



Jane Parker (Bo Derek), Tarzan (Miles O'Keefe) and an orangutan are the stars of "Tarzan, the Ape Man."



the movies

Louise Snider

Derek shows off beautiful wife Bo in newest 'Tarzan'

With Bo Derek as star and producer and her husband John as director, you can bet "Tarzan, the Ape Man" (R) isn't going to be about the adventures of Tarzan.

The movie might better have been named "Jane" because it's about the adventures of Jane Parker (Bo Derek), who comes to Africa to join her father's expedition. Her father, James (Richard Harris), is a crazy explorer who is hunting for an elephant graveyard.

Tarzan (Miles O'Keefe) is just a prop. The famed jungle dweller doesn't appear till an hour into the movie, and after that we only see him now and then. He has no dialogue. He just bellows his jungle call a few times and that's it.

Bo Derek, on the other hand, has too much dialogue for her scant talents. She just talks and talks — to herself, to her father, to the natives, to the animals and, of course, to Tarzan, who responds with a stare.

RICHARD HARRIS is even more loquacious. He rants, orders, shouts, sings to an elephant and generally tries to appropriate this movie for himself.

Mind you, this isn't interesting conversation, just talk, and often insane. When Jane tells James that his wife, whom he walked out on 17 years ago, has died, he's shattered by the news.

He sighs and tells her, "Your mother was so fragile, she nearly died in conception." What a man James must have been. Was he really referring to Jane's conception or did he mean her birth?

Once past this family reunion chit chat, the expedition begins. Before long, they are in strange country where there is a legend about an ape man 100 or 500 feet tall.

The year is 1910, and Jane is a liberated female. Independent, resourceful and adventurous, she has ballooned over the Alps, shoots a gun and swims like a fish.

THIS BRINGS us to what Derek does best, which is to appear in the nude. Exploiting her sex appeal seems to be the whole reason for making this movie. Derek is nude, semi-nude or clad in wet, clinging clothes for most of the last half of the movie.

Tarzan, the poor, mute doll, is aroused but doesn't know what to do. Jane is sexually uninitiated but curious and willing. That's the problem these two face. Will Tarzan discover the differences between female and male anatomy and understand their significance?

Almost as an afterthought, there is a smattering of adventure as Tarzan rescues Jane from the coils of a python. Another time, he rescues her from the clutches of a spaced-out-looking tribe of natives who body paint themselves and their prisoners.

These are meager concessions to the Tarzan tradition. Basically, this movie bears no resemblance to previous Tarzan movies or to the character and stories created by Edgar Rice Burroughs.

This version is strictly for Bo Derek's admirers, not Tarzan fans or anyone expecting an action-filled adventure. However, we must concede that the animals — chimps and an orangutan — display a lot of talent, and the photography shows to advantage the exotic beauty of Sri Lanka and the Seychelles islands where the film was shot.

Richard Harris is James Parker, a world-famous explorer and Jane's long-lost father.



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what's at the movies

ARTHUR (PG). Dudley Moore is a playboy millionaire in love with Liza Minnelli in this contemporary comedy.

BLOWOUT (R). John Travolta and Nancy Allen star in Brian De Palma's murder mystery centering around the accidental recording of a murder and the cover-up attempts that follow.

BREAKER MORANT (PG). A fine film set in South Africa during the Boer War about the court-martial of three Australian officers in the British army.

BUSTIN' LOOSE (R). Richard Pryor and Cicely Tyson in romantic comedy about ex-con helping a schoolteacher transport children from a Philadelphia ghetto to a Washington farm.

THE CANNONBALL RUN (PG). Burt Reynolds is on the road again, challenging the speed limits. With him are Roger Moore, Dom DeLuise and Farrah Fawcett.

CLASH OF THE TITANS (PG). Animation and live action combine in the adventures of the Greek hero Perseus, son of Zeus, who must overcome many powerful monsters in order to win the hand of the beautiful Andromeda.

ENDLESS LOVE (R). Brooke Shields and Martin Hewitt are two passionate teenagers who become so obsessed with one another that it drives them to acts beyond reason.

EYE OF THE NEEDLE (R). Adapted from the best-selling novel, this suspense thriller and love story stars Donald Sutherland as "the Needle," the code name for Hitler's top agent in England.

THE FOX AND THE HOUND (G). Full-length animated feature from Disney is a happy blend of drama and comedy which tells the story of an orphaned baby fox who finds an unlikely ally in a hound pup.

