

Arts & Entertainment

Martha Quinn — 'girl next door goes video'

This is the last of three-part series dealing with the issues and personalities of MTV.

By Randy Wymore

All the flashy video productions of all the songs in the world would hardly be cohesive in any format without some sort of bond.

Like the binding of a classic novel, Music Television's V.J.s are the backbone of the channel.

When one asks of video music one thinks of MTV. And when one thinks of MTV, chances are that V.J. Martha Quinn will be included in the same thought. Whether it's her pageboy haircut, new clothes or famous bubbly personality, Quinn is probably talked about almost as much as the videos she plays.

More often than not, however, it's the image people notice most. And all of the adjectives that have been used to describe her are fine according to the 24-year-old New Yorker.

"All those perceptions of being 'the girl next door,' a pixie and all that that's cool," she said.

"I pretty much am the girl next door. I mean, I'm certainly not a night bird or anything like that."

After coming to MTV by way of radio work and television commercials, Quinn decided what worked for selling products was not going to work for announcing videos.

"I came from TV commercials where the name of the game is spunky," Quinn said. Quinn said she had to change her image to relate to her audience.

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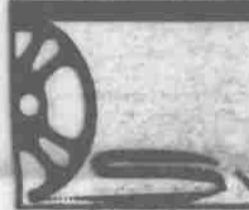
Photo courtesy WASEC

Martha Quinn interviews Elton John.

'Merry Christmas': A tale of two cultures

By Steve Abariotes

Pride, loyalty, courage and brotherhood are a few of the virtues examined in "Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence," the latest film by Nagasi Oshima. Brotherhood among men is compared and contrasted between British prisoners and their Japanese captors on the Indonesian island of Java during World War II. In fact, the concentration on how men treat each other in each culture is stressed so much in this film that no women appear at all.



Film Review

Attempting to bridge the gap between the British and Japanese cultures, Mr. Lawrence (Tom Conti) is at his diplomatic best arguing with the somewhat sympathetic Sargeant Hara. Hara tries to understand Lawrence's logic and reason, but will not go so far as to try to improve the condition for British prisoners in the camp.

As Lawrence says, Hara is an individual among individuals forced into a group and going mad because of it. Yet the Japanese are not right, nor are the British and we begin to face the possibility that everyone is wrong. Enter Major Jack Celliers of Her Majesty's Army (David Bowie).

Following a miraculous bout with a firing squad for what could have been a suicide mission (Remember the great Samurai tradition). Celliers becomes an enigmatic curiosity for the Japanese. That is to say, he is rather pan-sexually appealing.

"Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence" is a fascinating (and sometimes clashing) synthesis of western and eastern traditions from the perspective of a Japanese film-maker and starring a universally known rock star from the west.

After watching Bowie play "The Elephant Man" in Chicago, Oshima proclaimed that he had "an inner spirit that was indestructible." And Bowie as Major Jack Celliers nearly is, while remaining defiant to an end, of sorts. Celliers displays a sense of humor that only the English seem to have which contrasts sharply with the stern Japanese, along with their violent and impatient sense of order and castigation. The comparison of the two cultures is consummated in the Jack Celliers character. Even Bowie's eyes are two different colors.

Assigned as the head officer of the prison camp because of circumstances similar to those of Celliers, Captain Yonio (Takeshi) becomes transfixed with Celliers. He admires Celliers for his patriotism and more importantly, for his individuality. His attraction is also sexual. A sexual undercurrent in much of this film is established from its beginning.

The visual pace is slow and deliberate with one-shot scenes, slow camera moves and sparse editing overall. The style is almost completely opposite to the look of Bowie's first film, "The Man Who Fell To Earth," (directed by Nicholas Roeg) which had fast and furious editing. The style of "Merry Christmas..." is quite typical of a dramatic Japanese feature film.

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WEEKEND

The following is a list of local events for the coming weekend, beginning tonight.

ART EXHIBITS

Burkholder's Studio Five, 720 O St. — Acrylic paintings by Judy Gereff, quilting and batik by Sammy Lynn and watercolors by Lydelle Stonecinner, on display today through Nov. 5.

The Gathering Place, 1448 E St. — Oil paintings by Gwen Hoffer and stained glass by the Prison Art Guild through Tuesday.

Great Plains Studies Art Collection, Love Library 205 — "Prairie Printmakers," an exhibition of 44 traditional American prints, on display through Nov. 6.

Nebraska State Historical Society, 131 Centennial Mall — The art of John P. Falter on display in the museum's gallery.

Sheldon Art Gallery, 12th and R streets — Photography from the permanent collection, prints by Gordon Holler and faculty art on display through Nov. 6. Oil paintings by Dan Howard on display through Dec. 4.

