

Pornographic magazines can have an effect



STREET SENSE
BARBARA SCHIFF

To the editor:
I am writing in response to columnists Barbara Schiff's invitation for input regarding her Jan. 17 article, entitled, "Decision on a girl's life should reflect lifestyle you want."
To say that such magazines as "Playboy" encourages disrespect for women is true but that is putting it too mildly. They can become addictive and are the proven cause of many of the sexual crimes committed against women, children and men.
The mom who wrote in about her 12-year-old son's request for a subscription to "Playboy" magazine describes herself as an "intelligent and thoughtful mother." I submit the following for her information:
Before he was executed, convicted serial sex murderer Ted Bundy told Dr. James Dobson, "Those of us who have been so much influenced by violence in the media, particularly pornographic violence, are not some kind of inherent monsters. We are your sons and we are your husbands. And we grew up in regular families. And pornography can reach out and snatch a

kid out of any house today."
According to columnist Jack Anderson, the Michigan State Police found that pornography is used or imitated in 41 percent of the sex crimes they investigate.
It is a known fact that child molesters use "Playboy" type pornography to break down the inhibition of children.
And last but not least, these magazines are usually hidden behind the sales counter, out of the view of minors. Your son does not want to sneak but wants your approval. In this too permissive society, I pray you make the right decision.
Sincerely,
Barb Schmid

Dear Mrs. Schmid,
Thank you for responding to the request for replies to the mom who son wants a subscription to "Playboy." Thank you for expressing your ideas succinctly. The information in your letter will be of interest to many.
Barbara

If you have a question or a comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense, Observer & Eclectic Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, 48150. You can also leave a message by calling (313) 953-2047, mail box 1877, on a touch-tone phone.

Blink' suffers from chronic eye strain

BY JOHN MONAGHAN
STAFF WRITER

In "Blink," Madeleine Stowe plays Emma, a raven-haired Celtic violinist who has been blind for most of her 28 years. Following a cornea transplant, her vision blurs in and out of murky focus as she becomes accustomed to her second sight.

Emma isn't overjoyed with what she sees. She lives in a dingy section of Chicago, where everything appears ugly and crass. On the first night with the bandages off, she sees the foggy image of a murderer who killed the woman in the apartment upstairs.
For her part, Stowe is quite believable as a strong-willed woman coping with a dramatic change in her life. The script for "Blink," however, degenerates into your standard serial killer scenario with only an occasional twist.

MOVIES

Likable Irish actor Aidan Quinn is the police detective assigned to the murder case. Not surprisingly, he falls in love with his star witness.

There's an appealing Chicago/Celtic background to "Blink," but it's only on the surface. A brief chase through the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade adds to nothing and only serves to remind you how cleverly the same event was used in last year's "The Fugitive."

Fans of the genre will find a few surprises, a decent red herring and a perverse quality that goes beyond the killer's penchant for necrophilia and blood-letting. The cop himself has a weird view of the victims. As a dead woman lies in her own blood in a bathtub,

he pretends to interrogate her.

And as much as we're outraged by the murder, our only images of the victim are of a spoiled, noisy young woman who made faces at Emma as they passed on the stairs.

Among the movie's assets is Michael Apted, perhaps the only director in Hollywood who jumps nimbly between documentary and narrative projects. He's still best known for his ongoing portrait of English classmates from children to adults. (The latest installment was called "35 Up.")

He uses the heroine's blurry vision to effectively keep you on edge, messing with the part of your body which many might consider the most sensitive. Faces transform in a yellow haze, sometimes into the killer or her mother, who blinded Emma at

age eight by slamming her face into a mirror.

A tough, smart woman plagued by memories of the past, was one of the keys to "Silence of the Lambs," but that's overshadowed here by typical dumb movie conventions. The love-hate relationship with Quinn's chauvinistic cop leads to a steamy scene in her apartment where they can't hide their passions any longer.

The Oscar for "Silence" proved that you don't need a dopey love relationship to sell a thriller. Movies like "Blink" remain blind to that idea.

If you have a comment for John Monaghan, call him at 313-953-2047, mailbox 1866, on a Touch-Tone phone, or write to him care of Street Sense, Observer & Eclectic Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

SCREEN SCENE

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

DETROIT FILM THEATRE
Detroit Institute of Arts, 5290 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call 313-833-2323 for information. (\$5)
"The Accompanist" (France — 1993), 7 and 9:30 p.m. Feb. 4-5; 4 and 7 p.m. Feb. 6. In German-occupied France in 1942, an impoverished but quietly ambitious girl is swept into a world of privilege and comfort when she is hired as piano accompanist to a successful singer.

