Marathon film...

Continued from Page 6

At a lovely wood near Berlin called Freienwalde they enjoy each other, and there is a moving scene in which they play blindman's bluff — and she rushes in tears to her lover who has just fallen. Barbara Sukowa, so brilliant as the terrorist sister in Margarethe von Trotta's *Marianne and Juliane* is very different here, an embodiment of innocence. Her crooked smile reveals no sneer. Franz's very odd method of kissing — fastening himself roughly and suddenly on the neck — at first seems vampiric, but becomes almost endearing with the spell of the story.

Fassbinder's Finest 15- hours

Berlin Alexanderplatz, directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder; screeplay by Fassbinder from a novel by Alfred Doblins; Produced by Peter Marthesheimer. At the Sheldon Film Theatre, 12th and R streets.

Franz Biberkopf	Gunter Lamprecht
Frau Bast	Brigitte Mira
Eva	Hanna Schygulla
Meck	Franz Buchrieser
Lina	Elisabeth Trissenaar
Reinhold	Gottfried John
Mieze	Barbara Sukowa

Franz's relation with Teinhold, hauntingly played by Gottfried John, is even more complicated. There is latent homosexual desire between them, and the trading of women they engage in — Reinhold passes the ones he is tired of off on Franz, like used cars — is what film scholar June Levine has called in different terms, sex by proxy. The narrator notes that while Franz dances with Eva, he is thinking only that the two people he loves are Mieze and Reinhold. There is a strong *doppelganger* relation here. On first meeting Reinhold, Franz is certain the flashy dresser has served time. Though he is wrong in this, the sense of identification with Reinhold and complementing natures is powerful for Franz. Gottfried John's stutter and droopy sensitivity reveal a guilt which he assuages by sitting on the sinner's bench at Salvation Army meetings then going ahead with his evil and vindictive acts — like throwing Franz out of a moving car, making him lose his arm, and trying to take Mieze away from Franz.

The scene of temptation, a sort of replaying of the drama in the Garden of Eden, is absolutely extraordinary, and one of the most powerful I've ever seen. It is very long, and in its fullness seems to move slower and more fatally to the end: It forms the climax of the 12th part of the film, which is itself the climactic and second to last part. The forest at Freienwalde is overcast, and fog overwhelms the trees. A wood cross appears behind a frieze of brances, and Reinhold alternately threatens and entices Mieze, who passively accepts his embrace and asks to know more of Franz's past. As Sukowa stands stock still, John winds around her in a serpentine yet natural way. He shows her the appalling tattoos he has on his wrist and chest — anvils on which, he tells her, people are to be laid. When she ultimately refuses him, he comes on top of her, and in the unclear distance chokes her.

When Eva brings the newspaper with the news of Mieze's death to Franz, he at first refuses to understand the paper, actually will not take in the information. Then he disclaims responsibility: "It's not my fault. You never know what a guy's gonna do." This is a key to the entire film — for Franz has kept his eyes obstinately shut to the evil others have done him. He sets himself up for it — he actually invites it, through a submerged wish for self-destruction which shows itself in his fascination with a certain glittering and smoky street of temptation which contrasts vividly with the bleak light of the streets outside it and where it is said, the great Whore of Babylon, who lives on the blood of saints, has her lair.

Sheldon Film Theatre

Eva (Hanna Schygulla) holds Franz Biberkopf (Gunter Lamprecht) in Fassbinder's *Berlin Alexanderplatz.*

The purpose of the Epilogue, which Fassbinder himself wrote and added to the end of Doblin's narrative, seems to be to bring this interpretaiton home: it's called "A Dream of the Dream of Franz Biberkopf." His friends and lovers accuse him of his passivity and irresponsibility; and in the end he still does not seem to have learned how to add two and two, though he says he can. Deliberate anachronisms like Nazi brownshirts and gas chambers, as well as the music of Janis Joplin and Elvis, work to separate this final part from all the others and strike home. And when Franz is lifted up on an aluminum cross in front of one of Heironymous Bosch's horrific visions, it is the crucifixion of Everyman, but of an Everyman who has stayed in Jerusalem awaiting it.

Perfectly
PONTILLO'S
Delicious!
We have pizza on the hearth
and Hoagies in the oven...
...Hurry On In.
Eat here or carry out.
PONTILLO'S PIZZERIA
1246 "Q" Street
475-1246
Western New York's
Finest Pizza and Hot Hoagies
A KNUDSON FAMILY RESTAURANT

August writers unearth April folderol, historians cry 'fool'

Mike Frost & Chris Burbach

April is one of the most important months in American history. It's when George Washington was born — no wait, that was February. And it was the month this nation gained its independence — no, son of a gun, guess that was July. Well, it really is an important month, which the following Mike and Chris Historical Calendar bears out. So get out your scissors, boys and girls, cut out *your* calendar, and if you like it, put it on your wall. If you don't, put it under your cat.

April 1: April Fools!! On this day, we do and say stupid things in commemoration of St. Fool, bishop and martyr, who wore his miter in the bathtub, swallowed 17 goldfish in an audience with the Pope and eventually lost to Millard Fillmore in a race for President of the United States.

April 2: This is a day of mourning for St. Fool, bishop and martyr, who died a broken man when he realized what a nimrod he had to have been to lose to Millard Fillmore.

April 3: Birthday of Bill "Duke" Ernst, Father of Photosynthesis.

April 4: On this day in 1979, the S'mores were driven out of southern Spain, resulting in a rather large drop in the average weight of Spaniards and the discovery of America.

April 7: D-Day — 68 B.C. a Phonecian named Bert invents the letter D. "Just o it, ammitt," he ordered.

April 8: First convenience shop opened, 1945. Policemen migrate in droves.

Continued on Page 12

ACE LIGHT BULBS
60 & 75 watt
$1.45 reg. $2.66
4 pack
SPRING SUPER SALE
REDWOOD
PICNIC TABLES
6' table $49.95
7' table $56.95
8' table $64.95
MULTI-POSITION
LOUNGE
$9.95
chair. $7.95
KLEENEX
175 ct. 79¢
Hi-Dri
PAPER
TOWELS
100 ct.
2 Ply
59¢
OLYMPIC STAIN
OLYMPIC LATEX
STAIN
$6.95 per gal.
OXFORD BROWN
no returns-no exchanges
Keylocks
Deadbolts
Weslock
Passage or Privacy
25% OFF
all Weslocks on hand
free keying service: keyed alike or master keyed
$32.49
5' Porch Swings
• Solid oak construction
• Chain & Ceiling hooks
$3.19
• 12 packs
• stock up!
PRICES GOOD THRU MARCH 31
WHILE QUANTITIES LAST.
467-2808
1820 "R" St.
Johnson Cashway
LUMBER COMPANY

FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE
SOUND SEMINAR
presented by
dietze music house, inc. and Peavey
The seminar will be an in-depth learning experience
for the working musician and sound person.
DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 25
TIME: 2:00 PM
PLACE: HILTON – NEBRASKA BALLROOM
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 476-6644
FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE—FREE