

arts & entertainment



Flood of new films soon to end screen drought

By Will Huffman

Lincoln is in the doldrums as far as movies are concerned. Nearly all the films now playing are reissues of films more than a year old or leftovers from early or middle summer.

About all the viewer has to pick from is *Alice in Wonderland*, a bottom of the barrel sexploitation; *The Owen and Silent Movie*, two films still hanging on from the summer; *Fantasia*, the umpteenth reissue of the old Disney classic; or *Sex with a Smile*, a Marty Feldman vehicle.

If you're unexcited about the above prospects, you're not alone. Earlier this month six theatres along New

York's Broadway announced they were closing down simply because they could not find enough good new films to screen.



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frames

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However, there are a number of important or interesting pictures either in production or about to be released. The drought should be broken soon.

Movies released

We should be able to see *A Matter of Time*, the new Vincente Minnelli film starring his daughter, Liza, and Ingrid Bergman. Also awaiting release is *The Last Tycoon*, from F. Scott Fitzgerald's unfinished novel, starring Robert Deniro and Jack Nicholson, and directed by Elia Kazan.

It remains to be seen if Fitzgerald can ever be transferred successfully to the screen.

John Frankenheimer *The Manchurian Candidate* has a new thriller entitled *Black Sunday* about plans to sabotage the Super Bowl. This one should be fun.

Also eagerly awaited is Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*, based on Joseph Conrad's novel *Heart of Darkness*. The film will star Marlon Brando, Robert Duval and Martin Sheen.

John Schlesinger will try his hand at a thriller, *Marathon Man*, from the best seller by William Goldman. It will star Dustin Hoffman and Laurence Olivier.

Film discussed

One of the most talked about films, to be released at

Christmas, is the remake of *King Kong*. This time, however, the ape scales the World Trade Center, instead of the Empire State Building.

The Hollywood veterans are keeping busy. Sam Peckinpah is in Yugoslavia shooting *The Iron Cross*, a World War II epic starring James Coburn, James Mason and Maximilian Schell. George Cukor is directing Faye Dunaway in *Vicky*, a film about an early feminist. Fred Zinneman is making *Julia* based on a book by Lillian Hellman—starring Jane Fonda and Vanessa Redgrave.

Robert Wise will be attempting to recover from the disastrous *Hindenburg* with *Audrey Rose*, a thriller about reincarnation.

John Sturges and an all-star cast are working on *The Eagle Has Landed* about a World War II rescue operation. Stanley Kramer is trying a comeback with *The Domino Principle*, which involves political assassination.

William Friedkin (*The Exorcist*) is back at it again with *Sorcerer* another thriller starring Roy Scheider.

Peter Yates (*Bullitt*) and Robert Shaw are currently working on the screen version of Peter Benchley's novel *The Deep*, which also stars Jacqueline Bisset and Nick Nolte.

Work begun

Representing music and comedy will be Martin Scorsese's *New York, New York*, which stars Liza Minelli and Robert Deniro. Woody Allen is at work on an unnamed project costarring Diane Keaton. Mel Brooks is developing a new film spoofing director Alfred Hitchcock.

Producer Joseph Levine is making one of the most expensive films in history, in true blockbuster style.

Entitled *A Bridge Too Far*, the World War II epic boasts a cast consisting of Dirk Bogarde, James Caan, Michael Caine, Sean Connery, Elliot Gould, Gene Hackman, Anthony Hopkins, Hardy Kruger, Laurence Olivier, Ryan O'Neal, Robert Redford, Maximilian Schell and Liv Ullman. The director is British actor Richard Attenborough.

The British film industry is busy with a new large scale James Bond feature; a new Tony Richardson feature, *Joseph Andrews*, starring Ann-Margaret; and the first English film of French director Alain Resnais.

Some big scale screen biographies are in the works, including *Valentino* with Rudolf Nureyev in the title role under Ken Russell's direction; and from the producers of *Patton* comes *MacArthur*, starring Gregory Peck.

Sequels told

Sequels, the staple of Hollywood, also are evident.

Airport 1977 is gearing up with a cast that includes Jack Lemmon and James Stewart. *The Exorcist II: The Heretic* hopes to cash in on the success of its predecessor.

The cast includes Richard Burton, Linda Blair, Louise Fletcher, Max Von Sydow and James Earl Jones, John Boorman, who turned down an offer to direct the original version, is doing the sequel. And last but not least, is *Jaws II*, attempting to ride the wave of popularity left by its ancestor.

There should be something for just about everybody in the new movies. The trouble is that most of the movies will probably be released at the same time, with another drought following. But the main concern of the distributors is box office, and we shouldn't expect them to change their releasing habits.

Theatre provides free entertainment

Hang onto your hats, the entertainment is free.

Chicago's internationally acclaimed Free Street Theatre (FST) will perform at noon today in Sheldon's Sculpture Garden.

They will conduct an Arts in the Community workshop from 2:30 to 4 p.m. today in the Nebraska Union Small Auditorium. At 6:30 p.m., the troupe moves to 13th and O streets for a street performance.

FST is a company of 20 actors, singers, dancers, musicians and technicians. It was recognized this year by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration.

The company performs on a 40-foot mobile stage. FST will present shows featuring popular dance, music, puppetry, juggling and audience participation.

Carole Gourlay, UNL Student Y director, said, "Some of us saw FST perform at our national YWCA convention last summer and we knew we wanted them to come to the campus to share their spirit of freedom, creativity and involvement in the arts by all people."

FST's visit here is a Mid-America Arts Alliance project sponsored by the Student Y and Southeast Community College.

"The company is racially mixed and is a living, growing statement that diverse peoples can come together, blend their special talents and come up with a beautiful unity," Gourlay said.



Cinema . . . a capsule history

In the beginning it was man alone against the wilderness. It didn't take long for the tides to turn. Soon it was the wilderness alone against man

In man's unending search for knowledge, he discovered cinema. Of greater importance to our story is that he also discovered movies make money. Lots of money

. . . . and they've been gunning for the public ever since.

Photos courtesy of M & M and 20th Century-Fox

