

## Sci-fi remakes, sequels dominate summer films

SUMMER from Page 9

Previous remakes of the old sci-fi's added color, swearing and a touch of hipness.

Imagine taking Shakespeare's "The Tempest," and setting it in the future with space travel and strange planets — not a bad idea — but when you have Earl Holliman trying to come on to Anne Francis in "Forbidden Planet," an interesting idea becomes a corny Hollywood love story.

But in time, this dated dumbness has a nice side-effect: you can laugh at it and be entertained.

I doubt if Jeff Goldblum can easily become the square but likable egg-head scientist who scrambles his molecules into a fly's. One thing the eighties can't remake from the fifties is innocence.

"Aliens" might fare better. The sequel didn't follow right away which is a plus. It might then seem like an original movie. And it's not going to take place in a spaceship.

If teenagers aren't horny young aspiring Capitalists who blast the stereo and dance in their underwear, they're young, tender and hopefully less nauseating things now that Robby Benson is too old to play those parts.

"The Boy Who Could Fly," which is scheduled for release in August is about an adolescent boy and girl who meet against a difficult background of social and familial circumstances.

Movies with a similar theme in the past have turned out surprisingly good: "Breaking Away," "My Bodyguard," and "Gregory's Girl" to name a few.

The other teen film is "Spacecamp," which opens this June.

"Spacecamp" is a kind of "Breakfast Club" in space. Stereotyped adolescents trying to come to grips with life get to do so while preparing for interplanetary travel. Kate Capshaw and Tom Skerrit are the

Ken-and-Barbie-doll camp counselors. I would think that maturing would be hard enough without having to prepare for space travel.

"In the future, everyone will be famous for fifteen minutes," Andy Warhol said. It looks like Whoopie Goldberg is going to get her 15 minutes in her new film, "Jumpin' Jack Flash," scheduled for release in August.

Whoopie is now a bored computer operator who suddenly finds herself receiving messages from a British spy trapped behind the Eastern Bloc. Naturally the CIA doesn't know what to do so Whoopie does the job herself, running into one hilarious adventure with the KGB after another while James Bond is benched for the sake of Women's Liberation.

Compared to his imitators Stallone's got class. He's got a side that wants to be called Marion. He doesn't drive a huge tractor-trailer like Jack Burton in "Big Trouble in Little China," a film where Kurt Russell in the title role reinvents our Vietnam experience. He inadvertently helps an oriental friend and ends in his razing half of Chinatown.

"Running Scared," scheduled for release later this summer, is about two Chicago cops. Gregory Hines and Billy Crystal have found a better life as professional studs in Key West, Florida. Their only problem is to get there without getting killed for the thirty days they have left on the force.

You can't accuse these two hip cops of not having any ethics. On the contrary, they're going to do their best to look after each other and see they both get to some real-life escapism.

Like previous summer films, those offered this summer are filled with adventure, space, growing pains and Neanderthal men.

"Today belongs to the mob," Nietzsche wrote.

"Who could still know what is great and what small?"

## Film lacks depth, magic and mystery

TROUBLE from Page 10

The underworld boss, Divine — the dangerous threatening transvestite from the Jon Waters' films — is, in this film, a bald, effeminate man followed around by a clumsy violinist. Divine is one of the few colorful characters. The major ones like Kristofferson, Singer and Bujold are actors posing for resume pictures.

There is a strong moment when Singer leaves her baby in a car belonging to a wealthy family, and then tears herself away as her baby smiles in the arms of his new mother.

"Trouble in Mind" becomes surrealistic towards the end when a gunfight erupts among tuxedoed guests in Divine's mansion filled with objects d'art.

Carradine walks through this flare of pistols unharmed: a nice effect, which would have been stronger if Carradine's character was more developed.

But the film ends with neither magic nor mystery.

Like Carradine's rain-soaked hair at the end of this insignificant story, the film is limp, shapeless and bereft of vitality.

"Trouble in Mind" will be showing at the Sheldon Film Theatre until Sunday. Screenings are at 7 and 9:15 p.m. with a Saturday matinee at 3 p.m. Sunday showings are at 3, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45 p.m. Admission is \$3.75.

## Police Report

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