KINOTEK
Cinematheque and Arts Centre, 121 University, Windsor, Call 519-971-5160 for information. (\$4.50)
"La Belle Captive" (France — 1982), 9 p.m. Feb. 5-7. Rooted in the painting by surrealist Rene

Magritte, this French film is a hyper-kinetic blend of Poe, Kafka, Greek legends, bizarre doctors and vampires. Directed by Alain Robbe-Grillet.

MAGIC BAG THEATRE
22918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call (810) 544-3030 for information. (Ticket prices vary)
"Dazed and Confused" (USA — 1993), 8 p.m. Feb. 3. This "American Graffiti" for the Me generation follows teenagers on the last day of school in 1976. Richard Linklater ("Slacker") directed this subversive comedy with a choice soundtrack, featuring Bay City Rollers, Peter Frampton and Foghat.

MAIN ART THEATRE
118 N. Main St., at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday. Call 810-542-0180 for information and show times. (\$6.50; \$4 students; \$3 twilight/matinees)

"King of the Hill" (USA — 1994). Stephen Soderberg ("sex, lies and videotape" and "Kafka") directed this tale of a boy's coming of age during the Depression. "Schindler's List" (USA — 1993). Stephen Spielberg may finally get his Academy Award for this story of Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson), a war profiteer and Nazi enemy who protected and saved the lives of more than 1,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

"Six Degrees of Separation" (USA — 1994). Based on John Guare's award-winning play, a savvy young man (Will Smith) poses as Sidney Poitier's son to cajole his way into the home of a Fifth Avenue couple (Donald Sutherland and Stockard Channing).

MAPLE THEATRE
4135 W. Maple Road, Bloomfield. Call 810-855-9090 for information. (\$5.75; \$3.95 matinee; \$2.95

twilight)

"The Snapper" (England/Ireland — 1993). When 20-year-old Sharon announces that her working-class parents that she's pregnant, her family and neighborhood react in some most surprising ways. The second film adaptation of a Roddy Doyle's trio of books about Dublin life ("The Commitments" was the first) is a disarmingly funny movie highlighted by Colm Meaney's performance as Sharon's ram-bunctious father.

"In the Name of the Father" (Britain — 1994). In this true story, Daniel Day-Lewis plays an Irishman falsely accused of bombing a pub near London in 1974. The story of miscarriage of justice is co-written and directed by Jim Sheridan, who teamed with Day-Lewis on "My Left Foot."
"Schindler's List." See Main: Art Theatre listing above.

REDFORD THEATRE
17860 Lahser, Detroit. Call 313-537-1560 for information. (\$2.50)
"Patton" (USA — 1970), 8 p.m. Feb. 4; 2 and 8 p.m. Feb. 5 (organ overture begins a half hour before show time). George C. Scott had the role of a lifetime as the controversial General George Patton, whose flaring temper made him unpopular on some fronts.

STATE THEATRE
2115 Woodward, Detroit. Call 313-961-5450 for information. (\$1)
"Delicatessen" (France — 1991), 9 p.m. Feb. 1. A hilarious, daring, and visually astounding French fantasy about a young drifter and his cannibalistic butcher boss. The strange ideas come fast and furious, like a live-action cartoon.

Puddin' from page 6A

In concert from page 6A

travels. (alternative pop/roots rock) 875-6555

MICHELLE G. AND THE TWO-MINUTE
Sleep Band
Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St., Detroit. (blues/R&B) (313) 259-1374

CHEAP THRILLZ
Aron Bar, 3982 Auburn Road, Rochester Hills. (rock) (810) 852-2707

SWERVEDRIVER
With Medicine at Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. (alternative rock) (810) 645-6666

NRBQ
Sully's, 4756 Greenfield Road, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 846-1920

TWITCH
With The Bumps at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (alternative rock) (313) 831-8070

ROBERT PENN
Speakeasy, 31410 Ford Road, Garden City. (blues) (313) 425-7373

MIAMI HARRIS AND THE SHAKES
Stan's Dugout, 3350 Auburn Road, Auburn Hills. (blues) (810) 852-6433

DETROIT BLUES BAND
Moby Dicks, 5452 Schofer Road, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 581-3650

UNCLE JESSIE WHITE & JEFF GRAND
Perform as a duo at New Silo Tavern & Grill, 41270 Heyes, Clinton Township. (blues) (810) 286-7788

EUREKA BLUE MOONS
Sports, 166 Maple, Wyandotte. (blues) (313) 285-5060

SLYBOY
With Paradox at The Ritz, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. (rock) (810) 778-6404