University Place Art Gallery, 4822 Cleveland Ave. — Pastels by Carlos Frey and ceramics by Sherian Fren on display through Nov. 17.

LIVE BANDS

Aku Tiki, 5200 O St. — All Spice, today through Saturday. No cover charge.

Bill's Saloon, 1020 P St. — Pinky Black and the Excessives, Friday and Saturday, \$1.50 cover charge.

Chesterfield's Bottomsley & Potts, 245 N. 13th St. — Cold Spring, Friday and Saturday night, no cover charge.

Crocketts, 3201 Pioneers Blvd. — Paul Phillips, Friday afternoon, no cover charge.

Drumstick, 547 N. 48th St. — Model Citizen's Club, tonight through Saturday, \$2 cover charge. Third Annual Costume Ball Saturday night.

Green Frog, 1010 P St. — Vicious Rumour, tonight through Saturday, \$1 cover charge.

Judge's, 2630 Cornhusker Highway — Clocks, tonight through Saturday, \$2 cover charge (includes entertainment at Little Bo's).

Little Bo's, 2630 Cornhusker Highway — Aaron Baron, tonight through Saturday, \$2 cover charge (includes entertainment at Judge's).

McGuffey's, 1042 P St. — Lincoln Jazz Society tonight, no cover charge. Gene Klosner, Friday and Saturday, no cover charge.

The Boss, 200 N. 70th St. — Paul Burner, tonight through Saturday, no cover charge.

Soupervalds Alley, 1200 N St. — Dan Newton, Friday afternoon, no cover charge.

Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th St. — Anson Funderburgh and the Rockets tonight through Saturday, \$2 cover charge tonight, \$3 Friday and Saturday. Cost of Living, Sunday, \$2 cover charge.

MAJOR EVENTS

Bob Devaney Sports Center, 15th St. and Military Road — Jackson Browne, Sunday night at 8 p.m. Tickets still are available.

First Plymouth Congregation Church, 20th and D streets — Sara Ganz and The Nebraska Chamber Orchestra, Sunday at 2 p.m. Tickets still are available.

Sheldon Art Gallery Auditorium, 12th and R streets — Mendelssohn String Quartet, Friday at 8 p.m. Tickets still are available.

MOVIES

Cinema 1 & 2, 201 N. 13th St. "Dead Zone, 7:20, and 9:20 p.m.; "Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence," 7:10 and 9:30 p.m.

Cooper, 54th and O streets — "Brainstorm, 5:30, 7:40 and 9:50 p.m.

Douglas 3, 13th and P streets — "The Big Chill," 5:20, 7:20 and 9:20 p.m.; "Under Fire," 5:05, 7:25 and 9:45 p.m.; "Zelig," 5:45, 7:30 and 9:15 p.m.

East Park 3, 66th and O streets — "Flashdance," 5:25, 7:25 and 9:25 p.m.; "Mr. Mom," 5:20, 7:20 and 9:20 p.m.; "Romantic Comedy," 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m.

Joyo, 6012 Havelock Ave. — "Staying Alive, 7:30 p.m. tonight. "Psycho II," begins Friday, 7:30 p.m. Spanish movies, Sunday 2 p.m.

Plaza 4, 12th and P streets — "Eddie and the Cruisers," 6, 8 and 10 p.m. ends tonight; "Educating Rita," 7:15 and 9:45 p.m. beginning Friday; "Never Say Never Again," 6:30, 7, 9:30, and 9:40; "Risky Business," 5:15, 7:15 and 9:15 p.m.

Sheldon Film Theatre, 12th and R streets — "The Haunting," 7 p.m. Saturday, 9 p.m. Sunday; "Don't Look Now," 9 p.m. Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday.

State, 1415 O St. — "Revenge of the Ninja," 5:40, 7:40 and 9:40 p.m.

Stuart, 13th and P streets — "All the Right Moves," 1:30, 3:30, 5:30 and 9:30 p.m.

THEATER

Community Playhouse, 2500 S. 56th St. — "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow," Saturday and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. "Bell, Book and Candle," Friday through Sunday at 8 p.m.

Cotner Heritage Dinner Theatre, 1540 N. Cotner Ave. — "The Mikado," Friday and Saturday. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., show at 7:30 p.m.

Howell Theatre, 12th and R streets — "Major Barbara," tonight through Saturday, 8 p.m.

Kimball Recital Hall, 11th and R streets — "The Coronation of Poppea," tonight and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m.

Nebraska Directors' Theatre, 421 S. Ninth St., Suite 112 — "A Pair of Albees," tonight through Saturday at 8 p.m.