

Ladely: Sheldon screens local, major movies

By Diane Wanek

The Sheldon Gallery has been aiming at sponsoring a film program since it opened in 1963, and although they have shown films sporadically, it was not until a year ago that the idea began to take shape.

This semester the Sheldon Film Theater opened its doors with three basic purposes in mind.

According to theater director Dan Ladely, one purpose was to set up a program whereby people interested in film can get a perspective of the cinema history through major works by top directors, actors and actresses.

Another purpose was to be a place where people can simply come to be entertained, Ladely said.

The third purpose is to bring to the public films made by local people, giving them an opportunity to show what they have been doing, he added.

After one semester, the program has been successful in terms of its first two purposes, Ladely said; as for response from local filmmakers, although it has been low, he said he believes it will pick up in the future.

Apparently the most successful venture on the part of the theater this year has been the Charlie Chaplin films.

Norman Gesky, director of the gallery, said there was a considerably favorable response from both young and old to the Chaplin films. Ladely booked the films, he said, because not only are they good films technically and aesthetically, but they also are entertaining.

Response to the Seven Lively Arts films, however, was mixed. The two best-attended films were *The Mime of Marcel Marceau* and *Ballet with Edward Villella*. Ladely attributes the success of these two to the work of Jo Ann Kimball who, according to Ladely, "got most of the people over here". The rest of the Seven Lively Arts films did not do well, he said.

Ladely said he considers the Filmmaker's Showcase to be the most important aspect of his program. The showcase is a vehicle whereby filmmakers are invited to show their films and speak about them. This fall the showcase spotlighted Richard Myers, a celebrated avant-garde filmmaker.

Ladely said the response to the Showcase was good. "But not everyone liked the films of Richard Myers. However, the interesting thing was that it stimulated people like artists, photographers and filmmakers to really try to do something," he said.

"And that's one thing we want to do here—to try to get local filmmakers to bring their films and show them to me so we can do local programs."

On the financial side, the Film Theater is not doing well, but it has been breaking even. Through the donations of Mary Ross, a New York attorney, the Film Theater has been able to present programs this semester. A grant to supplement Ross' donations was applied for to the National Endowment for the Arts.

However, Ladely said the confirmation of the grant will not be made until January.

"If it doesn't come through, we'll have to look elsewhere for money, or else not have the Film Theater," he added.

An offshoot of the Theater will be a collection of films. Director Gesky said the gallery has no intention of building up a comprehensive film library, but rather a collection done much in the same way paintings are collected, with priority given to films considered to be masterpieces.

Ladely has scheduled a program for the coming semester "not with a single theme in mind, but rather with different types of films from different people concerning different subjects."

One aspect of the program thus far is feature films on Friday and Saturday evenings. These films will feature different major directors including D.W. Griffith, Joseph Sternberg, Miklos Jancso, F.W. Murnau, Akira Kurosawa, Pier Paolo Pasolini, John Ford and Frank Capra.

On Sundays and Tuesdays, the theater plans to show films by Kenneth Clark, who also made the *Civilization* series. This new series, entitled *Pioneers of Modern Painting*, traces the lives and masterpieces of Paul Cezanne, Edouard Manet, Claude Monet, Edvard Munch, Henri Rousseau and Georges Suerat and their influence on the world of art.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays, Ladely said he has planned to screen several documentaries, for which there will be an admission charge.

The Filmmaker's Showcase will feature award-winning cinema-verite pioneer Frederic Wiseman. One week has been set aside in April for the viewing of five of Wiseman's films and discussions by him of his work.

Ladely said he hopes to book Lionel Rogosin for the showcase as well at the same time his film *Come Back, Africa* is being shown by the Union Special Films Committee.

Two more Shakespeare films, done with the cooperation of the English department, will round out this next season. The films, never shown in Lincoln before, are *King Lear* by Peter Brooks, starring Paul Scofield, and *Hamlet* by Grigory Kozintsev.

"All this (next season) depends on money," said Ladely. "For example, Wiseman is costing us \$1,000 and his films are \$500. The Kenneth Clark series, too, is expensive. And most of our films range in price from \$50 to \$300.

"I know people don't have a lot of money to come to a lot of films, but we are the cheapest theater in town, we have the best auditorium in town and, I think, the best films."

Ladely said he welcomes people to talk to him about what they would like to see and he invites comments on present programs. He also said if anyone would like to help by taking tickets or putting up posters, they are welcome and will be given free passes to the Film Theater.



Sheldon Gallery Theater Director Dan Ladely

Bulletin banned in Boston; takes titillating twist



When I heard that school bulletins now cost 50 cents, I went out and bought one right away. I had a sneaky suspicion that the bulletins must have been changed in some way, and I was right.

Grabbing a copy of the bulletin for the College of Arts and Sciences, I noticed immediately that the cover was red. I lingered for a moment letting thoughts of Rester Pym and Scarlet O'Hara flow through my mind.

I opened the book and there it lay, the Table of Contents. What a sight to behold! Administration, academic requirements, areas of study and financial information all were included. Not only that, but there was a titillating chapter on—should I say it—Residency Definitions.

Nor was I disappointed by the list of characters. There was the famous Tedward Schwartzough playing the part of a prude and the brilliant and creative Robert Jay Slowkop disguised as a writer.

This is the book that tells it all, from Anthropology to Zoology. Although the plot sometimes moves slowly one must not be in a hurry. It must be with great caution and penetrating insight that one handles the excruciatingly pornographic chapters on Dance, Integrated Studies, Physical Education for Women and Microbiology.

It is no wonder this book is sold only on college campuses. What irreconcilable damage could be done if a young high schooler found out what college really was like?

But as all good books must come to an end, so did my little red classic. Waving a peaceful farewell to ROTC and with a baleful look at Archival Science I fondly closed the volume. Yes, the bulletin is a changed book. The price is now 50 cents.