BEAGLES OPERA
With Revelation at Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (alternative rock) (810) 334-9292

THE RON BROOKS TRIO
Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. (jazz) (313) 662-8310

LONNIE BROOKS
Sully's, 4756 Greenfield, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 846-1920

SOULAFUNKADICODELICA
Soul, funk and disco dance night at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (313) 961-5451

THE RUGS BEDDOW BLUES BRIGADE
Rifles, Northville. (313) 348-3490

Saturday, Feb. 5
CHICAGO PITE AND THE DETROITERS
Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St., Detroit. (blues/R&B) (313) 259-1374

CHEAP THRILLZ
Aron Bar, 3982 Auburn Road, Rochester Hills. (rock) (810) 852-2707

JIM THACKERY
Sully's, 4756 Greenfield Road, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 846-1920

SHREKHOUSE
With Spiderport at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (alternative rock) (313) 831-8070

POSSUM DIXON
With Bob Evans at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. (313) 961-MELT

ROBERT PENN
Speakeasy, 31410 Ford Road, Garden City. (blues) (313) 425-7373

MOTOR CITY BLUES PROJECT
Moby Dicks, 5452 Schofer Road, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 581-3650

THE RUGS BEDDOW BLUES BRIGADE
Rifles, Northville. (313) 348-3490

SLYBOY
With Paradox at The Ritz, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. (rock) (810) 778-6404

Roseville. (rock)
(810) 778-6404

SOMETHING WHY
Capitol Theatre party at Griff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac. (alternative rock) (810) 334-9292

THE RON BROOKS TRIO
Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor. (jazz) (313) 662-8310

MARK LINDSEY
(Formerly of Paul Revere & The Raiders) performs along with Gary Lewis and the Playboys, and the Lardos at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts, 44715 Garfield Road (at Hall Road/M-59), Clinton Township. (oldies rock/funk) (810) 286-2141

DIG
(the local band) performs along with Brotherhood of Dancers and On The Bus at Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. (alternative rock) (810) 645-6666

SHAKES
With Restroom Poets at Magic Bag Theatre Cafe, Woodward Ave., Ferndale. (810) 544-3030

THE RUGS BEDDOW BLUES BRIGADE
Rifles, Northville. (313) 348-3490

Sunday, Feb. 6
CONCRETE BLONDE
With The Oblivious at State Theatre, 2115 Woodward Ave., Detroit. (rock) (313) 961-5451

LOVED ONES
Sully's, 4756 Greenfield Road, Dearborn. (blues) (313) 846-1920

MANTISSA
The Ritz, 17580 Frazho, Roseville. (rock) (810) 778-6404

ROY CLARK
With comedian Jim Oakley perform at the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts at Macomb Community College, 44715 Garfield Road (at Hall Road/M-59), Clinton Township. (country) (810) 286-2141

your head long after the show is over. In sync with their influences that begin as far back as the 1950s, the three women wear the part. Sometimes it's calf-length poodle-like skirts and scarves tied around their hair, or tight T-shirts and jeans. But in Hot Footin' case, it's not the clothes that make the band, Pops said.

"We work really hard in writing songs that we'd like to listen to and play," said Pops, whose band plays The Falcon Club in Hamtramck on Thursday.

That list includes influences like The Velvet Underground, David Bowie's Ziggy Stardust years, Parliament-Funkadelic and The Stooges.

"P.J., P.J. Harvey," interjected Boman, dressed in shorts, thigh-high leg warmers and a bulky sweater.

"Old disco," energetically added Agolli, who chose that day to wear a tight Peter Pan collar T-shirt, faded jeans and a tan cardigan sweater.

Hot Footin', a name that Marro and Boman came up with while driving back from a trip down south, blends these influences into a groovy, sometimes bluesy and hypnotic sound. Pops said it is their way of honoring their main influences, such as "the Detroit sound of the '70s."

"We like to pay homage to it in our own way," said Pops, a Philadelphia, Pa., native. They don't mimic any sound, however. It's one that's definitely

their own.

"We just play what's true to us; we're not trying to jump on any bandwagon," Pops said.

"I don't think there's any bandwagon we could jump on," interrupted Agolli, who also plays with the band Outrageous Cherry.

"We just want to make eardrums bleed," Pops added with a suspicious smile.

Hot Footin' Puddin' Pie performs Thursday, Feb. 3, at the Falcon Club, 3515 Caniff, Hamtramck. Musicians 18 to enter. Doors open at 9 p.m. For more information, call (313) 368-6010.



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