OUTLAND (R). Sci-fi thriller with Sean Connery enforcing the law at a colony on one of Jupiter's moons.

S.O.B. (R). Director Blake Edwards scorchs the Hollywood establishment in its cynical comedy about a man who has ever made. Julie Andrews is cast as a goody two-shoes movie star who shocks her fans and rakes in the bucks when she makes a porno flick.

SUPERMAN II (PG). The story continues as Superman struggles to save the earth from criminals who survived Krypton's extinction.

VICTORY (PG). Directed by John Huston, this film stars Sylvester Stallone, Michael Caine, Maz Von Sydow and Pele as a group of Allied prisoners of war who form a soccer team and are forced to play a German team in a life-and-death match.

ZORRO, THE GAY BLADE (PG). Swashbuckling adventure-comedy with George Hamilton in the dual role as the legendary masked swordsman of Old California and his little-known twin brother.

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.

Film Theatre opens 16th season

Twenty weekends of first-runs and classic world cinema begin Friday when the Detroit Film Theatre's 16th season begins in the Detroit Institute of Arts auditorium.

In a month-long "Festival of Masterworks," Detroit Film Theatre's calendar begins with the Detroit premieres of three major works by some of the world's most successful and well-known directors.

French director Francois Truffaut's 1980 "The Last Metro" will be shown on two consecutive weekends, Friday-Sunday and Aug. 14-16. Starring Catherine Deneuve and Gerard Depardieu, the film tells the story of a French theatrical troupe trying to survive and practice its art in Nazi-occupied Paris of 1942.

Winner of 10 French Academy Awards and nominated for an Oscar in this country, the film was met with standing ovations when shown at the New York Film Festival.

SHOW TIMES for "The Last Metro" will be 7 and 9:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday and Aug. 14-15, 4 and 7 p.m. Sunday and Aug. 16.

August's schedule continues with the 1980 "City of Women" (Aug. 21-23) directed by Federico Fellini, starring Marcello Mastroianni. The film was described by New York Times critic Vincent Canby as "spellbinding, a dazzling visual display that is part burlesque, part satire, part Folies-Bergeres and all cinema."

Performances will be at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Aug. 21-22 and 4 and 7 p.m. Aug. 23.

"Mon Oncle D'Amerique," directed by Alain Resnais ("Hiroshima Mon Amour," "Providence") will be offered at 6 and 9:30 p.m. Aug. 28-30. Called by critic Judith Christ "a witty, compassionately perceptive and wickily funny consideration of that rat race known as the human comedy," this film holds the New York Film Critics' award for Best Foreign Film of the Year and an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Screenplay.

Tickets for the August "Festival of Masterworks" will be \$3.50 each. Admission for all other films through Dec. 28 will be \$2. Tickets, information, DFT's \$15 10-ticket discount coupon book and a detailed season schedule are available in advance through the art institute ticket office (832-2730). Tickets and discount books also may be bought at the door.

DFT's SEASON will be highlighted by "Melina and Howard," chosen by the National Society of Film Critics as the Best Picture of 1980 and winner of an Academy Award for Best Screenplay.

The film stars Jason Robards and Mary Steenburgen, who won another Oscar for Best Supporting Actress.

On Oct. 2, "Gal Young Un," a 1979 film selected for viewing at both the Cannes and New York film festivals, will be featured Oct. 2. Called one of the most engaging films of the season, "Gal Young Un" is the story of a lonely widow who falls prey to a handsome young con man.

Ingnar Bergman's 1980 "From the Life of the Marionettes," focusing on the psychological forces that can lead to murder, will be viewed Oct. 23.

"Man of Marble" (Nov. 28) is a 1978 work by Polish director Andrzej Wajda. The film was called "a milestone in Polish cinema" by Variety. This story of a Cracow farmer, who becomes a national hero without understanding why, won the International Critics Prize at the 1978 Cannes Film Festival.

Three evenings (Dec. 18-20) of the 1980 "From Mao to Mozart: Isaac Stern in China" will be presented to close the season. This American-made documentary portrait was described by critic Gene Shalit as "sensational . . . with drama, breath-taking scenery, glorious music plus fun . . . a marvelous movie that is upbeat from begin-

ning to wish-it-wouldn't-end."

DETROIT FILM Theatre employs 35mm prints whenever available and is mission for all other films through Dec. 28 will be \$2. Tickets, information, DFT's \$15 10-ticket discount coupon book and a detailed season schedule are available in advance through the art institute ticket office (832-2730). Tickets and discount books also may be bought at the door.

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