'Cool World' sounds good but leaves audiences cold



"Cool World" probably looked great on paper: a real-life comic book artist trips into the whacked-out world he cre-ated. Even from the previews, it hed all the mark-ings of an alterma-tive and way-hlp tive and way-hip "Roger Rabbit."

World," playing on area screens, only proves how spectacularly unin-spired its creator Ralph Bakshi has become. The animator basn't ma-

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CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUD-

LESTING FOR JAPARESE STOD-IES Lorch Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Call 764-307 for more information. (Free). "Dode's ka-den" (Japan - 1070). 7 p.m. July 17. Akira Kurasawa's first experiment with color, only partially auccessful but fascinating noentheless. Set in a Japanese shantytown, the film fo-cuses on a number of characters, who find solace from disease and siarvation in their own rich fantasy worlds. As part of a series of Japa-nese ghost stories.

I DETROIT FILM THEATRE

DETROIT FILM THEATRE Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward, Detroit, 532-2730. (\$5) "Night on Earth" (USA - 1991). 7, (\$30 pm. July 17-19; 4, 7 pm. July 19. The DFT kicks off its best sea-sion in years with the latest from Jim Jarmusch, the director of "Mystery Train" and "Stranger than Parelise". "Gena Rowlands, Winnon Ryder, and Roberto Benig-ni star in this comedy set in five dlf-ferent taxis in five dlfferent citles on one ordinary, yet profoundly eventful night. Playing through July 26.

FOX THEATER 2211 Woodward, Detroit, Call 567-6000 for information. (\$10), "Casa-bience" (USA - 1942). Through Aug. 2 (cell for showtimes). The 50th anniversary edition of the clas-sic love story. Humphrey Bogart aid lagid Bergman never looked bitter as Itas and Rick, lovers with a past in Paris, in this newly struck print.

E GOSPEL FILM DRIVE-IN

6059EL FILM DRIVE IN 6358 Rawsonville, Belleville, Call 485-3589 for information, (Free). "Bamboo in Winter," July 17 - 18 at 485-3589 for informations as a second sec

Turner. Here it's Kim Basinger's turn to be 'tooned as "Cool World's" resi-dent femme fatale Holli Wood. Drawn with thick lips and impossi-bly round breasts, the scantily chad Holli gyrates through every scene in her quest to have everything she wants, just like idel Marilyn Mon-roe.

her quest to have everything she wants, just like idel Marilyn Mon-roe. She finds her ticket into the real world through cartoonist Jack Drebu (Gabrell Byrne), who discov-ers that he can physically travel into the world be created on paper. As in Bakabi's other fille prever-sity with the cartoon violence everyd up by Bugs and Daffy, Car-toon characters wield huge says and fatten each other with anvils, which seem to fall like rain from a uniti-colored sky. David close is from cartoons peat. Jamiliar faces from cartoons peat. Jamiliar faces from cartoons peat. Jamiliar Jaces arises from cartoons peat. Jaces and the street-mark wolves from 'Red Hot Riding Hod'' lear with cychalls and tongues protruding just like they did 60 years ago.

SCREEN SCENE

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broadcast over AM 530 or FM 87.9 on your car radio. There's even a concession stand and games before showtime.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER 15110 W. Ten Mile, Oak Park. Call 967-4030. (Free). "The Singing Blacksmith" (USA - 1938). 10 a.m. Hackamith 'USA 1938). 10 am. July 14. Set In Eastern Europe but shot in New Jersey, this Yiddiah-language film tells the story of a blackamith whose excessive drink-ing and womanizing is cut short when he metes a storag-willed woman. Shown on large-screen vi-den deo.

E MAPLE THEATRE

MAPLE THEATRE 4135 W. Maple, Bloomfield. Call 835-9090 for information. (35.50; 53.75 willight). "Howard's End" (Britain. 1992). A romanic tale of two families and the inheritance of a beloved ancestral home. In the tradition of "A Room With a View," the producer/director team of is-mail Merchant and James Ivory turn to another E.M., Forster novel with completely winning results. "Mediterranee" (Italy - 1991). An anti-war comedy about eight inisifi Italian soldiers stranded on an Idyi-tic Greek island near the end of World War II. Some clever moments distinguish this Oscar winner for last year's Best Foreign Language Film.

E MICHIGAN THEATRE GO3 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, Call G63: 8307 for information. (45; 34 studentaeniors). Until the End of the World" (USA - 1991). Through July 16 (call for abovtimes). Filmed on location in 16 cities on four con-tinents, Wim Wenders' latest finds a men (William Hurt) searching for images to record and take back to his billed mother, who can see with the belg of an emazing machine. Along the way, he meeta a free-spir-ited woman who joins him on his quest. This bold, vialonary film docart' always work, but it has at least a half hour of brillionly conceived ideas and images to make it well worth the effort.

Favorite things

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grows into a giant, a sunny day after weeks of winter clouds and a video recommendation that is good.

recommendation that is good. And the bothersome things: Hav-ing to make a decision on some-thing when either way is going to be add, clothes that used to fit and don't anymore, people that scream through my quiet neighborhood er-prisaway, having to go somewhere I don't want to go to, losing things, computer problems, stupid com-mercials, stupid people and stupid arythine. anything.

anything. Brends Good of West Bloomfield was succinct with preferences. Fa-vorites: A sunny day at the beach and gretting a tan, singing as loud as I can in my car when a good song comes on the radio, parties, frozen yogurt, a good workout and shop-ping

Bothersome stuff: Violence, homelessness, people who don't take care of the environment and

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Despits all the color and may, hem, "Cool World" remains a snoozer partly because it deservi-lay streight with the audience. Bakshi seems to make up the story (and the rules) for the Cool World as be goes slong while his anime-tion is only a step above standard Sudmer Works. Part Style police determining free. You could sit through the film



