

# 'King' Returns



Courtesy of American Film Theatre  
**Alan Bates**

By Robert Thurber

The *King of Hearts*, a 1966 film starring Alan Bates, is making its second Lincoln run, this time for only one week at the Hollywood and Vine Twin Theatres. It's a shame it will play only one week because the film is a timeless classic. Set in a small French village during World War I, the movie depicts the craziness of war and the saneness of insanity.

Alan Bates, who plays a Scottish communications expert, is sent into a deserted village to disarm a bomb set by the German Army. While carrying out this maneuver, he inadvertently unlocks the gates of the town's insane asylum and all the inmates escape.

The inmates assume the identities of their fantasies in the town and hail Bates as their king (hence the title); the long awaited Messiah who has finally set them free.

What entails is full of comic symbolism showing the people of society as they really are: phony, greedy, tragic and sad, as seen through the eyes of supposed lunatics.

In the end of the movie, the Allied and German Armies march on the village and completely annihilate each other while the inmates sit on the sidelines and watch. Who is crazy? Who is sane? The answers become obvious.

The *King of Hearts* is as moving as it is thought provoking, you can not help but become involved in the lives of its characters. Alan Bates provides a stunning performance as the ill-fated king who grows to love the people he once thought crazy.

Unfortunately, the print of the film is badly worn, but if one can overlook this aspect they will enjoy the movie for what it is; one of the finest films of the last decade.

## Harpsichord classes on U N L campus

What Harvey Hinshaw had hoped for is finally happening.

The piano instructor at the University of Nebraska, who has had a "real interest" in Johann Sebastian Bach for years, wanted harpsichord lessons taught at the university.

This fall, Hinshaw began teaching harpsichord to five students. He said it is possible that keyboard majors will soon be able to major on the instrument.

But he had to provide his own harpsichord to do it.

### Need donor

This summer, Hinshaw campaigned for a donor for a \$6,500 harpsichord that has been offered for sale to the School of Music. If a donor is not found soon, the instrument will be sold.

Hinshaw ordered his harpsichord in 1972 from the B.W.M. Benn makers in Minneapolis. It was completed in 1973.

Hinshaw said interest in the 18th-century instrument, forerunner of the piano, has increased "very, very much" the last five years.

Some American makers have a four-year backlog of orders, he said. In Germany,

where harpsichord carpentry often is a family art, some people must wait as long as 15 years to get instruments from the best makers.

### Baroque Setup

Hinshaw said the instrument in his studio is the standard setup for harpsichords played during the Baroque (18th century) period.

The harpsichord has three sets of strings—two sets for the two keyboards; one for the upper one, another for the lower. Because there is not much dynamic variation in the harpsichord, different keyboards are used to distinguish contrasting sections of a piece.

The other strings sound an octave higher than the written notes and are played by themselves or in combination with the strings from the other two keyboards.

Although the School of Music has not been able to purchase a concert harpsichord, it did buy a smaller instrument for students to practice on. The instrument is almost completed and will be shipped to Lincoln soon, Hinshaw said.

## Poetry Reviewed

By Roy Scheele

*To What Listens.* By Wendell Berry; Best Cellar Press.

This pamphlet of poems offers the reader who is unaware of Wendell Berry's work an excellent introduction to his previous four books of poetry and two novels.

Berry, who many will remember as a contributor to the last *Whole Earth Catalogue*, lives in Port Royal, Ky., farms there, and teaches English at the University of Kentucky. His poetry starts typically from a devout sense of place: Berry's love of, and respect for, the earth and his surroundings.

There are 14 poems in the book and almost without exception they are worth close attention. I say almost because one of the poems, *Stay Home*, is an unsuccessful pastiche of Robert Frost's *The Pasture*.

In poems such as *The Moving Anniversary Seventeen Years*, or *Goods*, with its catalog of simple pleasures, one gets a feel for Berry's integrity of style and samples some of his typical themes.

All the poems are at home in the countryside and familiar with its natural events and cycles. They are weighed and valued in the poet's mind and confer on him a sort of irreducible knowledge, as nothing else can.

The following lines are from Berry's *To What Listens*, and point to another interesting facet of the book—his occasional return to the forms, which are poems with readily identifiable metrical shapes and rhyme.

I come to it again  
and again, the thought of the wren  
opening his song here  
to no human ear—  
no woman to look up,  
no man to turn his head.  
The farm will sink then  
from all we have done and said...  
But from the height  
and distance of foresight,  
how well I like it  
as it is!

In *Seventeen Years* he speaks of rhymes as "The returns of song, that mark time's losses. In *Goods* there is an interior rhyme in the opening lines and the poem concludes with the apt emphasis of "me...ancestry."

## up & coming

### On Campus

#### Art

Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery - 12th and R reprints by William Hogarth; ceramic sculpture and pottery by Eric Abraham; English Satirical Prints by exhibition; photographs by Vincint Vallarino.

#### Music

Kimball Recital Hall - 11th and R- Cello recital by Priscilla Parson - Tues., 8 p.m.; Judy Cole, mezzo soprano - Wed., 8 p.m. William Van Overeem, piano - Sun. 4 p.m.

#### Cinema

Sheldon Film Theater- 12th and R- *New York School* - Tues., 3 p.m.; *Hearts and Minds* - Tues. - Thurs., 7 p.m.; *Hunchback of Notre Dame* - Fri.-Sun., 3, 7, 9 p.m.; *American Art in the 60s* - Sun., 4 p.m.

#### Speaker

Nebraska Union, Khigh Alx Dhiigh will

Speak on "acupuncture & Aspects of I Ching" - Thurs., 3:30 p.m. Informal session also will be scheduled.

### Off Campus

Haymarket Art Gallery- 119 S. 9th- paintings by Marie Christian through Sept. 29.; weavings by Helen McCowan through Sept. 29.

#### Theater

Lincoln Community Playhouse-2500 S. 56th- *Godspell* - Fri.-Sun., 8 p.m.; Sun matinee, 8 p.m.

#### Cinema

Stuart Theatre- 13th and P- *Catch 22* Fri., midnight.

#### Music

Pershing Auditorium- 15th and N.-Fleetwood Mac & Sladerock concert, Tues. 8 p.m.

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