

Actress calls New York home, but roots extend to Birmingham

Second runs Tom Panzenhagen

"Prescription Murder" (1967), noon today on Ch. 9. Originally 99 minutes.

Has it really been 16 years since Peter Falk originated the role of that most original TV detective, Lt. Columbo? It sure has. So it's about time Columbo's first name was revealed. The answer is: Phillip — a name never mentioned on TV but contained in the original shooting script. Gene Barry, Nina Foch and William Windom co-star in this entertaining go-around.
Rating: \$3.

"Marty" (1955), 1 p.m. today on Ch. 50. Originally 91 minutes.
The career of director Delbert Mann — whose first film, "Marty," was followed by winners "Bachelor Party," "Separate Tables" and "The Dark at the Top of the Stairs" in the later '50s — offers support for the precept that the '50s was a golden age for motion picture dramas. By the '60s, Mann was relegated to churning out dogs like "Fitful" and "The Pink Jungle." In "Marty," Ernest Borgnine and Betsy Blair star as lonely hearts who find true love.
Rating: \$3.15.

"Fahrenheit 451" (1967), 11:40 p.m. Friday on Ch. 9. Originally 111 minutes.
Director Francois Truffaut's "Fahrenheit" is far from electrifying, but it so adeptly manages to depict the look and feel of a futuristic society in which firemen, rather than put out fires, burn books, that it's a must-see film. Julie Christie, Oscar Werner and Cyril Cusack star in this slowly paced, thought-provoking film from the Ray Bradbury story.
Rating: \$3.25.

"Allie" (1966), 1 p.m. Saturday on Ch. 50. Originally 114 minutes.
What's it all about? "Allie," which looks at the British post-war malaise that may have spawned the "me generation," attempts to tackle that question. It's not a very clean tackle, but "Allie" is more hit than miss, and Michael Caine is convincing in the meaty, lead role that was his springboard to

WHAT'S IT WORTH?
A ratings guide to the movies

Bad \$1
Fair \$2
Good \$3
Excellent \$4



Michael Caine
What's it all about?

stardom. Shelley Winters, Millicent Martin and Vivien Merchant co-star.
Rating: \$3.05.

"Tarzan Triumphs" (1943), 11:30 a.m. Saturday on Ch. 50. Originally 78 minutes.

It was a bad year for Tarzan in 1942. Maureen O'Sullivan left the series of ape man films and Tarzan himself moved to produce RKO from the more inventive MGM. Brenda Joyce eventually became RKO's Jane, but Frances Gifford co-stars in "Triumphs." Johnny Sheffield also is on hand. Johnny Weismuller would make several more pictures before being replaced by Lex Barker in 1949.
Rating: \$1.99.

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Another funny thing, Scott said, is that her sister once sold advertising for the Fisher Theatre program, and she now works as a saleswoman for Sports Illustrated and has an office in the Fisher Building. "That's really nice — not that we've even had time to have lunch together," Scott said.

THE LIFE OF an actress is a hectic one.

Scott said that after more than a month of rehearsals in Birmingham, Ala., and Los Angeles, cast and crew flew to Detroit last week. Since then they've been rehearsing extensively. But with the preview-week opening Tuesday, the cast began a routine that includes daily rehearsals and an evening show, plus rehearsals even on days when matinees are scheduled.

On Tuesday, for instance, Scott put in a 12-hour day that included rehearsals, the opening night show and an interview that left her little time for a salad for dinner.

But it's worth it, a tireless Scott said. "New projects are exciting, they're wonderful."

"Here I have an opportunity to create a role that will go down in theater history as my role. Of course others will perform it, but they'll do it differently. This will be my character, my person."

Scott said she is a bit wary of critics, "who have the power to annihilate a show."

"I LOVE A critic who genuinely wants a show to succeed, who gives criticism that, if we take it, can make a show better. But some critics only come down on a project," she said. "You have to understand that a show is like having a new baby. "Everyday when you look at it, it's different, it's growing, maturing. It

might be funny looking at first, but it can become a beautiful baby."

Scott said that "Barbary Coast" will make changes throughout its preview week, which concludes Sunday, Tuesday, in effect, is another opening night, although the show may continue to make changes thereafter and in every city it plays along the road to Broadway.

"It all depends on reviews and audience reactions," Scott said.

And her advice to critics and audiences? "Be kind. We understand where certain problems are, and we know we don't have all the answers when the curtain goes up."

SCOTT HAS appeared in a number of plays, including "The Boyfriend" at Meadow Brook. Her repertoire also includes Harold Prince's "On the Twentieth Century," "Funny Girl," "No, No Nanette" and "Damn Yankees" opposite Joe Namath, and a starring role on the daytime-TV series "One Life to Live."

In "Damn Yankees" Scott played Lola, the seductress called upon by the devil to help him win the soul of Joe Hardy, a man the devil transformed into a baseball star.

Veteran actor Eddie Bracken played the devil and Joe Namath was Joe Hardy.

"He (Namath) is a wonderful, dear, gentle man," Scott said. "Whatever he lacked in professional know-how, he made up for in stage presence and charisma."

In the future Scott hopes to light up New York with "Good Sports," a musical comedy she wrote along with former "Lou Grant" star Robert Walden.

Eddie Bracken and Kaye Ballard co-star in "Barbary Coast," which continues its run at the Fisher Theatre through Sunday, Oct. 2.



Scott touches up her makeup for the role of Rita in "Barbary Coast" at the Fisher Theatre.

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