and story they describe the life of the adventurous French "habitants" and "coureur du bois" (rover of the woods) in 18th-century Michigan.

"Yesterday-on-Tour" is available to school grades 3-8 and limited adult presentations. Each program lasts approximately 45-60 minutes and is adaptable to shorter lengths. There is a fee that is reduced when more than one presentation is scheduled at one location.

More information is available by calling Fort Wayne at 833-9776.



Singers performing

Interlochen Arts Academy Choir (top) rehearses for tour which includes a stop at 8 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at Christ Church Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills. (Above) Alexander Zerban, director of the Interlochen Arts Academy Choir, gets maximum performance from the singers. American spirituals, as well as classical works by Haydn, Beethoven and Brahms, will be offered in the free concert.

Disco climbs to The Tower

"The Tower" goes disco 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Monday-Saturday.

WTWR/FM (92) has climbed on the disco bandwagon and initial response to this special programming feature has been spectacular, a station spokesperson said.

The station has recorded as many as three hundred calls in one show.

When the show hit the air last week, the station had a rather small library of disco records. Since, word has spread fast and "The Tower" has had a steady parade of disco promoters bringing armfuls of records to the studio.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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